

The Orange School of Performing Arts presents

THE NUTCRACKER



Performance Dates & Locations

December 13, 2019 ... OSPA Firehouse Theatre (7:00pm)

December 14, 2019 ... OSPA Firehouse Theatre (2:00pm)

December 15, 2019 ... Piedmont Virginia Community College (2:00pm)

540-672-9038 Reserve your tickets **540-672-9038**

Limited Seating – Call now OR drop by OSPA Monday thru Thursday (4-8pm)
Saturday 10-12noon

108 Belleview Avenue, Orange Va • Website: www.ospa.net

OC Magazine

A monthly publication

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Submissions, tips, ideas, etc.: OC Magazine encourages submissions and tips on items of interest to Orange County citizens. However we reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed necessary and cannot guarantee they will be published. OC Magazine will not be responsible for returning submitted materials, please include S.A.S.E. if you would like items returned. Please keep Calendar submissions to fifty words or less. Letters to the Editor to 300 words or less and feature stories to 500 words or less. (Letters to the Editor, Community Calendar, etc.), E-mail valleyeditor 1@gmail.com

Classified ads: Classified ads are \$10 per month. Please send a written or typed copy of the ad with a \$10 check to: Classifieds Department, P.O. Box 59, Palmyra, VA 22963. You can also email edee@fluvannareview.com and pay by credit card. Please specify the category it should appear under. Ads must be 30 words or less. Sorry, classifieds will not be taken by phone.

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Next Advertising deadline: Wednesday. January 1, 2020

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Orange County Welcomes Festive Holiday Season

hen winter arrives, it's time to indulge in local, seasonal wines, and holi-day feasts. Towns of Orange and Gordonsville transform into old-fash-James holiday villages, Madison's Montpelier is adorned with vintage 19th century holiday customs and the Market at Grelen's Enchanted Extravaganza features artisans in a farm market setting. December offers many holiday events and special experiences to enjoy the festive season in Orange County, Virginia.



Santa visits Main Street Gordonsville! Hosted by Gordonsville Area Vibes and Cavallo Gallery - Gordonsville Saturday, December 21, 2019 at 2 PM - 4 PM

Join us for some holiday cheer when Santa stops by the shops on Main Street for a surprise visit on December 21st from 2 - 4 p.m.! Bring your kids and your last minute wishes!





Orange County gets ready for a festive holiday season.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger.



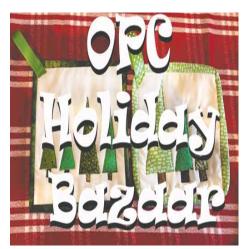
Downtown Gordonsville, All Decked Out for the Holidays

Downtown Gordonsville is glowing this holiday season! Not only is Main Street glowing so are the local shops with special one of a kind and locally made gifts for all tastes. Local tastes you want to try while you are in the neighborhood, BBQ Exchange, Krecek Kakes for the your sweet tooth and check out the new additions to Main Street, Well Hung Vineyard Room Restaurant Rochambeau.

See Holiday Season, page 4

December 6, 2019-January 9, 2020 • OC MAGAZINE • 3

Holiday Season from page 3



Orange Presbyterian Church Holiday Bazaar

DEC 6: Fri 8:00 AM-11:00 AM DEC 7: Sat 8:00 AM-11:00 AM

Orange Presbyterian Church • 162 W Main St, Orange
Our annual craft bazaar returns! Hand-crafted toys, gifts and
decorations, greenery, baked goods, soups, spices and herbs,
an amazing assortment of specialty gift baskets and more!
Alternative gifts available, too. Make a donation in someone's
name to Habitat for Humanity, the Christian Emergency
Council or the Medical Benevolence Foundation.
Proceeds from sales benefit Habitat for Humanity, the Christian Emergency Council, and the Orange Presbyterian Weekday
School. More info at orangepc.org/bazaar

Christmas Chorus Concert

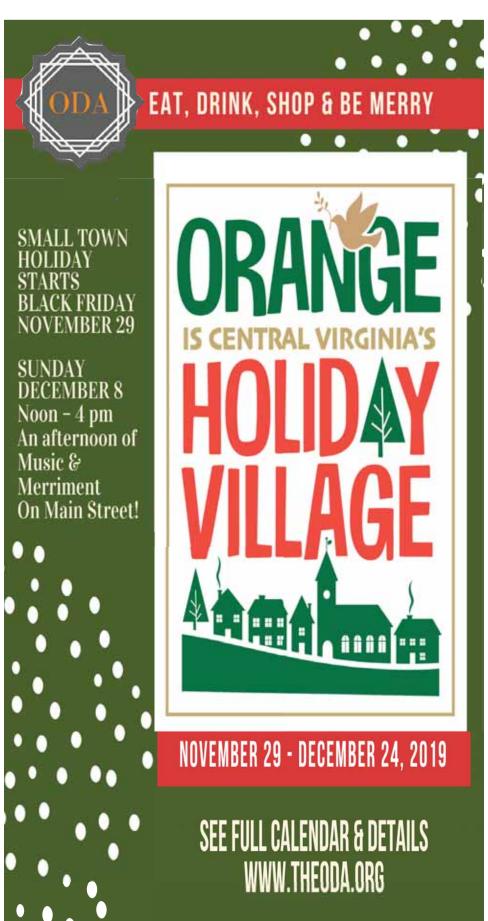
Hosted by Orange Community Band and Chorus Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 7:30 PM

