

OCC MAGAZINE

February 7–March 5, 2020 • One Copy FREE
ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

The Many Faces of

Love

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Publisher

C. M. Santos
valleyeditor1@gmail.com

Advertising Director

Judi Price
434-207-0223
judi.valleypublishing@gmail.com

Office Manager

Edee Povol
eedee@fluvannareview.com
Classified Line Advertising
(434) 207-0221

Graphic Production Designer

Marilyn Ellinger

Correspondents

Carol Barfield
Pat Wilson

Coauthors

Jordan Atwell-Purcell

Email: valleyeditor1@gmail.com

Advertising Sales:

judi.valleypublishing@gmail.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 59,
Palmyra, VA 22963.

Office Location: 106 Crofton Plaza, Suite 1,
Palmyra, VA 22963

Phone: (434) 591-1000

Fax: (434) 589-1704

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Tourism revenues in Orange County reached \$51 million

Press release

Data released by the United States Travel Association (USTA) reveals that all regions in Virginia posted an increase in tourism revenue last year.

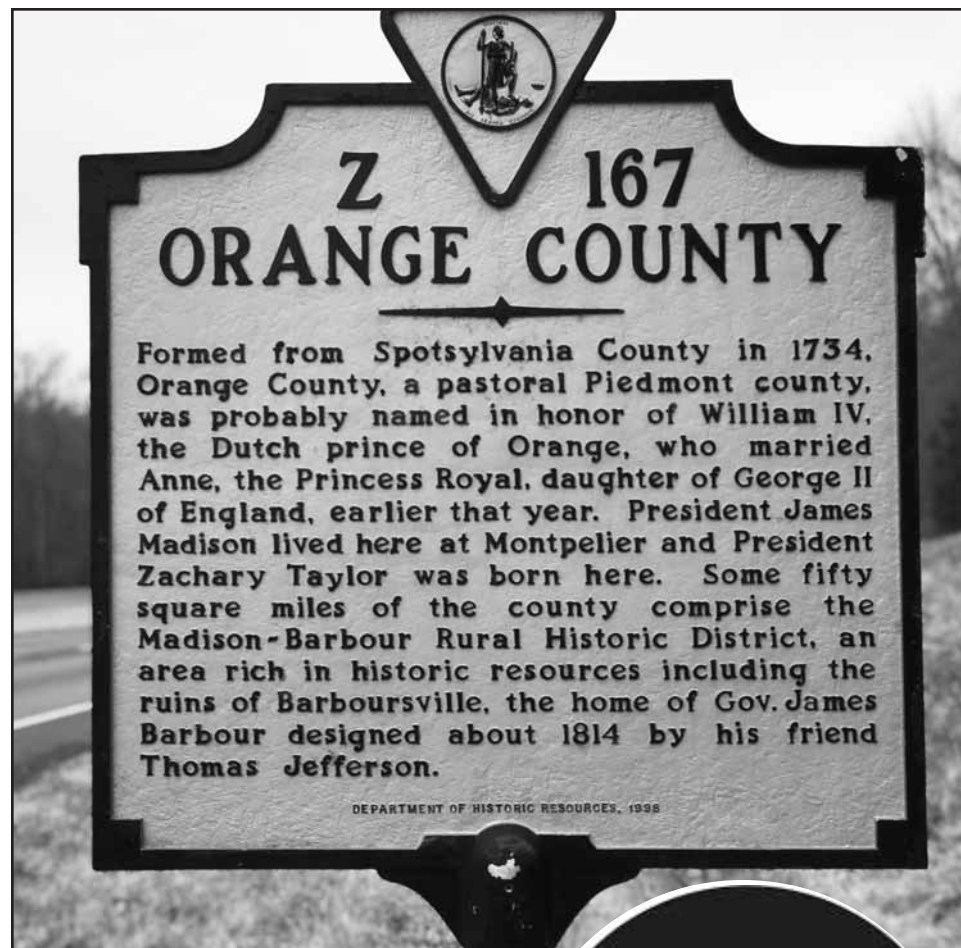
According to the US Travel Association, tourism in Virginia generated \$26 billion in travel spending.

Tourism also supported 235,000 work opportunities for Virginia communities and contributed \$1.8 billion in state and local taxes. The increase is largely attributed to Virginia's tourism promotion and development efforts all around the state, including: new hotels, restaurants, agritourism, craft breweries, wineries, distilleries, cideries, sports, outdoor recreation, festivals and events, music venues, wedding venues, meeting and convention venues, attractions and so much more. Virginia's changing tourism industry makes the Commonwealth a destination for authentic travel experiences and vibrant communities.

Tourism is at a record level in Virginia, and visitor spending has continued to grow year after year. With continued increase in mobility, more sophisticated technology, and changing demographics, travel demand is at an all-time high. Travelers are seeking unique experiences in their leisure time, and view travel as an important factor for their quality of life.

Tourism was a critical contributor to the local economy in 2018. Tourism revenue for Orange County reached \$51+ million, a 5.3 percent increase over 2017. Local tourism-supported jobs totaled 613, while local tourism-related taxes generated were \$1.49 million.

All data was received by the Virginia



Tourism Corporation (VTC) from US Travel Association and is based on domestic visitor spending (travelers from within the United States) from trips taken 50 miles or more away from home.

Jim White, Chairman of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, shared his thoughts on the latest data received from the state, "This most recent data confirms tourism's contribution to the County's growing economy and highlights the contribution of local businesses that serve our community and visitors."

