

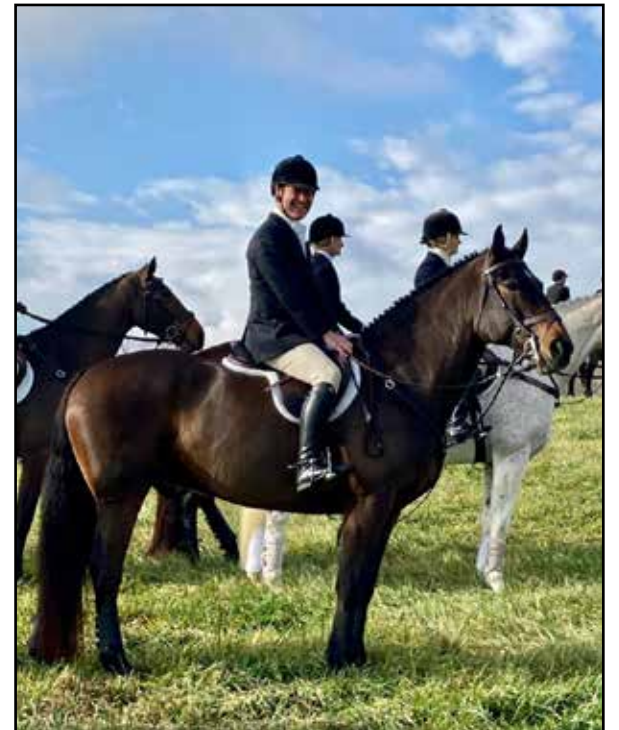
NSLM POLO CLASSIC POLO PERFECTION!

PAGE 16



PHOTO BY NANCY KLECK

ONCE LOST BUZZ FOUND



NANCY KLECK

The initial post on Jeanne Morency's Facebook page read: "There is a loose horse, 'Buzz,' south of Middleburg. ... he most likely still has his saddle but no bridle ... please call Robert Monk (his owner) and/or Lindsay Kelley (who cares for him at Kinross) ... he apparently can be difficult to catch ... please do not chase him. Thank you!"

What started as a leisurely trail ride with a small group of friends a couple of Saturday mornings ago at Broad Hollow turned into a community-wide search effort for the wandering equine. I asked Robert, what made Buzz trot off? "A horse fly!"

As is the order of tacking up a horse, the saddle goes on first, then the bridle. One of those nasty stinging machines was circling Buzz's gleaming coat a bit too eagerly, and Buzz, equally as eager to avoid the inevitable, backed up

the split-second Robert dropped the halter to bridle him. With a swift turn of the hoof, off he went.

The search began immediately, and within minutes the previous post on Facebook was read and shared, friends on horse and foot gathered in the area. Groups as many as 20 on horseback searched for him over the weekend. After wearing a muzzle all summer, this robustly built, full-blooded bay Percheron, described as an "easy keeper," found himself in salad land, staying far enough away and deep in the lush greenery to elude capture. "He is hard to catch, and he just didn't want to be caught," Robert lamented. "Can you blame him?"

A drone was generously used in the search but to no avail. Trackers on foot found hoof prints near the edge of a stream, but then nothing. Over 650 people had "liked" or read the post by Sunday evening, and dozens forwarded it to others. Friends of friends offered help and posted well

CONTINUED PAGE 15

Request in homes by Thursday 9-23-21
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THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY

THE BLESSING, ON THE LAWN AT THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM (NSLM) IN MIDDLEBURG, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY MINISTERS, PRIESTS AND A RABBI FROM MANY AREA CONGREGATIONS AND WELCOMES ANIMALS OF ANY KIND, GREAT OR SMALL, FEATHERED, FURRY AND HOOVED.

PAGE 13

CONGRATULATIONS PUNKIN LEE

ON BEING NAMED 2021 LOUDOUN LAUREATE!

YOU ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR COMMUNITY AND A FRIEND TO ALL



Punkin demonstrates her commitment to service as a member of:

Historic District Review Committee

Streetscape Committee

Middleburg Arts Council

Middleburg Beautification Committee

Middleburg Business and Professional Association (President)

Middleburg Film Festival Committee

National Sporting Library and Museum Board

The Hill School Alumni Association Board

The Middleburg Fall Races Board

And so much more...

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AT:
THE TOWN OF MIDDLEBURG AND THE MIDDLEBURG ECCENTRIC



NEWS OF NOTE

CHIEF A.J. PANEBIANCO NAMED PRESIDENT OF VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

MIDDLEBURG CHIEF LEADS ASSOCIATION AT CRUCIAL TIME



At the Annual Conference of the Virginia Association of the Chiefs of Police, Middleburg Police Chief Anthony “A.J.” Panebianco was named president of VACP for 2021-2022. Chief Panebianco has served on the VACP Executive Committee for seven years, most recently as first vice president, and is the 95th President of VACP. His term as president is the first time a jurisdiction as small as Middleburg has been represented in this official capacity.

“I am honored to represent the Town of Middleburg, the more than 600 members of VACP, and all police officers serving in law enforcement across the Commonwealth,” said Chief Panebianco. “We are at a crucial time of very important reforms in policing, to include additional emphasis on high-standards of conduct for officers and investment in training for crisis intervention.”

Over the coming year, it is expected that police reforms will continue to be a key topic of discussion with the Governor, the General Assembly, and communities across Virginia.

Mayor Bridge Littleton said, “The Town is appreciative of Chief A.J.’s continued commitment to the tenets of law enforcement that encourage partnerships with communities and ensure public safety. I commend Chief A.J. for this leadership role and am grateful that Middleburg’s history of effective community policing can support law enforcement across the Commonwealth.”

More information about VACP can be found at: www.vachiefs.org. A photo of the VACP 2021-2022 Executive Committee is below and attached.

FRONT, L TO R: IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, CHIEF MAGGIE DEBOARD, HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT; SECOND VP CHESTERFIELD COUNTY POLICE CHIEF, COL. JEFFREY S. KATZ; PRESIDENT CHIEF A.J. PANEBIANCO, MIDDLEBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT; FIRST VP CHIEF KEITH HARTMAN, BUENA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT; THIRD VP CHIEF CRAIG BRANCH, GERMANNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICE. BACK, L TO R: AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS -- CHIEF ANGELA GREENE, LEXINGTON VA POLICE DEPARTMENT; CHIEF TRAVIS CHRISTIAN, PETERSBURG BUREAU OF POLICE; CHIEF KAMRAN AFZAL, HOPEWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT; CHIEF JOHN CLAIR, MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT; CHIEF SCOTT BOOTH, DANVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT. - PHOTO COURTESY OF VACP

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NEWS OF NOTE

MIDDLEBURG CONCERT SERIES RESUMES WITH A NEW THREE DAY MUSIC FESTIVAL FORMAT



The pandemic caused a cancellation of the wonderful concerts produced by The Middleburg Concert Series. This year, however, we are fortunate that the concerts will resume, with a blockbuster agenda planned.

First will be a December 12th Christmas season concert with the 30-voice Shenandoah University Conservatory Choir at the Middleburg United Methodist Church. Then on March 20th, the legendary Yale University Whiffenpoofs will perform at Salamander Resort. The "Whiffs" are an a cappella group of 14 Yale seniors chosen from all the undergraduate singing groups to spend an extra year touring the globe.

2022 will bring the three-day Hunt Country Music Festival, planned for May 20th, 21st and 22nd. The Concert Series Festival Committee includes four veteran producers of music festivals, who considered it a travesty that Middleburg does not have such an event. The Middleburg Town Council and the Arts Council

agreed, and enthusiastically welcomed the idea, including having the Festival the same weekend as Art in the Burg, which can now be expanded to "Arts in the Burg." The Concert Series hopes to make the Festival an annual event.

The Festival will start with two concerts at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville, the first by the lively group QuinTango! After an interlude with wine and finger food, the Loudoun Symphony Chamber Ensemble with Nancia D'Alimonte, conductor, will perform concertos for organ, harp, and trumpet.

Saturday will begin with a music student competition prize-winners' concert, at the Middleburg Methodist Church. Next will be a free "Brass on the Grass" concert on the lawn of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Interspersed with the Saturday and Sunday concerts there will be street performers playing bagpipes, fife and drums, and fiddles, leading walking tours of the Town.

Ticketed concerts will re-

sume with "An Afternoon Festival of Song", featuring two opera stars singing spirituals and arias at the Methodist Church. Then Emmanuel Church Parish House will host "High Tea with Brahms", with piano four hands and four vocalists. An evening concert at the Methodist Church will feature the famous Washington Saxophone Quartet.

On Sunday, Festival concerts will resume with the Illinois Arts Duo presenting classical works for violin and piano at the Methodist Church. The Festival will end with a big band concert at the Community Center presented by Matt Trimboli's 16-piece swing band.

Tickets for the events will be available on the internet at Eventbrite.com or, if capacity permits, concert goers may purchase them at the door. The website www.Middleburgconcerts.com or www.facebook.com/middleburgconcerts can provide further details, and questions can be directed to middleburgconcerts@gmail.com.

DIXIE RHYTHM IS READY TO ROLL

Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Middleburg invites you to an outdoor concert by the Dixie Rhythm jazz band at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 24th. They will play on the porch of the Parish House (105 E. Washington Street).

For over 20 years, the Dixie Rhythm band has delighted area audiences with their exciting Dixieland Jazz performances. Returning to Emmanuel Church on October 24th, they will dazzle again with classics like "Basin Street Blues," "Tiger

Rag," "Ain't Misbehavin'," and of course, "When the Saints." Their toe-tapping repertoire is interlaced with historical notes, corny jokes and funny stories that help you catch your breath between the flood of tunes. It's a great Sunday afternoon adventure for all ages!

To reserve a seat, or in the case of questionable weather, call 540-687-6297. There's a \$10 suggested donation, but no one is turned away; refreshments served. Laissez les bon temps rouler!



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SUSAN CARROLL NAMED PRESIDENT OF INOVA LOUDOUN HOSPITAL



Inova Health System announced that Susan Carroll, FACHE, MA, MHA, has accepted the permanent role of President of Inova Loudoun Hospital, effective Monday, August 30. Susan was serving in the interim role at Inova Loudoun Hospital since July while also serving as president of Inova Fair Oaks Hospital.

Susan brings a broad range of

experience and a long track record of success at Inova to her new role. She began her career at Inova Loudoun Hospital in 1996, eventually rising to the level of Chief Operating Officer, in 2010. Since then, she has been Vice President of the Inova Cancer Service Line, Chief Operating Officer at Inova Alexandria Hospital, Regional CEO of Inova Alexandria and Inova Mount Vernon

hospitals, and Interim President of Inova Fairfax Medical Campus before assuming her current positions.

In her new role at Inova Loudoun Hospital, Susan will work collaboratively with the hospital's medical staff, including its physician relations and medical staff development teams, to pursue mutually beneficial business opportunities that address community

needs. She will work to establish areas of clinical growth and actively participate in the recruitment and retention of physicians to continue to cultivate an effective, high-quality, high performing medical staff. Susan will partner with Inova service line leaders in partnership with the Inova Clinical Enterprise Triad. Susan will also retain system-wide leadership over Security and Emer-

gency Management and Supply Chain Management.

Inova Loudoun Hospital is a 311-bed facility, which includes Inova Loudoun Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and the Inova Loudoun Hospital - Cornwall Campus. Susan will continue to serve as president at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital on an interim basis until a new permanent leader is selected.



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NEWS OF NOTE

GO GREEN COMMITTEE RENAMED MIDDLEBURG SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

TODD HATHAWAY

The Middleburg Town Council recently adopted a name change for its environmental advisory committee. Formerly named the Go Green Committee, the committee is now known as the Middleburg Sustainability Committee (MSC). The new name better aligns with the committee's current work as environmental challenges continue to grow and become even more severe. The "go green" moniker is still quite relevant as a slogan and initiative of the MSC.