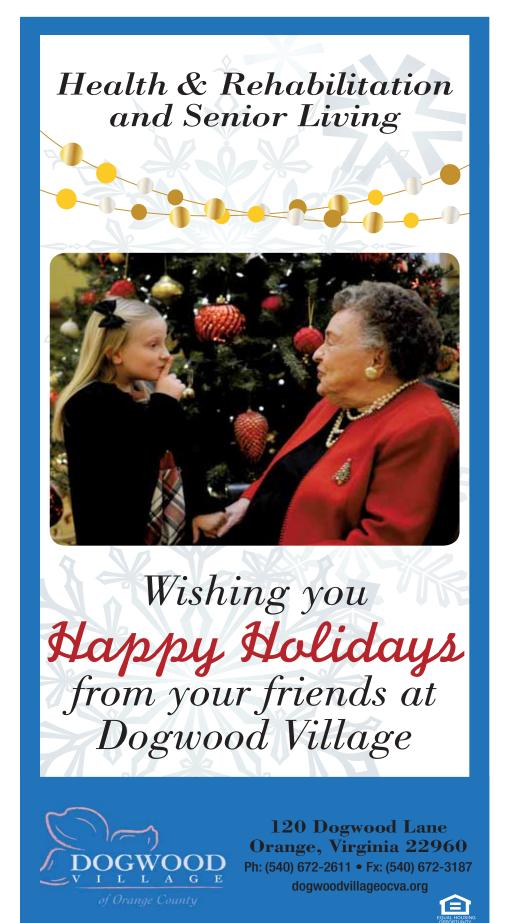
Orange Presbyterian Church • 162 W Main St, Orange

Band Concert: Sunday, December 22nd at Orange County High school at 3:30pm.

Please join us for two evenings of beautiful and uplifting holiday music! The Chorus presents their Christmas concert at Orange Presbyterian on Saturday, December 7th, and the Band performs on Sunday, December 22nd at Orange County High school at 3:30pm. We would love for you and your friends and family to join us for these free concerts and celebrate the magic of the season together! Admissionis free.

See Holiday Season page 6





LOUISA Arts CENTER

212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa

Theater Auditions



The King and I Auditions: **Casting All Ages** December 19 & 20 at 6:30pm

(Participants only need to attend one audition date) What to prepare: 30 seconds (or 16-32 bars) of a performance piece that showcases vocal strength and acting ability.

Music by RICHARD RODGERS Book and Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Based on "Anna and the King of Siam" by Margaret Landon. Original Choreography by Jerome Robbins

540-967-5200 LouisaArts.org



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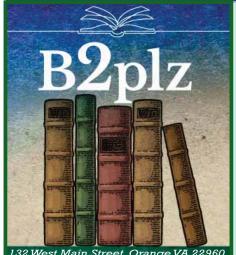


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#### LOUISA ACENTER PRESENTS:

#### **The Swon Brothers**



#### January 25, 7:30pm, \$37 All Seats

Coming from the hit TV show, The Voice, The Swon Brothers became the first country duo to make it to the season finale with the help of their coach, Blake Shelton. They have since received a nomination for CMA Vocal Duo of the Year," and spent a year touring with Carrie Underwood. With hits like "Later On," "This Side of Heaven," and "Pretty Beautiful," this is a country show you won't want to miss!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

LouisaArts.org

540-967-5200

## FOUR COUNTY PLAYERS



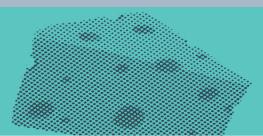
Box Office: 540.832.5355 www.fourcp.org 4countyplayers@gmail.com Like us on Facebook

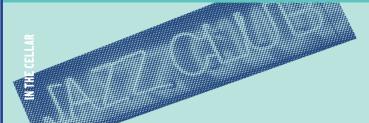






## THE MOUSEIRAP CLINTON JOHNST MAR 6-22 BY AGATHA CHRISTIE





CELLAR IN BLUE APR

MUSIC & LYRICS BY BENNY ANDERSSON, BJÖRN ULVAEUS





#### James Madison's Montpelier, Holiday Open House

James Madison's Montpelier invites you to a free community holiday event, in a gesture of thanks for the ongoing support of our neighbors and friends. Take a break from the holiday frenzy to relax and enjoy the season with a bit of history, tradition, and family-friendly activities. Free! Looking for some free fun during winter



Kids Free at Montpelier Dec 26, 2019 at 9 AM – Jan 1, 2020 at 4 PM • Phone: 540) 672-2728 James Madison's Montpelier

11350 Constitution Highway, Orange

As the holiday frenzy subsides, gather your family and friends and visit Montpelier. Between December 26 and January 1, all kids

ages 14 and under get free admission for any House tour.

