


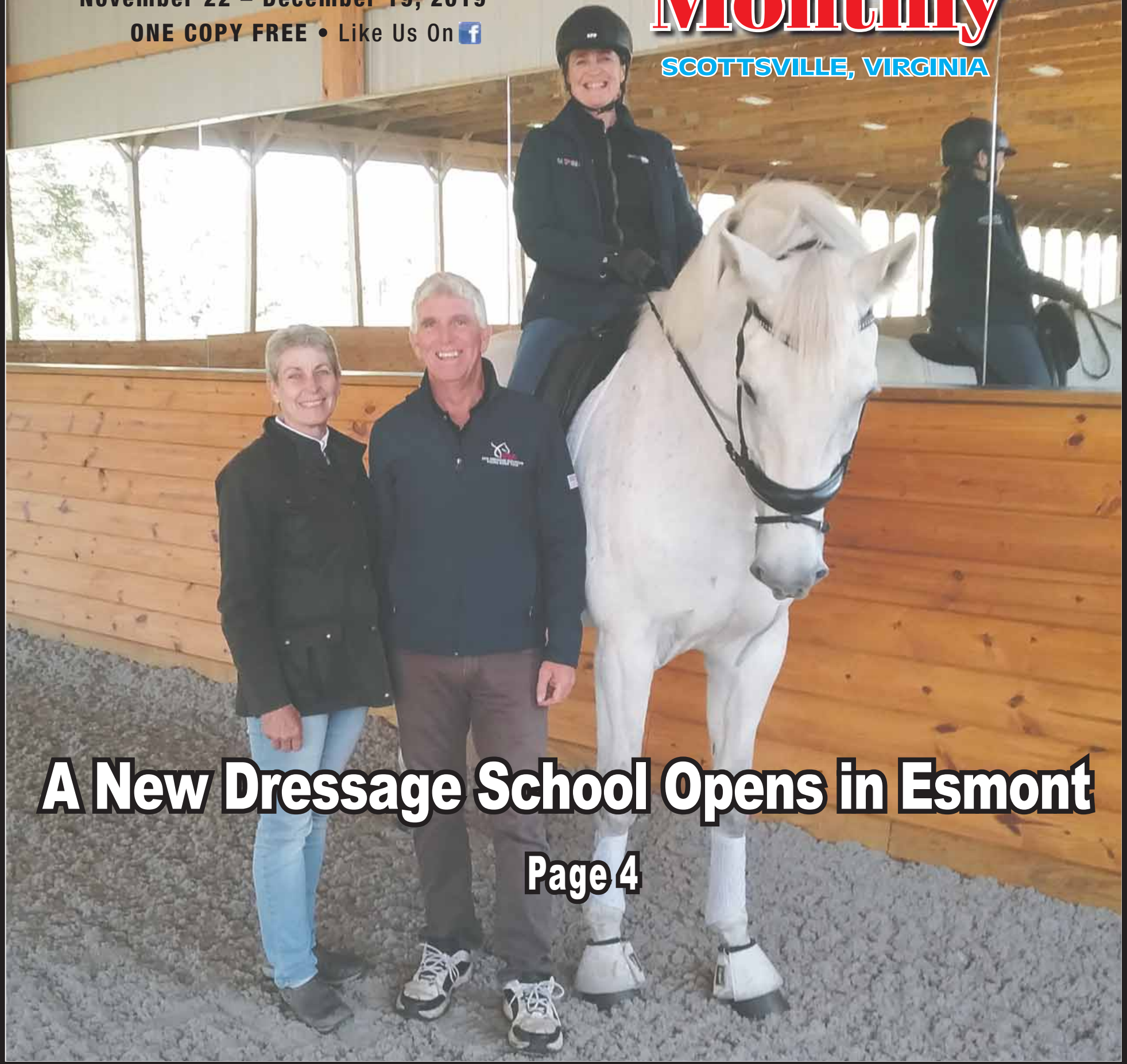
Scottsville

Monthly

November 22 – December 19, 2019

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SCOTTSVILLE, VIRGINIA



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Scottsville Monthly

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Next advertising deadline: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

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Linda LaFontaine - President, Greater Scottsville Chamber of Commerce. All photos by Ron Smith

Friday, November 8, saw a new initiative begin when Scottsville Town Council members, including the mayor, and the Board of Directors of the Greater Scottsville Chamber of Commerce held a joint meeting.

Although a report on current Chamber activities is presented to Council at their monthly work session, there have been times when a feeling prevailed that a disconnect existed between the two bodies. The first order

of business at the November 8th meeting was to establish a goal and that was done: To build a lasting relationship between the Scottsville Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council.

One problem the Chamber has faced over the years is the fact that a number of businesses are home based; they do not have a physical location such as a store. The Chamber has an obligation to promote its member's businesses, but in a sort of "catch 22" situation there are businesses in town that are not members of the Chamber. So how do you promote someone who does not wish to be a member of your Chamber?

The Town has a responsibility for economic development. They can promote a "type" of business but not necessarily a specific business. Working with the Town, the Chamber hopes to find a solution that will promote both economic development and tourism. "If people come to town for a specific reason, such as rafting, hiking the VCNA or to shop, how do we entice them to stay here for lunch or some other reason," Linda LaFontaine Chamber president asked.

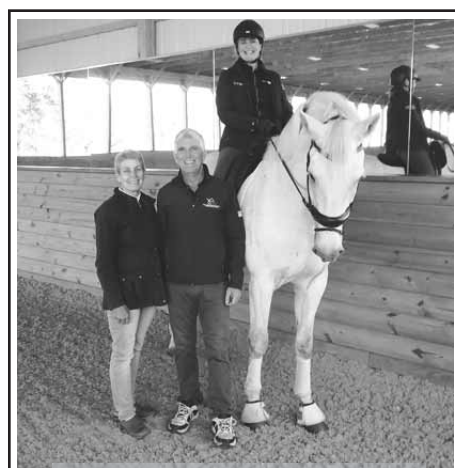
A prime example is Fourth of July. A significant number of folks come for the parade and then leave town until time to return for the fireworks. A lot of businesses are closed that day and there is nothing to do. But this problem doesn't just happen on the Fourth. Council member Eddie Payne said that "almost 8,000 cars pass through Scottsville daily." "When Scottsville's business community began to decline with the arrival of new shopping venues in Charlottesville, shoppers migrated to

that area and got so used to doing that they seemed to have forgotten there is a lot available here," LaFontaine added.

The Scottsville Chamber is an affiliate member of the Charlottesville Chamber. This entitles members of the Scottsville Chamber the use of a number of tools to promote their business. There are 4,200 members of the Charlottesville Chamber. Scottsville Chamber members are allowed to post on the Charlottesville Chamber's website information about their business. So, once a month a Scottsville business has the ability to contact over four thousand Charlottesville members plus those who visit that website just to see what is going on!

