

CHRISTMAS IN MIDDLEBURG

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PHOTO BY NANCY KLECK

MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

JAY HUBBARD

Town Logo Clarification

Mayor Bridge Littleton wanted to shed light on a few misconceptions and issues that have recently come up about the new Town logo and branding initiative. According to Littleton, the current Town Seal is not being changed in any way and will remain the emblem for the Town. The new logo is intended to complement, not replace, the current Town Seal. Marketing and branding will be the purposes of the new logo for town economic development efforts.

The Mayor voiced concerns over written and verbal personal attacks of Town staff and council members on social media and on the street over the misconception. He welcomed respectful and professional input to the process.

When the consideration to update the Town's marketing plan, two-plus years ago, there were upwards of twelve vacant storefronts in the Town. The marketing plan became one of the Town's top strategic initiatives. The Council met publicly sixteen times to discuss proposed branding.

A local marketing firm conducted the brand audit. The brand audit encompassed the polling of dozens of town businesses and residents, over 20 social media influencers, and 1500+ target audience members from the surrounding Northern Virginia area. The outcome of the polling was narrowed down to two

predominant themes, aspirational equestrian and a modern fox. After countless drafts and continued market research, the Town identified the word "Horse" and "Equestrian" as the two keywords that embodied the general consensus of Middleburg. A draft logo of a horse jumping a stone wall was chosen by the Council.

The logo will continue to be adjusted based on discussions at upcoming council meetings and work sessions before it is adopted. Public input is welcomed and encouraged.

Middleburg Community Charter School Request for Donation

Principal Steven Robinson of the Middleburg Community Charter School (MCCS) addressed the Council. The MCCS has been offered a challenge grant for up to \$200,000 from an anonymous donor. The MCCS needs to raise \$200,000 by the end of this year. Currently, the school has raised about \$35,000. The Council typically donates \$10,000 a year to the MCCS. After an initial discussion, a motion to increase the donation to \$20,000 came forth. That action triggered more debate. In light of this being a one-time windfall for the MCCS, the Council decided to give the MCCS \$50,000. It is effectively making the Town's total donation \$100,000 with the help of the challenge grant from the anonymous donor. The motion passed, the school is now \$115,000 from their goal of \$200,000.

Public Hearing Charter Amendments

The Town Council has proposed clarifi-

MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL RECEIVES \$200,000 CHALLENGE GRANT

ANONYMOUS DONOR SUPPORTS MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL BY ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO DONATE BEFORE THE YEAR'S END

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NEWS OF NOTE

SAM COLEMAN - THE FEDEX MAN

A EULOGY READ AT THE FUNERAL FOR SAM, WHO DIED AFTER A COURAGEOUS BATTLE WITH LYMPHOMA



SAM & MIKE - PHOTO BY GOMER PYLE

LEN SHAPIRO

The day before I departed for a short vacation recently, I was running all around Middleburg tying up loose ends—go to the post office, go to the bank, go to the bakery, of course—before heading out of town the next morning.

And then I saw The Truck. The FedEx truck.

It was parked in the lot behind the Common Grounds and there was no one in the driver's seat. The gregarious guy who should have been there was gone, but surely will never, ever be forgotten.

As far as I'm concerned, no one will ever replace the man who was always in that driver's seat for most of the last 25 years.

That would be my friend—and virtually everyone's friend around these parts—Sam Coleman.

Sam, Sam The Fedex Man.

That was the headline on a story I wrote back in 2014 about Sam, and the reaction to the piece after it ran was unlike almost anything I'd ever written over many years as a journalist. I got phone calls. I got texts.

I got e-mails. I got stopped on the street, waiting on line at the Safeway, pumping gas at the Exxon station.

Everyone wanted to stop and talk a bit about Sam Coleman, share a favorite story or just say thanks for shining a light on a remarkable human being who touched so many lives around these parts for so many years.

Sam Coleman was far more than an anonymous fellow who delivered packages to your house, your store, your office, your farm. He was a man with a smile that seemingly never left his face. As I wrote back then, at one time or another, Sam believed he'd knocked on every business office door in Middleburg, visited every shop in town, stopped by virtually all the single family homes, townhouses and apartments in the village, and was a regular presence at every farm and estate all around.

Even at the busiest times of the year—like right now during the Christmas season—he never seemed rushed or in a hurry. He knew everyone by name, knew their kids names and often their kids kids names, as well. There was always time to ask how you were doing, what was going on, how's your sore back or your

golf game?

And for me, the semi-retired sportswriter, it was often 'what in heck is wrong with those Redskins?'

Sam was as fond of this town as the townspeople were fond of him.

"Over the years, I've made a lot of friends out there," Sam once told me. "I enjoy the people I deliver to. It's almost like one big happy family. I see people, and I greet them. I enjoy talking to them. I guess I've made friends that will last a lifetime."

For most of his 25 years working in and around Middleburg, Sam punched in at 6:15 a.m. in Herndon, where he picked up his truck filled with items earmarked for delivery in this area. He often put in 11 and 12 hour days by the time he got back home to Sterling, to his wife and children who he adored. But Sam was hardly the complaining type.

That's not how he was raised growing up in Pine Bluff, Ark., in a family of seven children, with a dad who worked for the railroad and a mom who taught school and had a number of jobs in retail.

Sam was a fine athlete, just like his little brother Monte

Coleman, an 11th-round draft choice of the Washington Redskins who played on three Super Bowl championship teams. Sam played baseball and football, starting at quarterback at Central Arkansas University his first three years and moving to safety as a senior.

He wasn't drafted, had try-outs with the Redskins and Dallas Cowboys in 1980, but did not make either team and knew it was time to get down to business. He had a good friend living on the west coast, and that's where he headed after college. For nine years, Sam worked in the security department at the University of Southern California. When Monte opened a fishing and tackle store in Herndon in 1989, he asked Sam to come east and help him run it.

The next year, Monte was named head football coach at Arkansas-Pine Bluff college, and closed the business. Sam liked the area and had heard from one of his old customers that FedEx was starting to hire. He signed on as a "cover driver," filling in all over Northern Virginia if the regular driver called in sick or was on vacation.

The Middleburg route came open in 1994, and Sam began heading in this direction ever

since, delivering or picking up packages of all sizes, all the way up to the allowed limit of 150 pounds.

The day I interviewed him, I asked him about some of the more unusual items he had ever handled. He laughed out loud and immediately mentioned breeding season at the local cattle and horse farms.

"You know," he said. "That would be sperm."

And then Sam smiled and laughed out loud.

I know Sam is now free of pain and smiling somewhere else these days. And just the thought of him rolling down the window of his truck and yelling across the street—"hey Lenny, what's wrong with those Redskins!!!"—brings a smile to my own face, and warms my heart.

I also suspect that I speak for countless local folks who's lives he touched and feel the same way I do. I just know whenever I—and probably you—spot a FedEx truck in town, we'll forever more be thinking about only one special fellow.

That would be my friend, and your friend.

Sam The Fedex Man. Rest in peace, my friend. Rest in peace.

Middleburg
Eccentric

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE SOCIAL INSTITUTE FOUNDER LAURA TIERNEY NAMED GOODYEAR FELLOW

WILL SPEAK AT FOXCROFT SCHOOL



Laura Tierney, founder, and CEO of The Social Institute, an organization that empowers students to navigate social media and technology positively, has been named a 2019-20 Alison Harrison Goodyear '29 Fellow at Foxcroft School and will keynote the launch of a schoolwide Wellness Weekend, Thursday, January 9 at 7:30 pm in the Audrey Bruce Currier Library at Foxcroft School.

Combining her standout sports leadership experience with her career managing social media for world-class brands, Tierney will discuss why she was driven to create an organization dedicated to helping teens navigate social media positively and thoughtfully. A digital native herself, she bridges the gap between adults and students as one of the nation's leading pioneers in positive social media education.

The public is encouraged to attend this event. There is no admission charge, but space is limited. Please call 540.687.4510 for details and to reserve seating.

Featured in The Washington Post, NAIS Magazine, and applauded by Melinda Gates, Tierney's organization partners with schools nationwide to empower students, parents, and leaders to navigate social media and technology positively. The Institute's unique gamified social media curriculum, co-created with over 50,000 students at 60 schools nationwide, has been touted as the gold standard in the country.

By reinforcing character and leadership strengths like empathy, integrity, and teamwork, and by teaching students and their role models to champion high character on all social platforms, the program seeks to empower students to #WINATSO-CIAL media and technology by

strengthening one's reputation, encouraging and inspiring others, seizing collegiate and career opportunities, and even changing your world for the better.

Foxcroft has adopted the #WINATSO-CIAL curriculum as part of this year's wellness program to help girls to become increasingly more self-aware, to live true to

what they value, and find ways to make their interests, goals, and obligations sustainable.

A featured part of the all-school Wellness Weekend, Tierney will also meet with student leaders and employ their help in conducting a dynamic and interactive workshop engaging the entire student body in her

#WINATSO-CIAL curriculum (winatsocial.com), which uses gamification to teach seven recommended standards for prosocial behavior online.

In 2018, Tierney received the Triangle Business Journal's 40-under-40 award. She currently serves on Duke University's Learning Innovation Ad-

visory Council, helping Duke imagine the future of learning both on-campus and online. An unshakable optimist and competitive athlete at heart, Tierney is a graduate of Duke University, where she was a 4-time Duke All-American, 2-time team captain, and Duke Athlete of the Decade for field hockey.

CHEERS TO 2020

December 31 | 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Ring in the New Year with a grand celebration! Join us for live entertainment, endless hors d'oeuvres, specialty Belvedere ice bar, and midnight champagne toast. Start the year off right and countdown to 2020 with us.*

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NEWS OF NOTE

2019 FRIEND OF THE MOUNTAIN AWARD



The award reflected efforts beginning in February 2018, during the Loudoun County 2040 Comprehensive Plan Stakeholder's Review process, which would determine much of the fate of western Loudoun and the portion of The Blue Ridge located there. A group within the LCPCC was created to immediately review each chapter of the plan and publish a "Citizen's Response" on the LCPCC website and sent directly to Staff and Stakeholders, BOS, and newspapers, in preparation for the May, 2018, public input sessions. Many responses of "count me in" immediately followed, resulting in the

establishment of the ten-member New Comprehensive Plan Review Committee of the LCPCC, known as the SWAT Team. Representing the LCPCC's 50 organizations, the SWAT Team membership consisted of expertise ranging from Urban Planning, Finance, Land use and Appraisals, Human resources, environmental studies, management consulting, and much more. At the June, 2019 Plan final adoption several Board members acknowledged the vital information and assistance provided by the Coalition, with the result that the Coalition has been asked to be a reviewer for the next phase: the 2021 Zoning Ordinance Over-

haul. Al Van Huyck, who initially proposed the creation of the SWAT team, accepted the Friend of the Mountain Award on behalf of the group, a certificate which reads: "In recognition of your collaborative work and significant contributions as a member of the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition New Comprehensive Plan Review Committee (a.k.a. "SWAT" Team) to engage and influence the Loudoun County 2040 Comprehensive Plan for the sake of safeguarding emblems of our heritage and conserving the natural features of our landscape."

With representatives of many



conservation groups in attendance, FBRM President, Peter Weeks, summarized the work accomplished during the past year, stressing the need to continue and expand efforts in the

Friends' Conservation Corridor (Loudoun, Fauquier, Clarke, Rappahannock, and Jefferson Counties). He also paid tribute to former Board Member, Jed Shilling, who recently passed away. James Remuzzi, Chair of the Stewardship Committee and developer of the land management plan for the Sleeter Lake Park Project in Round Hill, VA, discussed Friends' continuing partnership with the town to develop the park with Phase 2 to begin in

2020. Blue Ridge Supervisor Tony Buffington, with the help of a large map, discussed his efforts to secure

properties that will allow expanding the trail system in western Loudoun County, including a trail linking Sleeter

Lake Park in Round Hill with Franklin Park in Purcellville. Buffington, who was instrumental in passing

conservation easement legislation in Loudoun, also updated the audience regarding the work he is doing to

expand eligibility for that program. Original artwork by award-winning local artist Jill Perla was raffled to assist in fundraising for Sleeter Park. The eclectic gathering of individuals all interested and working to protect the Blue Ridge Mountains along Friends' Conservation Corridor enjoyed delicious refreshments, donated by Joanie Wolford of Savoir Fare, and Bluemont Vineyard's excellent wine, while the Bluemont Balladeers provided delightful musical accompaniment.