The free tours make for an affordable and enriching winter experience. Admission to the House includes the opportunity to explore the exhibition "The Mere Distinction of Colour" and join "Montpelier's Enslaved Community" walking tour. Montpelier also will be offering its "Discovering Montpelier: A Family Friendly Tour," an interactive experience for families that involves discovering artifacts and documents, participating in kid-friendly activities, and touring the House and its surroundings.

Kids will love our "Mysteries of Montpelier" exhibition in the Visitor Center, where they can create their own miniature museum displays, touch artifacts from the property, and take a picture at a selfie station!

Purchase your tickets online and receive \$2 off each ticket!

 $Learn\ more\ at\ https://www.montpelier.org/events/kids-are-free-at-montpelier-december-26-january-2$ 



The fairy workshop.

The Fairy Garden Workshop

Hosted by The Market at Grelen

Market at Grelen
DEC 14: Sat10:00 AM
DEC 21: Sat10:00 AM

The Market at Grelen 15091 Yager Rd, Somerset

Bring out the family for an interactive workshop taught by Plant Designer Farley Farrar. Workshops are \$5/person and all participants will get 10% off miniatures on the day of the workshop.

The workshop will

begin promptly at 10 am with a demo by Farley lasting approximately 20 minutes, the remainder of the workshop is interactive and includes tips and tricks for how to design your own garden and Farley will guide you through the process. Phone: (540) 672-7268



#### 3rd Annual Gingerbread House Contest

The Arts Center in Orange

Cast your vote for your favorite Gingerbread creation at The Arts Center in Orange. Hosted by Orange County Parks and Recreation and the Arts Center In Orange. Come pick your favorite Gingerbread house created by local families and organizations. Voting will last from December 6-17th. Free! Open 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. 129 E Main St, Orange. Phone: (540) 672-7311

# PART-TIME REPORTER



OC Magazine

#### **NEEDS A PART-TIME REPORTER**

OC Magazine is currently seeking a part-time reporter to write about Orange County's rich history and interesting people.

Please email resume with samples of writing, to: valleyeditor1@gmail.com

Carlos Santos, Publisher



Winter Vendor Fair Hosted by Orange Elementary PTA Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 9 AM – 3 PM

Orange Elementary

Schoo

230 Montevista Ave, Orange, Virginia 22960

Don't be left out in the cold! Join us for our 3rd Annual Winter Vendor fair to benefit the OES PTA!

Guess who will be stopping by to have photos taken...He will be at the Fair from 10-12 and from 1-3. Plan on stopping by to do some shopping and have your photo taken!!



Winter Wonderland Craft Night Hosted by Orange Elementary PTA Friday, December 13, 2019 at 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Orange Elementary School 230 Montevista Ave, Orange

Join us for a night of free crafts for the kids! We will have 8-10 different winter craft activities for kids to do.

#### Friends of Wilderness Battlefield

### A 19th Century Christmas at Ellwood Manor

36380 Constitution Hwy, Locust Grove Saturday, December 14: 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Santa and Crafts. 12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. Open House

Sunday, December 15: 12:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. Open House

Monday, December 16 – Friday, December 20: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM. Ellwood Open

On Saturday, December 14, Friends of Wilderness Battlefield will host our 11th annual event: "A 19th Century Christmas at Ellwood Manor." The doors will open at 9:00 A.M. and children of all ages may visit with Santa and enjoy making period arts and crafts until 12:00 P.M. Parents will want to be sure to bring their cameras! After Santa departs at NOON, the house will remain open until 2:00 P.M., for guests who would like to enjoy the beautiful period decorations provided by the Fawn Lake Garden Club.

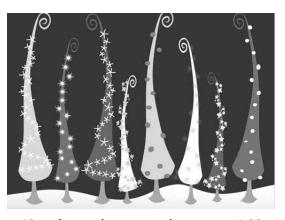
The house will be open again on Sunday, December 15, from 12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M., with live period music provided by Evergreen Shade, for visitors who would prefer to enjoy the decorated house in a more relaxed setting. Friends of Wilderness Battlefield volunteers will be available to talk with visitors about the history of the house and volunteer opportunities with the organization throughout the day.

Because of the beautiful decorations and hard work provided by the Fawn Lake Garden Club and FoWB volunteers, Ellwood will also be open from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM the following week (December 16-20) from 12:00-3:00 for visitors to enjoy.

In the case of a major inclement weather event, please check our website and/or Facebook page for possible cancelations.

Copyright Friends of Wilderness Battlefield, Inc., P.O. Box 576, Locust Grove, VA., 22508

FoWB is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, tax ID 42-1689437.



