

WINDY HILL FOUNDATION GATSBY GALA HITS THE MARK

NANCY KLECK

It was quite an evening for The Windy Hill Foundation's Gatsby Gala, held on the 17th of November at Salamander Resort and Spa. One of the highlights of the evening was the raising \$162,000, for the Windy Hill Education Fund. The fund will directly benefit children in the Windy Hill family. Yet another way the Windy Hill Foundation supports the local community.

Entertaining guests after a charity dinner and live auction is the best way to thank supporters and volunteers for the personal and financial contributions given to continue the good works of any group.

As guests entered Salamander's Ball Room turned jazz club, Doc Scantlin, bandleader of the Imperial Palms Orchestra, "The Best Band in America" according to Forbes magazine, was at the microphone welcoming everyone to come in and get ready for a "whoopie!"

Sporting a wicked pencil mustache never seen today on any American male, looking smashing in white tie and tails, a top hat, spats and cane, Doc Scantlin and his 15-member orchestra's lead singer and wife, chanteuse Chou Chou (pronounced "shoo-shoo"), and an ensemble of four singing dancers affectionately referred to as "The Girlfriends", rocked the night away to a sold-out crowd.

What's more fun than to dress up in a rhinestone tiara, feathers, sequins and bugle beads? One after another, bejeweled and bedecked jazz babies and "hotsy-totsies" and their dapper gents in white or black jackets "hoofed" away to the fox-trot, swing, and jitterbug,

or a reasonable facsimile thereof. Feathers were flying and many never returned. Lots of selfies taken while "ironing one's shoelaces", no place for a "bluenose" or "canceled stamp."

Part of the band's entourage included a "cameraman" taking photographs with a vintage era camera (and a flash that nearly blinded you), and movies of the prettiest girls in his sights. He sometimes was seen hiding around huge rhinestone encrusted collared panthers (but not a drop of "panther piss" could be found even in a flask) to sneak a photo. On small leopard printed covered tables with white feathered centerpieces, flappers of all ages and their "jelly beans" imbibed in "jag juice" and bubbly. It didn't take long for the joint to start jumpin'.

Into vintage, polished chrome microphones, slightly bawdy, but never too cheeky, Chou Chou mesmerized us as she swished her tulle skirts to sing her ballads in a sweet, girlish voice. In between her ballads, Doc and the Girlfriends sang great standards such as "Night and Day", "Minnie the Moocher" and Cab Calloway's "Happy Feet". As the evening got hotter, a few slightly "spifflicated" "tomatoes" ventured onto the floor, obviously enjoying the "Giggle water", but as it is 2017, not a "half-seas over" could be found.

Throughout the show, The Girlfriends sashayed to the floor to kick up a few heels and show their "gams", and right out of Xavier Cugat's show, a Carmen Mirandized Zed fruit bunch chapeau'ed, belly bare, dancer led a conga line as "Drum Boogie" boogied away. But Chou Chou's very shapely silhouette and gorgeous big eyes and ruby lips stole the show as she lovingly flirted with

*"Oh my goodness, gosh golly,
gee willykers, ain't we got fun!"
- Doc Scantlin*

PHOTO BY NANCY KLECK

ATOKA FARM CONSERVATION EASEMENT DONATED TO LAND TRUST OF VIRGINIA

THE LAND TRUST OF VIRGINIA IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ATOKA FARM, LOCATED FOUR MILES WEST OF MIDDLEBURG IN MARSHALL, VA IS NOW PERPETUALLY CONSERVED IN AN OPEN SPACE EASEMENT DONATED BY PROPERTY OWNER MIKE SMITH...

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NEWS OF NOTE MORE THAN JUST A COW: A TRIBUTE TO SNICKERDOODLE

LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Old Mill E Snickerdoodle (1998-2017), the great champion Brown Swiss Cow, passed away quietly on October 3 in her retirement field in Manatee County, FL.

Snickerdoodle, who was just shy of her 19th birthday, may be gone, but she won't be forgotten. Her genetic legacy lives on in many cows and bulls, along with considerable benefits and improvements to the pedigrees of Brown Swiss cattle worldwide.

Owner Allen Bessler posted on Facebook: "We laid the legend to rest today. We said goodbye to one of the most special cows we ever had a chance to work with. Thanks to God for giving us the opportunity to work with her. She leaves quite a legacy behind from all of her offspring worldwide in 11 different countries from embryos she produced. She walked the tanbark with style. It's like when she got there it was game on buddy Bring It On... See you in heaven SNICK."

It was a lucky day when someone gifted a Brown Swiss heifer calf to the Bassler family as a 4-H project. When Cookie was old enough, Allen decided to breed her along with his other cows to a very nice bull in Pennsylvania named Emory even though he had not previously sired any female offspring when bred to any of Allen's stock. Those matings resulted in two heifers — one of them out of Cookie, born on October 14, 1998, was named Snickerdoodle by Allen's wife Tammy and their three children.

Allen's interest in Brown Swiss Cattle began during his own 4-H years, and he's been making cheese for about 30 years. Brown Swiss is a North American breed, descended from the Alpine (Switzerland) Braunvieh; they are renowned around the world for milk production and for their milk's excellent quality in cheese-making. Brown Swiss traits include sturdy health, gentle temperament, outstanding milk production, and longevity. Snickerdoodle produced 261,670 pounds of milk, earning sixth place on the Swiss Cow's living lifetime production list.

"When I started breeding Brown Swiss cattle, I wanted to improve them, make them the best they could be," Allen said. "I wanted bulls that corrected their udders without sacrificing stature, feet, and legs. It took generations to do that."

His greatest success story is Snickerdoodle, winner of a record six World Dairy Expo Brown Swiss Grand Championships and the only cow of all breeds to win every milking class she entered. She also earned one Supreme Championship in 2003 and two reserves Supreme Championships in 2008 and 2009.

Recognized far and wide as one of the greatest cows in the dairy industry, Snickerdoodle has more than 150 daughters giving milk in 15 countries around the world, including many Excellent daughters, 21 of them right here in the U.S. One daughter living in the UK, Old Mill Starbuck Spottie-ET EX-

94 2E, is enjoying a most successful show career. Plus, Snickerdoodle's sons are stamping their progeny with her championship characteristics. It's been win-win all the way.

"Snick started out as my son AJ's 4-H project. He got to grow up with a cow that was amazing," Allen said. "He took care of her and showed her and they won a lot. Then we realized that she was among the best of the best. We were concerned that if they won all the time in the 4-H show ring, AJ wouldn't understand what it was like to work for it. So he showed her in Junior classes, but we got a professional handler for the Open classes."

When Snickerdoodle was two, she embarked on what would be a stellar career by winning her very first World Dairy Expo breed championship. That accolade earned the young cow her very own stall and pasture back on Oak Spring Farm in Upperville where Allen milked 12 cows and made cheese. In 2003, competing against the other breed champions, Snickerdoodle won Supreme Championship, the equivalent of a super-charged Best In Show, at the World Dairy Expo, a prestigious annual event in Madison, Wisconsin.

Snickerdoodle won Brown Swiss Grand Championships at the World Dairy Expo in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2008, and 2009. However, because cows put so much of their vitality into milk production, they don't always look pretty as they get older. Snickerdoodle proved to be the exception.

"It was pretty remarkable when Snickerdoodle came back again — she won the dry cow class in 2013 at the World Dairy Expo," Allen said. "You have friends and enemies at show time, it's very competitive. Dry cows have their place at the show but can't be grand champion. People knew her and recognized her and gave her respect. She was 15 years old, looking as good as she ever looked. She didn't have the udder full of milk, but no dry cow has that. She came out at 15 to a national show and it was really neat in that situation when they started clapping for Snickerdoodle."

That standing ovation became even more significant and moving during the World Dairy Expo when Snickerdoodle's son, Old Mill WDE Supreme-ET, was honored as the Premier Sire of the International Brown Swiss Show.

After her "official" owner AJ went off on his own but didn't have a place to keep his cow, Snickerdoodle stayed with Allen and Tammy at Oak Spring Farm until it was sold in 2015. Then the legendary cow moved to Florida where Allen makes cheese for the Dakin Dairy Farm.

Snickerdoodle will be remembered for her genetics, gentle giant temperament, and priceless contributions to the improvement of the Brown Swiss breed. She financed college for Allen and Tammy's two daughters and their son's tech school training in diesel engines. She brought great joy and recognition into the Bassler's lives.

Snickerdoodle was much more than a great milk-producing champion cow. She will be missed, but not forgotten. Legends never really die.



Middleburg
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NEWS OF NOTE

BACKPACK BUDDIES

MIDDLEBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MISSION OUTREACH

We began this outreach four years ago with three schools. Middleburg Elementary, Aldie Elementary and Banneker Elementary. At this time Middleburg Elementary is no longer in the program. This year we are packing 43 bags per week to provide food for four-weekend meals. Two breakfasts and two lunches. We place twelve different items into one-gallon zip lock bags ranging from milk and juice to meat, fruit, vegetables, and snacks. The number of participants has risen each year that we have been involved in this ministry.

Students who receive these meals are identified by their local school. They do not have to be eligible for free or reduced-price lunch to be in the program. It costs us anywhere from \$5.52 to \$6.70 per bag depending on the items we pack each week. So, our weekly expenses range from \$237.00 to \$288.00 per week or \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 per school year at this time. We do several fundraisers throughout the year and look for support both within our congregation and outside our church doors. The Town of Middleburg has provided funds from their



"Health Center Rent" charitable gifts program. You may have seen us the weekend of November 4 in front of our church selling hot cider and ginger cookies. From this, we raised \$500.00 for Back Pack Buddies. Our next big event will be December 2 - Christmas in Middleburg when we request donations for hot cider, hot chocolate or hot coffee from those attending the festivities. Stop by if you are in town and say hello and perhaps provide a donation. If you are not in town but want to support this program, simply mail a check to Middleburg United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 284, Middleburg, VA 20118 with Back Pack Buddies in the memo line. We thank you for your support and wish you and yours a happy holiday season.

Cue the memories.

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INVITATION TO
 A CHRISTMAS CAROL at Emmanuel Church,
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Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Middleburg proudly invites the public to a very special solo performance of Dickens' A Christmas Carol on December 17th, at 3pm in the Parish Hall, 105 East Washington Street. Stephen Mead, who was trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, will present Tiny Tim, Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and all the famous characters, as you have never seen them before, with no scenery or costumes. As audience, you will feel transported back to 'Jolly Olde England'. Mr. Mead has performed A Christmas Carol in festivals in England, Continental Europe and the United States. Recently he appeared in District of Columbia performances, where his reviews were enthusiastically received. We are honored to have him perform. Don't miss this funny, moving and dramatic performance, which runs approximately one hour and 15 minutes. Refreshments will be offered. Come one, come all, bring friends and get into the Christmas Spirit. Everyone is welcome.



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Amy E. Totten, a partner and Family Law Attorney with Walker Jones, PC located in Warrenton and Washington, Virginia, has been chosen by her peers as one of the Best Lawyers in America 2017. This recognition is determined purely by peers and distinguishes Ms. Totten as one of the top five percent of private practice attorneys nationwide. It signifies excellent in practice. More than 7.4 million confidential evaluations are included in the survey and resulting selection. Ms. Totten has 20 years of legal experience. Currently she serves as the president of the Fauquier County Bar Association. She is a graduate of Loyola University of Chicago and received her law degree from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. For additional information please contact Ms. Totten at 540.347.9223 or amytotten@walkerjoneslaw.com.

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BCT ANNOUNCES
 PROMOTION OF GRANT
 WETMORE TO VICE PRESIDENT
 & MARKET EXECUTIVE

Bank of Charles Town (BCT) is pleased to announce the promotion of Grant Wetmore, as Vice President, Market Executive and Commercial Loan Officer for Loudoun County. Grant is a native of Loudoun County, VA and is a graduate of Marshall University. He joined BCT in July 2007 as a Collection Manager. He has worked his way through the company as a Special Asset Manager and Commercial Loan Officer. Grant has completed RMA Commercial Lending School and is currently attending Barret Graduate School of Banking. Alice P. Frazier, President and CEO says, "Grant has been an integral member of the BCT for over 10 years and has successfully led our expansion to Middleburg. As we look to expand our footprint in Loudoun County, Grant will lead the BCT team to ensure a quality experience as we grow customer relationships." Grant is very active in the community. He is currently on the Board of the Purcellville Business Association, is Chairman of the Events Committee and was recently nominated as Vice President of the PBA (Purcellville Business Association) for 2018. He also coaches the Western Loudoun Basketball and Upper Loudoun Little League teams. Grant will continue serving Loudoun County, with an office at the Middleburg Branch at 115 The Plains Road. He will help you simplify your financial life and can be contacted at 540-687-6132 or gwetmore@mybct.com.

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NEWS OF NOTE

ATOKA FARM CONSERVATION EASEMENT DONATED TO LAND TRUST OF VIRGINIA

HISTORIC 350 ACRES PROTECTED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Land Trust of Virginia is pleased to announce that Atoka Farm, located four miles west of Middleburg in Marshall, VA is now perpetually conserved in an Open Space Easement donated by property owner Mike Smith who purchased the farm in 2016. The 350-acre farm had the potential to be developed into 20 parcels. This conservation easement drastically reduces that number to three.

Mike Smith said that he and Wendy, "... realized, shortly after moving to Poplar Grange, how important it was to protect

the beauty of Atoka Farm. To have been able to purchase this beautiful farm and then to have been able to preserve it for the future has given us great peace of mind. It holds great historical and political significance; history from the Civil War, and political from Senator John Warner's many functions when he owned it. In addition, we appreciate the abundance of native species of trees, plants, and animals that can continue to be protected on this land. This open space is a prime location for Fox Hunting, which I very much enjoy as a member of the Piedmont Fox Hounds. So,

it is for all these reasons that we sought protection. Working with the Land Trust of Virginia's staff and the board was very productive and efficient."

Senator Warner's response, upon learning of the protection, "It was a wonderful gesture for Mike Smith to preserve this historic property for future generations to enjoy."

Atoka Farm has substantial road frontage on a number of local roads, and with several access points, it was very vulnerable to development. With this easement, the viewshed along these

roads is now protected. It has 0.69 miles of frontage on Atoka Road, a Virginia Byway, 0.35 miles of frontage on Rectors Lane, 0.45 miles of frontage on Rt. 50, another Virginia Byway. It also has 0.99 miles of frontage on Crenshaw Road, a County-designated scenic road. Plus the property contains 275 acres of important farmland soils and includes 55 acres of forest cover. The property also has important historical value, containing 99 acres of the Core Battlefield area for the Civil War Battle of Upperville, as well as eight buildings that contribute to Cromwell's Run Rural Historic District. Atoka Farm contains 0.97 miles of Goose Creek, a state scenic river, which flows through the westernmost portion of the property, and 26.7 acres of

wetlands as designated in the National Wetlands Inventory.

Atoka Farm has a storied history and was most famously owned by Senator John Warner and Elizabeth Taylor. It was also home to Hubert Phipps, the previous owner and editor of The Fauquier Democrat, now The Fauquier Times. Mr. Phipps was also a successful racehorse breeder.

"Atoka Farm has significant conservation values, both historically and ecologically," said Executive Director Sally Price. "We are honored that Mike Smith has chosen the Land Trust of Virginia to hold the conservation easement on this property. It brings our total acres under easement to 16,632."

BCT ANNOUNCES NEW ADDITION OF MARKET LEADER FOR LOUDOUN COUNTY

Bank of Charles Town (BCT) is pleased to announce the addition of Leah Day, as Vice President and Market Leader for Loudoun County.

Leah brings over 15 years of retail banking management experience in Loudoun County and has successfully launched four de novo branch offices in her career.

Alice P. Frazier, President and CEO said of Day, "We are very excited to have Leah join BCT, as she brings a wealth of knowledge to our company. Her leadership of the recruitment, training, and management of all BCT retail members in Loudoun County, will be an integral part of BCT's plan to continue its expansion in

that market."

Leah is actively engaged in community service within Loudoun County. She is a founding member of the Rotary Club of Ashburn, a Loudoun County Chamber member and a supporting liaison for Inova Loudoun Hospital. In 2011, Leah co-chaired the Northern Virginia Diaper Bank which provides diapers to Northern Virginia families in need.

Leah will be based at BCT's Middleburg Office at 115 The Plains Road. She will help you simplify your financial life and can be contacted at 540.687.6132 or online at lday@mybct.com.

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SAVING THE ELEPHANTS



AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR RICHARD LADKANI AND ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATED DIRECTOR KIEF DAVIDSON FILMED THE IVORY GAME UNDERCOVER FOR 16 MONTHS.