The Town also has a website. Laura Mellusi is chairwoman of the town's Events Committee. Stuart Munson is chairman of the town's Economic Development Committee. Each is tasked with certain responsibilities. Laura develops and promotes events that will draw people to town while Stuart's goal is to attract new business and be a resource of help to existing businesses. These are reasons why the two groups working together will be of great benefit to the town.

So how does Scottsville promote itself? This is a question that has no specific answer. Is it a river town or is it a historic destination? Who is the target market? Should we look at the parents of University of Virginia students who are visiting? Mayor Nancy Gill said, "we need to get Esmont more involved with what is going on here and, with the HEARR health initiative that may be a real possibility. The



The Cover

Roberta and George Williams, with Gardy Boemers aboard Chios. These are the people bringing Grand Prix Dressage to Esmont.

Photo by Patrick Healy

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger



Stuart Munson - Council member and head of the town's Economic Development Committee.

recent Health Fair held on Community Day attracted a large number of visitors. And then there is uptown Scottsville. How do we promote the whole package to get people to understand that while the historic downtown is important, uptown offers a great deal with regards to the commercial aspect of the issue including such things as an insurance agent, banks and the post office?

This meeting marked a first step. There will be more meetings. The next, a general meeting of the Chamber after the first of next year, will include town officials and an invitation to non-chamber businesses. In the meantime, if there are comments or suggestions to be made they will be gladly accepted.

Both groups agree that Scottsville has some areas that need attention, but they also agree it is a great place and there is no reason we can't make it even better!



Laura Mellusi - Council member and head of the town's Events Committee.

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Setting up a Limited Liability Company (LLC)



A Free Workshop
 will be held on
Thursday, December 12, 2019
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



at the

Farmville Train Station, 510 West Third ST, Farmville, VA 23901

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- may be used to gift a portion of your farm, business, land, or estate to family members yet still maintain control
- can provide important tax breaks in some cases
- works well with farms, multi-family owned businesses, rental properties, and land
- creates opportunities for your insurance to do even more to protect your assets

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James P. Seidl, Business, Estate and Tax Planning Attorney of James P. Seidl Law Offices, PC
Thomas I. Hill, Certified Public Accountant, Certified Financial Planner®, of Hill & Davis, CPA, PC
David R. Wise, Agribusiness and Farm Insurance Specialist of DavidWise.com Insurance, LLC

You will receive:

- Free planning materials
- Free opportunity to speak with the featured speakers listed above
- Free follow-up consultation

Refreshments will be served and seating is limited. Please register by **December 10, 2019** by visiting www.davidwise.com/workshops or by calling DavidWise.com Insurance at (434) 983-8780.



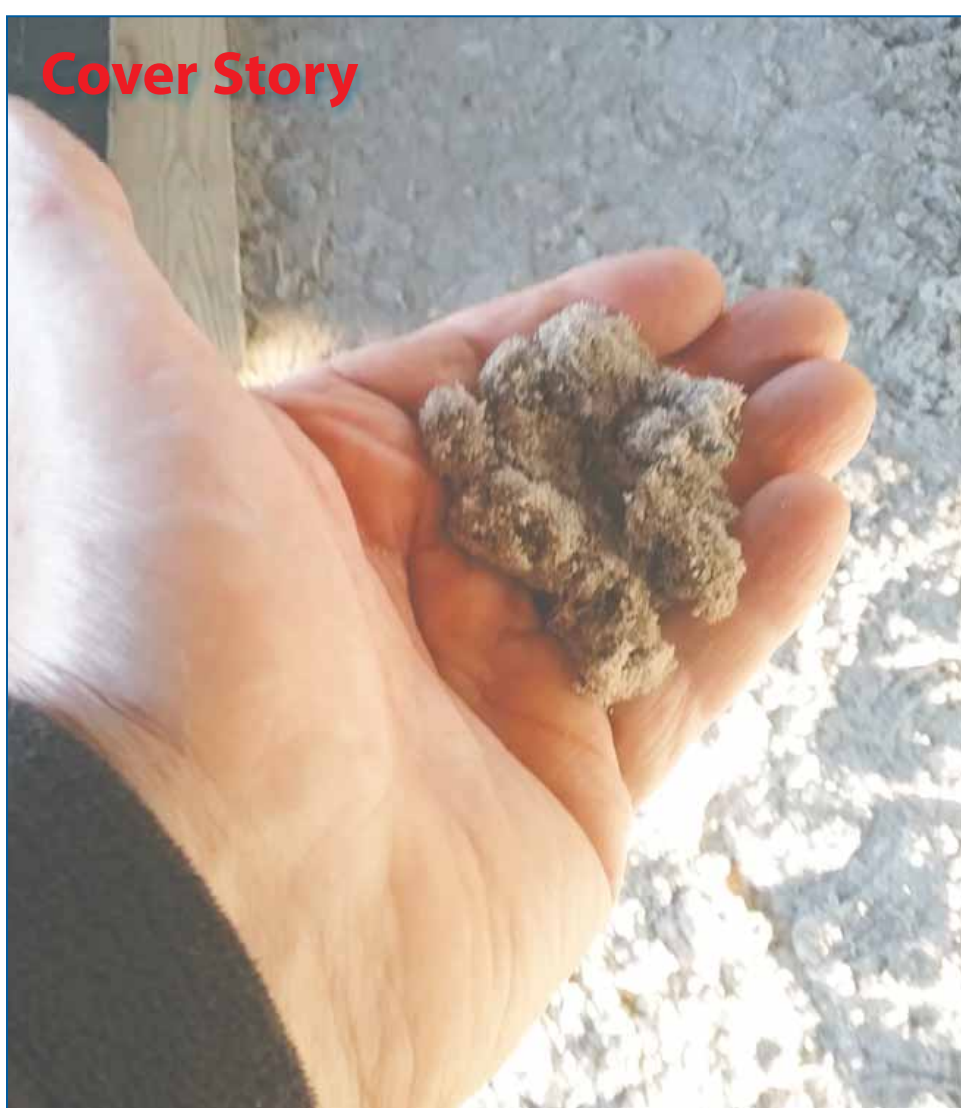
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Attwood Equestrian Footing is super-light and absolutely dust free. Imagine if you could make cotton candy out of sand. All photos by Patrick Healy



All-around facilities pro, Jason Parrish, fluffs the footing prior to the show.

A New Dressage School Opens in Esmont

By Patrick Healy
Correspondent

A couple of years ago, when Nick Duke and Gardy Bloemers were living over in Yancey Mills, they faced a problem common to many horse lovers: nowhere to put the horses. Duke had recently retired from The University of Virginia, while Bloemers still worked in the wealth management field. The horses were living at a boarding stable in Whitehall. And in Yancey Mills, says Duke, "There was just too much traffic." So when the Stave Mill Farm, in its quiet corner of Esmont, came up for sale the couple made the move; saying goodbye to the traffic, and welcome home to the horses.