Christmas at the Exchange Hotel
Hosted by The Exchange
Hotel and Civil War Medical
Museum
Saturday, December 21, 2019
at 1 PM – 4 PM

Exchange Hotel Civil War Museum, 400 S Main St

Take time to wind down from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and tour our beautiful museum and experience it decorated for Christmas. We will open

at 10am for regular tours and starting at 1:00pm there will be light refreshments and The Grinch will join us to take pictures with the children. Admission price for this special day will be donation based. We hope to see you there and wish you a very Merry Christmas!



The Nutcracker
December 13,14, & 15, 2019
The Orange School of Performing
Arts presents The Nutcracker.
December 13, 2019-OSPA
Firehouse Theatre 7 pm
December 14, 2019-OSPA
Firehouse Theatre 2 pm
December 15, 2019-Piedmont
Virginia Community College 2 pm
Nutcracker tickets are now on sale!
To purchase tickets for the PVCC Show

http://tututix.com/OSPA

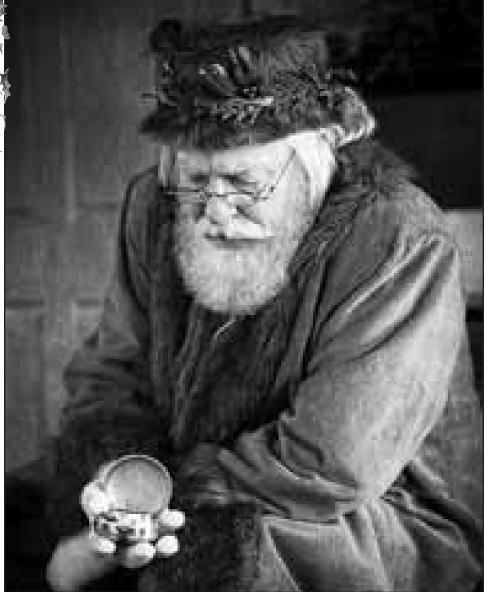
Join us December 15, 2019 (2:00pm) for a Matinee Performance at PVCC (Charlottesville)

Advance tickets for December 15 (PVCC) are ONLINE ONLY!!!

\*Patron Seats are \$20.00

\*General Admission Seats are \$15.00.

Day of the show tickets are \$20.00 cash only.



Don't miss the Victorian Christmas at Ellwood Manor.

### Foreclosure?-You Can Keep Your House!



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#### Holiday Season from page 7



#### Sunday, December 8, 2019 Orange Christmas Parade

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Orange, the 2019 parade theme:Lights, lights, lights, Christmas lights....show the world how you light the way during the Christmas season. Hours: 4:30 pm



The Art Center in Orange

Thursday, Dec.5 - Jan. 31, 2020

Morin Gallery Exhibit- A Common Thread: *The Art of the Quilt at The Arts Center In Orange* 

Thursday, Dec.5 - Jan. 31, 2020

Hours:10:00 am-5:00 pm • 129 East Main Street, Orange • 540-672-7311 • theartsorange@aol.com

3rd Annual Orange County Tacky Lights Tour
18 Dates · Dec 14 - Dec 31
DEC14: Sat 7:00 PM
DEC15: Sun 7:00 PM
DEC16: Mon 7:00 PM
Orange County Parks & Recreation
146 Madison Rd, Ste 205, Orange

Our Tour returns this year! Please note that this is NOT A CONTEST, it is a light-hearted tour just for fun. If you love decorating your house with lights for the holidays (either

tacky or classy), then please join our tour! Our tour is currently accepting participating households. To register your household visit: http://www.orangecountyva.gov/FormCenter/Parks-Recreation-14/OCPR-Tacky-Lights-Tour-Entry-Form-2019-84.

You must register your house no later than Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019. Participating households will receive a commemorative tacky sweatshirt! Please thank our sponsors for making this possible: Orange Tire, Inc., Partner's 1st Federal Credit Union, and AMOS APPAREL. Additional sponsorships are available, contact us at (540) 672-5435



36th Annual Singing Christmas Tree presented by the Orange Baptist Church

#### Saturday, December 14 & Sunday, December 15, 2019

The Singing Christmas Tree at Orange Baptist Church is a Christmas tradition that you don't want to miss this Christmas season. Make plans now to attend one of the four performances listed below. No ticket is required.

Hours: 5:30 pm & 7:30 pm shows 123 W. Main St. Orange Phone: 540.672.2996



Hoilday Craft Activity: Quilled Snowflakes at The James Madison Museum

#### Saturday, December 14, 2019

Join us at the Museum to learn how to make a quilled paper snowflake! We will talk about Christmas decorations of the past and you will get to take home your very own snowflake! This activity is free.

