

Blue Ridge LEADER & Loudoun Today

RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER
ECRWSS

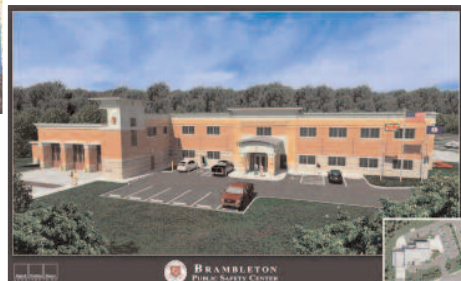
STANDARD PRESORT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 82
WOODSTOCK, VA

October 2011

Ground Breaking for a **Very Green** Brambleton Safety Center!



Supervisors attending: Jim Burton, Supervisor, Blue Ridge District (center left), Scott York, Chairman (center right), Andrea McGimsey, Supervisor, Algonkian District (far right).



On September 29 members of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and Loudoun County Fire & Rescue celebrated the groundbreaking of the new Brambleton Public Safety Center, future home to Fire and Rescue Station #9 and the Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management's Fire Marshal's Office.

The site is on Belmont Ridge Road on approximately 5 acres of land proffered from The Brambleton Group. The facility will house an engine company, advanced-life support ambulance and other essential emergency response units. All services performed by the Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office will be provided from this facility. Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' commitment to sustainable design and goals for reduced energy consumption, the following features are included in this project:

- Radiant/Geothermal heat systems will increase the energy efficiency of the building and result in substantial savings.
- A reflective roof (cool roof) will further reduce cooling needs by reducing solar heat gain in the summer.
- Low flow faucets, dual flush toilets and waterless urinals will dramatically reduce water consumption.
- Underground cisterns will capture rain water from roofs and parking lots to be used to fill tankers and to wash apparatus and vehicles.
- A bio-retention pond and pervious (and reflective) concrete paving will reduce storm water run off & cool the site.

Construction of the facility is expected to be completed in early spring of 2013.

New Western Loudoun Political Action Committee (PAC) Fights for Better Schools

Western Loudoun citizens have formed a PAC called "Western Loudoun Schools" to support local candidates favorable to an education reform agenda that includes better oversight of how the Loudoun Public School system buys land, builds schools, compensates teachers and draws bus routes. The group is also pushing for greater transparency and honesty within the system.

Western Loudoun Schools' website, www.westernloudounschoools.com, notes that the PAC is motivated by the fact that kids are suffering because new schools are not being built in time or close enough to the communities in which they live. Town-based schools in Aldie, Middleburg, Lincoln and Hillsboro also face the constant threat of being closed.

The PAC has three goals connected to local races in November.

- 1) Better use of the school budget – including increased accountability, lower operating costs, and more broad representation.
- 2) More community-based and communi-

ty-supported education. This includes improved communication, better schools siting, pedestrian and bike access to schools, and agriculture-focused education programs.

3) Administrative reforms – including a better "corporate culture", efforts to depoliticize the school boundary process, expedited charter school applications, the recording of closed school board meetings, and more.

So far, the PAC has endorsed Bob Ohneiser (candidate for the At-Large seat for School Board), Jill Turgeon (candidate for School Board, Blue Ridge), Pablo "Paul" Arias (Catocin), Bill Fox (Leesburg), (Scott York (re-election for the At-Large seat on the Board of Supervisors), Jim Burton (re-election, Board of Supervisors, Blue Ridge District), Malcolm Baldwin (Board of Supervisors, Catocin District), Kelly Burk (re-election, Board of Supervisors, Leesburg District), Andrea McGimsey (re-election, Board of Supervisors, Broad Run District).

Claiborne Parkway Design/ Construction Funding A Go!

On September 20, 2011, at the request of Blue Ridge Supervisor Jim Burton, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to approve up to \$400,000 in cash proffer funds toward the design of the missing link of Claiborne Parkway from Croson Lane to Ryan Road. This will open up the possibility of State Revenue Sharing Program Funds that could be received and allocated for use toward construction of the project.

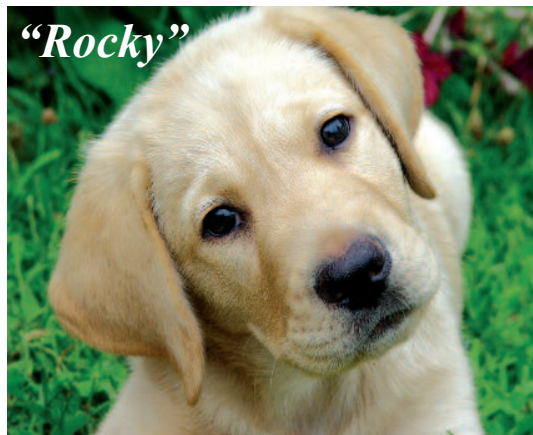
Bear Sightings!
See Page 14 ...



Watch Out! Pages 30 & 31 are ... "Guide Dogs to Be" Coming to Oct. 8 Tag Sale



With Loudoun's Best Halloween Happenings and the Ghosts at the Lynch Family House.



"Rocky"

Come meet local guide dog puppies who are striving to reach their goal of one day being someone's "guiding eyes"! Guiding Eyes for the Blind puppy raisers will host an information booth and dog boutique at Purcellville's Town Wide Tag Sale, Saturday October 8 (only) 8am - 3pm, Town Hall location, 130 East Man Street, Purcellville, VA.

For information on the Guiding Eyes Puppy Raising Program, visit www.guidingeyes.org or call 1.866.GEB.LABS.

Emancipation Day 2011, page 3 ... Board of Supervisors Candidates, page 5

On the web with daily updates at www.brleader.com

Ask Dr. Mike

Dr. Mike, Our neighbors and good friends have decided to get a divorce, and the father recently moved out of the family's home to begin the separation process. This has caused our 5 year old son some degree of confusion and even anxiety since our neighbors have a child of similar age and the children play together. How do my husband and I address the topics of separation and divorce with our son? – K. in Loudoun County



K., There is much guidance available to help parents discuss their divorce with their children. However, very little is available on how best to communicate divorces that happen outside the home but within a child's life, such as aunts and uncles, or in your case neighbors and friends. With divorce rates in the US reportedly ranging between 40 to 50%, your child will at several points during his development, be witness to his friends' parents' divorces. So, how do you communicate with your child about this now?

Pre-school age and younger school-age children see the world in more controlling, black and white and ego-centered ways. A younger child in your situation might ask, for example, "Why don't Ethan's mommy and daddy live in the same house anymore?" or "Why does Ethan have two houses now?" or "Are Ethan's mommy and daddy still married?" Here, your child has a rough idea of the change, but he or she is certainly not prepared cognitively to discuss or understand the larger complexities of divorce. For younger children, divorce (and the adjustments that come with it) can be very confusing, scary and unsettling. Thus, when your younger child makes a statement about a friend and divorce, he or she likely wants clarification on the topic due to confusion. By the time your child makes these sorts of statements, he or she may already be uneasy, especially if their friend appears sad, upset, angry or is behaving or stating things negatively in response to the separation and divorce of his parents. As parents of a younger child, keep your statements on the topic concrete and positive. In your case you could say something like, "Sometimes mommies and daddies live in two different houses...like Ethan's parents." You will also want to comment that "Ethan's mommy and daddy love Ethan very much." This is a full

circle of communication for your younger child, where there is a conflict and then a resolution. Your child should leave this conversation (although he may need to revisit it) feeling safe and secure.

With younger children, you will also want to avoid a longer conversation or a deeper analysis of your child's thoughts and feelings or his friend's thoughts and feelings. Your child should not feel burdened by the need to support his friend, as perspective taking skills and altruism are not developed until later in life. However, learning of another's divorce may trigger feelings of unsafety and insecurity in their own lives, as you have described might already be occurring for your son. I would then listen closely to your son's questions and points and offer clear and warm reassurance and support.

Dr. Mike, My husband sometimes gets frustrated with my parents, who, he says, "are always around." Being a mom who works full-time, we rely on my parents to help out with the children from time to time since money is very tight for us and they are both retired. I appreciate all that my parents do for us, and I know that my husband does as well. However, I also know that he is becoming increasingly irritated by their presence. I am conflicted over the situation because I do not want to upset my parents, but I also do not want my husband to feel that his needs come second. My husband's mother passed away when he was a child, and his father is recently deceased, and I sometimes wonder if that factors into his frustration with my parents. Any advice on how to keep things balanced, as I am feeling very much in the middle. A. in Loudoun

A., I think the first thing you need to do is remind your husband of what matters most in his life – his family, which includes you, your children ... and your children's grandparents. After that reminder, you could point out to him that sometimes in life one has to make a decision and live with the consequences. And the consequences here are not bad at all. Your husband and you benefit financially from your parents assistance with child-care, and your children get to spend additional time with their grandparents, which is priceless. If he still feels frustrated after addressing these points, you could then ask him what he would like and try to negotiate toward a solution. Perhaps your husband needs to carve out some alone time or male companion time on certain evenings or on the weekends. While you may be on to something regarding your husband's recent loss of his father and his not having either of his parents anymore, I would be careful not to read into things too much. It is possible that your husband may be displacing some of his own unfinished grief for his father onto you and your parents, but it is also possible that he

Continued on page 22

Ivandale Nursery

"Five minutes here will change the way you think about trees ..."

Buy Local! Trees grown in Loudoun County are acclimated to our environment.

10 trees for \$750 planted.
Sizes range from 2' to 20'.
20,000 in stock, more than 250 varieties.

Large trees available.

Over 500 common as well as heirloom and rare varieties (Specialty Evergreens, Japanese Maples and Fruit trees).

Unusually reasonable pricing – all prices include planting.

Flowering & Shade trees, 30 gallon containers.

Windbreak Special: 32 trees & shrubs for 100' windbreak \$1,200 planted.

All types of tree work, too! Pruning, transplanting, removal and more.

www.IvandaleFarms.com – 571.344.2278

Monday – Saturday 9 am – 5 pm. Closed Sundays.
16960 Ivandale Road Hamilton, VA 20158

Frank Bredimus, International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist MA-5172A.

JOE FLEMING
PAINTING
CONTRACTORS



WE OFFER YOU
FABULOUS
FALL SPECIALS.

PLAN AHEAD, CALL TODAY!

Family Owned and Operated ~ Serving Loudoun County Since 1997
Over 35 Years Experience



Our primary focus is servicing the needs of residential customers located in and around Loudoun County. We are committed to providing you with the best work and customer service available.

JOE FLEMING PAINTING CONTRACTORS

703-771-1494 • Cell 703-431-7751

www.joeflemingpainting.com

Thank You Loudoun County for Voting Us Your #1 Painting Contractor.
Voted #1 Paint Contractor Leesburg Today

Emancipation Day 2011

Every year – on the Saturday closest to the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln’s 1862 Emancipation Proclamation – the community gathers to reenact the spirit, splendor and joy of the day.

The gathering follows in the footsteps of the Loudoun County Emancipation Association. Organized in 1890, the Association sponsored the spectacular annual event until 1967.

This year’s event, held on September 17th at Purcellville’s Carver Center featured music, guest speakers, and the presentation of three Loudoun County Citizenship Awards – received by Charles Clarke (along with a birthday cake!), author Elaine Thompson (*In the Watchfires*), and Mrs. Lou Etta Watkins.

Civil rights icons Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman were portrayed on stage by Mrs. Edith Ferrell. And, the Keynote Speaker for the day was Reverend Thomas Tracy.

Exhibitors for the event included the Carver Alumni Association, Friends of Carver, the Purcellville Preservation Association, the Douglas Alumni Association, the Loudoun County NAACP, Military Veterans of Loudoun County, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and David Logan Gold Organic Coffee & Tea.

Military Veterans of Loudoun County is an effort by Purcellville Resident Reginald Simms, a veteran himself, to document the lives of our African American veterans.



Clockwise from above: Brothers Jay and Charles Lucas (in front) and Kenny Summers attended the event – all three are graduates of the original Carver School; part of the Military Veterans of Loudoun County display; Leesburg’s Mount Zion United Methodist Church Men’s Chorus; close up of the veteran’s display (Reginald Simms in uniform); Charles Clarke celebrated his 104th birthday at the Emancipation Day festivities.



OUR SERVICES:

- DESIGN & REMODELING
- MAJOR RENOVATIONS
- KITCHENS
- BATHROOMS
- COUNTERTOPS
- BASEMENTS
- FLOORING

Remnants Starting at \$30 per Sq.Ft.

703.435.3350

45000 Underwood Lane, Unit J&K
Sterling, VA 20166
(1 Mile West of Rt. 28, just off Rt. 606)

SHOWROOM OPEN
Mon-Sat 8am-6pm

**AFFORDABLE KITCHEN CABINETS
NOW AVAILABLE!
QUICK TURNAROUND TIME!**

All New Granite Countertops, Delivered in Just One Week.

We Also Create Granite Fireplace Surrounds,
Bathroom Vanities, & Jacuzzi Surrounds.

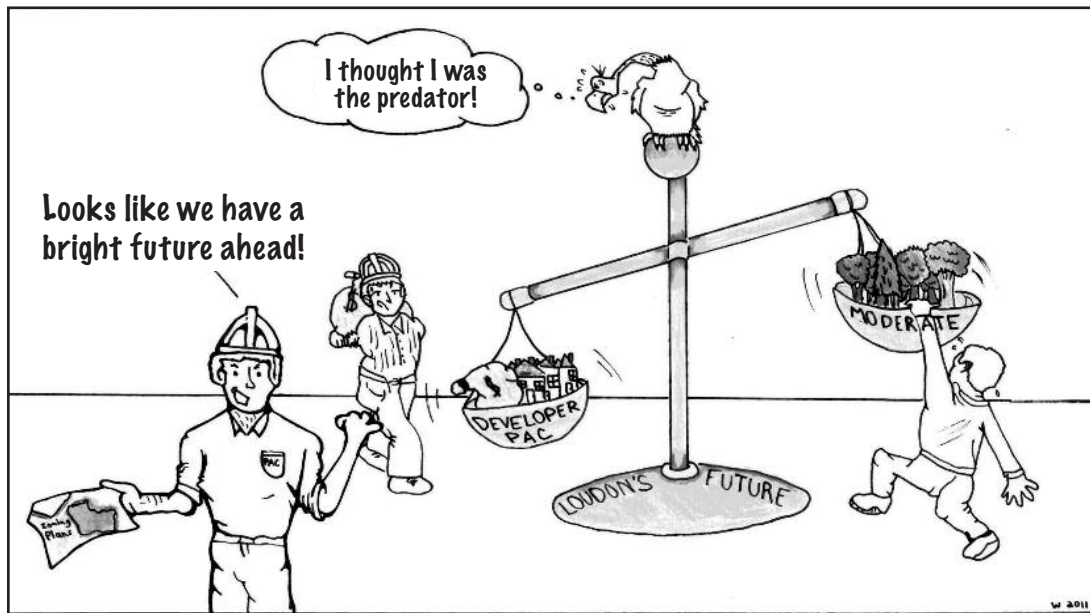
Thanks for being so conscientious - following through with your promises and keeping your customers happy. I will be writing an outstanding review on Consumer checkbook to add to your many positive reviews on that website.

- Granite Expo Customer


GRANITE EXPO
www.GraniteExpoOnline.com

Professional Service & Customer Satisfaction
We Also Carry Silestone®, Caesarstone®, Zodiaq®, Marble & Cambria®

50 sq. ft. GRANITE COUNTERTOPS \$2500	10x10 Kitchen Remodeling
FREE ✓ SINK / FAUCET ✓ REMOVAL ✓ STANDARD EDGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;">• Kitchen Cabinets <li style="width: 50%;">• Stainless Steel Sink <li style="width: 50%;">• Granite Countertops <li style="width: 50%;">• Faucet <li style="width: 50%;">• Tile Backsplash <li style="width: 50%;">• Plumbing <li style="width: 50%;">• Removal and Haul Away
	\$9950



Farm Bureau Right on the Money – by Kelli Grim

A recent front page article in the Virginia Farm Bureau News highlighted the plight of Crooked Run Orchard and Sam and Uta Brown. The focus was the recent eminent domain condemnation of the Brown's farm by the Town of Purcellville.

According to the Loudoun representative for the Farm Bureau, the organization was contacted by Purcellville Mayor Robert Lazaro about what the Mayor saw as inaccuracies in the article – inaccuracies regarding how close the Southern Collector Road would actually come to the Brown farm house, whether or not the farm was “surrounded on three sides by development,” and other issues. The Farm Bureau was, in fact very accurate in its presentation of each of the issues disputed by the Mayor. But, the larger issue seems to be that the Mayor takes issue with the fact that the Farm Bureau is calling out the Town of Purcellville and citing the Crooked Run Orchard case as a clear example of significant

eminent domain abuse.

The Farm Bureau responded directly to Sam Brown regarding the Mayor's complaints, indicating that “the article was meant to educate our members and explain the plight of one of our members in regards to eminent domain and we feel it is accurate.” The article was presented to members with a main emphasis on the upcoming second round of discussions in the Virginia General Assembly to add an amendment to the VA Constitution to tighten laws currently in place and force “condemnors” (like the Town of Purcellville) to prove they need to condemn a particular property for something beyond “tax base increases,” and other needs.

This legislation is strongly supported by Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli. He has seen many terrible abuses of power against small businesses and farms throughout Virginia, and, in a recent meeting with the Blue Ridge Leader

Continued on page 10

Being a Virginia Farm Bureau member ... is a simple yet powerful way to put your support squarely behind the farms that produce your family's food. When you join Virginia Farm Bureau, your membership dollars are used for a wide variety of programs, education tools and events that help agriculture prosper. While Americans are increasingly interested in fresh, locally grown foods, more and more American farms are being lost each year.

Virginia in recent years has lost on average 104,000 acres of farmland annually. Farmland that gets developed is rarely ever used for agriculture again. Agriculture and forestry make up the state's oldest industry, and every job created in that sector results in another 1.5 jobs in others. So a loss of farmland represents much more than a loss of food sources. When those farms are gone, where will we get our food? What if all of your family's foods were available only from foreign countries?

Blue Ridge LEADER & Loudoun Today

Since 1984

Publisher & Editor
Valerie Cury Joyner

Art Direction
Andrea E. Gaines

Carol Morris Dukes
Advertising

PO Box 325, Purcellville, VA 20134-0325
Email: blueridgeleader@aol.com

Copyright 2011 Blue Ridge Leader & Loudoun Today.
All rights reserved.

Letters to the Editor

As Election Day Approaches ...

... Loudoun citizens must consider how to bend Loudoun's future growth, budget, debt and tax curves in ways that preserve and protect our County's prosperity and beauty while maintaining high quality of life for all citizens.

One choice is to continue the rapid population growth driven by policies of past Boards of Supervisors that lacked adequate environmental and economic impact analysis to foresee and provide for the services, infrastructure and natural resources needed by new and old residents alike. The result to date: horrendous traffic, annual budget fights, and rising property taxes and debt.

Our other choice is to elect a Board of Supervisors dedicated to thoughtful, bipartisan cooperation on growth and fiscal issues that directly affect the shared interests of all residents – red and blue, east and west, suburban and rural, newly arrived and old-time, affluent and those far less fortunate in these perilous economic times. I recognize that this year, at the national and state levels, political leaders repeatedly fail to come together to serve the people's common interests. But what happens at those levels need not dictate our approach to local issues in Loudoun County. In today's uncertain economy we need bipartisan dedication to prudent governmental efficiency and understanding of long-term economics.