Orange County Tourism's Manager, Lori Landes-Carter added, "Orange County's growing tourism industry is the result of our passionate business owners striving every day to provide quality experiences, nonprofit organizations supporting and preserving our cherished historic treasures, arts and culture, and many local volunteers donating hundreds of hours a year to support our destinations.

All these elements weave together to create a rich tapestry that strengthens our community and place in Central Virginia and the State."

"Virginia's tourism industry had a banner year in 2018, hitting new records and making important impacts on our communities across the Commonwealth," said Rita McClenny, president and CEO of Virginia Tourism Corporation. "As we celebrate the 50th



anniversary of Virginia is for Lovers and the tourism industry's continued growth this year; we also celebrate the people who impact and influence our communities with their vision, passion, and love for the tourism industry. Our industry is made up of creative, hard-working, and dedicated professionals, and they work every day to make our communities more vibrant and dynamic. They help to make Virginia the best place to live, work, and visit, and are our most powerful ambassadors for Virginia is for Lovers."

The Virginia Tourism Corporation receives its annual economic impact data from the U.S. Travel Association. The information is based on domestic visitor spending (travelers from within the United States) from per-person trips taken 50 miles or more away from home. Detailed economic impact data by locality is available on www.vatc.org

The Cover



Denon says "Love is snuggling with my cat Shadow...not girls chasing me on the playground..."

Photo by Carol Barfield

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger.

Lecture by Dr. J. Drew Lanham:

How Nature Can Heal the Wounds of the Past

February 26, 2020 • 4 PM

Free

Montpelier 1350 Constitution
Hwy. Montpelier Station
(540) 672-2728



Join us in welcoming our ecologist-in-residence, Dr. Drew Lanham! Noted naturalist, author, and poet Drew Lanham will discuss his exploration of Montpelier's naturally reclaimed plantation landscape as a site of contemplation and healing. Grand Salon at the David M. Rubenstein Visitor Center. Registration not required.

About Drew Lanham

J. Drew Lanham is a native of Edgefield, South Carolina, and an Alumni Distinguished Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Master Teacher at Clemson University. Lanham is a birder, naturalist, and hunter-conservationist who has published essays and poetry in publications including Orion, Flycatcher, and Wilderness, and in several anthologies, including The Colors of Nature, State of the Heart, Bartram's Living Legacy, and Carolina Writers at Home. His book The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man's Love Affair with Nature, is a John Burroughs Medal Finalist.

Drew and his family live in the Upstate of South Carolina, a soaring hawk's downhill glide from the southern Appalachian escarpment that the Cherokee once called the Blue Wall.



Dr. J. Drew Lanham.

Four County Players announces the cast for Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

LISA WEIGOLD as Mollie Ralston
CHARIF SOUBRA as Giles Ralston
JOHN KERMGARD as Sgt. Trotter
GREYSON TAYLOR as Christopher Wren
LINDA ZUBY as Mrs. Boyle
EMMA SHIREY as Miss Casewell
JOHN BAKER as Major Metcalf
TIM CARLSON as Mr. Paravicini



THE MOUSETRAP by Agatha Christie, directed by Clinton Johnston, opens March 6, 2020 on the Mainstage.
Address: 5256 Governor Barbour St, Barboursville, VA 22923

We're hiring!

Four County Players is seeking someone to work part time as its Theater Operations Director. If you are interested in learning more about the position, please contact Debbie Owen, Four County Players president, at debbie4cp@gmail.com. • Phone: (540) 832-5355



The Orange Chamber Annual Awards Banquet

March 19, 2020
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT

The Annual Awards Banquet is the premier business event where we highlight the community's most accomplished companies and leaders, and celebrate the chambers past year accomplishments.

Location: Madison at the Mill
323 N. Madison Road, Orange
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Fees/Admission: \$50.00 a person • Table Sponsorship available



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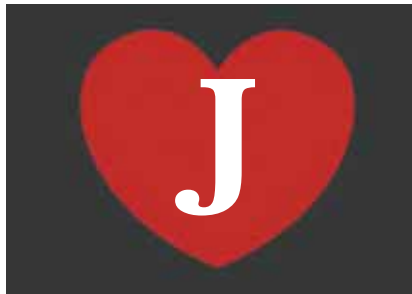
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The Many Faces of Love



By Carol Barfield
Correspondent



Just as Thanksgiving is not the only time we feel thankful for our blessings, there should not be just one day for celebrating love and what it means in our lives.

In song, The Beatles wrote, "All You Need Is Love!" Perhaps, yet I would venture to say there would be a few addendums to that in real life: + two incomes, + shared interests, + time spent together, and more.



In literature, famous author O'Henry wrote the story, "Gift of the Magi," in which lovebird Della would say, "Love is cutting your hair to buy your beloved husband a chain for his watch" and husband Jim would say, "Love is selling your watch to buy combs for your wife's shining hair!"

In movies, the main character Jenny in "Love Story" states, "Love means never having to say you're sorry." My friend, Sandra contradicts that: "In my experience, love means saying sorry over and over again!"

Many parents would say that love means saying no to children when their wants and desires don't match what is best for them.



The wisdom of the ages in the Bible gives us an overview of love in 1 Corinthians 4-8:

Love is patient. Love is kind. It does not envy. It does not boast. It is not proud. It does not dishonor others. It is not self-seeking. It is not easily angered. It keeps

no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

The Bible is referring to perfect love, but what about the human love we long for in our lives— that imperfect, flawed, "trying" kind that helps us when we are frozen by the battles we face; the kind we don't always get right? I asked a group of friends if they could illuminate us with their thoughts on the question: "What does love mean to you?"