Hours: 10 AM – 11 AM 129 Caroline Street, Orange, Virginia 22960 (540) 672-1776 jamesmadisonmuseuminfo@gmail.com

See Holiday Season page 10

# 212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa

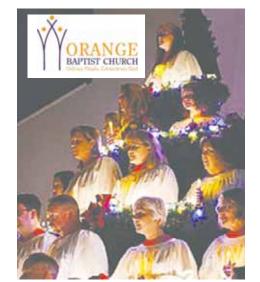
## You're A Good Man Charlie Brown December 13-15, \$10 Youth & \$20 Adults

Charles Schulz's beloved 1967 classic comic strip comes to life in Clark Gesner's musical, You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, and the entire Peanuts gang is here! Witness this charming revue of vignettes and songs as the "Peanuts" navigate the joys and pitfalls childhood with chaotic baseball games, unrequited valentines, World War I flying beagles, and five cent psychiatry.

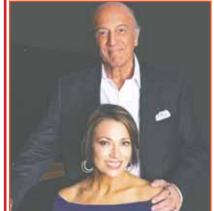
www.tamswitmark.com

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN is presented by arrangement with TAMS-WITMARKwww.tamswitmark.com (c) 2019 Peanuts Worldwide. LLC

540-967-5200 LouisaArts.org



#### Louisa Arts Center Presents:



## Emile Pandolfi and Dana Russell

#### February 8, 7:30pm, \$29 All Seats

Join us for a special concert with Steinway Artist Emile Pandolfi and Broadway vocalist Dana Russell, as they perform lush arrangements of popular standards and classical favorites. Whether it's 'The Great American Songbook, singer/songwriter selections, Broadway or classical pieces, their artistic combination is sure to be a hit!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

LouisaArts.org

540-967-5200





#### 2 EGG COMBO

2 eggs (fried or scrambled) with fruit, toast, fried potatoes and choice of bacon OR sausage

#### **3 EGG COMBO**

3 Eggs (fried or scrambled) with fruit, toast fried potatoes & choice of bacon OR sausage

#### **STEAK N EGGS**

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200 Boardwalk Way • Mineral, Va 23117









**Enchanted Extravaganza 2019** Hosted by The Market at Grelen •Dec 7: Sat **9:00 AM-4:00 PM • Dec 8: Sun 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**The Market at Grelen• 15091 Yager Rd,

The Market at Grelen is excited to host the 5th annual Enchanted Extravaganza! Featuring holiday decor, handmade gifts from local artisans, Grelen decor, handmade gifts from local artisans, Grelen trees and greens, ready to hang wreaths or make your own at one of our wreath workshops (sign up on our website), you can even visit Santa\*... Enchanted Extravaganza has it all!

Vendors will be set up in Grelen's beautiful event tent & The Market will be open for even more holiday shopping! The Cafe will have a special but limited menu for the weekend-please check our website for details as the event gets closer! \*Santa will attend Saturday ONLY, from 11am-2pm.



KIDS CRAFT DAY Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 12 PM - 4 PM

Horton Vineyards: 6399 Spotswood Trail, Gordonsville

Bring the kids out for tons of fun holiday crafts. Adults can enjoy a glass of wine while their kids decorate ornaments and more in the tasting room. Horton Vineyards, Gordonsville.

12-4pm. For more info call: 540-832-7440.



Wine Dinner at Vintage Restaurant at The Inn at Willow Grove

Friday, December 20, 2019 & Friday, January 24, 2020

Join us on Friday, December 20 for a very special wine dinner. We will be pouring tastings

from our wine library to complement a menu created by our culinary team. Space is limited to 16 persons or couples. eight Price per person is \$400. Seating



begins at 6:30 pm. This event is well-suited to a small group or holiday gathering. To reserve your seat, please contact sales@innatwillowgrove.com or message us for more information.

Vintage will be pouring tastings from their wine library to complement a menu created by our culinary team. Seating begins at 6:30 pm. Friday, December 20, 2019 or Friday, January 24, 2020.Hours:6:30 pm



**Christmas Lunch Celebration at Barboursville Vineyards** Sunday, December 22, 2019 @ 1:00pm

Enjoy a four course feast paired with Barboursville wines, prepared by Chef Spencer Crawford. \$80 per person exclusive of wine, tax and service. Reservation required. 540-832-7848 Hours:1:00 pm

**New Year's Eve Dinner and Celebration** Five course feast prepared by Chef Spencer Crawford. 7:30 pm

Tuesday, 31 Dec 2019 @ 7:30pm

Celebrate the new year with a five course feast paired with Barboursville wines along with live Brazillian music from Beleza Duo,

prepared by Chef Spencer Crawford. \$175 per person, all inclusive. Black tie optional. Reservation required. 540-832-7848. 17655 Winery Road, **Barboursville** 



#### Holiday Season Around The Area



#### December 7, Saturday BARRACKS ROAD ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARADE Barracks Road Shopping Center Charlottesville.

Enjoy this annual hometown parade with costumed characters, antique cars, live animals, colorful floats, Santa Claus, marching bands and more. A Charlottesville tradition for over 40 years. The parade will travel from Harris Teeter to Kroger, lasting approximately 30 minutes. Barracks Road Shopping Center. 9:30am. All ages welcome. After the parade, march

over to these merchants for festive treats and merry deals. For more info call: 434-977-9233.