I am running for Catocin Supervisor as a moderate Democrat who will work collaboratively across party lines to move Loudoun toward more balanced and affordable growth and fiscal curves with improved quality of life for all. Unlike my opponent, I've engaged in Loudoun's public affairs every year over the past eight years – on transportation, schools, energy and zoning, particularly to protect the western rural and tourism-based economy that provides more revenue to the county than it requires in services.

Loudoun has wonderful opportunities and resources, with an educated and engaged citizenry, a rich historical and cultural heritage, a vibrant business sector and precious natural resources. Practical responses to our problems and opportunities require energetic Supervisors able to listen to all citizens' perspectives, to examine facts and opportunities with foresight and understanding of real economics, and to formulate and pursue sensible actions that a Board majority can support.

What Supervisors will we choose – those wedded to party bias and ideology, or those more concerned with finding solutions based on facts, good analysis, and open minds? I ask citizens of the Catocin District to vote on November 8 for Malcolm Baldwin for a better future for Catocin and all of Loudoun.

– Sincerely, Malcolm F. Baldwin, Candidate for Board of Supervisors, Catocin District

Death and Taxes

As the old saying goes ... “There are only 2 things for certain in life ...”

However, one of them doesn't really seem that certain anymore. Close to 50% of the income tax filers in the US have NO Federal income tax liability. That means, even though they are benefitting from all of the things that our tax dollars are used for (way too many things, but that's another letter), they pay exactly zero towards the cost of them. (some even get money back after filing, even though they paid no taxes in)

Meanwhile, those folks that do pay Federal income taxes are being asked to buck up even more and to “pay their fair share”.

Fair share? Are you kidding? Can we really be this blind as a nation?

It seems that for those that do pay Federal income tax – any tax short of 100% of your income is somehow viewed as a “tax break”. The government feels entitled to your wealth. They want it, you owe it to them.

Is that what this country has come to view as “fair”?

I guess it really boils down to one simple thing.

“A government with the policy to rob Peter to pay Paul can be assured of the support of Paul.”

So the next time you hear the all too often used phrase “class warfare”, see it for what it is. An obvious attempt to purchase the power of government at the expense of our nation.

It's time for a flat tax. It's the only “fair share” tax out there.

– Keith Balderson, Hamilton, VA

Running Against Her Own Record

Usually, a politician's campaign platform is reflective of past actions, opinions or voting records; Janet Clarke is running for Blue Ridge Supervisor against her own record.

Her front page, red-highlighted campaign ad in the September 23, 2011 Purcellville Gazette check marks her campaign platform.

She claims she will work to “Improve communications and relations between the County and the Towns.” As an appointed member of the Purcellville Town Council from 2006 to 2008, she agreed to file lawsuits against our own Loudoun County Public Schools and even agreed to sue Purcellville's own Board of Zoning appeals over its opinion that Woodgrove High School needed a commission permit

Continued on page 11

Candidates for Board of Supervisors – by Tim Jon

Yes, Virginia ... election season has, once again, 'snuck up' on (most of) us. Who do you support this year – on the local level ... and the state level? Well, I had the chance to gather responses from candidates in a couple of our more important state and regional races.

I presented the same questionnaire to each. A look at the candidates for County Board Chairman (Tom Bellanca and Scott York) starts on this page. A look at the candidates for Virginia's House of Delegates, District 13 (Dick Black and Shawn Mitchell) appears on page 12.

– Candidate Tom Bellanca –

Tim Jon: I'm asking you to think back on your life experiences which prepared you for leadership, and which – perhaps – propelled you toward this goal. It may be a specific moment – or a lengthy process – very personal or strictly professional, etc.

Tom Bellanca: I will start with a quote from Basketball Coach John Wooden. He said, "Successful leadership is not about being tough or soft, sensitive or assertive, but about a set of attributes. First and foremost is character." Most of my leadership experiences stem from the lessons I learned from my family. My father was a Navy doctor during the Cold War, and the Congressional Liaison for the National Institute of Health who later ran a unit of doctors in Lebanon when the Marine barracks was bombed. He later served as a doctor for General Electric's work on the international space station. My mother worked as an alcohol and drug counselor for the military, and later became a Clinical Psychologist. They both instilled in me an unselfish desire for serving other people and insisted I maintain high standards of character. Living in Europe as a child had the most profound effect on who I am and the way I see the world. Exposure to high levels of poverty in other countries led me to believe that there had to be a better way of life. American leadership is central to the success and progress in the world. I studied political science focusing on learning the structures of governments around the world. In college and briefly after college, I worked for former Congressman Jim Olin and Congressman Rick Boucher, and later went to work for Charles E. Smith Management in Arlington, working on an award winning transit oriented development project. I also went to night school at George Mason University's International Institute to obtain a Master's Degree in International Transactions. After ten years of working in both the local and national commercial real estate markets, I started my own real estate investment firm in Northern Virginia, which is now a multi-million dollar investment company. All of these experiences have provided me with the skill set to become Chairman of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.



Tim Jon: What do you see as the biggest strengths of the jurisdiction which you'd like to lead – and what specific actions would you take to foster their growth, improvement or preservation? Address anything from human resources to roads to open space.

Tom Bellanca: Loudoun is unique in that it has the diversity from the urban, transition and rural areas. Loudoun needs to maintain consistency of the Comprehensive Plan while expanding on different options for recreational activities including providing more areas for recreational activities and open space.

Tim Jon: Please name the most critical weaknesses or needs of this election area- and list specific actions which you'd take to support, correct or reverse these situations.

Tom Bellanca: The rapidly growing school aged population is the most critical issue in Loudoun County. The demand for new schools and innovative programs within the schools is now greater than ever. The new school planning, acquisition and construction process needs to be reformed. We need to get community leaders together and come up with a new process which includes resident involvement and transparency.

Tim Jon: We hear a lot about partisan politics these days on the national level. Would you pride yourself on working with colleagues from other parties, or do you see this as a weakness? Do you favor cooperation only among fellow party members? Feel free to refer to your own political history on this issue – and how your past actions furthered any important causes.

Tom Bellanca: Good ideas come from many different locations. I will listen to all ideas and work toward mutual solutions with the goal of achieving the best possible outcome for the greatest number of citizens. This includes ideas from both political parties and compromises that will result in outcomes favorable to varied interests. It is important for the Chairman of the Board to work with all of the Supervisors and make sure that important issues facing the diverse areas of the county are all represented in the policies we implement. It is also important to put residents interests first in every decision made by the board.

Tim Jon: As part of the labor force, I'd like to know how important you think it is to keep your constituents working, and how you'd put your beliefs into action.

Tom Bellanca: I believe it's the government's role to create the right environment for quality job creation. I support creating an Economic Development Authority in Loudoun similar to the one existing in Fairfax. This will help to market Loudoun to new businesses, help retain existing businesses which will thereby result in high quality, well paying jobs close to home. We must also expand our efforts to continue to grow the suburban and rural economies while at the same time increasing tourism visits to the county.

Tim Jon: Use of natural resources, development and 'progress' have always been in kind of a trade-off with the environment. Some candidates on the national level speak of abolishment of regulatory bodies such as the Environmental Protection Agency. How do you feel about moving

– Candidate Scott York –

Tim Jon: I'm asking you to think back on your life experiences which prepared you for leadership, and which – perhaps – propelled you toward this goal. It may be a specific moment – or a lengthy process – very personal or strictly professional, etc.

Scott York: My father was an Air Force pilot and from a young age growing up on Air Force bases around the country and Guam, we were instilled a love for our great nation that drives a life of community service.

Tim Jon: What do you see as the biggest strengths of the jurisdiction which you'd like to lead – and what specific actions would you take to foster their growth, improvement or preservation? Address anything from human resources to roads to open space.

Scott York: Loudoun County is one of the best places to live, not just in the United States, but in the whole world. It is a pleasure to serve this community, but it is also a great challenge. We have a world-class airport, a beautiful western landscape of rolling hills and vineyards, and excellent public school system – all within a short drive from the capital of the Free World. I will continue to support appropriate land uses that are compatible with the airport, continue to support and strengthen our rural economy, and focus on growing the commercial tax base.

Tim Jon: Please name the most critical weaknesses or needs of this election area- and list specific actions which you'd take to support, correct or reverse these situations.

Scott York: Our greatest challenge has been keeping up with our population growth. This means building schools and other public amenities at an astounding rate, expanding our transportation infrastructure to keep up with our increase in commuters, while working to keep the tax rate as low as possible. It is a daily challenge, but I'm confident we will continue to succeed. However, the recent economic downturn has slowed this process significantly. Right now my focus is on bringing businesses here to Loudoun to expand the commercial tax base. This economic development focus will provide jobs for Loudoun residents, reduce commute times, and reduce the tax burden on homeowners.

Tim Jon: We hear a lot about partisan politics these days on the national level. Would you pride yourself on working with colleagues from other parties, or do you see this as a weakness? Do you favor cooperation only among fellow party members? Feel free to refer to your own political history on this issue – and how your past actions furthered any important causes.

Scott York: Anyone who has watched a board meeting will know that I am able to work with any of the Supervisors, regardless of their party affiliation. Some, however, are certainly easier to work with than others. Frankly, in order to have unity of purpose, and a focus on jobs and serious economic development instead of pet projects, we need a board majority of pro-business fiscal conservatives.

Tim Jon: As part of the labor force, I'd like to know how important you think it is to keep your constituents working, and how you'd put your beliefs into action.

Scott York: The unemployment numbers in the county are very low. The Bureau of Labor Statistics July numbers have Loudoun at 4.1% unemployment. Over the last ten years 46,000 new jobs were created or moved to Loudoun. However, that does not account for the underemployed, those who have taken pay cuts, or are working numerous part-time jobs just to get by. My focus is to become a more businesses-friendly county and work to get our taxes as low as possible.

Tim Jon: Use of natural resources, development and 'progress' have always been in kind of a trade-off with the environment. Some candidates on the national level speak of abolishment of regulatory bodies such as the Environmental Protection Agency. How do you feel about moving your jurisdiction 'forward' and – at the same time – ensuring that your constituents – and their grandchildren – will enjoy clean air, water and natural surroundings?

Scott York: We need to be good stewards of our planet's resources, minimize waste, and treat the environment properly. Compared to our neighboring Fairfax and Prince William Counties, we have been doing a great job of that. However, I cannot support policies which thinly disguise a political agenda and social engineering with feel-good language and ultimately do little to protect the environment.

Tim Jon: This one's been kicked around in boardrooms and newsrooms so much lately it hardly needs an intro: Dulles Rail: local support – yes, or no – and why?

Scott York: I do support the Metrorail extension to Loudoun, but not at any cost. I've been fighting the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority to control costs like building the above ground station at Dulles Airport and shrinking the rail yard size. However, I have grave concerns with the way this unelected board, with members hailing from Pennsylvania, Maryland and DC, are treating Virginia taxpayer's money on this project.



7 Million Wasted Bucks: Clarke Can't Escape Her Role in Woodgrove High School Debacle

– By Valerie Joyner

In her September 8, 2011 campaign e-newsletter, Janet Clarke attempts to take credit for helping to resolve overcrowding in western Loudoun's High Schools. Ms. Clarke's statements are a misrepresentation of the facts. She also mischaracterizes Supervisor Jim Burton's very supportive role in getting the high school built. The public record reveals what truly transpired and reveals how Ms. Clarke actually supported the use of taxpayer money to prevent the construction of the new Woodgrove High School.

On October 30, 2000, Chairman York informed the Chairman of the School Board by letter that the County had settled on the purchase of Fields Farm. "The Board of Supervisors purchased the property with the understanding that sufficient acreage would be provided for a high school and an elementary school." The letter went on to state that the remaining acreage would be used for ball fields. The School Superintendent's proposed FY03-FY08 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) called for opening HS-3 (Woodgrove) in the fall of 2007 on Fields Farm.

Growing opposition to the site from Town of Purcellville officials, however, led the Board of Supervisors to delay financing and construction in order to give the school system time to find an alternative site. Over a three-year period, the school staff examined twenty-five separate sites and held numerous community meetings in western Loudoun, many of which were very contentious.

On July 19, 2005, the Board of Supervisors voted to place eight school projects, including HS-3 (Woodgrove) and one County project on the November ballot for a bond referendum approval totaling \$188,470,000, even though an HS-3 (Woodgrove) site had not yet been selected. The initial motion presented to the Board by Supervisor Waters called for each of the projects to be listed as a separate referendum question requiring a separate vote on each.

Concerned that some school projects might fail due to listing each project separately on the ballot, Supervisor Jim Burton offered a substitute motion that grouped the projects into two questions, one for the County project and one for all school projects. That motion failed (4-5). There then followed a series of substitute motions involving various proposals for grouping and adding projects and amendments to the ballot. All of these proposals failed.

One additional motion was made to specifically include the western high school (Woodgrove) on the ballot. That motion passed, with Jim Burton casting the fifth vote. The final vote on Supervisor Waters' original motion, as amended, approved nine separate referendum questions on the ballot. Supervisor Burton voted no, still expressing concern over the possibility of some school projects failing. His vote was a vote on the issue of how many separate referendum questions should be on the ballot. It was not a vote against Woodgrove High School.

On May 9, 2006, by a vote of 6-3, the School Board

selected the County-owned Fields Farm for the location of HS-3 (Woodgrove).

Purcellville officials voiced objections to the site.

At its June 6 business meeting, the Board of Supervisors voted (9-0) on Supervisor Burton's motion to appropriate \$6 million to help the school officials begin to prepare design and engineering plans for the new Woodgrove High School. At its June 20 meeting, the Board voted, 6-3, on Supervisor Burton's motion to jointly participate in the school's Special Exception Process so that the school could open in the fall of 2008. The next day, the Town of Purcellville filed its first of five lawsuits attempting to prevent the school from being built on Fields Farm (Civil Action No. CL41703).

Although not yet been appointed to the Purcellville Town Council, in her application questionnaire dated June 15, 2006 Janet Clarke stated "Today the leading challenge is in not having the next western Loudoun High School located on Fields Farm or within the jurisdictional vicinity of Purcellville."

Lawsuits to follow included: CL42709 – October 13, 2006, CL42982 – October 20, 2006, CL45351 – May 4, 2007, and CL46067 – July 3, 2007. Janet Clarke was appointed to the Town Council in August 2006. Ms. Clarke voted in favor of every lawsuit and appeal after she took office (including suing Purcellville's own Board of Zoning Appeals).

After each case was heard, both the Town and the County filed several appeals to the Virginia Supreme Court. Those appeals were gathered together and dealt with in one ruling dated September 12. According to the Virginia Supreme Court ruling, Purcellville believed that it had the right to review and approve or deny any new development in the Urban Growth Area outside the town's actual borders, including the high school, HS-3 (Woodgrove). The Town also believed that a Commission Permit was required and that the Town had the authority to deny that Permit. The County believed that the Town had no such authority. The County also believed that since an "H" was annotated on the Purcellville Urban Growth Area Management Plan map (PUGAMP) north of the Route 7 bypass, the County did not have to go through the legislative process of approving a Commission Permit in order to build a high school.

The Virginia Supreme Court ruled that: 1) The "H" on the PUGAMP map was too far from Fields Farm and therefore the County had to go through the Commission Permit process, which it completed on December 2, 2008, as a result of the ruling; and, 2) The Town did not have the right to review and approve or deny new development outside of the Town's own border, including HS-3 (Woodgrove) – only the County had that right.

As the Court stated on page 13 of its decision: "The Town does not have extraterritorial jurisdiction concerning zoning decisions in the unincorporated area of the County that constitutes the UGA. Nothing in the Code, Annexation Agreement, or the PUGAMP provides such authority."

Further, the Court stated on page 14: "As previously stated in the portion of this opinion dealing with the declaratory judgment action, only the County has zoning authority involving the development of HS-3 on the subject property. The Town may participate in the process, but the County has the zoning authority over the Commission Permit question." Therefore, although the Town won a very minor point, the key decision was in the County's favor; namely, that the County had the right to decide whether or not to build a high school in the Urban Growth Area, with the Town having no veto power over that decision.

Ordinarily, with a favorable Supreme Court ruling, the County could have immediately begun construction of Woodgrove High School. Unfortunately, there was still one more Town lawsuit on the books, with trial scheduled for January 2009. As long as any litigation was in play, the County could not go to the bond markets and sell the bonds necessary to pay for construction.

Facing extreme overcrowding at Loudoun Valley High School, the County moved forward with settlement negotiations with the Town. Council members Tom Priscilla and Janet Clarke, and the Town Attorney, represented the Town; Board of Supervisors Chairman York and the County Attorney represented the County.

The deal they struck resulted in the County giving the Town \$5.78 million in cash (for unspecified transportation improvements), a \$1.5 million water treatment facility, and land for a water storage tank in exchange for the Town withdrawing its final lawsuit and promising in writing not to file more. In addition, the County agreed to pay the town \$950,000 for water and sewer hookup fees, three times the fees for Briar Woods High School and almost ten times the fees for Heritage High School.

A settlement was agreed to by both parties and the Court in December 2008. Construction began immediately and Woodgrove High School opened in the fall of 2010.

The lawsuits Janet Clarke supported delayed the opening of Woodgrove High School by two years and cost the taxpayers of the County and the Town over \$7 million in settlement terms and legal fees. There is no way the Town, and Ms. Clarke, can run from this expensive and wasteful history.

John Nave Appointed to Town Council in Closed Session Process

John Nave was appointed to the Purcellville Town Council on September 13th to fill the vacant seat of CJ Walker III. The interviews for the Town Council position were done in closed session. At the September 8th Ways and Means Committee meeting, Councilman Greg Wagner said that although he had a recommendation to bring to Council on who he would like to nominate, he would wait until the September 13th Town Council meeting to announce his recommendation. He also said that he would poll the other Council Members individually before September 13th.

At the Purcellville Town Council meeting, a motion was made to nominate Nave, and without comment, the vote was unanimous. This is in sharp contrast to the last vacancy on council in 2006 when applicants were interviewed without going into closed session. Also, at this time, all citizens who applied for the vacant seat were given a set of written questions to answer.

Other citizens who were interviewed included Tim Schutte, Patrick McConville, Larry Harrison and Susie Windham.



Breaking Ground on New Park & Ride Will Ease Commutes!

Supervisors attending groundbreaking, starting third from left: Kelly Burk, Supervisor, Leesburg District; Jim Burton, Supervisor, Blue Ridge District; Andrea McGimsey, Supervisor, Algonkian District; Scott York, Chairman.

IMPROVE YOUR LIVING SPACE...

REMODELING YOUR KITCHEN INCREASES YOUR HOME VALUE.
Let our friendly and dependable staff Remodel for you this Fall!

Stop by and see our large selection of granite, ceramic, marble and wood.



SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT
AND RECEIVE
\$500-\$1,000 OFF

SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.
WITH THIS AD. NOT VALID WITH OTHER
OFFERS. EXPIRES 10.31.2011

Cabinets, Gorgeous Granite,
Unlimited Ceramic, Marble,
Kitchen Sinks, Designer Vessel Sinks,
Wall to Wall Carpet, Oriental Rugs,
Hardwood Floors and Window Treatments

We Carry All Major Brands.

