

# Style

SERIAL & GOVT. PUB. DIVISION

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2006



BY MARVIN JOSEPH — THE WASHINGTON POST

Vice President Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld have bought homes in St. Michaels. Rumsfeld paid \$1.5 million for his estate, above.



## Right on the Water

The Only Retreat for Cheney and Rumsfeld: St. Michaels

By DAVID MONTGOMERY  
*Washington Post Staff Writer*

ST. MICHAELS, Md. — It's tempting to seek deeper meaning and clues to character in the way Vice President Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld kick back in this lovely Eastern Shore community, where both have bought expensive waterfront estates.

Cheney shops for shotgun shells, Rumsfeld buys ice cream.

Rumsfeld's retreat — a former bed and breakfast built in 1804, for

which he paid \$1.5 million six months after the invasion of Iraq — is called Mount Misery. After he took title, two cannonballs were found on the four-acre property: weapons of mass destruction! — circa 1812.

Cheney's place, named Ballintober after a previous owner's Irish ancestral home, was originally listed for \$3.1 million, but the veep drove a hard bargain and paid \$2.7 million in September. Among such amenities as a wisteria arbor and swimming pool on nine acres, Ballintober has radiant heat beneath

the kitchen and living room floors, especially nice if the vice president pads around in his socks.

Cheney travels through town in brusque black-SUV convoys, emerging with wife Lynne to eat in the best restaurants. Rumsfeld has been spotted driving a Volkswagen Jetta and pumping his own gas. He goes on shopping missions with wife Joyce, lugging antique knickknacks in her wake.

"Like every other husband who comes to St. Michaels," says Peter

See ST. MICHAELS, C5, Col. 1

### TOM SHALES

## Live From New York, And on the Mend

Viewers who tuned in ABC's coverage of the annual New Year's

preside over Saturday night's telecast, "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' "