Joyce, married to Frank for 48 years shares, "There are some troubles that even love won't fix. But love is a short memory, and never keeping score. Life can be hard, joyous, sad and sometimes just plain boring; love makes it worthwhile."

Judy, the widow of Joe and married 50 years says, "Love is give and take. It is having a sense of humor and accepting that you are not going to change the person you married. It is supportiveness. It is not only forgiving someone their shortcomings, but more importantly FORGETTING them."

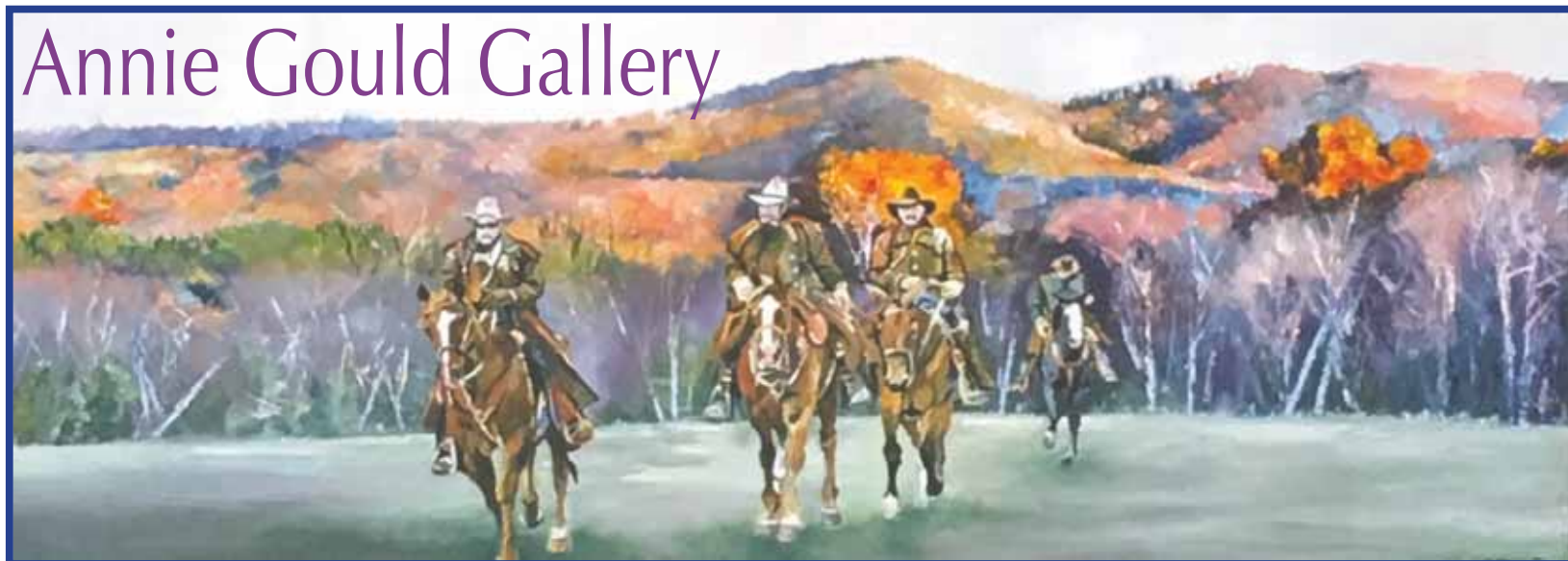
Shirley who was together with Bill for 25 years until his passing, shares, "Love is comfort and companionship—knowing someone is just there, side-by-side with you."

Helen and her husband Jennings were married for 55 years before he passed. "Our love was meant to be. I was vacationing in Arizona with my friend who was visiting her husband at an Air Force base. Those two set Jennings and me up on a blind date and it was love at first sight. Later, we wrote letters long distance; he sent me rings in the mail! We met in February and married in August—it was that fast."

Joyce, widow of Blake, married 64 years, shares her thoughts on love, "We took care of each other. There were times when I wondered if love would be enough to make it. We enjoyed our family of five and I enjoyed working with him side-by-side. After retirement, when he got sick, working hard side-by-side meant struggling to go to doctor appointments and trying to keep ourselves living independently at home. Love now is keeping in touch with the offspring of our

L *is patient*
O *is kind*
V *has no envy*
E *is not proud*
has no pride
is fair
does not seek for itself
is not boastful
does not rejoice in iniquity
rejoices with the truth
bears all things
always trusts
always hopes
always endures
never fails
1Cor 13:4-8

Annie Gould Gallery



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marriage, and love lives through our grandchildren.”

Shifting to the men’s viewpoint, we have Arleigh, married to Katy for 48 years, who says, “Love means never having to apologize for your idiosyncrasies. Love is never about yourself alone—each has to give 100%.”

Love

John, widower of wife Barbara admits, “I’m not much on those kinds of words, but we did pretty good for 48 years and 4 kids. Love is more a list... trust... companionship...”

Ken who is 85, and was for ten years the full-time caregiver to his wife Mary Elizabeth, gives his opinion, “Love is that great moment back when you are dating when you hear ‘I love you’ for the first time and you are ready to say it back. Love is the prayer I read at the end of my daughter’s marriage ceremony: “May they never take each other’s love for granted but always experience that breathless wonder that exclaims, out of all this world, you have chosen me. And then when life is done and the sun is setting, may they be found then as now, still hand in hand, still very proud, still thanking You so much for each other. May they serve you happily, faithfully together until at last one shall lay the other in Your arms.” –Dr, Louis H, Evans



Pat, married 40 years to Carol thinks love is, “Having someone you can share things with—like no other person—just between the two of you. It is helping each other when the other is down, with illness or worries. It is playing together... working together.”