The new place came with a barn, complete with stalls, but it was hard to tell which part of it held up which. Duke says, "The roof leaked. The siding was rotten. The stalls weren't much more than rails." So they got to work. Some of the original structure remains, restored and integrated into a substantial addition which include the managers apartment, office/tack room, and other amenities. The stable ceiling is clad in bright sheet metal, the stalls are commodious, and cushiony with straw, and the floors are covered with rubber pavers. Outdoors, the 84 acres of rolling Piedmont mix board-fenced meadows with trail-laced woodlands. And there's an Olympic size show pavilion for when some fancy prancing is in order. Altogether, it's a fitting home for these horses, which look like they've been sculpted by Michelangelo and draped in handmade velvet by the world's best upholsterer. Actually, they look better than that. These animals almost vibrate

with vitality. Their luminous gaze radiates a guileless curiosity. It is impossible to find them unattractive.

"Each one has a unique personality," says accomplished equestrian, Bloemers. "Some are shy. Others want all the attention, like a celebrity. You have to be able to work with that. Push the shy ones too hard and you'll never draw out all of their potential. Go easy with a strong willed one and he'll walk all over you."

All of this may seem a bit much, if making a nice home for her horses was Bloemer's only intent. But she had a vision, and for that she needed more than impressive infrastructure. Enter George and Roberta Williams.

To list everything that George Williams has accomplished in the sport of dressage would fill this page. Current U. S. Equestrian Federation National Youth coach, past president of the U. S. Dressage Federation, numerous Grand Prix honors, Director of the Temple Farm Lipizzans; you get the picture. Given these accomplishments, it is surprising how humble a man he seems to be. As a rider, Williams sits his horse majestically. As a person, he tends to shrink his athlete's body into the background. Bloemers was able to coax Mr. and Mrs. Williams to relocate from the Midwest to southern Albemarle County. And with that, the word went out. Class is now in session.

On a warm evening in late September, just before a dressage exhibition in the show arena began, Roberta Williams shared a little of the history of the sport with the Scottsville Monthly.

See Dressage School page 6

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December 2019

"It started as a form of military training. Xenophon wrote about the need for stealth in military maneuvers. Riders had to learn how to guide their mounts in subtle ways." So instead of yanking on the horse's reins, flailing his arms, and hollering, "Go Right!" the rider needed to gently nudge his charge with a knee to the flank, or a caress along the neck. Thus, rider and horse could move among the combatants in the manner of a soccer midfielder advancing the ball: feint right, go left; pause, then accelerate. Williams adds, "Xenophon said that coercion and horses don't mix." So, besides being one of history's greatest military tacticians, the old Greek may have been our first horse whisperer.

Williams started to explain the great variety and intricacy of the horse's footwork but was interrupted. It was showtime!

Bloemers entered the ring aboard Crusader, a gorgeous chestnut specimen that stepped proudly into his routine. George Williams strolled into a far corner of the arena, leaned against the wall, and began speaking into a tiny, cheek-mounted transceiver. Bloemers was similarly equipped. Williams spoke almost nonstop. "Bring his shoulder around. Relax your hands." Etc. Bloemers occasionally replied. These two could be ventriloquists.

What Williams sees and comments upon, and what Bloemers does in response is lost on most of those who fill the viewer's gallery. The rider's movements are too subtle for the uninitiated to detect, because dressage is a very subtle form of body language. Both horse and rider respond to slight variations in the others' posture or gait.

Roberta Williams gets down to the basics, as she explains the secret of the unseen communication. "It all comes down to the seat," she says. "In other forms of riding, like jumping or racing, the rider leans forward. In dressage you sit all the way back. You want to keep the horse centered and moving in line."

During the exhibition, it is the equine footwork, and not the centered horse or inert rider that command the viewer's attention. Crusader will effortlessly move from a Tango-like glide into a skippity-dippity, left-left right Karaoke Shuffle routine, and then flip the script by going right-right left with the Karaoke move, as if that was the most natural way for a horse to trot. Through it all, Bloemers sits well back, and smiles.

Remember those old Fred Astair, Ginger Rogers movies? Well those hoofers only had to worry about two legs. In managing his four, Crusader moves like both Fred and Ginger, and carries his rider to boot. The exhibition comes to a close and the audience offers enthusiastic applause. Bloemers takes a (subtle) bow. George and Roberta Williams ease away from the scene, but Bloemers calls them forth. George waves at the crowd and shows a shy smile. A small child reaches over the gallery rail to offer a sugar lump to the evening's star. Crusader leans toward her and gently licks the treat off of her extended palm; a perfect indication of what kind of



Crusader joins Gardy Bloemers in taking a bow, after an exhibition performance for the Friends of Esmont and their guests.

evening this was. In spite of the Olympic surroundings, and the remarkable performances by horse and rider, what we really have here is a lovely gathering of friends and neighbors on a warm autumn night. Our hostess did something very special for her guests, who replied with pleased gratitude. Friends of Esmont, indeed.

As it does every year, the whole dressage scene will move to Wellington, Florida for the winter. Roberta Williams describes the village adjacent to West Palm Beach as, "Disney World for horse people. Everyone is there. Jumpers, show, polo, dressage..."

Around Thanksgiving, the riders and horses will head south, returning to Stave Mill Farm in mid-April. At that point, Bloemers expects that experienced riders, seeking the high level of instruction being offered, will be coming to Esmont.

"We think this will be good for the community," she says, being quick to clarify how. "We won't be offering beginner lessons. For that, people usually go to someplace like Brook Hill Farm," referring to the riding academy at the Charlottesville end of Scottsville Road. "Even though our training is intense, people don't ride all day. They'll be staying in bed and breakfasts, eating in restaurants, seeing the sights."

Who knows? Maybe when the dressage season swings back to the north in 2020, another exhibition, with multiple performers, can be staged. It's a sight to see.

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The SCAN board : (L-R) Erin Root, Heather Stertzler, Kristen Freshwater, Amber McBride, Grace Price. All photos courtesy fo SCAN

SCAN – The Next Phase

By Ron Smith
Correspondent

“I have always longed for a place where individuals can foster a passion for the arts, nature, and lifelong learning.” These were the words of Mary Hardy Roberts who, in 1994, moved to Scottsville and established a music education program in her home.

With a vast teaching experience, having taught in Philadelphia, Richmond, Longwood College and Buckingham, Mary brought to Scottsville the expertise and dedication that would turn out a number of successful musicians and performers. Her Family Players program encompassed not only music, but also dance, creativity and nature.

In 2005 Mary established a non-profit program to “deepen the community’s knowledge of the performing and visual arts and their relationship to nature and our surroundings.” The Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature was born.