Yet, the MSC's ambition goes beyond what is admittedly a catchier name. The following excerpt from the original ordinance establishing the committee reads, "...A primary goal of the committee 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." To that end, the MSC intends to continue initiatives like voluntary recycling programs (batteries, cigarette butts, razor blades) and town cleanup days while expanding into composting pilots and the like. We are expanding our public awareness efforts through articles like this one and others as

well.

Perhaps you have noticed that members of the MSC regularly contribute articles to the Eccentric. The committee aims to publish articles each month, and we hope you will seek those articles out in the future. Articles aim to inform readers about sustainability trends in recycling trends, alternative energy, composting, and the like while providing ways to build sustainability into your routines in and around Middleburg.

Please visit the Middleburg Sustainability Committee page on the Town's website (see below). There you will find information about current recycling programs, upcoming events, pilot programs, and more. And please reach out to the MSC through that page if you would like to get involved or have questions that we can help address.

<https://www.middleburgva.gov/207/Middleburg-Sustainability-Committee>

Some of the MSC's current initiatives and upcoming events include the following, all of which are posted on our site with more information (e.g., locations, dates, signup information, etc.).

Monthly articles and posts

Composting pilot program de-

tails with Apex Organix
Fall Cleanup

Paint recycling
Battery recycling

Cigarette butt recycling



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(Rain Date: Oct. 11)

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MARSHALL, VA

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A Community Foundation Fund in the Spotlight

Loudoun Serenity House Endowment's mission is to provide safe, supportive and affordable residential services to men and women striving for their best life, a substance free life, free from dependency on alcohol and drugs.

NEWS OF NOTE

CREIGHTON FARMS INVITATIONAL HOSTED BY JACK NICKLAUS RAISED ALMOST \$1.4 MILLION FOR CHARITY

BRICK FUNDRAISER

MIDDLEBURG MUSEUM

Be a part of the rich history of Middleburg with an engraved brick that will be placed on the grounds of the new Middleburg History Museum. Your legacy will be part of the story of our community for generations to come. Visit themiddleburgmuseum.org for your brick order form or visit us at [Facebook.com/middleburgmuseumfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/middleburgmuseumfoundation).

The Middleburg Museum at The Pink Box, 12 North Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia 20118

The extremely popular Creighton Farms Invitational Hosted by Jack Nicklaus returned to Creighton Farms this year after a year-long hiatus due to the pandemic. Initially created as a one-day tournament, the event has grown over the years as a multi-day event of exciting activities leading up to one of the

ers were joined in the tournament by professional golfers including Jay Haas, Andres Gonzales, D.A. Points, Kyle Westmoreland, Jonathan Byrd, Chase Koepka, Jin Park, James Hahn, Parker McLachlin, Rick Lamb, Chris Stroud, Tom Purtzer, Turk Pettit, Todd Hamilton, Chesson Hadley, Kyle Thompson, Mark Hensby, Heath Slocum, Ken Duke, Den-



WARREN RALSTON, DEVIN WILKINS, JOSHUA WITHERILL, PEDRO TORRES, CHESON HADLEY

Washington D.C. area's premier charity pro-am golf tournaments.

The CFI is one of only a handful of elite tournaments created by Nicklaus to benefit the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation. The Foundation came about because of the Nicklaus family's interest in helping children gain access to world-class healthcare. The event has raised more than \$9 million to date for the Foundation. In addition to the Foundation, the event also contributed to The National PKU Alliance.

This year's CFI raised almost \$1.4 million for the charities. "The Creighton Farms Invita-

ny McCarthy, Brett Wetterich, Bill Hurley III, Kevin Yu, Smylie Kaufman and professional golfer now analyst for the Golf Channel Charlie Rymer. Musician and golfer Javier Colon also played in the tournament.

Jack Nicklaus was on hand to greet the pro-golfers and amateurs and take photos with each foursome. He spoke about his charity and the importance of it to both he and his wife Barbara. As he discussed several of the children's hospitals that he and Barbara support, he also talked about some of the children that have been saved and he stopped to wipe away tears. "I get so



JACK AND BARBARA NICKLAUS

tional has become a signature event for the community as well as the Mid-Atlantic," said Tommy Southworth, president and COO of Southworth Development LLC, the company that owns and operates Creighton Farms. "We're proud to host this event annually. Giving back is important to our company and our residents."

Each year, the golf tournament takes place on Creighton Farms' award-winning Jack Nicklaus designed golf course. Creighton Farms' member play-

emotional just thinking about them," he said. "It's important to remember that this is why this event at Creighton Farms is so dear to us."

The team that won the CFI included Warren Ralston, Devin Wilkins, Joshua Witherill and Pedro Torres who were joined by professional golfer Chesson Hadley. Hadley recently had his career-first hole-in-one at the Wyndham Championship.

For more information on the Creighton Farms community, visit www.CreightonFarms.com

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THE CURRENCY OF CONSERVATION

THE FENCE POST

ROBERT BANNER AND
CHANDLER VAN VOORHIS

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) latest assessment report, Code Red for Humanity, says it all. In order to stave off a global mean temperature rise of 1.5 degrees, we need to act decisively and now. This requires not getting balled up in a debate between renewables vs nature or how pure this company is vs another one. No longer can humanity wait for government to lead. Consumers need to exercise their values with each purchase. But to do such, companies need to give consumers options to exercise their values.

Last week, The Washington Post reported that 1 in 3 Americans have faced some weather disaster this summer. Scorching heat. Raging fires. Hurricane after

hurricane producing floods of biblical proportion. Tornadoes plaguing places that are unfamiliar with the obliterating destruction they wreak. Where there is not flooding, drought has turned once productive farmland into dust.

You might think we have been spared here in the Piedmont, but tropical storm Ida left trees and limbs down all around with flash flooding in Unison. A tornado warning north of Middleburg and an F2 in Annapolis was sobering, to say the least. Has wild weather affected you this summer? Personally, I had significant tree damage.

If you suffered, even mildly, you're not alone. A new poll (Pew Research Center) shows people increasingly see climate change as a threat that now affects them personally. This poll was taken just before our summer of suffer, so I wonder if a new poll today would

show widening concern? Are these changing attitudes inspiring solutions? Well, maybe.

The value of renewables is that it lessens emissions moving forward, creating a carbon reduction. Nature, on the other hand, helps to remove carbon from the atmosphere. This is especially true when you plant trees. Think of tree planting as playing climate offense, while stopping deforestation is playing climate defense. We need to move from an "either or" mindset and develop a "plus one" mindset -- Renewables plus Nature with all the co-benefits Nature has to offer.

It is time to think of Nature as a technology. To unleash its potential, we need to start placing a value on natural capital. Natural capital is a term that refers to the air, water, trees, and soil that defines every property. It offers a natural solution 24/7, whether we ask it to, or not. By managing the assets derived from the land, we create an uplift value that can be priced.

Twenty years ago, ACRE's visionaries saw these solutions and began to attach a value to cleaning the air and water utilizing natural capital. By placing a price and value on a tree as a tree, we are now able to ask whether a tree is more valuable left standing? Or cut down? The mere fact that we are asking the question is changing how we manage our lands today.

It's safe to say carbon credits, nutrient credits and stream restoration credits are the new "currency" of conservation paying you as a



landowner to do the right thing. Conservation is yielding to the age of restoration, moving away from the passive activities of conserving towards active restoration of the services that Nature provides humanity.

Think of the many large corporations that are hungry to offset the carbon footprint they cannot reverse. Multiply that by the number of small/medium sized businesses that also want to become carbon neutral. Their customers demand it, and businesses want to deliver. Their need for credits makes the needs of large corporate community look quite small. Larger still is the community of individuals who want to offset their personal carbon footprint. Unless the supply of credits is grown now, demand will drive the value of the "currency" far higher.

We sell credits to large corporations, even small businesses, but how do we connect the natural world with a transactional one where we empower the consumer to affect the change they want to see in the world? One such example occurred between our GreenTrees and Shell Energy. Shell purchased credits from GreenTrees and then "inset" or "decarbonized" the

emissions profile of all the gasoline it sold at pumps in the Netherlands.

We're in the world that creates those credits. In our model, we create the credits (primarily through growing trees,) manage the new forests with our landowning partners and share the credit revenue with the partnering landowners at sale. Maybe you have land and want to get involved. In this case, your choice may pay attractive dividends.

Our Co-Founder Carey Crane, Maggie Bryant's son, says routinely, "If it pays, it stays." With each turning of the wheel, trees are being planted, carbon sequestered, water purified, and biodiversity restored. Hooking the transactional marketplace with the biological world, is creating the velocity we need by letting consumers – you and I – tap into the power of the purse.

Chandler Van Voorhis is a Founder and Managing Partner of ACRE Investment Management in The Plains, VA. Robert Banner is ACRE's Special Project Officer. Reach them at chandler@acre-investment.com and rob@acre-investment.com.

PURCELLVILLE POLICE OFFICER HONORED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



Sergeant Robert Wagner was honored by the Nam Knights of America Motorcycle Club, Old Dominion Chapter, for his outstanding record of community service to the Town of Purcellville and the Purcellville Police Department. The award was presented to Sergeant Wagner during their annual fundraising event held in Leesburg, Virginia to benefit veterans and law enforcement officers and their families.

Sergeant Wagner was chosen for recognition by the Nam Knights of America for being the epitome of a community engaged police officer. Policing in a small town such as Purcellville, provides the officers the opportunity to get to know those who reside and/or work in Town on a more personal level. Sergeant Wagner is always happy to provide any service possible, whether it is simply giving directions, changing a flat tire, or helping someone who accidentally locked their keys in the car. In addition to assisting with simple tasks, Sergeant Wagner can also be found engaging with the community on a larger scale. Whether it is volunteering his time to assist with the local high school football practices, assisting homeless individuals with obtaining a hot meal, warm

clothes and finding a safe place to stay, or personally checking on elderly residents after they have had surgery, Sergeant Wagner makes the effort to get to know people of all ages in Purcellville and provide support in any way.

"Sergeant Wagner always goes above and beyond for someone in need," stated Chief Cynthia McAlister. "Last year he spearheaded the building of a new deck and access ramp for an elderly resident, as well as personally completed the follow up maintenance of the structure for her this summer, including power washing and staining it. While these are not typical duties of a police officer, Sergeant Wagner makes it his business to ensure those in Town who need help get it. The heart and spirit of Sergeant Wagner is exemplified in his expression of caring and empathy towards the people he serves, and is refreshingly evident by not only his conversations, but more importantly through his actions. His ability to continually, day in and day out, year after year, foster positive and long lasting relationships is invaluable, especially with today's climate where there has been focus regarding the mistrust of law enforcement," said Chief McAlister.