**90 DAYS
SAME AS CASH**



FLOORS & MORE

D E S I G N C E N T E R

Two locations for your convenience:

WINCHESTER, VA
1863 Berryville Pike
(Rt 7 East of Winchester)
(540) 535-0610

EDINBURG, VA
17143 Old Valley Pike
(540) 984-3100

Hours: M-F 10-7, Sat. 10-5

www.floorsandmoreus.com

Running Totals ... in praise of frugal living

Save a Fortune on Herbs & Spices

– By Cat Morris

We are coming into spice season. Mmmmm! Cinnamon, nutmeg, and clove come to mind as the weather begins to turn and the days get shorter. Now is a great time to clear out your old herbs and spices so you can start the cool weather season on a fresh, flavorful note.



If you're like me, you never remember what you have in the cabinet, and often return from the store with a container of herbs or spices as insurance against being left short on a special recipe. I believe we all have that spice we can never recall seeing recently in the cupboard, and that spice, for me, is cinnamon. No matter that I possess pounds of the stuff: I inevitably find myself staring at grocery shelves, wondering, "Am I out of cinnamon?"

Now is the time to officially take inventory and update my holdings. In addition to lots of cinnamon, I admit to owning ancient jars of stuff I've barely touched. It hurts to think of tossing something for which I paid a pretty penny, and just possibly might need someday.

The good news is that since I first bought some of those ancient, pricey jars, I have discovered that quality herbs and spices are not expensive. In fact, if you have been buying your herbs and spices from a mainstream grocery store, as I used to; cease and desist: Supermarkets impose scandalously large mark-ups on spices. That .12 ounce jar of bay leaves that costs \$3.99 at your favorite grocery store? The same quantity from a local health food store will set you back a whole 17 cents. Did that get your attention?

Let's do some math:

As of this writing, bay leaves at one major grocery store cost \$3.99 for a .12 ounce jar, which comes to \$33.25 per ounce, or \$532 per pound (not that you'd ever need a whole pound of bay leaves).

By contrast, bay leaves from the bulk section at Natural Mercantile of Hamilton cost about \$1.21 per ounce, or \$19.30 per pound. Yes, that would be a \$512.70 price difference from the grocery store for a pound of the same product. [Incidentally, if you were to actually need a whole pound of bay leaves, Costco sells a one-pound container for a whopping \$6.40.]

Would you like another example? Ground cloves are priced between \$6-\$8 dollars per ounce at one major grocery store right now. I found them elsewhere for \$.86 per ounce. In a recent comparison shopping exercise, I found that I could replace one-ounce quantities of fifteen common herbs and spices for less than \$14 total by buying them outside a supermarket, versus upwards of \$60 at the supermarket.

Another fantastic, and often even less expensive, source for herbs and spices is ethnic food stores. Indian markets, or Mediterranean and Mexican grocers will have large quantities of excellent quality spices for a fraction of the cost at a mainstream grocery store.

Unless it's a seasoning I use a lot, I prefer to buy herbs and spices from a health food store because I can purchase as little or as much as I like. I am charged only for what I take. If I need a larger quantity, I'll hit a local ethnic store for high quality spices sold in larger amounts, and store them at home in pint sized mason jars. And of course, if you can use a pound or so of a seasoning (I can't) warehouse stores such as Costco offer fantastic prices.

How long will your freshly purchased herbs and spices keep? The Virginia Cooperative Extension's Food Storage



Guidelines for Consumers indicates that dried herbs and ground spices will stay fresh at room temperature for 6 months, or 1-2 years in the freezer. Whole spices will last 1-2 years at room temperature and 2-3 years in the freezer. (Interestingly, the shelf life of ground mustard is reduced by chilling it, so always keep mustard at room temperature.) If you keep your spices at room temperature, keep them in a dry, dark location. Avoid storing them above your cook top, where their flavor will suffer from heat.

The best way to check the freshness of herbs and spices is to open the container, put some in your hands, and check for strong aroma, taste and color. Seasonings kept longer than recommended won't hurt you, so don't fret if your oregano is five years old. It won't do harm, but it won't have much taste, either.

I'd love to hear where you find the best bargains on herbs and spices in the area. Email me at Cat.Morris@earthlink.net or visit us online at brleader.com and leave your comment following my column.

In last month's column I promised an article on extreme frugality. I spoke too soon. My apologies, but I couldn't resist writing about getting great deals on herbs and spices first, what with holiday cooking right around the corner!

Cat Morris is a Virginia native currently living in Iowa with her husband and two children. She has been writing a frugal column for years.

Amy V. Smith's Money Talks

– Education Saving Starts Now –

With kids of all ages back in school and fall in the air, it's a good time to talk about education funding for the children in your life.

Before your child was even born, you were planning. What will we name him? What color should we paint her room? Who will he look like? What will she become when she grows up?

But with all the decisions parents face, there's an important one they often overlook—college. And yet, with tuition rates rising, it should be at the top of every parent's planning list no matter what the child's age.

What's more, saving for a child's education doesn't necessarily have to rest entirely with parents. With the flexibility and convenience of today's savings plans, many alternatives make good sense for grandparents, aunts and uncles, other family members and friends, who can contribute or set up their own plans.

Start planning today

If your child is young, then time is on your side. By starting early, you may be able to invest less money now, and thanks to the potential impact of compounding returns, let your savings do much of the work for you.

Don't panic if your child is already in high school. While you may need to invest more money in a shorter time frame, you should still be able to afford at least a portion of college costs.

With many new college savings alternatives available, it is critical to choose the one that's most appropriate for you. Selecting the wrong plan – or not investing properly within the right one – can prohibit you from maximizing your savings.

What to consider before selecting a plan

- What are the tax benefits?
- Who controls the funds?
- How much risk is involved?
- What are the investment options?
- What are the tax consequences if I change the beneficiary?

529 Plans for college savings are popular tax-advantaged savings vehicles that have revolutionized the world of college savings much as 401(k) Plans revolutionized the world of retirement. As of June 2010, total assets in college savings plans reached an all-time high of \$135.2 billion. (Source: College Board's Trends in Student Aid 2010.)

Choosing a college savings plan

While you can choose any state's 529 college savings plan, it helps to consider a few key features to make the process easier:

- Your state's tax benefits: A majority of states offer some type of income tax break for 529 college savings plan participants, such as deductions for contributions or tax-free earnings on qualified withdrawals. However, some states limit their tax deduction to contributions made to the in-state 529 plan only. So make sure you find out the exact scope of the tax breaks, if any, that your state offers. (See the Virginia 529 website for this information in our state.)
- Investment options: 529 plans vary in the investment options they offer. Ideally, you'll want to find a plan with a wide variety of investment options, from conservative to more growth-oriented to match your risk tolerance.
- Fees and expenses: Fees and expenses can vary widely



among plans, and high fees can take a bite out of your savings. Typical fees include annual maintenance, administration, and management fees.

• Reputation of the financial institution: Make sure that the financial institution managing the plan is reputable and that you can reach customer service with any questions.

Opening your account

Once you've selected a plan, opening an account is easy. You'll need to choose a beneficiary and one or more of the plan's investment portfolios. Typically, you'll be required to make an initial minimum contribution, which must be made in cash or cash equivalent. You can tailor the frequency of your contributions to your own needs and budget. Most plans will allow you to change your investment portfolios periodically if you're unhappy with their performance. You'll also be able to change the beneficiary of your account to a qualified family member (e.g., siblings, stepsiblings, parents, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, first cousins) with no income tax or penalty implications.

You have big dreams for the child in your life. Don't let lack of planning sidetrack those aspirations.

I welcome your comments. Just send me an email at amy.v.smith@raymondjames.com. All names and identifying information will be kept strictly confidential unless written permission is given for their use.

© Amy V. Smith, Amy V. Smith Wealth Management, LLC, is an independent firm. Amy is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA) and offers securities through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. Her office is located at 161 Fort Evans Road, NE, Ste 345, Leesburg, VA 20176.

www.amysmithwealthmanagement.com
amy.v.smith@raymondjames.com

The opinions and recommendations here are those of the columnist.

News From Blue Ridge District

School Board Representative Priscilla Godfrey

STEM education or STEAM as Dr. Hatrick likes to say is going strong in Loudoun County Public Schools. Dr. Hatrick adds the A to stand for the arts which are very important in 21st century learning and are a big part of the extracurricular life in our high schools.



our middle school science teachers on making lessons inquiry and project-based.

Business and industry has stated that there is a critical shortage in the United States of engineers, doctors, researchers and mathematicians and Loudoun County is working hard to get children interested in following a career path in the math and sciences. We regularly sponsor summer camps such as a


High school students starting their freshman year have the opportunity to attend the Thomas Jefferson High School in Fairfax County with the tuition and bus transportation covered by the county; since 2005, Loudoun County has also offered a magnet school, the Academy of Science, a four year every other day program of studies at Dominion High School. Recently the Monroe Vocational-Technology Center was designated as a Governor's School for STEM because the curriculum there is rich with science, technology, engineering and math. Students may attend Monroe their junior and senior year on an every other day basis. The Academy of Science is sponsored in part by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. HHMI has studied science instruction at the middle school level and over several summers has trained all


Genomics science camp just for girls at George Washington University; an engineering camp for sixth graders (five years); a middle school summer camp on vo-tech education taught at Monroe (6 years); summer NASA camps for teens and many Summer Governor's School experiences for teens in the sciences, engineering and math fields. At the high school level, we offer AP Chemistry, Environmental explorations, Conceptual and AP Physics, Dual Enrollment Geospatial Science, AP Biology, and Earth Science. Our county-wide science fair is legendary with the local winners going on to win at the world and national level. Besides Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry, we offer

Continued on page 21

On the Market ... with Sam Rees

Round Hill, Purcellville, Bluemont, Hamilton, Leesburg





SOLD!

Under Contract in 5 Days! Multiple Offers! Round Hill
.57 Acres \$319,900



SOLD!




Lot 6 Sunny Ridge Road, Round Hill
3 acre lot (new paved road) Beautiful Views! Minutes to downtown.
\$149,900




NEW PRICE!

Historic Sunnyside, 25.1 Acres
Restored & Updated! Five bedrooms/3 baths upper level. Barns, Creek & Fenced for Horses!
NEW PRICE \$1,145,000




ROOM FOR HORSES!


Carr Lane - Waterford
Top of the line finishes grace this lovely home on 6 plus acres in historic Waterford.
LO7565341 \$629,990



Lakefront in Shenstone
3 Finished levels, pool, barn and professional office.
LO7594571 \$1,195,000



To see a virtual tour of all of Sam's listings, please scan this code with your smart phone or visit:
Sam.Rees.PCRAgent.com



UNDER CONTRACT!

Stonebrook - Waterford


Do you have a real estate question about your current home or one you would like to purchase?

Call Sam Rees, Associate Broker, Prudential Carruthers Realtors
Cell: 703-408-4261 sam.rees.pcragent.com samvrees@yahoo.com

Sam is a western Loudoun resident with 15 years of full time real estate experience and over 100 million in real estate sales. Her custom marketing plans for your home leverage the power of the Internet with professional photography and Design and the latest in Virtual Tour Technology.




Fall colors—come visit.







Fall is for tree planting!

Loudoun Nursery is open for the selection of shade, flowering and ornamental trees.



Loudoun Nursery, Inc.
Evergreen, Shade & Flowering Trees, Container Grains in Loudoun County.

Directions: From Rt. 7 west, take the Purcellville-Lovettsville exit (Rt. 287) toward Purcellville, go short distance to right on First Road, follow to right on Hillsboro Road (Rt. 690); left on Alder School Road (Rt. 711); right on Short Hill Road (Rt. 716); 3rd drive on left.

-  Trees that may be underused or not well known.
-  Mid-sized shade trees and ornamental bark.
-  Disease resistant flowering trees.
-  Conifers for screening or specimen locations.

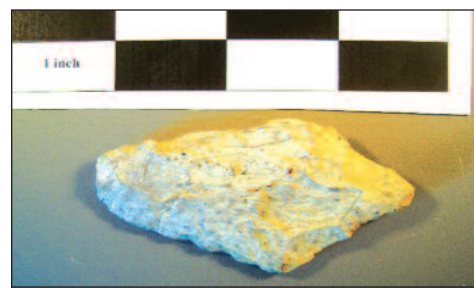
Our fall hours of operation are by appointment, but we are here and ready to serve you. Please call us at (540) 338-4635.

For a list of trees, visit www.LoudounNursery.com.

What's That?



Making Sense of the Stuff We Find in Our Back Yards - By Bob Shuey



A gentleman found this projectile point about two feet below the surface while he was doing some heavy duty landscaping east of Philomont near the bank of what was the Long Branch of Beaverdam Creek – now dammed into a series of ponds. The size and shape identify it as a Morrow Mountain I projectile point made approximately 6,000 – 7,000 years ago during the Archaic Period. Of the points found in the Mid-Atlantic region, particularly those found at more than a foot deep, it is one of the more common types. It was probably hafted to a stick and may have been used as a spear point or a

knife. Bows and arrows would not be seen in this area until thousands of years later. The material used for the point is rhyolite, a relatively soft volcanic rock which can be found naturally in nearby Maryland. It was shaped using percussion flaking – probably knapping with another stone, and pressure flaking along the edges – probably with a deer antler. The tip is broken off and the tool shows a great deal of wear from use or the effects of use or of being moved about by water. We do not know which people lived in this area that long ago.

Mike Clem is a member of the Banshee Reeks Chapter of the Archeology Society of Virginia (BRASV.org) and the Loudoun County Archaeologist. Bob Shuey is an archeologist active in local historic preservation efforts.

Send a photo and brief description of your unusual backyard finds to carolbrleader@yahoo.com or mail it to Blue Ridge Leader, 128 South 20th Street, Purcellville, VA 20132.



Mike Clem



Bob Shuey

Farm Bureau – continued from page 4

he noted that it is critical that the amendment pass in 2012 – for then, it will be on the ballot for the people to decide.

Cuccinelli used the word “bully” to describe city and town elected officials who go after and “pick on” the little guys, using the taxpayers money to fight until they win. The Attorney General said that he has watched countless cases of abuse, and that this legislation would not allow more property to be taken than what is actually needed; and, that the condemning enti-

ties would not be able to exercise eminent domain if the primary use of the condemned property was for private gain, private benefit, private enterprise, increasing jobs or tax revenue or for “economic development.” He feels that voters in northern Virginia would pass such a measure overwhelmingly.

We agree. Perhaps Crooked Run Orchard will serve as an example of what states and localities do not have the right to destroy in the name of “eminent domain”.

Special Event for Young Athletes and Parents

Dr. Pete Hilgartner, a leading expert in health and nutrition with extensive training in advanced clinical nutrition, peak performance strategies and more will make a special presentation on “The Proper Care and Feeding of Your Young Athlete”, Saturday, October 15 at Fields of Atherny Farm.

As a holistic health practitioner, author, former Marine, and Olympic level athlete, Dr. Pete brings years of personal and professional experience to his teachings.

Attendees will learn how to “Eat Well, Think Well, & Move Well!” in order to optimize their athletic performance. Today, much of sports conditioning is focused on weight loss, fat

caliper counts, and short term strength and endurance goals with little appreciation for the big picture. Dr. Pete will go beyond these metrics and onto a path of proper nutrition and environment as the foundation for not only optimal performance, but the growth and development for life long health and function.

Register for the event on the Fields of Atherny Farm website: www.fieldsofathenryfarm.com.



www.blueridgechiropractic.com



BLUE RIDGE CHIROPRACTIC & ACUPUNCTURE, LLC

~ NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS ~

Christina M. VanDerHurst, DC
PJ VanDerHurst, DC, FASA

Chiropractic Physicians

205 E. Hirst Rd Suite 102

Purcellville, VA 20132

PH 540-338-3190 Fax 540-338-3695

Three ways how you can be among the first to own...



Nichols: The Last Hardware Store

A DOCUMENTARY FILM FROM THE LINCOLN STUDIOS

1. Pick up a DVD at Sarah Huntington's photo studio. Across 21st Street from Nichols. Please call first: 540-338-7809.
2. Attend a free showing, Saturday, Sept 24 at the Franklin Park Arts Center, Purcellville. DVDs will be for sale.
3. Visit our web site: www.thelasthardwarestore.org. Order with PayPal. Don't let these opportunities pass you by!

© 2011 THE LINCOLN STUDIOS

On the web with daily updates at www.brleader.com

Candidates for Board of Supervisors, continued from page 5

– Candidate Tom Bellanca –

your jurisdiction 'forward' and – at the same time – ensuring that your constituents – and their grandchildren – will enjoy clean air, water and natural surroundings?

Tom Bellanca: The Environmental Protection Agency is a valuable part of our government and necessary for a higher quality of living. It is important that we create a sustainable living environment locally and protect valuable natural resources including a clean and reliable source of water. It is also important for us to protect open areas and establish the necessary parks and recreation facilities that our residents request. If we don't have the resources to protect a sustainable environment now, when will we ever have time or money to do so?

Tim Jon: *This one's been kicked around in boardrooms and newsrooms so much lately it hardly needs an intro: Dulles Rail: local support – yes, or no – and why?*

Tom Bellanca: I've always supported Dulles Rail. It is the largest economic development project in the nation right now. We must make every attempt to insure the tolls on the toll road remain low and this will include the pursuit of additional Federal and State funds to lower the burden this project will place on local property taxes. It is also important for us to support candidates committed to securing these additional Federal and State funding mechanisms.

Tim Jon: *Northern Virginia's had a long, strange history involving housing development – probably dating back to the building of Dulles Airport. How do you see your role in charting future decisions on this item? I'm leaving this question a little generic – use as much latitude as you need.*

Tom Bellanca: Loudoun must stick to the structure of its comprehensive plan to the best of its ability. Growth must be managed to maintain a sustainable pace while planning for the necessary infrastructure needs especially schools. The constant swings in the county government are damaging to the quality of life in our county and we need to work toward maintaining greater consistency and more sustainable policies and growth levels.

Tim Jon: *In this fine land of ours, citizens pay taxes in exchange for relative levels of protection, infrastructure and services. Are the taxes for your jurisdiction at the proper level – and, if not – what specific actions would you take to lower or raise them – and why?*

Tom Bellanca: Loudoun continues to get squeezed because it only gets a portion of both its Federal and State income taxes back to support this region. This is not sustainable and places an increased burden on local property taxes. I will fight for more of the funds generated here to stay here. This includes making sure we change the composite index and obtaining more funding for road improvements, maintenance, transit and other projects throughout the county.

Tim Jon: *Service to a large group of citizens is fraught with demands to fulfill campaign promises. I've heard some outlandish, impossible requests made from the public and professional sector. How much weight would you place upon individual requests from your constituents? How about groups? How about businesses? How have you handled these situations in the past?*

Tom Bellanca: A good public leader listens to all of the requests and opinions of stakeholders and constituents. The best public leaders are the ones who reconcile the multitude of positions to one comprehensive policy and always keep as a central theme the greatest good for the greatest number. I pledge to put the best interest of those who live in the county at the front of all issues before the board.