The award-winning film, "The Ivory Game," that exposes the dark world of ivory trafficking, will be shown at a fundraising event to benefit a major African-based anti-poaching organization on Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Grace Episcopal Church in The Plains starting at 4:30 p.m.

The beneficiary will be the Tanzania-based Protective Area Management Solutions Foundation (PAMS). The event has been organized by Rectortown native Skipper Darlington, president of Africa ASAP, a non-profit that works closely with PAMS in an attempt to stem the widespread killing of African elephants by poachers. Africa ASAP helps keep the elephants alive by deploying an innovative aerial surveillance system.

Last year alone, 35,000 African elephants were killed, and there are major concerns about the possible extinction of the species if the current rate of slaughter continues. Ivory is a prized status symbol for middle class Chinese, and poachers in pursuit of "white gold" are slaughtering African elephants in record numbers.

Wayne Lotter, the founder of PAMS and a main focus of the film, was murdered on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam this past August 16. His killer is still at large. One of his associates, Krisie Clark, is carrying on the work of PAMS, and all proceeds from the Dec. 10 fundraiser will go to that organization.

Award-winning director Richard Ladkani and Academy Award-nominated director Kief Davidson filmed undercover for 16 months, infiltrating and documenting the deep-rooted corruption at the heart of the global ivory trafficking crisis.

The Ivory Game focuses on

front-line rangers and undercover operatives who undertake dangerous missions to disrupt the treacherous pipeline of ivory. From fighting poachers in Africa to exposing illegal ivory shops in

China, the team risks their lives to combat the rampant poaching and killing.

Just last month, the urgent effort to save the elephants suffered a significant setback when the

Trump administration announced that the remains of elephants legally hunted in Zimbabwe and Zambia can now be imported to the United States as trophies, reversing a ban under former President Barack Obama.

Admission to the event is \$40 and includes a light supper and silent auction. For further information, contact Skipper Darlington at skipperd@africaasap.org.

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NEWS OF NOTE

LOUDOUN IMPACT FUND GRANTS EXCEED \$100,000

The Loudoun Impact Fund is a "giving circle" that brings together individuals and businesses interested in grantmaking administered through a joint effort of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia and the Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties.

"It's a powerful way to amplify our own charitable giving," said Bill Tyrrell, co-founder of The LifeCentre in Leesburg and volunteer co-chair of the giving circle. "Working together, the Loudoun Impact Fund was able to award grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000. That's not something my wife, Jen, and I could have done on our own."

Participants make a gift of \$1,000 per individual or \$5,000 per business to join the giving circle. Members review proposals submitted from area charities and decide together which charities to grant. More than \$540,000 in grant requests were received.

"The process includes our collective common sense, as well as vetting and due-diligence oversight of staff at the Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties," explained AHT President & CEO and giving circle co-chair David Schaefer. "I appreciate that dialogue and in-the-field knowledge."

Both Schaefer and Tyrrell made personal as well as business gifts into the giving circle through The LifeCentre and AHT. In 2017, AHT's annual charity golf tournament dedicated the entirety of its proceeds to the Loudoun Impact Fund adding \$32,000 to the pool. Additional corporate donors included Fortessa/Integrus Holdings, Backflow Technology, Madison Wealth Management, and All-sTranpack.

Loudoun Impact Fund members decided 2017 grantmaking would address youth, disabled, and elderly charitable needs. 2017 Grants Awarded:

\$7,000 to seed a Loudoun County Stroke Comeback Center, in partnership with ARC/Paxton Campus, serving stroke and brain trauma survivors with after-insurance care and therapy

\$10,000 to INMED to support a nine-month after-school program for at-risk youth

\$5,000 Children's Science Center's STEM partnership with Loudoun County Public Schools for low-income youth

\$10,000 A Place To Be for therapeutic day programs for individuals with special needs and disabilities

\$10,000 Loudoun Hunger Relief, in partnership with Healthworks, providing low-income elders with on-site fresh foods and vegetables

\$15,000 Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS) Child Advocacy Center to support added staffing for abused youth services



\$5,000 Loudoun Education Foundation to help staff its Backpack Coalition providing food to low-income youth

\$10,000 Loudoun Literacy and its school-based literacy program for low-income children and families

\$5,000 Fenwick Foundation to launch a dental-care program for elder residents in two Medicaid

based nursing/rehab centers in Loudoun County

\$12,000 Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers to support its financial management, transportation and volunteer-based services for elders

\$10,000 Women Giving Back providing clothing and supplies for low-income children

\$7,500 All Ages Read Together

er for its low-income early childhood reading programs

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia works throughout Loudoun, Fairfax, Prince William, Alexandria, and Arlington Counties. The Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties serves Loudoun County and Fauquier County from

Upperville to Marshall. Each organization is one of 30 community foundations in Virginia and 800 across the U.S. designed to promote philanthropy through donor-advised funds, community investment funds, scholarship funds, memorial funds, and giving circles. For more information visit www.cfnova.org or www.CommunityFoundationLF.org

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NEWS OF NOTE

COMMUNITY INVITED TO FOXCROFT SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ON DECEMBER 3

LIVE ANIMALS AND SANTA HIGHLIGHT AFTERNOON OF FUN AND TRADITION



Adults and children of all ages are invited to join Foxcroft School students in celebrating the holiday season on Sunday, Dec. 3, with a spectacular Christmas Pageant, followed by a visit from Santa Claus. The performance, which is free, will begin at 2 p.m. in the Engelhard Gymnasium, located in Foxcroft's Athletic/Student Center of the girls' boarding and day school.

The pageant is a tradition that was started by Foxcroft founder Charlotte Haxall Noland soon after the School was established in 1914. Each year, Foxcroft's new students and chorale present the nativity story as a gift to the community. Live donkeys, goats, and sheep have all made

appearances in recent years. Non-stop music and beautiful costumes, some of which were made decades ago, are featured.

Following the nativity story, Santa Claus will make a visit and, with help from elf assistants, hand out goodie bags prepared by Foxcroft students to the children in attendance. Photos of children with Santa and his friends are always fun too!

Karin Thorndike, Chair of the Fine Arts Department at Foxcroft, directs the performance, assisted by Chorale Director Eric Dombrowski.

Foxcroft is located on Foxcroft Road (Route 626), four miles north of the center of Middleburg. For more information, call 540.687.4511.



MIDDLEBURG CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS



The majestic sounds of brass, organ, and strings will herald the season when Middleburg Concert Series presents The Sounds of Christmas at its annual Christmas concert. Featured performers baritone Benjamin Curtis; The Saturday Morning Brass Project; and organists Dr. Steven Cooksey and Dan Miller will be joined by Musicians in Residence Dr. Alan Saucedo (cello), Cynthia Saucedo (violin), and Karen Chase (soprano). The concert, sponsored by the Bank of Charlestown, will be followed by a reception provided by the Goodstone Inn and Restaurant. The 2017 performances are made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the Town of Middleburg. Since its inception in 2015, the Middleburg Concert Series has continually offered virtuoso performances to the residents of the Town of

Middleburg and its visitors. The concert will be at 4 PM, December 10th, at the Middleburg United Methodist Church, 15 W Washington Street at the corner of Pendleton.

The Christmas concert marks a return engagement for Benjamin Curtis who wowed audiences with his rich, vibrant, baritone voice at the Broadway Medley concert in 2016. Equally at home with operatic or popular tunes, Mr. Curtis holds a Masters of Music from the prestigious Eastman School of Music in New York. The Saturday Morning Brass Project is a group of both professional and amateur musicians who play a variety of music from classical to jazz. Members have previously performed with the Loudoun Symphony, the Fairfax Symphony, the Maryland Symphony the American Pops and more. Organist Dan Miller is Music Director of St David's Episcopal

Church in Ashburn, Va. and accompanist for the Hagerstown Choral Arts. He was previously a member of the faculty of the Washington National Opera's Institute at American University and Shenandoah Conservatory's Opera Workshop. Organist Dr. Steven Cooksey needs no introduction to MCS audiences. Professor Emeritus at Shenandoah University, founder of the Bach Handel Festival, and Organist/Choir Master of St James Episcopal Church in Leesburg Dr. Cooksey serves on the MCS Steering Committee. He has become an invaluable addition to the concerts by offering a historical background of some of the pieces being performed.

Admission to the concert and reception are free. Donations are welcome. For further information visit middleburgconcertseries.com, email middleburgconcertseries@gmail.com or call 540-303-7127.

THE MIDDLEBURG GARDEN CLUB'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GREENS SHOW & HOLIDAY BAZAAR

This award-winning flower show and holiday bazaar shopping tradition featuring fresh greenery and gourmet gifts are back this year as part of the festivities leading into Christmas in Middleburg.

"This year's theme, 'A Woodland Christmas', is representative of the beautiful Virginia countryside we live in," said Darcy Justen, President of the Club. A variety of holiday artistic crafts and floral interpretations will be showcased. There will also be individual design and horticulture classes open to entries from the public. Special this year is a youth division.

The Holiday Bazaar will have everything you need to get your house ready for entertaining—fabulous wreaths with gorgeous bows, traditional kissing balls, festive topiaries, bundles of magnolia branches as well as gourmet foods and seasonal decorative crafts made by MGC members. Since Christmas greens typically sell out, pre-orders on some items will be available at the Middleburg Garden Club Etsy site with pick up at the bazaar.

The event will be held at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall.

105 East Washington St
Middleburg VA
Thursday, November 30th



2:00 PM to 5:00 PM and Friday, December 1st 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Admission to the show is FREE. Proceeds from the sale help support the Middleburg Garden Club's charitable beautification and community projects.

We

We are thrilled!!
Patience Brewster is back with us.
See the new moonbeam collection and also her wildlife collection.

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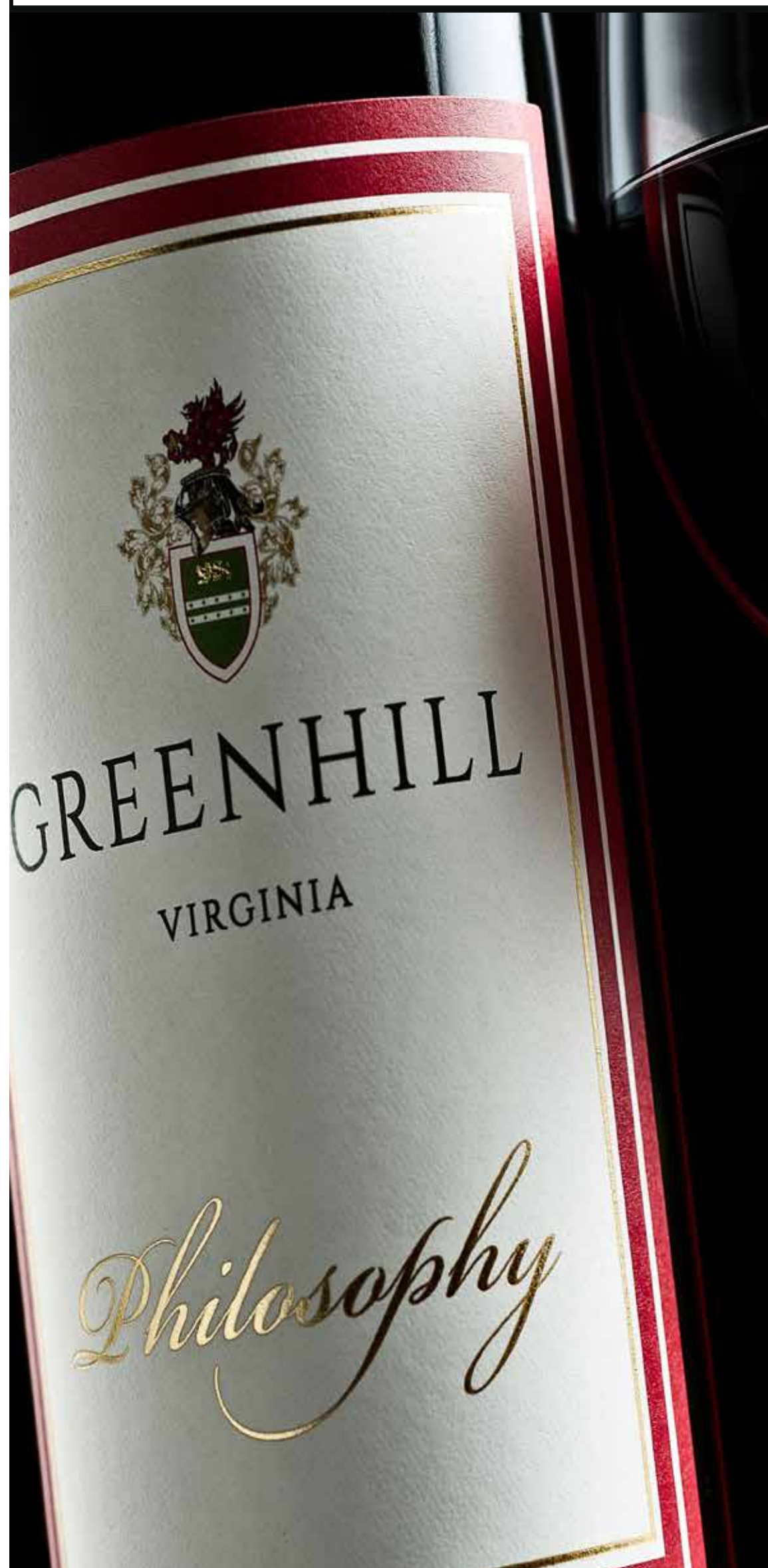
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NEWS OF NOTE

MYSTIQUE FINE JEWELRY GETS SMOKIN'!



The gentleman who enjoys a stogie can now find a divine selection of Davidoff cigars and pipes right here in Middleburg.

Elizabeth Mandros, the owner of Mystique Fine Jewelry Designs, said it was easy to choose the quintessential luxury cigar brand. "It's known the world-over, and Davidoff's accessories are as luxurious as its cigars."

Winston Churchill, Sigmund Freud, Orson Welles, George Sand, Abraham Lincoln, King Edward VII, Mark Twain, and George Burns were famous stogie boys who couldn't live a day without their tobacco.

As an homage to perhaps the most famous and photo-

graphed cigar smoker, The Winston Churchill is a blend as complex as the man himself, Davidoff describes. Another cigar devoted to Churchill, The Late Hour, inspires one's creativity in the long dark hours of the night.

From rare editions to their classic flavorful lines that made them famous, Davidoff uses 15 different tobaccos in four groups to make a cigar for any palate. The Davidoff Yamasá series combines spicy and sweet tobaccos from Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic with an earthy wrapper and binder from the Yamasá region. For the Nicaragua, master blenders sought out a blend that would stimulate both bitter and sweet taste buds. Nicaragua Box Pressed

offers a spice boosted with a fiery Estelí Ligero leaf that complements aged Jalapa, Omatepe and Condega tobaccos for a complex bittersweet palate stimulation. The Escurio promises to deliver an intense, spicy sweet palate stimulation.

Every smoker needs a few accessories to add elegance to the pastime. Davidoff developed two systems -- scissor and cutters -- to cut the cigar and preserve its integrity. Lighting a fine cigar requires a fine lighter. There are ten select finishes in gold plated, platinum or lacquer across two size choices.

Humidors are not made equally. Expert care and storage are absolute necessities to house one's collection. Davidoff's humidors provide a constant relative humidity of

approximately 70% and automatically correct humidity fluctuations.

Carrying one's cigars require a luxurious container as its contents demand. Their cases are made of natural materials. Double leather layers let cigars breathe and guarantee ideal humidity conditions for several days. A third leather layer ensures rigidity to preserve their shape. Adjustable in length, these cases come with a 10-day freshness guarantee.

And for the pipe smoker, Mystique has Davidoff handcrafted pipes, accessories and tobacco meticulously curated for the ultimate in refined smoking enjoyment.

"To smoke is human; to smoke cigars is divine."

CREATE YOUR HOLIDAY

Wish List

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Middleburg, VA 20117

540.687.3100

mystiquejewelers.com



NEWS OF NOTE

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

BETSY A. DAVIS

One of Town Council's goals for this year was to start a quarterly "Message from the Mayor".

There are so many topics I could write about, but since we are beginning the holiday season and then into a new year, I thought a message of "thoughts and reflections" and thankfulness would be appropriate. As always, this time of year brings so many happy memories to me..... and having lived in Middleburg my whole life, our beautiful town and the people are all part of that.