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RUTLEDGE FARM

MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA

Premier Middleburg estate | Main house of stone and frame construction circa 1740 w/addition in 1820. 6 BR, 3 1/2 BA, 5 FP, high ceilings, moldings & detailed woodwork throughout | Equestrian facilities are unmatched | 113 lush acres. 5 barns totaling 35 stalls | 19 paddocks | Derby field | 218 x 80 indoor arena | 250 x 150 all-weather outdoor arena | 80' lunging arena | Polo field (or 2 grand prix fields) | 4 board, double fencing & automated nelson waterers | Other improvements include 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA guest house | Farm office attached to 3 BR house | Machine shed | Carriage house w/apartment | Stone spring house/office | 3 BR apartment | Pond with gazebo

\$7,000,000

PAUL MACMAHON 703.609.1905
SANDRA BRAVO GREENBERG 202.308.3813



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MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA

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DEERFIELD

UPPERVILLE, VIRGINIA

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\$3,900,000

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MASON FARM, LIGHTRIDGE FARM ROAD

ALDIE, VIRGINIA

20+/- acres in fast growing Loudoun location | Currently zoned TR3UBF | Willowsford, South Riding, Stone Ridge, minutes away | New county high school under construction next to property | Currently improved by 2 residences, 2 ponds | Northstar Blvd around corner

\$3,462,000

PAUL MACMAHON 703.609.1905



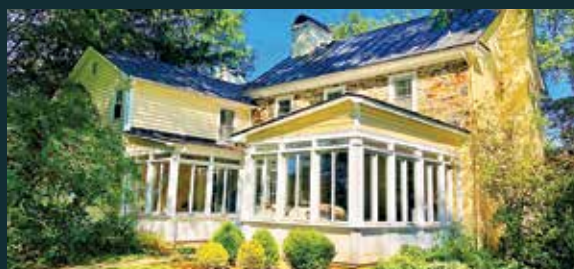
LONG BRANCH

THE PLAINS, VIRGINIA

Gorgeous 71 acre parcel in a wonderful location between Middleburg and The Plains | Rolling land with stone walls and 2 ponds | Enchanting property | Property is in conservation easement and may not be divided further

\$1,950,000

HELEN MACMAHON 540.454.1930



BUTTERLAND FARM

UNISON, VIRGINIA

Butterland Farm circa 1790 Quaker farm house in the village of Unison on 8.16 acres | Beautiful floors throughout, 3 fireplaces, 2 bedrooms plus den, 2 1/2 baths | Lovely gardens, mostly open land, board fencing | Improvements include barn, garage, studio and secluded garden swimming pool

\$1,100,000

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MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA

Prepare to be impressed - lovely floors, granite counters, high ceilings | 2 main level primary suites | Professionally decorated & landscaped | Over sized 2 car garage | Charming covered porch with iron railing, patio, trex decking, gas fireplace | Bright and open floor plan, easy to maintain, elegant finishes throughout | Endless upgrades

\$595,000

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NEWS OF NOTE

PET SUPPLIES PLUS OPENS IN PURCELLVILLE



The Purcellville store formerly occupied by Pet Valu will host a grand opening event as Pet Supplies Plus on September 18 and 19. Located at 120 Purcellville Gateway Drive, the new store will provide Purcellville neighbors with a welcoming environment that offers a variety of pet care products, toys and foods.

Pet Supplies Plus offers a hassle-free way to find better products for pets, while saving pet parents money and celebrating the fun of pet ownership. The new store offers dog wash stations, knowledgeable pet care team members, and carry-out service (team members will carry heavy items to neighbors' cars). The store will offer reserved parking spaces for touchless pickup and full-service grooming services.

The new store is owned and operated by local entrepreneurs and couple Kevin and Donna Bath. Both Kevin and Donna work professionally in the systems engineering space as project managers. As longtime Pet Valu shoppers, they were saddened to learn of the store's closing. After learning about Pet Supplies Plus through a radio advertisement, the pair identified it as a perfect opportunity to provide much needed services to the Purcellville community.

"We're so excited to open as Pet Supplies Plus and introduce the Purcellville community to our products and services," said Kevin. "Our staff members are dedicated to providing the best shopping experience possible to our neighbors. The store combines a local, neighbor-oriented experience with the ability to provide a tremendous variety of pet products and services."

Pet Supplies Plus of Purcellville will give pet parents a wide selection of natural pet foods, goods and pet services at low prices, as well as a unique, rich in-store experience for "neighbors" (the term Pet Supplies Plus uses for customers). The store currently features dog wash stations and a knowledgeable and friendly staff; it will of-

fer grooming services in the near future. Pet parents are always welcome to shop with their dogs at the store, where knowledgeable team members are on-site to answer questions, offer tips or just get on their hands and knees to play with pets who enter the stores.

Neighbors have access to an experienced and knowledgeable team help them find everything they need. Each team member is extensively trained in the areas of natural and holistic foods and are able to answer a broad range of

questions about dogs, cats, birds, reptiles and fish. Shoppers can also take advantage of the free Preferred Pet Club, which offers members regular coupons for products they purchase frequently and monthly specials, resulting in big savings.

Pet Supplies Plus of Purcellville will be open Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. To contact Pet Supplies Plus of Purcellville, call 540-299-7959 or visit www.petsuppliesplus.com.

Sunset in the Field

Sunday, October 24, 4 pm – 7 pm

Come Chill with Us and Enjoy BBQ & Bluegrass!

Join us behind the 'Brick House' at Oak Spring Farm for the tastiest BBQ from the legendary Shaffer's BBQ and the iconic Bluegrass Band,

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After all, isn't the preservation of that spectacular landscape what it is all about?

\$65.00 per person

Includes 1 BBQ ticket and 2 drink tickets

For Tickets and Information please call (540) 687-8441 or go online to www.landtrustva.org

No tickets will be sold at the gate.

Limited Ticketing available

Please join Land Trust of Virginia in celebration of Virginia's open spaces, natural resources, and cultural heritage.

Proceeds raised from Sunset in the Field will support Land Trust of Virginia's mission.

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NEWS OF NOTE

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING



MARA VANDERSLICE KELLY

Human trafficking is the act of compelling someone into work or commercial sex through force, fraud, or coercion. It is illegal everywhere but happens every day in big cities and small towns across the United States.

Human trafficking takes many forms: A foster care youth forced into commercial sex work by someone pretending to be her "boyfriend;" a migrant locked in a house, compelled to cook and clean; a man with a mental health disability laboring in a poultry processing plant for no pay. It occurs across oceans and in our own backyards.

Human trafficking is a \$150 billion a year industry. There are more than 40 million victims worldwide -- including many in the United States. The National Human Trafficking Hotline recorded 11,500 domestic cases in 2019.

And those were just the reported cases. Many more are never brought to light.

Sadly, marginalized communities -- including people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, undocumented immigrants, and survivors of abuse -- are more likely to become victims. Studies estimate that 40% of U.S. sex trafficking victims are Black Americans and over 60% of labor trafficking victims are Hispanic.

There is no silver bullet to end human trafficking, and it won't happen overnight. However, a concerted effort from all levels of society to combat this evil is our best hope to end it.

When communities come together, we can develop a comprehensive response. United Way is proud to leverage our network of more than 1,000 United Ways in 40 countries to identify and support local stakeholders in the fight against trafficking. By mobilizing individuals, businesses, governments, and nonprofit or-

ganizations, our Center to Combat Human Trafficking helps coordinate efforts to end this systemic injustice.

This comprehensive approach is being piloted in cities across the country, from Las Vegas to Atlanta. Each program is designed to address each community's unique challenges, from child abuse to poverty to homelessness.

Companies can work to educate their employees and marshal donations toward projects dedicated to combatting trafficking. Many employees at UPS, for instance, are trained to spot signs of trafficking on their daily routes. UPS employees have given millions of dollars to anti-trafficking efforts led by United Way's Center.

Additionally, business leaders can strive to employ survivors of trafficking. Secure employment and financial stability help reduce one's risk of being trafficked again. Employing survivors may require more inclusive hiring

practices, like not automatically disqualifying those with criminal records. As one advisor at the Human Trafficking Legal Center explains, trafficking victims are often "arrested and prosecuted for their traffickers' crimes."

Individuals can support anti-human trafficking initiatives by considering their purchasing choices. Consumers can look for signs of sex and labor trafficking in stores, salons, hotels, and restaurants. They can research whether brands employ responsible sourcing practices in their supply chains.

Concerned voters have immense influence to wield, too. Congress will soon reauthorize

the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, which was first passed in 2000 to prosecute traffickers and support survivors. Americans can call their representatives and urge them to pass this legislation and fund anti-trafficking efforts.

Every day, our lives intersect with this issue through the products we purchase, the systems we perpetuate, and people we pass on the street. Each of us has the opportunity and ability to combat human trafficking. United, we can end it.

Mara Vanderslice Kelly is the Executive Director of the United Way Center to Combat Human Trafficking.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AFFILIATES FORM VIRGINIA COMMUNITY LAND TRUST TO ADDRESS AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS IN VIRGINIA

Affordable housing is in a crisis state in Virginia. Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia, and Habitat for Humanity Virginia announced today the formation of the Virginia State-

wide Community Land Trust (VSCLT), a 501c3 non-profit organization committed to the protection and development of permanently affordable housing in highcost parts of Virginia.

The Virginia Statewide Community Land Trust will work with Habitat for Humanity affiliates, other affordable housing developers, cities, towns, and counties to increase and preserve the affordable housing inventory in Virginia. Under the Community Land Trust Model, homes remain affordable in perpetuity, even after resale. In this way, one home is able to serve multiple low-to-moderate income households across generations. HDAdvisors of Richmond, Virginia, served as lead consultant during the creation of the trust.

Rising home prices continue to price many families out of the housing market, increasing the demand for more affordable housing in Virginia. Recent increases in the cost of construction materials and labor have further complicated the efforts to increase affordable housing stock throughout the nation.

Currently, the demand for housing outpaces the existing supply, especially for lower-priced homes, while prices for affordable homes increased at nearly twice the rate of more expensive homes. The rate of inflation and the price for existing single-family homes have outpaced the median household



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THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY



Middleburg's interfaith tradition of The Blessing of the Animals will take place Sunday, Oct. 3, at 2 p.m., in honor of St. Francis, at the National Sporting Library & Museum.

The Blessing, on the lawn at the National Sporting Library & Museum (NSLM) in Middleburg, will be conducted by ministers, priests and a rabbi from many area congregations and welcomes animals of any kind, great or small, feathered, furry and hooved. St. Francis of Assisi is the internationally acknowledged 12th-century patron saint of animals and the environment whose feast day is in early October.

The Rev. Eugene LeCouteur of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, which coordinates the annual event, says, "Particularly after this difficult year when we relied so much on our animal companions for comfort, we should take the opportunity to come together and thank God for this gift."

NSLM, at 102 The Plains Rd., just off Route 50 in Middleburg, has ample parking and a spacious lawn at the corner with Route 50. Large animals in trailers (e.g. horses, cattle) will be directed to a special parking area. Volunteers will be on hand to direct

income.

The Virginia Statewide Community Land Trust (VSCLT) protects and increases affordable housing stock in

Virginia through two key strategies: using ground leases that promote shared equity, and targeting eligible individuals and families living at 30% to 80% of annual median income (AMI). These strategies allow homeowners to purchase a home at an affordable price, earn equity with their purchase, and possess the same rights of survivorship. In exchange for the opportunity to purchase an affordable home, a CLT homeowner agrees to pass on the benefit by selling the home at an affordable price to someone who meets the same

traffic and hand out gift bags.

Animals sequestering at home can receive their blessings online. A minister will conduct individual blessings to all participants joining virtually. Questions about a virtual blessing can be directed to info@nationalsporting.org

"The Middleburg area is a haven for animal lovers," the Rev. LeCouteur points out. "Thanks to the hospitality of the NSLM and our faith partners, we have continued this tradition for more than 20 years."

Rabbi Rose Lyn Jacob of Madison County, the Rev. Tracey Lyons of Mt. Zion-Willisville Chapel Cooperative Parish (UMC), Father Christopher Murphy of St. Stephen the Martyr Roman Catholic Church in Middleburg and Pastor Herman Nelson of Shiloh Baptist Church, Middleburg, will co-officiate with the Rev. LeCouteur, rain or shine.

Mask-wearing is encouraged and social distancing among owners will be observed.

For more information, call (540) 687-6297 or go to Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/292183898497085>

eligibility requirements.

The original prototypes for both Habitat for Humanity and Community Land Trusts grew out of the Civil Rights Era, as models to increase equitable access to both land and affordable housing. The VSCLT complements the Habitat for Humanity mission, ensuring that low-to-moderate income homeowners have affordable, safe, and decent places to live, for generations to come.

For more information about the Virginia Statewide Community Land Trust, visit VSCLT.org.

If you would like to discuss how the VSCLT can help your community, please email partnership@VSCLT.org.

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NEWS OF NOTE

LOUDOUN COUNTY RECYCLING GUIDE TAKES THE GUESSWORK OUT OF RECYCLING



“Can this be recycled?” It’s a common question in households. The Loudoun County Recycling Guide helps provide answers, which can lead to a reduction in the amount of waste in the recycling stream. “Our recycling guide helps take the guesswork out of recycling,” said Loudoun County Re-

cycling Specialist Tony Hayes. “It’s never a good idea to simply assume something is recyclable and just let the recycling companies sort it out. We call that ‘wishful recycling,’ which contributes to significant waste in the recycling process and reduces the value of recycling, financially and environmentally.”