Gregg, who has shared 28 years with Kerri says simply, “Love is unconditional giving.” Kerri adds, “The silly answer is that love is when your husband orders mushrooms on your shared pizza when he doesn’t even like mushrooms! The serious answer is: love is when someone accepts you as you are and doesn’t want to try to change you even with all your faults. Love is the person who thinks of your happiness before their own.”

See Love page 6



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Sometimes love can be wrapped up in the land you live on. Shelby, who is widowed, speaks of her 60 years with John: “We were linked by our love of the land. His grandparents moved the family to Central Virginia in 1932 from Maryland and were railroad people. I met John at a local grocery store. He had just come back from Korea, and we discovered we were linked—my family had purchased the farm where he had grown up, and there was a railroad running through the property! When we married, our loved was wrapped up in the farm we bought where we raised our children. We found that love is not for the faint hearted—it has its ups and downs. Love is a two-way street, and you cannot be by yourself in your thinking. Love continues after death— even when they pass, your family wraps their arms around you...and the love is there.”

Shelby gives another example of love in her life: “One of my duties as student safety guard was to help the other children cross the railroad tracks near the school. I would then follow the tracks down to the farm where my mother would always have a delicious snack waiting for me in the kitchen.”



So, love can be a home-cooked meal. We feel love for our friends, and for nature, and our pets, and for God. Love can be a feeling and a place. Love can be struggling to help elderly parents deal with Medicare, social security and doctor appointments. It can mean listening to talk of physical ailments and pushing aside a busy life to make time to care and support them.

A fresh, yet wise perspective comes from the younger participants in our question “What does love mean to you?”



Denon, age seven, states, “Love is snuggling with my cat, Shadow...not girls chasing me around the playground.”

Olivia who is eight says, “Love is caring and putting other people’s needs before your needs. I feel the most loved and cared for when people include me and say, ‘What shall we do with Olivia?’ Love is family happiness. It is joining with others. It is being inclusive. Love is peaceful and non-violent. It is having someone to live your life with.”



For Jeremy, ten, it is simpler: “Love is my mom and dad.”

Teddy, age thirteen, says, “Love is unconditional. If it wavers from time to time, it’s not love.”

Nathalie, a sixteen-year-old from Germany says,

“Love means to trust other people and be honest with them. It is a feeling of being safe. It is a place where you can be who you are— a place you can feel comfortable and happy. If you love someone, you are interested in them and want to spend most of your time with them.”



As Sandra shares, “There are so many aspects to love. At its most basic it’s preferring others above yourself. That doesn’t mean we don’t care about ourselves, but at times it may involve sacrifices for the sake of another.”

Love is not a magic bullet. What about those who have experienced the pain of a love that has not lasted? Even when love doesn’t last it echoes down through times that cannot be erased.

Janine, married 36 years states simply, “Love is wanting what is best for someone even if it is not best for you or what you wanted. I have learned that for a fact, and didn’t know it until after...”

What knits people together in love must be stronger than what pulls them apart. The powers that can disrupt love are many...torn loyalties, criticism, disrespect, selfishness, childrearing and lifestyle differences, pressures of modern life—can we even include bad luck?! Perhaps love means not living in two marriages at once; the real one versus the perfect one we hold in our heads. Perhaps we need to realize that all we have in reality should not be extinguished by wishing for all that we don’t have.



Pastor Larry, shares, “Love in many ways is putting someone first. True love is letting go of your needs and translating it into our needs, which leads to less friction and strife. Also, if you put God first, you can’t help but have love for His people.”



Ashley, with Dan for 18 years shares, “Love is in the day-to-day ways we hold each other up, help each other out and hold each other’s hand to make it through anything God lays out for us. The most important way I show my love is by praying for my husband, our four children, my family, friends and all whom I love. I pray for them the wonderful blessings of a happy life.”

Pastor David says, “Love is a non-judgmental, non-arrogant caring presence in someone’s life. In married life, it is tolerance and acceptance. To my widowed father it was the unending devotion and respect he had for my mother. As a grandfather, love is the way my heart melts when Adeline looks at me with her big, brown eyes and smiles. All of these are bits and reflections of God’s unlimited love.”

The conversation is an important one. It is certainly disrespectful to offer pat answers to those who tried to find love, but didn’t, or those who tried to keep love alive but couldn’t, yet conversations about love can help us clarify its place in our lives. When you take a few moments from your busy schedule and ask yourself, and your loved ones, “What does love mean to you?”, the results can yield what one family shared after discussing the subject—“It was a lovely conversation tonight, talking about love.”



I’d like to add my opinion to the discussion—love has been pouring into us since our birth. We reach a point when we are ready to find something or someone who we can mean something to, and pour that love back out into the world. Love is as imperfect as we are, and as beautiful. There is a Japanese art called Kinsugi— when a treasured piece of china is broken, instead of throwing it away, it is mended with a thin stream of gold. That broken thing becomes then, a thing of beauty—perhaps even more beautiful than the original. That is what love means to me.



Japanese art of Kinsugi . Photo courtesy of Carol Barfield

Orange broadband partners with REC to expand fiber network

The Orange County Broadband Authority (OCBA) in December, 2019 approved an agreement between the County and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) to lease capacity across 19 miles of fiber optic cable that REC is installing as a part of the Cooperative's new Fiber Utility Network.