The work to preserve, enhance, and celebrate the mountains is a continuous effort. To learn more about Friends' and its work, including how to get involved, please visit: <https://friendsofblueridge.org>

OPPOSE!

1000 PERSONS STRONG! JOIN THE EVER GROWING OPPOSITION TO BANBURY CROSS RESERVE!

Now over 1000 concerned citizens and community leaders have signed a petition opposing the Banbury Cross Reserve development, which would establish 38 homes on 571 acres of beautiful and historic countryside on Middleburg's eastern boundary. Neighboring developments, including a planned boutique hotel and sports club, also are being planned.

SIGN THE PETITION IN OPPOSITION

Please visit the following website to sign the petition in opposition and to learn more information. .

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/oppose-the-banbury-cross-reserve-development>

DONATE TO THE OPPOSITION

Please visit the following Go Fund Me page to donate to the opposition to these projects.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/please-help-us-oppose-the-banburycross-development>

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NEWS OF NOTE

LAND TRUST OF VIRGINIA AND GOOSE CREEK ASSOCIATION PRESENTS THE ACCLAIMED FILM: THE BIGGEST LITTLE FARM



On Friday, February 21, at 6 p.m., the Land Trust of Virginia and the Goose Creek Association bring you, **THE BIGGEST LITTLE FARM**, the acclaimed film that chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 200 acres of barren farmland and a dream to harvest in harmony with nature. Featuring breathtaking cinematography, captivating animals, and an urgent message to heed Mother Nature's call, **THE BIGGEST**

LITTLE FARM provides us all a vital blueprint for better living and a healthier planet. Through dogged perseverance and embracing the opportunity provided by nature's conflicts, the Chester's unlock and uncover a biodiverse design for living that exists far beyond their farm, its seasons, and our wildest imagination. This film was a runner-up at the Toronto Film Festival and is showing to worldwide acclaim. Plus, the **PUBLIC PREMIER** of a short documentary

on the Goose Creek: its history, culture and challenges. Come learn about the Goose Creek's importance to our watershed! Admission is **FREE** and light refreshments will be served at the Hill School, Sheila C. Johnson Auditorium, 5:30 p.m., Friday, February 21. Cost: Free to the Public. Pre-registration is encouraged. Contact Kerry Roszel: kerry@landtrustva.org or (540) 687-8441 or register online at www.landtrustva.org

The Land Trust of Virginia and Goose Creek Association present:

the Biggest little Farm

This film is brought to you by:

Friday, February 21, 2020
5:30 p.m. Light Refreshments & Reception
6:00-7:30 p.m. Film

The Sheila Johnson Performing Arts Center
The Hill School
130 South Madison Street, Middleburg, VA

This Event is **FREE** to the Public
(Pre-registration is encouraged)
Register online at www.landtrustva.org/events
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Land Trust of Virginia and The Goose Creek Association bring you, *The Biggest Little Farm*, the acclaimed film that chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 200 acres of barren farmland and a dream to harvest in harmony with nature. Through dogged perseverance and embracing the opportunity provided by nature's conflicts, the Chester's unlock and uncover a biodiverse design for living that exists far beyond their farm, its seasons, and our wildest imagination. This film was a runner-up at the Toronto Film Festival and is showing to worldwide acclaim.

A documentary of Goose Creek is going to be shown immediately after the reception and prior to the feature film. Come learn about the Goose Creek's importance to our watershed.

"Mother Nature has never been more INSPIRING."
~ Alice Waters

ACCLAIMED VIOLIN AND CELLO DUO TO PERFORM AT BENEFIT CONCERT

It's Candlelight Concert time again! The Community Music School of the Piedmont (CMSP) announced today that the acclaimed duo, violinist Ari Isaacman-Beck and cellist Gwen Krosnick, will perform at the school's 13th annual Candlelight Concert Fundraiser on Sunday, February 9th at Barton Oaks in The Plains, Virginia.

Mr. Isaacman-Beck and Ms. Krosnick have been performing together for nearly a decade, bringing high-octane, exuberant, brilliant music-making to audiences across the U.S., Europe, and Asia. Ari is a classical violinist equally at home as a soloist or chamber performer. Ms. Krosnick is a classical cellist, also equally at home as a recitalist or chamber musician. Both are passionate advocates for music and enthusiastic educators. Critics have said that "the duo strives to illuminate great music, old and new, and to make it come joyously alive – intellectually, emotionally, and viscerally – for every

audience".

Doors for the Candlelight Concert will open at 5pm and the concert will begin at 5:30 in the stunning ballroom at Barton Oaks, located at 2750 Landmark School Road. Beforehand, patrons will be able to enjoy a glass of wine while viewing a stunning selection of orchid arrangements available for purchase just in time for Valentine's Day to benefit CMSP. Concert tickets are \$125 and are available online at www.piedmontmusic.org or by phone at 540-592-3040. Seating is limited. A reception with the artist will follow the concert.

CMSP Executive Director, Mrs. Martha Cotter, noted, "We are thrilled to have Ari and Gwen join us for the most special evening of our year. This concert and the support of our patrons brings world-class music to the local community, and raises critically needed scholarship and outreach funds to preserve and expand music education in the Northern Piedmont area".

♥ Sunday Feb 9, 2020 @ 5:30 pm
Annual Candlelight Concert Fundraiser

Heart Strings

A Valentine Celebration

♥ Ari Isaacman-Beck
and Gwen Krosnick
Concert of violin and cello



The Ballroom at Barton Oaks
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Tickets \$125

For tickets and info: piedmontmusic.org or 540.592.3040

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE GAY MEN'S CHORUS RETURNS TO MIDDLEBURG!

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Emmanuel Church Parish House
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For the third year in a row, Middleburg's Emmanuel Episcopal Church welcomes The Gay Men's Chorus as part of the At The Parish House performing arts series. The troupe will send their brilliant ensemble "Rock Creek Singers" to deliver a variety of pop and show tunes guaranteed to lift spirits and get folks humming all the way home.

This award-winning Chorus has thrilled audiences close to home and as far away as Ukraine for over 40 years. They've performed at two presidential inaugurations and average over 100 outreach performances a year.

The performance takes place on Sunday, January 19, at 2 p.m. at the Emmanuel Parish House, 105 East Washington Street in Middleburg.

Reservations are recommended but not required (540-687-6297). A free-will donation of \$20 is suggested to help cover the Chorus's travel expenses, but no one will be turned away!

MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cation and updating of dated verbiage in the Town charter. Modifications were necessary to keep the charter relevant to the current day to day operations. Danny Davis, the Town Administrator, explained, "For example, the Mayor is still described as the "CEO" of the Town, even though daily operations are managed by the Town Administrator."

The draft amendment is as follows: "As drafted, the Town Council will appoint a Town Manager and a Town Attorney. All other employees or officers of the Town will be appointed by the Town Manager or his designees. The Mayor would continue to "see that the duties of the various appointed officers are faithfully performed..." along with other duties laid out in the charter. The Mayor has other responsibilities that may be authorized by the Council either in the Town Code or in other policy documents, such as the Town Council Rules of Procedures."

The Council passed the proposed charter amendments and will forward it to the Virginia General Assembly after the Council approves the minutes in an upcoming meeting.

coming meeting.

Health Center Fund Donations

The Town historically has given donations to organizations whose goals are to provide support and services to the underprivileged residents of Middleburg. This year the Town received approximately \$76,000 in requests for donations. The Health Center Advisory Board reviewed the applications and proposed to the Council that \$42,000 is donated to support these organizations. The Council passed the proposal.

Well "L"

Well "L" has a new pump and piping after the previous well fell to the bottom of the casing due to a failure of the pipe holding the well. Council opted to replace the piping with Stainless steel to increase the wells' service life, and after final testing, the well is very near to being brought online.

Christmas in Middleburg

Cheif AJ reported that all went well, and it had been the best year parade overall to date. One minor traffic accident was reported. The Cheif estimated the day drew 10,000+ people to Town.

CHRISTMAS in Middleburg

We are thankful! For the Aldie Ruritans, Bob Ball, Browning Equipment, Barbara Bull, John Bull, Matt Cahir, Jorge Carvajal, Danielle Carvajal, Kevin Daly, Page Graveley, Browning Herbert, Jim Herbert, Stewart Herbert, Tommie Herbert, The Hill School, Dee Dee Hubbard, Leeds Ruritans, Loudoun County Parks & Recreation, Mark Metzger, Doug Myers, Myers5Group, Rhonda North, Michael Reed, Snowflake the DJ, Matt Santmyer, Tom Santmyer, Katy Tyrrell, Wayne Van Sant.

Thank you to our 2019 Angels & Sponsors, Participants, Visitors, and the Town of Middleburg! Merry Christmas to all! www.Christmas in Middleburg.org Luke 2:10

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Photo Doug Gehlsen

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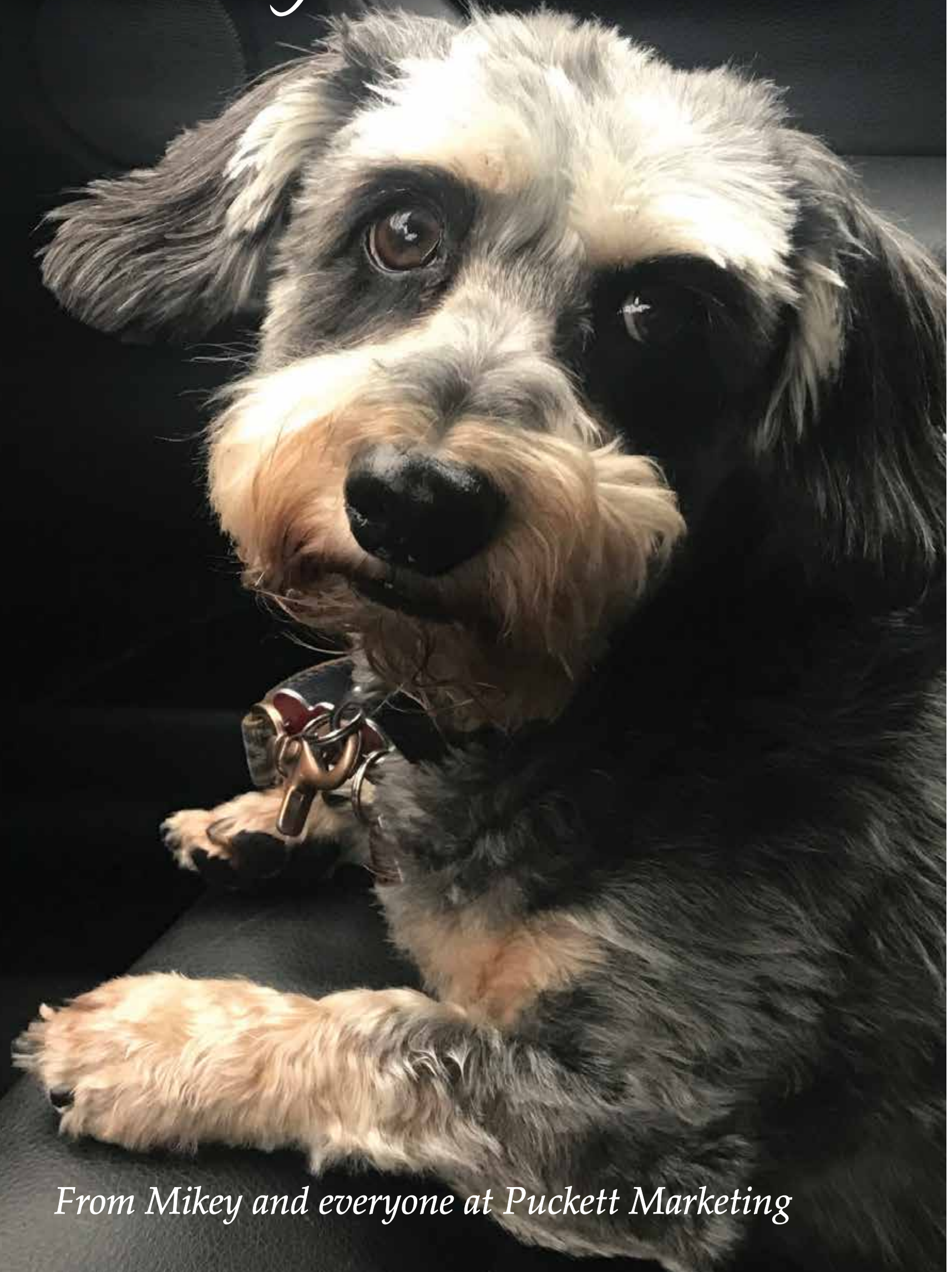
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It takes a village!