#### December 8, Sunday PARAMOUNT AT THE MOVIES PRESENTS: ELF

The Paramount Theater on the Downtown Mall Charlottesville

You don't want to miss the big screen showing of this seasonal comedy classic. Charlottesville Family is a proud sponsor! The Paramount Theater. 1pm &

6pm. \$5 Youth, \$7 Adult. For more info call: 434-979-1333.



#### December 7 & 14 HOLIDAY ON THE HILL Carter Mountain Orchard.

Celebrate the holiday season on the Mountain with some kid- and family-friendly crafts and decorating activities, with samples galore, great sales and Christmas music to get your spirits in high gear. Enjoy the Gingerbread House Workshop and decorate the preassembled gingerbread house! Workshop times are

12pm, 1pm and 3pm. Registration recommended. Carter Mountain Orchard.10am-5mpm. \$Free admission and parking, some fee-based activities. Info@CarterMountainOrchard.com. For more info call: 434-977-1833.



A Christmas Carol, Live Radio Play Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature Tickets: scottsvillechristmascarol.bpt.me Date: December 12th, 13th, and 14th Location: Victory Hall Theater 401 Valley St, Scottsville, Virginia

The Charles Dickens holiday classic comes to life as a live 1940s radio broadcast, complete with vintage commercials and the magic of live sound effects and musical underscoring. A handful of actors bring dozens of characters to the stage, as the familiar story unfolds: Three ghosts take Ebenezer Scrooge on a thrilling journey to teach him the true meaning of Christmas. A charming take on a family favorite that will leave no one saying "Bah Humbug!

Presented by SCAN's 'Victory Hall Players' • Call: (434) 286-2806



**Larnell Starkey &** The Spiritual Seven

Hosted by PVCC Fine Arts & Performance and Piedmont Virginia Community College Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Piedmont Virginia Community College 501 College Dr, Charlottesville

Tickets: v6.click4tix.com

Known by many as the "Gospel Temptations," Larnell Starkey & The Spiritual Seven Gospel Singers is made up of brothers, sons and cousins who are all members of the Chestnut Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Wirtz, Virginia. Their music, a zestful blend of traditional gospel with a twist of contemporary soul, showcases the group's amazing vocal harmonies from high-flying falsettos to the deep rich sounds of the low bass. For 50 years, this award-winning ensemble has moved the spirit of people of all ages and denominations.

Takes place in the Main Stage Theatre in the V. Earl Dickinson Building, located on Piedmont Virginia Community College's Main Campus in Charlottesville.

## The Rescuers

By Pat Wilson Correspondent

s rescue groups and animal shelters struggle to find homes for unwanted or abused animals, individuals can also be credited with opening their hearts and their homes. The dog that wanders the neighborhood, the cat that hides in a barn hayloft or the pet that an older person must give up because of living or health concerns are often lucky enough to find caring persons to take in them. Over this and future issues of Louisa Life, people will share their stories of compassion.

Karen Donnelly and Teagan

Having been rescued by a dog as a toddler, I believe it must be in my psyche to return the favor. For years, my father told the story which occurred on the farm just outside of the town of Louisa, where my mother grew up. My grandparents, H. Ryland and Mary Hester, had a mule, and I can still envision my grandfather plowing a field with the animal.

One weekend, when I was about two-and-a-half, my parents, a newborn sister, our dog Blaze and I were visiting from our home in Northern Virginia. Numerous relatives including my mother's siblings and spouses greeted us. In the excitement of the usual oohing and aahing over the new baby, as well as catching up on local gossip, I had wandered out a screen door and toward the mule's enclosure.

At the moment my father realized I wasn't in the house, Blaze bolted through the door and headed in the direction of the pasture, as my father and many of the folks from the house ran behind. I had apparently ventured toward the mule's enclosure which was a ways off and beyond a number of outbuildings. My father said that, as he approached the field, he heard braying and peals of laughter. He could see the mule's rear heels, kicking up into the air. Just beneath those heels, I sat with my back against the barn, laughing at the spectacle occurring a few inches above my head.

My father stopped, frantically thinking how to pull me away from danger. Suddenly, as the mule's head came down to execute its next kick, Blaze, with perfect timing, leapt up and bit into the mule's nose. The mule shook his head but the dog held on and the kicking ceased. Only when my father grabbed me and moved us to safety, did Blaze let go of the mule's bloodied nose. Perhaps, Blaze's action engrained in me that love of dogs.

As a result, I have owned numerous dogs - all of them rescues. While a teen, I worked for a veterinarian. One day someone brought in a young, scrawny, pitiful dog they'd found on the road. Unable to locate the owner, the veterinarian offered to spay, immunize and worm her, if I was willing to keep her. I named the skittish and fearful puppy, Gretchen. She soon learned to trust me and blossomed into a beautiful dog with a collie's tan body and white neck.