"REC's fiber utility network provides our county the opportunity to bring broadband to more of our citizens quicker," said Jim White, Chairman of the County's Board of Supervisors and Broadband Authority. "The OCBA is happy to announce this partnering arrangement with REC. This effort completes a county fiber optic loop supplying highly reliable connectivity for the public safety communications system. This project should also enable future opportunities for third parties or the County to provide high-speed Internet to homes and businesses. We are pleased to be taking this first step with REC and look forward to future collaboration."



John Hewa, Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Corporate Services for REC, elaborated, "REC's investment in a fiber backbone has the potential to enable many advantages to REC's member-owners and citizens of Orange County, including educational benefits, the potential for expanded economic development, and an overall ease of access to information." Hewa said, "The County's use of a portion of the REC fiber backbone improves the economics of both projects. We look forward to this agreement with Orange County being the first of many similar arrangements in localities across the REC service area."

REC recently kicked off the six-year fiber project that will bring benefits to its member-owners for many years to come. Across the 800 miles of planned construction, REC is installing additional fiber that will allow third parties, such as Orange

County, to lease capacity on the REC network, enabling the extension of broadband solutions.

REC provides electric service to over 170,000 connections in parts of 22 Virginia counties. With its general office in Fredericksburg, Virginia, the Cooperative operates and maintains more than 17,000 miles of power lines through its service area, which ranges from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

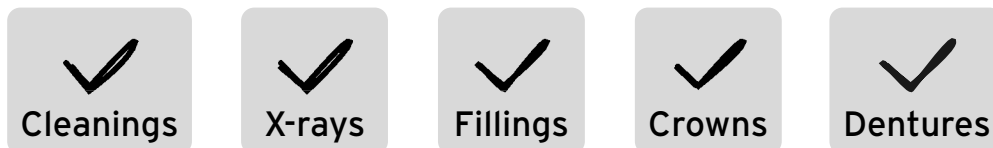
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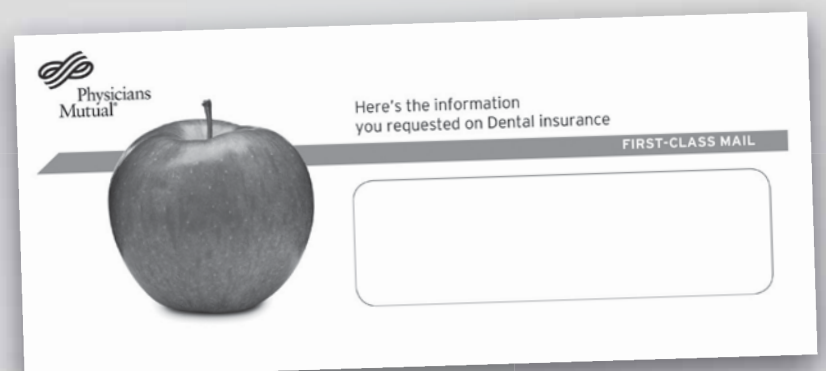
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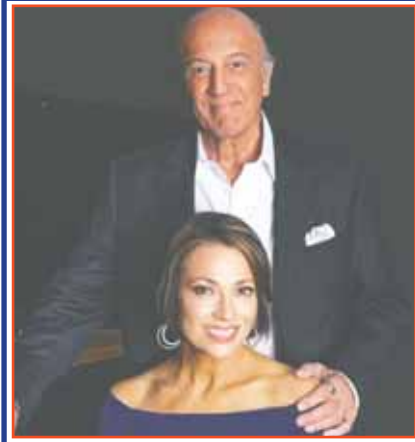
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EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Valentine's Day Celebration
 A four course feast prepared by Chef Spencer Crawford. 7:00 pm
Date Friday, 14 Feb 2020 @ 7:00pm
 Enjoy a four course feast paired with Barbourville wines prepared by Chef Spencer Crawford.
 \$320 per couple, all inclusive. **Reservation required. 540-832-7848**
 Location: 17655 Winery Road, Barbourville.



Oral Histories & Music
Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 2 PM – 4 PM
 The James Madison Museum of Orange County Heritage
 129 Caroline St, Orange
 "Wise Beyond Their Years" Ms. Eva Starks and Ms. Margaret Ware. RSVP - to ensure seating. Join us to preview these fascinating oral histories (interviews by Phil Audibert) that have not been seen yet in the public. Our thanks to Main Uno Baptist Church who will be singing for this event.
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February 19, 2020 @ 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm
 Where: Main Library meeting room in Orange
 146 N. Madison Rd. Orange
 Cost: Free
Contact: Main Desk (540) 672-3811

Bring your lunch and join us for an informative talk on how to protect yourself from crime.
 Deputy Ron Kesner, with the Orange County Sheriff's Office, will educate you on things to look for and ways to avoid being a victim. Drinks and snacks will be provided.



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Virginia Repertory Theatre Presents, "I Have a Dream" - February 21, 7:30pm, \$20 Adults & \$10 Youth

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540-967-5200 LouisaArts.org



Paw Prints and Predicaments Murder Mystery Dinner & Silent Auction Saturday, March 7, 2020

Please come out and support the Orange County Emergency Vet Fund in this fun filled 2.5 hour interactive show. There will be Murder, Mystery and Mayhem and we will find the killer... Come out and Join us, dress up or dress down. We encourage you to dress the part for our 1980's themed event-- We look forward to seeing you. Ticket are \$75 For Tickets please email ocasevf@gmail.com ...Doors Open at 6:30 PM – 11 PM

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The fun begins with the county ribbon cutting ceremony in the afternoon. Hidden Acres Farm Kitchen food truck will be here all day serving up delicious homemade food! In the evening, Campbell Road Band will rock our socks off, and we will have a beer and chocolate pairing with Cocoa & Spice. Throughout the day we will also be raffling off Mug Club memberships.