Tim Jon: *What kind of a political legacy would you like to leave – upon – one day – leaving office? People would say: "He was a leader who really ... ?"*

Tom Bellanca: I would like to keep our county on a sustainable path over the next four years. We can do a better job of planning for new schools, expanding economic development initiatives and making sure our transportation network is multimodal and efficient. I would also like to bridge the gap between our many varieties of communities including the numerous HOA's in the suburban area, the transitional area, and the rural areas. This will instill a greater sense of community countywide. Loudoun needs to be better prepared for the future and I hope you will support my candidacy on November 8th to help us establish a truly world renowned community. Henry Ford said that whether you believe you can or you believe you can't, you are right. I believe we can.

– Candidate Scott York –

I cannot support the projected toll increases on the Dulles Toll Road of over \$10 each way – which is essentially an unsustainable highway robbery of Loudoun's commuters. I am working to explore alternate funding solutions.

Tim Jon: *Northern Virginia's had a long, strange history involving housing development – probably dating back to the building of Dulles Airport. How do you see your role in charting future decisions on this item? I'm leaving this question a little generic – use as much latitude as you need.*

Scott York: Loudoun is a great place to live and work. It makes sense that people from all over the country and the world come here to raise their families. We have a wonderfully diverse population which speaks to this point very well. However, with the current economic climate, the situation we have had in the past of two very different perspectives on controlled or uncontrolled growth is no longer a defining issue.

Tim Jon: *In this fine land of ours, citizens pay taxes in exchange for relative levels of protection, infrastructure and services. Are the taxes for your jurisdiction at the proper level – and, if not – what specific actions would you take to lower or raise them – and why?*

Scott York: This year I moved to lower the tax rate, which was voted down by the Democrat majority. Our tax rate is almost completely driven by the school system. Between the capital school costs, and their budget it consumes almost 70% of the total county budget. General government isn't even 5%. If the school board shows greater fiscal restraint it will help lower the tax rate. However, the Board of Supervisors can also do its part by continuing to attract more businesses here to the county to bring in additional tax revenue.

Tim Jon: *Service to a large group of citizens is fraught with demands to fulfill campaign promises. I've heard some outlandish, impossible requests made from the public and professional sector. How much weight would you place upon individual requests from your constituents? How about groups? How about businesses? How have you handled these situations in the past?*

Scott York: I always strive to be extremely responsive to my constituents needs. I have topnotch staff which helps in this effort. It is my desire to be able to investigate the merits of every request, complaint and need and respond appropriately. Furthermore, because of my belief in government transparency, I post all the action summary reports of the Board's actions to my blog at chairmanyork.wordpress.com.

Tim Jon: *What kind of a political legacy would you like to leave – upon – one day – leaving office? People would say: "He was a leader who really ... ?"*

Scott York: I don't give much thought to a 'legacy', but I do hope that my service to the community has made Loudoun a great place to live and raise a family, be educated, and do business.

Letters to the Editor, continued from page 4

for the Town to build its school. She sat in on the (closed to the public) talks between Purcellville's lawyer and Loudoun County's lawyer on the Woodgrove High hostage settlements, in order to extract as much money as possible to build a road for developers (the Southern Collector Road) through Crooked Run Orchard, contrary to her fourth promise to "Support Property Rights."

Blue Ridge voters remember the 2003 Republican takeover of the County Board of Supervisors that stripped Scott York of his Chairmanship, re-zoned Eastern Loudoun to the extreme density that plagues every commuter or business service provider along the Route 7 corridor today, and denied logic that in Western Loudoun it does not rain more if you build more houses. "Support Property Rights" is code for support developer rights – remember the red neckerchiefs (Citizens for Property Rights) crowd that got

their requested re-zonings?

Janet Clarke will work to "Place schools in locations that facilitate short bus rides and walk ability." That is what Woodgrove High School accomplished. Janet authored a resolution that all Purcellville's high school students attend Loudoun Valley High School, yet her own child attends Woodgrove High School. Does her child walk to Woodgrove High School when Loudoun Valley is an easy walk from her house? Not likely. Apparently Mrs. Clarke's resolution is good enough for all of the families in Purcellville except her own.

Now she "supports the 690 interchange" (she took it off of Purcellville's Top Ten Priorities in 2006) ... when she did nothing on the Purcellville Town Council but destroy the County's support for funding the design of the interchange with the high school lawsuits. Why doesn't

Purcellville use the \$4.5 million to build the 690 interchange Mrs. Clarke? "Complete road segments" is code for saying "push Sam and Uta Brown off their farm – we don't have the time to wait for them to die." Could your home be next on the chopping block?

"Reduce traffic" is a joke when she supports growing Western Loudoun as quickly as possible. Janet "supports youth sports and facilities," but she fought to deny Woodgrove High School its athletic facilities.

The hyper-growth of Loudoun County in the new millennium's first decade exploded in all of our faces. And, most of us are hanging on to homes that may never regain their original value ... while debt and taxes will haunt us all until we are 65. Do we need more of this kind of thinking? No.

Janet Clarke has not proven to be an "advocate for the community" unless we are speaking of the "development"

Candidates for Virginia House of Delegates, District 13 – by Tim Jon

– Candidate Dick Black –

Tim Jon: I'm asking you to think back on your life experiences which prepared you for leadership, and which – perhaps – propelled you toward this goal. It may be a specific moment – or a lengthy process – very personal or strictly professional, etc.

Dick Black: I enlisted in the Marines in 1963. By age 21, I rose to second lieutenant. I was among the Marines' youngest pilots landing aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Lexington and later became a helicopter pilot and flew 269 combat missions in Vietnam. I was first elected to the House of Delegates in 1997 and represented the 32nd District for eight years. I achieved a 100% rating from the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB), and the National Right to Work's top national award in 2003. I introduced legislation that allowed construction on Rt. 28; I am ready to hit the ground running on day one.

Tim Jon: What do you see as the biggest strengths of the jurisdiction which you'd like to lead – and what specific actions would you take to foster their growth, improvement or preservation? Address anything from human resources to roads to open space.

Dick Black: Loudoun and Prince William are shining gems. We have a highly educated and successful population. Loudoun County has the highest median income in the nation, and our schools are also some of the best in the Commonwealth. There is also a rich cultural heritage spread throughout the two counties.

Tim Jon: Please name the most critical weaknesses or needs of this election area – and list specific actions which you'd take to support, correct or reverse these situations.

Dick Black: Both counties can also be seen as victims of their success, as growth pressures have created transportation issues and created a demand for more and more public services. (This) has put enormous pressure on State and Local Governments to provide these resources. I believe we need to continue to foster the academic achievements our citizens are known for. I believe that the exponential advances in new technology demand that we place a higher emphasis on high tech education in our public school curriculum so that our children will be able to succeed in our highly competitive job market.

Tim Jon: We hear a lot about partisan politics these days on the national level. Would you pride yourself on working with colleagues from other parties, or do you see this as a weakness? Do you favor cooperation only among fellow party members? Feel free to refer to your own political history on this issue – and how your past actions furthered any important causes.

Dick Black: It is always prudent to try to find common ground with members on the other side of the aisle. In the House, I often reached across the aisle on issues that we agreed upon but I am not willing to compromise my principles in order to gain by-partisan support on an issue.

Tim Jon: As part of the labor force, I'd like to know how important you think it is to keep your constituents working, and how you'd put your beliefs into action.

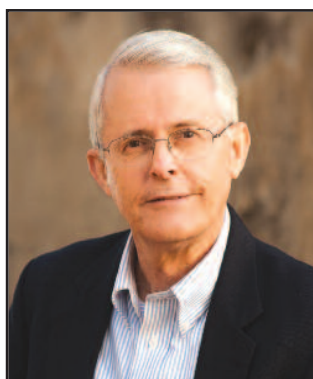
Dick Black: Virginia needs to lead the way in providing streamlined, effective government. While other States have been facing bankruptcy, Virginia has balanced its budget by controlling spending. I will continue this model of success by working with Governor McDonnell to control spending and promote business. Now is not the time to impose even more burdensome regulations, and I will oppose initiatives such as the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance and other new rules that would damage our business community.

Tim Jon: Use of natural resources, development and 'progress' have always been in kind of a trade-off with the environment. Some candidates on the national level speak of abolishment of regulatory bodies such as the Environmental Protection Agency. How do you feel about moving your jurisdiction 'forward' and – at the same time – ensuring that your constituents – and their grandchildren – will enjoy clean air, water and natural surroundings?

Dick Black: We have vast reserves of energy production that are untapped due to government interference. I will work with Governor McDonnell to pressure the Obama Administration to lift the moratorium on off-shore drilling. I also support the mining of uranium in Pittsylvania County. If we are ever going to end our dependence on foreign sources of oil and gas, we cannot turn our back on available source of power. We need to develop our own oil and gas resources while our scientists work towards developing new technology and sources of energy. Virginia should oppose ever-tightening federal standards. We must work to restrict EPA's expansion. Virginia should support federal legislation that prohibits EPA from treating CO2 as a pollutant or restricting CO2 emissions. I oppose the Chesapeake Bay Ordinance proposed by the current Loudoun Supervisors because it creates bureaucracy for land owners while doing little for the environment.

Tim Jon: This one's been kicked around in boardrooms and newsrooms so much lately it hardly needs an intro: Dulles Rail: local support – yes, or no – and why?

Dick Black: I support Dulles Rail to Dulles if the bulk of the funding burden does not fall to Loudoun residents and if costs are kept to a minimum.



– Candidate Shawn Mitchell –

Tim Jon: I'm asking you to think back on your life experiences which prepared you for leadership, and which – perhaps – propelled you toward this goal. It may be a specific moment – or a lengthy process – very personal or strictly professional, etc.

Shawn Mitchell: I am running for office because I am invested in my community. Both my business and home are located in this senate district. I'm involved with local non-profits like the Valor Foundation. I understand the impact that state government has on my business, and I strongly feel we need more business leaders in Richmond, people who understand how to make a payroll, live by a budget, develop a marketing plan, and make difficult decisions based on a Profit Loss statement.

A little more about myself – I attended Virginia Tech where I met my now wife. During that time, I enlisted with the National Guard. I volunteered for regular Army duty to serve my country in Bosnia in 2001. In Bosnia I was part of a team running international freedom of movement missions, planning road projects, and building bridges. I was then later deployed to Iraq and served on the front lines as a combat engineer. I was awarded the 2004 Engineer Soldier of the Year award by my battalion for outstanding leadership ability.

Tim Jon: What do you see as the biggest strengths of the jurisdiction which you'd like to lead – and what specific actions would you take to foster their growth, improvement or preservation? Address anything from human resources to roads to open space.

Shawn Mitchell: Our Diversity – not only the people who make up the district, but the different landscapes from the rural farms to the urban developments.

Tim Jon: Please name the most critical weaknesses or needs of this election area – and list specific actions which you'd take to support, correct or reverse these situations.

Shawn Mitchell: Economic development to develop a broader commercial tax base so that we can bring much needed relief to our residents.

Tim Jon: We hear a lot about partisan politics these days on the national level. Would you pride yourself on working with colleagues from other parties, or do you see this as a weakness? Do you favor cooperation only among fellow party members? Feel free to refer to your own political history on this issue – and how your past actions furthered any important causes.

Shawn Mitchell: As a business owner and as someone who prides himself on practical solutions, I think it is imperative that we send someone to Richmond who can and will work across party lines. We have a divided government in Richmond and that shouldn't stop us from addressing the important issues of today and improving our quality of life.

Tim Jon: As part of the labor force, I'd like to know how important you think it is to keep your constituents working, and how you'd put your beliefs into action.

Shawn Mitchell: I believe the state should support worker-retraining programs, that are cost effective and provide practical skills to help unemployed workers and veterans' transition to a new career.

Tim Jon: Use of natural resources, development and 'progress' have always been in kind of a trade-off with the environment. Some candidates on the national level speak of abolishment of regulatory bodies such as the Environmental Protection Agency. How do you feel about moving your jurisdiction 'forward' and – at the same time – ensuring that your constituents – and their grandchildren – will enjoy clean air, water and natural surroundings?

Shawn Mitchell: In a small business owner who specializes in solar and geothermal installations, I believe it is important that we explore and develop these technologies plus additional alternatives of energy and fuel.

Tim Jon: This one's been kicked around in boardrooms and newsrooms so much lately it hardly needs an intro: Dulles Rail: local support – yes, or no – and why?

Shawn Mitchell: I fully support extending metro into Ashburn. It is vital to the future economic development of Loudoun County and the entire Northern Virginia region. I believe we need to keep the costs in check for the project and as Senator, I will fight for state funding of this project so that it isn't all funded on the backs of local residents.

Tim Jon: Northern Virginia's had a long, strange history involving housing development – probably dating back to the building of Dulles Airport. How do you see your role in charting future decisions on this item? I'm leaving this question a little generic – use as much latitude as you need.

Shawn Mitchell: I think its very important that as we continue to grow in this district, we place a priority on smart development and promote live-work-play type communities.

Tim Jon: In this fine land of ours, citizens pay taxes in exchange for relative levels of protection, infrastructure and services. Are the taxes for your jurisdiction at the proper level – and, if not – what specific actions would you take to lower or raise them – and why? Again, personal, professional and political history may apply for your answer here.



Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth – by Tim Jon

Black Oak Road

It's not a very long stretch of road – at least if you're using the usual mileage measuring system for US roadways – X amount of distance per inch, or whatever; then again, there are some places in our universe that defy the bounds of what we tend to consider 'normal,' 'conventional,' or even 'linear.' I guess Black Oak Road is to vehicular travel what something like Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* is to the world of literature. It's not always the number of actual miles or words on paper that make the greatest impression. At least that's how I feel about this little, windy, hilly, barely-big-enough-for-the-two-of-us, gravel road. I'm sure some of Loudoun County's public school bus drivers would agree, and I know of at least a couple of other local Postal delivery associates who can share some hair-raising tales of experiences on Black Oak.

I've been pretty fortunate, all things considered. Let's see, I've had to detour around the greater portion of it due to fallen trees, I've felt the loose dirt give way under the tires as I've struggled for control going down some of its hills, I've battled hip-high snow drifts in 'swims' from the Postal vehicle to get to mailboxes in exposed locations, I've prayed that my truck would just remain somewhere between the two sides of the road as I bounced along on the icy ruts of winter, and I've been surprised to discover that my tire treads were almost totally useless as a means of traction in the muddy clay 'bottom' portion of the road – down past the little bridge. On the other hand, I've had some cherished moments: the pleasure of easing down the gradual decline past Otley Road as Black Oak enters the cool shade of a mature stand of trees – which comes as a welcome relief pretty much anytime between May and September, catching the sound of rain on cool, fall afternoons while organizing trays of mail on top of the hill at the Otley crossing, sighting views of the Blue Ridge from this same spot – whether

they're coated in the greens of summer, the snows of winter, or the more varied palette of autumn, and the never-tiring, unpredictable antics of the army of squirrels who live along the road. It's one of the few locations in Loudoun County – or the rest of North America, for that matter – that I've caught glimpses of pileated woodpeckers – striking, huge, crow-sized birds with beaks almost the size of railroad spikes.

Black Oak Road has the feel of a wild and remote place.

I realize that I've probably created pictures of a corridor worthy of an episode on "Ice Road Truckers" or something, and many may rightly wonder if such a place exists in modern-day Loudoun County, where most of us are generally more concerned with the latest announcement on the morning commute on Route Seven, or changing traffic patterns from interchange construction on Route 28, or the latest conditions on the Leesburg Bypass (maybe those busy thoroughfares are more like the novel comparisons of today's best-sellers, or perhaps even a supermarket romance saga), but I can assure you that this little stretch of gravel runs in our same world – from Paxson Road in the north down to Snickersville Turnpike in the south – bounded by Silcott Springs Road in the east and Airmont Road in the west. If you're still giving me a blank stare, this is all just a few miles south of the Town of Purcellville – which is about 11 miles west of Leesburg – from which brave human beings sometimes even travel as far as Washington, DC.

And, yes, in addition to Black Oak, Loudoun County features a great many miles of unpaved, usually narrow, sometimes troublesome, often hilly and windy little roads; this happens to be one of my favorites, and travelers along



this stretch can – for the most part – consider themselves very fortunate, indeed – at least in my opinion. I hope there are always places like this in my County which remain unknown, undiscovered – a complete mystery to me; that's the kind of universe in which I prefer to live.

Now, if I can just find the vehicular traveling equivalent of Melville's *Moby Dick*, or Faulkner's *Go Down, Moses* or maybe even Thomas Wolfe's *Look Homeward, Angel* ... any suggestions?

Candidates for Virginia House of Delegates, District 13 – continued from facing page

– Candidate Dick Black –

Tim Jon: Northern Virginia's had a long, strange history involving housing development – probably dating back to the building of Dulles Airport. How do you see your role over the course of your office – in terms of responsible leadership – on charting future decisions on this item? I'm leaving this question a little generic, to allow as much latitude as possible in answering.

Dick Black: When it comes to growth, I feel we need to take a fair and balanced approach. We need to continue to support growth and economic development while protecting our cultural heritage and natural resources.

Tim Jon: In this fine land of ours, citizens pay taxes in exchange for relative levels of protection, infrastructure and services. Are the taxes for your jurisdiction at the proper level – and, if not – what specific actions would you take to lower or raise them – and why? Again, personal, professional and political history may apply for your answer here.

Dick Black: In the House of Delegates, I never voted for a tax increase. I believe we must amend the constitution to bar raids on the Transportation Trust fund. I agree with Del. Rust's proposal to set aside a portion of the sales tax in NOVA for transportation. The state formula should be amended to focus state resources on areas of greatest congestion, such as NOVA. (Then), Virginia should apply General Fund revenue to transportation needs. Northern Virginia has been the economic engine of Virginia. As a result we have seen an increasing share of our tax dollars

taken away from us. While it is important to assist those parts of Virginia that need our help, we cannot do so to the detriment of Northern Virginia. I support returning a greater share of our tax dollars back home to assist in paying for education and transportation.

Tim Jon: Service to a large group of citizens is fraught with demands to fulfill campaign promises, and to perform in the manner each of us envisions for a proper leader. I've heard some outlandish, impossible requests made from the public and professional sector. How much weight would you place upon individual requests from your constituents? How about groups? How about businesses? How have you handled these situations in the past?

Dick Black: My office had an excellent reputation for constituent service. I listen to every voter and weigh each decision on a case to case basis. During any legislative session, every representative is inundated with citizens and groups all lobbying for their issue. I always weighed all the opinions with what is best for the citizens in my district.

Tim Jon: What kind of a political legacy would you like to leave – upon – one day – leaving office? People would say: "He was a leader who really ...?"

Dick Black: The legacy that I left when I served for eight years and the legacy I would like to continue is one of honesty and integrity in office. I'm not afraid to take on the tough issues head on and I am honest with where I stand.

– Candidate Shawn Mitchell –

Shawn Mitchell: I think its very important that we work on economic development in the district so that we are able to grow the commercial tax base and provide much needed tax relief to residents.

Tim Jon: Service to a large group of citizens is fraught with demands to fulfill campaign promises, and to perform in the manner each of us envisions for a proper leader. I've heard some outlandish, impossible requests made from the public and professional sector. How much weight would you place upon individual requests from your constituents? How about groups? How about businesses? How have you handled these situations in the past?