While the original focus of the program hasn’t changed, a new phase has opened that not only carries on Mary’s goals but now offers more in the way of programs and involvement to all members of the community. SCAN is now the Scottsville Center for the Arts and the Natural Environment.

Erin Root, an architectural and landscape designer who has her business in Scottsville, is the new president of SCAN. She brings to SCAN a tremendous amount of experience having worked with museums, taught in universities and traveled the world.

Working on a water project in Africa, Erin says, she “began to look at how water quality and quantity were being used to control people.” “People in power,” she said, “control the resources and in turn control the people.” Her design philosophy is focused on people and needs. “How can we use tools (art/sculpture) and landscape architectural design to impact humanity in a positive way?” she says. With those thoughts in mind she looks to make SCAN a resource for all people with a number of new programs.

Amber McBride serves as Secretary. Amber holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from James Madison University and a MFA in poetry from Emerson College. She has taught at JMU, Strayer University and Northern Virginia Community College. Amber is a published author, writing Middle Grade and Young Adult fiction.

Heather Stertzler is the organization’s Treasurer. Heather is co-owner of the Scottsville Supply Company, a bee-keeping supply firm. Heather’s interests in nature and agriculture give SCAN the expertise needed to fulfill the natural environ-



Mary Hardy Roberts, Founder of The Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature.

ment mission it envisions.

Kristen Freshwater, a member of the Board, is a graduate of the UVa School of Drama. Her experience has brought several productions to Victory Hall and other venues. As Artistic Director for SCAN she founded their educational community theater program, Victory Hall Players. Kristen says “(my) passion for history, visual art and storytelling fuels my creative process.” She is currently writing a play that explores the “personal journey” of Civil War soldier and spy Sarah Emma Edmonds.

Grace Price is SCAN’s Program Director and Board member. She has created curriculum for nature-based home school programs as well as a 12-week curriculum for Waldorf Schools. She is a mother, musician, writer and fiber artist. As she states in her biography, she is “passionate about humanity’s role in restoring, maintaining and interacting with our local ecosystems as well as nurturing a hyper-local-folk-culture to pass on knowledge, especially through artistic expression, to future generations.”

SCAN continues to offer classes for children and adults. Acting, ballet, drawing and theater are just a few. Some classes are free while others have a reasonable tuition and all classes are led by instructors who are qualified. There are also free programs such as the Community Storytelling Circle which meets at Baines Coffee Shop, an upcoming and in time for the holidays’ wreath making workshop, and of course, the monthly Acoustic Jam in Victory Hall Theater. An exhibit space at 531 Valley Street offers exhibits by local and nationally known artists.

There is also continuing development of a thirteen-acre tract on Hardware Road which is owned by SCAN. This property was donated by Robert K. “Bobby” Spencer in 2004. Already with productive beehives and the development of a trail system, the property will be an adjunct to the town’s Van Clief Nature Area.

Mary Hardy Roberts left this life five years ago. In 1994 she had a vision. In 2005 that vision was realized with the establishment of the Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature. Today a new generation, passionate about art, nature, and future generations have taken the reins to ensure Mary’s dream will live on.

**Take a class. Go to the Jam. Attend a play.
Visit their website: www.svilleartsandnature.org
You will find that there is a lot available in Scottsville of which you may not have been aware!**



COMMUNITY WREATH-MAKING

Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 3PM – 5PM

Come join the crew from the Scottsville Center for Arts and the Natural Environment for our seasonal wreath-making party! Bring your own locally-sourced plants to use and share with others to create stunning natural wreaths!

We will supply wreath forms, cider, and donuts! Just BE SURE to let us know you're coming on our website or facebook event, so we can have enough of all available! Ticket costs is \$7 More info on our FB page and @ <https://svilleartsandnature.org>

VICTORY HALL PLAYERS PRESENTS

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL: A LIVE RADIO PLAY'
December 12th, 13th & 14th at 7:30PM
at Victory Hall Theater

Ticket costs are \$15 for Adults, \$10 for Students/Seniors (60+) More info on our more information on our FB page and @<https://svilleartsandnature.org>

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS



Scottsville's annual Christmas Tree Lighting and arrival of Santa will be 6pm Saturday, Nov. 30th at Canal Basin Square. All ages are invited to join the fun and enjoy refreshments. Don't forget to bring your list! Photos by Ron Smith

Scottsville Tree Lighting Ceremony & Santa Arrives

Saturday, November 30, 2019
at 5:45 PM – 6:45 PM

Canal Basin Square, Scottsville
 Main Street, Scottsville, Virginia

Ho! Ho! Ho! Just got word from the North Pole that Santa will be making a special stop in Scottsville on Saturday November 30, 2019!! There will be Carols and Cocoa, Tree Lighting and Treats at Canal Basin Square. Santa will be anxious to hear from all the children and and those who are still kids at heart..

- Schedule · Saturday, November 30, 2019**
- 5:45 PM: Music and Entertainment**
 - 6:00 PM: Santa Arrives!**
 - 6:05 PM: Countdown to Illumination**
 - 6:10 PM: Christmas Carols**

Chamber of Commerce Festival of Lights



This year's Chamber of Commerce Festival of Lights will be held in the town's Council Chamber, upstairs, Victory Hall on **November 30th and December 1st and the following week-end, December 7th and 8th, from 2-7pm each day.** Photos by Ron Smith



Holiday Farmer's Market

Scottsville's Holiday Farmers Market will be held **Saturday, December 14th from 9am until 1pm.** The market will be located in the Scottsville Community Center (the gym in the Scottsville Apartments building.)



Scottsville Lions help people who need glasses. They also recycle glasses and have collected over 900 pair this year! Visit us at the Festival of Lights.

Celtic services

Celtic services are held the first **Sunday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, Scottsville at 5:30 pm.** If you are looking for a peaceful place lit by candles where you can enjoy Irish music and thoughtful prayers and reflections, have your spirits lifted, and enjoy some refreshments at the end, please join us. All are welcome.

Village Christmas Market

Saturday, Dec. 7th • 11:00 am– 4:00 pm
Sunday, Dec. 8th • 1:00 pm–4:00 pm

The Historic Village at Lee Wayside (2 miles West of Sprouses Corner)
 No admission charge – Lunch available Sat. & Sun.

Live Music - Period decorations - Foxfire wreaths
 Amish baked goods, ornaments, jewelry, paintings, arts, crafts and more!

Christmas Open House

HOUSEWRIGHT MUSEUM AND ADAMS MUSEUM
 Don't miss "Music Thru the Years" exhibit at Housewright Museum.
 Museums open Dec. 6th (after "Tree Lighting") also Dec. 7 & 8 1:00-4:00 pm

Call (434)547-2296 for information or marthalouis60@gmail.com

Sponsored by Historic Buckingham, Inc.
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**"The Nutcracker Suite" at Victory Hall Theater in Scottsville
December 9, 2012 @ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
The Nutcracker Suite**

Join Charlottesville Ballet's professional company in Scottsville's historic Victory Hall Theater for segments from The Nutcracker Suite.