The Red Badge of Courage presented by The Barter Players Fri, Feb 28, 7:30 – 9:30 PM

Louisa Arts Center • 212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa

The Civil War had been raging for two years when young Henry Fleming decides to enlist in the Army. On the eve of his first big battle, Henry fears what he will do when the bullets start to fly. Will he run or will he fight? Witness this timeless and intimate look at the Civil War from a young man's perspective.

The event is sponsored by the Louisa Rotary Foundation. The

Louisa Rotary Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity with a focus on improving the educational opportunities available to the youth of Louisa County. In addition to bringing the Barter Players to Louisa, the foundation is actively engaged in activities such as providing dictionaries to all of Louisa's third grade students, sponsoring speech and essay contests for area students, providing higher education scholarships, sponsoring students to leadership camps, and donating books to the children's reading room at the public library. **Ticket Sales: (540) 967-5200**



Edwardian Fashion Tea

Hosted by The James Madison Museum of Orange County Heritage
Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 2 PM – 5 PM

The James Madison Museum of Orange County Heritage 129 Caroline St, Orange, \$15/individual; \$30/two. Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea, a small fashion exhibit and make a tea hat! You will be able to take home your placemat as well (photographed). Payment required at time of reservation. LIMITED SEATING - Only PAID RSVP seats will be reserved. RSVP: jamesmadisonmuseuminfo@gmail.com or (540) 672-1776.

LOUISA Arts CENTER
212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa

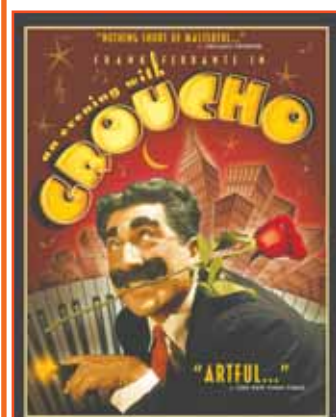
In the Gallery

Karen Rosasco and Susan Crave Rosen
January 31 – March 20, 2020

Gallery opening on
Friday, January 31st from 6pm – 8pm

540-967-5200 LouisaArts.org

LOUISA Arts CENTER PRESENTS:



Frank Ferrante - March 21, 7:30pm, \$32 All Seats

Award-winning Frank Ferrante (Groucho), is an actor, director, and producer described by The New York Times as "the greatest living interpreter of Groucho Marx's material." Join us as Ferrante reprises his New York and London hit in this fast-paced hilarious comedic performance, as he takes you through the life of the legendary Groucho Marx. The comedy, songs, and one-liners of Groucho Marx make for an all-ages family event!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! LouisaArts.org 540-967-5200

47
FOUR COUNTY PLAYERS

PRESENTS

THE MOUSETRAP

BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

Directed by Clinton Johnston

Produced by Charlotte Drummond

March 6-22

The story opens with the sounds of the murder of Maureen Lyon, before moving to the Manor. It's recently been renovated into a guest house by Mollie and Giles Ralston. Mollie waits for the guests to arrive, listening to a radio report about the murder. The report states that police are looking for a man in a dark overcoat who was observed near the scene.

A timeless tale of "whodunit," Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* strands seven strangers at Monkswell Manor during a blizzard. But a police sergeant unexpectedly arrives, worried that a murderer-at-large is among the guests of the Manor.



DON'T WAIT TO BUY!

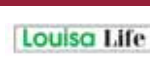
Tickets go on sale February 10th!

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BBQ Exchange in Gordonsville.

10th Annual Porkapalooza One Big Pork Party

Mar 28, 2020 12:00 PM - Mar 29, 2020 7:00 PM

Ticket Price: \$16.74-\$27.88

Porkapalooza - the Greatest Pork Fest on Earth, in Gordonsville

The Barbeque Exchange

102 Martinsburg Avenue, Gordonsville

(540) 832-0227



We are delighted to invite you to join us as we celebrate the last decade at the BBQ Exchange in Gordonsville. We'll have plenty of seating in the main tent, beer, wine and soda available for purchase on the porch, non-alcoholic beverages included with purchase, and a completely separate tent for food, desserts, entertainment and more. Stay tuned to social media for exciting announcements about our partnerships for our 2020 Porkapalooza.

We will have an all-you-can-enjoy buffet featuring your favorites from years past, and a dessert selection laden with bacon.

The ticket price this year is \$25 for adults, and \$15 for children ages 5-12. Purchasing the tickets online from our ticket portal will make the line move faster for check-in, but remember, it's all the same line into the tent. There is a convenience fee, in addition to the normal state and local taxes. (11.54%) The menu will be shared on social media in the coming weeks! Tickets are good for either day, but once you've been scanned in, they won't work again!



A bacon centerpiece graces one of the tables. File photo.