Thanks to all volunteers, Town staff, parking assistants, police, sheriffs, troopers, gator and RTV donors, staging site and parking site contributors, angel sponsors, advertisers, joyful parade entrants and participants, retailers and restaurateurs opening their doors, and thanks to Everyone Who Came to Christmas in Middleburg.

A joyous message of celebration moved the feet of thousands of visitors on a glorious day. Once they got here, our thanks to everyone who moved their hearts!

Merry Christmas



From Mikey and everyone at Puckett Marketing



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Feb. 21st Issue

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NEWS OF NOTE

THE FOXHOLE

A MONTHLY DISCUSSION OF VETERANS' ISSUES
MIDDLEBURG AMERICAN LEGION POST 295

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year: All of the members of American Legion Post 295 would like to wish all the members of our community a Happy Holiday season, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

“Rally Round the Flag” 5K Run: Together with Boy Scout Troop 2950, which is sponsored by American Legion Post 295, the Post hosted the 1st Annual “Rally Round the Flag” 5K Run on the morning of November 9, 2019, at the Hill School in Middleburg. We had over 30 runners and raised monies to support our Boy Scout Troop and Loudoun County Veterans. Our sincere thanks to everyone whose efforts made this event a tremendous success.

Membership/Hall Rentals: If you are interested in joining Middleburg Post 295, please contact our current Post Commander, Mr. Eric Lindengren, via email at ericann94@hotmail.com or come to one of our monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM. We are located on Plains Road just across from the Sporting Museum. As a reminder to our entire community, please consider our Patriots Hall as a venue for your future social events. For more information on dates and fees, please contact Ricky Bell at (540) 364-3550 or by email at

scruffy451@aol.com.

Donations to Assist Veterans In Need: Lastly, together with all other Loudoun Veterans Service Organizations, American Legion Post 295 regularly assists Veterans in need. This assistance takes varied forms, including emergency funds to pay for family necessities in an emergency. If you are interested in helping and donating to this worthy effort, please contact our current Post Commander, Mr. Eric Lindengren via email at ericann94@hotmail.com

Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday

Excerpted from various web sites.

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force (USAF). It was created by Administrative Order 9 in December 1941, with Maj. Gen. John F. Curry as the first CAP national commander. The organization was initially formed to provide civilian air support to aid the war effort of World War II through border and coastal patrols, military training assistance, courier services, and other activities. These efforts were recognized, and, after the close of the war, the Civil Air Patrol was transferred from the United States Army to the newly formed U.S. Air Force.

Since that time, the Civil Air Patrol has carried out three congressionally mandated objec-



tives: emergency services, search and rescue operations, aerospace education for the general public, and cadet programs for teenage youth. Also, it has been tasked with assisting the United States Department of Homeland Security and also performs non-auxiliary missions for various governmental and private agencies, such as local law enforcement and the American Red Cross.

Pearl Harbor Anniversary

Excerpted from various web

sites.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise preemptive military strike by the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service against the naval base at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Hawaii, on Sunday morning, December 7, 1941. The attack led to the United States' formal entry into World War II the next day. Japan intended the attack as a preventive action to keep the United States Pacific Fleet from interfering with its planned military operations in

Southeast Asia.

The attack commenced at 7:48 AM. Hawaiian Time. The base was attacked by 353 Japanese aircraft in two waves, launched from six aircraft carriers. All eight U.S. Navy battleships were damaged, with four sunk. All but USS Arizona were later raised, and six were returned to service and went on to fight in the war. The Japanese also sank or damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, an anti-aircraft training ship, and one minelayer. 2,403 Americans were killed, and 1,178 others were wounded.

There were numerous historical precedents for the unannounced military action by Japan. However, the lack of any formal warning, mainly while peace negotiations were still apparently ongoing, led President Franklin D. Roosevelt to proclaim December 7, 1941, “a date which will live in infamy.”

National Guard Birthday

Excerpted from various web sites.

We recognize December 13 as the birthday of the National Guard. On this date in 1636, the first militia regiments in North America were organized in Massachusetts. Based upon an order of the Massachusetts Bay Colony's General Court, the colony's militia was organized into three permanent regiments to better defend the colony. Today, the descendants of these first regiments - the 181st Infantry, the 182nd Infantry, the 101st Field Artillery, and the 101st Engineer Battalion of the Massachusetts Army National Guard - share the distinction of being the oldest units in the U.S. military. December 13, 1636, thus marks the beginning of the organized militia, and the birth of the National Guard's most former organized units is symbolic of the founding of all the state, territory, and District of Columbia militias that collectively make up today's National Guard.



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Would like to thank the community for supporting our members in 2019.

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The Care of Trees
The Christmas Sleigh
The Community Music School of the Piedmont
The Fun Shop
The Graham Companies
The Hill School
The Jackson Clinics
The Middleburg Barn at Foxchase
The Shaggy Ram
The Tack Box
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PLACES & FACES

MBPA ANNUAL AWARDS 2019



POWER OF ONE LEVIN POWEL

We are very fortunate to live in a very generous and supportive community, and I think many of us here tonight have benefited from the generosity of a single person or group. Yes, there is the familiar “It takes a village” to support a task, but the woman we will recognize tonight showed us what the Power of One can accomplish to get the whole village behind her. Helen MacMahon has lived most of her life here, went to The Hill School, Notre Dame, and Foxcroft, and plays a major role in the family’s business Sheridan-MacMahon Real Estate. She has a daughter in college, a wonderful husband, a lot of siblings, nieces and nephews, and now has added the role of caregiver to her parents - more than enough to keep her busy, right? Not Helen. When she heard about Sam Coleman’s diagnosis, she wanted to do something; and with a bit of prodding from her mom, she launched a GOFUNDME campaign with the hope that whatever amount was raised, it would help the Coleman family’s financial burden. To say the least, the project took off and jumped to \$20,000 in the blink of an eye and ended up raising just shy of \$73,000. In addition, it encouraged others to leave checks at Helen’s office as well as creating a steady stream of cards and letters sent directly to Sam. Helen really became the connection between all of us and Sam and his family — She delivered that rather large board that many of you signed and that made Sam so happy when he saw all the notes from his friends. It was the small thoughts intended to help that made a difference and got the ball rolling and allowed all of us to help, keep in touch, and be part of Sam’s journey.

LEVIN POWEL

Several years ago, the MBPA Board decided that we would have an award in honor of Leven Powell, Middleburg’s founder; and when appropriate, would be given to recognize an outstanding member of our community. We didn’t have to ponder long in making our selection for 2019 and are very pleased to present this to a very special lady, Mary Kay Garwood. So let’s go back a few years back to 1992, in fact, when Mary Kay was appointed to the Pink Box Advisory Committee. As you all know, The Pink Box has served as a law office, a dress shop, a horse transportation business; and finally, in 1988, became the official Middleburg Visitors Center. So when Mary Kay landed there four years later, things were underway, and soon Mary Kay advanced volunteer duties to directing and overseeing the entire project. She handled recruiting and endless number of volunteers to serve as docents, she handled the administrative side and always seemed to fill in when one of her docents couldn’t work at the appointed time. Mary Kay was the one who spent countless hours in the evening and weekends so the Pink Box would be available for the Christmas Tree Lighting, Christmas in Middleburg Art in the ‘Burg, our special sale weekends and other events. She was there to be helpful, answer questions and just share her warmth and hospitality with all the locals and visitors alike. Mary Kay dedicated too many hours to count and provided exceptional service for 24 years as Director of the Pink Box and 21 years on the Pink Box Advisory Committee, having just retired this past September. She has been honored by Visit Loudoun and the MBPA as Volunteer of the Year, received a Resolution of Appreciation from Mayor Bridge Littleton and the Town Council. So we are very pleased to present Mary Kay Garwood with the Leven Powell Award.

EVENT OF THE YEAR

Everyone loves a party, and the town threw a really big one in September. The Town Council has been itching to come up with another signature event. The Arts Council was well underway with plans for Art in the ‘Burg scheduled for September 21st, so the Events Committee decided to play off the art show and add..... drum roll please.....Oktoberfest. As I said, Art in the ‘Burg was planned and the work basically completed when about six weeks out, work started on Oktoberfest with many, many people trying to figure out and plan on the many moving parts to make this happen. Of course, Oktoberfest really starts with beer, and we just happened to have Old Ox Brewery here; and under Mary Ann Burns’ guiding hand, she just happened to have been an event planner in a previous career. The dust settled and the course was charted. Social media, WINC FM, parent articles, Visit Loudoun, the artists and vendors, all getting the word out; and of course, all eyes on the weather forecast. The morning of the event dawned pretty early for a lot of folks. A stage was set up, tables and benches, grills, the tents being set for the artists, and then the artists arriving to unload their wares, as well as the six local wineries and cherry, the food vendors—a ten-ring circus of crazy activity to say the least. The event opened at 10 for the artists. At 11:30 a horse-drawn wagon made its way through town to arrive with the first ceremonial key. We had music all day, street performers, games, contests, lots of food and beer until the 8:00 closing. Then the rain hit—just in time for cleanup. A lot of work, a lot of run, and a whole lot of people who enjoyed a great day in town. Bway through town to arrive with the first ceremonial key. We had music all day, street performers, games, contests, lots of food and beer until the 8:00 closing. Then the rain hit—just in time for cleanup. A lot of work, a lot of run, and a whole lot of people who enjoyed a great day in town. B

CUSTOMER SERVICE

The most consistent comment we all hear from locals and visitors alike is how friendly, welcoming and helpful this community is to everyone. We are all in business and know how important that first impression is when the door opens to a customer. Friendly, welcoming, and helpful are the top three components that describe outstanding customer service that leads to ongoing relationships. This year’s Customer Service Award recognizes a professional woman who exemplified all these things. She greets you with a warm smile and is genuinely happy to see you. And, of course, she always has a dog treat at the ready for your pooch. She is from Middleburg, went to school here, and has always lived in Loudoun County. She knows everyone, she asks about family, about you, and how she can be of help. She has two children, two grandchildren, and now she lives right here in town, so she is well connected with happenings in the ‘Burg. She was always a diehard Redskins fan; and just in the nick of time, she changed her loyalty to the Nationals. This December is a business milestone - marking 22 years in banking. She started with Farmers and Merchants and has continued with BB&T. She is well liked and respected by her co-workers and her customers. We would like to recognize Ruth Costello with the Customer Service Award.