The Nutcracker follows a young girl named Clara, who receives a magical wooden nutcracker as a holiday gift. With the help of the Sugar Plum Fairy, Clara journeys through enchanting Lands of Snowflakes and Sweets in a holiday celebration that's not to be missed. The 45-minute performance includes segments from the full production and is sure to delight the entire family!



*VIP "Class with Clara" event held at 2:00pm

WHERE: The Victory Hall Theater | 401 Valley Road Scottsville

TICKETS: \$15 for Adults | \$12 for Children, Students, Seniors, Military

Thistle Gate Vineyard

**Thanksgiving Weekend Friday, Nov. 29 12pm-6pm
& Saturday, Nov. 30 12pm-6pm**

5199 W River Rd, Scottsville

Call: (434) 286-7781

More info:

<http://www.thistlegatevineyard.com/events.html>

Please join us for a grand Thanksgiving weekend at Thistle Gate Vineyard! Delicious mulled wine and award winning wines, twenty plus local artisans and vendors offering beautiful jewelry, dog treats, wood creations, freshly roasted coffee, candles, home decor and gifts for all!

We will have yummy lunch for purchase as well as our incredible charity baskets raffle! **Dec. 14, Noon to 5 PM.** Christmas Open House. Visit from Santa, festive fare and mulled wine.



Thistle Gate Market

**Christmas Party at Kents Store Firehouse
Hosted by Kents Store Vol Fire Company
Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 2 PM - 5 PM**

Kents Store Vol Fire Company

51 Kents Store way, Kents Store

Please join us as Santa visits Kents Store! We will have cookie decorating, crafts, hot chocolate and hot apple cider. Please bring a camera so you can take a picture with Santa, all activities are free. We will also be selling Brunswick stew by the quart, \$8 a quart.



KENTS STORE FIREHOUSE

See Calendar page 10

Fluvanna County Arts Council



*Presents the 2019-2020 Season
at Carysbrook Performing Arts Center*



The Fluvanna Community Singers

Christmas Concert

Friday, December 6th at 7:30 pm

Saturday, December 7th at 3:00 pm

It wouldn't be the Holidays without starting off with the uplifting voices of the Fluvanna Community Singers singing both old and new songs of the Season. Under the expert leadership of the Singers' director, Scott David, this concert celebrates the season in wonderful musical fashion.

Admission: Free for Christmas Concert

A Donation to the Fluvanna Food Pantry will be appreciated.

Next Performance:



Empowered Players Present:



Sunday, December 15, 3:00PM

Join Anna, Elsa, Olaf, and the whole Arendelle crew this fall with the Young Empowered Players Production of Frozen Jr! Featuring show-stopping favorites and tunes straight from the movie, Frozen Jr. is sure to be a production you won't want to miss.

Admission \$5 Door (No Advance Sales)

Unless otherwise specified, Admission is: \$12 Advance, \$15 Day of Performance, \$10 Student/Military/Veterans, Family Package \$5/person (2 Adults max, + 3 or more children)

To purchase online: <http://www.Carysbrook.org>

Please note: No reserved seating.

Carysbrook Performing Arts Center • 8880 James Madison Highway (Hwy 15)
Fork Union, VA 23055

Everything ALPACA for Christmas

Sacred Acres Farm at Wildwood, LLC

Nov 16 - Nov 30 - Dec 14

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For Mom, Dad, Kids

- Alpaca walking
- Feed the alpacas
- Farm tours
- Walking trails
- Picnic areas

Farm Store

Lots of alpaca products for sale



Alpaca-opoly Raffle

Drawing Dec 14 at 2:30 p.m.



Enjoy watching the antics of Aziel
Born October 31, 2019

16310 James Madison Highway
Palmyra, VA 22963

(Take I-64 to Exit 139, then follow Route 15 South for 6.5 miles)

(434) 589-2488

www.sacredacresfarm.com

Like us on Facebook

The Town Gets A Grant

By Patrick Healy,
Correspondent



Town Administrator Matt Lawless.

Town Administrator, Matt Lawless, is pleased to announce the award of a \$ 7,000 grant from the Virginia Main Street Program, which is dedicated to downtown revitalization. The Town will use the funds in a pilot program focused on Facade Enhancement in the Historical District.

Grant eligibility is limited to anyone who owns a building or operates a business in the Scottsville Historical District. Proposed projects should improve facades, roofs, windows, building access, masonry, or painted surfaces.

The Town has an equal amount in the budget, which will be added to the Grant expenditures, dollar for dollar. Applicants must match these grants as well. Grant funded work should be completed by the spring of 2020.

Full details, and an application are on the Town website.

Events and Announcements from page 9

Jack Maxwell of Scottsville repeated his gold medal performance of last year by picking up another gold at this fall's Special Olympics Golf Tournament in Virginia Beach. Jack's goals now are to participate in the Special Olympics USA Summer Games in 2022 and the World Games in Berlin in 2023. Great going Jack!



5th Annual Holiday Open House Hosted by The Watering Can

Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 10 AM – 6 PM

Scottsville VFW, 2997 West River Road, Scottsville,
5th Annual Holiday Open House. 2 day event, Saturday December 7th from 10am to 6pm and Sunday December 8th from 1pm to 5pm. Come out to see multiple vendors for all of your holiday shopping needs. Light refreshments and great door prizes

Christmas in the Historic Village of Palmyra Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 2 PM – 5 PM Sweet Art Emporium

13652 James Madison Hwy, Palmyra

Singing, vendors, history tours, wassail, horse drawn carriages on Main Street in Palmyra Village. Cookies, tea, cider, artist demonstrations and sales on art and candy at Sweet Art Emporium one block over on rt 15.



Mount Ida Reserve Reserve Runners Turkey Trot November 23 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

5600 Moonlight Dr, Scottsville.
We are located off of Blenheim Road.

RESERVE RUNNERS

Check in at 11:00 / Run begins at 11:30

Join us for a special Thanksgiving themed "Turkey Trot"! Festive attire is not only welcomed, but encouraged. No race timers, no bibs, no registration, and no race day stress. This is an informal run around Mount Ida Reserve. All that you need to do is show up at 11:00 to sign our waiver, then enjoy the 2-3 mile run or walk around our designated path. Runners, joggers, and walkers of all levels are welcome. This is the perfect opportunity to burn a few calories before Turkey Day! Event is free.



ESTATE SALE - LOG HOMES PAY THE BALANCE OWED ONLY!!!

AMERICAN LOG HOMES IS ASSISTING JUST RELEASED
ESTATE & ACCOUNT SETTLEMENT ON HOUSES.

