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# Marshall Minute

May 2019

## MBRA Community Meeting

Did you know that the MBRA Monthly Community Meetings have *always* been open to both members and non-members?

**Tuesday, May 14th**  
7:30 to 8:30 pm

*Come join us for your FREE raffle ticket and a chance to win a door prize! Free refreshments starting 7:15 pm*

*Marshall Community Center  
4133A Rectortown Road  
Marshall, VA 20115*

## Our featured guest speaker:

**Ms. Meredith Evans**

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**Have questions or speaker suggestions?  
Contact Mary Wilkerson, MBRA President**

(540) 364-3400; [mbraeditor@gmail.com](mailto:mbraeditor@gmail.com)  
Editor: Mary Wilkerson; Copyright May 2019

*Have you seen the County's 4.18.19*

## RURAL LANDS PLAN DRAFT?

**This total rewrite of this part of the Comprehensive Plan affects over 50% of Fauquier citizens and over 90% of the land within Fauquier County**

*See link on homepage of MBRA website:  
[www.MarshallVirginia.org](http://www.MarshallVirginia.org)\**

**Go to above website and scroll down home page to see video of our March 12, 2019 meeting when County presented Rural Lands Draft Plan to our Marshall District. Q&A begins at the 20 minute mark on the video.**

**Contact Fauquier County Supervisors with your feedback! *Public Hearing begins at 6:30 pm this Thursday, May 9th held at the Warren Green Building 10 Hotel Street, Warrenton, VA***  
\*Unable to access our website?  
Call (540) 364-3400 for assistance

***Special thanks to Daniel J. Moore of 8393 West Main Street & Domestic Aspirations, for all his efforts for April's great historic MARSHALL SIDEWALK SALE!***

**Saturday, May 25th, 1-3 pm**

**FREE OPEN HOUSE AT  
#18 School House**

**7592 East Main Street, Marshall**  
Step back into history and relive what it was like to be a student decades ago. Enjoy the planted flowerbeds created and maintained by the Fauquier Master Gardeners!  
(540) 422-8570

**Red Cross Blood Drive  
Monday May 6th, 2-7 pm!**

Marshall Baptist Church  
4121 Winchester Road, Marshall  
Appointments are recommended and can be made at [www.RedCross.org](http://www.RedCross.org) but walk-ins are always welcome!  
Contact Suzy Neessen 540-317-3344

## ***Ruritans' Grand Raffle Dinner & Dance***

**Saturday, May 11th**  
**Cocktails: 5 pm; Dinner: 6 pm,**  
**then drawing & dance follows**

Tickets are \$125 which admits two and includes dinner, open bar until 11:30pm, dancing till midnight, and a chance to win up to \$10,000. This is a fundraiser for the Marshall Ruritan Club, which helps pay for the community services the Ruritans provide. No jeans allowed.

Non-smoking event. Music by DJ Lindy!  
~Tickets still available~  
**703-286-7233**

**8400 Salem Avenue ~ Marshall VA**

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Marshall Community Center**

*You can also request to be put on our email distribution list and we'll email each issue to you!*

*Simply send your email address with your request to:*

**[mbraeditor@gmail.com](mailto:mbraeditor@gmail.com)**

**April 9th Meeting Notes:**

**Mary Wilkerson, President**, opened the meeting at 7:30pm. Brief announcements and a recap of last month's meeting on the Rural Lands Draft Plan followed.

**Marshall District School Board Member Duke Bland** could not be here this evening, but Mary said he wanted to pass along that he sincerely appreciates everything that Mary Leigh McDaniel has done working with him to move the School Board budget forward. Mary also shared that Duke said the new budget will bring salaries to 92% of the teacher market. Mary shared that for tonight's meeting we will hear from Supervisor McDaniel, Tony Flay, and will end with our Free Door Prize Raffle!

**Marshall District Supervisor Mary Leigh McDaniel** gave an update.

There is a special exemption for the cell tower in Hume. She invited everyone to the opening of the new Riverside Preserve at 8150 Leeds Manor Road this coming Saturday. This is Fauquier County's first public access ever to the Rappahannock River. They also will try to get something going in the southern end of the County.

