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June 2001 Vol. 8, Issue 6



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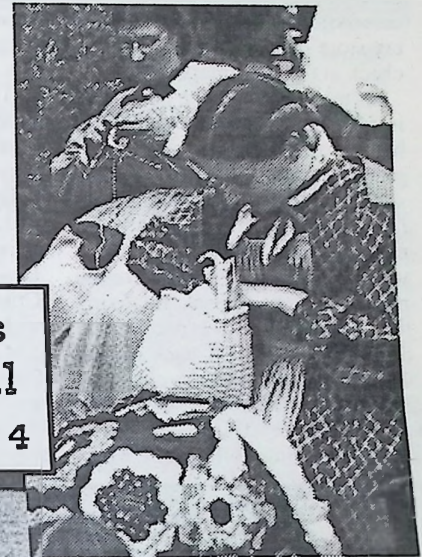


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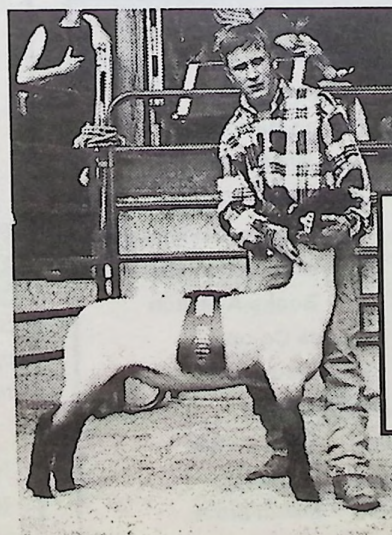


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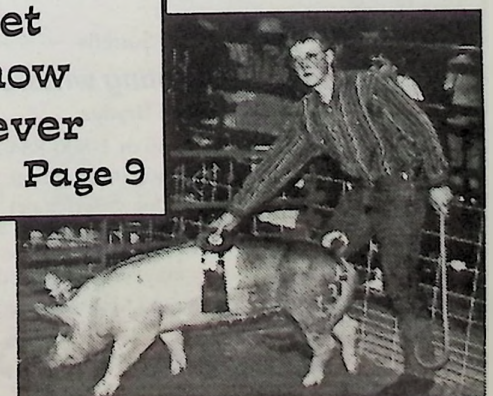
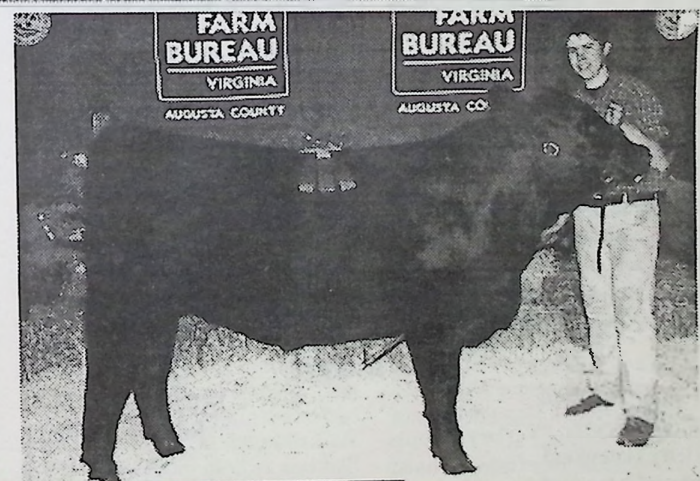
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converge on McDowell  
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Spring is  
perfect  
time to  
escape  
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56th Market  
Animal Show  
is largest ever  
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# Simple shopping turns to mayhem for Mrs. Cribbly and Mrs. Gussie

By JEAN H. BRYDGE

Normally one does not expect hilarious events to take place in the supermarket but Mrs. Cribbly does not exactly fit the norm.

Mrs. Cribbly and her sister, Mrs. Gussie, were preparing for a big "bash" and needed a large number of better-than-average plastic-coated paper plates, cups, and saucers. After diligently searching every store in town, they decided to check at the supermarket.

As they hurried in the door, right in front of them was a display of huge proportions with all types of picnic supplies. The display was something to behold! An umbrella (approximately seven feet tall) covered a round table stacked high with packs of plates. Mrs. Gussie happily snatched a pack. Realizing they were not what was needed, she disgustedly tossed it back on the table. Well, that started a chain reaction like you never saw before.

The whole display slowly started toppling to the right. Mrs.

Gussie made a quick decision and left! Mrs. Cribbly, poor stupid Mrs. Cribbly, grabbed for the umbrella support to keep it from falling. Unfortunately, the display weighed more than she did so it kept slipping.

Some misguided soul had put a half bottle of Pepsi at the bottom of the umbrella on the floor and as the umbrella slipped, it upset the Pepsi. Where else? In Mrs. Cribbly's shoe, of course. It's very hard to look dignified with both arms askew, legs braced in two different directions, pure panic on one's face and cold Pepsi running into one's shoe.

By this time, the store manager had appeared on the scene and realized that instead of stopping the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Mrs. Cribbly was going to be upended with it. He grabbed for the upper part of the umbrella and gave Mrs. Cribbly a very dirty look. He could not handle the top-heavy effect of the display arrangement and called several clerks. By this time, the

whole store was in chaos. Customers were running to help and there stood Mrs. Cribbly with Pepsi squishing in her shoes in the middle of a thousand paper plates and obviously the culprit. She knew if she said, "I didn't do anything," no one would believe it.

Whereupon Mrs. Gussie reappeared. She observed all the pandemonium, then with the innocence of a chosen angel inquired, "Sister, what in the world are you doing?"

That completely unhinged Mrs. Cribbly. She just broke up!

As the store manager, all his assistants, and all the customers involved in the commotion watched in disbelief, Mrs. Cribbly and Mrs. Gussie beat a hasty retreat from the store - absolutely in stitches.

Mrs. Cribbly poured the Pepsi from her shoe while promising forevermore she would be an innocent bystander not a participant. It makes her a little sad, though, that management constantly watches her in the supermarket! —

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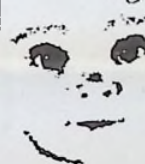
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# Civil War trail project culminates on Shenandoah Mountain

By NANCY SORRELLS

## SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN

— High atop Shenandoah Mountain, on the Augusta County-Highland County line, stands a remnant from our nation's Civil War. There for a relatively brief period of time, the soldiers from the South spent more time battling the elements and rough terrain than they did fighting any Yankee soldiers.

A new historical marker, commemorating Fort Edward Johnson stands at the parking area on the mountain. But the new marker doesn't do complete justice to the mental and physical turmoil that was taking place here in the spring of 1862. To better understand the chain of events and the role that the common Civil War soldiers played here, the visitor should take the half-mile hike to the very top

over 100 descendants of Lt. Shep Pryor, from Georgia, whose poignant letters home from the trenches on Shenandoah Mountain are preserved in the text of the new interpretive signs.

The signs are the culmination of a project Charlie Huppuch launched in 1969 as an employee with the George Washington National Forest. "I was the recreational planner in the late 60s and we made an interpretive plan for this site in 1969, but the engineers took all the money and we didn't have anything left for signage and trail work," he explained.

The years came and went and Huppuch went on to other projects. In the meantime, visitors continued to visit the Confederate breastworks on the hilltop by walking up on the earthworks and badly eroding them.

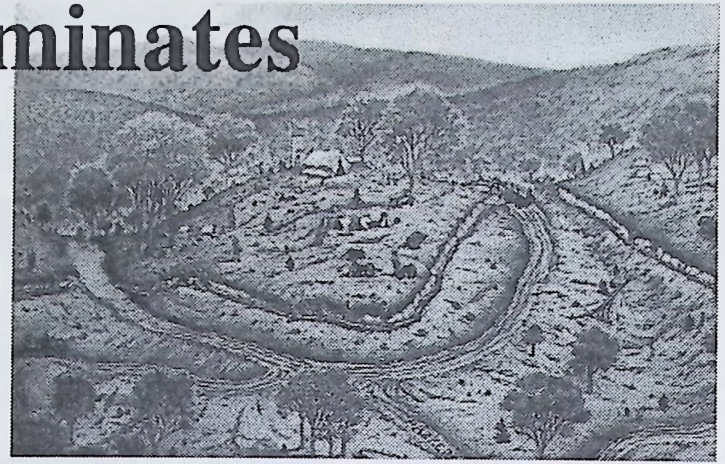
leggheny" Johnson had just finished a rough winter camping and skirmishing in the rugged Allegheny Mountains. He was feeling pressure from Union troops in the west under General Robert Milroy and General Robert Schenck. By spring, these Union officers were planning an invasion of the Shenandoah Valley, the Breadbasket of the Confederacy. Of strategic importance was Staunton with its railroad and two major roads — the Valley Pike going north to south, and the Parkersburg Turnpike going east to west.

In the northern part of the Shenandoah Valley, the situation was not promising for Confederate General Stonewall Jackson. After a defeat at Kernstown, he had withdrawn from Winchester and was moving southward in mid-March. Concerned about Staunton's safety and his own strategic position so far to the west, Gen. Johnson asked Robert E. Lee for permission to move further east and set up a defense on Shenandoah Mountain.

Lee granted his request and in early April 1862, Johnson's men scaled the heights of the mountain and fortified it. In just a few days the 2,000 men dug a mile of trenches in the steep, shaley ground. The breastworks were made by piling logs on the downhill side of the trenches and then piling dirt on the outside of the logs. The forest service has recently recreated some of those breastworks using the labor of area Civil War re-enactors. In 1862, the soldiers also cut down trees on the western slopes of the mountain, the direction the Union forces would advance from, and arduously pulled cannon to the top and created earthworks for them. "Wee are now tolerable well fortified," wrote Pryor to his wife, Penelope.

Pryor's letters, which Huppuch ran across in a Georgia archives, tell the story of the common soldier's life. They were the perfect text for many of the interpretive signs noted Huppuch.

"His letters tell about a soldier's life the way it was. Here was a man who was a long way from home and who missed his family. He was a good soldier but he wanted to win and get it over with. The story here



An artist's rendering of what Shenandoah Mountain would have looked like in 1862 can be seen on one of the interpretive signs placed along the trail leading to the site of Fort Edward Johnson.

is not about battles and military strategy but about the story of a soldier in the rain and the sleet wanting to go home so badly," he explained.

In the upcoming days the bulk of the southern soldiers, who were from Virginia and Georgia, camped a few miles to the east at Camp Shenandoah (now Ramseys Draft Wilderness Area), but several hundred at a time had to remain on guard at the top. The terrain was so steep at the top that the men carved out shelves, called hooches, for their tents. One major joked that he had to wear his spurs to bed to keep from falling out of the tent at night on the steep slope. In addition to the hooches, archaeologists also found the remains of hearth and stove areas on the mountain top and artillery placement areas.

As the forces from the north and the south played out their drama during April it was apparent that a clash would take place somewhere in the area very soon. "Wee are now looking out for a fight," wrote Pryor to his wife on April 18.

Pryor, from Georgia, experienced the entire gamut of fickle Virginia weather that spring. He wrote of stamping his feet in trenches to stay warm and of being miserable in a sleet storm. "It is sleeting now fast and sleet is about 4 inches deep now. Wee are faring badly now in tents," he said.

A few days later, he penned of nearly suffering heat exhaustion on a warm day when the men still had on their woolen winter clothes. "The cause of the heat hurting me so bad [was] that [I] had not pulled off any of my winter clothes and had on too much for the weather," he wrote after that episode.

Camp Johnson's time in the spot-

light came to a close on April 20. Thinking that Staunton was in danger, the entire fort was closed down and the troops withdrawn in two chaotic hours. The men then endured a hellish march through mud up to their knees before they camped at West View.

The successful research, breastworks cleanup, and the installation of the signs to bring the Camp Johnson story back to life has been a team effort from start to finish. The new trail to the mountain top detours hikers off the top of the badly flattened trenches. Youth from the Student Conservation Association camped up on the mountain for a month while building the new trail. Benches were also added to the new half-mile path.

The breastworks themselves were cleaned up with help from the 5th Virginia Regiment, a local re-enacting group. Those same volunteers also used logs to reconstruct a portion of the trenches down near the trailhead.

After the 1862 evacuation, Union troops moved in briefly but never fortified the site. From the east and the west, events were rapidly spiraling toward the inevitable clash. Jackson's and Johnson's forces marched west along the Parkersburg Turnpike to face the Union army. They met at McDowell on May 8, 1862. Pryor survived the battle, but saw many of his Georgia comrades fall. Although he was later wounded, he eventually returned home to Georgia and became a local sheriff. He died in 1911. Camp Johnson was used several more times throughout the war, but never again did it have the importance that it did in the spring of 1862. —



Charlie Huppuch, who is a retired employee of the George Washington National Forest, helped create the interpretive plan for the site of Fort Edward Johnson on Shenandoah Mountain. The signs will be dedicated at 2 p.m. on June 2 on National Trails Day.

Photos by Nancy Sorrells

of the mountain. Along the way, 11 new interpretive signs have been erected by the National Forest Service through a transportation grant and with the cooperation of the Highland County Chamber of Commerce, the Highland County Historical Society and the Valley Conservation Council. Those signs will be dedicated on National Trails Day, June 2 at 2 p.m. In attendance at the dedication will be

"I retired after 37 years with the forest service and I wanted to finish this thing up," Huppuch said of the Camp Johnson project that he started so long ago. "I knew I couldn't wait another 30 years or I would be 97!" he said.

The Civil War was about a year old when the spotlight turned on Shenandoah Mountain in 1862. Confederate General Edward "Al-

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# Yesterday once more



## McDowell Heritage Days portray Civil War history

By VERA HAILEY

**McDOWELL** — On May 8, 1862, thousands of soldiers converged on the farm of Robert Sitlington in the sleepy hamlet of McDowell in Highland County. The opposing forces clashed - the southern men striving to hold their ground from the invading northern forces. Both factions had been maneuvering throughout the western part of Virginia and what is now West Virginia. The Shenandoah Valley, the "Breadbasket of the Confederacy," held provisions for the southern army and embraced Staunton, a major supply center and transportation network.

The ensuing battle 139 years ago was the initial victory in Confederate General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley Campaign. Months earlier, Jackson had stated: "If this Valley is lost, Virginia is lost." It was in McDowell that Federal troops were successfully repelled as they moved toward the Staunton and its railroad connections to Richmond.

According to James I. Robertson, author of *Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend*, "Suddenly, a small engagement in the mountainous isolation of Highland County turned the Civil War upside down, as important as what



**Federal troops ride through town during a Civil War re-enactment held recently as part of McDowell Heritage Days.**

Photos by Vera Hailey

happened at McDowell was what might have taken place had not Jackson stopped a Union army there. The Civil War would then have ended - at least in Virginia - in its second spring."

On May 9, General Jackson declared the battle outcome with a

one-sentence dispatch to Richmond: "God blessed our arms with victory at McDowell yesterday."

\*\*\*\*\*

McDowell, located approximately 30 miles west of Staunton, is situated in Highland County among some of the highest mountains in the western Virginia Alleghenies. The battlefield and much of the surrounding area remain undeveloped, making it the perfect location for hundreds of Civil War history devotees who converged there May 5 and 6.

Re-enactor "troops" of both sides were garrisoned throughout the village. Living history portrayals took place in the town and in the woods along the Bullpasture River. Accurate camp life was demonstrated, with horse-drawn wagon tours available to visitors. Over 700 re-enactors stayed in nonstop character for the weekend, playing out their roles whether or not the public was observing.

Strolling through the camps, visitors observed the re-enactors doing what their counterparts would have been doing in 1862 - grooming, washing clothes in the river, gambling, napping, sharing stories of past battles, talking about their families back home, cleaning their weapons, writing letters and standing guard.

A civilian camping ground was erected on the church grounds to depict the townspeople at a time when their quiet village became a war zone. Portrayers of local residents interacted with the occupiers and liberators. Women in hoop skirts and flowered bonnets bustled through the camp. Their hair was parted in the middle and pulled back flat against their in the fashion of the 1860s. Quilting, spinning, butter churning and pottery were demonstrated.

Much groundwork went into assuring that all costumes were historically accurate. Joyce DeMatteis of the Atlantic Guard Soldiers' Aid Society had presented an authentic costuming workshop to prepare garment makers.

Continuous scenarios, skits and first-person presentations erupted throughout the town. The focal point for visitors was the area of the McDowell Presbyterian Church, which served as a hospital in 1862. Bricks at the church still bear in-

scriptions made by soldiers, as well as scars of a cannonball hit.

Saturday featured a sensational regiment-to-regiment re-enactment of the noted battle on the site of the original clash. Spectators stood on the field of war behind a tape barrier as the forces met in front of them. A narrator explained each operation as it unfolded. Horses thundered past into battle, as opposing sides fired at each other from line formations. Artillery fire filled the area with smoke and soldiers fell where they were struck. When the battle ended, Confederates claimed the victory.

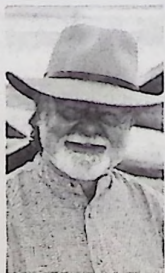
The weekend's events were a culmination of great anticipation by Civil War enthusiasts. Re-enactors across Virginia and other states had looked forward to being at McDowell since the last re-enactment there in 1999. George Moor, a dead ringer for Stonewall Jackson, again traveled all the way from Florida to portray the great general. Civil War artist Bradley Schmehl of Pennsylvania, who attended the event in 1999, did a sketch for use on brochures and shirts to promote the event and returned to McDowell outfitted as a Confederate lieutenant colonel.

Programs pertinent to the Civil War were planned throughout the weekend. See **McDOWELL**, page 5

## Harding memoirs reveal Civil War era strife

By VERA HAILEY

While doing ancestral research, Victor Thacker of Elkins, W.Va., stumbled upon a find that most history buffs can only dream about. While scanning a Randolph County Historical Society article on Confederate Civil War officers, he encountered a reference to his great-great grandmother's brother, Joseph French Harding. It mentioned that Harding was proud



THACKER

of journals he had kept during the War. With his interest piqued, Thacker was off and running.

"My father's middle name was Harding so I knew of the connection," said Thacker. But who would have thought he would happen upon the words that were composed over 130 years ago?

With the help of a distant cousin from Summersville, W.Va., he ob-

tained a typewritten manuscript of the original journal. "The first person I consulted was Richard Armstrong," said Thacker.



**Captain Joseph French Harding, C.S.A., was wounded in the left shoulder on Sept. 1, 1862. This photo was taken later that year.**

Armstrong, who wrote *The Battle of McDowell*, is an authoritative source on the Civil War. Armstrong responded enthusiastically that he considered the account genuine. "He would have had to have been there to get the details that he wrote," Thacker remarked.