4 Log Home kits selling for **BALANCE OWED, FREE DELIVERY**

- 1) Model # 101 Carolina \$40,840...BALANCE OWED \$17,000
- 2) Model # 203 Georgia \$49,500...BALANCE OWED \$19,950
- 3) Model # 305 Biloxi \$36,825...BALANCE OWED \$14,500
- 4) Model # 403 Augusta \$42,450...BALANCE OWED \$16,500

BEFORE CALLING: VIEW at www.loghomedream.com
Click on House Plans

NEW - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED

- Make any plan design changes you desire!
- Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
- Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
- NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY!

BBB
A+ Rating

OFFER NOT AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN LOG HOME DEALERS

SERIOUS ONLY REPLY. Call (704) 602-3035 ask for Accounting Dept.



Emmette Durette lost his dog, Topsy, while working at Rock Island Farm. Photo by Patrick Healy

The Sad Tale of a Lost Dog

By Patrick Healy
Correspondent

Back when May was morphing into June, and gentle spring warmth suddenly became the year's first heatwave, a young farmhand, Emmett Durette, was a couple of months away from first-time fatherhood and getting in all the work hours he could handle.

According to his employer, Mitch Carr, "Emmett's a great kid. I'd give him a task and he would get right to it and stay with it until it was done. You don't have to stay on him. If something needs doing, he just does it."

Carr, who retired from his Mercedes repair business in Maryland, and now owns Rock Island Farm, says that Durette frequently brought his dog to work. Carr didn't have a problem with that arrangement. "That was a gentle, friendly dog. And smart. One time, Emmett was uprooting some invasive plants, and Topsy started digging them up too. She would stay right where Emmett was working, but sometimes go chasing after a rabbit or squirrel." But this rural idyll took a drastic turn when the seven-month-old pup wandered off and didn't come back.

"Everybody around here knows me and my dog," says Durette. The here Durette refers to is the Schuyler/Esmont area. "I looked all around. Asked everyone I saw. I posted on social media. One friend asked if I checked at the SPCA, and I said, 'That's way up in Charlottesville. She wouldn't be there.'" But when Topsy couldn't be found Durette contacted the SPCA, and there she was. A happy outcome? No, there were some problems. As it turned out, the SPCA was not going to

See Topsy page 12



The Santa Express Dec 7, 14 & 21 - 9am
By Old Dominion Chapter National Railway Historical Society
7 2019 9:00 AM — 9:45 AM Phone: 804 231 4324

Time to get our tickets. Some trips are already sold out! **Tickets:**
odcnrhs.org/excursions

Santa will be aboard for this 45 minute round trip excursion. It is presented by the Old Dominion Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society and operates on the Buckingham Branch Railroad. The Santa Express starts and ends at the historic Dillwyn station.

Something New: After Dark on December 14th. Gets tickets now.

- Trains run rain/snow or shine.
- Ticket purchases are non-refundable (but, can be transferred) and are good only for the date and time shown on the ticket. All seating is general admission on a first-come, first-served basis.

- In the event of trip cancellation due to events beyond control, the ODC will contact ticketholders with ticket exchange options. Please arrive at least 30 minutes before scheduled departure. Boarding begins at least 15 minutes before departure.

- All passengers must have tickets. Non-walking Infants in arms may ride free with paying passenger if they do not occupy a seat. No smoking, alcohol or firearms on the train. There are restrooms, snacks and souvenirs onboard. Due to the nature of the vintage railroad cars, handicapped accessibility is limited. Contact the ODC in advance for limitations.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Type of bag
- 5 Like some cheddar
- 10 Ho-hum
- 14 Throw, as dice
- 15 Coke's bear
- 16 Unsophisticated sort
- 17 Not being used
- 18 Wind instrument
- 20 Trucker in a union
- 22 Linen closet items
- 23 Kind of boom
- 24 Scouting group
- 26 Remote location?
- 29 Consumer
- 33 Part of TKO
- 37 Indonesian island
- 38 "Without further ..."
- 39 Boastful person
- 42 Hightailed it
- 43 Small stream
- 45 Day of _____
- 47 Armchair companion
- 50 Pitchfork part
- 51 Lightweight wood
- 53 Gentle push
- 57 Seward's state
- 60 College age
- 63 Cold season
- 65 Smallest pup
- 66 Hathaway of Hollywood
- 67 Tablelands
- 68 Something to build on
- 69 Vintage designation

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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63							64				65		
66							67				68		
69							70				71		

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- 70 Appears
- 71 Salacious look
- DOWN**
- 1 Southern staple
- 2 Where to see chaps
- 3 Haggard's hero Quartermain
- 4 Flaw
- 5 Squabble
- 6 Fine-tune
- 7 Open-eyed
- 8 Pro-footballer in L.A.
- 9 Part of an atom
- 10 It creates drafts
- 11 Pear-shaped instrument
- 12 Genesis brother
- 13 His partner
- 19 State of mind
- 21 Biscuitlike pastry
- 25 Surviving organism of old
- 27 Pudding fruit
- 28 Squirrel's cache
- 30 Rani's wrap
- 31 Enthusiasm
- 32 Saturn feature
- 33 Edible root
- 34 Anagram for "tide"
- 35 Stable youngster
- 36 Absorbed, as a loss
- 40 Enjoy Aspen
- 41 Heavy metric weight
- 44 Maine entree
- 46 On the fence
- 48 Put together
- 49 Burglar deterrents
- 52 Licoricelike flavor
- 54 Tennis tie
- 55 Horror or sci-fi, e.g.
- 56 Sign above a door
- 57 Not at home
- 58 Pickup shtick
- 59 Oscar winner Paquin
- 61 Mosque leader
- 62 Bitter end?
- 64 Pipe fitting

Crossword Answers page 15



THE Annual
**CHARLOTTESVILLE
SANTA
FUN RUN
& WALK**




**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 8, 2019**

**SPRINT PAVILION
@ DOWNTOWN MALL**

SCHEDULE

Check-In between 9:30-10:30am, Run at 11:00am

- Santa suit for adults and Elf ears for children
- Refreshments provided

Santa Run will take place rain, snow, or shine!

REGISTRATION
www.cvillesantarun.com

Starting **November 1st**
Adults - \$25, Children 3-12 - \$15
and under 3 is FREE!

CONTESTS

- First Female Finisher
- First Male Finisher
- Most Festive Pet
- Most Festive Stroller/Sleigh
- Top Company Fundraiser
- Top Family Fundraiser

**Grab your friends, family or co-workers
and team up to fundraise for the Arc!**

All proceeds support the programs and services that
The Arc of the Piedmont provides for people in our community
with intellectual and developmental disabilities.




Emmette Durrette's lost dog TIPSY.

return Topsy to the 19-year-old Durrett, under any circumstances. In fact, it would reject his request for adoption, and place the dog with another, undisclosed individual or organization.