OVER 50

Just to keep things interesting, we have something new: the Over 50 (could be a basin less or a person). We have chosen a business, actually one that does way beyond 50 and one that goes straight to the hearts of Middleburg’s horse industry—anything and everything for the horse. Back in 1947, Chubb Lee, who already had a horse transport business, Wilson Horse Transport, realized there was a very steady demand for quality tack and horse-related products. For three years, he traveled within a somewhat triangular area from here to Charlottesville up to Charles Town and back here in his Chevrolet panel truck. As his clientele grew and changed, the requests for more and different products changed and soon outgrew his store on wheels. So he took the plunge and opened a store in a vacant space on Liberty Street. Things kept growing, so he moved up to Main Street; and in 1985, he moved to a new building. This building is still The Tack Box’s home, located on 7 West Federal Street, only now it occupies three units instead of the original single. After a bit of passage of time, Chubb handed the reins over to this daughter, Berk, who had actually been involved in The Tack Box, as well as the van business since 1978. One day you might catch her driving a load of horses through town, then see her out hunting, at a horse show and then back helping a customer at the show. Berk still rides, but she has added a motorcycle to horses as something to ride. Under her guidance, the shop has not only grown in products but in services: Custom boots and saddles, attire, online shopping for convenience, saddle fitting, vacuum and clipper maintenance. The list goes on. And so does the customer base: Fox hunters, dressage eventers, show hunters, Grand Prix jumpers, endurance, pleasure riders and Olympians. They all want the best for their horses. In addition, The Tack Box is a strong supporter of local school events, horse shows, town events and therapeutic riding. This store serves our community. Its products and goods are shipped all over the country, as well as internationally. The Task Box is indeed a real shopping destination with visitors greeted at the door by Mike and the cat, who returned with Berk after she helped Middleburg Humane on their rescue mission to help the animals after Hurricane Katrina. Yes, the days of the panel truck are long gone, but 72 years after its inception, with Berk at the helm, The Tack Box still provides customer satisfaction and good quality products for a reasonable price.



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Webster defines resilience as: The power or ability to return to the original form. With that in mind, our Community Resilience award this year is really a tongue-in-cheek recognition of a man who started a job, stayed, left, started a new job and ended up doing the old and the new. You’ll pick up the story as it unfolds. Tim Cole and the Community Center are really one in the same. He was raised just a couple of blocks away and as his mom, JoAnne, was the Center’s Executive Director, Tim spent many many hours in that lovely yellow building and all over the grounds. He set up pins in the bowling alley, advanced to summer lifeguard at the pool and then started helping his dad with projects like enclosing and creating the Terrace Room, building the marquee our front, patching stucco painting, and the endless list goes on. By now Tim is the facility’s Director and has stayed on since JoAnne retired in 2014. Added to his list now is setting top and tearing down the ballroom for events, making sure everything is clean and in good repair, overseeing the maintenance of the pool, the bathhouses, the ball field—maintaining the entire property: all those things that somehow appear magically done at the Center. Oh yes, along the way, Tim married and had his wedding reception at, where else but the Grand Ballroom at the Center in 2017, with 27 plus years of dedication to the Community Center. Tim started a new position at the Town - same gig, just way more to oversee: plants, trees, sidewalks, grounds, lots of trash; and oh yes, setting up and tearing down for Christmas in Middleburg, Art in the ‘Burg, sales events, the new car event, and Oktoberfest, just to mention a few. Since Middleburg is Tim’s home town, we always know everything will always look fantastic. But....27 plus years at the Center, and he can’t quite give that up. So now, he is Mr. Middleburg twofolds. He the first person to get to town every day and attends to his town job and then heads to the Center. He’s on call 24/7 so that all systems are kept running, oversees snow removal in winter, keeps the pool clean and sparkling in summer, works with the fireworks group on the 4th of July, and on Halloween he’s in the kitchen cooking hot dogs for all the ghosts and goblins in the ballroom. All of this he does for us and the community and still finds time to help his wife, Jocelyn, with her horses. He also tends to his cattle that he keeps just down the road at Eddie Wright’s. Thank you, Tim Cole from all of us for keeping our town beautiful and for keeping our Community Center in good working order for all of us to enjoy.

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WINDY HILL FOUNDATION GALA - PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK

The Windy Hill Casablanca was a night to remember on November 23 at Salamander Resort & Spa. Greeted by the Honorary Chairs, Howard and Gloria Armfield, guests arrived at "Rick's Café" to the sounds of Randy Martono of The Community Music School of the Piedmont playing the piano with tunes from Casablanca. Guest enjoyed cocktails and conversation, then entered the tent, adorned with white lanterns and tropical centerpieces. The auction was lively this year with the crowd getting off to a roaring start with not one but two "pop that vintage French champagne" bottles auctioned off and the auction went wild from there with gorgeous Elizabeth Locke earrings, trips to Morocco, Jamaica, Turks & Caicos as well as fun entertainment packages closer to home. The Raise the Paddle,

the heart of the event, was also a great success surpassing last year's donations.

This year the paddle raise donations will go toward the education fund, and specifically, a new initiative called "From Nest to Wings". This new program for the youngest of Windy Hill residents will offer families a chance to pursue critical early childhood education for their pre-school age children. The hope is that by removing barriers such as attendance fees, transportation issues, and other obstacles, these children will be able to access early education that will make a lasting impact on their future. The scholarship funds for graduating students will also continue. After the auction, guests entered the ballroom, with a Moroccan inspired décor with tents, lanterns and gorgeous jewel-toned florals and fruit displays. Amazing larger than life palms adorned the

walls. It was a special evening for Doc Scantlin and His Imperial Palms Orchestra as this was the final performance for Doc as the bandleader. He handed the baton to his wife, Chou Chou. Guests danced the night away to the orchestra and the swing songs of Doc Scantlin.

The event reached its fundraising goal for the Windy Hill Foundation. Executive Director Bob Dale notes "This fundraising gala is so well supported by our community. From sponsors to auction pledges, we are fortunate to live in a community that supports the programs and services of Windy Hill. We are especially excited to launch the new initiative "From Nest to Wings" which will hopefully make a positive, lasting impact on the youngest of Windy Hill residents." The Gala Committee is already planning next year's event and here's a hint...Buck-

ingham Palace will be rockin'!

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HOWARD ARMFIELD, JAY HUBBARD, MEGAN HUBBARD AND GLORIA ARMFIELD



BETH ANN MASCATELLO AND OLIVIA MASCATELLO



MANUEL SIMPSON AND NIKKI STEPHENSON



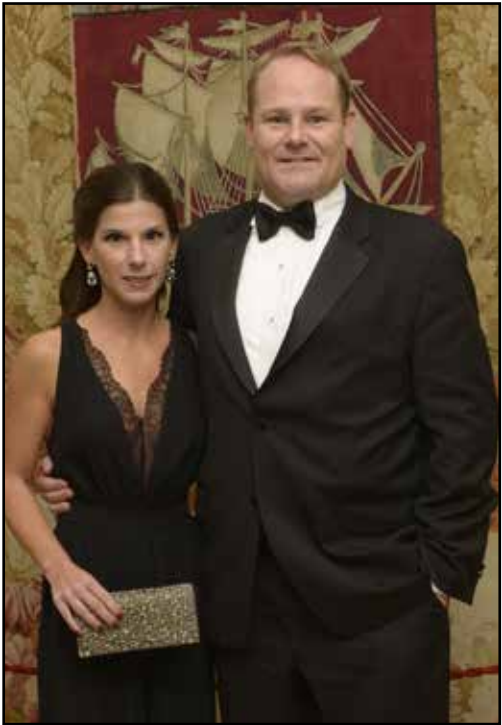
BRIAN DAMEWOOD, BETH ANN MASCATELLO, OLIVIA MASCATELLO, BOB DALE AND CHOU CHOU SCANTLIN

PLACES & FACES

WINDY HILL FOUNDATION GALA - PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK



ROBERT CARTER, PRINCIPAL OF BANNEKER ES; DAVID SEWARD, TEACHER MARSHALL MS; CLAIRE LOUIS, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS, WINCY HILL COMMUNITY, STACIE GRIFFIN, GRANT TECHNICIAN FAUQUIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL, GWEN MURUGU, RESIDENT PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, SHREVELPORT RIDGE COMMUNITY, TAMI ERICKSON, RESIDENT PROGRAMS COORDINATOR WINDY HILL COMMUNITY.



NED AND KRISTIN QUINN



JUDY WASHBURN, OLIVIA AND BETH ANN MASCATELLO



BERNIE AND RUMSEY LIGHT



JENNIFER BUSH AND BOB FOOSANER



JUDY WASHBURN, BETH ANN BEMON, MARK KEPPICK



MANUAL SIMPSON, MEGAN AND JAY HUBBARD, MELANIE AND TIM BURCH, BETH ANN BEMON



LISA AND TOM PATTERSON



JAY ADAMS



ALEX & JILL VOGEL



REBEKAH AND DAVID GREENHILL



JASON VICKERS, KELLY AND JOHN JOHNSON



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TRACY AND SEAN MARTIN

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CHRISTMAS IN MIDDLEBURG , PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK



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CHRISTMAS IN MIDDLEBURG - PHOTOS BY REMY PATTERSON



PLACES & FACES

MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER HOLIDAY BALL

PHOTOS BY: SARAH HEATON

Dear Friends & Community Members,

As the year comes to close, we at the Middleburg Community Center reflect on the last 71 years of impacting the community through events, programs, and more. We are happy to close this year out with a bang at our 27th Annual Holiday Ball Fundraiser. This years Holiday Ball was one for the books, as guests gazed at the shimmering silver and gold decor consuming the grand ballrooms 24 foot soaring ceilings. The holiday spirit was in the air and our event chair & board president, Bethann Kasna Beeman, tirelessly worked to create what many called the most elegant Holiday Ball in Community Center history. With this being the last year of her 6 years of service to the Center, she truly wanted to make a lasting & unforgettable evening for all!

Along with that, we are happy to report that the Ball also serves as a fundraiser, and we broke history this year with a record breaking \$32,000+ profit! We are incredibly thankful to all of our event sponsors. This much loved Middleburg event sells out every year by the first week of November, and we could not make it happen without the unconditional support of our staff, board of directors, and loyal volunteers. Cheers to 71 more years!

Olivia Rogers
Executive Director
Middleburg Community Center



CAREY CRANE, MIKE SMITH AND LOUISE CRANE



BETHANN BEMON AND JUANITA CANARD



ASHLY WHITNER, ANNE WALKER, MELANIE BLUNT, JOAN ELIOT AND DAVID WALKER

PLACES & FACES

MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CENTER HOLIDAY BALL



TOM DELASHMET, ELAIN BURDEN AND BRAD GABLE



STEWART AND JIM HERBERT



ELIZABETH BILLINGS, VIRGINIA JENKINS AND JESSICA RICH



JOYCE AND BOB BALL



PROGENY

THREE FOXCROFT STUDENTS SELECTED TO LOUDOUN COUNTY ALL-DISTRICT CHORUS



ANNA BLOCH, EUNICE YANG, FINY ZHU

Three Foxcroft students, Anna Bloch, Eunice Yang, and Finy Zhu, have been selected to perform in the Loudoun County All-District Chorus concert on February 8, 2020, at Woodgrove High School in Purcellville. They are also now eligible to audition for the All-Virginia Chorus, which will hold performances in Richmond on April 23-25, 2020. Seven Foxcroft singers, including Anna, Eunice, and Finy, auditioned for the Loudoun County All-District Chorus at Freedom High School in Chantilly. Students were evaluated on their sight-singing abilities, in addition to preparing the piece "Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind" by classical composer Thomas Arne for the blind auditions.

MIDDLEBURG AREA RESIDENTS AMONG FOUR FOXCROFT GIRLS SELECTED TO ALL-STATE TEAMS



JANIE WARE

ALLIE MCMANAMEY

BETSY ALTENBURGER

GIGI GENOVESE

Several athletes from Foxcroft School including varsity field hockey players Janie Ware, a senior from Middleburg, senior Allie McManamey and junior Betsy Altenburger of Purcellville, and sophomore varsity tennis player Gigi Genovese of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, have been selected for Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA) Division II All-State teams. Both Allie and Betsy were First Team All-State selections. Allie led Foxcroft in scoring with 31 goals and was second in assists with 10, while Betsy led the team in assists with 13 and was second in scoring with 10 goals. Both girls were also 2019 Co-MVPs for Varsity Field Hockey and First Team All-Delaware Athletic Conference (DAC) selections. Janie was named a Second Team All-State for tennis. With an excellent overall record of 16 matches won and 8 lost against formidable opponents, she continued her great career in high school tennis. She was also the 2019 MVP for Varsity Tennis and a First Team All-DAC selection. Gigi was selected to the Second Team All-State for tennis.