The Loudoun County Recycling Guide lists items that can be recycled through curbside recycling and at the county’s recycling drop-off centers. Items not specifically listed as acceptable materials should not be placed in a recycling container until your local service provider is contacted to confirm whether they can

be recycled.

Common Mistakes

Plastic bags, plastic foam (such as Styrofoam), empty motor oil containers and recyclables sealed in plastic trash bags are common items mistakenly set out for recycling. Here’s what to do instead:

Return plastic grocery bags to grocery stores for recycling.

Place plastic foam and empty motor oil containers in the trash.

Do not seal recyclables in plastic bags; instead deposit them loosely in recycling bins.

Hazardous items also found in recycling bins include batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, pressurized cans and other hazardous materials. These items should not be placed in recycling bins or even the trash, but instead disposed of at one of the county’s household hazardous waste or business hazardous waste collection events.

Glass Bottles and Jars

Currently, one of the most common questions about recycling concerns glass bottles and jars. While glass bottles and jars are still accepted in some curbside recycling programs, the glass is not always able to be put to a beneficial use and may be discarded as waste. Loudoun County has established a glass recycling program at six recycling drop-off centers where glass bottles and jars are collected separately from other recyclable materials to ensure they are recovered for another use. More details are available at loudoun.gov/recycling.



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TSA ANNOUNCES LAS VEGAS PASSENGER SCREENING CANINE ALONA SELECTED AS THE "2021 CUTEST CANINE"

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced that a 4-year-old Golden Retriever and explosives detection canine named Alona is TSA's Cutest Canine in 2021. She works with canine handler Vanessa at Las Vegas McCarran International Airport.

In voting conducted last week via a three-day nationwide social media contest on Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook, Alona became the people's choice from a group of four TSA canine finalists that began among a list of 77 eligible canine contenders. TSA held the contest in recognition of National Dog Day, which is today. Preliminary voting among TSA employees narrowed the field of 77 contenders to the final four.

Voting members of the public chose Alona from that final four canine candidates that included 4-year-old German Shepherd Lexa, whose handler is Jennifer, and 4-year-old German Shepherd Lexi, whose handler is Daphne. Both of those canine handler teams are from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. The other contender was 3-year-old Belgian Malinois Badger, whose handler is Herb, from Chicago O'Hare International Airport. The canines were nominated by TSA handlers from airports around the country and voted on by dog lovers nationwide.

Alona is a passenger screening canine from Las Vegas McCarran International Airport and the 2021 Winner of TSA's Cutest Canine Contest.

Alona started her career with the TSA's National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program in August of 2018. She graduated from TSA's Canine Training Center as a certified Passenger Screening Canine (PSC) with Vanessa, her handler. Alona's favorite toy is a hard rubber ball, and she enjoys the open spaces of a park when she is off-duty. While on duty, she is curious and social. Most of all, she loves to overhear passengers talk about how adorable she is as she carries out her important responsibilities as a working canine.

TSA utilizes canines like Alona in its security operations nationwide. They are trained to detect the scent of explosives or explosive materials. These highly-skilled dogs are paired with handlers who utilize the working canine's keen sense of smell when working throughout busy transportation environments.

Travelers departing, arriving and walking through the nation's airports routinely see PSC teams working around passengers. These teams nimbly work through large groups of people to detect the source of a potential explosive. PSC handlers train frequently with their canines and learn how to interpret canine be-

haviors when the dog detects an explosive scent.

If a dog alerts its handler to the presence of explosive odor, TSA follows an established procedure to resolve the alarm. The use of these highly-trained canines remains one of the most effective elements within the layered security system to deter the introduction of explosive devices and detect explosives within the nation's transportation network.

TSA recognizes that explosives are among the greatest threats to aviation security, so the agency developed a working canine program with regular testing and training to ensure they maintain a high standard of operational effectiveness. Continual training ensures TSA canine handler teams remain a reliable resource in detecting explosives, and prepare the teams for potential distractions in the busy and noisy transportation environment.

Currently, TSA has trained more than 1,000 canine teams that work at airports and mass-transit facilities across the country. While TSA's canine partners are sociable, they are working dogs and should only be touched and fed by their handlers.

Later this year, TSA will announce the availability of its 2022 Canine Calendar, featuring the top 13 runners up in the 2021 Cutest Canine Contest. Alona will be the canine on the cover of the 2022 calendar.



ONCE LOST BUZZ FOUND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



wishes for a happy and safe return. Even people the Monks did not know were posting "prayers for a safe return!"

Funny how sometimes the most minor thing, well, not that small, will give you away. Post it on Facebook, the world will see it. Monday evening, Buzz finally sauntered onto a property, miles away from Broad Hollow and across Hwy 50, and recognized as not just another horse that had wandered through a broken fence. A videotape of him had been post-

ed online, and within minutes his location was determined. With the saddle still hanging under his belly (stirrups long gone), he was caught with a bucket of grain and little fanfare. After three long days of heart-wrenching worry, Lindsay brought him back home with not a scratch, just a tender spot on his belly.

That night Jill Monk posted on her Facebook page: "Buzz has been found and he is on his way home!!! Thank you everyone for offers of help and your concern!

Thank you so much to everyone for all the help searching! This boy ended up miles and miles away from the meet, across 50, and beyond! ... What an incredibly awesome small community we live in to have this horse arrive back home safe and sound after no sightings for 60 hours!" One can only wonder where he traveled and the wildlife he may have encountered.

A friend posted: "Buzz is no worse for the wear and is in better shape than when he left! He was not stressed whatsoever and was



more like 'oh hey, what are you doing here?' when I caught him. What an adventure!"

With a collective sigh of relief, hundreds of words of joy and relief began to pour in: "Awesome!!" "Hallelu!" "what a wonderful story to watch from afar - a community like no other" "So relieved!" "Great news!" "So happy he is ok!" "Wonderful news!" "You all were in our prayers - great news!" "Best news all day!" "So happy this had a happy ending!" "So happy he was found. Sounds

like he doesn't lack confidence." "Thank goodness he is home and ok!" ...

In closing, Jill posted: From Robert and me, our "Prayers answered ... sending all our love and deepest gratitude ... Thank you all! ... it took a village, our whole fantastic community and friends' best wishes and prayers. THANK YOU ALL!"

PLACES & FACES

NSLM POLO CLASSIC -- POLO PERFECTION!

PHOTOS AND STORY BY NANCY KLECK

Before a sold-out crowd and gorgeous Virginia skies and non-stop breeze, spectators enjoyed two tightly played matches, The Founders Cup and The Mars Cup, this past month at Great Meadow on one of the best fields in the country, according to the players. In The Founders Cup, TTR - Sotheby's International Realty (Annalise Phillips, Laura Farrell, Tano Vial, and Doug Barnes) tied the NSLM team (Debbie Nash, Bill Ballhaus, Tolito Ocampo, and Jonas Largaia) 5-5 after four chukkas. Because of Sotheby's handicap, the win went to them. Annalise Phillips was named

the Most Valuable Player of the match. Best playing pony went to Doug Barnes' Valentino.

Always a fun part of the day while players take a break and ponies are readied, a best-attired dog contest was held, followed by a couple of canters around the field by Orange County Huntsman Reg Spreadborough and his beautiful red pack of hounds that kindly stopped for a few minutes for photo ops.

Eagerly anticipated, the Mars Cup featured two pairs of father-and-son polo fan-favorite Nacho and son Hilario Figueras who played for NetJets, and Bill and son Wil Ballhaus who played for Holman Hall. Broth-

ers Tolito (highest-rated player in Virginia) and Lucio Ocampo played for Holman Hall. A very tight match ended with a score of 8-9, Holman Hall, the victors. Especially sweet was that the young Wil Ballhaus was awarded Most Valuable Player. The best playing pony went to Andy Hertneky's Taruha.

The event was a fantastic closing to a very active polo summer, thanks to Bill Ballhaus and Darrin Mollett of Beverly Equestrian, Virginia United Polo League, and the dozens of amateur and professional players and landowners who are making Middleburg the summer destination for polo.



ALLYSON MCDUGAL AND EDWARD ASHER



ANNE AND PETER ARUNDEL



FOUNDERS CUP WINNERS TTR SOUTHEY'S AND BEST PLAYING PONY VALENTINO, RIDDEN BY DOUG BARNES



TRUDY COX, ROBERT AND KITTY DOVE



DARREN MOLLETT, NAJ AND MARGITE HUSSAIN



DAVID AND ANTASTASIA TAFURI



BARRY DIXON, MARK K LOWANA, JOE RIZZO, TODD GAMBILL, AND TIM WATKINS



CARY AND LOUISE CRANE



DAYMAR ROSSER AND BROTHER KAREEM ROSSER



DEBBIE AND ALLEN NASH



FAITH AND PHILIP BOBROW



CECILIA BECERRA, JUAN SEGURA, ALEJANDRA SEGURA AND ANNE KLINE COHANKA



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KARLA ETTEN, BARBARA SHARP AND PATTI THOMAS



FATHER AND SON IGNACIO AND HILARIO FIGUERAS FLANKED BY NSLM DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REID O'CONNOR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ELIZABETH VON HASSELL



TOLITO OCAMPO AND SON



NAJ AND MARGARITE HUSSAIN, ASMA SHAIKH AND SAJAD BILGRAMI



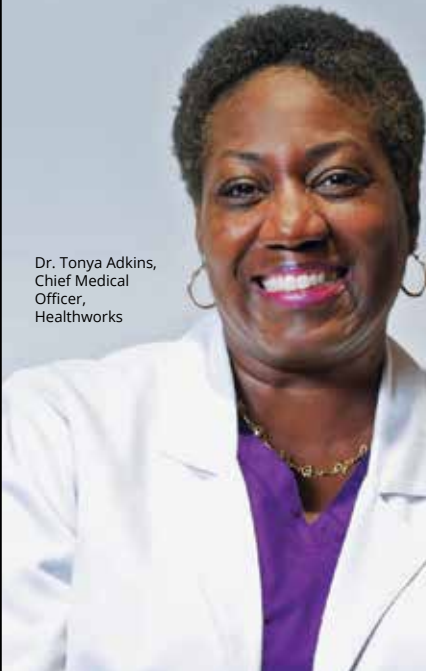
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Is the COVID-19 Vaccine Safe?

Let's Talk Facts:



Dr. Tonya Adkins,
Chief Medical
Officer,
Healthworks

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If you have questions, talk to your local health care provider and visit www.StayWellNoVa.com to learn more.

Protect Yourself and Your Family!
Schedule your COVID - and flu - vaccines today.



PLACES & FACES

THE FOUR-IN-HAND CLUB CELEBRATE AT AYSHIRE FARM

PHOTOS AND STORY BY NANCY KLECK

It fitted that Sandy Lerner host the 21st Anniversary Meet of the Four-In-Hand Club at her 800-acre Ayrshire Farm. Lerner is the first female whip admitted into the 100 plus membership, quite an auspicious position in the sport. Members from as far as Maine attended the 3-day weekend festivities. Leading the group of nineteen turnouts over the three days, Sandy drove her famous matched Shires around Upperville then around the farm on Sunday. Locals, Erin Michele Smith with Mark Duffell at her side drove Mark's gorgeous, white socks on all fours, dark bay pair of Dutch Harness horses named Duke and Dutch. Beautifully attired with a yellow tweed jacket and matching sinamay bonnet, she and Mark in his top hat, elegant grey suit, and matching yellow rose on the lapel were cover photo material. From across the mountain from Stephens City, Albert Andersen, with his wife Lisa at his side attired in a red and black theme, drove a stunning pair of dappled grey Percheron crosses named Amos and En-

core. "Amish warmbloods," she sweetly describes these gems. Opting for a more informal look in a country bonnet, Mary Munster drove a pair of Friesians to complete the familiar faces. The horse breeds varied as much as the carriages.

Saturday night, co-managing partner Mark Duffell and owner George Lemm of Whitestone Angus Farm hosted a lovely gala, highlighted by a scrumptious cake of four different flavors and topped off with a fully detailed carriage with four horses made by Ayrshire's pastry chef. I had the great fortune of sitting next to Timothy and Sharon Butterfield, veteran carriage drivers filled with beautiful stories from their drives around the country and in England. Supporters of this ancient mode of transportation are a special breed of humans, indeed.