Thacker, who teaches English at West Virginia Wesleyan College, decided to publish the personal his-

tory. "It's all original except for the afterword." To his surprise, and to the delight of his wife, the first printing of 1,000 books in October 2000 sold like hotcakes.

The publication was a steady seller at the McDowell Battlefield Heritage Days in Highland County where Harding had fought in the Battle of McDowell. Attendees were enticed by the recently dis-

covered first-person account of the Civil War. "People like the idea that I'm related. It makes it interesting that it was almost lost and then found by accident," he said.

"Written by a man respected by his friends and his foes," according to Thacker, these memoirs reveal life as a company commander and the chronicler's "passion and

See **HARPER**, page 6

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# ACHS honors Menk, Rosen for contributions to history

## AC staff report

STAUNTON — Two individuals who have contributed to preserving local history in two different ways were honored at the Augusta County Historical Society's sixth annual banquet held April 24 at the Holiday Inn in Staunton.

Patricia Menk, a professor emerita of history at Mary Baldwin College, was presented with the 2001 History Educator of the Year Award. Not only did Dr. Menk instill a love of learning history in her students during her tenure at MBC, but she remains active in her retirement instructing tourguides at the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace and presenting community programs. Her look at Staunton in the mid-20th century was the program for the society's inaugural banquet in 1995.

Dr. Menk also has played a part in history being the first woman elected to Staunton City Council and was the first woman mayor of Staunton. She and her husband, the late Karl Menk, established the Karl F. and Patricia H. Menk Fund for Faculty Support and Development at Mary Baldwin. The annual Menk Award is given to a faculty member in support of research done while on sabbatical. At Dr. Menk's suggestion the award was designated for the purpose of encouraging teacher excellence.

In 1992, Dr. Menk wrote and published *To Live in Time*, which has become the definitive history of Mary Baldwin College. Dr. Menk's devotion to education

has touched the lives of many students through her career as an instructor of history.

The evening's other award, the Distinguished History Service Award, went to Irvin T. Rosen of McKinley. Rosen's brand of history is "hands-on." He is a highly-skilled cabinetmaker, a craft that has been passed down through at least four generations of his family. He has coupled that skill with a knowledge of clockmaking. Rosen "rediscovered" the lost art of creating ripple molding, a woodworking technique that had disappeared in a mid-19th century fire that destroyed the Connecticut inventor's shop.

In 1970 Rosen became the Custodian of the Great Clock at Monticello. For many years he was a regular visitor to Charlottesville where he helped keep the timepiece in good working order. Rosen has also documented the history of his church, McKinley United Methodist, and of his community of McKinley, where he has lived all his life.

Both award recipients were given plaques, and books in their honor were placed in the area libraries.

In the evening's keynote address, Ed Covert spoke about research he has conducted on Alfred Anson and Grandma Moses, both immigrants to Augusta County in the late 19th century. Covert noted that immigration is a "politically charged" issue, a fact that has changed little in the century-and-a-half since Anson and Moses immigrated to Augusta County.

Covert's research led him to an

attic in Martinsville, Virginia and 14 trunks of memorabilia linked to the Anson family. Included were items belonging to Alfred Anson whose parents, English landed gentry, purchased 160 acres in what is now Verona, to help set up their son in farming. Alfred Anson was the fourth-born son of Caroline and Fred Anson leaving him beyond the benefit of England's "primogenitor" tradition which provides for the first son to inherit the family fortune. Anson's father served as chaplain to England's Royal Family, however, Covert noted, the wealth of the Anson family would be spread no further than the eldest son.

After a one-year course in agriculture, Alfred Anson immigrated to Augusta County, began farming on land bought with money advanced by his parents in England, and became associated with the Green family who were recent immigrants from Ireland. Alfred married Georgina Green. Covert used letters exchanged between Augusta County and England to reconstruct the life of Alfred Anson and his family.

"Anson's letters give wonderful insight to everyday farm life in Augusta County," Covert said.

Although agriculture rebounded fairly quickly in antebellum Augusta County, Anson's success with his farm endeavor was, perhaps, less than satisfying for him, according to Covert. Anson's mother gave money to build a chapel in Verona and in 1890, he entered the ministry serving in the Episcopalian pastorate at Emmanuel.

Covert compared Anson's immigration to Augusta County to the



Nancy Sorrells, far right, president of the Augusta County Historical Society, congratulates Irvin Rosen of McKinley and Patricia Menk of Staunton on awards they received recently at the ACHS annual spring banquet. AC staff photo

very different story of Anna Robertson Moses or, as she is better known, Grandma Moses. Interestingly enough, Anna and Thomas Moses lived in a house only a short distance from the one in which Anson had lived. Both houses are now located on Augusta County Government property. The Moses family owned their house for a few years in the late 19th century. The Moses' children were baptized at Emmanuel Chapel and five Moses children are buried at nearby Laurel Baptist Church.

Although many years passed between Anna Moses' life in Augusta County and when she became famous as "Grandma" Moses, Covert pointed out an interesting observation gained from his research on the Anson and Moses families.

He noted that the English tradition of passing family wealth to the first-born male heir created a "downward mobility" for other family members. The wealth remained concentrated in one piece, however other family members were left to find ways to live when

they had not necessarily learned a way to provide for themselves and instead continued to rely on the family wealth to get by.

In comparison, he pointed to the Moses family — Anna, who hired herself out as a maid at the age of 14, and Thomas, a hired farm hand, — as examples of impoverished beginnings which created a kind of "upward mobility." Covert pointed to the entrepreneurial spirit exhibited by Anna during her life, always working to improve herself and life for her family. At one time, Anna Moses was quite well known in Staunton for potato chips which she made and sold for profit. It was not until she was in her 90s that her artwork became famous.

Covert closed by noting that "we are in the midst of another generation of immigrants seeking a better life," pointing to local industries which benefit from a labor force comprised mostly of immigrants. He concluded that history will provide the answers to how this new age of immigrants affects the culture and growth of the area. —

## •McDowell

Continued from page 4

Jim Flanagan, president of the Fauquier County Civil War Roundtable, lectured on "The Role of the Horse in the Civil War." Richard Armstrong, author of *The Battle of McDowell*, gave a talk on the battle. John Heatwole, local author and historian, spoke on "Western Virginia Civil War Research and the Surprising Things You Find There!" Military and civilian members of the re-enactment community supported a stage show, "The Road to McDowell."

Richard Armstrong told the story

of Elizabeth Hull, an affluent area resident whose life was destroyed when Union forces invaded the town and took her home to use as headquarters. When the dust of battle settled, only widows and children remained in her extended family. Their property was sold to pay debts and Mrs. Hull moved west. One Sunday at church, she was surprised to be offered communion by none other than Union General Robert Milroy, the officer in charge when her home was invaded. "After much hesitation, she accepted the communion and forgave him," according to Armstrong.

McDowell Presbyterian Church was the site of period church services on Sunday morning.

The Highland County Chamber of Commerce and the Highland Historical Society sponsored the event. Proceeds were returned to the community to be used for preservation and restorative efforts.

The Library of Congress declared the McDowell Battlefield Heritage Days a "Local Legacy." It will be held again in 2003.

For more information on what happened in McDowell, look for these books at your local library: *The Battle of McDowell* by Richard L. Armstrong and *The History of Highland County, Virginia* by Oren F. Morton.

A similar gathering will be held in Bath County in August. Included in the Battle of Warm Springs re-enactment will be field hospital and cavalry demonstrations, a school of instruction for firing rifles and cannons and a barbecue with entertainment. For information, check the Bath County Chamber of Commerce website or contact the chamber at 1-800-628-8092. —

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# Consider the lilies of the field

Who among us does not admire the tall, elegant lily that is a showstopper in our gardens and botanical gardens during the heart of summer?

There are approximately 4,600 species of plants in the lily family (*Liliaceae*). Today I'll write about the five classes of bulbs that provide our main summer blooms from June through July. These classes are: 1. Trumpet and Aurelian; 2. Madonna; 3. Oriental; 4. Martagon or Turk's Cap; and 5. Asiatic.

First, a few general facts about lilies. They like slightly acid soils and a high humus content, so mix some peat moss and compost into the soil at least a foot down before planting. Topdress with more compost each spring.

Plant lily bulbs 3-4 inches deep, ideally in early fall. Most will adjust their depth downward to suit themselves. Madonna lilies are the exception and they should be planted just below the surface.

The bulbs prefer to be shaded (the leaves and flowers enjoy the sun), so plant among other perennials and mulch heavily, 3-4 inches.

Remember that mass plantings are more effective than single bulbs, so plant the same variety in clumps.

**1. Trumpet and Aurelian Lilies.** Height: 4-6 feet; Bloom time: Mid-June to Mid-July; Spacing: 6-8 inches.

These flowers have the classical trumpet shape. They are the tallest lilies and need staking. Some cultivars are fragrant.

**2. Madonna Lily (*Lilium candidum*).** Height: 3 feet; Bloom time: Mid-July; Spacing: 6-8 inches.

One of the oldest plants in cultivation, it has unusual habits. It develops a rosette of leaves in the fall, which last until spring. It prefers to grow apart from other lilies because it develops viral and fungal problems when integrated, and it does not like com-

petition. The flowers are clear white, flare backward, and are delicately scented.

**3. Oriental Lilies.** Height: 3 feet; Bloom time: Mid-June to Mid-July; Spacing: 8-12 inches.

These hybrid lilies were developed by crossing Japanese (*L. japonicum*, *L. rubellum*, and *L. auratum*) varieties with the Korean lily (*L. speciosum*). They are hardy, very fragrant, and tend to be the most expensive. Ensure ample air circulation since the parent lilies can develop fungal diseases. Some of the flowers face upwards but others face downward, so look at photos in your catalogs to get the appropriate flower form.

**4. L. Martagon.** Height: 3-5 feet; Bloom time: Mid-July; Spacing: 6-9 inches.

The common name of turk's cap comes from the way the flowers resemble such a cap. The petals curl backwards (recurve), almost touching their base. The long stamens hang down well below the petals. Often the stems hold 40 flowers, which are small and downward facing. The flowers are aromatic but not heavily perfumed. These bulbs are resistant to viral diseases but can be attacked by fungus. They need sun and air to combat this problem.

**5. Asiatic Lilies.** Height: 3-4 feet; Bloom time: Mid-June to Mid-July;

## In the Garden

By Jenifer Bradford



Spacing: 6-8 inches.

You will find all colors and flower types in this class. Flowers are mid-sized and heavy bloomers. The petals recurve slightly. Stems are strong. Fragrance is minimal. Asiatics are affordable, colorful, and good for naturalizing.

Lilies are becoming increasingly popular as cut flowers in florist shops, so grow plenty to cut from your garden. Beware of stamens that are loaded with pollen because they stain anything they touch (skin or cloth). Clip off before bringing indoors.

Do study catalogs carefully before placing an order to ensure you are buying the class, color, and form that you like since you have so many choices.

Lilies may not toil or spin but they surely make a beautiful statement in the summer garden. —

## ~~~ Garden tips for June ~~~

What shall we say about June? Often it is one of our more perfect months with a happy blend of pleasant weather and a profusion of flowers. It has the longest day in the year. It brings out the roses. It heralds the official start of summer. Surely we can forget about the vagaries of spring and enjoy living outdoors on deck or patio, planting annuals and hanging baskets, and eating in our gazebos or screen porches or reading a favorite book under the whirl of a ceiling fan. Summer is here! Here also are some tips to keep you up to date:

- Water well in lieu of a heavy rain each week (up to 1 inch). Water early or late in the day. Water annuals daily. Water new plantings very thoroughly.

- Prune and thin out by 1/3 all overgrown spirea, lilac, forsythia, and quince. Prune other spring-bloomers as needed.

- Clip off faded lilac flowerheads.

- Deadhead all perennials after flowering and keep annuals pinched back to keep blooms developing.

- Keep hanging baskets and planter boxes trimmed, turned, and well watered daily.

- Thin out boxwoods by hand clipping with scissors. Do not shear. Aim for a natural shape.

- Open up shade trees if branches are too crowded.

- Clip hedges (privet) after their spring growth period. Hedges should be wider at the base; narrower at the top.

- Prune severely spring-blooming perennials such as candytuft, moss pink, and basket-of-gold to enhance their shape and encourage compact growth.

- Apply a slow-release fertilizer to all perennials and annuals. Foliar feed every two weeks from June through August. Annuals are heavy feeders.

- Feed roses and apply a fungicide to prevent disease.

- Scrub out bird baths each week and refill daily with fresh water.

- Put out hummingbird feeders.

- Plant tropicals and annuals.

- Turn and water your compost pile.

- Move indoor plants outdoors for the summer. Place in a sheltered, shaded area.

- Harvest vegetables while they are young. Freeze extras.

- Set your sundial on June 21 (summer solstice) for the most accurate time check this season.

- Pull up weeds before they set seed. Spot them as you walk around the garden with a hose.

- Apply a broadleaf weed control to lawns.

- Transplant bearded iris while in bloom or buy while in bloom to get the correct color in the right place.

- Support tall perennials. Set stakes beside the plants before they get too high and fall over.

- Cut lawns early or late in the day, never across the heat of the day.

- Mulch around all flower and shrub beds to retain moisture and discourage weeds.

- Keep up with your garden diary and photo sessions for later reference.

- Visit the Staunton/Augusta Farmers Markets (Saturday: Staunton Wharf; Wednesday: Verona Govt. Center Loading Dock) for fresh produce, annuals, herbs, and vegetables. —

## •Harper

Continued from page 4

intelligence, integrity and courage" marked young Confederate Captain Harding, who was known by his middle name, French.

Harding served with the 31st Virginia Infantry as commander of Company F, which was composed mainly of men from Randolph County, Virginia (now West Virginia) and later with Company C of the 20th Virginia Cavalry (another Randolph County unit).

Harding participated in numerous battles in the Virginias and Maryland. He contracted typhoid fever in 1861 during the Valley Mountain Campaign. In 1862, he helped re-

pel Union troops from McDowell and fought at Port Republic, where the 31st Virginia Infantry lost half its men. His account of the Battle of Cedar Mountain resolved the mystery about who carried the 31st Virginia's battle flag and was noted in Confederate General Jubal Early's report. Later that year he was shot in the shoulder at Chantilly and was reprimanded for continuing to charge the enemy at Fredericksburg.

In 1863, he shot a sheriff during Imboden's West Virginia raid, was arrested at Mine Run and fought at Gettysburg. In 1864, Harding chased Union General Hunter, made a charge without weapons at Rockville and was taken. See *IMBODEN*, page 8

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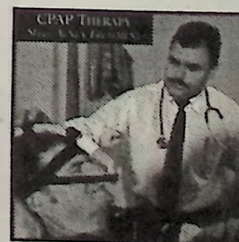
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# Here, there, & everywhere

## Va. FCE holds spring meeting

MT. CRAWFORD — Virginia Association for Family & Community Education (FCE) of Augusta, Rockingham and Rockbridge Counties (Area VI) held its spring meeting recently at Evers Family Restaurant in Mt. Crawford.

Special guests attending were Danielle Torisky, associate professor of health sciences at James Madison University; Sarah Ann Whitmore, Extension Agent of Rockingham County; Brenda Mosby, Extension Agent of Rockbridge County; Cristin Campbell, Extension Agent of Augusta County; Janet Kline, Virginia FCE president; and Gladys Taylor, Va. FCE vice president.

Dr. Torisky gave a presentation on how the Confederate housewife fed the family and faced home front challenges during the Civil War. Using an overhead projector and

display of books (cookbooks, journals, diaries) Dr. Torisky spoke of the 19th century nutrition knowledge, food scarcity and substitutions, and individual and family accounts during the Civil War. She distributed and discussed recipes of this time and gave examples of substitutions. Examples are coffee (rye, chicory, okra seed), tea (sassafras, raspberry leaves), sugar (honey, sorghum, molasses) and red meat (eggs, pigeon, frog, groundhog). Dr. Torisky ended her program by asking, "Do some of our treasured recipes and traditions trace back to days of scarcity and crisis?"

During the business session Area VI officers for 2002 were installed by Janet Kline including president, Judy Grove; vice president, Linda Howdyshell; secretary, Sara Fitzwater; and treasurer, Barbara Paulson.

Extension Agents informed members of dates and locations of upcoming programs and workshops in the three counties. Members present at the meeting were recognized for their years of membership in FCE from less than one year to over 50 years. Ms. Taylor told members about the workshops and speakers for the State Conference in September that will be held at Holiday Inn in Staunton. Ms. line informed members of the Character Counts bills (FCE issue program) before congress and stated that three state board members will be attending National FCE Conference in Rhode Island. Ms. Howdyshell invited members to Augusta County for the 2002 Area VI Spring meeting. Following lunch, door prizes were awarded and meeting was adjourned by reciting the VAFCE Creed. —

## Augusta Library Friend earns state recognition

SYRIA — Terry D. Sumey of Stuarts Draft recently won an Outstanding Library Friend Award for 2001. Given by the Virginia Public Library Directors Association at its annual spring conference at Graves Mountain Lodge, the honor was accepted for Sumey by Barbara Burdette, director of the Augusta County Library.

Nominated in the category for libraries serving a population of 50,000 to 99,000, Sumey was recognized for his years of service to the Augusta County Library as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Friends of the

Library, and his work for the Virginia Library Association.

"Terry's love for libraries has been amply demonstrated in his tireless efforts to improve library services," wrote Burdette. "His enthusiasm and generosity inspire others to greater achievements. He has been quick to identify the role the board should play in working with the director and other agencies. Sumey articulates the library's needs with persuasiveness and energy. He continues to recognize library staff talents through personal contacts and written notes." —

## New Hope FCE begins projects

NEW HOPE — Family Community Educators (FCE) of New Hope held its April meeting at New Hope United Methodist Church with programs on global mission and literacy.

Nellie Flora, global chairman, told the club about several projects in which members can get involved. The members decided to collect embroidery thread for India, a third world country, where women learn embroidery skills at an early age. Mrs. Flora gave information on the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). FCE helps support ACWW by donating "Pennies for Friendship" from which it derives 75 percent of its income. ACWW is a worldwide, non-political organization of country women and homemakers. There are 376 clubs in over 64 countries and over 9 million members. ACWW supports a wide range of projects in third world countries. Some ex-

amples are agriculture training, clinics, literacy courses and nutrition education projects.