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

Community Music School of the Piedmont is pleased to announce that Carly Goins is the winner of our 2020 Katherine Jameson Piano scholarship, named for CMSP's first piano teacher, who taught at the Community Music School of the Piedmont for nearly 20 years. Carly is an 8th grader at The Hill School and has studied piano for seven years with Eberle Damron at CMSP. In her application essay, Carly wrote that music and the piano have played a major role in her life. "I think music is really beneficial for kids to learn. It has not only been fun to learn but has helped me in school as well. I believe that the study of music is very valuable to undertake and that anyone can learn from it. It's especially important that kids become involved in it, as it will help them in various ways as they grow older. I am so glad to have been taking piano lessons at this time and intend to carry on my interest in music through high school, college, and hopefully someday into a career." Her teacher, Ms. Damron, relates, "Carly's personality is gregarious, engaging, and gleeful. She is also self-motivated to do the hard core study work with her academics. In piano, this work is sight reading and theory. She advanced several levels last summer because of her choice to concentrate on these skills and broaden her range of possibilities with piano repertoire and theoretical understanding." Congratulations Carly!!!



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PROGENY MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL RECEIVES \$200,000 CHALLENGE GRANT

ANONYMOUS DONOR SUPPORTS
MIDDLEBURG COMMUNITY CHARTER
SCHOOL (MCCS) BY ENCOURAGING
OTHERS TO DONATE BEFORE THE YEAR'S END

Middleburg Community Charter School's Board of Directors announces today that the school has been the recipient of a \$200,000 challenge grant from a generous, anonymous donor that initiated the launch of the 2019 MCCS Challenge Grant Campaign to help realize funds. This grant will match, dollar-for-dollar, all donations made through the end of the year to the charter school, which happens to be the longest-running public school in Loudoun County.

Due to their charter distinction, the school has expenses and academic goals that exceed funds allotted by Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS). For example, capital improvements, staffing, technology upgrades, curriculum enrichment, and busing services. The school will also use funds to boost its permanent endowment fund, which is managed in partnership by the Western Loudoun County Community Schools Foundation.

"Our vision at MCCS is to provide the greatest possible school experience, meeting scholars at their learning level and style and equipping them with life skills to be innovative global citizens. While honoring the truly remarkable history of Middleburg Elementary, we are keenly aware that our facilities need updating. We wish to make capital improvements to the building, which include repairing the floors and walls, upgrading the HVAC in the older portion of the school, and updating the bathrooms and cafeteria. Our long-term plan is to renovate the classrooms, front entrance, music lab, and library to help reflect our instructional program as a project-based school," said MCCS Principal Stephen Robinson.

In addition to long-term facility improvements, other needs include state of the art computer workstations,

which would provide an opportunity for scholars to collaborate and then create artifacts that are real-world centered using 3D printing and other computer-based technology. We would also use the funding for improvements to the art and music program, such as new musical instruments and art supplies, as well as backdrops and costumes for stage productions. Lastly, MCCS is looking to enhance our garden program and expand our outdoor seating that enables our scholars to promote an environmental approach to instruction."

Since the 1880s, MCCS, then Middleburg Elementary, has been a historical icon in the town of Middleburg, Virginia. In the face of possible closure, the Middleburg community stakeholders rallied to keep the school open by establishing it as a public charter school in 2014. Since then, MCCS has been operating as one of only eight charter schools in Virginia. The school focuses on the development of the whole child, using innovative educational approaches. By employing project-based learning and a Leonardo da Vinci teaching method, MCCS promotes curiosity, confidence, and a love of learning.

How to Give

There are three ways to give to the 2019 MCCS Challenge Grant Campaign:

« Donation link through GoFundMe: www.gofundme.com/f/mccs2019

« Directly to the school: contact Principal Robinson: (540) 687-5048

« Directly to the Western Loudoun County Community Schools Foundation: www.wlccsf.org

The hard deadline to secure matching gifts and pledges of support is December 31, 2019, though donors can fulfill their contributions over a period of up to three years through the WLCCSF.

HIGHLAND SCHOOL GRADUATES EARN PLACEMENT AT TOP UNIVERSITIES



GORDON WALLACE



JULIA DAUM, EVA PARIOS, MADDY KIDD

The most common feedback Highland School receives from its alumni is, "I was so much better prepared for college than my peers."

In recent years, Highland students have matriculated to the top universities in the country, including Harvard, Cornell, Dartmouth, Boston University, Georgetown, Wake Forest, William & Mary, University of Virginia, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and many more.

Head of School Hank Berg believes the most important factor is not that his students get admitted to these world-class schools, but that they thrive once they attend. "We focus on helping each student find the right fit – whether that's an Ivy or a large public university or a small regional college."

"Our students are drawn to challenge, and they thrive on it," says Berg, "because our program gives them the support and experience to gain confidence in themselves and their abilities."

Rich Gerhardt ('16), a senior

at Wake Forest and son of Rick and Hilary Gerhardt of Catlett, said, "Highland did a phenomenal job providing an extraordinary academic platform off which I could build. I achieved an A in my advanced literature class due to writing skills fostered at Highland."

"Highland prepared me to be an adult," Gerhardt adds. "Through the service commitments and extracurriculars, I learned to manage my time effectively and to work with different types of people in different environments. I was prepared for the heightened level of maturity in college life requires."

Alie Brill ('17), daughter of Sid and Mary Rodgers of Warrenton and a junior at the University of Alabama, reports, "I am well equipped for writing assignments, and I know how to communicate with my professors. Thanks to the higher expectations held at Highland, I am able to thrive in my college experience."

Highland School offers 18 AP courses and extraordinarily

qualified faculty in all classes. Three Highland teachers are AP readers and have an in-depth knowledge of the critical thinking skills these tests require. Top-tier colleges expect to see these demanding courses on the transcripts of qualified applicants.

AP Calculus teacher and AP reader, Dr. Mimi Corcoran, said, "The critical thinking skills required to score 4s and 5s on AP exams are those also required for success at the nation's top universities. Students must learn how to solve problems, not just memorize formulas. These critical thinking skills transfer to every other subject they take, to their essays for college applications, and especially to the live interviews that elite universities require."

Highland students are challenged academically. Just as important, they are required to complete 60 hours of community service during high school. This experience, and the global perspective and empathy they gain, are sought-after traits at

the nation's most prestigious universities.

"Colleges today want to recruit well-rounded students," says Director of College Counseling Renee Norden. "They want young people who have a passion for a cause or activity and seek to use their abilities and studies to solve problems, help others, and make the world a better place. Highland's program of challenging academics and service-learning makes our students the ideal academic recruits."

Project-based learning is a significant element of college programs now, and the top universities are seeking students with documented experience in this area. Gordon Wallace ('15), son of George and Beth Wallace of Warrenton, reports, "At Highland, group work and presentations were always a major part of my classes. Student-run clubs allowed me to practice leadership on projects, particularly when I was captain of the robotics team. Highland's emphasis on leadership and project-based



PAOLA RICCETTI, RICH GERHARDT '16

learning made me better prepared than most of my peers to take on the engineering curriculum at Boston University."

But even more important than college placements, Berg says, is the character and work ethic of Highland students. "Throughout our academic, athletic, and arts programs, we strive to build young people of character, compassion, and commitment. From the local charities for whom they do their volunteer service to the local businesses with whom they intern, Highland students have proven themselves to be people who will use their skills to build a better world."

Highland School is an independent PK2-12 school in Warrenton, VA. Its mission is to prepare students to thrive, lead, and serve in a diverse and dynamic world, developing essential skills and character by challenging them with a demanding academic and co-curricular program.

PASTIMES

HOW TO STAY HEALTHY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

FITNESS PROFESSIONAL

KAY COLGAN

We all know that there are many sweets and high-calorie foods everywhere we turn during the holidays. From cookies and candy to rolls and pie, it sometimes seems as if we can't get away from the constant urge to eat something sweet. Even though it is hard to resist those urges, these are some useful tips to try and help you go to the veggie platter instead of the cookie jar.

The first tip is to eat your regular meals daily, just like the rest of the year. Don't wait to eat until you go to a party and load up on sugar. When you go to the party not starving you will be less likely to eat a large amount while you are there. The second tip is



to have a well balanced plate. This means that most of the plate should be filled with veggies, a little with some protein and then a small space for extras. The third tip is to try and bring your own

dish to a party. Most holiday parties are going to be filled with sweets and high calorie foods. Bringing your own healthy dish means you will have plenty to eat and others will also have a healthy option. The fourth and final tip, stay active as always. The thought of wrapping up in a cozy blanket while watching Christmas movies probably seems more appealing than going for a walk or run out in the cold. But even just a brisk 30 minute walk before your Christmas movie is a

great idea. If you really don't like the cold, there are a lot of online resources for indoor workouts that you can do right at home. I'm sure you can even do a workout while watching a Christmas movie! Not only will your body thank you, but your overall well being will be sustained and possibly even improve! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

For more information, please contact Kay Colgan at 14 S Madison Street, Middleburg, VA or call 540-687-6995

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CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4:00 pm Family Service

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Featuring the Children's Christmas Pageant, and

8:00 pm Festival Service

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

With the full Trinity Choir, soloists, strings, and the

11:00 pm Candlelight Service

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

A more quiet and contemplative liturgy, a cappella music and the

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Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

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MORE DAISIES FOR 2020

SINCERELY ME

BRANDY GREENWELL

2019 has been a fantastic year. I've become the mother to the two most perfect twins ever created from passion and patience. I've said untimely good-bye's too dear friends with a heavy heart and flooding eyes. My business partner and I moved firms while having a record sales year. My husband has found his professional calling. My parents are healthy, vibrant, and celebrated 50 years of marriage this year. The ones I call true friends are loyal and loving. After a four year hiatus, I started jumping coops again on my beloved Pighorse, which might as well have given me wings. Life's roller coaster gave me a hell of a ride this year with valuable lessons, love, and a keen awareness of time. Precious, precious time.

In 2020, I resolve to strive for the following:

10. Work smarter, not harder. I will get from A to B with more expedited grace and flair.

9. The neurotic, ADD, Dyslexic list-maker will make fewer plans and take more action. To include making more meals over



buying them, writing every day, taking 20 mins for me time daily, spend more time outside, and trying to wash my hair more than once a week.

8. RECYCLE MORE, WASTE LESS.

7. Spend more quality time. In a blink, people can be gone, mak-

ing time, or loss thereof, so overwhelming. The thought of lost time truly takes my breath away.

6. Finish my book(s) that I started as far back as the 9th grade. Publish. Even if just for me.

5. Five golden rings...oh, wait...There is always some sort

of diet in my resolutions, but this year Madame O and I are just going to follow WW a little more diligently. I can portion cake and wine, but lobster is a free food. Real food, real habits, real life because no one likes to pass up a cake. CAKE!. I'm 10 lbs away from pre-baby weight

BROMELIADS LOVE

THE PLANT LADY

KAREN REXRODE

A latecomer to tillandsia love, some plants take a little more time than others to appreciate. Air plants describe them well, types of bromeliads, these are the kind that collects their food and water from the air, there is no central water trough, no real root, and no need for soil. You can find them in tropical regions of the world and as far north as southern Virginia, the most northern range for Spanish moss, which is the most common and well-known tillandsia. Some orchids and other bromeliads can also live on tree branches or in a cliff hollow, they have a small root system but collect their nutrients through their leaves, and we call them epiphytic. In tillandsias alone, there are 6,000 species, mostly found in South America and Mexico.

Just over a year ago, I sampled a few on a windowsill where I laid them in pots with other houseplants. East facing, the water they receive is from my infrequent watering of the houseplants with occasional misting. They have thrived, expanded, and even flowered with nothing more. My opinion rose, so satisfactory and straightforward, a thumbs up.

My second nod to their tenacity came when I noticed hairy phone lines in Oaxaca, Mexico. Elegant little hairy tillandsia clusters were literally growing on the utility lines, attached by a wiry root that was only there



to grip the wire, everything else supplied by the air around them. A marvel of nature, I decided it was time to explore air plants further.