As the lush green leaves on the trees begin to turn such amazingly beautiful colors and the smells of Fall fill the air, I am flooded with thoughts of such wonderful times..... trick-or-treating with our friends (and no adults); wandering up and down Washington Street singing "We Gather Together" on Thanksgiving to whomever would listen and going to Foxcroft for the beautiful Hunt Breakfast and then watching as the hunt took off; groups of us, young and old, would go all through town singing Christmas Carols and then come back for mugs of hot chocolate and cider. The beautiful memories of living in this special town with so many

wonderful people fill my senses all of the time and I am so thankful.

I am also so very thankful that I have been allowed to serve this beautiful town and that the residents have entrusted me to do so.

We have been on a bit of a "roller coaster" over these last 20 years, but we are in such a good place and our town is healthy with a strong budget and a sustainable future. Our utility system is in excellent shape and well run and contrary to what some say or believe, our rates are quite reasonable. Our council (and past councils) have worked so very hard to make sure this was all possible..... there are many hard decisions to be made and it takes courage and conviction to make it happen.

My sincere thanks to our members of Town Council, both present, and past, for being such good "stewards of the town". It has been an honor to work with all of you.

We are also so very blessed to have such an amazing town staff, they are all smart, talented, dedicated and caring individuals and make our jobs as council members so much easier.... I thank each of them for all that they do..... and I know we could not do what we do without their knowledge and expertise.

Our police department is the best and we are so very proud of all of them..... they care about our town and our people and they treat our visitors with kindness, as well. We are blessed to have a full 24/7 coverage now and are thankful that we can afford to budget for this.

Our street department is small, but they do the work of many..... they keep us looking our best both on the streets and "behind the scenes". They seem to always be a step ahead and get things done before we even have to ask.

I am also extremely thankful for all of the volunteers we have that serve on so many committees and do so much work for our town..... I am amazed at how many we have for our small little town, but that is what makes us so special!

So as we all move forward into this beautiful holiday season and new year, I wish all of you joy, peace hope, and love. May we all hold tight to our memories and try to hold onto that little kid inside of us (it's ok to be a bit silly) and may we be a little kinder to each other all year and, perhaps, not so quick to judge.

We are a wonderful and beautiful town and our people make us shine!

With love,
Betsy

WINDY HILL FOUNDATION GATSBY GALA HITS THE MARK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dancing guests, pulling two very obliging gents to the stage to blow bubbles out into the audience as she sang "Paper Moon." Doc Scantlin's theatrics went far beyond the "cat's meow" of any feline's expectations, and after six hours in heels, the "dogs" were howling.

All frivolity aside, after a dinner of yummy beef, a very enthusiastic group of guests bid on a choice group of live auction items, helping the foundation raise a Queen Mary load of "ma-

zuma", a lot of "clams" more than a few heads of "lettuce."

This year, funds will be focused on the educational aspirations of many of the children in the Windy Hill community. Kudos to Windy Hill and all its supporters and staff who made it all a "darb" of an evening.

To quote Doc Scantlin again, "Even angels need a hot time now and then, especially for a good cause."

It was the bee's knees!

CAREY BEER & RACHEL CARA ENGAGEMENT



Carey popped the question on October 26th over dinner at Field and Main in Marshall, Va.

SKY MEADOWS STATE PARK DECEMBER EVENTS AND PROGRAMS 2017

Holiday House Tours
12/02, 03, 09, 10, 16, 17, & 23
11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Enjoy special tours of our Historic Area during this festive season. Visit each of the houses in the park's Historic Area and discover how the people who called Sky Meadows "home" celebrated the holidays in the past.

Inquire in the Visitor Center for tours. Also, be sure to enjoy our Gift Shop, located in the Visitor Center, for great holiday gift ideas.

Contact info for all programs and events is: SkyMeadows@dcr.virginia.gov or (540) 592-3556

Sky Meadows State Park: 11012 Edmonds Lane
Delaplane, VA 20144



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WINDY HILL FOUNDATION GALA - GATSBY

SALAMANDER RESORT & SPA, MIDDLEBURG, VA

PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK & DEE DEE HUBBARD



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ALESANDRA RICHARDS, REBEKAH PIZANA, JENNIFER RICHARDS



LIZ TURNURE, TANSY & GRANT WETMORE, VINCENT & NELINDA BATOILE, TODD & ALICE FRAZIER



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CAREY BEER AND RACHEL CARA CARA



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MARC NOLAN, JOYCE MULLINS, JENNIFER RICHARDS, ALESANDRA RICHARDS, HARRY FULWILER



PLACES & FACES

WINDY HILL FOUNDATION GALA - GATSBY

SALAMANDER RESORT & SPA, MIDDLEBURG, VA
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BETH ANN MASCATELLO AND STEPHANIE BATES



ROB & JULIE BANNER



DAVID GREENHILL & RIBEKAH PIZANA



ELOISE REPECZKY AND WILL NISBET



SHIELAHARRELL LYDIA STROHL, HELEN WILEY AND BRIDGE LITTLETON



VINCENT & NELLINA BATAOEL AND NIKKI & MANUEL SIMPSON



GRANT & TANSY WETMORE



ERIK RIDDLEBUERGE LYDIA STOHL AND MANUEL SIMPSON



TODD & ALICE FRAZIER AND KATHY & ARCH MOORE



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FIRST HILL CLIM



OVER THE TIMBER BARRIERS 1



JUNIOR START



ROUND AND ROUND



JUNIOR WINNER



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SEVEN LOAVES WINNERS



SEVEN LOAVES WINNERS

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PLACES & FACES

HUNTER'S HEAD HALLOWEEN

UPPERVILLE, VA - PHOTOS & STORY BY NANCY KLECK

A Maid and her Terrier Mop Mops up at Hunter's Head Tavern Costume Contest

Walking into Hunters' Head Halloween night looked more like the commissary at the MGM movie lot.

Seated next to a bee keeper (with a bee the size of a small loaf of French

bread) was a sunflower eating hors d'oeuvres as their two butterflies (an Old English Sheepdog and a Labradoodle) quietly watched. Darth Vader was enjoying a beer in one hand and holding his neon green wan in the other, his Schnauzer side in his lap.

A wicked witch in her "out on the town blue and sparkle of a small loaf of French

dress up) coordinated with her flying monkey, a Lhasa Apso (or Shih Tzu), also sitting in her lap. Being a little dog does have its advantages.

Turning around to the last table, what was hiding underneath a mop of oversized dreadlocks? Dressed in black with a white apron and white bandana, Linda Cowasjee's Jack Russell terrier "Ticket"

me? After a few minutes of jostling and tugging, Sophie Sofa the Devine Diva indulged me and for a second, gave me her best.

A young gal from Hunter's Head, dressed in a white French gown and wig, a la Marie Antoinette, announced that Linda and her mop had won. Cleaned up first place.



COSTUME CONTEST WINNER LINDA COWASJEE AND HER JACK RUSSELL TICKET MOPPING UP FIRST PLACE



SANDY LERNER THE BIG FELINE WITH SOPHIE SOFA THE DEVINE DIVA



WITCH CLAIRE BRODD AND ZUZU THE FLYING MONKEY



BEEKEEPER AND SUNFLOWER TIM AND DONNA PARKMAN WITH BUTTERFLIES MAYZIE AND BAILEY



MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!



HUNTER'S HEAD STAFF PRESENTING LINDA COWASJEE AND TICKET WITH THE WINNING PRIZES

HALLOWEEN IN MIDDLEBURG

MIDDLEBURG, VA - PHOTOS BY STEPHEN PLESCOW, NANCY KLECK AND DEE DEE HUBBARD



I AM DRAGON HEAR ME ROAR



TRICK OR TREAT



JUST CLOWNING AROUND



A CHEF, A SMERF AND THE HULK WALKED INTO TOWN



I DON'T THINK HE BRUSHES AFTER EVERY MEAL



A GRINNING GIRAFFE AND UNICORN WITH FRIENDS



DONT YOU LOVE OUR EXTENSIONS



TOM SELLEK LOOK ALIKE



EVERYONES HEROES ON HALLOWEEN



MINIONS IN MIDDLEBURG



A DINOSAUR, A FAIRY AND A SUPER HERO, OH MY!

PLACES & FACES

MIDDLEBURG HUNT OPENING MEET

GROVEDON FARM, MIDDLEBURG, VA - PHOTOS & STORY BY NANCY KLECK



HUNTSMAN RICHARD ROBERTS AND THE PACK



MASTER TIM HARMON



ANNE SITTMANN ARUNDEL



HUNTSMAN GRAHAM BUSTON AND WHIPPER-IN ANDY BOZDAN FLANK MH HUNTSMAN RICHARD ROBERTS BEFORE THE HUNT



BERNADETTE BOLAND



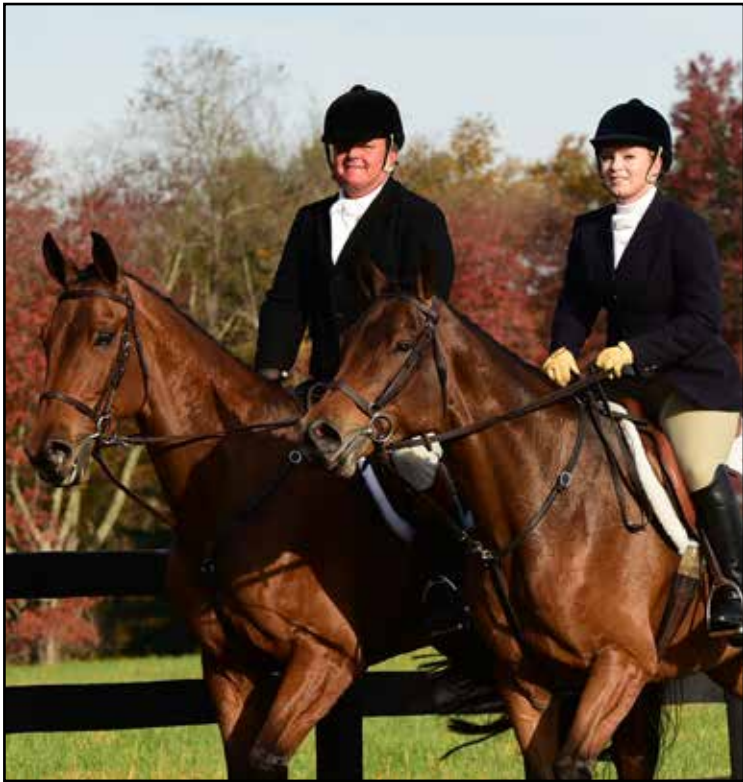
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Shakespeare in the 'Burg
April 6-8, 2018
Presents
A Midsummer Night's Dream



Photo credit Chris Weber

Friday, December 1st, 2017 5:30pm Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 2nd, 2017
11:00am Hunt Review 2:00pm Christmas Parade

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Sunday, December 3rd, 2017
2:00pm Foxcroft Live Animal Christmas Pageant

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THE INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP

GREAT MEADOW, THE PLAINS, VA
PHOTOS AND STORY BY NANCY KLECK

A No Bid Turns Into Gold

Under the capable riding of young English jockey Hadden Frost, Doc Sebu handily won the International Gold Cup this past month at Great Meadow by nearly a dozen lengths and no one was more surprised than owner Charlie Fenwick.

A late spring foal by a world class sire, the plain brown bay colt sold for \$266,000 at Timonium's two-olds-in training sale as he was a very well bred half brother to a millionaire and two stakes winners. On paper he had potential. His sire is known to be a tough horse. The colt was

bred to go the distance. But how far? That took a few years to determine.

Shipped off to Kentucky Derby winning and leading trainer Todd Pletcher, Doc Sebu never seemed to get out of the claiming ranks running as a 3 year old under a mile, hitting the boards off and on lengths, but as they say in racing lingo, not paying his bills. Passed onto leading Maryland trainer, Kieron Magee, he didn't fare much better and after two starts, Magee needed the stalls.

By happenstance, Magee was a friend of Fenwick's brother, Bruce, and told him about two horses he had for sale. Bruce liked the looks of Doc Sebu, and bought the two. Doc Sebu got his taste of foxhunting but

wasn't keen on the hounds. The winter passed, spring and summer schooling followed, the gelding still wasn't overly impressive and as he was a five year old, it was decided to sell him at the inaugural spring sale at Timonium for steeplechasers.

No bids. Not a single bid. Annoyed and frustrated, Fenwick loaded him up and on his way home, the auctioneer called him. "I think I've got a buyer" he says. Fenwick said "thanks, but I'm not turning around, I'm going home."

Sent to his long time champion trainer, Jack Fisher, Doc Sebu was 6 by then and "a handful, not the easiest horse to handle" Fenwick described. With high hopes, he was entered in the Middleburg Fall Races

(last year) but not expecting much, Fenwick attended the Keeneland races in Kentucky that day.

"He won!" By over 4 lengths, over a three mile long course. The gelding had finally found his stride. He was then to win or place in five starts before the Gold Cup: wins included the Willowdale Steeplechase by 9 and the Genesee Valley Hunt Cup by 11 1/4. Two weeks later he ran away with the gold at Great Meadow, 3 1/2 miles in 6:57 2/5, a 11 3/4 length victory.

Winning the International in Fenwick's Old Rose silks was a highlight of his long association with the sport of steeplechasing that goes back three generations. A champion jockey in his youth, Fenwick

rode Ben Nevis to victory in the Grand National in 1980 and to a plaque in America's Racing Hall of Fame at Saratoga.

Asked why a timber versus brush, Fenwick explained, "there's a higher premium on the timber horse. He has to be more precise, more accurate, the jockeys weigh more." A tougher measurement of quality.

A good horse in a wonderful thing. To be allowed to dream of winning...he will tell us what is in his future" Fenwick said wistfully, now the proud owner of the International Gold Cup. This former claimer made the dream come true. Doc Cebu's earnings are nearly \$100,000 and he is presently enjoying a well deserved rest.



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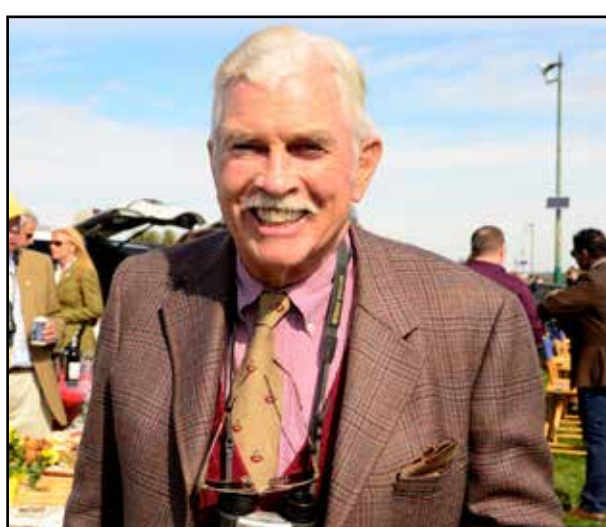
WINNING CONNECTIONS OF 2017 INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP WINNER DOC CEBU WITH JOCKEY HADDEN FROST IN CHARLES FENWICK'S OLD ROSE SILKS



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INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP TRAINER CHARLES FENWICK, JR. WITH RACE COMMENTATOR MEGAN CONNOLLY AND JOCKEY HADDEN FROST



INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP WINNER DOC CEBU WITH HADDEN FROST ABOUT TO CROSS THE FINISH LINE



INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP WINNER DOC CEBU WITH HADDEN FROST LOOKING BACK AT THE REST OF THE FIELD



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PLACES & FACES

RITA MAE BROWN

THE MUSEUM OF HOUNDS & HUNTING ~ PHOTOS & TEXT BY NANCY KLECK

Is the Museum of Hounds and Hunting haunted?

Writing teachers will always tell you to write about that which you know best and Rita Mae Brown has expertly followed this advice in the latest "Sister" Jane Arnold series.

In Crazy Like A Fox, "Sister" Jane Arnold attends a board meeting at the Museum of Hounds & Hunting, N.A. The museum is plunged into mystery when a venerable hunting horn is discovered missing from its case. The only clue, on a left-behind cell phone, is what seems to be a

"selfie" video of the horn's original, deceased owner, a huntsman who disappeared in the field decades ago, his body never found. He has returned, not a day older, or is it his ghost?

It was a natural that Sister Jane book lovers come to the Museum at Morven Park's Mansion for a meet and greet upstairs surrounded by hunting paintings, sculpture, photographs, and artifacts from foxhunting's yester years and who knows, perhaps a ghost.