Helen Braunworth spoke of her trip to Egypt to visit her son, who was working to improve farming methods and irrigation system. This program was funded by a grant from Colorado State University. Egypt is mostly desert, thus majority of the people live in cities and mountains leaving the valleys and land near the Nile River for farming. Cairo, the capital, is a densely populated area that has major concerns of air pollution and noise. This dense population also causes poverty, unemployment, housing shortages and poor nutrition. Islam is the national religion of Egypt and its followers are called Muslims. Turkish coffee, a thick, black and very strong drink, is enjoyed during a break in the afternoon. Mrs. Braunworth

showed pictures of her trip.

Betty Ott, literacy chairman, gave members information on the state reading program. She distributed handouts on "Ten Reasons to Read to Your Child" and "Nourishing Children with Books." She encouraged each member to observe National Family Day, May 15. The club will give a book to each baby born on May 15 at Augusta Medical Center.

During the business meeting it was noted that 11 members attended the Area VI Spring Meeting at Evers Family Restaurant. Members were reminded to be preparing their exhibits for cultural arts in June. The study of the month was the diamond, the birthstone for April. An international luncheon followed the meeting. Members enjoyed dishes from Peru, Holland, Mexico, France, Ghana, Israel and the United States. Before adjourning members exchanged flower seeds and bulbs.

The club traveled to the M.T. Brakbill Planetarium for a program and toured the D.R. Hostetter Museum of Natural History at Eastern Mennonite University on May 21. —



Students from Crystal Springs Elementary School in Roanoke try on some Victorian-era clothing during a recent visit to Woodrow Wilson Birthplace. Photo by Vera Hailey

## Birthplace programs help youngsters learn history

By VERA HAILEY

STAUNTON — The Woodrow Wilson Museum and Education Center, which includes the National Historic Landmark Manse, is located in the historic Gospel Hill District of Staunton. Most local residents are familiar with the facilities, but may not know about

the innovative programs designed for school children.

The school programs are designed for students in grades 1-8. The highly interactive programs include a classroom visit by a museum educator in period clothing providing demonstrations and preparing students for a field trip to the museum. A learning activities packet, an on-site guided tour and group activities are included in the unique learning experience.

The Journey Into History program uses artifacts, toys and clothing to teach young students about lifestyles of the 1850s, the period when Woodrow Wilson was a young child. Students dress in period clothing, practice their manners and play games once enjoyed by the Wilson children. This takes place in a Victorian parlor. Stu-

See WILSON, page 19

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# Speakers offer options to preserve open space

By NANCY SORRELLS

HARRISONBURG — The fragmenting of open space — agricultural land and forests — is a crisis that can't be ignored and the ultimate price will be steep if trends aren't reversed noted experts at the Forest and Farmland Fragmentation Workshop held recently at the Mennonite Retirement Center here. The event was co-sponsored by a variety of organizations including the Valley Conservation Council, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Virginia Department of Forestry.

The problems of increasing urban sprawl, the disappearance of tracts of land large enough to remain viable either as farmland or forestry and wildlife habitat, the wastefulness of increasingly limited natural resources, and the threats to the farming profession were issues addressed at the day-long conference.

"We are losing our farmland at an alarming pace. From 1982 to 1992, 1.4 million acres of farmland were lost in the United States every year. That increased to 3.4 million a year from 1992 to 1997," noted Robert Whitescarver of the Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District.

Keynote speaker David Smith, a retired professor of forestry from Virginia Tech, graphically explained why these numbers are of such concern. "Eighty percent of our nation's population are urbanites and they don't think about where their products come from...but everything is connected to everything else," he said.

Dr. Smith added that the United States has 4.5 percent of the world's population yet uses 30 percent of the world's paper and 30 percent of its energy and is a net importer of wood. "We've simply got to think ahead to our grandchildren and great-grandchildren," he said.

Part of the global problem is a world population that doubles every five years, but there are local

issues and solutions. Neil Sampson of the Sampson Group, built upon that theme when he discussed fragmentation and its implication on sustainable forestry. Here in Virginia we make our house lots too big and the size of houses is unnecessarily large, he explained. "As the population grows, more land is converted from working uses to developed uses. Soon the average piece of acreage will be 17 acres which is too big to trim by hand and too little to log," he said.

"As the population grows and concentrates, working forests and farms dwindle and parcelization occurs. There are smaller, less economic tracts of land," he explained.

Part of the problem in Virginia is in the way land is perceived. Traditionally the highest and best use of land has been seen as development rather than open space, and that reduces the tolerance for rural land uses and businesses and inflates land value to development prices.

"By the time we see the change on the map, it's 10 years too late. Many places in Virginia are approaching threshold densities, but once you've jumped off that building, it's hard to jump back up," he warned of the development spiral faced by Virginians.

Mary Heinrich, a representative of American Farmland Trust, told the audience that she thought the current situation in Virginia had reached crisis proportions. "Seventy percent of the farms and forests in Virginia will change hands in the next 15 years and the average age of the farmer is 57," she noted.

Part of the problem was one touched on by several other speakers — that in Virginia land has been inflated to a speculative value which makes it hard to extract a living from agriculture. "Over half the farming operations in Virginia have to have an outside income," she explained. She asked the audience to look at the situation into which we have put our children who are ready to go into the workforce. In

many fields, new college graduates have people lining up to hire them and even give them signing bonuses. "But in farming you have a profession where you go to college and get a degree and then have to gather at least a million dollars in order to buy land, equipment and livestock before you can get into the business," she pointed out.

Emphasis needs to shift toward "growing" the industry of farming in Virginia. The fit is natural because 40 percent of the U.S. population is within 24 hours of the potential farm products from Virginia. Good planning is the key, she added. "Three-quarters of the time that farms turn over into development, the farmers didn't plan. We need to do a better job of transitioning these farms and businesses into the next generation." Additionally, zoning ordinances on the local level need to be closely scrutinized. "The Valley has some of the worst zoning on record in this state," Heinrich said.

"It takes a lot of money to get into farming and the return is not that great," she added. Her agency, the American Farmland Trust, is currently working on innovative ways to make farming a sustainable occupation, including linking older farmers with young people desiring to get into the profession.

Innovative solutions to the problems discussed by the workshop's initial speakers were presented during the late morning and afternoon sessions. Alan Musselman described an innovative and effective plan of agricultural protection zoning and purchase of development rights which has been launched in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and Mike McGrath discussed Delaware's Department of Agriculture farmland protection program.

One of the major hurdles crossed in Pennsylvania, according to Musselman, was to erase that notion that forestal and agricultural land was "vacant land waiting for something to happen." In Lancaster County

growth boundaries were established, numbers of new dwellings were limited, and certain lands were designated as "sacred and out of bounds for extensive conversion."

"Was it controversial? You bet! There were battles and communities literally split apart. But the controversy has waned and for the most part people are very satisfied that there is now an equitableness. Now we are moving to a more permanent agriculture through ideas like conservation easements. The big thing is now we don't have a scramble toward speculation and every farm that is preserved is a becoming an anchor for stability," he said.

Musselman warned, however, that preserving agriculture would not be successful "if county planners operate under bad public policy." "You have to get the regulations into place and develop a new land ethic."

The key to saving farmland, according to McGrath, was letting the public become part of the process. "You have to get the overvalued, inflated land off the books and help get the farms debt free. Once the balance sheets are in order then farmers can get back in the business of farming."

He added that forests must be managed to be sustained. "Unless we have a managed forest, those forests will disappear. If the farmers and foresters don't talk with the conservationists and work out a compromise, then the developers will win the game," he said.

Bettina Ring, of the Virginia Department of Forestry, echoed his thoughts. "Trees are not threatened by clear cutting, but rather by poor planning. Foresters need to get out of the forests and get to the planning table in order to help maintain healthy, sustainable forest resources."

Mel Atkinson, the program coordinator for the agricultural reserve plan in the City of Virginia Beach, told the audience about a surprisingly successful system that has recently been put into place in the eastern part

of the state. The city, which actually encompasses the entire county, decided to implement the purchase of development rights to encourage farmers to stay in business. The farmers continue to own their land, but promise not to develop the land. For this promise they are given a financial settlement.

"Why do we want to preserve the land?" Atkinson asked. "For the public good. Preserving the land offsets the infrastructure costs like water, sewer, schools, police, roads, emergency services, libraries, parks and recreation facilities that come with development. And we preserve open space and the rural character as part of the city's economic vitality and diversity. If we don't protect the resource (of farming) then this industry is going to be in trouble."

Virginia Beach drew an urban service boundary, called a Green Line, beyond which urban services would not be extended. The local government also created an Agricultural Advisory Commission and a Rural Preservation Plan. A small 1.5 percent real estate tax increase was coupled with some General Assembly money to create a fund that began buying development rights from farmers who agreed to remain in agriculture. An innovative investment scheme has made the entire program very economically viable.

The program has been very successful and could be used as a model for other localities to begin to tailor-make their own plans. It did not occur overnight, but took 18 months of public education and outreach, Atkinson added.

Involving the community and soliciting local citizens for new and innovative ideas that are right for each area's specific needs are the keys to reversing the current loss of open space and agricultural vitality said all the speakers. "Engage the community, don't come to them with a finished idea," said Heinrich. —

## Imboden

Continued from page 6

porarily captured at Woodstock. He fired his last shot on April 18, 1865 at Knapp's Creek.

Harding was known for his gallant conduct in the field of battle and for his consideration for the men he commanded. This led to friction

with his superior officer in 1863 when the colonel of the 31st Virginia Infantry Regiment made inappropriate demands on Harding's men. "He told them his men had signed up to fight a war, not to be a personal servant," Thacker recalls from the account. Harding was arrested for his defiance.

While detained, Harding ap-

pealed to friend General Robert E. Lee, whom he had met in 1861 in Randolph County, for help. General Lee responded with an order to release Harding from custody. Instead of returning home, Harding joined the 20th Virginia Cavalry as an enlisted man. A natural leader, he was soon promoted to lieutenant.

This portrait of Harding was in-

cluded in *A Boy Scout of the Confederacy*, published in 1923 by Private M.P.H. Potts of the 20th Virginia Cavalry: "We learned to love him and to admire him as an officer. He was always lively and in good spirits, concerning the Confederacy, and that helped us to bear our privations of camp life."

See POTTIS, page 18

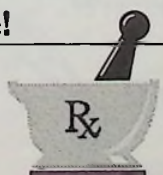
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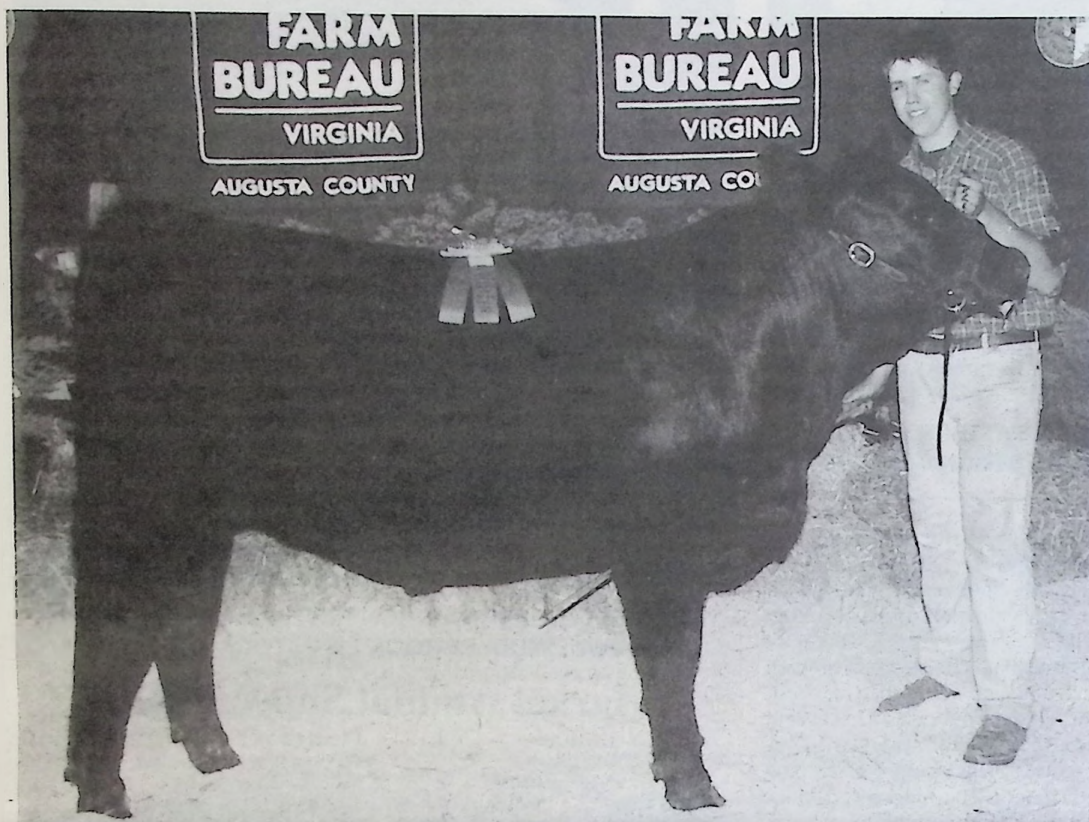
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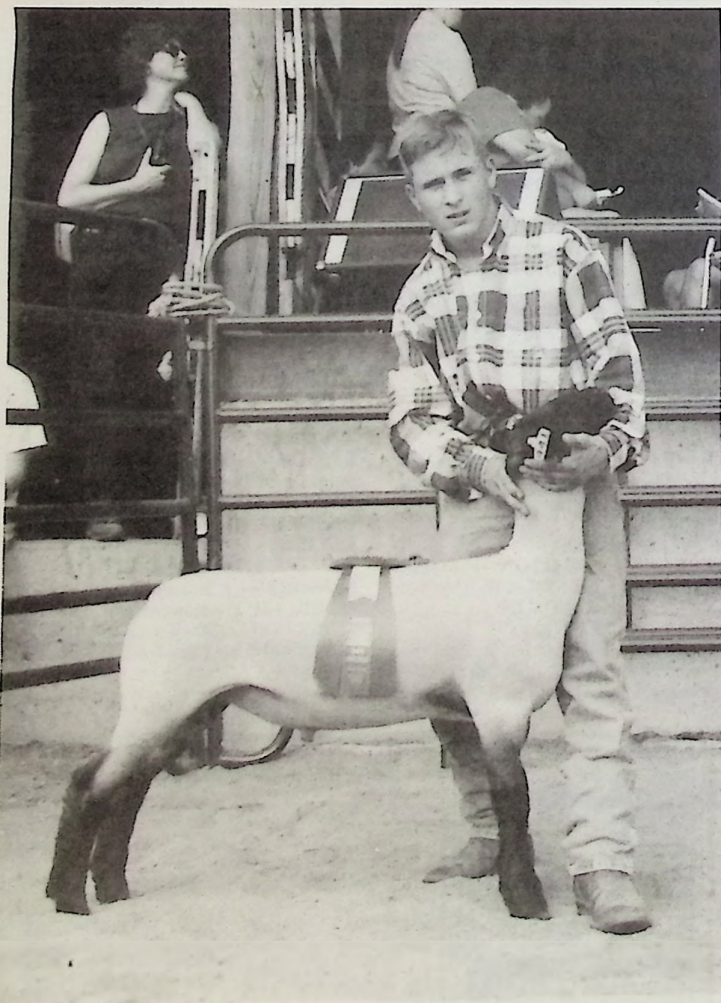
# 56th annual 4-H and FFA Market Animal Show



GRAND CHAMPION STEER shown by BRYAN SHOMO, RIVERHEADS HIGH SCHOOL FFA



GRAND CHAMPION HOG shown by MARK GARLAND, FORT DEFIANCE HIGH SCHOOL FFA



GRAND CHAMPION LAMB shown by JIMMY CROSBY, BUFFALO GAP HIGH SCHOOL FFA, MIDDLEBROOK LIVESTOCK 4-H CLUB

## Event makes imprint as largest show ever

By BETTY JO HAMILTON

STAUNTON — The 56th annual 4-H and FFA Market Animal Show made its imprint on the new millennium with the largest number of livestock ever sported at the event. Steers, hogs and lambs numbering 423 were brought to Staunton Union Stock Yard on May 2 for the two-day event which culminated with a sale on the evening of May 3.

The 2001 show was an Augusta County event in the truest sense of the definition with four of the six top entries being bred and raised on Augusta County farms.

The show's Grand Champion steer was exhibited by Bryan Shomo of Staunton. It was bred and raised by David Simmons of Churchville. The Reserve Grand Champion steer was exhibited by Laura Swisher of Greenville and was bred by Commander Angus of Swoope.

In the lamb show, Jimmy Crosby of Cedar Green exhibited the Grand Champion lamb and Josh Botkin of Churchville exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion lamb. Both exhibitors bred and raised their lambs which won the lamb

show's highest honors.

The show's top hogs were the only top exhibits hailing from beyond Augusta's boundaries. Mark Garland of Fort Defiance exhibited the Grand Champion hog which he purchased from a West Virginia producer. Cameron Brown of Staunton exhibited the Reserve Grand Champion hog which he purchased in Rockingham County.

The 2001 Market Animal Show was dedicated to the Ruritan clubs of Augusta County. The first Ruritan club in Augusta County was formed at North River on July 18, 1938. Today there are 24 Ruritan and 2 Ruriteen clubs in Augusta County whose members give their time, energy, and funds to support a wide variety of activities and groups. Augusta County Ruritans have supported the 4-H and FFA Market Animal Show since 1938 and through the 2000 show had donated more than \$46,000 toward the event. In addition, each year throughout the show's history, members of many Ruritan clubs contribute their time to the various committees which oversee the show and sale.

Joining the Ruritans in supporting

the annual event is the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Staunton Rotary Club.