Shawn Mitchell: I want to work very hard for my constituents and put a strong emphasis on constituent services when in office, regardless of if it's an individual, business or group. My door will always be open to listen to them and their concerns.

Tim Jon: What kind of a political legacy would you like to leave – upon – one day – leaving office? People would say: "He was a leader who really ...?"

Shawn Mitchell: He was a leader who really cared about the daily issues that impacted the lives of his constituents. Shawn always had a practical common sense approach to problem solving and his door was always open to listen to his constituents and their issues.

Send us your
Letters to the Editor
at editor@brleader.com.

Increased Bear Activity Reported in Western Loudoun

There have been accounts of increased bear activity in western Loudoun recently.

In mid-September, walkers were surprised to learn they had strolled past a mama bear and her cub on Forest Mills Road in Lincoln. One walker looked over her shoulder to find the bears standing in the road directly behind them, moments after they had passed.

Anonymous readers have reported sightings of bears on Mt Gilead, Hughesville Rd, Cookesville Rd, and other locations in the Lincoln area.

On Mount Weather, bear sightings are more common. Teri Dunphy's property has been visited several times. Just two weeks ago, her mother in law, Nellie, was exiting a carriage house when she came face to face with a large bear that stood up on two legs when they surprised each other.

Nellie backed into the house while her husband called the county animal control

office. The bear was gone before employees responded. The bear returned the next day and was seen lolling about on their patio. This time, they ignored the bear until it ambled away, and it has not returned.

If YOU see a bear, leave it alone. Do not attempt to feed it, or get close to it – EVER! Bears look sweet, but can be very dangerous, especially when acclimated to humans and their food.

If you experience a bear problem, you may seek assistance by contacting the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries or local law enforcement. To find the VDGIF office nearest you, call the Department's law enforcement dispatch at (804) 367-1258. For more information, visit the VDGIF website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/living-with-black-bears/ and learn how to coexist with these – usually shy – creatures.

Is anything more important than your family's security?



Do You Have a Will and Living Trust?
Estate Planning Is An Act of Love!



Lorren T. Johnston, PC

Estate Planning

307 East Market Street • Suite 100 • Leesburg, VA 20176

tel 703-443-1455

lorren@lorrentjohnston.com

Advertise with us! Send email to advertise@BRLeader.com.



TENT SALE

OCT. 8th & 9th 2011

Stop by TWIGS during *Purcellville's Town-Wide Tag Sale*, for end-of-season markdowns on Women's Casual Wear & Accessories, Home & Garden elements, Kitchen, Bath & Spa delights, and **Much More!!**

123 N. Maple Avenue
Purcellville VA 20152
540-338-4438
Mon. - Sat. 10 to 6pm
Sunday 11 to 7pm



Tricolored – By Myles Mellor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17				18					19				
20						21							
			22		23	24		25					
26	27	28		29			30		31		32	33	34
35				36				37		38			
39			40						41	42			
43						44					45		
46				47	48		49				50		
			51			52		53			54		
	55	56					57		58		59	60	61
62								63	64				
65						66					67		
68						69					70		

Across

1. Driven transport
5. Jewish teacher
10. Kind of instrument
14. "By yesterday!"
15. Betelgeuse's constellation
16. "Cogito, ___ sum"
17. Rarely
20. Back
21. Outdo
22. Annexes
25. Dates
26. Chop (off)
29. Piques
31. Can't stand
35. "The ___ Daba Honeymoon"
36. Andrea Doria's domain
38. Arabic for "commander"
39. Fab Four film
43. Otherwise
44. Character
45. Poetic meadow
46. Mideast capital
49. Goose speech
50. Time zone
51. Froth

Down

53. Big laugh
55. Astronomer
58. Choker
62. Destination of the disgruntled?
65. Dirty coat
66. Sea gear
67. Ball field covering
68. Barley beards
69. 1980's-90's ring champ
70. Cut down
23. Attracted
24. Taste, e.g.
26. Cake part
27. Ancient editorial marks
28. Buddy-buddy
30. Pole position?
32. "South Pacific" hero
33. Trig functions
34. Foot the bill
37. Dislike intensely
40. Flyers
41. Like old recordings
42. Obliquely
47. Slay
48. Most healthy
52. Compassion
54. Licks
55. Cultivate
56. Long, long time (var.)
57. Sonata, e.g.
59. Daunting exam
60. "Buona ___" (Italian greeting)
61. Glimpse
62. Fed. construction overseer
63. Blood group system
64. Gabriel, for one

Answers on page 20

Fall Back-to-School Junior Fashions

Bloomingdales, Tyson's Corner

This fall, fashion is all about pretty blasts of color, layering and fun, comfortable footwear.

*Enjoy these junior fashion selections from Bloomingdales ... and **Happy Fall!***



Left: Ralph Lauren cobalt blue pants with polo top and cobalt blue vest. Sperry top sider deck shoes and cobalt blue cashmere hat.

Above: Plaid Ralph Lauren skirt with white shirt and navy cardigan, both Ralph Lauren. Canvas and leather Marc bag by Marc Jacobs.

Above Right: Aqua navy and green print dress with front zipper worn with French Connection faux fur vest and Uggs tan boots. Bright Blue Marc purse by Marc Jacobs.

Right: Ralph Lauren Blue shirt dress worn with navy Ralph Lauren vest and Hunter navy boot.



Did You Know...

Karen's knowledge is *Your Advantage.*

Opportunity knocks when you work with Karen, Call Today.

PRICE REDUCED
4 BR, 2.5 BA, 3320 sqft
3.61 acres
Lovettsville
\$499,900
LO7648635

NEW LISTING
4/5 BR, 4 BA, 4582 sqft
3 acres
Purcellville
\$599,999

NEW LISTING
3 BR, 1 BA, 1233 sqft
.57 acres
Hamilton
\$205,000
LO7690789

PRICE REDUCED
4 BR, 4 BA, 3712 sqft
27.34 acres (in 2 lots)
Purcellville
\$799,990
LO7666437

5 BR, 5.5 BA, 5385 sqft
1.02 acres
Ashburn
\$875,000
LO7643790

5 BR, 4.5 BA, 6000 sqft
5.67 acres
Waterford
\$749,990
LO7646069

LAND FOR SALE
10.90 acres
Backs to N Fork of
Catoctin Creek
Purcellville
\$225,000
LO7633474

FOR SALE
COMMERCIAL
1700 sqft Currently
Used as Retail
.30 acres
Leesburg
\$599,000
LO7643462

FOR RENT
6 BR, 4.5 BA, 5816 sqft
Pets Considered
Leesburg
\$2900/month
LO7640052

UNDER CONTRACT
5 BR, 4.5 BA, 5931 sqft
3.32 acres
Hamilton
\$745,000
LO7600641

UNDER CONTRACT
4 BR, 3.5 BA, 3412 sqft
.89 acres
Lovettsville
\$424,900
LO7647469

UNDER CONTRACT
4 BR, 2 BA, 2592 sqft
3.07 acres
Purcellville
\$449,900
LO7594540

UNDER CONTRACT
3 BR, 3.5 BA, 1566 sqft
Lakefront
South Riding
\$289,900
LO7635308

SOLD
4 BR, 3.5 BA, 5015 sqft
12.33 acres
Berryville
\$574,900
CL7634251

YOUR HOME HERE
Call Karen today and let HER knowledge be YOUR advantage - She will get you moving!

Karen Cooper
Experienced. Supportive. Professional.
Your Native Loudoun Expert.

540.454.0467 Cell
703.554.6668 Office



KarenCooperRealtor.com

44075 PIPELINE PLAZA, SUITE 225 ASHBURN, VA



FROM THE FARM

Uta and her husband Sam operate Crooked Run Orchard.

By Uta Brown

I am trying to out maneuver the stinkbugs. They are supposed to start going inside or hibernating around the middle of September. (I don't believe it.) However, now is the time to plant your fall greens, in the early/mid part of September, when the nights start to cool down so that the temperature of the soil isn't too hot for the seeds to germinate.

This is a bit tricky but if you hit the timing just right, the seeds can germinate in as little as three days, provided they are fresh. Many people leave their gardens unused once the last of the tomatoes and peppers are picked. But, Virginia has a long growing season and many greens can overwinter. Spinach, romaines, kale, collards. Even without protection these greens will make it through to spring and start to regrow. With a little added protection they should make it easily through November and even beyond.

Winter Greens



With a simple covering of clear plastic sheeting, held up by plastic hoops, you can heat the air space your greens are growing in by thirty or forty degrees above the ambient temperature. They will be toasty on the coldest days of winter if the sun is out. During the coldest and shortest days they will survive and go into a dormant state. Either way, you can have your greens most of the year. Seeds planted anytime in the fall will vernalize and come up the next spring. This gives you two or more weeks ahead of seeds planted in the spring, since the seeds resting in the soils have been "primed" for the warm weather and will germinate at lower temperatures.

I am growing bitter melons. I love this odd tasting vegetable. So far the stinkbugs seem to be leaving it alone, and that makes me wonder if, since it's been grown historically in exactly the area from which the stink bugs came, perhaps it has developed some form of resistance. If not, I will find out soon, as the melons are forming.

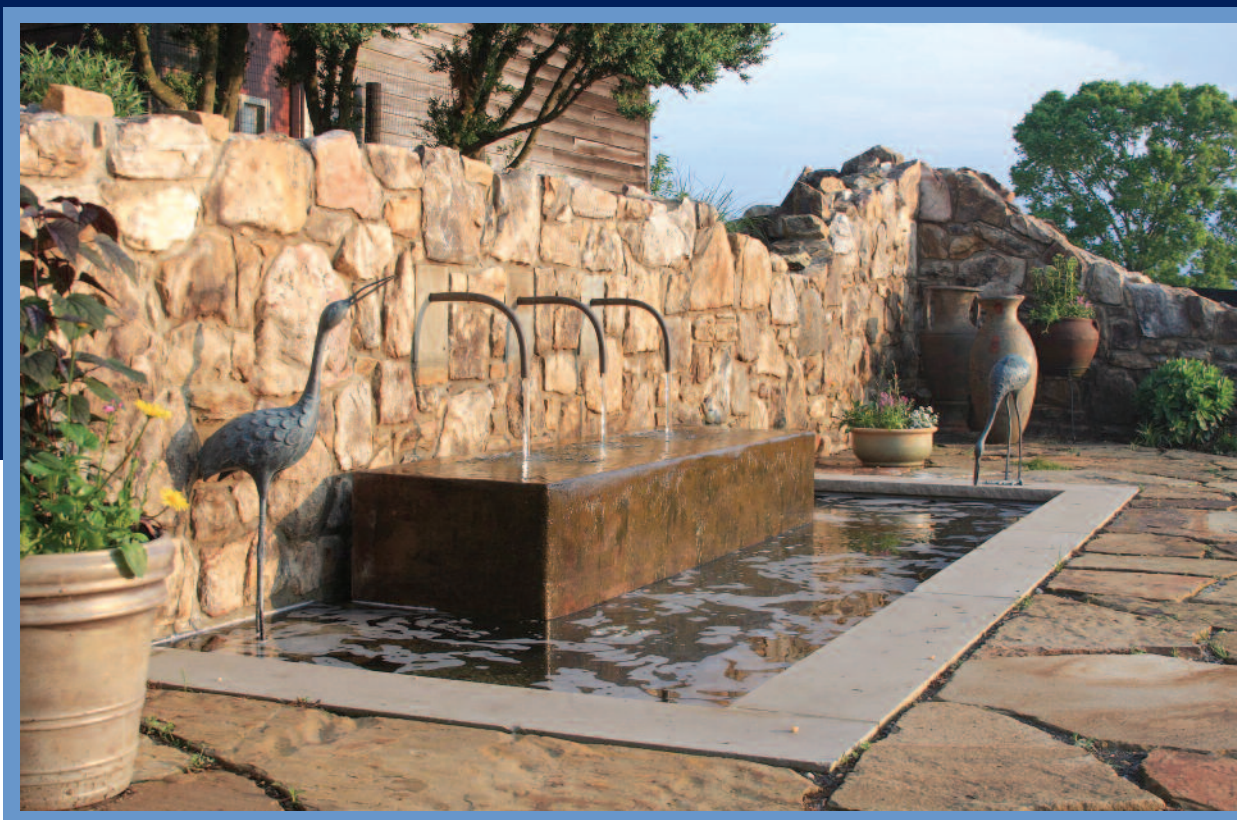
When growing greens for winter pick the lettuces that do well up north. Most romaines are good winter growers. Bloomsdale spinach is fine, but so are many other types of spinach. Any kales, chicories and broccolis, especially the sprouting kind, can be grown now. Even vegetables with a sixty-day maturity date will mature sufficiently to harvest. Beets and chards can also be grown but expect that you will pick them very young for salads.

I'm growing several types of cichoriums, types of dandelions that chemical companies love to eradicate. The bitter greens, along with herbs and nuts, berries and other leafy greens are among the "super foods," so you should try to include them in your diet for as long as possible, and as long as you can possibly pick them fresh from your garden, before you start to depend on the greens in the store. Store produce can never be as good as your own, especially if you grow them organically.

Since the stinkbugs climb over everything, probe everything and lay waste to everything, they will, hopefully, be gone by the time your greens are large enough to attract them. As I was preparing the old chard bed, I noticed them scurrying over the ground. I buried some, but they seemed to come right out of the soil!

Planting herbs all around and between your crops has always been an organic device to shoo away insects. Insects loathe anything in the mint family, and many herbs, including perennial ones, are "mint" species. Gina Faber, who organizes the Round Hill (Organic) Community Garden, and Julia Brizendine from FeedLoudoun stopped by, and Julia suggested using mint extracts in sprays for stinkbugs. This was very smart. While they have eaten or infected many other crops in my garden, the stinkbugs haven't touched any of the herbs!

To speed up the germination of the seeds ... fill a 50- or 72- cell tray with potting soil, or good compost, plant several seeds in each cell and keep the tray at between 65 and 75 degrees, which is what most people keep the temperature of their house. If your seeds are fresh they can germinate in three days. Immediately after they germinate, put the trays outside in the sun so that the cool air and bright sun will assure that the plants don't get leggy. (Even without sun, outside is better.) Putting the tray by a window, unless it is a very sunny window, provides insufficient light. As long as the temperature remains mild - in the fifties or forties at night - the tray can remain outside. Most seeds germinate at temperatures about ten degrees warmer than they like to "grow on". Keep the seedlings growing until they are a couple of inches high, then transplant into the garden. Most of these greens will do fine until heavy frosts, after which they can be protected by any number of different kinds of cloth or specialized covers sold in the garden catalogs.



CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR OUTDOOR LIVING

WILDWOOD LANDSCAPE is the premier landscape design and construction firm serving Northern Virginia and southern West Virginia. At WildWood we believe that landscaping is a fine art, and should be practiced with the same care, thought and skill as other high art forms.

WildWood Landscape offers the full range of services from concept to maintenance including:

MASTER PLANS

The master plan is a collaboration between you and one of our talented designers resulting in a scaled drawing of your home, property and landscape. The master plan reflects your style and vision for your property. All of our designs are one of a kind and are created with every detail in mind specific to the property.

Another attribute of the master plan is that it allows the homeowner to install the entire project in phases as their budget and lifestyle needs dictate.



LANDSCAPES

All of our projects are designed with aesthetics, functionality and sustainability in mind. We pride ourselves in our ability to design dramatic and exciting landscapes regardless of the style. We demonstrate great care when implementing our designs. Our plant material is hand selected and skillfully installed.



MASONRY

Using very traditional methods of stone construction, we hand select the materials to make the garden spaces feel like an outdoor extension of the home. Our masons are skilled in a variety of stone and brick work. We build walkways, patios, seat walls, retaining walls, fireplaces, fire pits and pool decks all done in house.

OUTDOOR KITCHENS

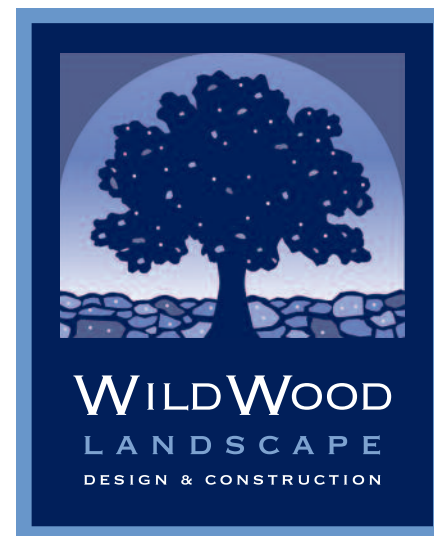
Just as the kitchen is the center of your home, an outdoor kitchen is a great gathering place. We have installed numerous outdoor kitchens of many different sizes and styles.

WATER FEATURES AND POOLS

Natural ponds and waterfalls are beautiful and tranquil. Our water creations are designed and built to blend into the surrounding landscape. The sound of a waterfall is relaxing. Wildwood designs swimming pools, ponds, streams and fountains in all different sizes and shapes.

MAINTENANCE

Let us help you preserve your investment by maintaining your property after installation. We have a knowledgeable and experienced crew dedicated to providing all maintenance services including: Mowing, lawn restoration and care, plant care and fertilization, pruning and weeding. Our talented gardening staff can change seasonal annuals in your beds and containers to keep your home and property fresh looking all year long.



CALL US TODAY AT 540.338.7190
TO SET UP A FREE CONSULTATION

► REAL ESTATE TICKER ► **SHORT SALES REVISITED** – BY CARL FISCHER

– By Carl Fischer



As first a real estate agent, then a principal broker, serving this community for the past twenty-three years, I've had the pleasure of helping many people move forward with their lives, through making changes in their real estate holding. Be it a rental, a move-up buy-sell, or a pre-retirement sale, each has provided me with a great opportunity to help others adapt to new realities as it suited their needs.

But none of these “normal” transactions can hold a candle to the mental, physical, and emotional demands of a “Short Sale”!

For one thing, most folks confronted with the need to “sell short”, are generally doing so against their will. And though, on occasion, they are simply reaping fruits of the financial seeds they had sown, in the past three years, a great many “good people” just got mauled by the dominoes

of a reality imposed upon them by circumstances they did not necessarily create.

So feeling “out of control”, they delay taking any action until often, they act too late.

If you owe more on your home than you can possibly pay right now, you need to step back and consider “Am I in over my head?”. If you have completely missed, or made only a partial payment on your mortgage (first OR 2nd trust, or equity line), and failed to “catch up” completely (read “interest, late fees, and penalty”), you may have already triggered a process that just gets worse as time goes by.

And if all you have on your side is common sense and an appeal to reasonableness, you may be on the front end of what I call a “Learning Experience”.

To make matters worse, the skill sets most residential real estate agents have lived by for most of their years in the business are NOT the specific skills now required to resolve your present dilemma. Let me explain.

Continued on page 20

Alpacas at
Hum Along
With Us

Larry & Ann Gross
Berryville, VA

Sunset Acres

www.alpacasatsunsetacres.com
thesunsetacres@earthlink.net
540-955-3529

Contact us about advertising
at advertise@brleader.com or call us!

Leave a message in our voicemail

(540) 338-6200 or speak to Carol

at (703) 727-5576 or

Judy at (703) 727-1321.

Dear Doug – Real Estate Q&A – ... is on vacation but will return soon!