Gretchen would be the first of several rescue dogs with varying personalities that my husband Steve and I have welcomed into our family. Nanna was a nurturing and tolerant large bearded collie mix. Mickey was a small border collie/terrier mix with a cock-of-the-walk, impulsive personality that we all found hilarious. Our children grew up reading James Herriot's books and the stories of the animals that the British veterinarian encountered in his practice. So, they shared our enthusiasm in caring for and loving dogs.

Now, as empty nesters, we have Laddie who is a small border collie/setter mix and our most recent rescue Teagan, an Australian shepherd mix we adopted from a North Carolina rescue group earlier this year. Teagan, too, was shy and skittish and bore a very thin, sparse coat with a large scar down her back. Our vet believes the scar was the outcome of a flame or chemical burn.

In Gaelic, Teagan means "perfect" or "beautiful." We take great joy that in having brought Teagan's diet up to speed, and, with lots of tender loving care, her coat has grown thick and beautifully over the scar. She, like all our rescued pups, has blossomed into happy, healthy dog.

#### Richard Hinde and Priscilla

I have to admit that I was always a lab/shepherd person, but that ended when the first Jack Russell Terrier entered my life. I've been raising and rescuing them since I retired from the Navy in 1986. Over the years, I've had as many as five living with me on a farm in Louisa County.

In April 2017, I lost KC (Kinda A Cute) at the age of 15.5 years. Then, in September

Riley-Moose passed at the age of 16. Although the house was empty without them, I didn't feel I was ready for another one.

Finally, in January 2018, I started to search for another companion. Pet Finders was the search engine of choice and, of course, Jack Russell Terrier was the breed of choice. I visited the website periodically for several weeks, but none of the available JRTs seem like a perfect match.



| Crossword                   |    |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          | by N     | larg     | ie E     | . Bu     | rke      |
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| 38 "Without further         |    |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |

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- 70 Appears
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See Rescuers Page 14

# LOUISA TO CENTER 212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa In the Gallery Upcoming Karen Rosasco and Susan Rosen January 31 – March 20, 2020 Gallery opening on Friday,

**January 31, 2020 from 6pm – 8pm** 

540-967-5200 LouisaArts.org

## **Recycling from Horse to Home**

By Pat Wilson Correspondent

ost items destined for use in David Robertson's hobby are broken tools which the average person would dispose at a landfill. Discarded pliers, nuts, shovels, rebar and saw blades become novelty ornaments when he combines them with used horseshoes. His creativity seems limitless as Robertson turns the cast offs into whimsical cats, colorful lobsters, pink flamingoes, scarf-wearing

Fes

David Robertson uses a right-angle grinder to remove rust from a horse-

snowmen and seasonal pumpkins, to name just a few.

The retired union iron worker spent his career working at various sites including motor speedways and the nuclear power plant. For the past six

David plans to have a booth at the Louisa Christmas Craft Festival at Courthouse Square on Saturday, December 7. A selection of his work is available at the Corner Market and More on Main Street in the town of Louisa.

> years, he has assisted a local welder on a part-time basis. But, about a year ago, while attending a neighborhood yard sale, Robertson's eye caught pieces crafted from horseshoes.

> "I've always tinkered with something like making things from wood," he said. "I was bitten by the horseshoe idea and started making my unique versions using old tools and hardware."

> But, the difficult component to his hobby is locating steel horseshoes. Since they can be costly to buy new, Robertson relies on numerous local farriers for a supply of used one. His craft can require as many as 100 in a week.

Other miscellaneous objects, from





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Majestic flamingo.

metal trays and lawn furniture to forks and spoons, come from a variety of sources. Robertson and his sister, Linda Stillwell, are frequent visitors to area yard sales and, periodically, he searches Goodwill stores hoping to recycle. Their mother Margie claims they inherited the trait from their father, the late Johnson Robertson.

The process can be tedious at first. Not in pristine shape, the worn horseshoes still have nails attached and are

#### See David page 14



A hootie owl.

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Then, a photo of a 10-year-old tri-colored female JRT was posted by Lizzy's Lodge, a nonprofit rescue organization in Silver Spring, Maryland. But, I even had my doubts about her. After about four times of passing over her, I asked for more information. Priscilla, then called Pinkus, and her sister Mulva were living with their second family which included three kids and a German Sheppard. Fans of "Seinfeld" will recognize the names.

Unfortunately, the two Jack Russells were starting to fight with each other, even to the point of vet visits. So, before either dog or the children got seriously hurt, putting both of them up for adoption in separate forever homes was the chosen option.

I sent my JRT application, including the name of my veterinarian and personal references, to the rescue organization. The response from the owner was that "I was just the type of person she was looking for to adopt the dog."

We arranged a meet and greet at Wolf Trap in Northern Virginia. As I was filling out the adoption papers, I was told Pinkus might not go home with me. I guess I was still being evaluated. Then, as I was signing the final documents, I glanced over and noticed the family was taking her stuff out of their truck and putting everything in mine. Obviously, they considered me suitable.

Needless to say, the Jack Russell came home with me and promptly adjusted to her new name Priscilla, or Ms. Pris, so called because she thinks she owns me! She has settled in quickly, loves being a lap dog with no other canine competition and accepts her status as a full fledge family member.