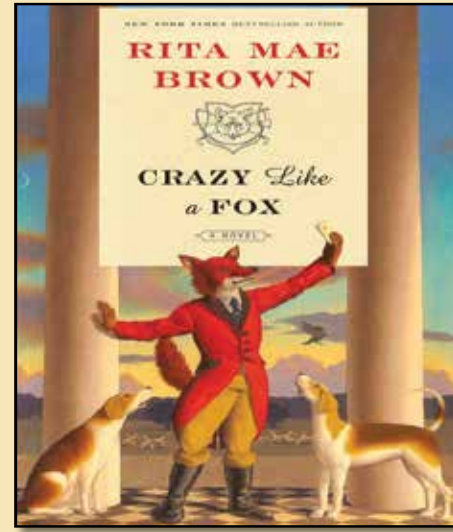
Miss Brown has a rye, charming sense of humor that few could ignore and she was

in good form as a sold-out crowd listened to her read a chapter from the book. Several of the characters are based on well known individuals in the foxhunting community, but you'll have to read the book to find out!

Questions and answers produced a handful of good chuckles, followed by the book signing and lots of selfies with this beloved author.

Crazy Like A Fox should be on every foxhunter's "to read" list. When the snow is two feet deep, grab the brandy and curl up like a fox for a great read.

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Signing and Reception

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MIDDLEBURG MUSIC FEST INTERNATIONAL

SALAMANDER RESORT & SPA ~ PHOTOS & STORY BY NANCY KLECK

Classical music lovers had the great pleasure of experiencing an internationally acclaimed master of the keyboard at Salamander Spa & Resort recently.

In an intimate setting to a packed room, one could feel the energy and passion as Maestro Giuliano Mazzocante played a rousing variety of pieces by Beethoven, Chopin, Wagner, Scriabin, Verdi and Liszt.

Tall, handsome and a most congenial Italian from Chieti, Italy, Mazzocante's style of playing was mesmerizing, and quite interesting to watch as he played Scriabin's Nocturne Op. 9 No. 2 for the left hand. The variety of pieces played were exciting and moving. After the recital, he graciously welcomed photograph requests from guests, and a glass of wine.

The idea of bringing young musical artists to Middleburg was inspired by the passion of co-founders local resident Miguel Diaz, President of MMFI, and Nikita Fitenko, Artistic Director, and an Associate Professor of Piano at the Catholic University of America in D.C.

Fitenko, also an internationally acclaimed pianist and founder of many competitions and festivals, chose the musical pieces "to arouse the senses, quicken the heart, and keep you at the edge of your seat." The intimacy of being so close to the pianist gave the audience a very special glimpse into genius and the ephemeral nature of listening to live piano music.

With "every year, we hope to bring more musical artists to Middleburg," Diaz explained. Through MMFI, his vision is to establish a globally recognized cultural institution that showcases internationally acclaimed masters as well as rising stars of the keyboard in classical, jazz, and contemporary piano music. Salamander will again host a performance, but other locations around the area will be chosen to hold events over three days, fashioned much like the Middleburg Film Festival. Next year's festival is scheduled in November.

Bravo! Bravo!



MIGUEL DIAZ, RAY MORALES, BORIS MUTAFELIGA AND GIULIANO MAZZOCANTE WITH TWO YOUNG DOCTORAL CANDIDATES IN MUSIC



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OBITUARIES

ANNE "WENDY" PEPPER STEWART 1964 - 2017

Anne Eustis Pepper of Washington, DC, fondly known as "Wendy", died peacefully on November 12, 2017, surrounded by her loving family. Born in Dayton, Ohio, and raised in Washington, Wendy was a graduate of the Potomac School, the Madeira School, and the University of Washington. She was an artist who proudly forged her own

path in life. A finalist on season one of Project Runway, Wendy designed and hand-sewed exceptionally beautiful clothes for children and adults. She was a chef, a writer, and a life-long entrepreneur. Her wit and humor were unmatched, as was her generosity of spirit. Wendy is survived by her parents, Anne Livingston Emmet of Washington and Charles Willing Pepper of

Palm Beach, FL; her loving daughter, Finley M. Stewart, of Middleburg, VA; her brothers Wing Pepper, Stacy Lloyd and Thomas Lloyd; her sister, Edith Pepper Goltra; and many adoring nieces and nephews.

Funeral service Friday, December 1 at 10:30 a.m., Christ Church, Georgetown. 3116 O St., NW, Washington, DC 20007.



JEAN WHITNEY GOLD 1919 - 2017



Jean Whitney Gold, a resident of Middleburg for the past 52 years and a founder and long-time director of the Middleburg Players, a popular community theater group, died peacefully at her home on Oct. 16. She was 98.

Mrs. Gold was born Jean Erwin Whitney in Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 29, 1919, the daughter of Erwin Lionel and Grace McDonald Whitney.

She attended Monticello College in Alton, Ill. and graduated from the University of Tulsa. She then moved to New York City, where she studied drama with Tamara Daykarhanova, a disciple of Konstantin Stanislavski and the Method School of acting.

In 1942, Jean Whitney married John Kendall Snow of Raleigh, N.C. Mr. Snow worked for the Sperry Corporation on Long Island, New York. In 1943, she joined the staff of LIFE magazine,

working in the photo lab and the news Bureau.

In 1954, she retired to Sag Harbor, Long Island to raise their four children, while running an antique shop and writing for the Southampton Press and Sag Harbor Express newspapers, including two memoirs interviews with author John Steinbeck. She also performed in Guild Hall productions at the John Drew Theater in East Hampton.

In 1960, Jean Snow returned to Time Inc. to join the newly-created department of Time-Life Films, working with documentary filmmakers Don Pennebaker and Bob Drew, with whom she covered the JFK inauguration in 1961. The company began its book publishing operations that year and Mrs. Snow became a researcher, working on American folklore and U.S. history, until 1965.

Her marriage to Mr. Snow ended in divorce. In 1965, she married William Gilmor Costin, Jr., a New York theatrical producer who was an actor and director at the John Drew Theater.

They moved to Middleburg, where, in 1969, they established The Middleburg Players. Following Mr. Costin's death in 1976, she became the director of the organization, putting on a number of highly-acclaimed productions, many of them hit Broadway

shows, featuring local actors and musicians, and she remained in that capacity until 1998.

In 1980, she married William Jay Gold, a former Time-Life editor, with whom she had worked on LIFE magazine in the 60's. For the next three years, she and her husband produced a 15-volume series on American musicals for Time-Life Records, a division of Time-Life books.

The Golds also created the Piedmont Society for the Lively Arts, devoted to promoting cultural activities in the area.

After her husband's death in 1989, Jean Gold continued to live in Middleburg and remained active in the theater.

In 1996 she formed an alliance with Maxine Bean of Hillsboro in an attempt to revive interest in the radio plays of the 1930s and '40s. They brought back some episodes of Fibber McGee and Molly, and Orson Welles' War of the Worlds, as well as a special reading of her son William Snow's play "Ordinary Magic," among other productions.

In 1998, the Middleburg Players put on "It Was Mostly Fun," a musical revue written by Mrs. Gold, Fred Spencer, and Christian Meyers. It was based on a book by Doc Saffer, a native son, and the production based on his memories

of growing up in Middleburg became an "Our Town"-like hit.

Mrs. Gold was a member of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Middleburg. Over the years, she had been involved in the Christmas Shop and the Altar Guild, as well as the Fauquier-Loudoun Garden Club, the Aldie Horticultural Society, and the Middleburg Tennis Club.

She is survived by her children, Jonathan Whitney Snow and Julie Kendall Snow of Long Island, N.Y., William Stronach Snow of Paris, France, Blackburne Costin and Brackenridge Costin of California, a nephew, Douglas Whitney of California, six grandchildren, 11 step-grandchildren, a great-granddaughter and nine step-great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her son Christopher Kerr Snow of Middleburg, her grandson, Dashiell Snow of New York, her stepsons, William Gilmor Costin III of California and McKelvy Costin of Middleburg, as well as by her brothers Charles E. Whitney and Robert C. Whitney of California.

A funeral service was held November 4th at Grace Episcopal Church in The Plains.

Donations made in memory of Jean Gold to Blue Ridge Hospice or Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Middleburg, Va.

WALTER NELSON WOODSON 1950 - 2017

Walter Nelson Woodson, a widely-respected Washington lobbyist who traced his family's American lineage back to the 1600s, died on Nov. 1. He was 67.

Mr. Woodson, in recent years a Middleburg real estate agent, began his career in the Nation's Capital as the Legislative Director for Congressman L.H. Fountain of North Carolina. When Fountain decided not to seek re-election in 1983, Mr. Woodson joined the Tobacco Institute, where he rose to the position of Senior Vice President of Public Affairs.

The Tobacco Institute was a U.S. tobacco industry trade group, founded in 1958 by the American tobacco industry. It was dissolved in 1998 as part of the Tobacco Master Settlement agreement.

While at the institute, Mr. Woodson developed the concept of the "We Card." Now a national non-profit organization, The We

Card Program, Inc. serves the nation's retailers of tobacco, alcohol and other age-restricted products. We Cards are posted to raise awareness of responsible retailing and age verification requirements and to train retail employees to identify and prevent underage attempts to purchase age-restricted products.

Mr. Woodson was born in Salisbury, North Carolina on Feb. 2, 1950, the son of Mary Holt and Nelson Woodson. He graduated from Woodberry Forest School in Orange, Virginia and was a graduate of New York University (NYU) in Manhattan, where he majored in history and political science.

He married the former Alex Waschenko on May 30, 1981 at Christ Church in Alexandria.

The couple lived in Alexandria until 2004, when they moved to Middleburg. Mr. Woodson was an agent for several Middleburg real estate firms and was with Middleburg Real Estate/Atoka

Properties at the time of his death.

Mr. Woodson traced his roots back to John Rolfe, one of the early English settlers of North America.

Later in the 1600s, another descendant, Dr. John Woodson, left his wife and children at their home to go off to intercept a group of hostile Native Americans who had attacked nearby. When their home came under attack by another war party, their children were hidden in a potato hole, a "tater hole" as it was called, or under a wash tub.

At family reunions hundreds of years later, Mr. Woodson, who also relished his Southern heritage, always told one and all that he was a "wash tub Woodson."

A dapper dresser, Mr. Woodson also enjoyed writing and was a voracious reader, belonging to a Middleburg men's book club that focused primarily on American history. He regularly attended seminars on a wide variety of topics at the Cosmopolitan Club in Washington that were conducted



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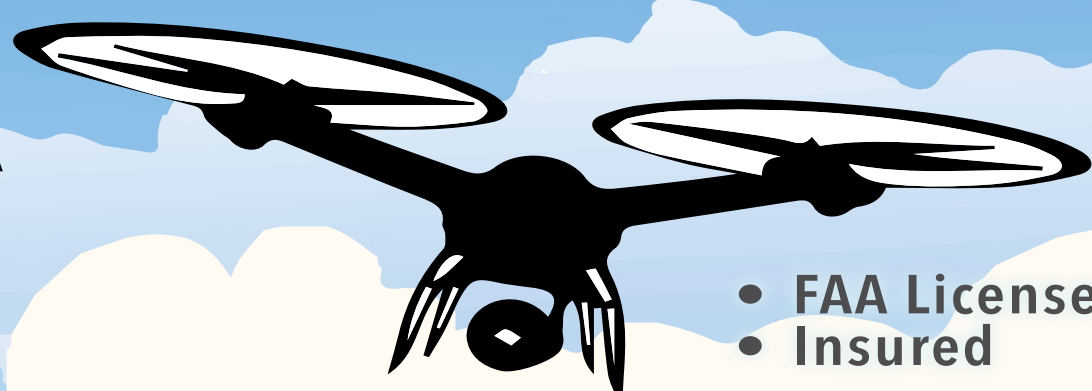
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PROGENY

WAKEFIELD SCHOOL ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL



Wakefield School is pleased to announce the appointment of Ashley Harper as our next Head of School. Based on an extensive and highly competitive six-month search process, we are ecstatic that Ashley will be joining our community and build upon the momentum that David Colón has created as our current Head of School. Ashley's official start date will be July 1, 2018.

Ashley's career in education spans teaching, college admissions, lower and middle-school division leadership, and development. Wakefield School believes this vast experience and track record of success in independent schools make Ashley exceptionally well qualified to be our next Head of School. But just as important, our community was won over by her combination of vision, intelligence, thoughtfulness, energy, and dedication to the intellectual

struction from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She was a National Association of Independent Schools Aspiring School Heads Fellow from 2011-2012.

In her acceptance, Ashley noted "From the first moments on campus, I was struck by the deep engagement of everyone in the Wakefield community, and the commitment to building the future together. Students poised to take on the challenges of the twenty-first century; expert, dedicated faculty investing in students both in and out of the classroom; trustees giving time and talent; and parents and alumni who are 'all in' are testaments to the strength and promise of the school. There is a unique story to be told at Wakefield and the potential for the future is great."

She and her husband, Doug, have two sons. Jack is attending college in the Pittsburgh area and Riley attends 6th grade at Winchester Thurston and he will be a future Wakefield Middle Schooler. Ashley notes, "My husband, Doug, our son Riley, and I are so excited to join the Wakefield community. I look forward to leading our mission as Wakefield's next Head of School and to helping our students seek the challenge, make a difference, and live extraordinary lives."

We are looking forward to all of the wonderful qualities she will bring to develop the programs and community that define our school. Welcome to Wakefield School, Mrs. Harper.

FOXCROFT STUDENT NAMES FIRST TEAM ALL-STATE

Junior Haley Buffenbarger, whose 30 goals and 18 assists led Foxcroft School to a No. 7 position in the VISAA Division I field hockey rankings, has been named to the All-State First Team, Athletic Director Michelle Woodruff announced Tuesday.

The Leesburg, VA resident is the first Foxcroft athlete — and possibly only the second in school history — to achieve VISAA Division I First-Team honors. The last to do it was Chelsy Coil, Class of 2008, who earned the honor in 2007. Coil went on to play NCAA Division I field hockey at Michigan State University.

Haley's sister, Allison, and Lindsay Woods, who both graduated last May, were named to the VISAA Division I Second Team last season. (Foxcroft competed in VISAA Division II from the fall of 2010 through spring of 2016.) This fall, Haley became only



COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL OF THE PIEDMONT ANNOUNCES WINNER OF KATHERINE JAMESON PIANO SCHOLARSHIP



Naomi Fraser and Martha Cotter As shown in her winning application, Naomi has a deep passion and ability for music. She has participated in musicals, played the piano for 7 years, took the guitar for 2 years, and has been taking voice for 4 years.

Her letters of recommendation from current and former teachers noted her love of learning, high level of commitment, and natural talent and love for the piano as a musical instrument. Naomi also wrote an impressive personal essay on the role music plays in her life, why she considers musical study important, and her interest in studying the piano in particular.

Martha Cotter, director of CMSP, stated that "We are delighted that Naomi is the winner of the Katherine Jameson Piano Scholarship for 2017-18. This annual scholarship was established just this year, in partnership with the Jameson family, to celebrate the late Katherine Jameson. Katherine was our first piano instructor at CMSP. She was a longtime, beloved faculty member. Naomi shares Katherine's devotion to music, its power, and joy. It is really good to have such a deserving scholarship recipient as Naomi to honor Katherine's memory".

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PROGENY

FOXCROFT STUDENT SIGNS TO PLAY LACROSSE AT DELAWARE STATE



Foxcroft School senior Mia Moseley, a three-sport standout and All-Conference lacrosse player, signed a letter of intent to play Division I lacrosse at Delaware State University as her family looked on and the entire Foxcroft community cheered Wednesday morning in Currier Library on the campus of the girls' boarding and day school.

"This is a wonderful day for the Athletic Department as we get to celebrate one of our athletes' great accomplishments, playing at the next level. Very few students move on to play in

college," said Athletic Director (and lacrosse coach) Michelle Woodruff, noting, "The NCAA estimates that there are about 88,000 girls who participate in high school lacrosse. Only about 11,000 — a little more than 12% — play at the collegiate level, and only 4% of that group are recruited to play and get a scholarship. So this is no easy task."

Moseley was a second team All-Delaney Athletic Conference selection last spring after leading Foxcroft defenders in ground balls (28) and takeaways (17). She has started on defense since the first game of her freshman

year when she helped Foxcroft win the 2015 VISAA Division II state championship. She also played lacrosse for the 3D Mid-Atlantic Club team and has been a key member of Foxcroft's volleyball and basketball teams.

"Mia is an incredibly athletic defender, with great speed, eye-hand coordination, and an innate ability to read situations and anticipate the other team's play," said Woodruff.

Mia, who hopes to pursue a career in aviation, has also been a starter on Foxcroft's volleyball and basketball since she was a

freshman. She earned All-DAC conference honors twice in volleyball and was named the basketball team's Best Offensive Player last year by her coaches.