The third and maybe most impressive encounter came at work where I seasonally build holiday arrangements. A small collection of tillandsia sat in my workspace

as my purchase of the day. Many comments were made, assumptions that they were destined for a creative addition to a holiday bouquet. The thought had entered my mind. In response, seven or so small tillandsias were delivered to me, having been placed in a dark closet in July and forgotten, there were pronounced dead

and available for experimentation, gold glitter, fake snow, that sort of thing. Upon inspection, I realized that they were very much alive, barely changed from their imprisonment, delighted (I'm sure) to be saved. Clearly, this was a most impressive tale of survival and not an experiment anyone should try.



and couldn't be more ok with the extra baby fluff for now. Life is short, eat dessert first.

4. Write more handwritten thank you notes. Host more dinner parties create new traditions.

3. I always strive to be the best I can be, and my strive for perfection is, at times, my most significant fault. This year I will forgive myself when I make mistakes. Not an if, a when.

2. Live life without limits nor regret. I may even have to start picking my nose in public since becoming a mother; I have a slight obsession with boogie hunting.

Pick more Daisies — lessons for my children to always find something so simple and yet so beautiful in life to cherish.

Your 2020 be bright, loving, and full of life, friends.



Of the many species, they can be roughly split into xeric and mesic. The xeric environment is dry, often a desert climate, the tillandsias may have fuzzy leaflets to help with moisture retention. Mesic tillandsias are from habitats with more moisture, perhaps a tropical forest. All tillandsia have trichomes or modified scales on their leaves, which control the amount of sunlight and water that are absorbed. The trichomes are also capable of changing their angle to increase or decrease reflectivity, saving them from sunburn or allowing more light in when it's compromised. Root systems are primarily nonexistent; their sole purpose is to anchor the plant to their host, which is nothing more than support; they are not parasitic.

Within this vast and beautiful world of tillandsias, you can find species with fragrant flowers, showy foliage, big and tee tiny sizes. With their small footprint, a windowsill can house many, and care is little more than misting or dunking them in the water when you water your houseplants.

I've become a big fan and have plans to add more to my collection. Fortunately, they are not hard to find at local nurseries that offer tropical plants. They get two green thumbs up from me.

PASTIMES

FOREIGN FLORA- FRIEND OR FOE?

THOUGHTS FROM THE FIELD

NICK GREENWELL

Coming into the doldrums of winter, it may do us well to think ahead to the longer days, warm sunshine, and renewed growth that will arrive in the coming months. In planning your spring planting, it is essential to take a look at the plant species that you will be introducing into the environment. Non- native, and invasive species could take a toll on your yard, pond, or garden.

Before we get too deep, let's differentiate between "non- native" and "invasive" plants. Non- native plants are species that have been introduced into the environment, but they do not necessarily hurt the environment around them. Many, if not most ornamental plant species that are commercially available are non-native to our beloved Piedmont. They are attractive, fun to tend to, and have no significant environmental drawbacks, mainly if they are annuals. Think about the famed cherry trees on the Washington DC waterfront. Invasive plants are species that have been introduced and have a demonstrated negative effect



on the environment. These plants are opportunistic and may choke out native, beneficial varieties. Japanese stiltgrass, bamboo, kudzu, and water hyacinth are all invasive species that are commonly found in our area (water hyacinth is an aquatic species found in freshwater ponds and

lakes). Invasive species are not only detrimental to the local flora but may pose a risk to the local fauna as well. Giant Hogweed, also known as cow parsley, is an emerging invasive that, if touched, causes severe chemical burns, which lead to scarring. This plant is more commonly

found west of the Blue Ridge; however, it is worth being familiar with such a demonic intruder.

In planning your gardens and flower beds for the coming warmer months, it may be prudent to take a closer look at how native wildflowers and other plant species will provide the de-



sired aesthetic, as well as being beneficial to the surrounding habitat. There has been a measurable local movement towards planting meadows and allowing ambient spaces to be "reclaimed" to a certain degree to foster all of the natives. It is incredible when one begins to think about how many species benefit from the local flora. Insects, fungi, mammals, and birds rely on these plants for sustenance and shelter. One would be amazed at how attractive a bed, garden, or meadow of indigenous varieties can be. The added benefit, and one that is fun to plan, is the possibility of foraging on the native plants. Much of the flora found in our area have medicinal and nutritional value. So, in the coming months, perhaps think about showcasing some of our aboriginal leafy friends. The land, the animals, and maybe even your taste buds will be very appreciative.

Thank you for reading. I will see you in the field.

MUST WE BE BURIED IN PLASTIC?

LYNNE KAYE

I recently came across an old family photo of a farmers market from 1968. There was something noteworthy about the picture that I couldn't quite put my finger on. Then, I realized what it was – the photo was missing plastic and litter.

So what happened between then and now? Why are we and our planet getting buried under mountains of plastic that no one wants? Most importantly, what can we do about it?

Tracing the history of plastic soft drink and water bottles provides an example of how we ended up buried underused and unwanted plastic bottles. Many other types of plastic packaging followed a similar path.

The seeds of today's plastic bottle problem were sown in the post-World War II, Madmen era when U.S. businesses were booming, and television and advertising were new and exciting. In those days, the vast majority of Americans watched three TV networks – NBC, ABC, and CBS. All those eyeballs watching the same programs gave brands with national advertising a competitive advantage over local and regional brands. As a result, industries that provided everything from air travel to zippers consolidated, with the big, national brands buying local and regional brands or putting them out of business altogether.

As retailers consolidated, it became more and more critical for soft drink brands like Coke and Pepsi to offer the large chains uniform, streamlined service nationwide. Providing quality service retailers expected was a challenge because the soft drink brands' distribution networks were decentralized. Coca-Cola alone distributed its products through a patchwork of hundreds of independent bottlers. Each bottler had the right to bottle and distribute Coke's products within the bottler's prescribed local market. Improving service to large retail chains meant centralizing bottling.

At the time, soft drink bottles were part of a circular system that kept them from being littered or thrown away. Soft drinks were sold in returnable bottles, which were thicker and heavier than today's disposable bottles, so the bottles could withstand being refilled dozens of times. Consumers left a deposit with the retailer when they purchased their soft drinks and got the deposit back when they returned the soft drink bottle. Bottlers picked up empty bottles from retailers, refilled the bottles with soft drinks, and then delivered them back to retailers for sale to consumers. Well over 90% of the returnable bottles stayed in circulation from year-to-year.

Unfortunately, soft drink brands saw the bottle return system as an impediment to their plans to centralize bottling, so

they began experimenting with other types of packaging. Their first experiments were with cans and "no deposit no return" bottles. Then, in 1973, a DuPont scientist named Nathaniel Wyeth patented the first PET (#1 plastic) bottle strong enough to withstand the pressure of a carbonated beverage. The bottles were lightweight, durable, and could be produced inexpensively, all of which made them a good fit with centralized bottling systems. Coke and Pepsi introduced 2 liter PET bottles in 1978, and other sizes of plastic bottles were soon added to their product lines. When Americans switched from drinking tap water to drinking bottled water, the number of used plastic bottles skyrocketed.

Cans and "no deposit no return" bottles were littering the landscape soon after they were introduced. To combat the litter, states proposed regulations known as "bottle bills" that added a deposit on cans and non-returnable bottles. Coke, Pepsi, and other beverage brands thought the bills looked too much like the returnable bottle deposit systems they were trying to eliminate, so the brands opposed the bottle bills. The brands proposed municipal recycling systems as an alternative to the bottle bills. The brands argued that if municipal governments supported the recycling systems, deposits would be unnecessary. The brands won the day, with just ten states passing bottle bills. Even in those states, recycling is the primary solution for keeping used plastic bottles in circulation. The bottle bills do not include a deposit on plastic, and deposits are still the same 5 to 10 cents they were when the

bottle bills went into effect 40 or 50 years ago. When most bottle bills went into effect, returning five cans or bottles bought a candy bar, and seven cans or bottles purchased a cup of coffee. Today it takes returning 18 cans or bottles to buy a candy bar and 38 to buy a Dunkin' Donuts medium drip coffee. The deposit is too small to convince many people to collect the deposit.

Unfortunately, litter on American highways, overflowing landfills, and ocean plastic demonstrate that municipal recycling does a poor job of keeping plastic bottles in circulation in the U.S. The latest EPA statistics show that only 30% of plastic bottles are recycled. The remaining 70% end up as a combination of litter and garbage. Also, a few of the plastic bottles that are recycled are turned into new plastic bottles. A typical U.S. plastic bottle has approximately 93% virgin material and only 7% recycled content.

It is 2019. Why are we wed to an ineffective 1970s-era solution to plastic bottles? Times have changed, and there is room for better solutions. Soft drink brands finished centralizing their bottling systems long ago, and today, they know that plastic bottle litter and waste are a problem. The brands have goals in place to increase the percentage of plastic bottles that are recycled as well as the recycled content in plastic bottles. Also, we can learn from other countries and other markets that have already developed solutions.

Norway has proven that consumers will return plastic bottles if the bottles have financial val-



ue. The country recycles 97% of its plastic bottles; 92% of those bottles are made into new plastic bottles. Norwegian consumers take their plastic bottles to reverse vending machines where they insert the bottles into the machines, and the machines dispense their bottle deposits. Germany has a similar deposit system and boasts related recycling statistics for plastic bottles. At a minimum, U.S. states with bottle bills could increase the deposits to meaningful levels and add plastic bottles to the containers that carry a deposit. On a grander scale, we could adopt a system similar to Norway's.

In the U.S., some beverage brands sell their products in returnable, refillable containers, and there is probably an opportunity for more brands to adopt this technique. Locally, Tricking Springs Creamery sells milk in returnable glass bottles. The bottles carry a \$2 deposit so that they are worth returning. Mount Defiance Cider offers refillable growlers and half growlers. Blue Ridge Bucha distributes its kombucha to retailers in barrels so consum-

ers can fill the company's reusable glass bottles. Farther afield, breweries in Oregon are banding together to create a statewide return system for beer bottles. Seven of the state's breweries are currently testing the proThere are also a variety of initiatives aimed at substituting away from plastic bottles. Grocery stores, drug stores, health clubs, health food stores, and coffee houses sell reusable to-go cups and bottles that consumers can fill themselves. Some restaurants offer filtered rather than bottled water or ask diners whether they would prefer filtered water or bottled water. Five-gallon containers with water flavored with fruits and vegetables (spa water) are available in many hotel lobbies, health clubs, and at some business and civic meetings. Last but not least, public places are still required to have water fountains.

With all these solutions available, there is no need to be stuck in the past and drown in plastic. Each of us has the power to decide which existing solutions to use and which new ones to propose and support.

DENTAL HEALTH: TAP WATER AND BOTTLED WATER

DR. ROBERT A. GALLEGOS

Consumption of water is essential to our overall good health and proper bodily functions. Every part of the body, from organs to individual cells, needs hydration to function and remain healthy. A Harris Poll showed that 82% of US adults recognize the importance of drinking proper amounts of water daily. Which then leaves the question: Is all water healthy? Specifically, is there a difference in the acidity of the water we consume, and does that difference impact dental health?

Generally, acidity is measured in pH (potential hydrogen ions). The pH scale goes from 1 (acidic) to 14 (alkaline), 7 being neutral. Each incremental numerical measurement of pH from 1 to 14 represents a tenfold change in the acid/base properties, so a pH = 4 is ten times more acidic than a pH = 5. The pH in the mouths of healthy people ranges from 6.8-7.2 (neutral). Tooth enamel is the hardest part of our body due to its high

calcium content. The dental health concern is that tooth structure breaks down in an acidic environment allowing for decay and erosion. The more acidic the environment, the faster the tooth breaks down. The more acidic the beverage, the more damage it can cause to our teeth. A study of the pH of almost 400 commercially available drinks in the US found that 93% had a pH of less than 4 (very acidic).