At a viewpoint in her enclosed yard, Priscilla anticipates the return of her owner Richard Hinde.

often rusted. So, the preparation phase is the most time-consuming as Robertson works in his heated workshop, a converted garage in the Oakland community.

"I remove the nails and then pressure-wash the shoes. I'll then sandblast them to remove any crud," he said. "Next, I sort them according to size, which can range from pony to workhorse."

Robertson will make several of the same design simultaneously. For holiday season sales, he is currently emphasizing snowmen, Christmas trees and angels. After selecting the appropriate-sized cleaned shoes, he grinds and bends them before welding. He uses a heating torch, if necessary, and a band saw to cut thinner metal pieces such as forks and saw blades.

This is when Robertson's imagination kicks in. Large nails create the legs of a crab, washers make a snowman's eyes, fork tongs form an owl's feet or vise grips become a lobster's claws. Several clear coats, such as on his patina owls, or selected colors sprayed with rust-resistant paints on various creatures provide the finishing touches. Multi-colored pieces often involve taping and detailed brush work.

Last spring, Robertson successfully began retail sales at the Mineral Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings. During the year, he attended numerous street festivals, winery events and craft shows in Louisa and surrounding counties and plans to set up a booth at the Louisa Christmas Craft Festival at Courthouse Square on Saturday, December 7. A selection of his work is available at the Corner Market and More on Main Street in the town of Louisa.

Sales have resulted in a learning curve. Clients seem to prefer pieces to decorate their patios, lawns or docks. Not every item sold quickly, but Robertson found a solution to his overstock of crabs.

"When I first started, I made lots of crabs, but soon realized they were not always a big seller," he said. "So, I started painting them in college colors and they became popular."

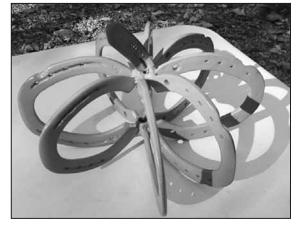
The artisan acknowledges that he considers the horseshoe projects as a hobby, wants to work at his own pace and then sell enough to cover his expenses as well as a little extra to perhaps cover another of his interests. Rods and reels hang on one wall of his workshop.

"In the spring and the fall, the fish are biting," he said.

#### Some more of David's imaginative sculptures



Happy frog.



Spicy pumpkin.



David Robertson admits that he often buys rust-resistant

spray paint by the case.

Contented cow.

All photos courtesy of Pat Wilson



A UVA crab sculpture.



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|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| from page 11                    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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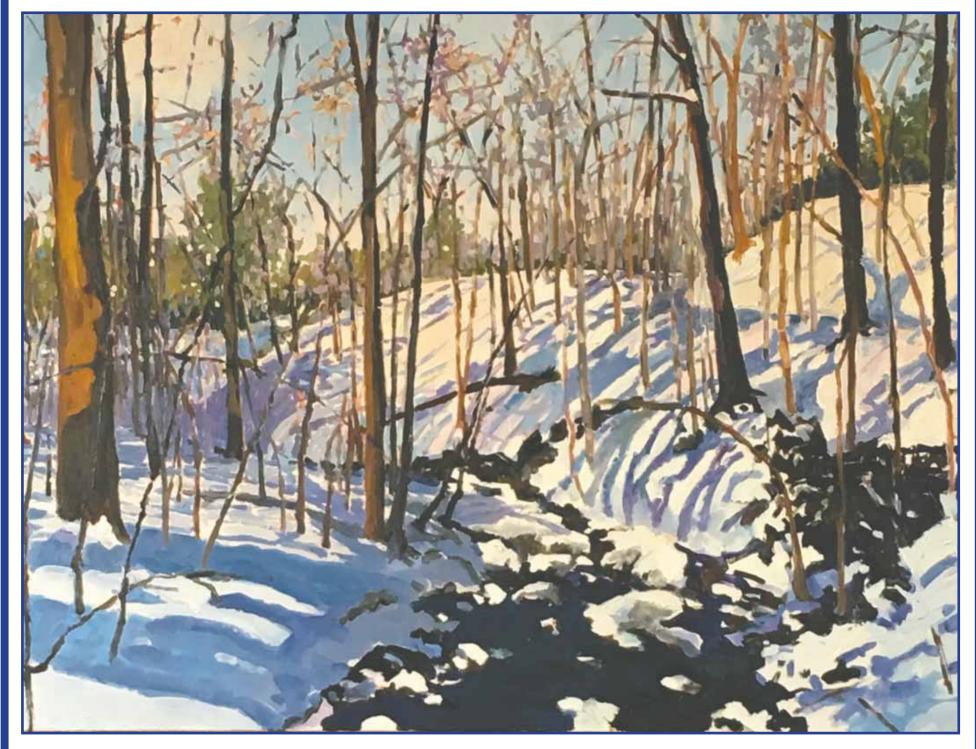
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