With seating for more than 550 people at a time inside the main tent and at outside picnic tables, the gourmands of barbecue belly-up and chow down throughout the two-day affair. File photo

We are still partnering with all of the great folks that make this event such a success - Skyline Tent Company, Autumn Olive Farms, Town of Gordonsville, Expressions Face Painting and Fun, carpe donut, MS Events, as well as a great selection of bands! **We will be selling advance tickets online at this address: <http://bit.ly/2tI9t7V>**

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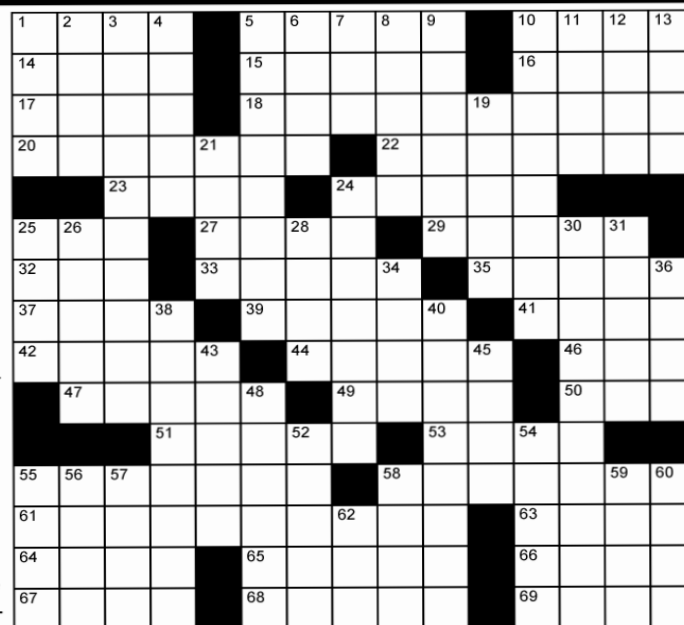
We are a debt relief agency. Additional location in Zion Crossroads. Handicap accessible.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Throws in
5 Rhombus, e.g.
10 Yellowstone, for one
14 Guitar part
15 December ditty
16 Medicinal herb
17 More than suggestive
18 Under construction
20 Washington Monument, e.g.
22 "The Thorn Birds" novelist McCullough
23 Telescope part
24 Tapping sound
25 Big club?
27 Shredded
29 Text alternative
32 Old what's-___ name
33 Built-out window
35 North Pole workers
37 Sparkle
39 Sub detector
41 Hot rock
42 Taxi ticker
44 Be silent, in music
46 URL ending
47 Humdinger
49 Clock part
50 Barley brew
51 Nonpoetic writing
53 Splinter group
55 Create a stir
58 Kids' racers
61 High spirits
63 Medical remedy
64 Desertlike



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- 65 Ill-gotten gains
66 Prayer's end
67 Anagram for "user"
68 Floor it
69 Pundit's piece
DOWN
1 Bushy do
2 Cheerless
3 Slow down
4 Fashion sense
5 Tailor's tool
6 Ketcham of the comics
7 Fly ball's path
8 Four-legged friend
9 "Freaky Deaky" author Leonard

- 10 R.J. Reynolds brand
11 Direction at sea
12 Memorization method
13 Peachy follower
19 Feather in one's cap
21 Quite fond of
24 Like The Who's wasteland
25 "Excuse me..."
26 Paparazzi target
28 Barrel of laughs
30 Donald's first wife
31 Carpenter's device
34 Fancy edging
36 Fill to the gills

- 38 Ocean current
40 Thought out
43 Like the boondocks
45 Arduous journey
48 Bottom-line figures
52 Sting operation
54 Tree for chocolate
55 A bit cracked
56 Wise one
57 Sacred bird of the Nile
58 Former V.P.
59 Sloth's home
60 Sam Cooke song, "You ___ Me"
62 NHL surface



Eleven-year-old Jordan quickly bonded with the pony she claimed was both mischievous and challenging.



Sometimes, a pony just had to tolerate becoming a unicorn. Photos courtesy of Jordan Atwell-Purcell

A Heart-Stealing Pony

Contributed by Jordan Atwell-Purcell

As my mother was driving me toward the barn at the farm where I take riding lessons, I told her, “Well, I’m not riding that one.” This was five years ago, and I had been taking instruction on a small Welsh pony that was being retired because of lameness issues. “That one” was a large grey pony who came galloping up to the fence, the wind whipped his mane left and right as his booming neigh echoed off the barn walls. His eyes were wide, perhaps with fear, as he pranced over to the gate. Little did I know that he would become the pony of my dreams.

My instructor had told me that my riding was improving enough that I needed a challenge. I soon learned that “challenge” was an understatement. “That one’s” name was Pongo, and the gelding had been turned out and not ridden much for several years before he came to the farm. My first experiences with him were difficult.

I was a little nervous, and Pongo could feel this, so he tried every trick in the book to get me off. He would throw little bucks in here and there, scoot off with me and then suddenly stop. Sometimes, I would find myself sitting on the ground, and I swear

Pongo was smirking as he galloped off.

As time went on and I rode the pony more often, I became attached to him. He had a silly personality and loved attention. He also was incredibly smart. Pongo loved to eat and because of this, he learned to open his stall door to get access to grass and even attempted to open grain bins. I often laughed at his antics. Pongo and I soon came to a mutual understanding, at least most of the time.

We competed at local horse shows in the Short Stirrup division, which was open to young, novice riders. Pongo, whose show name was Step Into Spring, and I did well in the flat classes, which required entries to walk, trot and canter. But, in over fences classes that required exhibitors to navigate a series of jumps, we did not always have a positive outcome as he took advantage of me and refused.

With persistence, we finally got to the point where we were consistently earning champion or reserve at almost every show. My fondness for the pony increased but was tempered by the fact that he wasn’t mine. I realized that soon my instructor would put me on a horse and Pongo would go to a less experienced rider. However, my fears were alleviated a few years ago.



Pongo and Jordan earned numerous awards at the 2019 Virginia 4-H State Horse Show.



Jordan and Pongo - A kiss says it all!

At a July show, the announcer said, "Our champion today is Jordan Atwell-Purcell, who is now the proud owner of Step Into Spring!" I was speechless. My parents had made my dream become a reality and that Saturday was one of the best days of my life. Over the next two years, we won numerous trophies and championships at area competitions and at the Virginia 4-H State Horse Show, as well as year-end honors with statewide associations. Nevertheless, one incident while I was schooling Pongo turned out to be heartbreaking.