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

COMPUTER & NETWORK

Technician / Retail – NOVA Computer Systems. We repair all PC brands. Mail resume to: NOVA Computer Systems, Inc., 9 Catocin Circle, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175. Email: sales@novacomputersinc.com.

PAID NURSERY ATTENDANT - ASSISTANT

Round Hill United Methodist Church, Round Hill, VA. Salary \$10.00/hr. Mature person needed each Sunday morning from 7:40 to 12:30p.m. Responsible for the care of children (birth to 48 months). References and background check required. Please submit a current resume to Office@roundhillumc.org.

FREE TO GOOD HOME

Free to good home, big yellow dog, needs yard with fence and a kid! Call Sarah, 540 338-1702, or cell: 703 501-4147.



Do you have
something to “Classify? Call Carol at
703.727.5576 or Judy, 703.727.1321.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

ACCESS NATIONAL BANK
Plaintiff

CASE NO. 2011-12706

v.

EGGERT R. NIELSON AND MICHELLE L. NIELSON Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

To:
EGGERT R. NIELSON
AND
MICHELLE L. NIELSON

You are hereby advised that you are named Defendants in an action pending in Fairfax County Circuit Court in Fairfax, VA identified as Case No. 2011-12706 and styled Access National Bank v. Eggert R. Nielson and Michelle L. Nielson (the “Lawsuit”). Said Lawsuit seeks judgment against you for breach of a Promissory Note executed by you in favor of Access National Bank.

You are required to appear in said Lawsuit to protect your interest on or before _____, 2011. In the event you do not so appear, default judgment may be entered against you without further notice for the amounts sought in said Lawsuit.

The Defendants in the above styled and numbered cause, Eggert R. Nielson and Michelle L. Nielson are non-resident individuals, having no known residence in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Eggert R. Nielson and Michelle L. Nielson.

The last known post office address for both Eggert R. Nielson and Michelle L. Nielson is 35115 Snickersville Turnpike, Round Hill, VA 20141.

The attorney for Access National Bank is John O. Long, III and he may be reached at 5240 Lyngate Court, Burke, VA 22015 – (703) 426-1914.

Govern yourselves accordingly.

/s/ Clerk of the Court

Clerk of the Fairfax County Circuit Court

Support Local Business Owners & Neighbors!



LINDA CULBERT
REALTOR®, ABR
Leesburg
508 E. Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176
Office: 703-777-2900
Cell: 703-431-1724
Office Fax: 703-777-5627
linda.culbert@longandfoster.com
www.LindaCulbert.com



NOVA
Computer Systems
Diagnostics • Repairs
Upgrades • File Recovery
We Service All PC Brands

703-777-8493 Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5; Sat 10-4
9 Catoclin Circle, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175
www.novacomputersinc.com

SPORT-QUILTS®
Quilts made from your personal collection of tee-shirts. A colorful memento of those great moments in your life. For information: www.sport-quilts.com.



Anne Tiffany
38748 Hughesville Rd.
Leesburg, VA 20175
(540) 338-6240

An ideal gift for yourself or a loved one!

LOUDOUN GARAGE DOOR, INC.
Residential/Commercial/Sales/Installations

- ✓ 24 Hour Emergency Service
- ✓ Low Prices & Monthly Specials
- ✓ Licensed & Insured
- ✓ Free Estimates on Replacements

– Visit us: www.LoudounGarageDoor.com –
703-327-3059 & 540-545-8800

A&H Excavating LLC
Specializing in land grading & clearing


Chris Alexander
(703) 431-1036
Daniel Hensley
(540) 454-1162



38050 Stevens Road
Lovettsville, VA 20180

TERRY'S TOWING
AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
AUTO DETAILING - PINSTRIPING - LETTERING

MOBILE (540) 454-3209 **Terry Reed** HAMILTON, VA. (540) 338-4386



Cobbler Kim's Shoe Repair Shop

HEELS/SOLES/ STITCHING/ DYEING/
STRETCHING/SHINING/SHOE LIFTS/

715 East Main Street
Purcellville, VA 20132
{ Loudoun Valley Shopping Center }

540-338-3171
Hours of Operation
M-F 8am - 7pm
Sat 9am- 5pm

Hair Designs by Rosemary
Master Haircutter Since 1969



- Stylized Perms & Coloring
- Precision Haircutting
- Facials & Massages
- Bridal Parties

Bluemont
540-554-2214
10 Years at this location.

Mary Kay Beauty Consultant 703-771-9311

Abernethy & Spencer Greenhouse
Loudoun County's Oldest Greenhouse



Flowers, Perennials, Trees
Shrubs, Landscaping
Maintenance, Stonework

(540) 338-9118 • Cell (540) 454-0884
www.abernethyspencer.com
18035 Lincoln Rd. • Maple Ave. • Purcellville, VA 20132



MUSIC JOY
Piano & Vocal Lessons
Composition & Music History Included
– For all ages, 2 to 92 –
– In-Home Visits –

Caprice Fox, BFA, Executive Director
Create_Music3@ownmail.net 703 431-9649

Muddy Paws
Pet Sitting

“Reliable, friendly care for your best friend.”

Ph: (540) 338-9545
M: (571) 528-4420
westietude@comcast.net




<http://home.comcast.net/~westietude>

THF Thousand Hills Farm
Grass fed & finished beef by the whole, half, or quarter.

540-338-9631

(Now forming advance customer list for March – May 2012 delivery)

Website: ThousandHillsFarmllc.com
Email: ThousandHillsFarm@live.com



On the Market ... with Sam Rees

Samantha Rees
Associate Broker
Cell: 703 408-4261

Licensed in Virginia



MARY WISKER
Realtor
President's Club
Serving Loudoun County




508 East Market Street
Leesburg VA 20176
Cell: 703-577-6015
Office: 703-777-5627
Mary.Wisker@LongandFoster.com




Your business card here ...
\$25 per month or 4 months for \$88.

Blue Ridge LEADER & Loudoun Today

Since 1984



Contact us about advertising at advertise@brleader.com or call us!

Leave a message in our voicemail (540) 338-6200 or speak to Carol at (703) 727-5576 or Judy at (703) 727-1321.

Dan Ouellette is Running Against Cancer



Dan Ouellette of Purcellville, VA, is running in the 11th annual B.A.A. Half Marathon® presented by Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund on Sunday, Oct. 9, as a member of the official Dana-Farber team.

Ouellette is among more than 400 Dana-Farber runners who are each committed to raising at least \$500 for cancer care and research at the world-renowned Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

“The B.A.A. Half Marathon enables Dana-Farber runners to challenge themselves while making a positive difference in the lives of adult and pediatric cancer patients worldwide,” says Jack Fultz, Dana-Farber’s training advisor and

1976 Boston Marathon® men’s champion.

The 13.1 mile rolling course is an out-and-back loop that runs along the Emerald Necklace park system. It will begin and end in White Stadium in Boston’s Franklin Park. The event attracts a field of 7,000 runners, including world-class athletes.

The B.A.A. Half Marathon is one of three annual events that connect the Boston Athletic Association and Dana-Farber. The Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk is the only walk sanctioned to take place along the historic Boston Marathon® route and the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC) includes a team of Dana-Farber runners who participate in the

Boston Marathon® each April.

Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund have partnered with the B.A.A. in the Half Marathon for nine years, enabling team members to raise more than \$2.6 million to fuel lifesaving discoveries.

To support Ouellette’s run go to www.RunDanaFarber.org/BAAHalf.

If you have registered to run the B.A.A. Half Marathon and would like to fundraise for Dana-Farber, please call the Dana-Farber Marathon and Running Programs office at (617) 632-1970 or (800) 551-7036; or send an email to dfrunners@dfci.harvard.edu.

Where the Race Stands – by Will Rodenberg

The Republican debate that was held on September 12th revealed many things as to what is developing in the race for the Republican Presidential nomination. Michele Bachmann, who was 1st in the straw polls in Iowa, is losing momentum and knows it, Ron Paul has been doing well in his race and fares nicely with the public, Mitt Romney seems like the most significant threat to Rick Perry’s current lead in the opinion polls, and the public has seen how Rick Perry defends his views when questioned about them.

Rick Perry has made two appearances at the Republican national debates since he announced his candidacy for President, and the debate began with many of his fellow GOP candidates criticizing him for certain controversies surrounding his tenure as Governor of Texas. Mitt Romney questioned Perry on his views of Social Security, referring to a statement Perry had made that the institution was a “Ponzi scheme” and “unconstitutional.” Michele Bachmann and Jon Huntsman targeted Perry for his notorious executive order requiring all Texas school girls to receive an STD vaccination, and candidate Rick Santorum questioned Perry’s opposition to the construction of a wall across the Mexico-U.S. border. Perry was assailed on all sides and held his ground. He did not flatly deny these criticisms, because they were true, but neither did he yield in his

opinion that he was doing the right thing. He explained clearly that his executive order for vaccinations had an opt-out alternative for parents who did not want their children to have the shot, and he defended his belief that adolescents should receive the vaccination to protect their health. Perry addressed his remark about Social Security as accurate because he believes that it “tosses aside any respect for the principles of federalism and limited government.” The Republican debate mostly featured attacks on Perry and then Perry’s opportunity to refute the allegations of his fellow Republicans, but the former Governor of Texas held his ground.

The Republican Party is in need of a non-polarizing yet solidly conservative candidate if they are to pose a serious threat to Obama’s reelection. Although Michele Bachmann has gained a great deal of popularity, especially among the tea party, what the public is beginning to see is her receding popularity. She may be too polarizing a figure, and when it comes to garnering support on a purely emotional premise she has proven herself effective, however; Bachmann has never specifically articulated her positions on economic issues or political policies. She has instead rallied support through fiery condemnations of Obama’s handling of the economy and has shown no signs of dis-

cussing specific policies. Ron Paul has done well and recently placed second in the straw poll in Iowa, however; he has not received the media attention that he deserves. Perhaps he is not viewed as interesting enough or as a figure that could bring controversial attention, but his stated beliefs have often been direct and consistent. The Republican race for the presidential nomination is still early in its development but some things are certain. Rick Perry and Mitt Romney can be considered the candidates that America is most interested in. This may be because Republican voting block is becoming more serious about the election and is not as gullible to the pathos appeal that Bachmann uses. There has also been speculation as to whether Governor Chris Christie from New Jersey or even Congressman Paul Ryan from Wisconsin will enter the race, but at this moment the frontrunners seem to be the Romney and Perry. Much has yet to be seen by these candidates such as whether or not they can endure the great amount of stress that campaigning for the highest office in the country can yield.

Will Rodenberg is a senior at Fauquier High School. He served in the Page Program from September 2010 to January 2011. He hopes to pursue a career in politics.

► REAL ESTATE TICKER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Typically, in days gone by, a responsible owner faced with a difficult financial situation that is affecting his ability to pay his mortgage, would simply contact his local lender, tell his story, and respectfully work with the bank to figure out how to remedy the problem.

Not so today.

Since many of the residential mortgages originated in the past five years were “sliced and diced” then packaged as “Collateralized Debt Obligations” (CDOs), and ultimately sold to investors all over the world, the party they must deal with to remedy their non-performing loan issue is not their local bank, but rather a “loan servicer”.

And you’d probably be surprised to learn that the longer your loan stays delinquent, and the more “needs” you have to get your issues resolved, the more money that loan servicer gets to bill the holder of the note for the “services” he renders.

Their goals and yours, ARE NOT ALIGNED!

So, finally you decide to reach out to someone in the real estate community for assistance ... And here’s where it gets a bit tricky.

First off, that agent needs to know what type of loan you have (VA, FHA, Conventional) and if there is mortgage insurance on these loans. Then, he needs to know the magical formulas the various loan servicer’s “Asset Disposition” agents use to determine what they can, or will, do about it. There are many “box canyons”, or dead ends in this process; all of which simply add to time lost as the foreclosure clock ticks away. You may need to be “pre-approved” for a Short Sale before you enter into any agreement. To simply put your house on the market without that pre-approval only drives you back to square one and then you start all over again. And if you have a first

and 2nd trust (or equity line), you surely need to know which of the two creditors you reach out to first. It makes a difference. If the 2nd trust gets “wiped out” if the house goes to auction, why waste time negotiating with him when his decision has little impact on your final outcome? In this market, what you don’t know can, and likely will, cost you. Because while you are in the process of figuring out how to go about your short sale, the foreclosure clock has already begun to tick.

And THAT clock takes precedence over any short-sale effort you may initiate. Where are you in this process right now? Can a short sale be accomplished to the benefit of all parties? Absolutely! I’ve done it many times. But the process will require the utmost patience, confidence, understanding, and trust between the distressed owner and his agent. It’s not like any other process I have experienced in all of my years in this

business. So take a deep breath and do what you need to do for yourself and your family.

Carl Fischer has lived in Loudoun since 1969. Formerly in residential construction management and land development, he has been in real estate since 1989.

Answers to crossword puzzle from page 14

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

"It was one of the most meaningful holiday gifts I ever received!"

This holiday season, The Blue Ridge Leader is helping nonprofits reach out to our readers for holiday donations. Consider making a donation in a loved one's name, giving a membership, or just showing your support! These nonprofits can use your gift to make the future brighter for all!

Support the *Arts!*

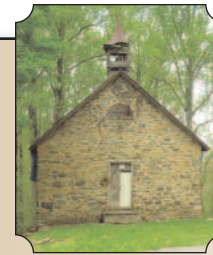
Give something wonderful this holiday ... a **Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center MEMBERSHIP!** We're Loudoun's only Performing Arts Center & welcome new members!



For information on membership benefits and discounts go to www.FranklinParkArtsCenter.org & click on "Support."



Preserving Loudoun's heritage for over 30 years. Join or give a gift membership to make a difference in Loudoun. Visit us on Facebook. www.PreserveLoudoun.org



Black History /Lincoln Preservation Foundation
... Help restore one of the first legal African American churches in Virginia!

Send donation to "LPF", PO Box 44, Lincoln, Va 20160
www.lincolnpreservation.org



Loudoun County Christmas in April

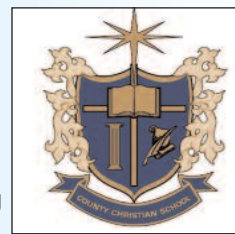
Donations can be mailed to:
Rebuilding Together
PO Box is 4381 Leesburg 20177

Loudoun County residents with a dry, safe or warm need can get an application by calling and leaving name/address on the voice mail at 703-771-7186. Deadline for applications is 1/30/2012.

Please consider helping local residents in need.

County Christian School

3 years through 8th grade. Only ACSI accredited school in Loudoun County! Rigorous Academics; Diverse Athletic Program; Strong Spiritual Life and Missions Emphasis.



www.CountyChristianSchool.org
703-729-5968

The Loudoun Community Health Center provides medical, dental and mental health care to anyone in need, regardless of your age or ability to pay, whether you have insurance or not.

Loudoun Community Health Center

www.loudounCHC.org

Letters to the Editor,

continued from page 11

community the Loudoun County Republican Party has proven to be.

Running against her own record with the big money support of developers is the only way Mrs. Clarke can win in November.

– Nick Pelchar, Purcellville (Nick Pelchar served on the Purcellville Town Council from 2002 to 2006.)

The Most Basic Economic Factor of All

Certain candidates for President want to abolish the Environmental Protection Agency. Maybe they never had a child with asthma. Maybe they never lived in a community that lost everything when the wildlife sportsmen came to find were all gone. Maybe it's an anti-science thing – a (political) refusal to see the connection between conserving and protecting our natural resources and our economic security ...

China has been drinking this Kool-Aid for decades – believing that economic growth was incompatible with strict environmental laws – and it is paying dearly for it.

Some economists estimate that China's environmental problems cost the country up to 8% of its GDP – in additional healthcare costs, loss of productivity, premature death, soil erosion, loss of crops and fisheries (and exports), and more.

The bottom line: clean air, clean water, healthy soils, diverse, naturally productive habitats – all the things that EPA's detractors say are a burden on the US economy – are actually its lifeblood.

Make the EPA's environmental regulations meet a cost/benefit test? Of course. But, as we do we need to put the actual numbers into the equation – not the flimsy "environmental laws cost companies billions" rhetoric that the US Chamber of Commerce and its favorite politicians are campaigning on.

A healthy environment is worth big bucks ... long term big bucks. Let's hold on to it for the beauty and economic security it represents.

– Andrea Gaines, Lincoln

Priscilla Godfrey, continued from page 9

Precalculus, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Mathematics, Discrete/ Probability & Statistics, Advanced Functions & Modeling and AP Statistics. Summer school is no longer for redos as many students use it to get ahead in their core subject areas including math and science. I am pleased to report that more and more women graduate from LCPS and go on to college to take up engineering, still a non-traditional career for women. Many of our high schools also offer extracurricular opportunities to explore the environment and conservation practices which has led to students taking up alternative sources of energy as a sub-

ject area in college. We will continue to improve and expand our science and math education as we work with our business partners on the Monroe Vo-Tech board of directors and the HHMI organization.

– Priscilla B. Godfrey, Blue Ridge District Representative and Vice Chairman Loudoun County School Board

Priscilla B. Godfrey, Member of Loudoun County School Board 2004 to the present; resident of Philomont, VA for 32 years; mother of 3 children; member of Rotary Club of Purcellville, Loudoun Volunteer Financial Council and Philomont Ladies Auxiliary.

www.kidscloset.biz (Click on Loudoun County)



Save 60-90% off retail prices!

Popular Items Include

- Infant, Children & Maternity Clothing
- Baby Furniture, Strollers, Car Seats, etc.
- Pack N Plays, Swings & Highchairs
- Toys, Books, Videos and much more!

**Children's Consignment Sale
No Admission Fee!**

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY,
LEESBURG, VA
(ACROSS FROM THE AIRPORT)
41905 Loudoun Center Place,
Leesburg, VA

Public Sale: Oct 6th - 8th
(Most items ½ price on Sat. Oct 8th)

Sale Hours
Thursday October 6th 10am-7pm
Friday October 7th 10am-7pm
Saturday October 8th 9am-2pm

Loudounco.va@kidscloset.biz

On the web with daily updates at www.brleader.com

– Sushi ... “Tails” from the Barn Yard –

MY MASTER, ELAINE BOLAND RUNS FIELDS OF ATHENRY FARM. ORDER HER FRESH MEATS AND PRODUCTS AT WWW.FIELDSOFATHENRYFARM.COM.



As time goes by memories come and memories sometimes float in and out as we choose them to. I guess life's lessons are what memories are really all about. Life's lessons can be full of love and then they can be as nasty as stepping on an active bee hive.

Trotting down my well worn paths along Beaver Dam Creek, I was in one of those “I'm all alone in this world mood, and nobody loves me”. I was basically kicked out from under the kitchen stove as Mrs. B. was having one of her very own melancholy moments. She clearly wanted to be miserable all alone.

What's a guy to do I ask? Leave, and that's just what I did. Tail tucked under I slinked out the kitchen door into the garage and out to the long farm drive. Looking back over my shoulder, I shrugged at the thought of; what could I have possibly done to upset Mrs. B.? I headed towards the barn that led me on down to Beaver Dam Creek. It has been raining so much the creek was flowing rapidly and Freddy Frog and Tommy Toad were having a “hay day” in the creek side puddles.