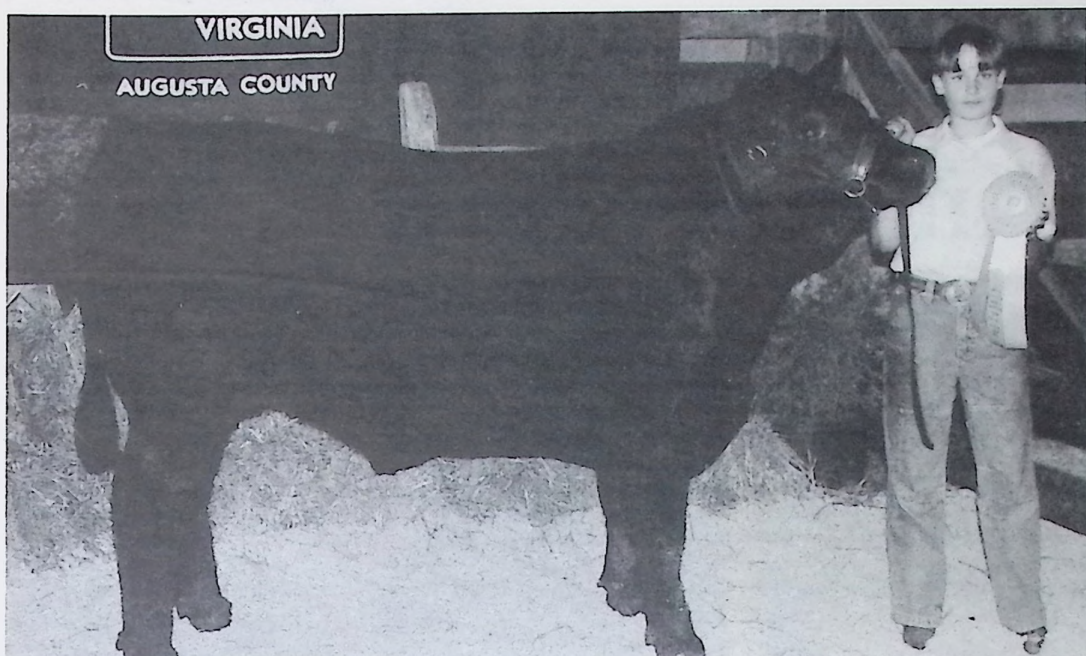
Judge for the event was Greg Upchurch, an animal science instructor at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Upchurch is the coach of the UT livestock judging team and his family raises beef and swine. He grew up showing sheep, swine and cattle.

Mother Nature beamed on the event with sunny skies and near 90-degree temperatures. Even the hog show, which was held in the evening hours of the show's first day, saw comfortable conditions with the temperature only dipping to the low 70s by the time the event concluded about 10 p.m.

Upchurch's first order of business on Wednesday was to find the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion lambs from the field of 187 entries in the lamb show which was broken into four weight divisions.

In the lightweight division of lambs weighing 95-105 pounds, he selected Suffolk lambs exhibited by Botkin as the division's Champion and Reserve Champion. The show's eventual Grand Champion, See SHOW, page 10





**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION STEER** shown by **LAURA SWISHER**,  
**BEVERLEY MANOR MIDDLE SCHOOL FFA, MIDDLEBROOK LIVESTOCK 4-H CLUB**

## •Show

*Continued from page 9*  
a 120-pound Suffolk exhibited by Crosby, was Champion of the heavyweight division of lambs weighing 120-130 pounds.

Champions in the light- and heavy-middleweight divisions — lambs weighing 105-110 and 110-120, were exhibited by Ashley Balsley and Crosby.

In selecting Botkin's two lambs as Champion and Reserve Champion of the lightweight division, Upchurch noted they "combined a lot of things" to top the division.

"Two sheep sort themselves out," he said while looking at the division's class winners. "I'm looking for leanness, muscularity, heavy-legged lambs that are balanced and have flat smooth shoulders."

In the light-middleweight division it was Balsley's Suffolk lamb that drew the judge's eye.

"There's a sheep out here that far and away distances itself from others in this division," Upchurch said before selecting Balsley's lamb as champion. Crosby's Champion lamb in the heavy-middleweight division caught the judge's eye because of its clean middle and clean breast. Upchurch called the lamb an "extremely complete sheep."

The second lamb exhibited by Crosby in the heavyweight division drew the judge's attention early on.

"One sheep caught my eye since it came out here," the judge said. "It has a fraction bigger frame and is a fraction longer, and in terms of freshness, it's the best one out here today."

When the division champions

were assembled for the Grand championship drive, Upchurch noted Botkin's lightweight lamb was a young, "extremely muscular" lamb with a "world of growth" and "a lot of potential." Balsley's Champion lamb, he said, was deep in the chest, shapely and muscular. However it was the "overall muscularity" of Crosby's heavyweight Champion which earned the judge's nod for the show's Grand Champion.

"This lamb really comes to the front and holds himself together," Upchurch said.

Crosby, 16, is a member of the Buffalo Gap High School FFA and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club. He is the son of Harry and Beverley Crosby of Cedar Green.

Upchurch selected Botkin's lightweight division champion as the show's Reserve Grand Champion.

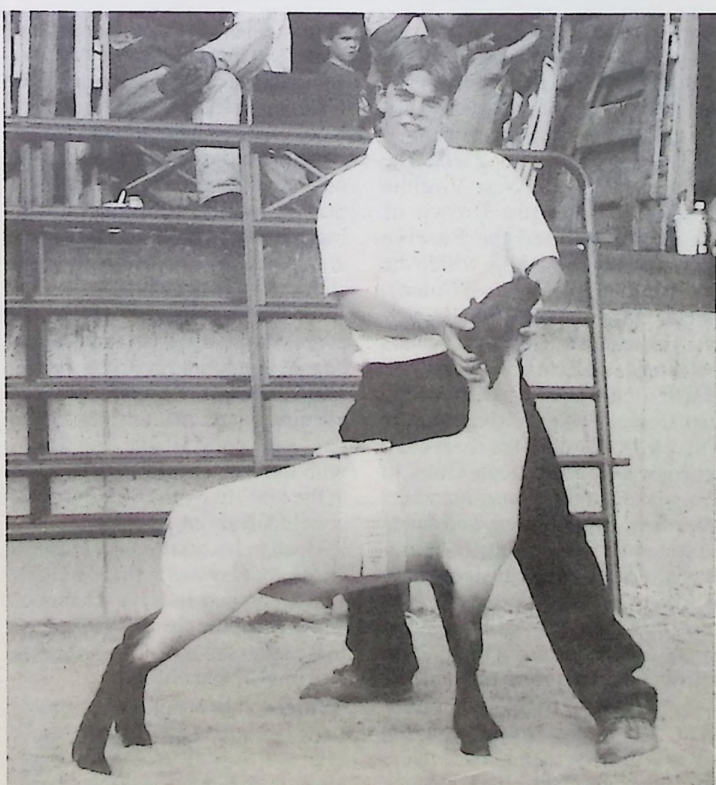
"It's the next best sheep out here," he said. "It has a long top and overpowers the rest from a muscle standpoint."

Botkin, 18, is a member of the Buffalo Gap FFA and is the son of Bruce and Sharon Botkin of Churchville.

Reserve Champion in the light-middleweight division was exhibited by Maggie Crosby, a member of the Beverley Manor Middle School FFA and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club. Bryan Glass, a member of the Fort Defiance High School FFA, exhibited the Reserve Champion lamb in the heavy-middleweight division. Reserve Champion in the heavyweight division of lambs was exhibited by Corey Stogdale, a member of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club.

Although temperatures cooled off some for the hog show, the competition remained intense. Upchurch was faced with a field of 86 hogs broken into three weight divisions to select the show's Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion. Midway through the exhibition he found Garland's and Brown's hogs in the middleweight division of hogs

See **LAMBS**, page 11



**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION LAMB** shown by  
**JOSH BOTKIN, BUFFALO GAP HIGH SCHOOL FFA**



**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION HOG** shown by **CAMERON BROWN, MIDDLEBROOK LIVESTOCK 4-H CLUB**

## Market Animal Show results

### Lamb Show DIVISION I 95-105 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. J. Botkin; 2. A. Pitsenbarger; 3. C. Brown; 4. R. Rohr; 5. K. Ambler; 6. C. Earhart

**CLASS 2** — 1. J. Botkin; 2. A. Balsley; 3. J. Coleman; 4. A. Collins; 5. R. Rohr; 6. M. Smith

**CLASS 3** — 1. A. Painter; 2. M. Lawson; 3. A. Keaton; 4. C. Hughes; 5. R. Grogg; 6. K. Leonard

**CLASS 4** — 1. R. Boxley; 2. S. Tuennermann; 3. J. Coleman; 4. R. Riley; 5. J. Smith; 6. E. Switzer

**CHAMPION** — Josh Botkin, BG FFA  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Josh Botkin, BG FFA

### DIVISION II 105-110 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. C. Harris; 2. J. Rohrbaugh; 3. D. Pitsenbarger; 4. D. Mules; 5. S. Smith; 6. K. Leonard

**CLASS 2** — 1. A. Balsley; 2. M. Crosby; 3. S. Willis; 4. B. Reeves; 5. J. Temple; 6. K. Tuennermann

**CLASS 3** — 1. A. Hinson; 2. A. Hemp; 3. A. Kyle; 4. M. Lawson; 5. R. Grogg; 6. R. Harris

**CLASS 4** — 1. L. Mish; 2. A. Pitsenbarger; 3. K. Mitchell; 4. R. Swartzel; 5. I. Swartzel; 6. J. Smith

**CHAMPION** — Ashley Balsley, MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Maggie Crosby, BM FFA & MDL 4-H

### DIVISION III 110 - 120 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. K. Ambler; 2. C. Brown; 3. S. Willis; 4. L. VanLear; 5. K. Tuennermann; 6. B. Reeves

**CLASS 2** — 1. J. Crosby; 2. B. Glass; 3. B. Shomo; 4. M. Carpenter; 5. C. Jarvis; 6. C. Earhart

**CLASS 3** — 1. R. Riley; 2. J. Riley; 3. B. Shomo; 4. M. Tuennermann; 5. S. Tuennermann; 6. K. Williams

**CLASS 4** — 1. L. VanLear; 2. R. Boxley; 3. B. Williams; 4. K. Williams; 5. J. Back; 6. M. Tuennermann

**CHAMPION** — Jimmy Crosby, BG FFA & MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Bryan Glass, FD FFA

### DIVISION IV 120-130 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. J. Crosby; 2. A. Hemp; 3. M. Crosby; 4. B. Glass; 5. C. Mish; 6. E. Giles

**CLASS 2** — 1. T. Rohrbaugh; 2. M. Smith; 3. M. Carpenter; 4. M. Williams; 5. A. Puffenbarger; 6. B. Napier

**CLASS 3** — 1. C. Stogdale; 2. J. Riley; 3. C. Mish; 4. E. Giles; 5. B. Truxell; 6. D. Pitsenbarger

**CLASS 4** — 1. A. Hinson; 2. D. Temple; 3. C. Jarvis; 4. C. Stogdale; 5. J. Heizer; 6. J. Via

**CHAMPION** — Jimmy Crosby, BG FFA & MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Corey Stogdale, MDL 4-H

**GRAND CHAMPION** — Jimmy Crosby  
**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION** — Josh Botkin

### SHOWMANSHIP

**SENIORS** — 1. Jimmy Crosby, BG FFA & MDL 4-H; 2. Amanda Hemp, RHS FFA & MDL 4-H; 3. Maggie Crosby, BM FFA & MDL 4-H; Hon. Men. Jonathan Coleman, RHS FFA & MDL 4-H

See **RESULTS**, page 12

**AUGUSTA  
MUTUAL  
INSURANCE  
COMPANY**

## Augusta Insurance Agency

**Steve R. Marshall**  
Staunton office  
540/213-2417

**Jerry Coffman**  
Fishersville office  
540/949-4000

**All lines of insurance —**  
•Home •Farm •Business  
•Auto •Life •Health



## Lambs

Continued from page 10

weighing 240-255 pounds. Upchurch selected Garland's hog as Champion of the division, citing it as the "trimmest" hog in the division. He called the division's top hogs "two really powerful-made kind of pigs."

Before selecting the top hogs for the show, Upchurch paused to reflect on both the lambs and hogs exhibited in the event's first day.

"I am nothing but totally impressed with the quality of livestock I've seen today," he said. He called the field of 86 swine entries a "tremendous set of hogs" and set the stage for selecting the show's Grand Champion by saying, "I want to look at a show pig, but I want to look at something that has some production." Upchurch said his "target window" for the show's top hog was 250 pounds, sound and lean. Looking at the Champions and Reserve Champions of the three weight divisions, Upchurch said his selections for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion were hogs that were similar in type and kind and were "pretty much 12 o'clock" in terms of market readiness. He selected Garland's hog as Grand Champion saying it was "one individual that stood out."

Garland, 15, is a member of the Fort Defiance FFA chapter and is the son of Diane Cline. It was the third year he had exhibited hogs in the event. Brown, 10, is a member of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club and is the son of Brian and Sheri Brown of Staunton. It was the second year exhibiting hogs for Brown.

Anna Collins, a member of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club showed the Champion in the lightweight division of hogs weighing 220-240 pounds. Re-

serve Champion in the division was exhibited by Garland.

In the show's heavyweight division of hogs weighing 255-270 pounds, Stogdale exhibited the Champion hog and Emily Curry, a member of the Buffalo Gap FFA, exhibited the Reserve Champion hog.

Thursday's events got under way at 9 a.m. with 150 steers ready for the judge's scrutiny. The steer show was broken into five weight divisions. Shomo's and Swisher's entries emerged in the show's fourth division of steers weighing 1,220-1,265 pounds, with Shomo claiming Champion honors in the division and Swisher taking Reserve Champion honors.

Again, before selecting the steer show Grand Champion, Upchurch paused to make some general comments about the event.

"I have been impressed all day

long with the youth here today," he said. "This is a great tool in terms of training these youth. It's all part of the learning process. There are great life skills to be learned through this for these young people. I take my hat off to you for what you're doing with this program in your county and with these young people. This county really needs to sit up and take notice of what these people have done here. You'd be hard pressed to find a county show of this caliber east of the Mississippi."

Upchurch noted that in reviewing the field of steers he was searching for cattle that had "a certain look about them." He said he looked for cattle with enough muscle and those which had the right cover over their loin and rib.

In the show's lightweight division of steers weighing 970-1,085

pounds, Clay Earhart of Greenville and a member of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club exhibited the Champion steer. Katie Williams, also of the Middlebrook club, exhibited the division's Reserve Champion steer.

Champion of Division 2, steers weighing 1,085-1,160 pounds, was exhibited by Jonathan Riley, a member of the Buffalo Gap FFA. Becky Derrow, a member of the Fort Defiance FFA, exhibited the division's Reserve Champion.

Kristin Shomo, a member of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club, exhibited the Champion in Division 3, steers weighing 1,160-1,210 pounds. Reserve Champion in the division was exhibited by Will Earhart, also a member of the Middlebrook club.

In the show's heavyweight division of steers weighing 1,270-1,480 pounds, Jacob Leonard, a

member of the Riverheads High School FFA and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club, exhibited the Champion steer. Samantha Tuennermann, also a member of the Middlebrook club, exhibited the division's Reserve Champion.

Shomo's Grand Champion steer was a 1,225-pound Angus-Maine Anjou cross and graded choice. Swisher's Reserve Grand Champion steer was a 1,265-pound Angus and graded prime. Shomo, 18, is a member of the Riverheads FFA and is the son and stepson of Scott and Sally Shomo of Staunton. It was his seventh year showing steers in the event. Swisher, 13, was a newcomer to the Market Animal Show in her first year exhibiting. She is a member of the BMMS FFA and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club. She is the daughter of Wayne and Kathy Swisher of Greenville. —

## Awards cap year for MAS exhibitors

### AC staff report

SANGERSVILLE — The Augusta County 4-H and FFA Market Animal Show wrapped up its 56th year with the presentation of awards at a banquet held recently at the Sangersville-Towers Ruritan Hall.

Jimmy Crosby, a member of the Buffalo Gap High School FFA chapter and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club, was awarded the R.L. Coffey Junior Achievement Award for earning the most points in exhibiting lambs, hogs, and steers at the show.

Crosby also won the George Beam Memorial Award which is given annually to the individual who amasses the most points exhibiting lambs.

Junior 4-H member Katie Williams of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club won the Alton Lewis Award for the show's top first-year exhibitor. Katie is the daughter of Joe and Sally Williams of Greenville. Jimmy is the son of Harry and Beverley Crosby of Cedar Green.

Virginia Pork Industry Association's Sweepstakes winner was Mark Garland, a member of the FFA chapter at Fort Defiance High School. The sweepstakes award is based on points tallied for



WILLIAMS GARLAND

hog class placings and showmanship. Garland, who exhibited the grand champion market hog, won the Carl Grove Memorial Award. Garland is the son of Diane Cline of Fort Defiance.

The Jim Coffey Memorial Award was presented to Bryan Shomo of the Riverheads High School FFA chapter who exhibited the 2001 grand champion steer at the show held May 2 and 3 at Staunton Union Stock Yard. He is the son and stepson of Scott and Sally Shomo of Staunton.

The award was established in 1998 in memory of long-time Ruritan and Market Animal Show supporter Jim Coffey. The award, a silver belt buckle, is given annually to the individual who exhibits the show's grand champion steer. A plaque also is engraved with the name of each year's winner and rotates from year to year. The award will be retired if an individual exhibits the grand champion steer three times.

U.S. Savings Bonds in the amount of \$100 each were presented to the

event's showmanship champions. The awards are sponsored annually by Augusta Country.

Receiving bonds were Crosby, senior, and Ashley Balsley, junior, lamb showmanship; Jonathan Riley, senior, and Katie Marshall, junior, hog showmanship; and Will Earhart, junior, and Jonathan Coleman, senior, steer showmanship.

Six individuals received awards from the Augusta County Feeder Calf Association for beef performance. These awards are given to steer exhibitors and are based on the animal's average daily rate of gain (ADG).

Receiving a first place ribbon for beef performance was Colt Lyle of the Buffalo Gap FFA who exhibited a steer with an ADG of 4.25 pounds. Second place went to Christina Mish, of the Middlebrook 4-H club, for her steer which gained 3.94 pounds per day. Third place for a steer which gained 3.88 pounds per day went to Chadwick Bazzrea of the Beverley Manor Middle School FFA chapter. Fourth place for beef performance was presented to Ashley Puffenbarger for her steer which gained 3.83 pounds per day. A three-way tie for fifth place for beef performance was awarded to Erika Fifer and Gina Smith, both of the Buffalo Gap FFA, and Ben Napier of the BMMS FFA. Their steers each showed gains of 3.80 pounds per day on feed.

Awards for recordbooks included the following individuals.

### Juniors

Blue awards: hog, lamb and steer — Cameron Brown, Ashleigh Hinson, Corey Stogdale, Ben Williams and Mary Williams; lamb and steer — Andrew Heizer, Chris Jarvis, and Samantha Tuennermann; hog and lamb — Jacob Heizer and Ashley Pitsenbarger; hog and steer — Brandon Reeves and Katie Williams; lamb — Rachel Boxley, Alex Brown, Meagan Carpenter, Emily Giles, Ashley Kyle, Kristy Mitchell, Ali Painter, Ashley Rubush, Natalie Sprouse, Michael Tuennermann, Lee Van Lear, Stephanie Willis, Jaclyn Wine and Loretta Winegard; hog — Jonathan Christian and Sarah Williams; steer — Will Earhart, Brad Gordon, Sarah Heizer, Mark McCune, Ashley Puffenbarger and Laura Swisher.