She is the daughter of Kimberly and Anthony Moseley of Centreville, MD, who attended the signing ceremony along with Mia's sister, Morgan, and grandfather, Kenneth Duke. Mia's older brother, Michael Moore, attended the University of Virginia on a football scholarship and is now a defensive end with the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League.

Delaware State will play in the Southern Conference next spring after one season in the Atlantic Sun Conference. From 2013, when the Hornets' intercollegiate women's lacrosse started, through 2016, they competed as a Division I independent. Central Michigan and Detroit Mercy will also be new members of the Southern Conference, joining current members Furman, Mercer, and Wofford. The winner of the six-team league will get an automatic bid to the NCAA championship tournament.

FOXCROFT ATHLETES EARN 13 ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS



GRACE MACDONALD, ALLIE MACMANAMEY, LOREN SEPULVEDA, BUFFENBARGER, SEABROOK BROWN, BETSY ALTENBURGER AND CLARA WOLLWEBER.

Junior midfielder Haley Buffenbarger shared the Delaney Athletic Conference's Field Hockey Player of the Year honors to lead a group of 13 Foxcroft School athletes who earned All-Conference honors this fall, Foxcroft Athletic Director Michelle Woodruff announced recently.

In addition to Buffenbarger, six other field hockey players were named to the First Team All-DAC. Two Foxcroft tennis players also received First-Team mention, while two volleyball players were named to the Second Team and two more made

Honorable Mention.

Named to the First Team in field hockey were forwards Seabrook Brown, a junior from Charleston, SC, and Allie McManamey (sophomore, Purcellville, VA); midfielders Betsy Altenburger (freshman, Purcellville); Clara Wollweber (sophomore, Frankfurt, Germany); and Loren Sepulveda (junior, Middleburg, VA); and defender Grace MacDonald (junior, Bluemont, VA).

In tennis, juniors Holland Driskill of Middleburg and Lily Fortsch of Alexandria were First Team selections after compiling

an 8-5 record at No. 1 singles and 11-2 at No. 2, respectively. They were 6-4 as doubles partners.

Volleyball co-captains Sakiko Idehara, a senior from Japan, and Leah Schuster (junior, Big Horn, WY), were named to the Second Team and seniors Mia Moseley (Centreville, MD) and Trinity Patterson (Washington, DC) received Honorable Mention. In 10 DAC matches, Schuster led Foxcroft in digs and kills, while Idehara led in service aces, service points, and assists. Patterson led the team in serving percentage and blocks, and Moseley was second in kills.

Buffenbarger, who had 13 goals and seven assists in eight DAC games, is the third Foxcroft School field hockey player to be named DAC Player of the Year. She joins Whitney Weeden, who shared the honor in 2008, and Meredith Harris, in 2009. Unlike Haley, however, they were both seniors when honored.

In eight DAC games, McManamey had 10 goals and 12 assists and Brown posted nine goals. Altenburger, a terrific addition from Blue Ridge Middle School, had seven goals and six assists while Wollweber, an exchange student, had one goal and

nine assists. Sepulveda collected three goals and played strong defense at midfield, and MacDonald was a stalwart on the back line with many takeaways.

MacDonald is the third member of her family to achieve All-DAC First Team honors playing for Foxcroft. Her oldest sister, Charlotte, was named First-Team All-DAC in 2011 and sister Lilly was an All-DAC First Team choice in 2010, 2012 and 2013. Both went on to play at Washington and Lee.

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SAKIKO IDEHARA, TRINITY PATTERSON, LEAH SCHUSTER, AND MIA MOSELEY



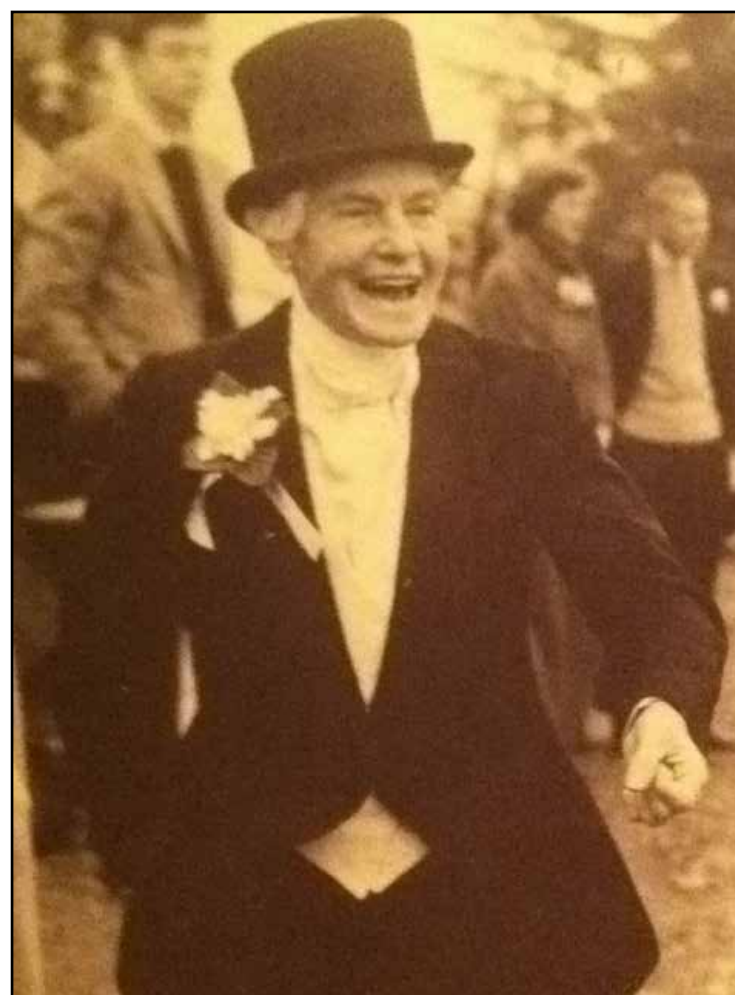
HOLLAND DRISKILL AND LILY FORTSCH



PASTIMES

MIDDLEBURG WOMEN

SINCERELY ME



CHARLOTTE HAXALL NOLAND

BRANDY GREENWELL

I recently had to compile a presentation on Middleburg for an out of town client. Those of us that live or work in Middleburg have already been charmed by her mystique. Visitors from far and wide flood the streets to meet her and experience her glory. It was quite the task to put on paper the splendor surrounding what life is like in and around our village to someone who didn't know she existed. As a local who has never observed our community as an outsider, upon doing research, I found something pretty remarkable.

Starting with a simple Google search on Middleburg, results included the town's history, notable businesses and residents, the sporting lifestyle, community events and a whole lot about the Kennedy's time in town. What I didn't expect to see is how many women were featured, so I was compelled to dig a little deeper. Middleburg is not an ol' boys club as often assumed, nor has she ever really been. Amazing women have walked and still walk our streets and I have

a newfound appreciation for our local sisterhood.

Foxcroft School has been educating incredibly strong women for over 100 years, and founder Charlotte Haxall Noland was no shrinking violet. From the school's website, "At Foxcroft's heart is still the belief that a school for girls is better than a school with girls". Miss Charlotte was ahead of her time and her beliefs have shaped women worldwide. Take Look at some of the powerful women in town and beyond and I would dare say one could find an emerald green ring somewhere on her person. Sing, girls, sing!

Foxhunting is a huge part of our local community. Do a little research into the local Masters of past and present. You will come up with a formidable list of well-respected Ladies who took and still take their places at the front of the fields across Virginia's Piedmont. Recently there has been a group of local ladies who are on the forefront of reviving hunting aside. What an absolute testament to women in the sport who choose to do it sideways with skillful style amongst their counterparts with a leg on each side.

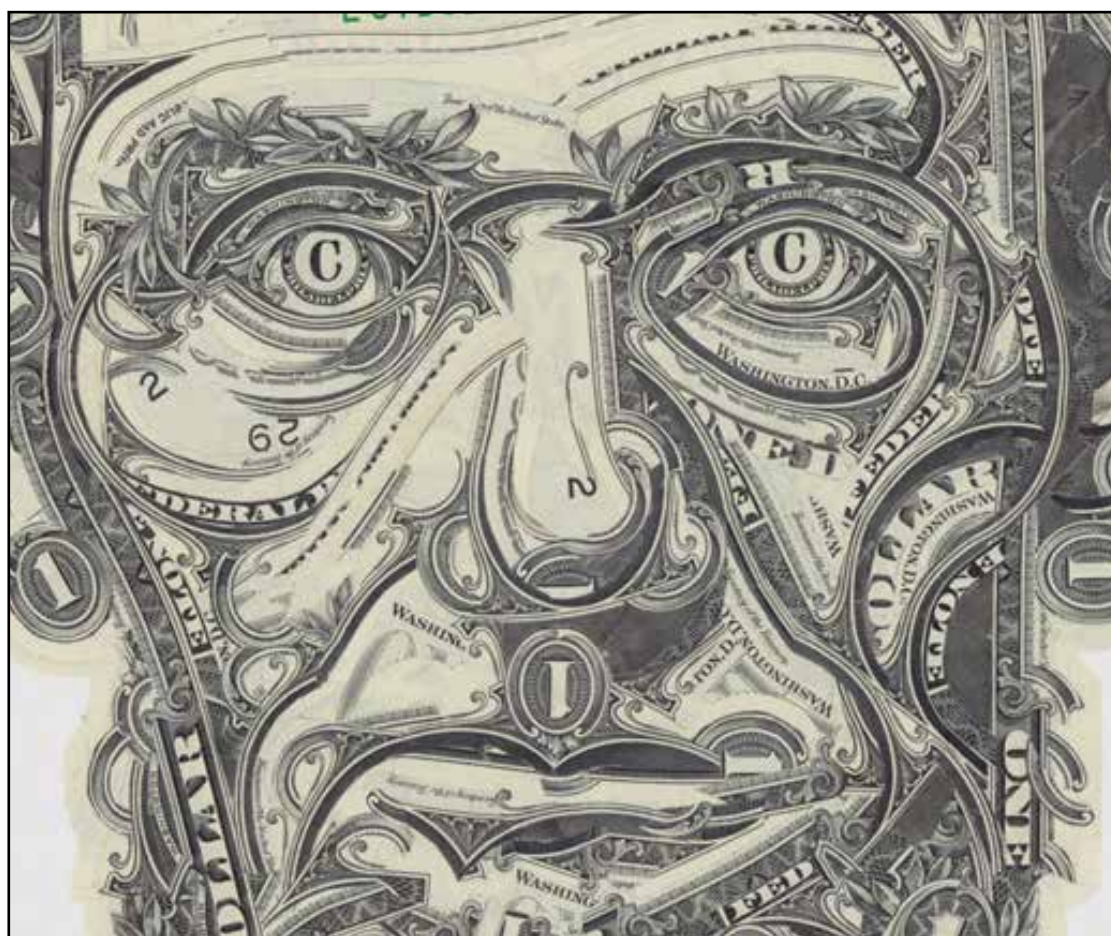


Our female athletes, equestrian or otherwise, have risen to the tops of their games and have made national and international credibility for their accomplishments including Olympic medals.

Take a look at our local business owners, professionals, politicians, and philanthropists and you will see a strong feminine presence. What I love is that in such a small community, there isn't a limit on what women can accomplish, they just go and do, leaving their marks on many industries. I have intentionally left out names, but you all know who you are and what you contribute. Thank you, ladies, for being my peers.

There was a time in history where intelligent, progressive women were turned into witch-kabobs. Apparently, in Middleburg, our girls have always made their own rules and rather than becoming kabobs, just roasted weenies instead. Well-behaved women seldom make history.

THE ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE



TOM NEEL

There's a distinct change that happens in an artist after they have taken money in exchange for their art. What was an exploration of self-expression, becomes in a sense, business. While many artists tend to repel the business

side of art, they find themselves inherently stuck to it anyway. There are lots of hobbies in the world and certainly, not all are ever confronted with finding a need for a financial transaction. But some are and art just happens to be one of them. Why then do so many artists feel funny about it?

If you have invested yourself into learning a skill, cared about mastering that skill, created a work of art, and enjoyed the pleasure of doing so, why shouldn't there be value in that which you've created? It should also be no surprise at your present level of skill, that there might be at least one person who sees

this value. If your work is offered for sale and fairly priced based on your present level of skill, your intention to sell that which you have created, becomes possible. Once it happens and you have proven to yourself that there is an actual value from others for your work, the wheels start turning. A change occurs in you. Your perception of yourself as an artist is different and you must not only be prepared for it, you must accept it.

Now as I delve deeper into this topic, let's be clear about something. The exchange of money for your art, by no means, makes you a professional. By no means. A Profession by its very definition has everything to do with one's occupation, a primary one at that. Because you sell a piece of your art or even several pieces of art, I wouldn't tell anyone that you are a professional. I'll be frank in saying, with now just shy of 30 years under my belt as a working artist, I count the years from 1994 on as my professional years as an artist, even though I had sold thousands of dollars of my art before that time. While I started selling my paintings in 1988, my primary occupation was in art management. But in 1994, I took the leap to become a full-time artist and trust me, that was a switch.

I share this for a very important reason. I'm all for artists titling themselves as artists, very soon on. If you create art, you are in a sense an artist and should have no problem saying that to



anyone. But, if you say that you are a professional artist when you are not, you are getting dangerously ahead of yourself. As a professional anything, nothing gets in the way of that which you do. You wouldn't ask your accountant how come your taxes aren't done and except having them say, well, I spend most of my time as a florist. You also wouldn't tell a client who asks why their commission is taking so long, well, I really earn my living as a real estate agent. Before calling yourself a professional, make sure that you can be, and frankly, want to be. That you want the responsibilities that come with that title.

Short of this, as you begin the possibilities and openness of creating your art career, my best advice is to give the business side of things its equal due. Many artists continue to invest in their artistic selves through workshops without ever spending one moment on learning anything about the business side of things. Don't let this be you. If you've ever taken a dollar for your art, you owe it to yourself to care about the business you are in.

Live An Artful Life, Tom

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PASTIMES

7 MUST-DO STEPS TO GET YOUR HOME READY FOR WINTER

ASK A REMODELER



TIM BURCH

Where has this year gone? Hard to believe it's time, once again, to start planning for the winter ahead. Exterior home preparation is critical to helping your home whether the harsh winter elements and avoiding damage. Consider the following steps to get your home ready for winter.

Shut Off Hose Bibs: Hose bibs are the water faucets to which your gardening hoses attach. Every year basements flood because water is allowed to remain inside the pipes through the freezing winter months, which can cause pipes to burst. When spring rolls around, these broken pipes thaw and begin to leak. All hose bibs, including those that are "Frost Free," should be shut off and drained before the freezing weather. Also, don't forget to disconnect hoses so the faucets can fully drain.

Clean Gutters and Downspouts: Depending on the number of trees around the home, gutters should be cleaned before winter snows begin, and preferably several other times throughout the year. Remember to also test downspouts to ensure they are not blocked at or near the bottom. When gutters or downspouts are blocked, water backs up potentially causing water damage or gutters to pull away from the house. While you're at it, clear debris from valleys and low-pitched roofs.

Ensure Underground Drainage is Cleared: Many people have a drain at the bottom of an exterior stairwell and/or underground drains connected to downspouts that take water away from the house. Properly maintaining these drains is critical. If clogged with debris, heavy rains or snowfall can cause water to build up, potentially getting into the house or backing up into downspouts.

Inspect Exterior Grade: The grading around the exterior of the home

plays a critical role in keeping water and excess moisture away from the structure. You should inspect the exterior of the home twice per year to ensure a sloped grade away from the house. Add dirt to settled areas and clean out excess mulch to allow an easy flow of water.

Inspect Snow Guards: Snow guards can help prevent snow from sliding off your roof, which can cause injuries or costly damage to your home. If you currently have snow guards, have them inspected to rule out damage from previous blizzards. At a minimum, perform your own visual inspection to make sure your snow guards and the surrounding roof materials are in good condition.

Have your Fireplace & Chimney Inspected: Whether you have a gas or wood-burning fireplace, a regular schedule of service and maintenance is highly recommended. Wood-burning fireplace flues should be cleaned at least once every two years – more depending on usage – to remove the buildup of creosote. With gas fireplaces, a technician should inspect the operation of the pilot flame or electronic igniter, the valve pressure, the heat-exchange area, the log positioning and the overall tightness of the electrical connections to ensure optimal performance and safety. Also, all fireplaces should have an annual chimney inspection and cracks and damage repaired. Lastly, cut overhanging branches back 10 feet from the chimney opening to prevent them from catching fire or obstructing smoke flow.