“Why so glum?” Freddy Frog croaked to me, in his deepest of deep voice. “Mrs. B. seems to be in a terribly sad mood today and basically kicked me out right from under her feet at the kitchen stove!” Tommy Toad trilled in his Toady voice;” I wonder what that's all about? It isn't like Mrs. B to be so gloomy.”

Freddy Frog said; “we amphibians don't have time to be gloomy. We have too much to be grateful for with all of this rain. Rain, Baby, Rain!” Freddy and Tommy had all the little Froggies and Toads playing along the Beaver Dam creek bed, jumping off the rocks and swimming on their backs. Looking up into the sky they all were enjoying life on these



cloudy, misty, rainy days. For you see, as long as the rain came, old Hattie the witch, with the big bump, on the very tippy top of her long crooked nose would stay away. Hidden in the ancient pine trees that stood around” Devils Falls” where the mountain waters cascaded down treacherous rocks, Hattie lived in her dark, dark dungeon. Before every

Halloween, Hattie was notorious for hunting little froggies and toads for her horrible witches brew. I shuddered at the thought of it!

I decided I was not going to get much sympathy here so I traveled back up towards the barn. There I came upon Mr. and Mrs. Bronze and Mr. and Mrs. Bourbon Red turkeys. Both sets of parents were proudly dancing along the barn drive, only the way turkeys can. The gentlemen had their wings puffed out popping air in a swooshing sound. Their tail feathers flared as they twirled in their turkey dance. Of course they were purposefully showing off their handsome selves to the ladies. Mrs. B. says that turkeys are so ugly they are beautiful. I have to agree! One by one Mr. and Mrs. Bourbon Red's turkey poults came running out from behind the barn wall. They were chasing after a little yellow butterfly. The baby poults were so funny to watch. Next, Mrs. Bourbon Red clucked away calling them over to a wiggly worm. Mrs. Bronze clearly was not going to be outdone. She called loudly for the little Bronze family of turkey babies to join in the worm chasing fun;” One, two, three, four, five, six, Bronze babies. I could see Mrs. Bronze was clearly relieved as between the barn cats and the red fox, turkey babies can often be an easy lunch!

As I lay there watching the barn yard activity, I could not help but wonder about what made Mrs. B. so sad today?

Everyone else around the farm seemed to be so happy! Hattie the witch was in hiding from the rain. The turkeys were strolling proud with their new turkey clutches, and ... that's it! Turkeys! Mrs. B. was sad because Thanksgiving was coming! Why didn't I think of that sooner!

I dashed back to the farm house as quick as my little Cairn Terrier legs could carry me. Just as I thought, I found Mrs. B. all by herself looking at family photos of the people she loved so dearly. These were the family members who would not be here with her and Mr. B., at this year's Thanksgiving table. I gently laid my head on her lap, blinking my big brown eyes and twitching my wiry eye brows at her.

She stroked my head and gave me a kiss ... her way to say thank you and ask my forgiveness for her earlier behavior towards me. A tear rolled down her cheek.

I flashed my brilliant white tooth grin as if to say “come follow me” and dashed around in a circle leaping up and down and faced towards the door. She got my message and the two us walked down the long farm drive together, towards the barn. There Mr. and Mrs. Bourbon Red and Mr. and Mrs. Bronze were in the middle of the farm yard proudly watching over their new turkey babies chasing butterflies. Mrs. B. grinned, laughed and sighed all at the same time “the circle of life Sushi, the circle of life.”

I knew right then and there our Thanksgiving this year was going to be perfect. A Thanksgiving bound to be filled with many new memories to be had.

Come out to the farm and see all our new turkeys – they are sure to bring you joy! Love, Sushi (P.S. Email me! My new email address is Sushi@FieldsOfAthenryFarm.com.)

Ask Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

may simply be frustrated with your parents. You could broach the topic with him in a loving and respectful manner, and see where it goes. I am hopeful that your husband's frustration will lessen, and you will get yourself out of the middle, once the two of your clarify things.

Dr. Mike, There's really no kind way to put this, but my husband has horrible table manners. I have always tolerated it, but I'm now worried because our children are exposed to it and are getting old enough to notice. I don't want our children to eat like barbarians with their knife and fork, but that is exactly what their father models to them. We've been married for nearly 14 years, and I have never spoken to my husband about his table manners. I don't even know where to begin and could use some advice. – J. in Loudoun County

J., Knowing how to hold and use a knife and fork appropriately is an important social grace. And while you have ignored this difference between you and your husband for much of your relationship, your children are now forcing the issue to light. I would caution you not to make the problem bigger than it is. For whatever reason, your husband was not taught the niceties of dining by his parents like you were, so this may not even be a topic that matters much to him. He may, however, take offense if he feels you are being critical or judgmental of him. Because of this, I would focus the conversation on how important it is for you for your children to be raised with formal table manners. You can even add that it was important to your parents and now it is important to you as a mother. Make it your shared issue to address and not his problem to correct. You may also want to consider cotillion classes where your children learn their table manners outside of the home and from someone neutral. Cotillion classes would further serve to respect your husband, as you then would not be the boss at the dinner table correcting everyone on their manners. My hope would be that your husband will subtly get the message to improve himself by eating more gracefully while his children are learning to do the same.

Dr. Mike, My husband and I are convinced that our 15 year old daughter is smoking marijuana. We have plenty of proof to support our position, but she adamantly denies any and all drug use. Even when we recently discovered a pipe with marijuana residue in her bedroom, she told us that she was just “holding it for a friend.” She gets

very defensive with us whenever we broach the topic, and she will remain angry with us for days. We purchased a drug test from CVS last week, and we were surprised to find that her results were negative when we tested her. Are these tests reliable? Could our daughter have tricked the test? We really need to get to the bottom of this.

– J. and F. in Leesburg

J. and F., I think you have three issues to deal with as parents. First, I agree that you need to find out for certain if your daughter is smoking marijuana. Over the counter drug kits are not as reliable as professional tests, and yes, those drug kits can be tricked in a variety of ways. For this reason, I recommend doing hair follicle testing and not a standard urine screening for your daughter. Hair follicle testing can detect marijuana, as well as other illicit drugs, in the system for up to 90 days. ARCpoint in Herndon is the only lab and agency in all of Northern Virginia that does hair follicle testing. I believe the cost for the service is \$75. Now, to the second issue. If you do get your daughter tested, and the results do come back positive, I recommend taking her to a psychologist for an assessment and possibly treatment. A psychologist will be able to identify the seriousness of your daughter's marijuana use and then work with your daughter to eliminate the negative behavior entirely. The third issue involves the apparent discord in your relationship with your daughter. While some of the discord you are describing could be explained by teen angst (after all, adolescents are supposed to differentiate and pull away from their parents somewhat in developing greater autonomy and independence), her upset seems to go beyond that. I am concerned that your trust and communication with daughter is strained. In my opinion, your daughter's psychologist could address any family dynamic problems that are exacerbating or worsening your daughter's wellbeing. Lastly, even if you do test your daughter and the testing results come back negative, I still recommend a consultation with a psychologist to address your daughter's strong, negative and reactive mood and peer relations.

Michael Oberschneider “Dr. Mike” is the Founder and Director of Ashburn Psychological Services (APS), a private mental health clinic comprised of 12 MD and PhD level mental health clinicians. He and his team are here to serve our Loudoun children, teens and adults. To learn more about Dr. Mike and the APS team, please visit: www.ashburnpsych.com or (703) 723-2999.



Oh, go take a hike! – By Molly Pinson Simoneau

Lost and Alone: Be Prepared!

I'm always looking for new local hikes to share with Blue Ridge Leader readers (and to enjoy myself!).

On my most recent outing, I was exploring an area near Frederick, MD where I'd never been before. The weather was gorgeous, and I was enjoying the softly ascending trail which meandered through the woods, and passed still ponds. I arrived at a vista which provided a perfect view of the valley, where I enjoyed my peanut butter sandwich, before continuing on the second half of my trek.

Then, about a mile later, something happened to me that has never happened in all my years of hiking. I lost the trail.

I was just marching along, as I always do, and then, I wasn't sure which way to go. The trails weren't very well marked, and the beaten path seemed to just fade away. My written guide said to look for the trail to veer off to the right. I looked for fallen leaves pulverized by dozens of footsteps, or an opening in the forest brush, but just couldn't make out a path.

In a moment like this, many inexperienced hikers follow what they assume is a trail – figuring that if they keep pushing forward, they'll get back on track. It is exactly the kind of mistake that will land you on the Today Show, to tell Matt Lauer how you survived three nights alone in the woods eating insects before you were rescued.

If you ask me, that's not the best way to earn your 15 minutes of fame. In that moment where you're not sure where your trail goes, here's what you should do, and it's what I did: First, stop and think. I wasn't sure which way the trail went. I searched for a trail that continued forward but didn't see one. I knew that I still had the trail I came in on. Turning around and retracing your steps is always a safe option. I also had a topo map, compass and a written trail guide. I sat down and got them out of my pack.

Looking at the contour lines on the map, I was pretty sure I knew where I was, and I could see that there was a gravel fire road nearby which the trail had crossed earlier. I made the decision to try to make my way to that fire road. I oriented my map with the compass and began walking back towards the road, which eventually led me back to where I had parked my car.

This episode reminded me of how important it is to be prepared for the worst ever y time you hit the trail. When I'm hiking in an unfamiliar area, or on a trip longer than 5 miles or so, I always carry The Ten Essentials, many of which can be found at outdoor outfitter stores.

✓ Navigation: That means a map and compass. GPS units are great tools, but are useless once the battery power runs out.

✓ Sun protection: I usually wear a baseball cap. Sunscreen will also do the trick. It's also important to protect your eyes with sunglasses. This becomes crucial in exposed areas like meadows or deserts.

✓ Insulation: Even if it's warm outside, bring a sweatshirt as it can get cool at night or in the rain. As fall approaches a warm hat that covers your ears is essential.

✓ Illumination: A head-mounted flashlight is best.

✓ First Aid: Your kit should include bandages, pain reliever, antihistamine, and antiseptic ointment, and a cold compress, at the very least.

✓ Fire: You'll want something to light a fire, and kindling. I always bring a simple cigarette lighter and a zip-top bag full of dryer lint.

✓ Nutrition: In addition to my lunch I always bring a couple energy bars for emergencies.

✓ Hydration: Bring more water than you think you

need. I also like to carry water purification tablets that kill harmful parasites and bacteria found in stream water.

✓ Shelter: I carry a small emergency bivy sack which folds up to the size of a fist.

✓ Communication: Cell phones are great, but not always reliable in the wilderness. A small mirror that you can use to reflect sunlight, or a whistle can get the attention of a search and rescue team if you ever find yourself in need of one.

Fortunately, most of these items have remained in the bottom of my pack unused. Carrying all of them might seem like overkill in a place that's not too far from town as are most of the hikes I recommend in this column, but in the tradition of the Boy Scouts, it's best to always be prepared.

“In a moment like this, many inexperienced hikers follow what they assume is a trail – figuring that if they keep pushing forward, they'll get back on track. It is exactly the kind of mistake that will land you on the Today Show, to tell Matt Lauer how you survived three nights alone in the woods eating insects before you were rescued.”

Molly Pinson Simoneau grew up in western Loudoun and enjoys hiking most weekends.



ACUPUNCTURE
& Related Healing Therapies

Loudoun County Acupuncture

*Deeply healing therapies & care from Barbara Mikula
MSOM, L.Ac.*

*Give yourself welcome relief from
Stress, Headaches, Digestive Distress,
PMS, Premenopausal Symptoms and
Fertility Issues.*

Acupuncture and traditional Oriental Medicine are ancient healing systems suited for modern times. Call to discuss your needs – 703.328.6648.

www.LoudounCountyAcupuncture.com • 117 North 21st Street • Purcellville, VA • 20132

Purcellville
Salon Nails and Spa

**SALON SERVICES (CUTS, COLORS, PERMS & HIGHLIGHTS)
SPA MANICURE & PEDICURE - ARTIFICIAL NAILS
WAXING - FACIAL TREATMENTS
BROWNS & LASHES TINTING
BODY TREATMENTS - SUNLESS TANNING
MASSAGE SERVICES - FOOT REFLEXOLOGY**

**Gift Certificate Available*

**748B E. Main St
Purcellville, VA 20132
Office: 540-751-0220/0221
contactus@purcellvillespa.com
www.purcellvillespa.com**

TOWNS and Villages

HAMILTON – By Terry Moon

The Hamilton Town Council meets the second Monday of every month. There is always a public comment time at the beginning of the meeting. All citizens inside and outside the town limits are allowed to address the Town Council. Did you receive one of the new recycling or trash cans provided by the trash company? The recycling container holds more than our previous blue recycling bins and can be wheeled to the curb.

Jim Moon, a Hamilton musician, is inviting people to North Gate Vineyard on Sunday, October 9 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for a CD release celebration. Jim is one of the three members of Moon Music Band. The trio includes Mary Alyce Wicks and Debra Dalby. The acoustic trio have been performing locally for 3 years. They are known for their beautiful three part harmonies and unique arrangements of some old favorites. They encourage everyone to come out and celebrate with them while enjoy-

ing some great wine and listening to songs from yesterday and today. CDs will be available to purchase and through iTunes for downloading. For more information please visit www.moonmusicband.com.

Halloween approaches, have fun decorating your pumpkins and getting your costumes ready. In Hamilton, children are allowed to begin trick or treating at 6 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. Please turn on your outside lights and drive carefully through town.

LINCOLN – By Anne Tiffany

What does a horse trainer do when it's time for his horse to run in a race, but he doesn't have a jockey? Well, Arch Kingsley was in such a predicament on September 17. Arch had the horse he was training entered in a race over hurdles at Saratoga, NY, but his jockey was not available. So Arch mounted the horse, aptly named Here Comes Arch, and proceeded to ride the horse to victory by four lengths! To

make this event even more appropriate, the race was called Nine Pins, and Arch's number was the number nine. Arch Kingsley grew up here in Lincoln, and is the son of Kassie Kingsley, and the grandson of Mary Owen Chatfield Taylor. Congratulations Arch and Here Comes Arch!

On the evening of September 18, Jean Brown, Sarah Brown and Scott Maison hosted a "meet and greet" at Oakland Green for Malcolm Baldwin who is representing the Catoctin District and running on the democratic ticket for the Board of Supervisors. About 25 people from the local area came to hear Mr. Baldwin, and to participate in a question and answer session. Please note that the Hamilton precinct is now a part of the Catoctin District rather than the Blue Ridge.

Those of us who have lived in the Lincoln area for more than twenty years will be sad to learn that Bob Wilson died on September 17. Before he moved away, Bob used to be involved with the Lincoln Community League and the Lincoln community. He lived on Hughesville Road with his wife, Tony, and his two children, Robbie and Mandy.

A dessert baby shower was given by several members of the community for Kristin and Tim O'Rourke's first baby. The O'Rourkes moved into the pink house in Lincoln in early summer. Kristin's sister, Brianne, and husband, Jed, are even newer residents of Lincoln, having just arrived here in late August. Also, Ellie Daley, our official greeter of newcomers told me that twin boys were born this summer here in Lincoln. They are the baby sons of Katie and Chad Youngman, new residents of Brooks Lane in Lincoln.

Despite the rain, this year's Ice Cream Social was a great success. About sixty people gathered inside the parish hall of the Goose Creek Meeting House. I want to especially thank Lillian and Mike Roher for helping set and clean up for this event. Ellie Daley brought her usual homemade ice cream; this year's flavor was cantaloupe.

Lincoln's next event is the Pumpkin Decorating Contest which will be held on Sunday, October 30 at 4 p.m. in front of the Lincoln Post office. Last year there were 24 entrants.

Harriet Wegmeyer will make her delicious pumpkin cookies, and fresh apple cider will be on hand to drink. This is a reminder be sure to buy your stamps from Lincoln's post office, even if you don't have a mail box there. The income is an important way to help indicate that Lincoln's post office is active and viable.

Email Anne Tiffany with Lincoln news: jtiff70519@aol.com.

WATERFORD – By Ed Good

Loudoun Rangers: A Reenactment at the Waterford Fair

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, the Waterford Fair will feature Civil War reenactments – a must-see for

Civil War buffs, students, indeed for all fair-goers. A special group of reenactors – The Loudoun Rangers - will join the 8th Virginia (returning for their 25th year at the Fair) and the Stonewall Brigade to reenact historical skirmishes that took place in Waterford 150 years ago.

Samuel C. Means, whose house stands today on Bond Street in Waterford, was the Quaker owner of the Old Mill, which also stands today in Waterford. Despite his pacifist religious beliefs, Means traveled to Washington and accepted a commission to form a cavalry of disaffected Virginians who opposed secession and wanted to fight for the Union. He raised two companies, both mustered into service on June 20, 1862. Loudoun County, of course, was packed with Confederates. Means's mission: to raid, harass, and capture Confederate soldiers. Means's Loudoun Rangers made camp on the Maryland side of the Potomac River and pulled off quick strikes in Loudoun, Clarke, and Jefferson counties.

Elijah V. White

The archenemy of the Loudoun Rangers was Lt. Col. Elijah V. White's 35th Battalion, also known as White's Comanches. Both groups drew from the same population, and the surnames of many cavalrymen in both groups were the same. It was literally "brother against brother." The Battle at the Waterford Baptist Church on the night of August 26, 1862, Eliza Walker, residing at Talbot Farm just outside Waterford, had trouble falling asleep. Her husband was out of town, so at 4:30 in the morning, she got out of bed and began to write him a letter. Suddenly, Ring, the family dog, began baying at the top of his lungs. Eliza heard the clip-clop of horses. And then shots rang out. As she would later write to her husband, she "stepped to the front door and there heard ... much din, clamor, and noise, and rapid firing."

The Civil War battle at the Waterford Baptist Church had begun. The Rangers were encamped in the church, sleeping. White's men approached and shots were fired. The firefight between the White's Comanches and the Loudoun Rangers pitted brother against brother and neighbor against neighbor. When it was all over, several Confederates and Rangers lay dead.

Come and See The Loudoun Rangers

The reenactors of The Loudoun Rangers will demonstrate ... on horseback. Featured all three days of the Fair, the Rangers and the other reenactors will take you back in time to the days when the United States as a nation hung in the balance.

At the Waterford Fair, you'll enjoy not only the reenactments, but over 150 crafters from all over the United States. Music will fill the Village. And the Waterford Citizens' Association Barbecue Booth, located at the Old School, will sate your hunger. Waterford Fair: Oct. 7, 8, and 9. The gates open at 10:00 a.m. Parking available. Tickets available at the gates. See you at The Fair! Ed Good, President, Waterford Citizens' Association, ed.good@grammar.com.



Pick your own!

Pick your own apples ...
select your own pumpkins!

APPLES ... \$1LB.
PUMPKINS ... 49 CENTS LB.
Fresh cider first half of October!

Crooked Run Orchard
Purcellville, Va.



(50 cents lb. for windrops & ground apples – great for apple sauce!)

~ Pumpkins !!!!!!!

Farm is open Friday - Sunday, 9 am to 6 pm
(Also open on Columbus Day, 9 am to 6 pm)
No admission fee & parking is always free!

Please call the farm phone 540.338.6642 for periodic farm schedule & fruit availability updates.
Visit our website – www.CrookedRunOrchard.com. (No dogs allowed on the farm, please – safety first!)