Red awards: hog and lamb — Josh Back and Jessica Wine; hog — Jacob Back and Katie Marshall; steer — Logan Bean, Hunter Castle, Daniel Gordon, Timmy Michael, Kristina Mitchell, W.A. Ruleman and Evan Shiflett; lamb — Ashley Puffenbarger, Brandon Reeves, Bryan Shafer, Erin Switzer, Jenna Temple, Kelley Tuennermann, Katie Williams, Sarah Williams and Beth Wine.

### Seniors

Blue awards: hog, lamb and steer — Jimmy Crosby and Josh Smith; hog and lamb — Ben Burton; steer and lamb — Scott Lam and Bryan Shomo; steer — S.J. Borden, Sarah Earhart, Tristan Leach, Sciott Ruebush, Ashley Shiflett, Gina Smith and Leah Waliky; lamb — Maggie Crosby and Sarah Heizer.

Red awards: steer and hog — Mark Garland; steer and lamb — Isaac Swartzel; steer — Patricia Castle, Frank Dull, Colt Lyle, Ashley Michael, Jami Lyle, Willia Patterson and Aaron Shiflett; lamb — Heather Harper, Rachel Swartzel, Danielle Temple and Mary Winegard.

Premiums for class placings also were presented at the banquet. The show is sponsored annually by local Ruritan clubs, the Rotary Club of Staunton and the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce. —

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COMMUNITY  
BANK  
Our name really does say it all.

Congratulations to all 4-H and FFA

Market Animal Show  
exhibitors on  
a job well done!

Dr. Marsh and the Staff at  
Middlebrook Family Medicine



# Market Animal Sale grosses \$249,000; \$89,000 over floor

## AC staff report

STAUNTON — Livestock sold through the 2001 Augusta County 4-H and FFA Market Animal Sale grossed \$249,000 with more than \$89,000 being in excess of the floor price. Gross receipts from 2000 were \$210,000 with \$81,000 of that being in excess of the floor price. A total of 423 head of livestock was sold at the 2001 sale compared to a few more than 400 at the 2000 sale.

If 4-H and FFA members learn nothing else from their Market Animal Projects, they learn very quickly what a fluctuating supply-demand market means to them in dollars they earn on livestock. For this reason the club and chapter members look each year for support from local businesses to help them break even on their animal projects.

Businesses from Staunton, Waynesboro, Augusta, Rockingham and Rockbridge counties came out in full support of the Market Animal Sale. Part of each

youth's project work is to acquire bidders for their animals by writing to or visiting businesses to solicit support for the sale. Businesses have always supported Augusta County youth by purchasing livestock at the Market Animal Sale and in turn reap the rewards of the positive public relations generated by supporting the youth.

As usual, the pavilion at Staunton Union Stockyard was packed to capacity for the May 3 sale of steers, hogs, and lambs by 4-H and FFA members. Business leaders showed strong support for the club members' project work. Floor prices on lambs and hogs were within \$2 of the 2000 prices with lambs dropping \$1/hundredweight and hogs increasing \$1.60/hundredweight. The floor price on steers at the 2001 sale was \$5/hundredweight higher than for the 2000 sale.

Auctioneers for the sale were Robbie Reeves, H.C. Wise and Jeff Showalter.

An overview of the 2001 4-H and FFA Market Animal Sale and

prices follows.

**Grand Champion steer**  
1,225 pounds, graded choice  
**Exhibited by Bryan Shomo**  
*Purchased by Lee Hereford for \$1.35/pound or \$1,653.75/head*  
**Reserve Grand Champion steer**  
1,265 pounds, graded prime  
**Exhibited by Laura Swisher**  
*Purchased by Lee Hereford for \$1.30/pound or \$1,644.50/head*

The 150 steers sold at the Market Animal Sale had an average weight of 1,191 pounds and brought from \$85 to \$135/hundredweight, with most ranging from \$90 to \$102/hundredweight. In 2000, prices ranged from \$72.50 to \$147/hundredweight, with most ranging from \$82.50 to \$97.50/hundredweight. In 1999, prices ranged from \$82.50 to \$142.50/hundredweight, with most ranging from \$87 to \$90/hundredweight.

Floor price on 115 steers grading choice and prime at the 2001 4-H and FFA Market Animal Sale was bid \$72.35/hundredweight by Taylor Packing. Steers averaged

\$26.50/hundredweight over the floor price. There were eight steers which graded prime. Floor price in 2000 was \$67/hundredweight on choice and prime steers.

Floor price on 35 steers grading select was bid \$69/hundredweight by Taylor Packing. Floor price on steers grading select in the 2000 sale was bid \$61.75/hundredweight.

Prices at the 2001 Market Animal Sale are reflective of nationwide markets. Slaughter steer prices climbed sharply to the low 80s in mid-winter before beginning to drop off slightly in the early spring. Lamb prices remained strong in the period between spring 2000 and spring 2001. Likewise, hog prices remained steady during the same period. Market prices trended upward since bottoming out in 1999 and have remained strong. The floor price at the 4-H and FFA Market Animal Sale reflects the value of slaughter animals sold through regular markets.

**Grand Champion hog**  
245 pounds, yield grade 1  
**Exhibited by Mark Garland**  
*Purchased by L&T Partners for \$3.10/pound or \$759.50/head*  
**Reserve Grand Champion hog**  
255 pounds, yield grade 1  
**Exhibited by Cameron Brown**  
*Purchased by Lee Hereford for \$2.20/pound or \$561/head*

Market hogs sold individually numbered 47 with an average weight of 247 pounds. Prices ranged from \$105 to \$295/hundredweight with most falling in the \$120 to \$160/hundredweight range. Individual hog prices for the 2000 sale ranged from \$100 to \$220/hundredweight with most falling in the \$135 to \$150/hundredweight range.

Floor price bid on 39 yield grade US 1-2 market hogs and 2 yield grade US 3 was \$47.60/hundredweight by Sparky Miller. The Buyers' Committee added in \$15 to the sale price of each of the floor hogs. Hogs sold individually averaged \$99/hundredweight over the floor price. In 2000, the floor price on hogs was \$46/hundredweight. In 1999, the floor price on hogs was \$33/hundredweight. The U.S. slaughter hog market dipped to depression-era lows in 1999. It all but collapsed in December 1999

when slaughter hog prices dropped as low as \$8/hundredweight. The market has recovered some but has yet to reach 1997 levels when slaughter hogs were bringing \$55.25/hundredweight.

**Grand Champion lamb**  
120 pounds, Blue O  
**Exhibited by Jimmy Crosby**  
*Purchased by Shady Brook Farms/Rocco Inc. for \$5/pound or \$600/head*

**Reserve Grand Champion lamb**  
100 pounds, Blue O  
**Exhibited by Josh Botkin**  
*Purchased by Evers Family Restaurant for \$4.80/pound or \$480/head*

A total of 122 lambs which averaged 111 pounds were sold individually at the Market Animal Sale with prices ranging from \$2.20 to \$6.10/pound with most falling in the \$2.90 to \$3.70 range. In 2000, prices ranged from \$1.25 to \$5/pound with most falling in the \$2.25-\$3 range. In 1999, prices ranged from \$1.20 to \$4.60/pound with most falling in the \$1.50 to \$2.20/pound range.

Floor price on 61 Blue O lambs averaging 112 pounds was bid \$1.0515/pound by Staunton Union Stock Yard and Troy Forren. Floor price on four Red O lambs averaging 99 pounds was \$1.09, also by Staunton Union Stock Yard and Troy Forren. The Buyers' Committee added in \$15 to the sale price of each of the floor lambs. Lambs sold individually averaged \$2.22/pound over the floor price.

The 2000 floor price on Blue O lambs which averaged 108 pounds was \$106/hundredweight. Floor price in 1999 on Blue O lambs with an average weight of 108 pounds was bid \$88.50/hundredweight.

In 1997, Blue O lambs brought \$1.25/pound the week prior to Easter. The market dropped 32 percent during 1998 to 85 cents/pound during the first week in April. The floor price on Blue O lambs at the 1999 Market Animal Sale reflected a 10 percent recovery in market value of slaughter lambs from 1998 prices. Other than some seasonal adjustments since that time, the lamb market has remained strong. Eastern U.S. sheep producers have benefited from the upward swing in the lamb market which is influenced by ethnic buyers of lamb in the northeastern U.S. —

## Augusta County 4-H and FFA Market Animal Show Three-year price trend

	FLOOR PRICE			BUYER-SUPPORTED PRICE RANGE		
	2001	2000	1999	2001	2000	1999
Steers (choice)	72.35	67.00	61.00	90-1.02	82.50-97.50	87.00-90.00
Steers (select)	69.00	61.75	58.35	NA	NA	NA
Hogs	47.60	46.00	33.00	1.20-1.60	1.35-1.50	1.15-1.30
Lambs	1.05	1.06	88.50	2.90-3.70	2.25-3.00	1.50-2.20

## Results

Continued from page 10

**JUNIORS** — 1. Ashley Balsley, MDL 4-H; 2. Meagan Carpenter, SM FFA & MDL 4-H; 3. Stephanie Willis, MDL 4-H; Hon. Men. Brandon Reeves, NR 4-H

### Hog Show

#### DIVISION I

220-240 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. B. Napier; 2. K. Leonard; 3. N. Collins; 4. C. Earhart; 5. A. Pitsenbarger; 6. B. Burton  
**CLASS 2** — 1. R. Riley; 2. A. Hinton; 3. K. Williams; 4. J. Smith; 5. A. Balsley; 6. M. Lawson  
**CLASS 3** — 1. A. Collins; 2. M. Garland; 3. J. Back; 4. K. Williams; 5. J. Riley; 6. R. Grogg  
**CHAMPION** — Anna Collins, MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Mark Garland, FD FFA

#### DIVISION II

240-255 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. M. Garland; 2. A. Collins; 3. J. Crosby; 4. N. Buchanan; 5. B. Reeves; 6. B. Shomo  
**CLASS 2** — 1. B. Napier; 2. K. Marshall; 3. N. Collins; 4. C. Brown; 5. M. Williams; 6. N. Buchanan  
**CLASS 3** — 1. C. Brown; 2. C. Stogdale; 3. E. Curry; 4. J. Crosby; 5. J. Riley; 6. G. Johnston  
**CHAMPION** — Mark Garland, FD FFA  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Cameron Brown, MDL 4-H

#### DIVISION III

255-270 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. C. Earhart; 2. J. Heizer; 3. M. Lawson; 4. G. Gutshall; 5. M. Williams; 6. A. Pitsenbarger  
**CLASS 2** — 1. B. Reeves; 2. S. Williams; 3. A. Hinson; 4. B. Williams; 5. J. Back; 6. J. Rohrbaugh

**CLASS 3** — 1. C. Stogdale; 2. E. Curry; 3. T. Davis; 4. B. Derrow; 5. C. Bazzrea; 6. B. Williams  
**CHAMPION** — Corey Stogdale, MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Emily Curry, BG FFA  
**GRAND CHAMPION** — Mark Garland  
**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION** — Cameron Brown

### SHOWMANSHIP

**SENIORS** — 1. Jonathan Riley, BG FFA; 2. Emily Curry, BG FFA; 3. Mark Garland, FD FFA; Hon. men. Rosalea Riley, BG FFA  
**JUNIORS** — 1. Katie Marshall, WW 4-H; 2. Garrett Johnston, MDL 4-H; 3. Josh Back, CVL 4-H; Hon. mne. Maggie Lawson, MDL 4-H

### Steer show

#### DIVISION I

970-1,085 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. F. Proffitt; 2. H. Caricofe; 3. Ka. Shomo; 4. J. Leonard; 5. A. Fuller; 6. J. Shultz  
**CLASS 2** — 1. B. Heizer; 2. L. Huffman; 3. K. Mithcell; 4. B. Williams; 5. J. Coleman; 6. T. Michael  
**CLASS 3** — 1. K. Williams; 2. N. Buchanan; 3. C. Snyder; 4. K. Cassidy; 5. C. Jarvis; 6. D. Gordon  
**CLASS 4** — 1. C. Earhart; 2. J. Coleman; 3. M. Williams; 4. C. Cromer; 5. M. Miller; 6. As. Shiflett  
**CHAMPION** — Clay Earhart, MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Katie Williams, MDL 4-H

#### DIVISION II

1,085-1,160 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. G. Smith; 2. B. Reeves; 3. J. Rawley; 4. R. Riley; 5. B. Gordon; 6. B. Williams  
**CLASS 2** — 1. J. Riley; 2. A. Heizer; 3. C. Brown; 4. S. Heizer; 5. C. Lotts; 6. J. Christian  
**CLASS 3** — 1. B. Derrow; 2. I. Swartzel;

3. W. Patterson; 4. B. Gordon; 5. Ka. Shomo; 6. T. Leach  
**CLASS 4** — 1. L. Grimm; 2. M. Williams; 3. A. Heizer; 4. A. Cash; 5. C. Stogdale; 6. J. Rawley  
**CHAMPION** — Jonathan Riley, BG FFA  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Becky Derrow, FD FFA

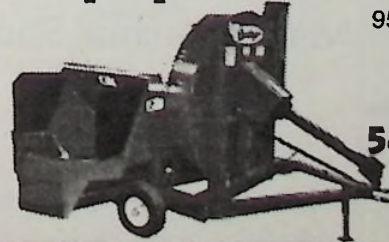
### DIVISION III

1,160-1,210 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. J. Crosby; 2. R. Riley; 3. Kr. Shomo; 4. N. Norman; 5. M. McCune; 6. B. Truxell  
**CLASS 2** — 1. W. Earhart; 2. B. Derrow; 3. A. Hinson; 4. C. Brown; 5. K. Burford; 6. S. Ruebush  
**CLASS 3** — 1. Kr. Shomo; 2. G. Irvine; 3. C. Lotts; 4. J. Buchanan; 5. L. Bean; 6. S. Earhart

See STEERS, page 17

## Grimm's Farm Equipment

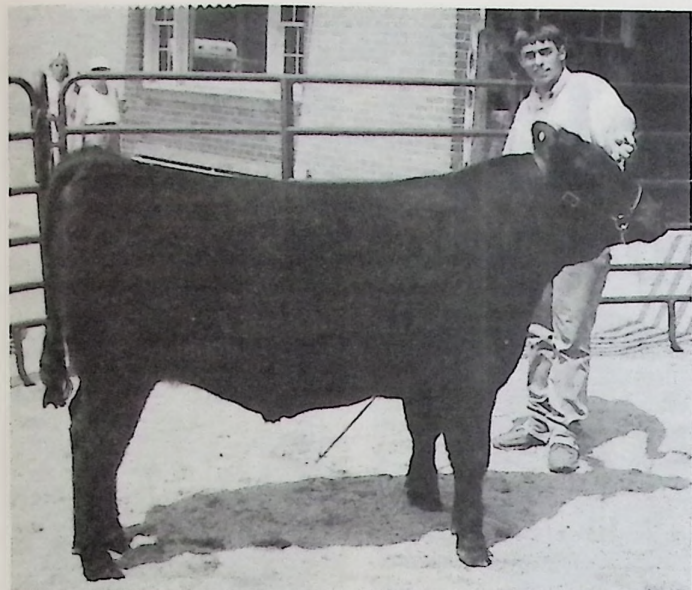


95 Badger Road East,  
Just off Va. 42,  
5 miles south  
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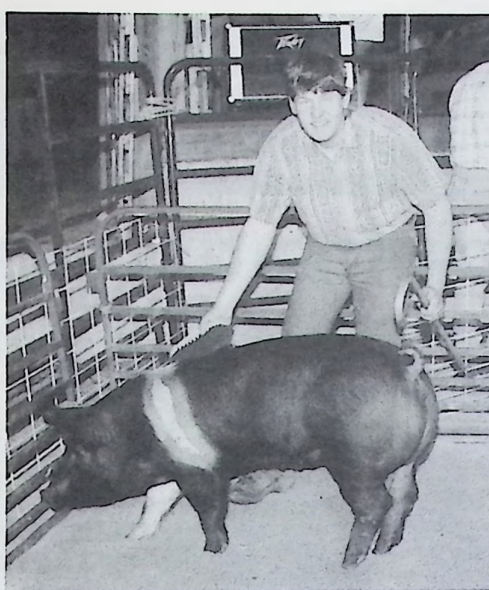


**Congratulations 4-H & FFA members!**

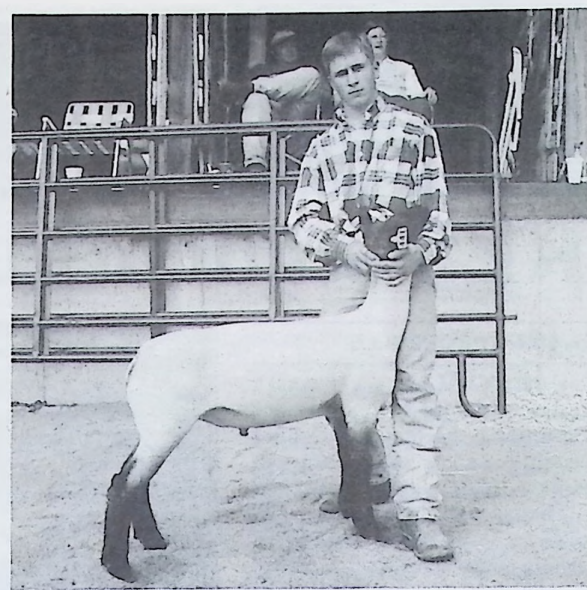




**JONATHAN COLEMAN**  
RIVERHEADS FFA, MIDDLEBROOK 4-H CLUB  
CHAMPION SENIOR STEER SHOWMAN



**JONATHAN RILEY**  
BUFFALO GAP FFA  
CHAMPION SENIOR HOG SHOWMAN



**JIMMY CROSBY**  
BUFFALO GAP FFA  
CHAMPION SENIOR LAMB SHOWMAN

## Augusta Country honors youth for showmanship

### AC staff report

STAUNTON — Six Augusta County youths won showmanship honors at the 56th annual Market Animal Show to claim \$100 U.S. Savings Bonds sponsored for the event by *Augusta Country*.

The senior showmanship award for lambs was won by Jimmy Crosby, a member of the Buffalo Gap High School FFA and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club. Ashley Balsley, also a member of the Middlebrook club, won the junior lamb showmanship award.