Many thanks to the Four-In-Hand Club for welcoming me and my camera to this extraordinary event! If you ever have the chance to take a carriage drive, hop aboard! You'll never see the world the same way.



In Hand Club Middleburg, Virginia September 5-7, 2021
Photography

SANDY LERNER AND GUESTS



By planting trees on scale, we can clean the air, purify the water, and restore hope for the future.

GreenTrees, the global leader in reforestation, is excited to announce it's expansion into the Virginia, offering VA landowners a chance to plant a forest.

By partnering with landowners to plant trees, we are working together to reduce the global temperature and not just offset carbon, but remove carbon from the atmosphere.

Learn more about our process at [Virginia.Green-Trees.com](https://virginia.greentrees.com) or call our Landowner Representatives at 540.253.2513.



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[VIRGINIA.GREEN-TREES.COM](https://virginia.greentrees.com) #PLANTTREESPLANTHOPE



ALBERT AND LISA ANDERSEN



SANDY LERNER AND GUESTS



MARY MUNSTER AND GUESTS



ERIN MICHELSMITH AND MARK DUFFELL

PLACES & FACES

THE SALAMANDER FAMILY REUNION

A CELEBRATES DIVERSITY IN HOSPITALITY

Sheila Johnson's Salamander Hotels & Resorts and Meredith Corporation's FOOD & WINE hosted the inaugural Family Reunion presented by chef and author Kwame Onwuachi.

The immersive, multi-day event celebrated diversity in the hospitality community through cooking classes and demonstrations, wine tastings and dinners, and thought-provoking panel discussions with world-class chefs, sommeliers and industry leaders including Carla Hall, Rodney Scott, Padma Lakshmi, Gregory

Gourdet, Mashama Bailey, Andre Fowles and Pierre Thiam.

The Family Reunion took place from August 19 - 22, 2021 at Johnson's Five-Star-rated Salamander Resort & Spa in Middleburg, Virginia, located in the heart of the state's wine country and just one hour from Washington, D.C. Throughout the weekend, speakers, chefs and sommeliers delved closely into the Black cooking traditions that have shaped cuisine in America, shared lessons from the past, and focused on building a better and more inclusive future. Virginia

Ali of Ben's Chili Bowl was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award, sponsored by Rémy Martin, while Dave Chappelle and Estelle also made special appearances.

Held predominantly outdoors on Salamander Resort's 340 sprawling acreage, attendees also had an opportunity to enjoy musical performances and indulge in several recreational activities like ziplining, axe throwing and horseback riding led by celebrity participants. A limited attendance created opportunities for social distancing and appropriate safety

protocols.

The Family Reunion benefited Share our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign to help end childhood hunger, while the event is also helping to create a mentorship and scholarship program to foster diversity in the hospitality industry.

The event enjoys sponsorship support from Rémy Martin, Lexus, Virginia Tourism Corporation, Brett Johnson Collection, United Airlines, Sheila Johnson Collection, Williams-Sonoma, Visit Loudoun, Resy and

American Express, the Town of Middleburg, McBride Sisters Collection and McEneaney Associates.

The Family Reunion is part of the expanding FOOD & WINE Classic network of events anchored by the celebrated FOOD & WINE Classic in Aspen, a mainstay in the culinary world for over three decades, as well as the recently launched FOOD & WINE Classic at Home virtual events, among others.



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PASTIMES

BETHANY REVISITED

SINCERELY ME

BRANDY GREENWELL

Since becoming a mother, I have had an overwhelming need to recreate the most wonderful memories of my childhood with my children, husband and parents. A beach trip to Bethany at the top of the list. My memories there as a child mostly include a blue beach blanket with white and yellow daisies and sun dried frogs all over the pavement, but I fondly look through albums of picture perfect family fun.

This year I booked early and started planning. I chose a little three bedroom, pet friendly condo steps from a private beach. Just enough room for our family of two and four legged. There was even a spare bedroom to invite friends to join. It was the perfect vacation in the making.

After securing the perfect place, I immediately started Amazon diving for the efficient, color coordinated beach shanty. Tent, sand proof blanket, micro-fiber-easy dry towels, wagons, chairs, coolers, speaker, games and tons of toys rounded out my wish list which I chipped away with every paycheck until my mental beach Pinterest board was complete. If I remembered the daisy beach blanket, I wanted my children to remember the bil-



lowing turquoise and blue tent, colorful striped towels in the same hues and mommy's efficiency and preparedness.

I started packing about a week out. Every activity for a week away tucked in its own eco-friendly, also color coordinated, lightweight bag. Healthy snacks and beverages were purchased and a daily itinerary of fun, food, naps and family time outlined to

perfection. We set out early Saturday morning to beat traffic with an audiobook for the grown ups, dvds for the littles, my parents in the following car with the two geriatric dogs who were super grateful that they were included with the luggage in the packing extravaganza. For the first time in well over a decade, we all left the farm at the same time.

The first thing of note upon

our Bethany arrival was that the place looked MUCH bigger in the pictures. There were four levels and a slight smell of must which never left. The house was dirty. Dirty and tiny. And not baby proofed which was a detail I totally missed when the first things my two year old son found were the knife drawer and the thermostat on the refrigerator which he turned so low the ice was soft. Oh how this was fore-



shadowing...

In a sandy nutshell, no one could get on the same eating schedule so every mealtime was chaotic, the itinerary was negated the first day, the children were afraid of the ocean, the beach tent was a cheap POS that routinely fell in, the dogs sh!t on the floor daily, so much sand, a bug went through the tiny, dirty house and fevers spiked, mommy did all the chores, we didn't have game night and we never made it to Funland.

My family said they had a fun time but all of my vision down the tubes and I returned more tired than when I left. I now know why you vacation in 10 bedroom beach houses with 3 families, private pools and fenced back yards. You need to take a gang of children to entertain each other, enough adults to split the duties and have some personal peace and quiet and door to let fido out as routine to do their business.

I will be getting sand out of my house until Christmas.



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1971 WAS A HUGE YEAR IN MUSIC

IN UNISON

STEVE CHASE

The year 1971 was a groundbreaking for music. The hits just kept coming that year--Led Zeppelin's Rock and Roll, Black Dog, and Stairway to Heaven, John Lennon's Imagine, The Doors' LA Woman, Creedence's Have you ever Seen the Rain, Chicago's Colour My World, Santana's Black Magic Woman, Isaac Hayes' Theme From Shaft...the list continues on and on. Fifty years later, I am looking back at a few of the albums that formed my musical palate. Here are a few of my half century favorites for your consideration. Give them a listen on your favorite streaming platform, or better yet, on vinyl.

Aereo-Plane--John Hartford I think of John Hartford as the Frank Zappa of the bluegrass/country world. He wrote a number of fun and satirical songs, but also was one of the most serious players of his time. His tune Gentle on My Mind has been recorded by so many over the years, remember the opening of Glen Campbell's Good Time Hour? That was John Hartford silhouetted behind Campbell. His bluegrass tunes are important to the creation of the newgrass genre, and the title tune of this album is played with joy by many bands today, including when I get on stage with friends. This now cult album features some of the best pickers of the time--Vassar Clemens and Norman Blake.

Barefoot Boy--Larry Coryell This jazz outing represents the other side of the emergence of Jazz Rock Fusion from the Mahavishnu Orchestra. Coryell, a highly gifted guitarist who pioneered electric guitar jazz with a series of late 60's albums. Barefoot Boy is probably the best of that series, recorded at Electric Ladyland studios. You can hear Coryell's playing where Hendrix might have gone had he lived, although I would not doubt it if Hendrix was listening to Coryell just as Coryell was wowed by Hendrix. The improv is solid Jazz, but the guitar is hard rock, all driven by the great Roy Haynes on drums.

Fragile--Yes How many of you dropped the needle on the tune Heart of the Sunrise to hear Chris Squire's bass erupt as the sun appeared after an all-nighter--I'm guilty. This amazing set from the progressive rock giants Yes opened the minds of many a fan, and the music is still fresh today. Roundabout, Long Distance Runaround, I've Seen All Good People, Mood For A Day, The Fish--solid prog gold. Practically every tune got radio play back then, and the more obscure tunes were still played late at night on the album rock stations of the time. I knew every note and every word from the entire album, that happens when you listen to it a dozen times a day. Go back to those days, snag a vinyl copy and

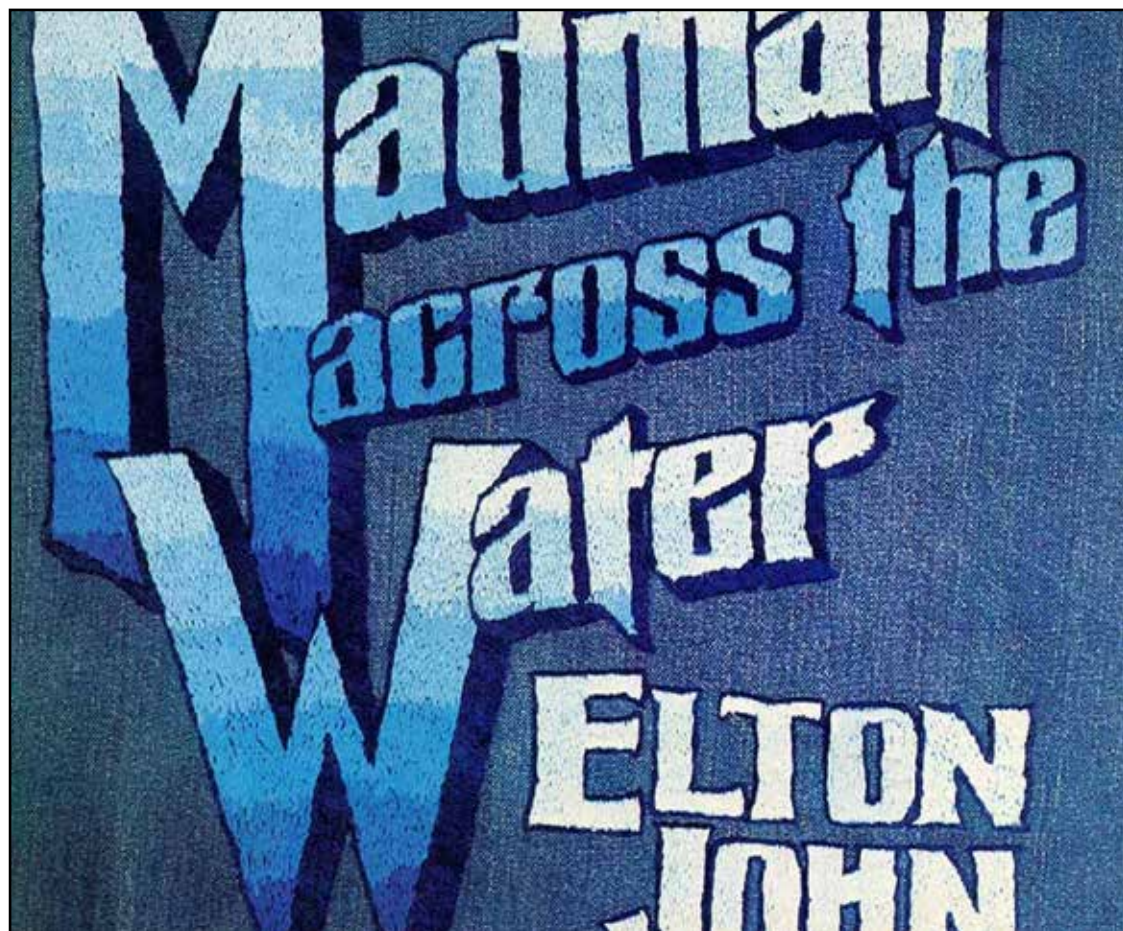
turn it up.