Replenish Winter Supplies: Now is the time to make sure you have the outdoor supplies you'll need, such as a good ergonomic shovel and something to treat icy patches. Sand and kitty litter (the old-fashioned, non-clumping kind) are greener options that won't harm your concrete, lawn or pets, but they do tend to be messier. If you opt to go the deicer route, BOWA's experts recommend

either calcium chloride or magnesium chloride, which aren't as corrosive as sodium chloride (rock salt). Keep in mind, with new concrete you should avoid using all deicers the first year.

If you have questions on exterior home maintenance, remodeling or design, let me know. I'm always happy to help.

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 bowa.com or call 540-687-6771.

TAKE A HIKING

FITNESS PROFESSIONAL

KAY COLGAN
CERTIFIED FITNESS PROFESSIONAL



A hike is defined as a walk for a long distance, especially across the country or in the woods. Hikers generally walk in mountainous environments on trails. Walkers tend to walk in less mountainous areas and generally walk for 30-60 minutes. Hikers seek out natural environments and generally spend more time doing it. Lately, there has been a surge in those lacing up their hiking shoes and hitting the trails. The benefits of hiking are impressive.

First, hiking can be a powerful cardio workout. It is long duration at a steady pace which can have a positive impact on lowering the risk for heart disease. In other words,

hiking on a regular basis can lower blood pressure and help to regulate blood sugar. All weight bearing exercise boosts bone health. Hiking is weight bearing. Many strength gains can come from hiking, such as core strength as well as strength in the leg muscles including great gains in the muscles of the hips. Balance is greatly improved by hiking, navigating uneven terrain allows your body to adapt to the changes which will greatly improve balance. Obviously, hiking will help to control weight. One of the biggest benefits of hiking is a boost in mood. Being outdoors and being connected is part of our DNA. Great way to reconnect with nature. Research studies have been done comparing treadmill walking to hiking. While walking on the treadmill does produce fitness gains, hiking produces more of a positive affective response. In other words, our whole self-gets involved in hiking which produces a mood enhancing benefit.

As with any new activity, start slow and do a short local hike in the beginning. Maybe find a friend that would like to start hiking with you. A great family activity where everyone can join in. We live in a state that has many beautiful hiking trails, so the possibilities are endless. Remember to gradually work up to uneven terrain and hills. The body must adapt what it is being asked of it. In time, the world is your hiking paradise. Many opportunities to hike with hiking groups. A quick google search will show you many local groups that love to hike. So, lace up your hiking shoes and take a hike.

For more information about health and fitness, please contact Kay Colgan, Middleburg Pilates and Personal Training, 14 South Madison Street, Middleburg, Va. Or call 540-687-6995.

DOGS & BIRDSEED



BEEZEE - CEO (CANINE EXECUTIVE OFFICER) - SMART. FUNNY. BETTER THAN A WISE GRANDMOTHER... RESCUE (MIDDLEBURGHUMANE.COM); ADOPTED DECEMBER 2010

We dogs go bonkers for birdseed – don't know why, but when it's available, we tend to inhale it — hark the old saying that a dog's teeth are all in their stomach... So, we're greedy and we just gobble birdseed until we're stuffed — literally. But birdseed doesn't like dogs at all. In fact, it can result in obstruction and bloat, which can be lethal and kill your best canine friend.

Very recently – dogs are always in the now [September 2017], my dear Beagle friend Daisy nearly died from choking down on wild birdseed. She's very lucky that her human pays close attention to her dogs and also that they are confined to the house after 10:30 p.m. (Beagles tend to sing enthusiastically over everything that passes through this property, be it raccoon, deer or fox, but middle of the night serenades by beagles in full cry aren't exactly appreciated by the next-door human neighbors, but I digress...).

Daisy's human was filling up bird feeders — she does this year-round, making her yard an unofficial sanctuary for winged creatures — and went to get another bag to finish the job. While she was gone, Daisy got into the open bag of birdseed that was on the ground. Her human was gone maybe five minutes, but Beagles, like most dogs, are speed-eaters — and Daisy was literally inhaling wild birdseed. The minute her human spotted Daisy in the birdseed, she shoed her away. Little did she know the damage Daisy had done to herself already. Did I mention that dogs are speed-eaters?

About 12 hours later, in the middle of the night, Daisy kept trying to vomit but couldn't. Her human heard the "hyucking" noises and got out of bed to discover Daisy in pitiful circumstances. In no time flat, they were in the car and headed to the emergency vet clinic in Leesburg. If you haven't had a pet emergency, you probably aren't aware that there are no after-hour emergency vets in the Middleburg area. If you live elsewhere in Fauquier or Loudoun or neighboring counties, you might

want to look into this. When your pet is having a crisis, especially in the middle of the night or on a weekend or a holiday, you don't need to be looking up the closest place to get emergency medical help for your pet.

The LifeCentre Animal Emergency Critical Care in Leesburg (www.tlcvets.com) saved my pal Daisy's life. AECC is open 24/7, including holidays. The vets told Daisy's human that dogs getting from sick eating birdseed is quite common, but it all depends on how much they ingest. The vets took x-rays: Daisy was stuffed with birdseed from her esophagus to tail — packed so tight she couldn't vomit or poop. It's very scary what birdseed does to dogs. We have extremely potent stomach acids, but the amount of seed eaten by Daisy combined with powerful digestive juices caused the wild birdseed to swell. She's lucky her human knows her dogs as well as she does because all that seed could have caused Daisy's insides to explode.

It's the time of year when many humans are filling their bird feeders. Please be careful with where and how you store any kind of birdseed. In addition to causing obstruction and bloat, birdseed can go moldy and the resulting mycotoxins are, well, toxic to dogs.

We canines love stinky smelly stuff. Right now I'm in the doghouse — well, you know what I mean, I'm in trouble — because I was able to get into something that I shouldn't have eaten. It was on the other side of the invisible fence and unlike my Beagle pals — neener, neener — I don't have a collar. Yet, My human's hopping mad at me. I gotta sleep off this unexpected feast, but I digress...

The bottom line for the wild birdseed caper: Daisy's pig-out cost her human \$2500 in emergency veterinary care as well as several days of extreme worry. Daisy really suffered — in addition to the impaction and the drugs to get her to vomit and poop out the birdseed, there was some internal bleeding. Fortunately, the vets fixed Daisy up so she was good as new with a little R&R — this time. There won't be the next time, not with how diligently her human polices the birdseed from where it's stored to how she fills the feeders.

Daisy Beagle's a lucky dog. Happy Thanksgiving! Remember please — no cooked bones for pets!

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PASTIMES

HOLIDAY AUTUMN/WINTER STYLE 2017



NERISSA BROWN

The secrets of fall fill our senses from the long-faded coolness that now spills into the air. Yet somehow the indelicate richness of the season’s hues wraps us with warmth and discovery. This autumn teased us and made us wait for its arrival with great anticipation. It’s tottering brilliance sprinkled us with a medley of shapes delivered in mottled Technicolor. By far, this is the

easiest season to create the colors with starring effects in your personal lookbook. Yes, your personal lookbook. The designers and your personal style columnist provide you with inspiration but ultimately you must make the final decision. Fall flatters you with permission. Fashion designer Kate Valentine and founder of Kate Spade once said, “Playing dress-up begins at age 5 and truly never ends.” So let’s play dress up and the rules this season are, there

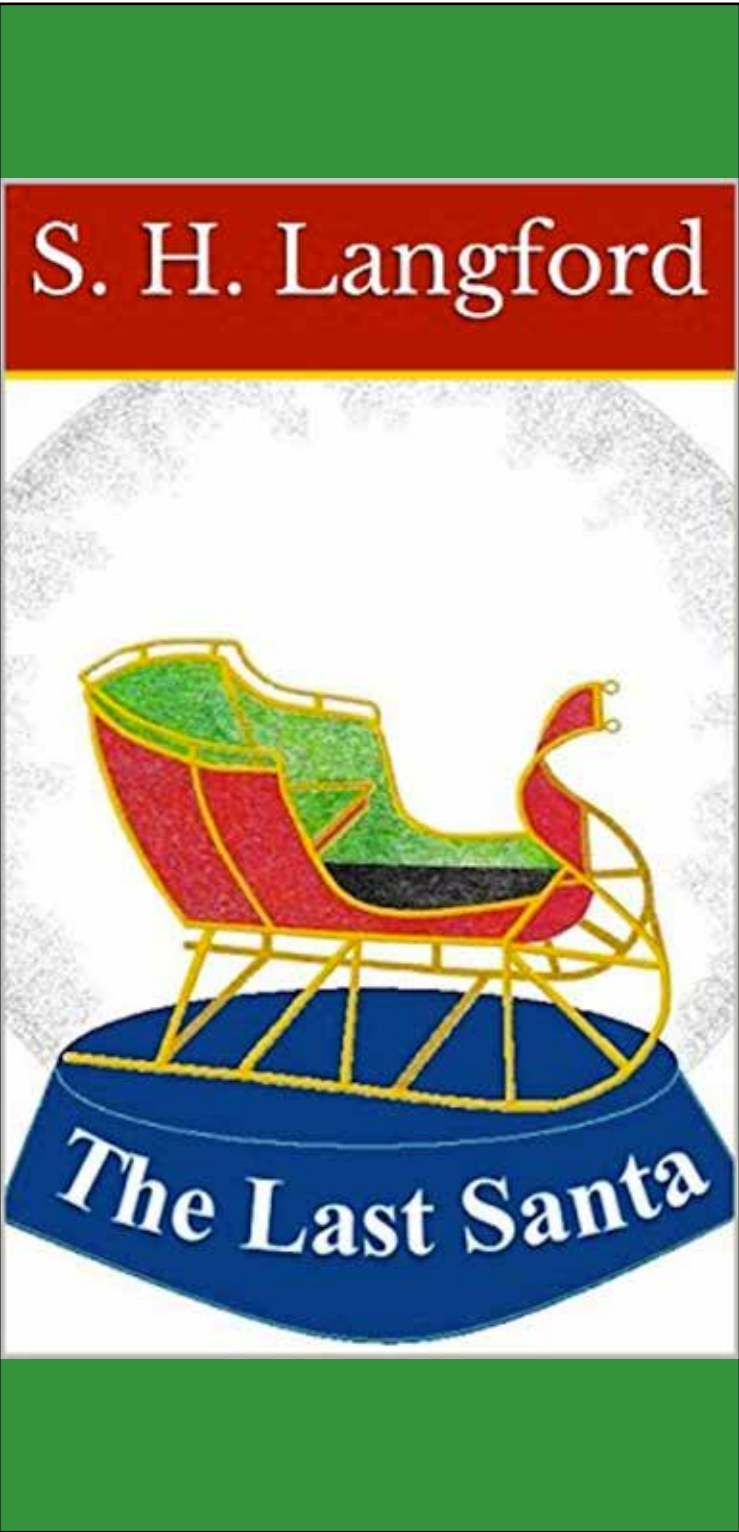
are no rules. If that gives you too much freedom to choose then try this. Begin by immersing yourself in Autumn surroundings, preferably outdoors. Feel the season’s hearty textures, the vibrant colors and the wick of spices and earth. Autumn moves cool to cold so take your first step by deciding on the perfect selection of boots and coats. Once you’ve completed your A-List in the shoe and cover categories, the rest is easy. Boot styles trending now include chunky heels, moto ankle

booties embellished with black edgy hardware as well as boho and slouchy boots. Back by popular demand are the ever so sexy pointed heel and leg enhancing thigh high boot. Turn heads in boots that sparkle and sizzle when you enter the room. It’s trending and you’re sure to impress. For cover, Fall lends itself to an array of jackets from leather, corduroy, and velvet. Remember, brown is the new black for Fall. When the chill really starts to set in, there is no better time to warm up in creative and classic shearling. Fuzzy, comfortable, back to basics vintage furs, are also in the lineup. Now it’s time to begin by styling yourself in this seasons timeless and trending pieces. The Middleburg lifestyle lends itself to a unique style of outdoor glamour and no other landscape provides a more beautiful backdrop. As with all your fashion wear, accessories always add that special pop. Add accents to your wear to accentuate your style and conversation piece here and there never hurts. Multilayered necklaces, luxe embellished accessories in gunmetal add timeless elegance. Wide and shapely waste belts also add flair and contour to more loosely fitting Autumn wear. Fall always requires a complementing top cover. Complement classic and bold vintage looks with shearling and fur or soft warm natural fabrics if that is your style. Also, remember of course cozy athleisure is trending for the casual you. The biggest trend of all is giving the gift of love and thanksgiving. To you and everyone around you, happy holidays.



DEBUT NOVEL BY LOCAL: GREAT CHRISTMAS STORY FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

THE LAST SANTA BY S. H. LANGFORD



LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Just when you think there’s no new spin to put on Christmas, you get a very pleasant surprise... literally. The Last Santa by S. H. Langford takes readers on a magical journey to the North Pole where they’re privy to the inside story about how Santa and his elves put on the mega-worldwide production known as Christmas. It’s a wonderful journey of discovery and revelation — a fun story that parents and grandparents will enjoy reading to youngsters. Best of all, The Last Santa has many layers of meaning that make the story even more interesting to kids of all ages. The tale opens with a young elf-in-training named JoJo, who totally startles Nani, Monitor Elf in charge of her warren of 13 “new” elves, with the question: “Are humans real?” This seemingly innocent in-

quiry launches Nani into a frenzy of research to see if any other young elves ever posed such a question. For many years, the North Pole has been free of controversy, but Nani is concerned there could be another upheaval like the one caused by that troublesome reindeer with the nose that glowed... As hardworking and dedicated as JoJo is, she has trouble concentrating and things start going a bit wrong when she’s on the job. Nani takes her to meet Tibit, who realizes that JoJo wondering if humans are real also questions the very purpose of the elves’ existence. The young elf leads the older elf, who’s in charge of Interspecies Relations, into a philosophical discussion that results in Tibit taking her to speak with Santa himself. It seems that Santa knows exactly what’s wrong — the other elves, who are upset by any

changes to the status quo, feel threatened by JoJo as she’s a free-thinking nonconformist. But Santa knows there’s nothing really wrong with the young elf who, in human terms, is in her 60s. In fact, Santa decides that JoJo needs a special job and sends her on a very important mission with Frit, a fairy, and Bort, a gnome... To go further into this engaging tale will spoil the surprises in store for readers of The Last Santa, published in August 2017. Langford based JoJo on a character in one of the bedtime stories that his father used to tell him when he was a young lad. One motive in writing The Last Santa was his fervent desire to get back to the non-commercial aspects of Christmas that, Langford said, “everyone remembers with a sense of humility, honesty, and faith.” The author accomplishes his goal in a most heartwarming way, and his gentle humor infuses his prose with joy and goodwill — The Last Santa embraces every aspect of this beloved season. “The original idea was based on a simple phrase I kept thinking about: Do humans really exist?” Langford explained. “That led to the next question of Who would even ask that? That’s when the elf JoJo popped into my head. I

wrote the story thinking no one else would read it, but secretly hoped it might be something my kids might enjoy while entertaining the adults who might read it to them. “I hope it’s fun to read and also thought-provoking,” Langford continued. “What I discovered when I wrote it and then read and re-read it is that I was never tired of the story. Parts of it still make me giggle.” That from a grown man who recently — almost singlehandedly — built a stunning studio addition to Big Dog Pots Pottery, his wife Lori Langford’s multifaceted business in Marshall. It’s the happening place where the Christmas Spirit has already been getting a colorful workout as young and old get creative with Paint Your Own Pottery and Fused Glass holiday-inspired projects such as Christmas trees (complete with lights), votive candle holders, and gingerbread houses, to name a few. The Langfords — S. H. (aka Hugh) and Lori along with their teenaged daughter and son — make their home in Fauquier County. They’re locals, contributing to the community in many ways, including sponsoring the ever-popular Terrier Races at the International Gold Cup races and hosting fundraisers such as Bingo for WAAAG, a local non-profit animal adoption group. The Last Santa is Langford’s debut novel and it adds up to more than a charming children’s story with its many layers of meaning and relevance. The author’s voice is powered by his strong roots in solid old-fashioned values about family and faith and the meaning of Christmas. Even as Langford incorporates serious themes — for example, being different from your peers — he keeps his tale fun, full of love, laughter, hope and goodwill towards all. When asked about a sequel, Langford said, “It’s funny you should ask because that’s the first thing my wife said when she finished reading it: ‘What’s next?’ I can see writing a sequel, and I have a couple of ideas. The fact that anyone would even ask for a sequel is humbling because it means the telling of this story was entertaining.” The Last Santa by S. H. Langford is a sure bet for your stocking stuffer and gift list.