"It was like they were kinda mad I came in." Durrett recalls. Topsy was there and, yes, she had been found near his home. "She was in the stray holding area, but they wouldn't let me see her. They said I needed to prove I was the owner. I tried to show them pictures [of Topsy] on my phone, but they wouldn't look. They said I needed proof from a vet."

Durrett was also informed that, because he came in on the seventh day after Topsy's arrival, he no longer owned the dog.

"They brought that one in naked," says Animal Control Officer (ACO), Larry Crickenberger. "No collar. No license. Someone found it running free and brought it into the shelter." It gets worse. "Once they're over 4 months, dogs are required to have a rabies vaccination. There was no vaccination record for that animal." In fact, the county regulation of dog ownership cover 24 pages of densely worded legalese, with innumerable citations of codes, ordinances, and statutes, as well as classifications for violations thereof. In the law's eye, he'd abandoned Topsy. You see, the law says, among many other things, that the shelter shall keep the animal for 5 days, after which time the dog is considered to be abandoned and becomes the property of the shelter.

When Durrett was informed that he no longer owned Topsy he remained under-terred. "I filled out the adoption sheet and was ready to pay the \$300 fee," he says. Instead, he was sent home to wait until his adoption request could be assessed. With the passage of time came the verdict: approval of Durrette's application for Topsy's adoption, "was not in the best interest of the dog."

"I couldn't understand that," says Durrette. "And nobody would explain it to me." None of it made any sense to Mitch Carr, either. "There's no excuse for the way Emmett was being treated," says Carr. "I figured that he was getting the run-around because he was a kid" Carr understood that it was time to move up the bureaucratic food chain at the SPCA. And it was time to memorialize what had happened, and what would happen going forward. So he helped Durrette craft a letter which was sent to the SPCA on July 18th of this year. In the letter Durrette stated his grievances, called out the SPCA on its, in Durrette's view, mishandlings of the situation, and demanded a full, written explanation of the matter within 5 days.

This was followed by another letter, sent on the 19th, detailing elements of state laws which Durrette claimed SPCA had failed to follow in his case. This letter also called for a timely written response. Instead, on August 5th, Durrette received a phone call from Angie Gunter, the executive eirector of the not for profit shelter. Durrette said Ms. Gunter told him that she had neither a legal obligation nor the intention to provide any written replies to him, and that there was nothing further to discuss. Immediately, Durrette fired off a letter to her memorializing the points of that conversation and demanding written confirmation or denial of his assertions. His letter of the 5th went unanswered.

In the course of all of this roiling, two events occurred which seem illustrative.

During one of his early telephone conversations with an SPCA staffer, a frustrated Durette blurted out an obscenity. Within the context, his offending word was not linked to either the other person or the SPCA, but referred to Durette's claim of original ownership. Durette recalls his outburst thus: "I said that the dog was born on my _____ living room floor!" The SPCA staffer immediately, and rightly, terminated the call. Durette says that he felt ashamed. "That's not the way I am. I was just so upset about everything." He says that he called back, apologized, and that his apology was accepted.

During another frustrating go-round, a staffer told Durette that she would have to check on a few things and then call him back. Sure enough, after a while his phone rang. But instead of someone from the SPCA, it was ACO Crickenberger. He told Durette that the people at the SPCA felt like they were being harassed, and that if he didn't stop calling them he, Durette, could be arrested. Durette explained his situation to Crickenberger, who heard him out, and then walked him through all of the legal ramifications of the Topsy matter. "Once he heard my side, Officer Crickenberger's manner and tone of voice changed," says Durette. "It was like he understood my side of it. He was the only one who ever explained anything to me."

Having taken the SPCA's measure, Durette, again with Mitch Carr's help, moved on up the line. He emailed copies of his unanswered letters with a synopsis of the event to each supervisor and city councilor as well as to the managers of both Albemarle County, and the City of Charlottesville. From these thirteen, he received but one reply.

"Ann Mallek was the only person who got back to me." Since Mallek is the supervisor for Whitehall and Durette lives in the Samuel Miller District Mallek said it was up to Liz Palmer to address his issue.

On August 28th, Supervisor Palmer sent Emmett Durette a three-sentence email. In it, she stated that she had spoken with the SPCA and ACO. She expressed regret. And she said, "...I have concluded that this is not something the Board of Supervisors can or should help with." Supervisor Palmer responded to our request for comment with a three-paragraph email, mirroring her reply to Mr. Durette.

During his interview with the Scottsville Monthly, ACO Crickenberger explained the relationship between the county and the SPCA. "The county doesn't maintain an impoundment facility, so we use the SPCA as the pound. They get a flat fee based on the county's population. Charlottesville has a similar arrangement with them. That's the way most jurisdictions do it." A peek at this year's county budget shows \$ 604,403 slated for the SPCA. That expenditure is projected to be north of \$620K in 2020. In short, a subset of the county's public safety responsibility is dependent upon the SPCA, and the SPCA can count on receiving a good chunk of change for fulfilling the terms of its agreement.

Mitch Carr sees this matter as a contract issue; one that is ripe for reform. In his view, the contractor (SPCA) has acted in a rude, entitled, and capricious



Public Art In The SPCA Front Yard. There's a young fellow in southern Albemarle County who isn't feeling it so much.

manner. He finds the client's (BOS) tolerant disengagement baffling, at best.

For Carr, the situation has gone from Code Inexcusable to Code Infuriating, which has made him like - you should excuse the expression - a dog with a bone.

"I'm not letting go of this one." he avers.

Emmett Durette is in it for the long haul, too. "I know I made some mistakes, and my dog is gone. But I'm going to keep talking about it. This shouldn't happen to anyone else."

We dropped in at the SPCA's Berkmar Drive location on Thursday, October 3rd, and asked to speak with Director Gunter. She was unavailable. A written message was left for the executive director which included our name, affiliation, purpose, and contact information. Assurances were given that Ms. Gunter would be given the message. Since then, numerous requests for interviews have been left in the automated voicemail box of Director of Operations Heather Sullivan (The speaking-with-a-human option does not exist on the electronic answering device menu at the SPCA)

As we go to press no one from the SPCA has responded to any of our requests.

For your convenience, the Town of Scottsville will sell you all of the Albemarle County dog licenses you'll ever need. All you have to do is stop by the Town Hall (9-5; M-F), bring proof of rabies vaccination for each animal, and pay the fee. Town Administrator Matt Lawless, says he will have you out of there in a couple of minutes.

Call (434) 286-9267 for all of the details.

Happy Thanksgiving!

TAVERN on the JAMES

Thanksgiving Dinner

*Available November 28, 2019
11:00 AM- 7:00 PM*

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Fresh Garden Salad

Dinner Selections
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Center cut, bone-in ham steak glazed with pineapple house pickled ginger sauce

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www.TavernOnTheJames.com

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EVENTS

FLUVANNA COMMUNITY SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT: will be held on Friday evening , December 6 , at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 7, at 3 p.m. at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center located on route 15, halfway between E.W. Thomas's store and Fork Union. The 65 Voice chorus will present "Let's Have a Christmas Celebration". The Concert is FREE – a gift to the people of Fluvanna County. Questions: call Frank Saurman at (434) 589-3456.