I was riding Pongo on somewhat frozen ground and decided to jump him. He knocked down a pole as he leapt over the obstacle. I immediately stopped him because I felt something was not right. He seemed uneven at the trot. My pony was lame. At first, I was not overly concerned, and thought he was just sore from hitting the jump, but I was wrong.

X-rays showed that Pongo had pulled a suspensory ligament, a potentially career-ending injury. I was devastated. The veterinarian cautioned me that Pongo would never be able to jump again, and he would need months off to see how well he would recover. If I wanted to show the next year, I would have to find another mount.

My only option at the barn turned out to be an incredible horse on which my skills progressed, and I continued winning in the show ring. But I still missed my pony. While I continued to improve on the horse, Pongo prognosis was progressing, too.

The veterinarian had given us a workout program that would help Pongo's injury heal. The recovery began with hand-walking, then riding him at a walk, eventually, a trot and finally, a canter. The recovery process took over a year. Last spring, the vet gave me the all-clear to start showing Pongo in equitation and pleasure classes "on the flat." But, no more jumping.

I only took Pongo to two shows that year, one to qualify for the Virginia 4-H State Horse Show, and the other at the state show itself. Pongo again made me proud. We earned a championship at the qualifying show and at the state show, I rode him to win my equitation class, as well as Pongo was awarded reserve champion in the Large Pony Pleasure division and we shared honors as Grand Champion for Showmanship.

My family has recently moved to a new home on land in Louisa County. I hope that one day we will add a small barn and a large field so that Pongo will live where I can look out my bedroom window and see him every morning. Even though I realize that our show days are limited, I know that he will always be the pony that I will ride for my own pleasure, and he will always have a home on our farm.

From a naughty pony to a show pony, then from an injured pony to pleasure pony, Pongo has had his ups and downs. Our victories may be the trophies and ribbons on the shelves in my bedroom, but the true wins are the lessons in life that he has taught me. I have learned endless patience and persistence, faced disappointments and overcome setbacks, all experiences that will serve me well in the future.

Fifteen-year-old Jordan is a freshman at Louisa County High School and a member of the varsity volleyball team. In addition to being an accomplished junior equestrian, she is a talented photographer and writer. With only a little mentoring, she wrote about bonding with Pongo. Pat Wilson



Pongo shows his playful side.

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Magazine

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Carlos Santos, Publisher

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Map Genealogy Workshop It's More Than Just a Pretty Picture

Hosted by Library of Virginia
Saturday, March 7, 2020
at 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Library of Virginia
800 E Broad St, Richmond, Virginia
Tickets · \$20 - \$25 www.eventbrite.com
Maps and Research at the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia Conference Rooms
Cost: \$25 (\$20 for Semper Virginia Society members & Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Annual Fund members)

Free Parking

Preregistration required:

<http://mapsatlva.eventbrite.com/>

Senior map archivist Cassandra Farrell will discuss the different types of maps that are helpful in genealogical research. Genealogists and those researching their family history will learn about the different symbols used and how to read a map (Who is the author? Where was it published? What is the prime meridian?).

For more information, contact Ashley Ramey at ashley.ramey@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3001.



Presidents' Day Weekend at Montpelier



February 15 - 17, 2020

Make Montpelier a part of your weekend plans - Take specialty tours, hike 8+ miles of walking trails, peruse galleries, and enjoy award-winning barbecue! Montpelier is Offering Special Tours February 15-17

During Presidents' Day Weekend, Montpelier will be offering tours every half hour from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Specialty tours include:

Saturday-Monday at 1:30 p.m.: "Madison and the Constitution" - \$22/adults; \$9/children 6-14; free/children under 6.

Saturday at 12:00 p.m.: "Journey from Slavery to Freedom" - Free walking/driving tour.

Sunday-Monday at 12:00 p.m.: "Montpelier's Enslaved Community" - Free walking tour.

Military Promotion

Through February 29th, military service members (active or veteran) and up to 3 adult members of their family (4 people total) will receive \$5 off of the standard adult admission making their price \$17. This value will not be deducted from children's prices, stacked with any other discount, or applied to group tour/specialty tour sales. This promotion will be available onsite and online, but in order for it to apply online, the guest will need to enter the code "MILITARY" in the promotional code box at check out.

SPECIAL NOTICES

ATTENTION VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS: Do you know your Veterans Benefits? We do! Virginia Department of Veterans Services, <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov> or, <https://www.virginiaforveterans.com>. Need Help? Call 1(800) 827-1000, M-F, from 8 a.m to 9 p.m., Veterans Affairs Benefits and Services. Or phone: (434) 529-6431.

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OLD COINS: I buy old coins. 434-466-7968.

Answers to the Crossword Puzzle
from page 11

A	D	D	S	S	H	A	P	E	P	A	R	K	
F	R	E	T	C	A	R	O	L	A	L	O	E	
R	A	C	Y	I	N	C	O	M	P	L	E	T	E
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H	E	R	O	R	I	E	L	E	L	V	E	S	
E	L	A	N	S	O	N	A	R	L	A	V	A	
M	E	T	E	R	T	A	C	E	T	N	E	T	
B	E	A	U	T	G	E	A	R	A	L	E		
P	R	O	S	E	S	E	C	T					
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J	U	B	I	L	A	T	I	O	N	C	U	R	E
A	R	I	D	L	U	C	R	E	A	M	E	N	
R	U	S	E	S	P	E	E	D	O	P	E	D	

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