Paperback, 140 pages.

Available at Second Chapter Books in Middleburg and at Big Dog Pots Pottery in Marshall.

COMPOSTING AND WATER CONSERVATION BASICS



TOM BAUGHN BUILDS A BENCH FOR VISITORS TO ENJOY AT #18 SCHOOLHOUSE IN MARSHALL.

The Northern Fauquier Community Park, Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) Master Gardeners, and the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District are offering a presentation on “Composting and Water Conservation Basics” on Saturday, December 2 at 10 am at Marshall Schoolhouse #18, 7592 John Marshall Highway, Marshall (next to the Recycle Center). While it has been long known that composting yard and garden waste can provide nutrients to your garden, how composting

works and thus maximizing its benefit requires an understanding of some basic science. There are several factors that are important for beneficial composting, such as location, aeration, moisture, etc. It is also known that simply piling garden waste is not the best or easiest way to compost. Likewise, there are many advantages to installing rain barrels that significantly reduce runoff into the watershed and provide a ready source of free water. Rain barrels provide a good source of water at a location on your property that does not have an outside

water source. Simple rain barrels are inexpensive, or for a few dollars more, decorative units with built-in fountains can grace the more public areas of your home’s landscape. A program at 10 a.m. on December 2, 2017, by Master Gardener Tom Baughn and the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District, will provide all the information a homeowner needs on these important topics. The presentation will be held at Schoolhouse #18 in Marshall, VA (next to the Collection Site on Hwy. 55). The program is free of charge

and open to the public, rain or shine. It will last 60 minutes. It is recommended to register and arrive early. Parts of the program will be held outdoors, some seats will be provided, but attendees may choose to bring their own lawn chair. Parking is limited at #18 Schoolhouse. Additional parking is available at the Northern Fauquier Community Park or along Whiting Road. Please do not park on Highway 55. There is no cost for this program, but registration is encouraged. To Register for this program please go to <https://apm.mbecc.com>

[activecommunities.com/fauquierparksandrecreation/Activity_Search](https://apm.mbecc.com) and enter the code 5652 for the Composting and Water Conservation Basics program. About the Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, Master Gardeners are volunteers for the Virginia Cooperative Extension, who are dedicated to working with the community to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices. Please visit our website for information on the Master Gardener program and upcoming events: www.fc-mg.org.



FRIENDS FOR LIFE



Liam
Black & Brown Tabby DSH
2 years old



Dixie
Thoroughbred
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one-eyed



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Lab Mix
10 years old



Lola
Terrier Mix
10 years old



Reba
Black and grey
Tabby DSH,
3.5 yr old

Bo came from Houston after Hurricane Harvey passed through. He was found wandering the streets and a citizen gave him refuge. Her yard was only accessible by boat. A dispatch crew took Bo back to Virginia and MHF had him neutered and vaccinated. Bo is only 2-years old and has a long life ahead of him, so come find out if he would be perfect in your family!

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Cami
Black & White DSH
Senior Female



Chocolate
Shepard mix,
6 month old



Sofia & Dirka
DSH Kittens
Bonded Pair



Ely
Tri-color Yorkie,
6 yr old



Sully
Doberman
5 yr old/No Kids



Trapper
Lab Mix
3 years old



Mighty Man
Orange and White tabby
DSH, 9 yr old, FIV +



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7 yr old



Stacy Jackson
Grey & White DSH, 1 yr old
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AS THE MAYOR WAS SAYING

In Mayor Betsy Davis’s first published “Message from the Mayor she goes out of her way to praise the people who have served Middleburg as Council Members and paid professional staff; from those who serve in Town Hall to those who patrol our streets in

uniform, keep our infrastructure working, and serve above and beyond the call whenever and wherever needed. . . often on short notice . . . often without compensation.

She also had special words of praise for all the volunteers and

non-profits who make Middleburg the special place that it has become and will, with their help, remain.

For a town with a total population less than the size of some of larger high schools’ graduating classes we are, indeed, blessed.

Thank you again from all those who have benefitted over the years from your service. Because of you those of us in greatest need are housed and fed to national role-model standards. And all of us, at Christmas, on Halloween, or National Night Out, at

our world-class film festival, at concerts, lectures, educational programs, historic preservation events, and a host of others are in your debt.

You are the heart of the Thanks EVERY Thanksgiving.

CHIVALRY, COURTESY, RESPONSIBILITY

BLUE

DAN MORROW

Prior to the recent tidal wave of both outrage and long-overdue action related to men treating women badly and getting away with it, Jill Filipovic, in the November 2 the New York Times described our current accidental President a “a new kind of old-school American man.”

In part, she wrote, he’s a throwback to the days in which Trump thought America was just “great” . . . when “authority and power were exclusively white and male by definition.”

On the other hand, she asserted, he’s “thoroughly modern man-child, the kind of overgrown adolescent you expect to find on internet forums devoted to video games or anti-feminism: a tweeter of juvenile threats, a crass name-caller, an id unrestrained.”

He is, she continued, “ . . . an old-school chauvinist embracing a new code of adolescent anarchy . . . a paradigm of feckless male entitlement, embracing male power while abnegating the traditional masculine requirements of chivalry, courtesy, and responsibility.”

Trump’s most recent pouty refusals to comment on the well-documented behavior of the GOP’s candidate for Jeff Session’s old Senate seat in Alabama is but one case in point, and one that directly and pointedly supports Filipovic’s thesis.

Taking responsibility as the nominal leader of his party and rising to the defense of victims of mistreatment apparently never entered his mind. Arguably his silence is due, at least in part, to his own problems with women, many of whom have come forward at great personal risk to accuse him of similar bad behavior.

Trump both denies his guilt and brags about it openly.

Faulkner, who knew from personal experience what it meant to be on both sides of courtesy and decorum, would nevertheless agree with Filipovic: “A gentleman,” he wrote, “accepts the responsibilities of his actions and bears the burden of their consequences, even when he did not himself instigate them, but only acquiesced to them, didn’t say no, though he knew he should.”

We call that having the good grace to recognize one’s faults and admit them.

But Trump is no gentleman, and by the standards of most of the “real men” I’ve ever known, not much of a man either.

Let us hope that, thanks to the women who have now come forward and left us with no choice but to face these faults, we have reached a point at which the Judge Moores of the world (and, yes, the Bill Clintons too) will develop a sense of shame . . . and their constituents a sense of outrage.

THE BIBLE - AND THE ARC OF HISTORY

THE PUBLIC SQUARE

JERRY VAN VOORHIS
CHANDLER VAN VOORHIS

Every year since 1620, Thanksgiving reminds us the harvest we bless around the table is bound to biblical gratitude. The strangers who came ashore as Pilgrims brought many supplies, but none was more vital than their faith. On uncertain shores, they planted rights of conscience that became the heart of a nation.

Though many people today live without knowing much about the Bible, the United States has had a National Bible Week every November since 1941. The eve of this November marks an especially important time: it’s the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther’s posting of his 95 Theses on the Wittenberg Chapel door in Germany on October 31, 1517.

A German monk, Luther believed individual life was organized through a path of direct personal faith and contact with the Creator. Before Luther, the Bible as a central authority for the individual was embraced by other reformers. But conjoined to the arrival of the Gutenberg printing press, and

then the translation of Scripture from Greek and Hebrew into modern languages, the Bible taught whole populations to read. This would prove key to citizen literacy and would have historically explosive force throughout the Reformation and centuries ahead.

We have, however, a biblical literacy problem now. There are several probable causes. One is a questioning of authority at large in all domains of life. Another is the spread of the internet - which lets everything be at our command, and nothing be seen as worth more than anything else.

Though access to the internet has widened massively, a biblical institute (Center for the Study of Global Christianity) cites only 28 percent of the literate population in Europe today as owning a print copy of the Bible. The Barna Group, a religious polling firm in Ventura, California, in fact, notes a decline in the weekly reading of the Bible to 37 percent in 2017 from 46 percent in 2009.

The Bible is still read faithfully everywhere. But Americans ascribe less authority to the Bible than earlier in our history, as well as spend less time

with it each week. There is some feeling the pace of life intrudes on time with Scripture, and that professional career and work patterns, over simpler ones of the past, do not harmonize as well with faith systems.

A timely feature in The Christian Science Monitor Weekly on “Luther’s Legacy” and direct Bible engagement suggests a movement of the “center of gravity from Europe and North America to the Southern Hemisphere.” Africans, for example, are twice as likely as others to read the Bible four times a week and see it as the Word of God (The Barna Group). And technology, now as in the 16th century, is a help rather than rub - in broadening as well as shortening translation times.

According to some, the interest in Scriptures is starting to grow again. It’s noteworthy a new Museum of the Bible is opening in Washington, DC this November. Still, more than 160 million people remain without access to one Bible in their language. Since people overwhelmingly prefer a print over digital version, Bible distribution remains an issue 500 years after Luther.

The Public Square believes the arc of history will never bend independently from the heritage of the Bible. The Bible is too central to the character of individual life and public ethics not to remain deeply entwined with the future. The period of digital reach in fact has been labeled a “second Gutenberg.” So no defense of the Bible is needed. But a reminder of its value is never out of order, especially at Thanksgiving.

The Bible is the most read book in the world. Its use of language is beyond compare. It fuses, as no other text, realms of profound thought and feeling. It became the first basis for broad public education, and its stress on conscience has inspired the advance of individual rights. Over the years, the Bible has hastened the path of liberty and law. It also has provided the modern state much of its ethical base.

As a bulwark of Western civil order, the Bible’s teachings have cemented many bonds of trust across the civilized world. It has helped form the case for modern capitalism. The Bible, for example, undergirds contractual ethics in business. And it has

been a great inspiration for significant reform movements. Indeed, the biblical quest for justice has powerfully influenced the abolition of slavery, prison reform, and women’s rights.

Between its covers, the Bible conveys much of the true substance of life. Great speeches continue to draw upon Biblical points of human peril. Our writing is measured even today against biblical clarity. No stories are better told or contain more enduring lessons for people of every station. The mind is forever stretched as well as calmed by reading Scripture. In and out of houses of prayer, its words are quoted weekly around the world 2000 years later.

The Bible disciplines us, educates us, inspires us. Because education for information has pretty much separated itself from enduring teaching, the Bible as the chief moral tissue of society actually assumes a larger not smaller place for the future. As the book has admittedly become an instrument of less value, so it may seem the Bible could have lost fashion as well. In truth it anchors us, and will continue to moisten, measure, and lead the ages.

ASK A COUNCIL MEMBER

MARK SNYDER

Hello Middleburg! I voted in the recent election, did you? We will have a new state delegate representing us in January. Please join me in welcoming and congratulating Delegate Wendy Gooditis. (53.8% of Middleburg precinct 307 voters selected her.) Middleburg enjoyed a great relationship with Randy Minchew (thank you Randy!) and I look forward to cultivating the same relationship with Ms. Gooditis regarding town-state issues.

This month, I address my love for Middleburg personally – no water issues.

I moved to Middleburg in my late twenties in 1983. My second marriage was ending then and it was finally my sole decision where to live. I was relieved to escape suburbia and deter-

mined to find a suitable rural landing. I had a toddler daughter so I agreed to sell the house we had bought together some years earlier to my ex for half the down payment. I also agreed to child support and pledged to meet eventual college expenses.

I stayed briefly with friends in Aldie and started exploring the area as I interviewed for jobs. I looked over several Loudoun towns back when Loudoun had fewer than 80,000 residents. My initial views of Middleburg were as an evening diner. The (former) Night Fox, a nightspot behind the Red Fox Tavern, soon became a favorite. It was lively (occasionally raucous) and drew a diverse crowd of people mostly close to my age. That was important as I started dating again.

I soon realized that Middleburg is a beautiful, historic small town popu-

lated with friendly, educated and interesting people in a unique culture of equine pursuits and foxhunting. I quickly rented an apartment on Madison Street. On Fridays, I picked up my daughter for the weekend and we dined at (mostly) the Night Fox or the Coach Stop. I was by then commuting to The Navy Annex near the Pentagon. I was happy, busy and began saving for a down payment on a house here.

I began paying attention to issues affecting Middleburg’s citizens and its local government, including the proposed Disney development on Route 15. Soon, I realized that the simple fact that Middleburg is an incorporated town with an elected council meant (and means!) that we can, to some extent, chart our own destiny.

In 1993, I finally had the down payment saved to buy my current

home on Stonewall Avenue and wanted to get involved. I began attending council meetings to observe. This was about the time Middleburg became embroiled in a VDOT-proposed Middleburg bypass debate. I joined a committee council tasked with research and report back. We looked at Leesburg’s bypass and its potential routes and recommended fighting it. I then joined the Middleburg Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). The BZA is a quasi-judicial body that typically adjudicates disputes arising from determinations by the Town Zoning Administrator. I briefly chaired the BZA when council appointed me to the Planning Commission. Since these bodies consider issues regulated by state laws, Virginia offers training for both. I happily attended both of those courses and gained many valuable insights. I then ran successfully for

council (ending my tenure with BZA) from the Planning Commission and served on both bodies for about nine years. Virginia also provides training for new council members – more great training.

One of many things I learned early in these experiences is that Middleburg was a leader in initially taking advantage of zoning and planning back in the seventies or eighties. Greater is that Middleburg is an active town of willing and dedicated volunteers. These are the two principal reasons Middleburg is able to remain unique, and why we did not succumb to the resignation in other areas that ‘you can’t fight progress’ (or town hall).

That is my opinion – what do you think? I welcome all comments, suggestions, and questions!

PROTECT THE WEST

VINCENT BATAOEL

A new column in Loudoun Now by our neighboring Mayor, Roger Vance, the Mayor of Hillsboro, sounded an alarm for vigilance on the part of our citizens as regards County plans that threaten the rural and transition policy areas.

The County divides its general planning policy into three areas: eastern suburban growth area, western rural area, and the buffer between the two known as the transition policy area.

The County’s Planning staff is currently calling for “Strategic Changes” that would result in 14,800 residential units to be built in the transition policy area. The Stakeholder’s Committee is calling for even more, at 21,100 units. Both scenarios are well above both the current zoning policy, which would allow up to 5,700 units. The Status Quo would call for only 2,800 units.

That same Planning staff recently recommended to the Board of Supervisors to approve an application for an up to 750,000 square foot data center on a property in the Goose Creek watershed. The area where this data center would go is considered a “Northern Piedmont maric barren”, a rare ecological environment, one of only 10 worldwide.

Just last week in Aldie, a Town Hall meeting looked at the County’s serious plans to tear down a historic early 1800s home called the Woodburn House, which sits east of the current Aldie Fire Station, abutting the Route 50 scenic byway. The County would like to demolish that building, and every other building on the left side of the eastern entrance of the village of Aldie all the way to the existing fire station in order to make room for a new, imposing, 20,000 square foot fire station to serve the growing suburban populations in South Dulles and South Riding.

While few deny the County’s prerogative to grow its tax base with housing or data centers,

or its duty to serve its suburban population centers with adequate public safety facilities, many of us in the rural west dispute the necessity of encroaching and imposing on sensitive and historic areas, or ruining the character of scenic byways in the process.

Within the Town of Middleburg proper, we are incorporated and thus have the good grace to be independent as regards planning and zoning, but our surrounding communities outside of the Town limits, even those with a Middleburg address, are all subject to the County.

Like many, I moved my family to Middleburg in order to live in

a small community and enjoy the clean air and dark skies, to avoid the traffic and congestion of city and suburban life. The last thing I want is to see that destroyed.

I urge everyone to be vigilant about our gateways. Watch the County’s choices and prepare to be involved. Because, given the signals of imposition from the east, we no longer have the luxury to be withdrawn. No, more than ever, now it is urgent to be visible, proactive, and conscious of our surrounding environment.

Vincent — for Middleburg
vincent@middleburg.com
www.vincent4middleburg.com

WITH LOUDOUN’S NEW COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMES POTENTIAL DANGERS FOR MIDDLEBURG

BRIDGE LITTLETON

habitants...”

What may not be widely known is that Loudoun County is also in the process of developing and writing its new Comprehensive Plan. Just like Middleburg, Loudoun’s plan will define the land use, character, housing/commercial development, public services, transportation and growth policies for our county through 2040. This plan directly impacts us in Middleburg as we are surrounded by the County. The County’s last plan was written in 2001 and at that time it created 3 specific zones, known as Policy Areas. The Suburban Area (Eastern Loudoun), the Transition Area (the changeover zone between Eastern and Western Loudoun) and the Rural Area (Western Loudoun and towns such as Middleburg). The goal in creating these 3 areas was to focus development in the Suburban Area, using the narrow Transition Area as the buffer zone and for the protection of the Rural Area (see map). This framework of protection is now in jeopardy.