In the hog exhibition, winners were Jonathan Riley, senior, of the Buffalo Gap FFA and Katie Marshall, junior, of the Willing Workers 4-H Club.

In the steer exhibition, winners were Jonathan Coleman, senior, of the Riverheads High School FFA chapter and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club, and Will Earhart, junior, also of the Middlebrook club.

"It takes a lot of hard work, ef-

fort, and patience to prepare these animals for the show," noted *Augusta Country* publisher Betty Jo Hamilton. "The young people, their parents and leaders are to be commended for the outstanding work they do each year with these projects. But it all finally boils down to the exhibitor and the animal in the show ring and that's what showmanship is all about."

Show judge Greg Upchurch commended all exhibitors for their showmanship efforts. Making remarks about showmanship techniques, Upchurch said he looked for individuals who demonstrated "offensive- and defensive-type showing." Individuals who surpassed their peers in this competition were those appearing cool and collected and who were soft and methodical when exhibiting their livestock, the judge explained.

In the junior lamb showmanship competition, Upchurch selected Balsley as the winner calling her "the bus driver," he said,

"because she took everybody else in the ring to school."

"She did an extremely nice job. She always responded to her lamb, pulled it back in line, kept the lamb looking its best," Upchurch said.

Balsley, 13, is a student at Stuarts Draft Middle School and is the daughter of Sonny and Delores Balsley of Lyndhurst. She has exhibited lambs for four years. At the 2000 Market Animal Show, Balsley won the junior showmanship award in the hog exhibition.

Following Balsley as grand champion junior lamb showman were Meagan Carpenter of the Stewart Middle School FFA chapter and the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club in second and Stephanie Willis, also of the Middlebrook club, in third. Carpenter was the top junior lamb showman at the 2000 show. The judge selected Brandon Reeves of the North River 4-H Club as honorable mention in junior lamb showmanship.

In the senior lamb showmanship

contest, Upchurch was looking for the same qualities as he found in the junior competitors although he expected a bit more showing presence from the veteran exhibitors. Upchurch noted that all the exhibitors did a good job of presenting their animals for the show. Crosby was the exhibitor he singled out for senior showmanship honors in the lamb exhibition.

"All day long he has been most in tune with where I was," Upchurch said.

Crosby, 16, is the son of Harry and Beverley Crosby of Cedar Green. He has been exhibiting lambs at the show for six years and won the lamb showmanship award in a previous year as a junior exhibitor. He placed second in senior lamb showmanship at the 2000 show.

Following in second and third place, respectively, in the senior lamb showmanship contest were Amanda Hemp and Maggie Crosby. Hemp won the top award last year in the senior category.

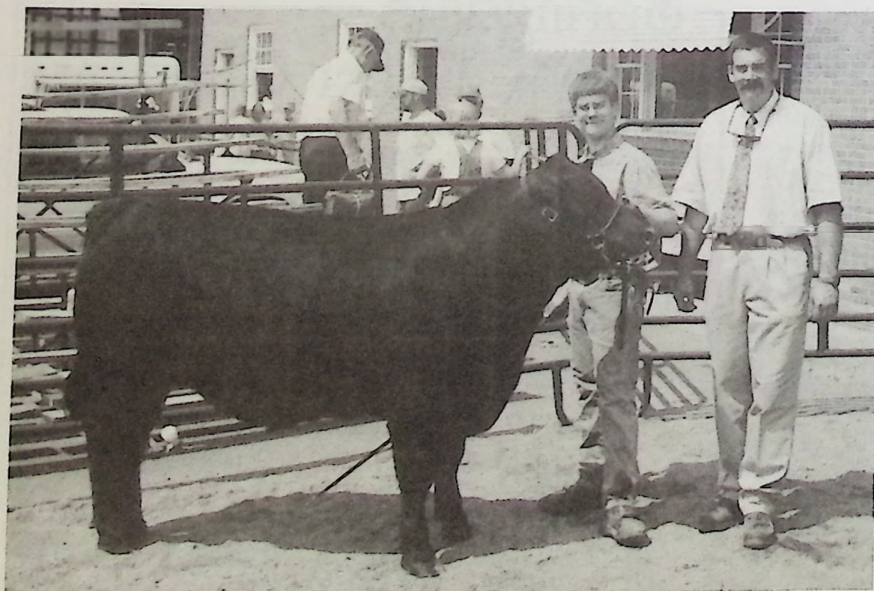
Upchurch recognized Coleman as honorable mention in senior lamb showmanship.

In selecting the top junior hog showman, Upchurch said he appreciated "the superb job done by all the young people" exhibiting. He selected Marshall as the top junior swine showman complimenting her on the poise she demonstrated in handling the animal.

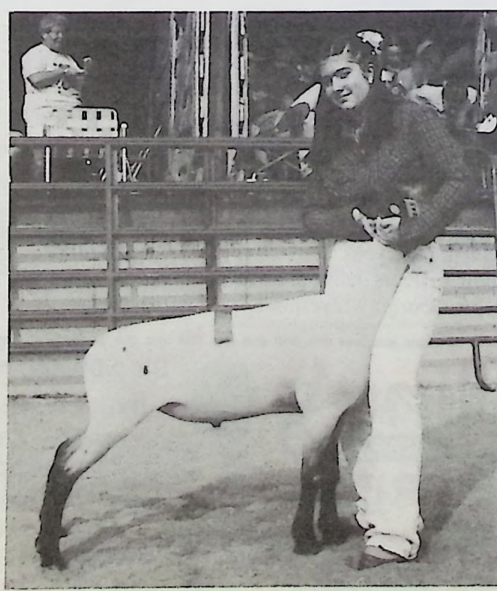
"She kept the hog moving, she was very poised and comfortable, she never chased the hog," Upchurch said.

Marshall was followed in second and third places, respectively, by Garrett Johnston of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club, and Josh Back of the Churchville Livestock 4-H Club. Maggie Lawson, also of the Middlebrook club, was named honorable mention in the junior swine showmanship contest.

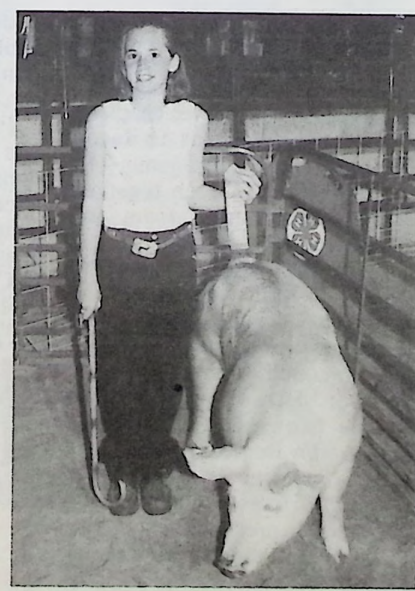
Marshall, 11, is a student at Clymore Elementary School. She See *HOGS*, page 17



**WILL EARHART** with SHOW JUDGE GREG UPCHURCH  
MIDDLEBROOK 4-H CLUB  
CHAMPION JUNIOR STEER SHOWMAN



**ASHLEY BALSLEY**  
MIDDLEBROOK 4-H CLUB  
CHAMPION JUNIOR LAMB SHOWMAN



**KATIE MARSHALL**  
WILLING WORKERS 4-H CLUB  
CHAMPION JUNIOR HOG SHOWMAN



# Schoolhouse News

## RES students celebrate patriotism

By NANCY SORRELLS

GREENVILLE — It was a red-white-and-blue day at Riverheads Elementary School recently as the entire student body celebrated Patriotism Day.

The day, which was the brainchild of Betty Jo Clemmer, marked the culmination of a focus on important people in history, mastering the Pledge of Allegiance, and learning the national anthem. Clemmer, who is the school's lead social studies teacher, teaches the fourth grade. She is also a member of the Middlebrook Ruritan Club and serves on the Patriotism Committee. The Ruritans helped sponsor the day as a community service project.

Patriotism Day began with every student in the school assembling in front of the school flagpole. The children, most dressed in red, white, and blue, were all tightly gripping American flags.

Principal Robert Bateman recognized special guests including school and county officials, Middlebrook Ruritan Club mem-



Riverheads Elementary School students wave flags in the air during a special salute to patriotism which they observed recently.

Photos by Nancy Sorrells

bers, members from American Legion Clemmer-McGuffin Post No. 13 and the post's Ladies Auxiliary.

"At Riverheads Elementary we try to think about patriotism every day," said Bateman.

As the students stood silently,

school custodian Tom Biller and student Sylvia Bosserman raised the flag just as they do every day.

With the flag flying high, the Riverheads High School band ensemble played the *Star Spangled Banner* while many in the crowd

joined in with the words. Clemmer then led the children in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the pledge, the band broke into a patriotic medley of tunes. As the musicians played, a low fluttering noise started and grew in volume. The noise turned out to be the hundreds of students waving their miniature flags over their heads and smiling as the early morning sun shown down upon them.

The conclusion of the flagpole ceremony did not mark the end of Patriotism Day. The patriotic theme was carried out throughout the day. Many of the students attended a program presented by the American Legion, while others continued the day's theme through their regular classroom activities.

"All of the students will get flags, pencils and keychains. The teachers have a packet of activities that bring the themes into all the classes whether it be in art, reading, language, math or writing," explained Clemmer. At Riverheads Elementary it's hard not to be a patriot, at least for one day. —



Sylvia Bosserman and Tom Biller prepare to raise the flag during special events held recently at Riverheads Elementary School in observance of Patriotism Day.

## RHS FFA members receive honors at banquet

AC staff report

GREENVILLE — The Riverheads High School chapter of the Future Farmers of America honored its members during an awards ceremony held in conjunction with the group's 39th annual banquet held recently at the school.

Members were recognized for outstanding achievement in chapter project work for the school year 2000-2001.

Chapter adviser Eugene McIlwee presented the chapter's Blue and Gold Award for outstanding achievement and the chapter's Star Farmer Awards to Jason McIlwee and Bryan Shomo. The two seniors also each received \$100 scholarships from the Middlebrook Ruritan Club.

Aaron Root, Jonathan Coleman and Frank Dull were named the chapter's Star Agri-Businessmen. Scholarships from the Missy Clemmer Scholarship Fund went to Jason McIlwee, Bryan Shomo, Carrie Brown, Amanda Hemp and Aaron Root. Dennis Clemmer, a member of the Middlebrook Ruritan Club, made the scholarship presentations.

McIlwee presented the DeKalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award to Jason McIlwee, who is the chapter's outgoing president. Recognized as outstanding students in ag mechanics were Brian



McILWEE

SHOMO

ROOT

COLEMAN

Brooks, Bruce Brooks and Phillip Miller. Scottie Brookman was recognized as the most improved agriculture student.

Jason McIlwee presided over the banquet. He, along with Jonathan Coleman, the chapter's vice president, made note of a number of the chapter's achievements during the year.

Chapter officers named Kathy Robertson, Georgia Meyerhoeffer,

Betty Howdyshe, Betty J. Glenn, Terry Rohr, and Thomas Evans Honorary Chapter Farmers for 2001.

Star Greenhand awards, given in recognition of out-



DULL

standing achievement for first-year FFA members, were presented to Jake Leonard and Garrett Irvine.

Earning State Degrees this year were chapter members Bryan Shomo, Frank Dull, Erin Lowry, Megan Miller and Angela Hinton.

Scholarship awards were presented to Aaron Root, senior; Brian Brooks and Bruce Brooks, juniors;

and Cole Heizer, sophomore; and Cassie Proffitt, freshman.

Proficiency award winners included the following individuals:

Bruce Brooks and Brian Brooks, agriculture mechanics; Jamie Shipe, agricultural processing; Justin Fravel, landscape management; Carrie Brown, Jamie Shipe, Angela Hinton, Cole Heizer, Megan

See FFA, page 17

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# Spring brings outdoor teaching opportunities

By this time in the spring, I usually feel that my seventh grade science students are mature enough to handle a couple of more sophisticated topics and tasks. I feel they are able to make inferences, be somewhat analytical in scientific thought and be appreciative of a major field trip. Therefore late April and most of May are weeks consumed by labs and field experiences. I want them to connect what we do in class to their own little piece of the natural world and I have several methods.

## Method #1: Teaching outside

— So many perks come with this—discovery, connections and fresh air. What could be a better mix? Rigid outdoor classroom rules, high interest activities that reinforce classroom topics, and the flexibility to adjust lesson plans when serendipity comes along are all musts for success outside. I've used the outdoor classroom for population studies of grasshoppers, carrying capacity games, habitat inventories, animal adaptation searches, classification using leaf collection samples, leaf transpiration, plant succession, bird walks—and modeling the solar system distances to name a few. Some are easy—give a student a pair of binoculars or hand lens and they begin watching what flies or crawls by; some are more difficult—give a lab group a roll of toilet paper and have them count the squares for symbolic distances between members of the solar system can be really difficult for students to focus upon (With toilet paper?!?! Gigggle, giggle!) especially on a windy day. (I'll never do that one again!)

George Savage uses his nature trail at Beverley Manor Middle School for survival hut construction as well as outdoor classroom activities as I've mentioned above. He and I share/steal each other's ideas frequently and before SOLs necessitated us spending more exploratory time on core material, his "Outdoor Classroom" and "Sur-



Betty Gatewood, far left, and some seventh-grade students study an octopus in a laboratory setting.

vival" exploratories and my "For the Birds" classes used the nature trail area frequently. At Stewart Middle School we have a smaller natural area poised for studies of habitats and adaptations with plans for developing an area to which more wildlife is attracted. It is a naturally good way to make learning fun and engaging.

**Method #2: Field trips**—These don't have to be exotic to be impressive. Taking the kids to Shenandoah National Park for a water quality study on Madison Run or up to Big Meadows for a ranger-led "habitats hike" are so important to make connections to the classroom. The kids look forward to the field trip. It is always terrific for me to see park rangers continuing the environmental education focus. They are such professionals.

Having the kids see someone else in authority talking about my classroom topics just makes the connection so valid. Another way I've achieved just this is by taking advantage of the U.S. Soil and Water Conservation Service education personnel—Headwaters District (now Natural Resources Conservation Service in Verona). For four years the NRCS and I organized a field day at Rick Shiflet's farm in Swoope for 300 seventh

graders. (Am I crazy or what??) Bobby Whitescarver, Sandy Greene, Chuck Cummings, and John Kaylor (of NRCS), Mark Holberg and Jeff Brower (of Virginia Department of Forestry), David Rhodes, Buddy Chandler and Tina Southall (of U.S. Forest Service) and Jay Gilliam (of the Isaac Walton League), land owner/farmer Rick Shiflet and I organized a day in which students participated in doing good land conservation practices. I'd bet that all those students understand stewardship to the land and Chesapeake Bay watershed as a result of that field day. They planted trees along Rick's stream to maintain the banks, they counted grasshoppers to determine populations and carrying capacity, they calculated and carried a cord of wood, they biomonitored Eidson Run and determined the chemical health of the stream. They really got into it! And they really learned.

**Method #3: Labs**—Another of my favorite topics is the animal unit in which we investigate the animal phyla and compare their body systems (SOL focus made fun!) Our team theme this year is birds since we are the AVES team, so we began the year dissecting a freshly killed chicken, cooking it and scraping the bones to create our skeleton

that is on display in the classroom.

For other animal groups, I borrow specimens from Fort Defiance High School, George, Valley Animal Hospital and have the students get "up close and personal" with some of the invertebrate animals. I do a lab where they circulate around the lab and read about some of the worm parasites and see examples from my vet. This year I finished the worm focus with a live earthworm behavior lab after I've read them the Gary Larson picture book, *There's a Hair in My Dirt!*, about worms. (It's hilarious!)

George, Patsy Kislek and I use a fresh(?) frozen octopus when we do the mollusk lab—also live snails and myriad sea shells are part of that lab. In Maine a few years ago I spent the day on a lobster boat, so I show my slides and lobster stuff, collect \$1 per student and purchase live lobsters, then we cook them in lab and have seafood snacks! (This comes a few days after our crayfish dissection and immediately after we have lobster races in the lab!)

Dissections of the marine animals—crayfish, starfish, shark, lamprey and fish—are all preparatory for the National Aquarium field trip to Baltimore. There's nothing more rewarding than seeing a student connect the school lab experience to the real thing. Now we are gearing up for our biggest lab of the year, the frog dissection. If they do a really nice job, I treat them to gummy frogs! Usually the interest is high despite the time of the year. One year I did my animal unit (complete with dissections) during the winter instead of in the spring and I found out the students were just not quite ready for the topics. A few months DID make a difference in how serious they were about the subject and now I usu-

## From the teacher's desk

By Betty Gatewood



Jay Gilliam (holding seine) of the Isaac Walton League's Save our Streams Program, and some of Betty Gatewood's students biomonitor Eidson Creek where it flows through Rick Shiflet's farm near Swoope.

aquarium map for specifics about certain exhibits. Seeing a student giggle when a starfish moved across his/her hand, watching students transfixed by the outlandish seahorses and poison dart frogs, or hearing them bubbling over with enthusiasm as they told me about the antics of the dolphins in the dolphin show—made my day. All of the anxiety about dealing with reservations, admissions, money collection, schedules, permission and emergency forms, and weather were brushed away and satisfaction took its place. What a turn-on for

See *OUTDOOR*, page 17

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# The Hitching Post

## Look for win-win answer to solve problem behavior



Why has it always been said, "When you fall off a horse you have to get right back on?"

—Sign me "off and on"

I can think of two major reasons for the saying. One has to do with rider success. The other has to do with the training of the horse. People fall off for two reasons. One, they just fall off because of lack of balance. Or two, they are thrown off because of horse behavior.

If we look at the first situation we can understand the meaning of the saying as important to rider success. When learning to ride, sometimes people fall off. Lack of balance or coordination can make it easy for a person's weight to shift and usually the rider slides off. A horse's trot is often bouncy and riders have to learn to stay with the movements of the horse. This takes

time and practice. I always say the only way to get good at something is to practice, practice, practice. Sometimes you will fall off—a minor set back of course—but to try again you have to get right back on. No one can be successful at anything if he or she doesn't keep trying until it's right. Horseback riding is no different.