**Marshall Main Street Project:**

Mary Leigh said that they have been successful in raising \$1.2 million to pay for the undergrounding of the Main Street Improvement Project. She said it will be going to bid in the next 60 days; it is possible that construction could start in the Fall, but it is very weather-dependent. **Q&A:** How can the County use those funds for undergrounding when the Board of Supervisor's 2/14/2013 Resolution stipulates that any qualified source of match funding earmarked for and actually collected for the Marshall Main Street Project shall first be used to pay down the \$643,000 that the community has to pay in taxes? Mary Leigh answered that this is raised separately, so if you'll send me your question on that and I'll get an answer for you.

Mary Wilkerson introduced our featured speaker of the evening, **Tony Flay, owner of A.W. Flay Tree Surgeon, LLC, and international rugby player**. Tony Flay comes from a farm-based kind of family. It is very agricultural in New Zealand, where he is from. He and his family spent 8 years in New Jersey, and moving here to Virginia was a very good fit. Tony was drawn to Fauquier County, and likens its agricultural character to New Zealand.

**Tree Surgeon, LLC** started out of a 1973 Dodge Dart. "Tree Surgeon" is a British term. It has been a great business. After many years, Tony gave his business over to those who had worked for him for a long time, and returned to New Zealand in 2010 and retired at 45 years old. The schooling was so poor so they moved back to Virginia for its proximity to schools. Tony then started his business back up.

Tree Surgeon, LLC does work for wineries and estates, such as Oatlands and Bull Run Winery. Tony said doing winery culture out here has gotten kind of big. They currently have a 47 acre project in the Round Hill-Purcellville area, which includes fence off, drainage, skid steer, and a machine that destroys bad trees. They will also fill potholes. It could turn out to be a 10 to 14 day project.

Ash trees are a problem for the next 3 to 5 years all over the Eastern Seaboard. An old Oak can stay dead for 10 to 15 years, but an Ash Tree will start chalking after just 18 months.

Tony's company has a lift that comes from Italy. It is an engineering marvel, and he actually used it when working on an Ash tree today.

What makes a small business tick? Do the small things right; don't overlook them. Tony said that everyone is mesmerized by bigger and better, but that is not the answer. Look outside the box; look outside the square.

**Rugby:** Basketball and football came from rugby. Tony said he was lucky as a young man to be quite good. From 1996 onward he was a professional player. Rugby is the national sport in New Zealand. The land there is beautiful and lush, with volcanic soil and temperate climate. Tony has spent 30 years in the rugby business. The Marine Corps wanted him to train their Rugby team. He did for 7 years, and was very busy. It is a very draining occupation. Today, Tony coaches VMI, and travels 2.5 hours twice a week to Lexington. He also coaches at Christendom College once a week.

A.W. Flay, Tree Surgeon has been in business since 1983. They also do other work, such as snow-plowing in the winter. Tony's son, PJ, also works for the business and is very good at what he does. He also handles their online work: website, Angie's List, Yelp, and Home Advisor. Calls are coming in more.

Tony also said that this area has lots of landowners who are not farmers, so they are not doing much with the land. He is lucky to have those big accounts.

When doing jobs, Tony is there at the job. He likes to be personable when dealing with people. He prides himself in being able to sell and likes the face-to-face with people. The New Zealand way is to get to know a guy for who he is, not necessarily what he does. For more info, find them on Facebook, visit [www.awflaytreesurgeon.com](http://www.awflaytreesurgeon.com) or call **703-507-1075**.

Door Prize Raffle: Congratulations to the winners of our 4 donated door prizes!

- Gentle Harvest Gift Basket
- BEARS Soft Serve Gift Card
- UGG-like boots from New Zealand
- Magnetic flashlight

The meeting closed with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:29 pm. *Minutes taken by Mary-Elizabeth Wilkerson, Secy.*

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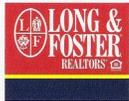
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