FOR SALE

DRIVEWAY STONE: Slate: 10-Ton Crush Run at \$ 200., 10-Ton #57 at \$265.Other stone/rock also available. Pricing includes local delivery and *Tailgate spread. Call (434) 420-2002.

CEMETERY SITES: Holly Memorial Gardens and Monticello Memory Gardens. Significant savings. Call 434-295-1750.

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FLUVANNA SELF STORAGE: Part-time, 20 hours per week; Reliable; Both

HELP WANTED

office and outdoor tasks; Strong customer service, both in person and on phone; Computer skills; Call (434) 589-2222 or email: manager@storeFSS.com

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RENTALS

MONTICELLO PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT: Call for current home rentals. Contact Genevieve at (434) 589-7653 or email: MonticelloPropertiesMgt@gmail.com

THISTLE GATE VINEYARD: Reserve Thistle Gate Vineyard for your next organizational or private event. Located at 5199 W. River Road, Scottsville, VA. We are a family-owned

RENTALS

and tended vineyard. Come visit! Contact Leslie at (434) 327-3137 or leslie@thistlegatevineyard.com, www.thistlegatevineyard.com

SERVICES

GREG'S LANDSCAPING AND TREE SERVICES: Offering mulching, leaf removal, fertilizer/reseeding grass/mowing, Tree pruning, plantings, removal of storm damage: tree limbs/branches, etc. on grounds. Call (540) 556-2029 or (540) 850-2029.

CARPENTER: For All Your Home Repairs. Locks and Dead Bolts installed or replaced. Furniture repairs: Table legs wobbly? Dresser drawers off track? Doors sticking/not closing? Sofa or chair needing tightening/reinforcement ? Installation of weather stripping. No Job Too Small! Call Tom Maschi (434) 293-9058.

FLUVANNA SELF STORAGE: Fluvanna Self Storage on Lake Monticello Rd. (Rte 618, Palmyra) offers 2 convenient locations with both Climate Controlled and Regular Units

SERVICES

(24/7 availability), locks, moving supplies, U-Haul Trucks, and ON-SITE manager.(434) 589-2222, email: manager@storeFSS.com, or visit: storeFSS.com, today!

SPECIAL NOTICE

COMING THIS FALL: New Storage Space available for Boat and RV Storage at Lake Monticello's Only 'Full Service Self Storage' Company. Now with 2 Convenient Locations on Lake Monticello Road (Rte 618). Regular/Climate controlled units. 24/7 access. Call (434) 589-2222 or www.storefss.com. Authorized Dealer for U-HAUL.

ATTENTION VETERANS and DEPENDENTS: Do you know your Veterans Benefits? We do! Virginia Department of Veterans Services, <https://www.Virginiaforveterans.com> , <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov>.Need Help? Call (434) 295-2785 or 1(800) 827-1000 for Veterans Affairs Benefits and Services.



WANTED

Part Time Account Executive

OUR GROWING 5-PAPER MEDIA COMPANY IS SEEKING AN ADVERTISING SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE for the Scottsville Monthly and Buckingham Beacon.

You will be talking with potential advertising customers in Scottsville and Buckingham and beyond, planning ad campaigns and establishing budgets, helping design basic layouts and cross-selling into all of our publications.

The ideal candidate:

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- should be able to multi-task and organize work flow, build rapport with local businesses and help the team meet weekly sales goal numbers.
- needs to be comfortable with telephone and written sales efforts as well as with face-to-face presentations.

This is a part-time position with very high commissions, and is perfect for anyone wanting to earn extra income in a 10-12 hour per week sales capacity.

If this fits your skill set, please forward your resume to:
Judi Price, Advertising Director
Judi.valleypublishing@gmail.com



Events

The Bread of Life Ministry - Scottsville Community Center

The Bread of Life Ministry distribution program provides food and supplies to those in need through the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Donors and contributors include local organizations, churches, and businesses. Food is distributed the 3rd Saturday of the month from 8:00 a.m.–9:15 a.m. at the Scottsville Community Center and on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Scottsville Farmers Market Pavilion. Zip codes served: 24590, 24562, 22937, 22946 & 22969.

The contact information for volunteers is: 434-286-2892 and email is bhyson@embarqmail.com

Thistle Gate Winery

When: Open March through December

Where: 5199 W. River Rd., Scottsville

Call: (434) 286-7781

More info: <http://www.thistlegatevineyard.com/events.html>

Nov 29 and 30 (Friday and Saturday), Noon to 5 PM. Thistle Market! Come shop with artisans and crafters,

mulled wine and food available for purchase.

Dec. 14, Noon to 5 PM. Christmas Open House. Visit from Santa, festive fare and mulled wine.

Books on Tap: James River Brewery Book Club

Join your neighbors on the first Monday of every month for a book discussion at James River Brewery in downtown Scottsville. Future book choices will be voted on by attendees. Find a copy of the month's book in a variety of formats in our library catalog.

December 2: Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver (so we can pretend it's warm!)

Holy Eucharist - St. John's Church

Every Thursday morning, 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, St. John's Church. Please enter by the side door on Bird St. All are welcome. Join us for the service and fellowship at Baine's Books and Coffee immediately following the service.

Mid-Week Rest in God - Scottsville United Methodist Church

Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., our pastor offers a brief, midweek worship service (20–25 minutes), open to all. We hear Scripture, pray, have conversation, and celebrate Communion.

AA and Al Anon

Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Scottsville United Methodist Church. AA meets in the Fellowship Hall and Al Anon (for families of problem drinkers) meets in the Sunday School Room.

AA meeting on Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Howardsville Rd., Glenmore, in Buckingham

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Answers to the Crossword Puzzle from page 11

G	R	A	B	S	H	A	R	P	B	L	A	H
R	O	L	L	P	O	L	A	R	R	U	B	E
I	D	L	E	A	N	E	M	O	M	E	T	E
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Y	E	A	R	S	E	E	M	S	L	E	E	R

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THISTLE GATE

VINEYARD

Upcoming Events

THISTLE GATE VINEYARD's annual THISTLE MARKET

November 29th and 30th
Noon until 5:00 pm

Please join us for a grand Thanksgiving weekend at Thistle Gate Vineyard!
Delicious mulled wine and award winning wines, twenty plus local artisans
and vendors offering beautiful jewelry, dog treats, wood creations,
freshly roasted coffee, candles, home decor and gifts for all!

We will have yummy lunch for purchase
as well as our incredible charity baskets raffle!

We can't wait to see you!
Leslie and George



www.thistlegatevineyard.com

5199 W. River Road • Scottsville, VA

434-286-7781