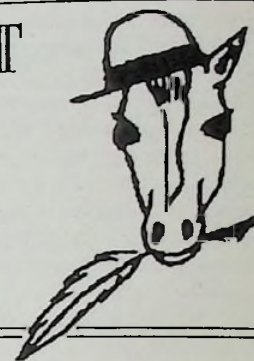
The second situation can be a little more complicated. Sometimes a horse will "throw" a rider. This means for some reason the horse does something — bucks, rears, or turns sharply — and the rider is thrown from the saddle. This often results in a little more impact for the rider, and is not a

good sign from the horse. If the rider is learning he or she is NOT usually responsible for correcting horse behavior. That means that if a beginner rider is thrown from a horse he or she should not get back on THAT horse until it has been corrected. Always use good judgment in any case. Succeeding can mean taking calculated risks and overcoming personal obstacles. Not putting yourself in a bad situation twice because you know you do not have the experience or knowledge to handle it IS good judgment and part of safety.

If a rider has the experience and knowledge to correct a horse, then getting back on the horse is important to retrain the horse's behavior. If the horse "learns" to buck riders off then that is a bad habit — much easier to correct in the beginning stages rather than later. Horses tend to repeat behavior patterns. A good rider constantly "takes notes" during the ride to determine the horse's thoughts and desires. If those thoughts align with those of the rider, then there is no problem. If horse and rider do not agree then we have the beginning of a behavior problem.

Horsemanship problems can surface in different ways. If the horse is sincere in its desire to do something different from the rider he or

I.B. HOOFINIT  
From  
the  
Horse's Mouth



she can often be persuaded to compromise. Most serious problems occur if the desire is pain related. Some horses resist due to fear. A great deal of horse fear is of pain. Horses do not like pain...at all. This is where some riders misread the situation. If the horse's fear is stronger than the rider's skill then there is a BIG problem. If a horse is overworked and finally bucks a rider off as an alternative to working more, then the rider has a small dilemma. Do you get back on and overwork the horse some more (ego trip)? Or, if you do get on and you get bucked off again, are you teaching the horse how to buck rid-

ers off? (Horses do eventually make the connection.) Or if you get on again and don't ask too much, but regain your control and authority, then get off properly and let the horse rest and recoup, are you making a compromise between the two problems? (A horse likes it when its rider takes behavior as a communication process not a personal threat.) Looking for the win-win answer is always most productive.

Take it From the Horse's Mouth, getting back on is always the road to success in horsemanship. Using good judgment along the way is only making it a safe road to travel. —

*I.B. Hoofinit is a fictitious horse character developed by Chris Marrs as a service to teach horse care. Questions to I.B. Hoofinit may be submitted to P.O. Box 136, Greenville, Va. 24440. Questions become the property of Chris Marrs, and answers are subject to editor approval.*

*Information provided in this column is meant to be taken as general advice. Each horse, rider, owner, and situation reflects different problems. I.B.'s answers are meant to be informative and enjoyable, but not binding. Common sense in any situation is a must.*

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# Horse trainer offers useful tips for behavior problems

By CHRIS MARRS

Bill Heizer, a local horse trainer, gave a seminar during the Equine Science University 2001 held recently at the Virginia Horse Center. The seminar, "Starting the Young Horse Any Discipline or Breed, and Addressing Training and Behavioral Problems in Older Horses" discussed the use of long lining as a training approach and addressed personal questions from the audience concerning behavior problems in horses.

The basic equipment used for long lining consists of a surcingle, long lines, bridle, (snaffle) bit, and side checks. In a step-by-step method Bill described starting a young horse with the surcingle and turning him out in a small area to get used to the equipment. He then introduces the bridle and bit. When attaching the side reins he keeps them loose to allow plenty of freedom. He suggests tightening them over time. When the horse begins to drop his nose on turns in a natural way with the side rein, Bill then goes on to attach the long lines and begin serious training work.

The question most asked from his customers is "How Long?" Bill does not use a time frame for working with horses. "The horse will let me know," he explained. Each step is taken when the horse is ready. Some horses learn more quickly than others. Long lining works the horse in a circle with two long lines held in each of the trainer's hand (It looks like a combination of driving and lunging.) Bill says that lunging has less control over the horse than long lines. He recommends long lining in circles and then later driving the horse from behind. After two weeks on the long line system he looks for "fingertip"

control. He wants the horse balanced on the bit. The horse should stop "straight" with a light pull and not turn. Straight stops are very important to the horse's training.

Bill recommended long lining as a training aid for behavior problems in horses. If riders are concerned for their safety they can long line their horse before getting on. This is great for building rider confidence. Bill stresses the importance of relaxing the horse in any training exercises. Long lining teaches verbal commands, gives solid foundation training, and works to relax the horse. "If your horse is not relaxed, you are not getting the best performance out of him."

The audience was encouraged to ask questions about personal problems with their own horses. Here are some of the questions asked:

**Rearing horses** — Bill suggested that riders don't put up with it. It is a bad reaction and very dangerous. He does not feel it is curable.

**Bucking at the canter** — Bill recommended the rider long line the horse for five minutes without bucking. The rider should try to keep the horse's head up and not get into a pulling contest. Analyze the problem. Is the horse getting out of work by the rider stopping every time he bucks? Is the horse over fed? Does the horse have enough free time to play? Bill said to rule out different factors. Is it random? A possible physical problem? Ask questions to look for the answer to the problem.

**Balking/standing**; the horse won't budge — Again Bill tried to

analyze the problem. Is the problem physical or mental? Is the horse barn sour? Ring Sour? Does the horse hate work? Try to reinforce the leg and voice aid with the crop. Long lining is a good way for timid riders to get past discipline reactions. The rider is on the ground and is in a more confident position. Teach black and white first — "stop and go." Then teach the gray areas later "slow down." Always introduce new variables gradually.

**Herd bound** — Make sure other horses are not "teasing" your horse. Horses like their "buddies." Avoid the herd area while riding. Give yourself time at shows to move the horses apart. Horses will get used to separation in time. Bill explained that it is not an overnight happening. If he sees horses getting herd bound he separates them quickly to prevent problems.

**Hard to catch** — Bill explains that this problem happens when riders only catch their horses to ride. He suggested changing the pattern. Go out to the pasture with grain, pat the horse, and then leave. Do this at different times so that the horse does not learn to associate being caught with being ridden. Vary the pattern... grain/pat/leave, grain/pat/leave, grain/pat/ride.

Bill summed up the importance of training by saying that if you teach a behavior it must be EVERY time. To have a horse do something "sometimes" is not training. Training a horse successfully means the horse learns to react the same way each and every time. —

## Steers

Continued from page 12

**CLASS 4** — 1. S. Williams; 2. P. Castle; 3. J. Lyle; 4. M. Garland; 5. J. Via; 6. A. Puffenbarger  
**CHAMPION** — Kristin Shomo, MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Will Earhart, MDL 4-H

### DIVISION IV

1,220-1,265 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. G. Johnston; 2. N. Buchanan; 3. C. Earhart; 4. A. Michael; 5. M. Doyle; 6. G. Irvine  
**CLASS 2** — 1. B. Shomo; 2. B. Snyder; 3. K. Williams; 4. J. Crosby; 5. B. Reeves; 6. H. Castle  
**CLASS 3** — 1. J. Hinton; 2. B. Shomo; 3. L. Grimm; 4. S. Lam; 5. T. Michael; 6. J. Via  
**CLASS 4** — 1. L. Swisher; 2. G. Johnston; 3. I. Swartzel; 4. K. Burford; 5. Aa. Shifflett; 6. J. Alford  
**CHAMPION** — Bryan Shomo, RHS FFA  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Laura Swisher, BM FFA & MDL 4-H

### DIVISION V

1,270 - 1,480 pounds

**CLASS 1** — 1. J. Leonard; 2. A. Hinson; 3. J. Begoon; 4. B. Napier; 5. C. Lyle; 6. A. Michael  
**CLASS 2** — 1. S. Tuennermann; 2. J. Riley; 3. J. Christian; 4. G. Smith; 5. L. Mish; 6. B. Napier  
**CLASS 3** — 1. M. Miller; 2. S. Borden; 3. L. Waliky; 4. J. Back; 5. J. Hinton; 6. C. Bazzrea  
**CLASS 4** — 1. C. Bazzrea; 2. K. Leonard; 3. C. Mish; 4. A. Puffenbarger; 5. J. Smith; 6. B. Heizer  
**CHAMPION** — Jacob Leonard, RHS FFA & MDL 4-H  
**RESERVE CHAMPION** — Smantha Tuennermann, MDL 4-H  
**GRAND CHAMPION** — Bryan Shomo  
**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION** — Laura Swisher

### SHOWMANSHIP

**SENIORS** — 1. Jonathan Coleman, RHS FFA & MDL 4-H; 2. Jimmy Crosby, BG FFA & MDL 4-H; 3. Rosalea Riley, BG FFA  
**JUNIORS** — 1. Will Earhart, MDL 4-H; 2. Katie Leonard, MDL 4-H; 3. Garrett Johnston, MDL 4-H

## Hogs

Continued from page 13

is the daughter of Steve and Cindy Marshall of Weyers Cave. It was her first year showing hogs.

For the champion senior hog showman, Upchurch chose Riley as the top swine exhibitor. The judge commended Riley for his "effortless and comfortable" presence in the showing. "He kept the pig poised and quiet," Upchurch said. Riley is the son of Doug and Donna Riley of Hebron.

Emily Curry of the Buffalo Gap FFA placed second, repeating her 2000 performance in the event, and Mark Garland, of the Fort Defiance High School FFA, placed third. Rosalea Riley, also of the Gap FFA, was named honorable mention in senior hog showmanship.

In determining the top junior steer showman, Upchurch said he looked for exhibitors who "got the

job done" in their class exhibitions.

Earhart, 13, was Upchurch's choice for champion junior steer showman. He is the son of Chris and Becky Earhart of Verona and is a student at Stewart Middle School. Earhart placed second in junior steer showmanship at the 2000 show. Following him in second and third places, respectively, were Katie Leonard and Garrett Johnston, both of the Middlebrook Livestock 4-H Club. Johnston also placed third in the 2000 event.

Upchurch said he found another "bus driver" in the senior steer showmanship competition with Coleman holding the keys to win the contest.

"This young man has done a really nice job with his steer," Upchurch said. "He's comfortable, methodical, sets the steer up and leaves it alone." Coleman won the

See PLACINGS, page 19

## FFA

Continued from page 14

Miller, Garrett Irvine, Jake Leonard, Bryan Shomo, Josh Smith, Amanda Hemp and Erin Lowry, diversified livestock and beef production; Jason McIlwee, specialty crop production and home and community development; Brian Brooks, forage pro-

duction; Amanda Hemp, Angela Hinton and Nigel Ruddock, sheep production; Jonathan Coleman, Brian Brooks and Bruce Brooks, agricultural sales and services.

Also; Amanda Hemp, swine production; Erin Lowry, diversified crop production; Justin Fravel, turf and grass management; Stephanie Branch, Ashley Keaton, and Megan Miller, poul-

try production; Jamie Shipe, dairy production; Cole Heizer, equine science; Pamela Proffitt, horticulture; Stephanie Branch, ag communications; Jonathan Coleman, extemporaneous speaking; Cole Heizer, senior prepared public speaking; and Jason McIlwee, Amanda Hemp, Bryan Shomo and Aaron Root, leadership.

The chapter's parliamentary procedure senior team was recognized for its third-place win in the federation contest. Team members were Jason McIlwee, Cole Heizer, Jason Shultz, Erin Lowry, Jonathan Coleman and Frank Dull.

RHS FFA members competing in the Block and Bridle Livestock judging contest were Cole Heizer,

Jonathan Coleman and Amanda Hemp. The team placed second overall. Coleman was fourth high individual and Heizer was sixth high individual in the contest.

Forestry team members honored included Ryan Herndon, Jason Shultz, Cole Heizer and Frank Dull. The team placed third in federation.

Recognized for his participation in the tractor operator contest was Bryan Shomo. He placed first in the federation and area and will compete in the state contest in June at Virginia Tech.

Greenhand and chapter farmer pins were presented to chapter members depending on their years of membership in FFA. —

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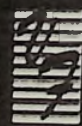
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# Country Crossroads

## Reflecting pool reflections

May 2001

Dear Maude,

Just when one complains that things are beginning to get a little dull at the office, that is when the action really starts. In the past couple of weeks I have been to lunch at the Capitol Hill Club twice entertaining congressional staff members for the boss! I usually feel lucky if I get to go there two or three times a year. Before I could catch my breath, I was off to the DSCC "Taste of the U.S." party at the Pension Building. One of the boss's west coast clients had purchased tickets and the boss was busy with another engagement, so he sent me and one other person from the office. What a great time we had! The room was papered with a lot of young people who, like us, were there to fill space. At something like \$1,000 a person, those tickets have to be used. The kiddie winks (they are the young political followers, just starting to get ahead, who don't know yet just where they are going,) were there in great numbers; in long lines at the various food tables set up around the hall. The food was amazing and I wanted to try some wonderful looking crawfish and rice at one food stand, but, you know, eating crawfish while standing up is not the easiest of activities. It takes two hands, and while wearing a brand new dress I was not about to try it with only one hand!

Yes, you guessed it, I did have to go out and buy myself something new and pretty for a function where the tickets cost that much. But then, those two lunches at the Capitol Hill Club were not easy on my budget, either. The weather had been so unpredictable. When it was hot, I had spring suits at the ready, only to have to dash out and buy something cooler. Then, with the suits at the cleaners, there was the second luncheon on a cool and rainy day. What to do but go pick up

another spring blazer! Of course when one does that there are shoes and scarves and handbags which have to be added. Those old things just won't do.

The month has, indeed, been an interesting one here. The first of the month the White House Correspondents' Dinner was held at the Washington Hilton. The boss was invited to go and that set off a flurry of changing of schedules, getting his formal dinner clothes to the tailor and back, (his body seems to have changed proportions slightly) and making sure everything was in order. But then things slowed down just a little as the month wore on. There were things to keep us amused, however. One member of Congress was driving about town in his big, black, gas-guzzling vehicle during the energy crisis and being criticized for doing so. Then one of the senators was seen riding his old bicycle from his home on the Hill to the office, only to have some people make comments about that. Guess you just can't please some people. The middle of the month also brought with it the first congressional softball game of the season with the Republicans beating the Democrats 18 to 9. But for the Republicans, things really went downhill fast.

When word got out that Senator James Jeffords was planning to leave the Republican Party everyone simply thought that surely someone had misunderstood the gossip. Then, the senator actually did declare himself an Independent, throwing the Senate into Democratic hands for the first time since 1994. Total shock was the order of the day. Our boss sat at his desk as if he were in a trance. It boggles the mind to think of what will take place in Washington during the next days and weeks. With a shake-up like this, the transfer of power is going to be much harder for those important Hill folks than when they have an election to prepare them. All those committee chair-

manships will change. There are even cases where office locations can change. (Those who are in power get those cushy suites with a great view, and many will demand that privilege.)

But then suppose that after things begin to settle down a little, the Republicans manage to talk a couple of Democrats into switching parties. The Republicans would be back in control. What a mess that would be with furniture sitting in the hallways, mid-move, only to have to be hauled back to original locations. And think of poor us! We had just about gotten the boss trained so that he could find his way to all the important offices and now some of them may move again.

That, of course, is not all. Some of those congressmen and senators who were in the minority and not courted as diligently as others are now the important leaders. Now those politicians must be shown that they are favorites of the lobbying set. I guess that means a lot more high-powered luncheons and golf outings, and another trip to the tailor with the boss's evening clothes.

In the meantime, the staff members on the Hill are worrying and working, often into the night, not knowing if they will get an invitation to that next wonderful party or not. As for me - why, I'm right in luck. The Memorial Day sales were tempting as always, but this year I simply will have to go see what bargains I can find, for I know the boss will have us entertaining everyone in sight. By the time things settle down I will have to go shopping again for I, like the boss, may find my body changing size and proportions!

Say hello to everyone at home for me, and tell them that their soon-to-be Well-fed cousin sends her love.

LuLu



By Roberta Hamlin

## Oh, those pesky tent caterpillars: Useless or useful?

By STACEY BAKER

Yes the weather is finally turning warm.

But, hey, has anyone noticed a caterpillar or two?

I don't know how it is at your place, but, here, well, caterpillars have become a second thought. An example of a first thought might be, "Got to walk up to the barn to feed the horses." One proceeds out the back door, only to squish any number of the crawly things under foot. At the gate, one has to brush them off the latch in order to proceed through. On to the barn, where one has to stop a step away from the doors, reach a long reach, and slide one door open. Then one has to brush about a dozen or so caterpillars off the arm used to open the door. If the above procedure is NOT followed, one can get crawly creatures on top of the head. Why

they like to cluster around the tops of barn doors is unfathomable to me. So you see, not just second thoughts, but third and forth.

Mowing. Mowing a field is different from mowing a yard. Field mowing is not done nearly as often, and one gets lazy. That low hanging branch should have been cut off years ago, but, hey, just duck down as the tractor passes under. The tractor muffler usually catches the limb, and if you watch, you can miss it when it flies back. Problem is, that particular limb nine times out of 10 will be a wild cherry branch. One arm, or even two, and a hat, are not going to prevent the multitudes of caterpillars from raining down on you. And if you happen to be wearing overalls.

Warm weather also sets in a hankering to sit on the porch. Just go on out and sit. Why not kick off those hot ol' shoes and socks you

have been wearing all day, walk out on the porch with a cold glass of ice water and relax. Simple?

First, open the door and watch for any multi-legged creatures that may be lying in wait ready to drop down on you. Watch your step, especially with a doormat. They seem to love doormats. And if a caterpillar gets squished on a doormat, its time to break out the hose, not just for the mat, but also your toes.

Brushing off the porch glider, you sit down with your ice water in easy reach on the also brushed off table next to you. Perhaps you have brought something to read. Mockingbirds are perched nearby, a gentle breeze is blowing, the reading is good, you reach for the glass -- ugh! Two or three of the fuzzy varmints decided to take an arctic swim. You are just about to lunge for the porch railing to dump the infested ice water when you

detect a slight tickling sensation around the ankles. Several of the previously evicted caterpillars are looking for new quarters.

Tent caterpillars. Most folks call them that. And I have also heard all creatures have a purpose in this existence. And these tent caterpillars most always build their "tents" in wild cherry trees. They emerge from their tents in April or May and start munching on their host tree. Sounds good so far.

Now wild cherry trees are not the most welcome tree in this area. If there is a place one does not wish a tree to grow, a wild cherry will sprout in that very spot. One inch away from a house foundation or right next to the mailbox, the things grow so fast, a string trimmer can't keep them at bay. So when the caterpillars emerge and completely defoliate a wild cherry tree, no one is going to lose any sleep. Except

a wild cherry will simply grow new leaves, and continue on as if nothing has happened!