Nearly 100% of US adults believe that bottled water is healthier than carbonated beverages. Carbonated sodas pH ranges from 2.3-4.3, which is very acidic and not suitable for dental health. As a result, sales of bottled water continue to grow. In 2016 the sale of bottled waters (39.3 gallons/person) surpassed carbonated soft drinks (38.5 gallons/person) in annual sales volume. To further entice people to buy bottled water, many companies have added flavoring agents. These flavoring agents are usually sugar-free to appeal to low caloric intake diets but are generally highly acidic. The most

common flavoring additive and preservative is citric acid (highly acidic). Although the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates bottled water for safety, it does not weigh in on pH. Here are some examples of bottled water pH levels: Propel Zero 3.0, Vitamin Water 3.0, Dasani plain 5.0, Perrier 5.2, Aquafina 6.1, Arrowhead 6.8, Poland Spring 7.2, Fuji 7.3, Evian 7.4, Smart Water 7.6, and Essentia 9.4. As you can see, several brands of bottled water are neutral to alkaline pH level, which would be considered dental health. Still, there are also several that are very acidic, not dental healthy, buyer beware.

People may prefer bottled water to tap water due to the taste and smell of public utility water caused by additives such as chlorine. Tap water can be from a public water utility or well. Public water utilities are closely monitored for safety and are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); the pH is usually around neutral. Community water test results are published periodically. Well water is not regulated

and should be tested every so often by the homeowner for safety and pH. Public water supplies are safe for teeth. Some people will add a small amount of lemon juice (citric acid) to their water to flavor it; this will significantly acidify the water, making it unsafe for teeth.

Recently, alkaline water has become popular for its purported but as yet unsubstantiated health benefits. Some believe that alkaline water can neutralize acids in the digestive tract and bloodstream. For dental health considerations, alkaline water is not harmful to the teeth and may help neutralize acids in the mouth. You can purchase bottled alkaline water or add alkylators to your home tap water.

The bottom line is drinking water is essential and healthful daily. Tap water may be a more reliable source of neutral pH than bottled water. When purchasing bottled water, check the ingredients, and avoid flavoring agents, especially citric acid.

Dr. Robert A. Gallegos is a Fellow in the Academy of General



Dentistry, visiting faculty at Spear Education, an alumnus of Pankey Institute, a member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine and the American Dental Association. Dr. Gallegos practices dentistry in Middleburg, VA. www.MiddleburgSmiles.com.

ABRASIVITY OF COMMON TOOTHPASTES

The RDA Index:
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101-150 = highly abrasive
151-250+ = regarded as harmful
Abrasivity of common toothpastes:
RDA – Dentifrice brand and variety
04 American Dental Association (ADA) reference toothbrush and plain water
07 plain baking soda
08 Arm & Hammer Tooth Powder
30 Elmex Sensitive Plus
35 Arm & Hammer Dental Care
42 Arm & Hammer Advance White Baking Soda Peroxide
44 Squigle Enamel Saver
48 Arm & Hammer Dental Care Sensitive
49 Arm & Hammer Peroxicare Tartar Control
49 Tom's of Maine Sensitive
52 Arm & Hammer Peroxicare Regular
53 Rembrandt Original
54 Arm & Hammer Dental Care PM Bold Mint

57 Tom's of Maine Children's, Wintermint
62 Supersmile
63 Rembrandt Mint
68 Colgate Regular
70 Colgate Total
70 Arm & Hammer Advance White Sensitive
70 Colgate 2-in-1 Fresh Mint
79 Sensodyne
80 AIM
80 Close-Up
83 Colgate Sensitive Maximum Strength
91 Aquafresh Sensitive
93 Tom's of Maine Regular
94 Rembrandt Plus
94 Plus White
95 Crest Regular
101 Natural White
103 Mentadent
103 Arm & Hammer Sensation
104 Sensodyne Extra Whitening
106 Colgate Platinum

106 Arm & Hammer Advance White Paste
107 Crest Sensitivity Protection
110 Colgate Herbal
110 Amway Glister
113 Aquafresh Whitening
117 Arm & Hammer Advance White Gel
117 Arm & Hammer Sensation Tartar Control
120 Close-Up with Baking Soda
124 Colgate Whitening
130 Crest Extra Whitening
133 Ultra brite
144 Crest MultiCare Whitening
145 Ultra brite Advanced Whitening Formula
150 Pepsodent
165 Colgate Tartar Control
168 Arm & Hammer Dental Care PM Fresh Mint
175 Colgate Luminous
200 Colgate 2-in-1 Tartar Control/Whitening or Icy Blast/Whitening

FRIENDS FOR LIFE

MHF Foster Express Challenge

November 22nd, 2019 – January 10th, 2020

Middleburg Humane Foundation is excited to participate in Maddie's Fund Foster Express Challenge. Our goal is to place 25 cats and/or dogs in short term foster between

Nov. 22nd to Jan. 10th. "Short term" is any amount of time between two hours and two weeks. If you have wanted to do a sleepover with a kitten or spend an afternoon in a vineyard with a dog, this is your chance!

Would you like to help us complete the challenge? Visit our website or call the shelter for more details.
www.middleburghumane.org or 540.364.3272



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ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

As the year draws to a close, a few moments of reflection came to mind.

Over the past 35+ years, Middleburg has bore witness to significant changes. Through it all, the Middleburg Town Council has stood at the helm clearing a path to what we love and enjoy today. I wanted to point out a recent event that will prove to be part of setting a key-stone for this community.

At the last Middleburg council meeting, there was a moment of discussion about a request for funds by the Middleburg Charter School.

The school had received and a matching challenge grant of \$200,000. The school has stood and served Middleburg for about 139 years and is a still major artery in the lifeblood of this town.

For years it has been under fire from County budget cuts and the general though it was not useful from a county perspective.

The Middleburg Town Council has supported the school for years. This year they had the foresight and financial courage to raise the amount they donated by five times the general amount, which became ten times the amount with the

matching grant, or \$100,000.

This action should speak very loudly to the naysayers; this school is part of the fabric that makes up this community.

The school is well on its way to making its goal of \$200,000, effectively \$400,000. The Middleburg Eccentric commends the men and women of the Middleburg Town Council for their dedicated work. You

have helped solidify part of the future of what we all hold so dear in this little town that speaks with its actions.

Some food for thought, The creation of an endowment fund to protect the school for future generations.

To contribute, go to gofundme.com/f/mccs2019 or call Principal Robinson at (540) 687-5048.

A SHAMEFULL TOLERANCE RED

BRIAN VELLA

Shamefully, one of the constant tenets of modern progressivism is its tolerance for, if not an outright promotion of anti-Semitism. This is not just something from today's headlines from the mouths of the bigoted members of the "squad," the liberal tolerance of anti-Semitism has a long history.

Many point to FDR as one of the fathers of today's progressive movement. While FDR is lionized for leading the country through the Great Depression and WW2, his public persona hid his private distaste and patrician attitude toward Jews. In an article in the LA Times recounting a meeting with Churchill, FDR offered what he called "the best way to settle the Jewish question." Roosevelt's VP Wallace noted in his diary that FDR spoke approvingly "to spread the Jews thin all over the world." The common theme in Roosevelt's private statements about Jews was that they were "overcrowding" many professions and "exercising undue influence." Sadly, nothing changed in seven decades. Ilhan Omar doesn't even feel compelled to hide her feelings, tweeting that congressional support for Israel "Is all about the Benjamins, baby." That's not a marginalized White nationalist talking; it's a US Congressman. After a few individual Democrat condemnations, how did the Democrat-controlled Congress deal with this anti-Semitism? They introduced a resolution ignoring Omar's remarks. They denounced racism against "African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders and other people of color, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, the LGBTQ community, immigrants, and others." Quite a profile in courage. Fellow squad member Tlaib chastised Congress for wanting to pass an anti-BDS bill saying those for it "forgot what country they represent," an age-old canard that Jews place ethnicity before patriotism. Can you imagine if something similarly bigoted were uttered by a Republican about Muslims, blacks, or gays, the hearings would rival today's impeachment charade?

While these current bigots

A LETTER FROM THE PLAINS

DECEMBER 2019

ANTHONY WELLS

Eccentric readers may not be familiar with "The Five Eyes." Sounds a little scary perhaps, or maybe a Sci-Fi title? Well, none of the above. The Five Eyes are one of the oldest and most important relationships in the Free World, of which the United States is a founding key member. On August 10, 1941, Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill met secretly on board HMS Prince of Wales in Placentia Bay, off Newfoundland, to plan a strategy to defeat Adolf Hitler and his odious Nazi regime. The President traveled to the meeting from Washington on USS Augusta. They created what became the Atlantic Charter, and later after the war, NATO. Much more happened onboard. Below decks, they had secret handshakes, the British Prime Minister briefing the President on Bletchley Park, Enigma, and the Ultra material,

and the President briefing Winston Churchill on the US Magics, the highly secret HYPO station in Hawaii, and that the Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington was secretly breaking the Japanese codes. This is when the "Special Relationship" was born. Later in the war and the immediate years after World War Two, the British added Canada, Australia, and New Zealand to the secret club. These are "The Five Eyes." In the 74 years since the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay, the Five Eyes have grown into the most formidable intelligence collection and analysis organization on the planet. The Soviet and later Russian KGB, the GRU, the SVR, the FSB, and all the other global agencies, such as the Israeli Mossad, pall in comparison. I've been a member of the club for 50 years. In 1968 my mentor, Sir Harry Hinsley, (Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, and later Vice-Chancellor of Cam-

bridge), who worked at Bletchley Park for the war's duration, introduced me to the Enigma material long before the British government revealed even its existence, let alone the material. This did not happen until 1974, and even then it was not until Sir Harry authored the official History of British Intelligence in the Second World War, in several volumes, did the world realize how all of this not only saved the day, it shorted the war by several years. Such was the value of Enigma. Since 1945 the Five Eyes have mastered and controlled multiple "INTS" – HUMINT, SIGINT, ELINT, MASINT, ACINT, IMINT, GEOINT, and many others too numerous to detail. The point of all this is that the five nations have built this relationship on trust and total security. There have been failures – traitors Philby, Burgess, and McLean in the UK, the various US and UK nuclear spies, and, more recently,

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unvarnished, accurate, timely, and apolitical well-analyzed information that is advantageous over other conventional sources. Intelligence personnel must never have political agendas or ever be coerced or swayed by political influence. The Australian episode, going back to Australian High Commissioner Alexander Downer's meeting with George Papadopoulos in London in 2016, and subsequent events have placed the other four members in a tough situation. Do they trust the current President of the United States? Will they continue to share the most sensitive of secrets with someone they do not trust? Oleg Antonyevich Gordievsky, the head of the KGB in London, was an MI6 spy for years. His invaluable information was shared with just a tiny number of Americans. His critical information in the 1980s was used by President Reagan in shaping his policy and approach to Mikhail Gorbachev. He was betrayed by Aldrich Ames, and MI6 pulled off the most audacious exfiltration from Moscow in espionage history to save him. He was personally honored by Queen Elizabeth and President Reagan and still lives in total anonymity far from Putin's bully boys and assassins. Would today the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand share such extraordinarily sensitive intelligence with President Donald Trump? The answer, very sadly, is a resounding "No." The reports of the recent British Ambassador to the United States, Sir Kim Darroch, to London, illegally disclosed to the press, summarize an unflattering assessment of President Trump. The Five Eyes have been placed in an impossible position by someone daily perceived by the non-partisan media and medical profession to be dysfunctional and so psychologically out of balance as to be incapable of coherent statements and decision making Whatever the merits of former CIA Director John Brennan's hugely negative comments about President Trump's loyalty and competence I for one would never take current Gordievsky like material anywhere near the White House. Things, in my opinion, are that bad, totally unprecedented in the history of the United States and the Five Eyes.

EPA REAUTHORIZED "CYANIDE BOMBS" AS PART OF USDA'S WAR ON WILDLIFE



MATT SHEEDY

In March of 2017, a 14-year-old Idaho boy, named Canyon Mansfield, was hiking with his pet Lab a few hundred yards behind his home when he encountered a small metal tube sticking out of the ground. Not knowing what it was, Canyon reached over to pick it up. The device discharged its contents of sodium cyanide grazing Canyon and hitting his Lab. Canyon suffered severe injuries and had to watch as his beloved pet convulsed to death next to him.