The Loudoun Board of Supervisor’s 3 year, million-dollar initiative to create a new plan is known as “Envision Loudoun”. At the heart of this work is a 26-member Stakeholder Committee who have been tasked with doing the detailed work of drafting this plan. Envision Loudoun has been underway for over a year and the Stakeholders Committee began its work in earnest this Winter. This plan is crucial as it will define what the protection will be for rural Loudoun and our local community over the next 20 to 25 years from sprawl.

Since attending all bi-weekly Stakeholder meetings beginning this summer, I have become increasingly concerned with the direction and specific recommendation for our buffer zone in the Transition Area – a mere 6 miles from Middleburg. There have been two recent developments however which are most troubling. The first of these was the Stakeholder Committee overwhelming vote to increase the number of approved housing units in the already crowded buf-

fer zone by nearly 200%, from the current allowed amount of 10,000 units to over 38,000 units, an increase of 18,000. In another vote, many areas of our buffer zone saw the housing density (the number of houses allowed on a specific size of land) be increased from 1 unit per 3 acres to a staggering 4 units per 1 acre. This change alone will permit 12 units to be built on a 3-acre parcel where previously only 1 could be built. I was astonished to witness these votes and many others.

What does this mean for Middleburg, it’s not good. Increased housing and density in the Transition/buffer zone means the suburban sprawl of eastern Loudoun is moving west. It means our transition/buffer zone is disappearing. It means more traffic, more shopping malls, and strip centers, less open areas and countryside which are what makes our community unique, to begin with. The plan that is being written today will be what either permits or restrains the explosive types of growth we have all witnessed in Loudoun over the last 20 years. If

we fail to protect these areas now, they will be gone for future generations. It is our duty and protect them now and to pass them on.

What next: In the coming weeks and months the Stakeholder Committee will finalize their draft plan for the County and submit it for review. Several County Supervisors have recently expressed their concerns with some of the votes on the Transition Area by the Stakeholder Committee. This is promising but is by no means a majority. This is an important time to make our voices heard!! What can you do about it: The time is now! Write to the Board of Supervisors and voice your concerns about the Envision Loudoun lack of focus on protecting the Rural Area and Transition Area. It is up to them to ensure Middleburg is protected. Also, log on and sign this petition – every signature matters! Pass it along to friends. Once we have 1,000 signatures it will be sent to each Supervisor in Loudoun.

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LETTER FROM THE PLAINS

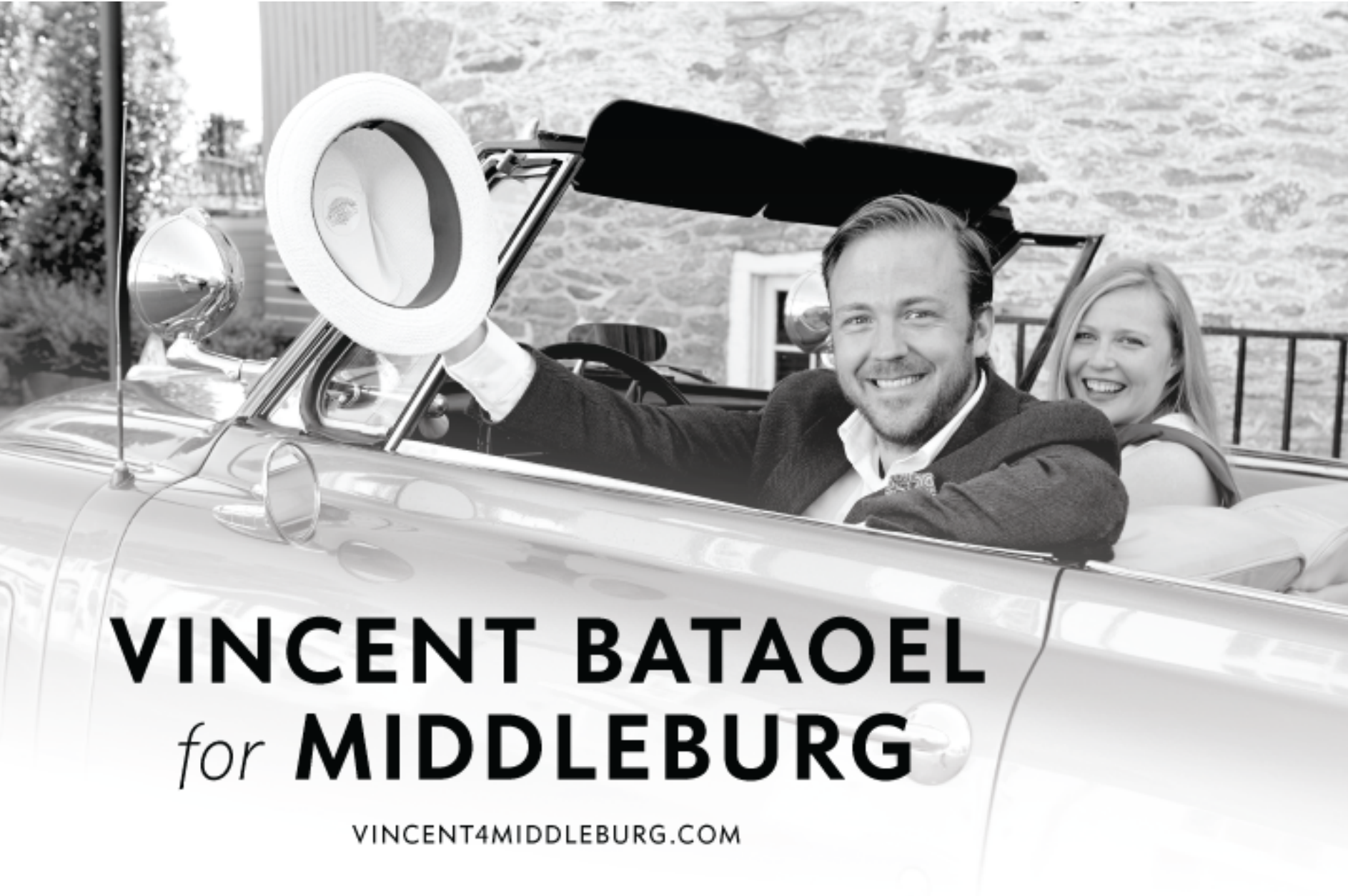
ANTHONY WELLS

1. 1939, thus starting World War Two. What is the relevance of all this? There are media details that will provide readers with all you may wish to know about Kim Jong Un’s nuclear capabilities and delivery systems, and the projected next developments, to likely fusion (hydrogen) weapons and more sophisticated ICBMs (intercontinental ballistic missiles). The President has been rightly criticized internationally and at home for his unsophisticated and blunderbuss approach to the North Korean threats posed to world stability, US Allies in East Asia, and indeed the United States itself. His response has not been either measured or coordinated. Merely stating the obvious in somewhat coarse undiplomatic terms does not resolve anything, when indeed an actual nuclear attack on a US ally in Asia can and would be met my catastrophic retaliation on North Korea, a totally unacceptable event for the world, let alone East Asia. The United States’ nuclear capabilities are well understood in fine detail by all knowledgeable defense and intelligence analysts, and certainly Kim Jong Un’s generals. This is

therefore a Cold War MAD scenario – Mutual Assured Destruction, the very pivotal essence of deterrence. Should MAD fail, then North Korea is no longer, “A far away country” populated by “people of whom we know nothing”. It is 121 miles from Pyongyang to Seoul, only 35 miles from Seoul to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and 6,878 miles from North Korean launch sites to Washington DC. Little wonder that South Koreans live on the edge. While we go to the Gold Cup and other wonderful local events as the holidays approach, like the British at Ascot and Henley in 1939, things and lives can change overnight. My greatest concern is a combination of nuclear accident in North Korea, madness by some of Kim Jong Un’s more fanatical generals, surveillance errors, computer failures that can lead to confusion and disastrous responses on all sides, the classic pervading nightmares of the Cold War until the United States and Russia created fail-safe systems and the Hot Line between Moscow and Washington DC. There are no such controls in place with North Ko-

rea, a most worrisome situation. A cyber attack on North Korean computer controlled targeting and launch systems by terrorists ill-disposed to the West could make the worst nightmare of the 1964 movie, “Dr. Strangelove”, come true. This is not fanciful. Back in 2007 the Stuxnet computer virus attacked successfully Iranian centrifuges used to enrich uranium. North Korean cyber defense will be by no means ironclad. Terrorist hackers are far more real than the perverse character General Jack Ripper in the Peter Sellers (he played Dr. Strangelove) classic movie. Readers can be involved by influencing our legislators to create a bi-partisan solution based on the combined use of measured and coordinated international diplomacy, sanctions, and totally new and innovative approaches to Beijing following the recent Chinese Communist Party solidification of its politburo and Xi Jinping as its leader, the latter effectively crowned like a 21st century Chinese emperor. The last thing China wants as it moves a declared economic revolution forward is a nuclear catastrophe on its doorstep. The latter

would make the consequences of General Douglas MacArthur’s misguided crossing during the Korean War of the 38th parallel and foray towards the Yalu River and the Chinese border look modest in comparison. The strategic implications and military consequences will be horrendous. The United States and its global allies, and not just in Asia, must work with China to seek peaceful resolution, skillfully managing in parallel the extraordinary flexible capabilities of the United States Pacific Fleet to show via naval diplomacy the value of forward deployed and persistent naval presence, in keeping with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Readers will appreciate the proverb, “Let sleeping dogs lie.” This particular dog may be raised, it cannot be allowed to threaten our global well being, and its bite may awaken the great British-Australian writer, Nevil Shute’s worst nightmare in his finest novel, “On the Beach”, published in 1957. His book is a masterful vision of a post-apocalyptic world. Please do go to Second Chapter Books, and buy it now.



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Margaret Carroll (540) 454-0650



Gileswood Farm
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The Plains, Virginia
\$1,195,000

Well designed stucco single story • 3 BR • 4 full BA • 2 half BA • Master bedroom w/his and hers dressing room/bathroom en suite • Library • Sun-filled sitting room-dining room • Kitchen with breakfast nook and chef's caliber appliances • 2 FP • Large mudroom off 2 car garage • Cutting garden • Nestled on 10 private wooded acres in sought after Orange County hunt

Alix Coolidge (703) 625-1724



Winchester Road
Marshall, Virginia
\$895,000

1.69 acres with frontage on Route 17, right off Route 66, currently zoned R-4 • New Marshall code zoning calls for Gateway District, potential office building, etc. • Solid stone house on property • Sold in "As Is" condition • Owner licensed real estate agent in VA

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Cobbler Springs
Marshall, Virginia
\$869,000

Very private setting, minutes from Rt. 66 • Hilltop setting with mountain views and shared frontage on 5+ acre lake • Colonial built in 1988, redone in 2016 • 5 bedrooms, 5 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, 2-car garage • Large rear deck, front porch, gardens • 6,000 sf of living space on 12.03 acres • Master suite on main level • Old Dominion Hunt Territory

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Carters Run Road
Marshall, Virginia
\$811,800

4 recorded tax parcels totaling 81.18 acres • Easy access to Route 66 • Surrounded by large tracts • Mostly wooded • Remains of farm house, silo, spring house, old farmstead could be special place

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Firethorn Lane
The Plains, Virginia
\$795,000

Main residence recently renovated • Large master suite and two additional generous sized bedrooms, each with their own full bath • Large gourmet kitchen • Lovely living and dining rooms • Wrap around porches with western views from the elevated site • Charming guest house • Beautiful gardens and stonework

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



Woodward Road
Marshall, Virginia
\$790,000

1-level living in this energy efficient home • 10+ acres just 2 miles from I-66 • 3 BR, 2.5 bath house w/2 car garage • Office, sunken living room w/10' ceiling • 28'x14' sunroom w/views of garden & rock out cropping • Over sized 38'x40' three bay heated workshop w/auto lift • Great for collectors • 2 small barns & 2 paddocks & spring fed pond

Helen MacMahon (540) 454-1930



Pleasant Vale Road
Delaplane, Virginia
\$550,000

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 • Owners motivated to sell!

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



114 N. Madison St.
Middleburg, Virginia
\$375,000

Very solid brick and frame home in the village • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath • Unfinished basement • New roof, HVAC compressor and hot water heater • Back yard is contiguous to Salamander Resort and across the street from Middleburg Charter School

Paul MacMahon (703) 609-1905



Ad Deadline
Dec. 4th for Dec. 14th
Publication
540-687-3200



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PROPERTIES IN HUNT COUNTRY

GONE AWAY



The Plains~ Move in ready! Offered with furnishings. Set on a knoll with 360° views. This **83 acre** farm is well designed and was extensively remodeled offering every amenity. The main house has 4 BD, 7 BA, 4 fireplaces, gourmet kitchen, with gracious entertaining spaces inside and out. There is a 3BD, 2 BA tenant house, charming guest house, swimming pool, outdoor kitchen, 4 ponds and extensive landscaping. Paved, gated driveway, 3 car garage, security system. Protected by a conservation easement which provides lower property taxes. **\$4,980,000**

Emily Ristau (540) 687-7710

WINDAMIER



Custom built Colonial manor house on **23+ acres** just 1.5 miles from downtown Middleburg. Recently renovated with new SS appliances, bathroom countertops & toilets, carpet, paint & roof. 8 Bedrooms, 6 Full Baths, 2 1/2 Baths. Exquisite details throughout include: Eat-in Kitchen, formal DR & LR, Library with Wet Bar, Sunroom, LL, Family Room, Rec. Room & Wine Cellar., 3-car Garage with 2 BR Apt, pool, 3-bay Workshop, Shed, Garden House, Koi pond & stream. Room for horses. **\$1,850,000**

Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

LIBERTY HALL



Paris ~ Circa 1770, Lovely Stone and Stucco Farmhouse sits at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains, **20+ acres** surrounded by Protected Lands, Spectacular protected views of Paris valley, Meticulous exterior renovations include Re-Pointed Stonework, Metal Roof, 2 Large Additions, Covered Porch, Basement, Buried Electric, Well and Septic, Fully Fenced, Mature Trees, Boxwoods, Ready for all your interior finishes. **\$1,550,000**

Rebecca Poston (540) 771-7520

RECTORTOWN



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 amidst larger holdings protected by conservation easements. A tractor building & kennel complete the package. **\$1,300,000**

Emily Ristau (540) 687-7710

WILLOWCROFT



Marshall~ Fully renovated cottage nestled amongst large farms on **1 manicured acre**. Enjoy a traditional country home on the outside with a sophisticated, contemporary design within. 3-4 BRs, 2.5 BAs w/open Kitchen and Eat-In area, DR w/ original stone fireplace, LR with built-ins, bay window and fireplace, separate Office or 1st Floor Bedroom. Master Suite w/lux BA & His & Her Walk-ins. New roof, 30+ new windows. Large open flagstone terrace and extensive landscaping. **\$1,135,000**

Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

OLD BOARDING HOUSE



Delaplane~ Located in the historic village, this 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath home has been meticulously renovated. Features original hardwood floors, 5 fireplaces, formal Living Room, Dining Room & Library. All new gourmet Kitchen, Baths & Master Bedroom Suite. Re-plastered walls, new lighting, new furnace/AC, sound system, extensive landscaping, fenced back yard, expansive rear terrace, covered front porch & detached 2-car garage. **\$749,000**

Cricket Bedford (540) 229-3201

BROOKDALE FARM



Lovettsville Land~ Beautiful varied terrain, nice mix of woodland, open pastures/views. **64+ acres**. Milltown creek flows through property (some flood plain). Much potential with 7 perc sites, well & bank barn. Not in conservation easement. **\$599,000**

Cathy Bernache (540) 424-7066

POPLAR ROW



Upperville ~ Lovely 3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Home on quiet lane in Upperville with over an acre of open land. Great location! Walk to the Country Store, the winery or to Hunter's Head Restaurant! This home needs some TLC and is being sold "as-is" **\$380,000**

Barrington Hall (540) 454-6601

ATOKA COTTAGE



Charming one level 2/3 Bedrooms cottage on **1+ acre** in historic village of Rectortown. Updated with vaulted & beamed ceilings, hardwood & ceramic tile floors, built-ins & French doors to large rear deck. Includes Dining Room, Family Room & Master Bedroom Suite with luxury Bath with separate shower & soaking tub, walk-in closet & French doors to deck. Separate Mudroom & Laundry Room. Fully fenced yard. Detached Equipment Shed. **\$375,000**

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