So why can't these critters eat something useful? Drive out into the country or even the city and look at fences. Inevitably, one will see huge masses of wild roses that have established fortresses somewhere along the fence line. Left to their own devices, these thorny foliages will pull down tightly strung American made 1048 barbed-wire topped fence, leaving tempting low gaps for livestock to seriously consider testing the proven theory, at least to them, that "grass is greener on the other side."

On one of my early morning forays to fight the losing battle against this foe, imagine my delight when I saw several tent caterpillars starting their day on a wild rose diet!

"Well," I said to myself, "if only they would eat honeysuckle." —

## •Potts

Continued from page 8

Harding detailed his time in Staunton as a scout, telling of his encounter with a Staunton woman while trying to gain information. With Federal generals sleeping in the main building below, he got the

needed information from "the patriot woman's intelligent mind" and crept out of town undetected.

Tales of military victories and defeats are peppered with personal notes about the loss of two brothers within three months of each other and the deaths of friends.

Harding survived the war and was elected to positions of responsibility later in life. He was a member of the West Virginia 1872 constitutional convention, sheriff of Randolph County in 1876 and served two terms in the state legislature. At the age of 47 he became an attorney. His obitu-

ary in 1919 appeared on the front page of county newspapers.

In addition to the four-year coverage of Harding's escapades, the book contains maps, photos and an extensive index. It also includes a chronicle of the first six weeks of the war

in western Virginia by Harding's brother, Marion.

The 280-page softcover *French Harding: Civil War Memoirs* may be obtained from bookstores or from the author. Victor Thacker may be contacted at 304/636-4434 or at [www.frenchharding.com](http://www.frenchharding.com). —



# Staunton-Augusta Rotary honors Vo-Tech students

## AC staff report

STAUNTON — Seven area high school seniors were honored recently for their outstanding technical achievements at a banquet hosted by the Staunton-Augusta County Rotary Club.

Brandon K. Akers was recognized for his high achievement in the Air Conditioning, Refrigeration Technology and Electrical Field, Amanda S. Harner was tops in the Culinary Arts, Bryan D. Keagy took top honors in Drafting and Design, Chris R. Keagy was outstanding in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology, Peter M. Knopp was honored for his success in Masonry, Sarah L. Puffenbarger was outstanding in Legal and Medical Systems Administration, and James G. Snyder was at the head of the class in Law Enforcement.

The students, who all attend Valley Vocational-Technical Center in Fishersville, were recognized for their achievements thus far and further rewarded with some incentives for continuing to learn and expand their abilities. John Avoli, the principal at Valley Vocational-Technical Center, presented each student with one free adult night class voucher and told them that their names would be engraved on a plaque that hangs in the front hall of the school. Blue Ridge Community College President Dr. James



AKERS



HARNER



B. KEAGY



C. KEAGY



KNOPP



PUFFENBARGER



SNYDER

Perkins awarded one free class at Blue Ridge to each of the winners and presented Snyder with a full academic scholarship to Blue Ridge. The Staunton-Augusta County Rotary Club presented each student with a plaque and sponsored the awards dinner for the students and their families.

John B. Davis, president of the Rotary club, presided at the dinner and Thom Jennings, a member of the Augusta County School Board and a member of the sponsoring club, gave the invocation. The keynote speaker for the evening was Virginia General Assembly Delegate Steve Landes.

Landes told the students about a poor farm boy who made a living building fences and even tried his hand at being a storekeeper. He then entered politics and lost, but kept trying until he found success. That man was Abraham Lincoln who went on to become one of

America's greatest presidents. He did so because he followed his dreams and reached for his goals. Landes challenged the award winners to do the same thing.

The seven students have already demonstrated that they are on the right track in achieving their goals in life. Akers, who is a student at the Virginia School for the Deaf, is the son of David Akers and Leona Reece. He is in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) and placed fourth in the VICA State Fair electricity competition. He is also in the SCA, National Association for the Deaf and plays varsity basketball and softball. He plans to attend New River Community College and work in the electrical field.

Harner, from Waynesboro High School, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harner. She is active in her local church group and plans a future in the United States Air

Force. Bryan Keagy, from Fort Defiance High School, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Keagy. He is involved in VICA, Young Life Youth Group, football and soccer. He plans to attend Blue Ridge Community College and continue his present job at Lowes.

Chris Keagy, also at Fort Defiance, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Keagy. He is in VICA, band, and the Virginia Apprenticeship Training Program. After graduation he plans to work full time for Riddleberger Brothers, continue his apprenticeship training classes and attend Blue Ridge.

Knopp, from Riverheads High School, is the son of Mr. and Mrs.

Joseph Knopp. He participates in VICA and won first-place honors in both the district VICA masonry competition and in the state fair competition. He plays soccer and plans to work full time in the masonry field upon graduation.

Puffenbarger, a Buffalo Gap student, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Puffenbarger. She is active in the Future Business Leaders of America, Bison Against Drugs, Future Farmers of America, Art Club and Drama Club. She plans to attend Blue Ridge and then find employment in a business office.

Snyder, a Wilson Memorial High School student, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Danny Snyder. He is president of his FFA chapter, senior class president, vice-president of Ruriteens, manager of the girls' and boys' basketball teams, a member of varsity club and plays varsity tennis. He plans to attend Blue Ridge and then transfer to a four-year college. Snyder was the recipient of a full Blue Ridge scholarship.

The tech school teachers who helped shape these young men and women and set them on their careers paths are Mike Warren in A/C and Refrigeration Technology, Phil Ungar in Culinary Arts, Frank Wollner in Drafting and Design, Robert Ham in Masonry, Darlene Yeago in Legal and Medical Systems Administration and Jack Turner in Law Enforcement. —

## •Wilson

Continued from page 7  
dents also experience a recreated 19th century schoolroom where they practice penmanship, using old-fashioned pen and ink.

The Professor, President, Peacemaker program for older students uses primary source material such as artifacts, letters and photographs to reveal Wilson's achievements as an academic, statesman and world

leader. Scrapbooks illustrate Wilson's years as an educator. The President portion engages students in a scavenger hunt to discover facts about his presidency. The Peacemaker activity incorporates original objects to teach about World War I and Wilson's goal to

achieve world peace.

Political cartoons published during Wilson's two terms as president are incorporated into activity packets. Often these scathing, mocking or just plain humorous caricatures provide insight into the political and social See INSIGHT, page 20

## Solid Rock Café celebrates five years

By VERA HAILEY

WAYNESBORO — The Solid Rock Café, located at 1217 West Broad Street in Waynesboro, is celebrating its five-year anniversary.

On May 5 hundreds of enthusiastic supporters turned out at the popular youth hang out for an 11-hour celebration with special guests and activities. These bands entertained the capacity crowd: Blind Sight and Glowing Moses from Newport News; local group Street Level; and Serasphere from Cookeville, Tenn.

The drama group Silent Faces Of Faith made an appearance, and Twins & Friends provided a special effects light show. Carnival booths, food, games and door prizes were all a part of the event.

The Solid Rock Café is operated by LYFE Ministries, a non-profit corporation of community churches representing a variety of denomina-

tions. The group seeks to celebrate the core of common Christian beliefs rather than focusing on differences. The organization is supported by member churches, businesses, civic organizations and individuals to demonstrate their care and support for young people and see a need for this type of place in the community.

LYFE Ministries President Brian Shirley is a vocal supporter of café. He sees the venture as a safe place for kids to hang out and meet their friends in a Christian environment. The café serves youths in middle school through age 19. Shirley hopes to expand the venture by obtaining additional grants from corporations and organizations.

For information contact the Solid Rock Café at 540/949-ROCK or write to P.O. Box 1115, Waynesboro Va. 22980. The website is www.solidrockcafe.org. —

## Five RHS students attend conference

By KIM MCCRAY

GREENVILLE — With so much talk going on about young people being the adults of tomorrow, it is no surprise that conferences and seminars exist to aide teenagers in becoming the leaders of our world.

Five Riverheads students — Jonathan Coleman, Jason Yearly, Jami Daugherty, Megan LaPorte, and Chris Kelly — attended such a leadership conference with the purpose of gaining skills to aid them in later years.

The conference, held April 27 at the Augusta County Government Center, was open to high school juniors from the immediate area.

Throughout the day students listened to speakers and got in small groups to discuss various issues.

The stated purpose of the conference — to "create a dialogue between community leaders and young people at the local level pro-

viding young people with an opportunity to voice their concerns, articulate their vision of the future, and identify the support they need to achieve their goals" — was clearly defined, and all participating students lived up to that mission statement throughout the day.

The various topics for discussion during the day included government, legislature, careers, business, the environment, schools, law enforcement, and teen issues. Students choose which topics they wished to discuss and in 45-minute sessions expounded on their views.

The day proved rewarding for all students who attended. The five Riverheads students said they felt they had gained some valuable knowledge, become better citizens, and are better prepared to lead the community tomorrow. Daugherty, a RHS junior stated: "It was a rewarding and fun day, and I enjoyed meeting the new people." —

## •Placings

Continued from page 17  
senior showmanship award at the 1999 show and placed third in the 2000 show. The 17-year-old has been showing for eight years and is the son of J.R. and Betty Coleman of Arbor Hill.

Coleman was followed in second and third place, respectively, by Jimmy Crosby and Rosalea Riley.

Savings bonds from Augusta County were presented to the six champion showmen at the Market Animal Show banquet held May 19. Each top showman received a \$100 bond for winning his or her species. —

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Appearing Nightly



# DreamWorks stages animation coup with *Shrek*

"There's more to ogres than meets the eye," Shrek the ogre cautions his sidekick Donkey.

The same can be said of DreamWorks. Walt Disney beware. DreamWorks -- the creative team of Steven Spielberg and Jeff Katzenback, the partner scorned by Disney's Michael Eisner - delivers a witty, charming animated "fairy tale" that had kid and grown-up appeal and should send the competition running.

Okay, let's see. Once upon a time in a faraway land called Duloc, a heartless ruler, the midget Lord Farquaad (John Lithgow: *World According to Garp*, TV's *Third Rock from the Sun*) has banished all the fairy tales from the land so it can be as perfect (read that -- "boring") as he is. They all show up - the three blind mice, the seven dwarfs, Pinocchio, the Three

Bears, the big bad Wolf, Robin Hood and his Merry Men, etc. in the swamp of a smelly, ugly, green ogre named Shrek (Mike Myers: *Austin Powers*, *Wayne's World*). The smarmy aristocrat also has learned from *Mirror, Mirror* on the Wall, which says he can be a real king if he marries a true princess. In a cute take-off of the dating game, Farquaad has to choose between Snow White, Cinderella, or Fiona. Of course, in true fairy-tale fashion, he picks Fiona (Cameron Diaz: *Something About Mary*), the one who is being held captive in a castle guarded by a fire-breathing dragon. Too much of a wienie to rescue Princess Fiona, Farquaad makes a deal with Shrek and his faithful "steed" Donkey (Eddie Murphy: *Nutty Professor*, *Dr. Dolittle*) to deliver Fiona to his hand.

Directed by Andrew Adamson

(*Road to Eldorado*, *Mask of Zorro*) and Vicky Jenson, with writing credits going to William Steig and Ted Elliott (also *Eldorado* and *Zorro*), the story is fairy-tale predictable, but the dialogue is clever. When all the fairy tales are moving into the swamp, Shrek yells at seven dwarfs, "Get the dead broad off the table." Another scene pokes fun at Walt Disney when Fiona dances off into the dewy morning, singing a duet with a bluebird who is tending her nest. When Fiona hits high, the scene resembles a Memorex commercial and the bluebird explodes. In the next scene, Fiona is frying eggs for breakfast.

Visually *Shrek* is unlike any cartoon you've ever seen. The totally computer-generated images give the cartoon an unusual quality. The scenes have depth and the characters are almost life-like. The writ-

ing is just as creative; the dialogue contains enough childish humor to keep the kids engaged and enough adult humor to keep the adults who brought the kids entertained.

Eddie Murphy is a stitch as the fast talking Donkey who adopts Shrek, even in face of the ogre's great resistance. Donkey is an animal that will do anything for you, except shut up. Although I'm not a great fan of Murphy, he delivers an endearing voice performance. I am a fan of John Lithgow and he doesn't disappoint. He could have played the role of Farquaad as mean and evil; instead he plays him as a lily-livered sort, suffering from small-man syndrome. Mike Myers's dry delivery in a Scottish brogue fits Shrek to a tee. I am not exaggerating when I say that sometimes you have to remind yourself that the



Hannah's mom, Sue Simmons

characters are animated. Cameron Diaz is the only disappointment. A more capable voice actress would have been preferable.

The story has a happy ending, of course, but one with a twist. At 90 minutes it is timed just right. Hannah's mom gives *Shrek* three-and-a-half bananas. The film is rated PG for some scatological humor. Oh, and it might be smart to buy some stock in DreamWorks. —

## Insight

Continued from page 19

climate of the day. Not only do these visual images facilitate a better understanding of the past for students, but they can also trigger a few laughs.

Guided tours are designed to complement either the Journey Into History or the Professor, President, Peacemaker program. Tours are planned with the classroom teacher to reinforce individual learning goals and are geared to develop ability and interest of the students.

After being prepared by the visiting museum educator and their own teacher, students arrive in Staunton for a history-filled morning or afternoon. They tour the Greek revival manse, Wilson's birthplace, as well as participate in hands-on activities in the museum that are designed to make the learning process fun.

Recently a group of 38 students from Crystal Springs Elementary School in Roanoke took the tour. Teacher Jennifer Dean had high praise for the program. "I bring my class here every year for this hands on experience. It meets the SOL requirement for daily life instruction." She combined their visit with a tour of the Museum of American Frontier Culture.

The students were broken up into three groups, each led by a museum educator (or tour guide). These small groups facilitated a one-on-one learning atmosphere.

Ellen Abernathy, who does the planning and curriculum organization for the school programs, was the museum educator in charge of interpreting history for one of the groups. In her third year as an educator, Abernathy's love for the history she teaches is evident in the manner in which she helps students visualize what it was like to be a minister's family in the 1850s. She welcomed questions from her eager audience.

The students were able to compare and contrast home life in the 1850s with that of the present day in areas such as cooking, hygiene, leisure, furnishing and etiquette. They discussed the advantages and disadvantages of 19th century life as compared to the present.

A group of a dozen girls enthusiastically modeled period clothing, such as dresses, hats and shawls. Abernathy explained, "Girls could not play rough. They were expected to be ladylike and they were restricted in the clothing as to what they could do."

On a tour of the manse, the home

where Woodrow Wilson was born in 1856, Abernathy explained that the name refers to a house where a Presbyterian minister and his family live. She pointed out interesting artifacts in each room. As the minister of the second largest church in Staunton, Wilson's father could afford a standard of living that was well above average for the area at that time. "In 1846 when the house was built it was one of the finest homes in Staunton."

The cook stove in the basement was manufactured in Canada and came to Staunton, which was known as a railroad town, by train. According to Abernathy, "Women in the 19th century knew the oven was hot enough by sticking their elbows in. If they had to take it out by the count of 10 it was hot enough to bake." The feet of the stove were in a box of sand and were elevated by bricks.

"Fire was a real danger in the 1850s and was the biggest cause of death for women after childbirth." Abernathy explained that house fires were controlled by bucket brigades, with a person drawing water into a bucket and passing it to others until it reached the fire.

The group was amazed to learn

that children of the time period drank buttermilk, which was left-over from churning butter. Adults drank coffee. Water was not consumed because it was contaminated, often by animal waste. At that time, people were not aware of bacteria and germs, but they knew that drinking water which had not been boiled would make them ill.

Nineteenth century children took baths only once a week. Water had to be brought in from one of the six pumping stations in Staunton. It was heated over the fire and put in a metal tub. Because this was quite an ordeal, all the children of the household would use the same water. The oldest would get to take a bath first and the others would follow according to age. "With an average of six children per family, the youngest child always had cold, dirty water. That is where the saying comes from to not throw the baby out with the bath water," Abernathy said.

Although the Wilson family did not own slaves, three African American servants lived in the house and provided labor for the family of four. "They may have been provided by the Presbyterian Church or they could have been rented, a common practice in the Shenandoah Valley at that time." They had a cook who was respon-

sible for preparing all meals, a nursemaid who slept in the children's room and a man who did the heavy outside work.

A noteworthy relic housed in the manse is a sidesaddle, which belonged to Woodrow Wilson's mother. It was given to her upon her marriage.

According to Abernathy, the Staunton-born minister's son who would become President actually lived in the city a relatively short time. "Even though Woodrow Wilson only lived in Staunton for two years, he had an association with Staunton for a long time. His sisters came back and attended Augusta Female Seminary."

Education Director Lucinda Eddy and her staff provide a positive learning experience for school children. It is a unique way to educate students about an important part of history as well as introduce them to a treasure in downtown Staunton.

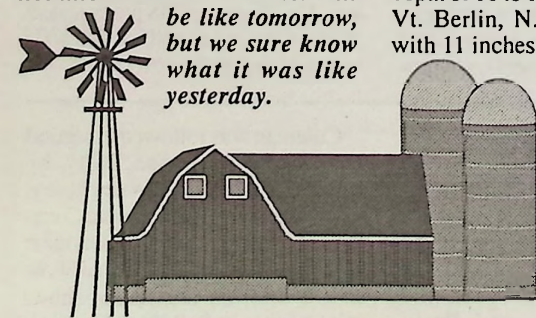
The Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation operates the Presbyterian manse where Woodrow Wilson was born in 1856, The Woodrow Wilson Museum, boxwood gardens, administrative office building and a gift shop.

The facilities are open to visitors from Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County at no charge.

For more information call 540/885-0897 or visit. —

## Yesterday's weather

Most newspapers include a weather forecast in each edition. But we try to be a little different at Augusta Country. We may not know what the weather will be like tomorrow, but we sure know what it was like yesterday.



**June 11, 1842** — A late season snowstorm struck New England. Snow fell during the morning and early afternoon, accumulating to a depth of 10 to 12 inches at Irasburg, Vt. Berlin, N.H., was blanketed with 11 inches of snow during the day. Snow whitened the higher peaks of the Appalachians as far south as Maryland.

**June 20, 1682** — A major tornado ripped through

southwestern Connecticut, passing through Stratford, Milford, and New Haven, and then into Long Island Sound.

**June 26, 1977** — "The Human Lightning Conductor," park ranger Roy C. Sullivan, was struck by lightning for the seventh time. He was first hit in 1942, then again in 1970, 1972, 1973 and 1976.

**June 28, 1892** — The temperature at Orogrande, Utah, soared to 116 degrees to establish a record for the state. —



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