Every Good Boy Deserves Favour--The Moody Blues I listened to this album a lot back in the day. To me it was a mix of the early Canterbury Rock Scene and British musicians wishing they lived in Laurel Valley with Zappa and the Byrds. You can hear how much other musicians at the time listened to these guys and their careful and meaningful lyrics. While The Story in Their Eyes is the big hit on this outing, the balance of the tunes give us a solid listen without sounding like a parody of themselves. And did I mention it's one of the great Mellotron albums, although early Moog Synthesizers were also used to augment their dreamy sounds.

Inner Mounting Flame--Mahavishnu Orchestra

Minds were blown with the first few notes of this fiery release from the brand new Mahavishnu Orchestra. Led by John McLaughlin, fresh of gigs with Miles Davis and Tony Williams, the band featured Jan Hammer, Rick Laird and the superhuman Billy Cobham on Drums. The electric nature of the jazz, fused with its subtle Indian influence and wild improvisation around a practiced structure was a milestone in the new genre of jazz rock fusion. It changed the way many of us viewed music. Meant to be played loud.

Madman Across the Water--Elton John This masterpiece was the first album I ever bought. It showed the world the genius of Elton John and his lyricist Bernie Taupin as they prepared to seize the pop music world by storm. This is progressive pop before anyone knew what that meant, and the set has withstood the years very, very well. The title



track remains a jam band anthem, played by many over the years, and who has not sung along with Levon or Tiny Dancer?

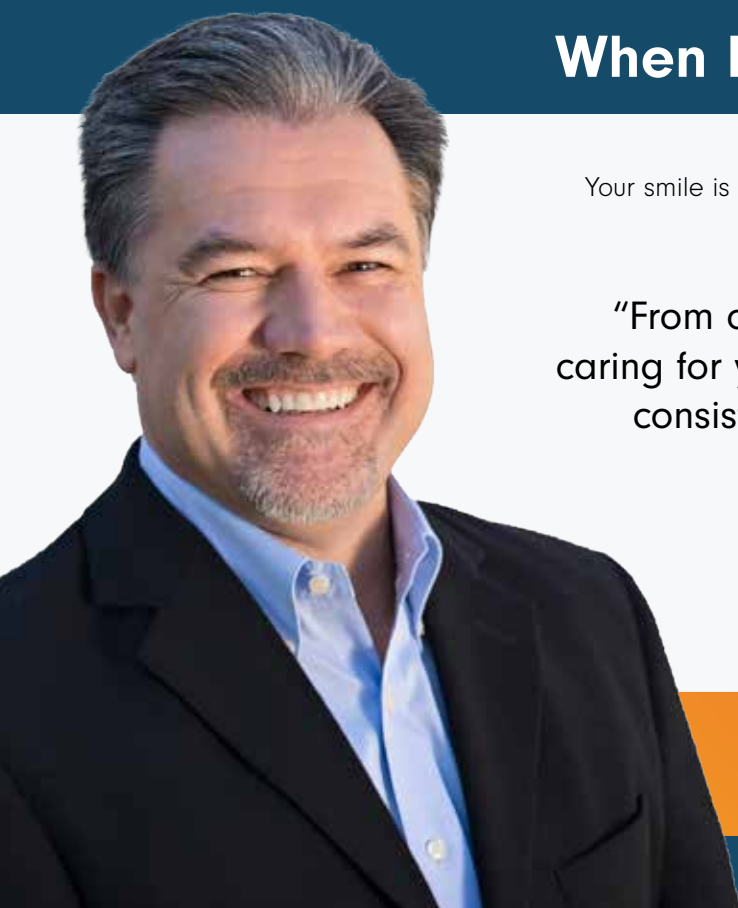
Maggot Brain--Funkadelic--For those unfamiliar with Funkadelic, it was a band led by George Clinton that served as a blueprint for entire genres of future music-- funk, soul, and rock. Funkadelic and Parliament (originally a 50's do-wop band), both Clinton projects, was really a creative collective, with dozens of musicians contributing over the years. The escapades on stage by these bands are legend-

ary. If you thought Elton John had wild costumes, he was nothing compared to the three-foot-tall elevator shoes, crazy bellbottoms, giant sunglasses, feathered headdresses, and flowing silk robes of Parliament/Funkadelic. And the music was consistently superb. On this album, guitarist Eddy Hazel's opening solo in the title track Maggot Brain is spectacular--Hendrix with more technique and refinement. The brilliance continues throughout the album, let it play till the end for best effect. Definitely the best album from 1971 that most

people have never heard of.

Who's Next--The Who This album opens with the classic Baba O'Reilly, and as I write it Spotify shows nearly 370 million listens. The whole album is like this. It is at the paramount of The Who's catalog, and has songs that still sound really good today. Every song is familiar, so what else can I say other than it is maybe the most significant release of 1971 and well worth being part of anyone's listening rotation.

Steve Chase is playing old tunes on his porch in Unison.



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PASTIMES

THE COMMON TRAITS OF A BEAUTIFUL SMILE

MIDDLEBURG SMILES



DR. ROBERT A. GALLEGOS

Considerable research has gone into the aesthetic analysis of what makes a beautiful, aesthetic, smile. What constitutes a beautiful smile are the traits that most people agree are aesthetically pleasing. Dentists can assist patients in achieving the smile they want by knowing these traits and the options and methods of treatment. Common traits of beautiful smiles and options for enhancements are discussed below.

Light teeth are considered more youthful and beautiful. Dark teeth are considered old or damaged. Teeth can appear dark due to stain, natural coloration, trauma and angulation. Sometimes simple teeth whitening treatment is all that is needed to enhance a smile. However, damaged or poorly positioned teeth will need other treatment options. Not everyone has the same idea of how white is white enough, for some a minor bump in brightness is all that is needed to make a big

difference, but other brightness outcomes are possible.

The amount of gum that shows above the upper teeth is an aesthetic factor. Research shows that there are differences in male and female smiles, with female smiles typically showing more gums than males. However, if too much gum shows it is often called a "gummy smile" and if too little shows it gives an appearance of older age. There is a range of pleasing gum exposure in aesthetic smiles, which vary for men and women and by age. Lip length, mobility of the lip when smiling, and other factors need to be analyzed when evaluating the smile and options for change.

How much tooth shows when lips are relaxed and slightly open is an often cited aesthetic. If too much tooth shows it looks "toothy," if too little tooth shows it looks old or raises the question if teeth there are missing. The best aesthetic amount for tooth display at rest varies by age and sex. Females show more than

men and the amount of tooth display decreases with age for both men and women. Lip length, tooth length and other factors should to be evaluated for good aesthetics.

A gap or dark space between the lips/cheeks and the teeth will appear dark and unappealing. The width of the jaws and angulation of the teeth impact the look of a smile. Teeth that are positioned in the face well, fill out this space so there is little or no gap, giving a pleasing smile.

Another important aesthetic measurement is teeth length. Men have slightly longer upper front teeth than women. When teeth appear short they look old and worn and if they appear long they look "toothy." Measuring the teeth and knowing the appropriate lengths allows for better treatment outcomes. Sometimes teeth may be too short due to wear and/or too short because of gum covering the tooth. Measurements and proper diagnosis is essential in determining the cause and treatment.

Crooked teeth, crowding, and spaces are also important observations. Crooked teeth throw off the symmetry of the face and smile due to their angulation. Crowded teeth reflect light differently and from an aesthetic viewpoint, adjacent teeth should reflect light similarly. A tooth that is tipped out will appear light and a tooth that is tipped in will appear dark. If one tooth appears dark and the adjacent tooth appears light, smile symmetry is lost and is less aesthetic. Spaces between teeth are generally un-aesthetic because they create dark spaces in an area where we expect to see light teeth. However, some people like spaces. Correcting crooked teeth, tooth crowding, and spaces can be addressed after proper analysis and discussion with the patient about various treatment options and desired outcomes.

Face height is another parameter to consider. Dentists evaluate the face looking straight on at the patient from the front and from the side and divide the



face into thirds. The middle and lower thirds of the face are generally similar, with the lower third slightly longer. If these proportions are off they will affect the beauty of the face and the framing of the smile. Knowing proper proportions and the treatment options to correct discrepancies is important to discuss.

The goal of aesthetic analysis is not to give everyone the same "Hollywood" smile; the goal is to give the patient the smile they desire. Achieving the desired smile is accomplished by knowing the constraints of treatment the patient is willing to accept and matching that with the expected outcomes of various treatment options. Once these two things are aligned, beautiful smiles can be achieved.

Dr. Robert A. Gallegos is a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, visiting faculty at Spear Education, alumnus of Pankey Institute, Qualified Invisalign provider, 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

FRENCH PEAR CAKE

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EMILY TYLER

This cake celebrates the beautiful fall bounty of pears with just enough cake to hold them together with a flaky sweet crust. Just a dusting of powdered sugar and maybe a scoop of vanilla ice cream is all this needs, depending on if this is breakfast or dessert, or both.

1 stick unsalted butter at room temperature

1/2 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup white sugar

2 eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

1/2 teaspoon almond extract

Dry ingredients

1 1/3 cups flour

1 1/4 teaspoons baking powder

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

1/2 cup sour cream

2 pears - Red or Bartlett, ripe but still firm

Topping

1/4 cup white sugar

1/3 cup flaked almonds

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees

Butter a 9" spring form pan and line the bottom with parchment paper

Cut the pears in half lengthwise and remove the stem and fiber, using a melon baller, remove the seeds from both halves.

Slice the pear halves lengthwise in 1/4 inch slices

Place the pear slices evenly in a fan pattern around the outside of the springform pan - like petals of a flower leaving the center empty and set aside

Beat the butter and brown/white sugar together in a stand mixer until it is light and fluffy

Add the eggs, one at a time beating well to combine and scrape down the bowl

Combine the dry ingredients in a separate bowl

Gradually add the dry ingredients alternately with the sour cream

Beat until the batter is all well combined

Spoon the batter gently over the pears - there will be just enough batter to cover

Sprinkle the cake with the almonds and granulated sugar

Bake for about 40 minutes or until golden brown and a cake tester comes out clean

Allow the cake to cool completely on a wire rack before removing from the spring form pan

Remove from the pan to a platter and dust with a bit of powdered sugar.

Serve with ice cream if desired

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OBITUARIES

ANN MARI LAGERGREN LINDGREN HORKAN

Ann Mari Beatrice Ellen Wendla Lagergren (April 26, 1928 – February 23, 2021) was the only child of Count Carl Lagergren and Ellen Grumme of Tyresö, Sweden, a rural suburb of Stockholm. At the tender age of 3, Ann Mari lost her father and inherited his title. She spent a few years in Tyresö "Palace," a Baroque manor that had been enlarged and modernized by her grandmother at the turn of the twentieth century. Caroline Russell was a wealthy New York heiress who met Ann Mari's grandfather Marquis Claes Lagergren in Rome where he was papal chamberlain to a series of Popes beginning with Leo XIII. A scholar, writer, and dedicated papist, Claes spent much of his time in Rome leaving the development and management of his three sons, the castle, the land, and the community of people who lived and worked there to his wife, Caroline. It is easy to see the direct connection with her forebearer in Ann Mari's love of family, the land, farming, and her gardens.

Coached in dressage by an uncle who was an Olympian, Ann Mari began riding at an early age and competed as an amateur in Europe. After the war, she went to America where she briefly attended Briarcliff College then went to New York City and studied interior design. Back in Sweden, she met Oscar Lindgren a restaurateur and theatrical

producer whose family owned and operated the amusement park Gröna Lund Tivoli, still a colorful feature of the Stockholm harbor. They married in 1952 and had three children just as the initial socialist wave swept into Sweden. Many entrepreneurs left the country then and Oscar was among them, taking his young family first to Rome in 1960, then to Beverly Hills in 1961, and finally, at Ann Mari's urging, to a farm in rural Washington, Virginia.

Ann Mari wanted to farm and raise her children in the country. She was also an active volunteer and trustee at Highland School where the kids were enrolled. An avid fox hunter, she brought her European flair as a rider and hostess to Rappahannock County. Ann Mari and Oscar divorced in 1966, and she moved to Warrenton so the kids could be closer to school. While there, she worked as Event Hostess at the Freedom Studies Center near Culpeper and was also a popular tennis teacher in the community.