Canyon and his dog had been sprayed by an M-44, "Cyanide Bomb." A device resembling a lawn sprinkler that is smeared with scented bait to attract predators. When an animal chews or pulls on the device, a spray of sodium cyanide is shot into the animal's mouth, causing a violent and painful death.

The Cyanide Bomb was placed, on public land, by Wildlife Services, an opaque and mostly unaccountable division of the United States Department of Agriculture. Every year, the agency kills millions of animals to protect private ranching and agriculture interests.

According to Wildlife Services, approximately 33,000 animals were killed with Cyanide Bombs over the past three years, including hundreds of nontarget animals such as dogs, bears, raccoons, opossums, and skunks. Those numbers, especially the nontarget animal deaths, are almost certainly significantly underreported as numerous insiders have accused the agency of poor record-keeping and an entrenched "shoot, shovel and shut up" mentality.

In response to growing public outrage over these indiscriminate chemical landmines, the EPA initially withdrew an interim decision to reauthorize the use of the devices in August 2019. Tragically, the EPA just announced that they would be reauthorizing their use with minor improvements to warning signs and setback requirements from houses and roads.

Reaction from conservation organizations was swift and justifiably harsh. Cathy Liss, president of the Animal Welfare Institute, said in a statement: "The EPA's minor revisions do little to reduce the risks that sodium cyanide bombs pose to people, fail to address risks to wildlife, including endangered species, and make clear the agency is prioritizing livestock interest over human safety and the environment."

I have been actively involved in the conservation movement for almost 40 years and have learned that most controversies are complicated, nuanced, and contain legitimate concerns on both sides. The use of Cyanide Bombs is not one of those controversies. There is no justification for planting lethal, indiscriminate and inhumane landmines, on public or private land, and then just walking away.

Unfortunately, the use of Cyanide Bombs is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Wildlife Service's War on Wildlife. According to its report, in 2018 alone, Wildlife Services killed over 1.5 million native animals (excluding another 1.1 million deemed invasive). The totals included 68,000 coyotes, 3,300 red and grey foxes, 357 wolves, 515,000 red-winged blackbirds (they eat grain), 10,000 cormorants (they feed at fish farms), 537 river otters, 375 mountain lion, 1002 bobcats, and 338 bears. Approximately 2,700 were nontarget animals.

Even more appalling, there have been countless reports of how this "rogue" agency has violated state and federal law



while engaging in systemic animal cruelty including the deliberate torturing and killing of stray dogs with Cyanide Bombs, using hunting dogs to tear apart animals caught in leghold traps, illegal use of poisons, neck snares and killing coyote pups in their dens with phosphorous bombs.

In his book, This Land, Christopher Ketcham, a public lands journalist for Harper's, describes the agency like this: "True to its mandate, Wildlife Services kills anything under the sun perceived as a threat to stockmen, deploying an arsenal of poisons, traps and aerial gunships at a cost of tens of millions of dollars a year."

In sum, taxpayers are funding a \$100 million-dollar federal agency, which brutally kills millions of native animals every year, on public lands, mainly for the benefit of private ranching and farming interests.

Think about that for a minute.

In fairness, Wildlife Services performs many legitimate functions, including efforts to thwart bird strikes at airports, removing diseased animals, and controlling destructive species such as feral swine. But that does not excuse their shocking assault on native wildlife.

Perhaps the most significant

outrage is that there is little scientific evidence that killing predators work to protect livestock. A study published in the journal Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment found the practice was mostly ineffective. For example, from 1947 to 1954, we killed an estimated 6.5 million coyotes by carpet-bombing western lands with poison. Today we kill an estimated 500,000 coyotes a year. The result is that the population and distribution of coyotes are more significant than ever as coyotes expand reproduction in response to the indiscriminate killing.

Conversely, independent scientists have produced numerous studies that show that nonlethal means of predator control (guard animals, fencing, visual deterrents) are more effective in preventing livestock deaths than lethal means.

What is undeniable is that predators are a crucial component of a healthy ecosystem, and it's time that taxpayers stopped funding these barbaric, 19th-century eradication programs, for the benefit of private interests, in favor of a more humane, science-based approach to protecting livestock and agriculture.

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TOWN OF MIDDLEBURG COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Middleburg Town Council is accepting letters of interest from individuals who wish to be considered for service on the following:

Middleburg Planning Commission. The Planning Commission prepares and recommends to the Town Council a comprehensive plan for the growth, development and redevelopment of the Town; amendments to the zoning and subdivision regulations; and policies, ordinances and administrative procedures for achieving plans in a coordinated and efficient manner. The Planning Commission also makes recommendations concerning proposed special use permit, zoning map and text amendment applications. Members must be residents of the Town of Middleburg. This appointment is to fill the remainder of a four-year term. Training is available for members of the Planning Commission through the Virginia Certified Planning Commissioners Program at no cost to the members. The Town Council encourages new members to take advantage of this training opportunity. The Planning Commission meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.; and, in work session on an as-needed basis.

Go Green Committee. The Go Green Committee is responsible for advising the Town Council on environmental issues. They are responsible for developing recommendations for environmental action plans and for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL) resolution. Their goal is to increase community awareness about environmental issues, such as the value of recycling, the importance of preserving water quality and the methods for conserving energy. The Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.; and, in work session on an as-needed basis. Terms are for a two-year period.

Middleburg Streetscape Committee. The Streetscape Committee is responsible for developing and annually updating a management plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposal of trees and shrubs along town streets and in public areas. They also are responsible for organizing the annual Arbor Day event held in the town. The Streetscape Committee meets at 8:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month; and, in work session on an as-needed basis.

Anyone interested in serving on any of these committees is asked to send a letter of interest, to include any relevant qualifications, no later than January 31, 2020 to the following:

Mayor and Members of Town Council
Town of Middleburg
P. O. Box 187
10 W. Marshall Street
Middleburg, Virginia 20118
Attn: Committee Vacancies

Letters of interest may be included in a public agenda packet. Applicants who do not wish for their contact information to be made public should indicate this in their letter of interest.

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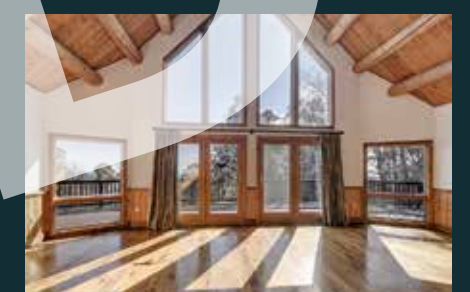
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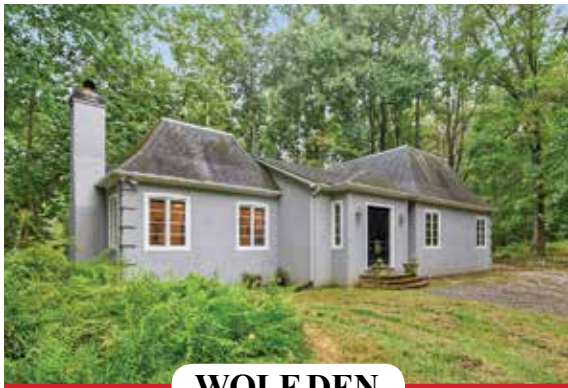
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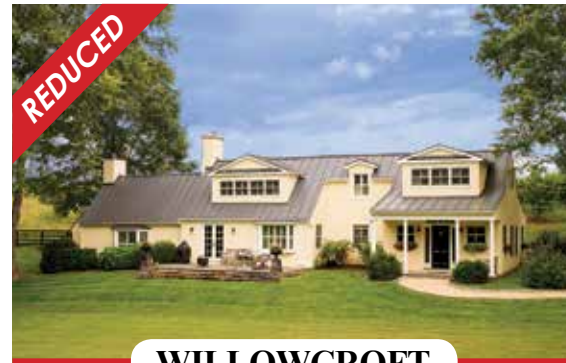
Rebecca Poston 540-771-7520



201 W. WASHINGTON

Middleburg ~ Rare main street commercial location in the heart of historic downtown. Two large picture windows and large glass doors shed light into 2,400 square feet of space with 10'+ ceilings. This rectangular brick front and stucco sided building offers an open interior space ready for a new owners design. Features separate Men's & Women's bathrooms, a utility room, and a small store room. Side access provided by a garage type door. Plenty of parking and a large paved side lot can be used for storage. Zoned C2 Town Commercial for a wide variety of uses and it within the Historic District. **\$1,250,000**

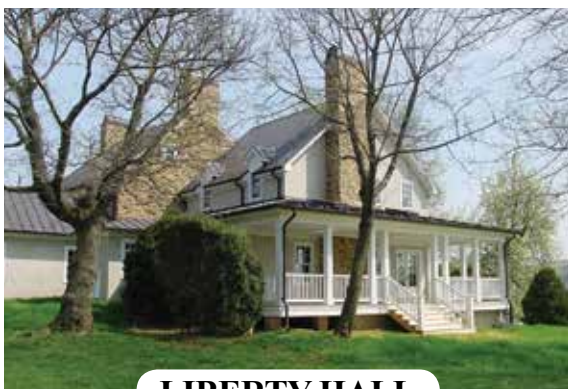
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WILLOWCROFT

Marshall ~ A traditional country home on the outside with a sophisticated, contemporary design within. 3-4 BRs, 2.5 BAs w/ open Kitchen, Dining Room w/original stone fireplace, Living Room with built-ins, bay window and fireplace. Separate Office/Den or 1st Floor Bedroom. New roof, new windows & 4 sets of French doors. Flooring includes blue slate, Carrera marble & hardwoods. Large open flagstone terrace. Extensive landscaping. **\$990,000**

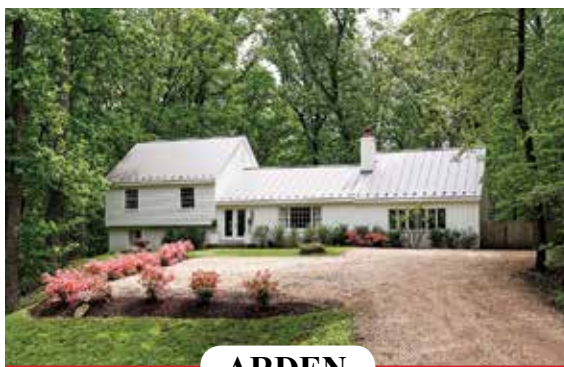
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LIBERTY HALL

Paris ~ Circa 1770, Lovely Stone and Stucco Farm house 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. **\$997,000**

Rebecca Poston (540) 771-7520



ARDEN

Marshall ~ Renovated home on **5+ wooded acres** surrounded by protected land. Contemporary design with an open floor plan. 4 BR/3 BA, new Kitchen, formal Dining w/fireplace, Living Room w/fireplace, exposed beams and brick. Master Suite has lux Bath, private terrace & unique glassed-in storage room. New roof, bathrooms, hardwood & ceramic tile floors, extensive landscaping. Open deck along entire back of the house. Easy commuter location just minutes to Marshall and I-66. **\$799,000**

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MADISON & FEDERAL

Middleburg ~ Excellent commercial investment opportunity in downtown Middleburg. One commercial building which appears like two that are adjoined on the corner of Madison and Federal Streets. Offers 4 separate entrances. Mixed Use includes retail & office spaces. Includes 7 parking spaces off Federal Street. Established business in one building. Seller desires to rent back. Priced well below appraised value. Zoned C-2. **\$785,000**

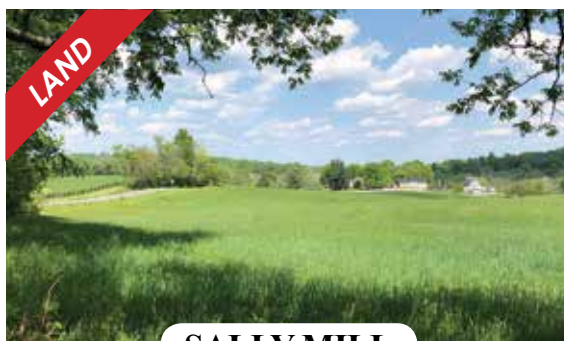
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APPLE MANOR

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Susie Ashcom 540-729-1478



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19 S. MADISON

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