It wasn't long before this sophisticated lady caught the eye of George Horkan, a well-respected attorney who owned Cleremont Farm in Upperville. In a whirlwind, they courted, introduced her three kids to his four kids, and 6 weeks later in December, 1969, they were married at the farm. Mamie Eisenhower attended because George was a childhood friend of Dwight's son John and godfather

to his son David who also attended the wedding with wife Julie (Nixon) Eisenhower and a couple of Secret Service Agents.

Ann Mari and George maintained a busy social life which included the occasional dinner at the White House. A 1973 Washington Post article noted that Pat Nixon had arranged for "a friend of the family...to plan a combined vegetable and flower plot" for Julie and David. "Sources say Mrs. George A. Horkan Jr. will be to Julie Eisenhower what Bunny Mellon was for Jackie Kennedy." They enjoyed working hard and traveling together when they weren't dealing with seven teenagers in the tumultuous 70's.

At Cleremont, Ann Mari was deeply involved in managing the farm's prize-winning Black Angus cattle operation. She also focused her energies on growing award-winning roses and lilies in a garden that was often featured on the Garden Tour, in magazine articles, and in books. A longtime member of Fauquier/Loudoun Garden Club, Ann Mari served one term as President. While serving on the board of the Garden Club of Virginia, she was recruited to join the Garden Club of America (GCA) where she became Horticulture Chair. Next she was named Zone VII Chair of the GCA and, in 1998, she was co-Chair of the annual meeting in Williamsburg. That led to a term as National Chair of the Founder's Fund and, finally,

to the GCA Vice Presidency. There were many awards and accolades for her leadership and her gardening skills including this special commendation: The Zone VII Creative Leadership Award cited "For leading with such dedication, intelligence, infectious enthusiasm, and unselfish generosity of spirit that she enriches the lives of all who work with her."

There were many memorable parties on the beautiful grounds of Cleremont's Federal style house but the main event was Ann Mari's annual Garden Party. Equally comfortable in khakis as evening gowns, she was known for her beauty and skills as a hostess. Ann Mari would tour guests around her rose garden where the colorful, fragrant hybrid teas would tower beside them.

George passed away too soon in 2001. In her 70s, Ann Mari would most often be found with her labrador Pella, meticulously weeding her beds, harvesting vegetables, berries, and flowers, and expertly trimming and tending her roses. A few times a year, she traveled the world as she and George had planned to do together.

In 2017, Ann Mari moved to Westminster Canterbury in Winchester where she captured the hearts of all who knew her and was lovingly cared for in peace and comfort until she passed away on the morning of



February 23 at nearly 93.

Ann Mari was predeceased by her husband George Anthony Horkan Jr. and grandson William Robinson. She is survived by her children Ann-Caroline Lindgren Boram, Ann-Charlotte Lindgren Robinson, Carl Lindgren and step-children Kathryn Horkan Willis, Elizabeth Horkan, Annie Horkan, and George Anthony Horkan III along with her grandchildren Alison Campbell, Emily Moody, Joshua Ryan, James Ryan, Erica Lindgren-Hoff, George Anthony Horkan IV, Brittany Horkan, Nicholas Robinson and great grandchildren Indigo Ryan, Bodi Ryan and, very recently George Anthony Horkan V.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in memory of Ann Mari Horkan to The Garden Club of America, Founder's Fund - <https://www.gcamerica.org/contribute/tSecondCentury>.

WILLARD H. SCOTT, JR.

Willard H. Scott, Jr., a long time area resident of Delaplane, VA, passed away at home surrounded by his family on Saturday September 4th at the age of 87. He was a radio and TV personality, actor, narrator, comedian, and

author, with a career spanning 65 years.

Mr. Scott's first wife, Mary (Dwyer) Scott, whom he married in 1959, died in 2002. He married Paris Keena Scott, his second wife, in 2014. In addition to her, he is survived by two daughters from his first marriage, Sally

Scott Swiatek and Mare Scott, and two grandchildren, Sally Marie Swiatek and John Willard Swiatek.

Contributions may be given to VISTE, 1232 Magnolia Street, Lakeland, FL 33801 (VISTE.ORG) or The Salvation Army, P.O. Box 1959, Atlanta, GA 30301

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To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Willard Herman Scott, Jr., please visit <https://bit.ly/3EGwW9e>



JOHN DANIEL HANEY JR.

Lt. Col. (Ret. USAF) John Daniel Haney Jr. died peacefully on 14 September 2021. Dan was born in Haddonfield, NJ. on October 31, 1936 the first son of John Daniel Haney and Mary Augusta (Bell) Haney. Dan spent his early childhood in Lake Charles, LA. and graduated high school in West Orange, NJ. Receiving his appointment from NJ, Dan attended the US Naval Academy and graduated in 1958.

Pursuing his dreams of flight, Dan chose to enter the United States Air Force; where he served several ground tours in the USAF (in the US and South Korea) prior to finally gaining entrance to flight school. He flew tours in the F-101, F-102 and transitioned to prop planes to serve in Vietnam,

flying combat missions in the Douglas Skyraider (A1E). Dan was awarded two Silver Stars and two DFC's for actions from January to May, 1967.

Following his combat tour, Dan returned to the States, and flew the F-101 and F-106. Dan subsequently earning a M.Sc. (Engineering) from George Washington University. He retired from the Air Force when he thought he would "only be flying a desk" in June 1978. He worked for the NRA as an Executive Vice-President, he worked for local engineering firms and later on taught school in Virginia.

His retirement years were marked by his service to his church and to his community. He held many service posts

in Trinity Episcopal Church, including Vestry service, choir and missions to Africa and Honduras, among others, and he was very active with Seven Loaves in our community.

Wherever he was stationed or lived, Dan spent as much time as he could hunting and fishing. He was always at home in the fields and forests. He took tremendous delight in the accomplishments of his family, and he loved his many dogs.

Dad was predeceased by his daughter Friday Elizabeth and by his brothers Robert R. and Richard A. Haney. He leaves his wife of 54 years, Annabelle Stovall Haney, his son Daniel Lloyd Haney and his beloved grandson Colton Metcalfe Haney, all from Middleburg, VA.

Dan leaves his brother Peter, in Canada, and a niece and nephews in Oregon, Georgia, North Carolina and Canada.

Dan lived a life of honor, loyalty and service to his country, his family and his church. He will be deeply missed by those he left.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, 24 September 2021 at Trinity Episcopal Church, Upperville, VA, with a small reception to follow. Lt. Col. (Ret. USAF) John Daniel Haney Jr. will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery sometime next year.

The family wishes for all stories and memories of Dan to be emailed to jdhandsy@gmail.com or mailed to the family at 34572 Welbourne Road, Middleburg, VA 20117 for later generations to



enjoy.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, any donations shall be made in Dan's name to the Alzheimer's Association.

To send flowers to the family of John Daniel Haney, Jr. please visit <https://bit.ly/3zsnaDV>

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OPINION

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

DON'T BE FOOLED... WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE ON THE BALLOT THIS NOVEMBER

KATHRYN KADILAK

I sat in stunned disbelief as I read about the Texas anti-choice law that criminalizes all abortions after 6 weeks. According to a September 1, 2021, NPR report:

"The Texas law, passed in May, bans all abortions in the state after about six weeks of pregnancy — well before many women even know they are pregnant. The policy conflicts with the Supreme Court's precedents, which prohibit states from banning abortion before fetal viability, usually between 22 and 24 weeks of pregnancy. Texas' new law is one of the most strict abortion bans in the nation.

It also allows private citizens to sue abortion providers and anyone else who helps a woman obtain an abortion, including those who give a woman a ride to a clinic or provide financial assistance in obtaining an abortion. Private citizens who bring these suits don't need to show any

connection to those they are suing. If they prevail, the law entitles them to a minimum of \$10,000 in damages, plus attorneys' fees."

The Texas Republican leaders' "pro-life" stance is cynical at best. I guess they are only pro-life when exclusively targeting women. They are only pro-government overreach when exclusively targeting women. They are only pro-authoritarian rule, when exclusively targeting women.

Consider this... Texas is, ironically, the same state whose Republican leaders are trying to force anti-vaccination and anti-mask policies onto their citizens, businesses and school systems under the guise of freedom from government overreach. It is clear to anyone who has followed the science that getting a vaccination and wearing a mask can save lives — yours, your family, your friends, your neighbors, anyone you encounter. Pro-life be damned.

In China, the communist

government forced abortions on families to deal with overpopulation. The Texas law is the flip side of the same coin, only in this instance they force women to sustain an unwanted pregnancy. Who will this most effect? The poor and the vulnerable who will not have the money and connections to quietly pursue abortions. It happened prior to Roe v. Wade and it will again.

The Democratic majority in our State legislature, by contrast, has enacted several measures protecting a woman's reproductive freedom. These include: eliminating Virginia's mandatory ultra sound law that would force a woman seeking an abortion to endure an unnecessary and intrusive procedure; eliminating a required 24-hour waiting period and counseling process; and rolling back unnecessary restrictions on reproductive health centers, restrictions that were aimed at closing those centers offering abortions.

Terry McAuliffe has

pledged to work with our State legislators to pass an amendment to the Virginia Constitution permanently codifying the protections provided through Roe v. Wade. He is committed to addressing women's health care inequities that result in poor prenatal care and maternal mortality that particularly affect women of color.

Glenn Youngkin has no clearly defined policy on women's health care or reproductive rights. Although, he was caught on audio clearly stating that he has to limit his antiabortion comments on the campaign trail for fear of alienating Virginia's independent voters, but that he would go "on offense" if he wins office and Republicans take a majority in the House of Delegates. I believe him and you should, too.

Why is this so critical? We must protect the inherent right, the Constitutional right, of women in our State to make the difficult decisions involved

in sustaining a pregnancy. For those of us who have experienced pregnancy and childbirth, we know the experience stays with you... for the good or the bad.

This is real life: a life where young girls are sexually abused by a relative or family friend, high school and college girls are date raped, couples are faced with the horrific news of serious, fatal fetal deformities, and women are subjected to heart wrenching decisions after a failed attempt at birth control.

If your religious or personal beliefs dictate that you will not use contraception or get an abortion, so be it. Don't. However, do not impose your belief system on the rest of us. This is a Nation that prides itself on freedom from religious oppression and government interference in our health care choices. Witness the lack of vaccine mandates.

Please stand up for Virginia women and vote for the Democrats in November.

LETTER FROM THE PLAINS

ANTHONY WELLS

The retreat from Afghanistan has subjected us all to a media blitz. Analysis-paralysis on steroids seems to have been the defining characteristic of every so called expert in the field of US-Afghan political-military affairs, bombarding us with their interpretation of events. The UK press has been vitriolic in its criticism. With this in mind I am very loath to even consider writing about the events of the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, August 14-15, in Kabul, Afghanistan. The only reason that I have written this Letter about the United States' withdrawal from Afghanistan is solely because I may have something new of interest to offer based on several decades of experience, and which has not, to my very best knowledge, been mentioned or reported on in the various media. This may shed light on our somewhat fractured approach to Afghanistan and its dismal failure, and final denouement with the distressing scenes at Kabul airport.

Up front I have to state that I was very much against both the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq. The invasion of the latter was based on false intelligence and a concocted *raison d'être*, culminating in Secretary of State Collin Powell's total misrepresentations to the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly. There were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and, although a totally nasty human being, Saddam Hussein had two

aspects to his policies that were very much in the interests of the United States and our allies. He was a critical buffer against and opponent of Iran, and number two he would not tolerate any presence or influence of Al Qaida in Iraq. If an Al Qaida cell or operative appeared in Iraq they were quickly erased. The 911 nineteen terrorist bombers who seized control of the four commercial aircraft after takeoff were not Iraqis. They were mostly Saudis. Please bear all this in mind.

We the United States were 100% within our rights to attack Osama Bin Laden's various cave based strongholds in Afghanistan, to which he had retreated from the Sudan after the bombing of the East African embassies. In addition, the mission to prevent further terrorist attacks emanating from Afghanistan was indeed both necessary and legitimate in protecting the vital national interests of the United States and those of our allies. Full scale invasion, and so called "Nation Building" are different, totally separate issues. I tend to agree with President Biden that the United States should have departed Afghanistan years ago and hence his disagreement with President Obama when he was Vice President over not staying. No one President is guiltless. President Clinton could have ordered the attack on Bin Laden's compound in the Sudan, before the West African bombings, destroying him, his extended family, and his terrorist entourage, all in one single location. President

Clinton chose not to order the attack. Huge mistake. If this attack had been ordered and executed there would have been no 911 and the world would be a very different place. Please know that I was 100% in favor of such an attack using Tomahawk cruise missiles from our covert and stealthy nuclear powered attack submarines, at night. Bin Laden and his evil coterie while they slept would never have known what hit them. There would have been nothing left of the Bin Laden compound. Most of the world would have gone on, unknowing.

Operation Enduring Freedom, the immediate response to the 911 attacks, had important characteristics of relevance to recent events in Kabul. Beginning on October 7, 2001 we systematically devastated the Taliban regime while also destroying Bin Laden's training camps in Afghanistan. By December, 2001 the United States and its Coalition Allies had achieved overall success. Key to this success were sea based US carrier strikes by our nuclear powered aircraft carriers (CVNs) and special forces operations. The US CVNs' long range aircraft attacks, together with precision missile strikes, and US Air Force heavy bombers, so denuded the Taliban that they fled to Pakistan and into the wilds of Tora Bora. In effect, the Taliban collapsed. They were defeated. Several CVNs were involved: USS Enterprise, Carl Vinson, Theodore Roosevelt, John C. Stennis, and the conventionally

powered Kitty Hawk. US Air Force and Royal Air Force tankers provided in flight refueling. This campaign's detailed operations and the analyses that followed now bear serious remembrance in retrospect. We know how to do these operations. Our Navy, Special Forces, Air Force, and allies, particularly our principal ally, the United Kingdom, are brilliant at executing these operations. But, and here's the "But", they need political direction and that direction needs sound, clever, and original thinking from the military-intelligence leadership. The President cannot be expected to think up original schemes and their plans when he has a massive infrastructure that is supposed to think through, plan, and recommend courses of action.

The rush to be out of Afghanistan by August 31, 2021, before the 20th anniversary date of the 911 attacks, was a Presidential decision. I will not go into the pros and cons of this. You have all been subjected to intense media coverage so you do not need me to add to it. Here is my view of the world prior to the disastrous weekend in Kabul that could have gone in a completely different direction. Here is Anthony Wells' plan if I had been advising the President and in charge of the Joint Staff in the Pentagon, working closely with the National Security Council key staff and the Intelligence community of record, and most important, in total concert and cooperation

with our allies, particularly the United Kingdom.

We the United States would have planned and executed the most significant deception operation since World War Two. What would this have involved? We would have announced to the world, and therefore the Taliban, that we would leave Afghanistan at a date certain that would be consistent with the operational planning described below, with one sole time line objective kept extremely secret and closely held, namely to allow several United States Pacific Fleet CVNs to assemble off the littorals similar to the Fall of 2001, and also for the US Air Force to prepare for the largest bombing raids against the Taliban since the Vietnam War. The Air Force would provide in flight refueling for Navy aircraft. The Royal Navy Queen Elizabeth Strike Group with a US Marine Corps F35B squadron on board Queen Elizabeth, together with Royal Navy and Royal Air Force piloted F35Bs, could have been diverted to join the US carrier force. We could, and should have deceived the Taliban into moving their whole force towards Kabul to meet our evacuation schedule that would in due course be well announced. As the Taliban proceeded en masse towards Kabul, on open roads, bringing their supply train of fuel and weapons with them, the United States could have executed the biggest single blow ever to the Taliban. The United States has all the necessary tactical intelligence

capabilities to pin point and target in real time such forces, day and night, in all weather. This would resemble US and Alliance attacks in October, 2001 and after the Iraqi retreat from Kuwait during the First Gulf War. A combination of massive US Navy, Air Force, Royal Navy, cruise missile, and drone strikes could have decimated the approaching Taliban Forces. They would have entered our deception trap. What was left of their forces would have retreated. Suddenly Kabul, instead of being the end of US influence and the beginning of Taliban rule, could have become Afghanistan's "Stalingrad", the turning of the tide against the German Wehrmacht by Soviet forces, brilliantly executed by General Vasily Chuikov, fully supported by General Georgy Zhukov, trapping the Germans in a battle that they could not win and leading to the beginning of the end of World War Two, with the June 6, 1944 D-Day landings.

Following these airborne operations the United States

could then later have departed Afghanistan with a victory, with an orderly departure for every element, and with dignity that the world would observe. Our allies would have been directly and jointly involved in the true military sense of "Joint". After this decimation of the Taliban the Afghan government would be solely left to its devices, with possible undercover Special Forces left in place. The latter, again in my opinion, would concentrate on assisting the Afghan government totally undermining the Taliban's prior sources of funding and weapon supplies, mainly derived from the drug trade and taxes levied on Afghan businesses and people in areas previously controlled by the Taliban. Without funding and money to buy weapons the Taliban would have major issues, aspects that the United States never effectively addressed.

No one in the Pentagon and our Intelligence community ever thought of such a "Deception Plan". You may well ask, "Who is in charge?"

Good question. Part of the back-up plan would also have been to take extra precautions and increased presence in the South China Sea to ensure that China does not make rash moves against Taiwan, exploiting possible reductions in US force levels during the above operations.

In my humble opinion the senior Defense and Intelligence leadership responsible should offer the President their Letters of Resignation. They are not paid to fail. In military operations poor advice, poor planning, and poorly conducted operations, are neither rewarded nor overlooked. The price of failure is resignation. In 1982 after the invasion of the Falkland Islands I recall well the then British Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, a distinguished man by any standards, resigning because his organization had failed. Mrs. Thatcher, the Prime Minister, accepted his resignation without a second thought. It is to the enduring credit of the United States Air Force that they executed the

airlifts from Kabul.

We have an incredibly capable Navy and Marine Corps, and the finest Air Force in the world. I do believe that the US Army, with a massive number of incredibly fine dedicated fighting men and women, needs to be revitalized with greater strategic clarity and sense of fighting purpose in the face of a resurgent China, and the aftermath of the Afghan debacle. Fortunately gone are the days of a General David Petraeus and a regrettable brand of self serving and career enhancing platitudes about the US military and nation-building. There are many lessons to be learned from these twenty years of precious tax payer's dollars and, far more important than any money, precious American and allied lives being lost. I will not address these simply because it will be repetitious of the media blitz that we are all enduring. The above are my thoughts, and what I would have both advised the President.

The enduring tragedy are the brave and loyal Afghans

left behind to face what is becoming very clear as the days pass, a brutal and evil Taliban dictatorship that represents all that the civilized world abhors.

Let us all be thankful for the men and women of our Armed Forces and those of our allies who executed the mission in Afghanistan for twenty years. They are the real heroes. We should remember with loving care those who died, American and allies, and those who still live with their injuries. Politicians come and go, "Here today and gone tomorrow", whereas our fine men and women of the US Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, together with our allies, are the sustaining bedrock and continuity of our security and well being. I have had the great privilege to serve at sea in two US warships and a nuclear powered submarine, work alongside the US Marine Corps and Navy SEALs, with the US Air Force on Joint Stars, and all Services at the National Reconnaissance Office. They are the best, along with our British allies.

REPUBLICANS WAR ON THE RIGHT TO VOTE

JOHN P. FLANNERY

The nobel prize winning writer and poet, Toni Morrison, has an easy and apt phrase for the most painful assaults upon our rights and liberties.

One recent compilation of her work is "The source of self-regard."

Toni once said "we live in a world ...where the body of civil liberties, won cell by cell, bone by bone, by the brave and the dead withers in the searing heat of 'all war, all the time...'"

Toni called the nation to "war against error."

She calls us to arms to "[a] deliberately heightened battle against cultivated ignorance, enforced silence, and metastasizing lies."

Toni saw "a wider war that is fought daily by human rights organizations ..."

She saw a "hugely funded and intensified battle of rescue from the violence that is swallowing the dispossessed."

She said, "we are studying the same old curricula that waste the lives they cannot destroy."

"We turn to sorcery summoning up a brew of aliens, enemies, demons, 'causes' that deflect and soothe anxieties about gates through which barbarians stroll; anxieties about language falling into the mouths of others, about authority shifting into the hands of strangers."

We need make no apologies for having a bleeding heart when the opposite is no heart at all.

But how good are we today?

We might take a test on the Dred Scott decision by the Supreme Court in March of 1857.

Scott was a slave who insisted he had been emancipated as a result of having lived with his master owner in federal territory where slavery was forbidden by the Missouri Compromise.

He was not let go free.

The Supreme Court decided that Negroes were not citizens of the United States and had no right to bring suit in a federal court under the diverse citizenship clause of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court decided that Congress had no power to prohibit slavery in the federal territories so he could not become a freeman for having been at Fort Snelling.

Scott was not a free man and when returned to Missouri, that state would determine his status.

Abraham Lincoln called the Scott decision "an astonisher in legal history."

Since those terrible days, blacks won the right to be treated as a person and to vote.

But did they really get to vote.

There were poll taxes one had to pay before one could vote.

There were literacy tests that had to be passed to vote.

Law enforcement targeted blacks for prosecution, and then wouldn't allow blacks to vote if they had a felony record.

Nor could they receive public

assistance if they were a felon.

Nor sit on a jury.

Nor live in a white community.

The Fifteenth Amendment to the US Constitution states that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied ... on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

The Republicans claimed that the voting standards they enacted were racially neutral.

Not if you cannot pay the poll tax.

Felony disenfranchisement hurt most the black male population.

What doesn't kill those who live in black ghettos, prompts arrest, confinement, and a lost vote.

In the 1990s, the Urban league concluded, "There is at least one concept that must be recognized if one is to see the pervasive and insidious nature of the drug problem for the African American community.

Though difficult to accept, that is the concept of genocide."

Michelle Alexander wrote a penetrating analysis of the condition of the black man in America, titled, "The New Jim Crow."

She stated that "governments use punishment primarily as a tool of social control."

Before Stokely Carmichael became a revolutionary and had expressed his respect for Martin Luther King's non violent predicate for political action, Stokely said non-violent actions can have no effect on

men without a conscience.

Let's take just one example - Georgia.

They have newly minted legislation that would end the right to vote by mail without having to provide an excuse.

Stacey Abrams has described Republican efforts to restrict voting rights in Georgia as "racist" and "a redux of Jim Crow in a suit and tie."

She said, "the only connection we can find is that more people of color voted, and it changed the outcome of elections in a direction that Republicans do not like."

The Georgian bills were SB241 and HB 531.

The changes were calculated to harm black voters.

The Brennan Center for Justice has studied the changes.

It ends the right to vote without an excuse.

In the last election, black voters used mail ballots at far higher rates than ever before.

They want to ban sending unsolicited mail ballots.

More ID is required for absentee voting.

There will be a deadline for requesting early voting ballots, 11 days before election day.

It is proposed that there be fewer ballot drop boxes.

The bills would end Sunday voting, reducing the phenomenon of, "souls to the polls." Black voters vote on Sunday more than other groups.

They will ban organizations from distributing grants to help fund elections.

They will prohibit distributing food and drink to voters waiting in line.

They will disqualify provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct.

This happens when the State changes voting precincts at the last minute.

It ends automatic voter registration (that boosted registrations enormously).

That's what I call suppressing the vote.

Who could disagree?

State activists are turning up the heat on Georgia companies to stop donating to Republicans sponsors of these bills. But it passed anyhow.

Another path to protect the vote is to pass reform legislation on the Hill.

The HR 1 - the for the People Act - is that reform waiting for Senate support.

It's not the only bill.

But it would cure the most significant effort to suppress the vote.

The congress must vote an end to the filibuster so we can have a majority vote in the Senate in support of this bill.

Now you have something to call your elected officials about - to demand that they vote for HR 1 to regain the greatest access to voting for all Americans.

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