Crooked Run Orchard, 37883 Main Street, Purcellville, VA 20132, at the intersection of Business 7 & Route 287.

Dahlias Tubers Need to Be Dug and Stored for Winter ... – By Donna Williamson



I get more sentimental in the fall. Though some call it the beginning of the gardening year with the planting of daffodils and tulips, I think about saying "see you later" to the main players in my garden.

The heirloom tomatoes that have not succumbed to disease look chubby with their abundant green leaves and happy yellow flowers waiting for a bee.

The dahlias are gorgeous, and the salvias fat and sassy. Coleus has never looked better. I scan the weather report for threats of frost. The tree canopy thins as leaves drop here and there.

Dahlias are lush, exuberant, and cheery. They seem to do their best for me in September and October when cool nights return. Colors seem more vibrant in the lowering sun of autumn.

Before the frost comes, I dig up my dahlias, cut off the foliage and flowers, and trim excess roots. Some folks wait for a killing frost to dig dahlias and cannas - I never liked the idea of salvaging a worthy bulb that had damaged tissue from frost.

I used to wash off the soil and let the tubers dry in the sun, but a talk by bulb expert Brent Heath at the Piedmont/Blue Ridge Horticulture Society (PBRHS.org) last year changed my approach. Brent told us water will encourage fungal growth and damage the bulb over the winter so now I just let them dry off in the sun and shake off excess soil. Once dried off, I wrap them in plastic wrap with a plant tag showing the name (if I have it) and put them in a big plastic jug that used to hold pretzels. Cleaned of food and salt, this container will show if excess moisture builds up and I can remove the top and allow for evaporation. Seems to work for me - I can carry most of my dahlia tubers through the winter and into the next growing season.

This year I expect to learn more. Don Dramstad of Leesburg will be sharing his experiences with members of PBRHS on October 15 at Blandy. So we will learn more about these fabulous tubers of the plant world.

There has been a big happy show from the asters as usual. The Korean mums bloom around the middle of the month, and the roses will shine into November. The fall

show of leaves will be a delight and of course I will plant more spring bulbs.

I hate to see October go. But then there is next year. I wonder which tomatoes I will try!



Donna Williamson is a master gardener, garden designer, and garden coach. She has taught gardening and design classes at the State Arboretum of Virginia, Oatlands in Leesburg, and Shenandoah University. Author, The Virginia Gardener's Companion: An Insider's Guide to Low-Maintenance Gardening in Virginia, dwfinegardening.com, 540-877-2002.



RENEWABLE FASHION BOUTIQUE

Little Greene Dress is **PINK** in October, with Special **PINK CRAZY** fun all month. Watch for details on "Facebook". We will be donating a percentage of our sales to "Loudoun Breast Health Network."

Coming Events:

Town-wide Tag Sale October 8 & 9;
Store open 9am – 5pm both days

Sat. - 10/8 - NovaGoldLLC professional 9am-1pm
Bring your gold, silver, and gems to sell

Sun. 10/9 – Register to win 1 free ticket
to "2011 Cinderella Tea"



Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter



Breast Cancer Month

Mon. 1 pm to 5:30 pm
Tues. – Fri. 10 am to 5:30 pm
Sat. 10 am – 5 pm; Closed on Sun.

Kelli Grim, President / CEO
"Chief Everything Officer"

Kelli Grim

609 E. Main St., #H (next door to Bloom)
Purcellville, VA 20132 (540) 338-8383

LittleGreeneDress@gmail.com www.LittleGreeneDress.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

VOTE FOR

**PRISCILLA B. GODFREY
FOR SCHOOL BOARD!**

- EIGHT YEARS ON THE LCPS SCHOOL BOARD;
- TWO YEARS VICE CHAIR;
- NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT – ELECT OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION;
- PAST PRESIDENT OF PURCELLVILLE ROTARY.



**PROVEN LEADERSHIP
KNOWN AND RESPECTED STATE-WIDE
STRONG ADVOCATE FOR EVERY CHILD**

www.GodfreyforSchoolBoard.com

FACEBOOK: Godfrey for School Board

PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY GODFREY FOR SCHOOL BOARD CAMPAIGN

Special Design Section ... Some of Our Favorite Before & After Photos

Fall has arrived and with it, the annual return of the nesting syndrome: As cooler weather drives residents from their outdoor porches and patios and into their inner sanctums, many people feel the urge to fix up – or nest – in an effort to maximize the indoor coziness factor.

Contractors in western Loudoun are starting to dust off

their work clothes and get back to business, following some of the most difficult economic times most of us have ever experienced. Consumers are coming out of the woodwork, many with the desire to make home improvements they could ill afford before the real estate bubble burst.

'Tis the season. Home improvement companies are offering

some of the best deals ever for everything from new windows to new additions.

The Blue Ridge Leader is happy to feature some of our favorite makeovers.

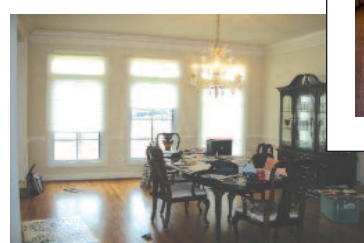
Dream Rooms – By Lauren Clement

This second story family room needed to be more cozy and inviting for this family to enjoy each other's company. So, I painted the inserts of the coffered ceilings a warm Moroccan red to bring it down into the room and warm up the space.

The draperies that extend all the way up to the ceiling also help to make the cavernous room feel less overwhelming. I used a sectional sofa for plenty of seating and a rich merlot area rug to anchor the space. This family now enjoys spending time in their comfortably elegant family room.



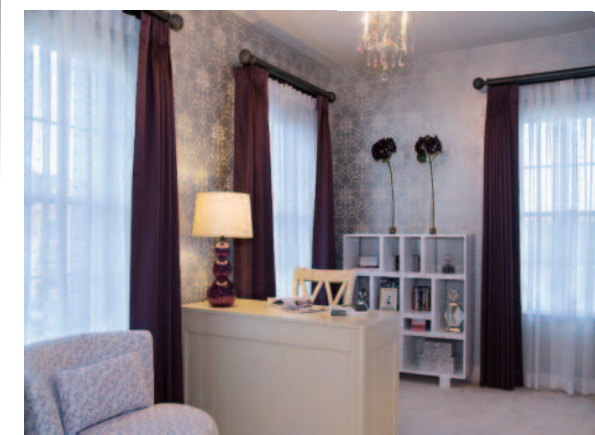
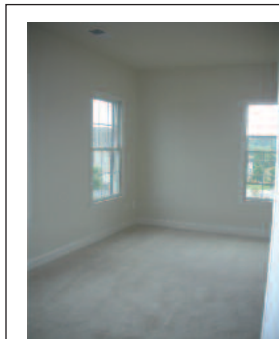
My client's dining room served as a catch all for about a year before she finally committed to making it a gorgeous space to entertain her friends and family. We knew we wanted to use a rich wallpaper to make the large space feel warm and inviting. The dining table is also unique in that it is an oval shape and not the traditional rectangular shape that most dining rooms sport. Due to young children and cats with claws being members of this household, we opted for faux leather on the chairs for durability,



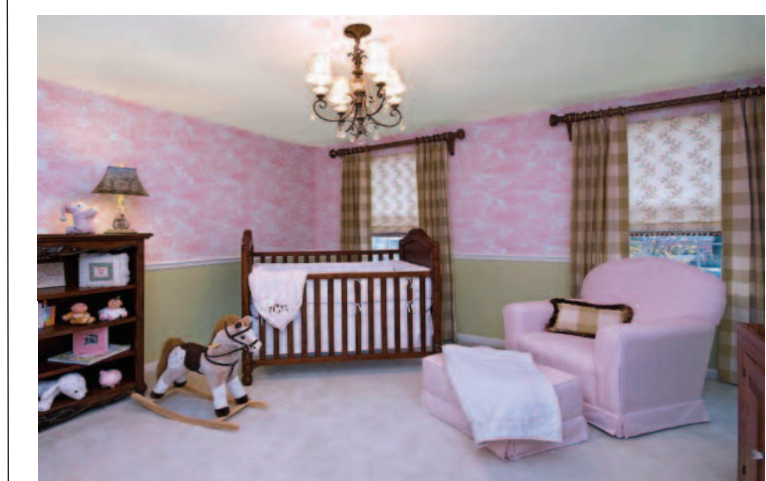
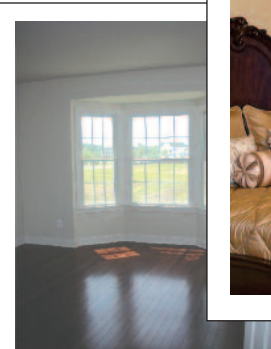
but used a crisp and current white color to make them pop in the room. The rich copper silk drapery panels are the perfect finishing touch to this now highly used and much loved dining room.

This is a teenager's study room

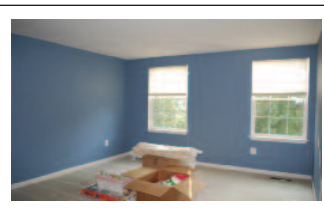
... She needed a fun place to do her homework, read her magazines, and talk with her friends and family who live in another country ... She wants to be a fashion designer, so she knew exactly the kind of inspirational feel that she wanted in this room ... She wanted metallics, deep purple and lace. This is a hip room that will grow with her throughout high school and beyond.



This beautiful guest room is on the main floor of this home so it can be seen throughout the day and by most visitors. Therefore, I wanted to make it neutral to flow with the rest of the main level. The monochromatic color scheme is warmed up with the rich root beer wood tones of the furniture. The linen, embroidered panels soften the room and provide a warm backdrop for the accent chair in the bay window. It is always nice to provide your guests with a place to sit other than the bed. The stunning floor length metallic mirror keeps the space feeling large and open and allows for a head to toe outfit check before leaving the room.



This nursery ... is not your typical baby's room that showcases teddy bears and zoo animals. Instead, I chose an upscale look for this very special little girl. I added the chair rail molding to separate the pink toile wallpaper from the spring green paint. The buffalo check draperies are a cheery backdrop for the dark mahogany nursery furniture. The oil rubbed bronze chandelier is dressed up with fabulous crystals that this adorable princess loves to gaze up at. Overall, this is one lucky little girl living in an incredibly chic room that will grow with her for years to come.



Lauren Riddiough Clement

Lauren Riddiough Clement is an award winning interior decorator and Decorating Den Interiors Franchise Owner. Her design philosophy is to marry beauty and function. She works closely with her clients to determine their likes, dislikes, needs and desires. Lauren's work has been published in the national interior design book, *Decorating ... the Professional Touch*, various *Decorating Den* publications, and many local newspapers and articles. Lauren speaks and shares her design philosophy regularly to women's groups, networking groups and the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce.



When Lauren is not decorating and running her business, she can be found enjoying time with her husband, Chris, her daughter Finley and her dogs and horse, Bogie. Life is busy but beautiful!

Kitchen Magic – By Cabinet Showplace

Cabinet Showplace is a design and sales center for fine cabinetry in Purcellville, serving northern Virginia and the DC Metro area. When it comes to kitchens and baths, area homeowners can count on them to create a fabulous space that reflects their needs, style and budget – whether it be a large custom home or a modest apartment project. Cabinet Showplace displays a complete line of kitchen and bath cabinetry and accessories in a fully appointed showroom and boasts a seasoned team of designers with more than 40 years of combined experience. Visit www.cabinetshowplace.com.

BEFORE/AFTER PHOTO DESCRIPTION: Remodeling project for Loudoun County homeowners, Rochelle and Scott Courtney. The kitchen was designed by Julie Fifield of Cabinet Showplace and installed by Stonegate Construction

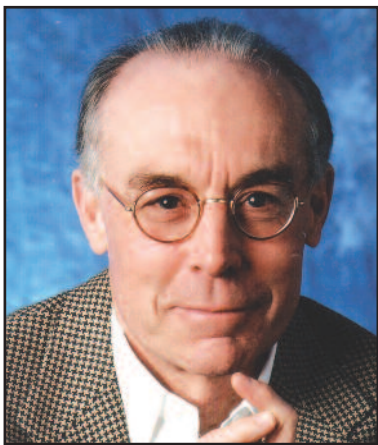


Photo by Alex Post, Stonegate Construction

Russell Versaci's World Class Cottages

– by Carol Morris Dukes

Versaci. The name evokes images of chic fashion design and jet-setting Italian runway shows. When you're a visionary in the world of architecture, it doesn't hurt to have a well-branded surname. Never mind that all-American Russell Versaci lives in Loudoun County, Virginia, and is only distantly related to the famous clothing design family. (They all hail from a teeny town – Calabria – in Italy.) His name is synonymous with class.



For most, our exposure to beautiful building design is confined to leafing through magazines in waiting rooms or office lobbies. Versaci has been featured frequently inside the pages of Southern Living, Southern Accents and Home & Design. His coffee table books with dreamy, sun-filtered interior rooms grace finer homes--and some of your more elegant office foyers.

New home buyers in recent years have been choosing boxy, style-devoid McMansions that offer cavernous interior spaces, and little else. Size matters. Or so we thought. With the recent economic slowdown, mort-

gage-wear weary homeowners are re-

evaluating their priorities and looking for smart alternatives to their big, hefty houses. Perhaps living large is not all it's cracked up to be.

Enter Russell Versaci and his Simple Cottages – part of his Pennywise line. Versaci challenges the McMansion ideal with his unapologetic "less is more" philosophy, creating comfortable homes with less than 1000 square feet of living space and an emphasis on traditional, classic building styles that stand the test of time. With careful attention to detail, his Simple Cottages offer elegant architectural style to those who prefer practicality over excess. Gone are bonus rooms



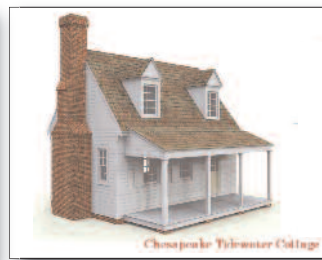
Above and right, "Piedmont Retreat" exterior and interior views.



and super-sized bathroom suites. Instead, Versaci sticks to the rooms people actually use, and puts the emphasis on design, craftsmanship, beauty and functionality.

A Simple Cottage allows the owner to experience high end, classic design, without wasting an inch of space.

Each of the ten cottages in his line is influenced by traditional American architectural styles. As stated on his website, Versaci "combines his mastery of history with the way we really live." Author of Creating a New Old House, this architect has devoted his career to the study of historic design, with an eye toward comfortable living today. His Pennywise Simple Cottages can be seen on his website at www.russellversaci.com.



Apple House Contracting, Inc.

The following kitchen renovation was done by Apple House Contracting, Inc., located in the historic village of Bluemont. They have been providing remodeling services to western Loudoun County for 22 years, building their reputation on reliability, professionalism and exceptional customer service.



The biggest challenge with this kitchen renovation was the tight size of the space and an existing water heater. The 13x11 foot kitchen was renovated with cherry cabinets, a soapstone counter, tile backsplash, and stainless steel appliances throughout. The water heater was removed and a tankless heater was tucked into an upstairs closet. In addition, an existing peninsula was removed to create more open space.

The Blue Ridge Leader is pledged to the letter and spirit of Virginia's and HUD's Equal Opportunity Housing Policies. Virginia's Fair Housing Law makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, elderliness, familial status and handicap. This newspaper will not knowingly accept advertising for real estate that violates the Fair Housing Law.



Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in the paper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. For more information about Virginia's Fair Housing Law, or to file a Fair Housing complaint, call the Virginia Fair Housing Office at 804.376.8530; toll-free 888.551.3247; for the hearing impaired: 804.527.4290; email – fair_housing@dpor.virginia.gov; web: www.fairhousing.vipnet.org.

Cabinet Showplace Fine Cabinetry for the Entire Home



540.338.9661
www.cabinetshowplace.com

Design and Sales

210 N. 21st Street, #E | Purcellville, VA 20132

Community & announcements

October

For a complete listing, please visit our Events Calendar on our website at www.brleader.com.

To see your community event here, please send us an email to: advertise@brleader.com!

Every Wednesday, 12:45 pm, Middleburg Duplicate Bridge, the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 15 W. Washington St. Open game. \$5.00. MiddleburgBridge@aol.com.

October 3 through November 12, "ELEMENTS" on Exhibit at Franklin Park Art Center. In this special exhibit, Loudoun's leading artists pay tribute to the classical elements of earth, wind, fire and water with paintings that depict their visions of the essential elements of life. "Elements" can be viewed during weekday business hours from 9 am to 5 pm.

Friday, October 7, 10 am, Waterford Fair. The gates open at



10:00 a.m. Parking available. Tickets available at the gates.

Friday, October 7 & 8 at 8 pm, October 9 at 3 p.m., Not Just Shakespeare, Inc. presents *Blithe Spirit*. Noel Coward's delightfully haunting comedy which makes a farce of love, marriage and even the grim reaper. This witty supernatural satire is perfect for the whole family. Tickets: 540-338-7973 or see information at notjustshakespeare.net. Group rates call: 540-338-6776.

Saturday, October 8, 10 am, Waterford Fair. The gates open at 10:00 a.m. Parking available. Tickets available at the gates.

Saturday, October 8, 10 am-5 pm Joshua's Hands Fall Festival. Western Loudoun County (Guthrie Farm) Directions on the website: 38327 Charles Town Pike Waterford, VA 20197, Joshua's Hands: www.joshuasHands.org, 540-454-7827.



Saturday, October 8, 7:30 pm, The Loudoun Symphony, opens their 2011-2012 Concert Season at the Virginia Academy – Community Church at 19790 Ashburn Road, Ashburn, Virginia 20147. Opening Night at the Symphony will be directed by Mark Allen McCoy, Music Director and Conductor and will feature Phil Munds, Principal Horn at the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

Sunday, October 9, 10 am, Waterford Fair. The gates open at 10:00 a.m. Parking available. Tickets available at the gates.

Friday, October 9, 3 p.m., Not Just Shakespeare, Inc. presents *Blithe Spirit*. Noel Coward's delightfully haunting comedy which makes a farce of love, marriage and even the grim reaper. This

Children's Nature Book Club, Every Thursday, 10 am to 11:15 am.

Children's Nature Book Club at Rust Nature Sanctuary in Leesburg for 3-5 year olds (accompanied by an adult). Book Club is lead by Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy volunteers and includes story, activity and music, all based on a nature theme, along with a hike. Please dress for the weather, and have mud boots available. Free for ANS members, \$3.00 per child non-members. ALL MUST PRE-REGISTER. Call Julie by Wednesday for more info, or to preregister ... 703 669-0000.

witty supernatural satire is perfect for the whole family. Tickets: 540-338-7973 or see information at notjustshakespeare.net. Group rates call: 540-338-6776.

Saturday, October 15, 7 pm – 9:30 pm Auction at the Bush Tabernacle (Purcellville) to Benefit Bill & Rebecca Yeatts & Their Four Children (who lost everything in a house fire). Contact Daniel Abramson, 540-338-1297 for details/donations.

Saturday, October 15, International Gold Cup, Great Meadow, The Plains, VA Gates open at 10 am. Ticket Information: General admission car passes are \$55 in advance, passes also available for purchase on race day. For ticket information contact the Virginia Gold Cup Association at 540-347-1215 or order online at www.vagoldcup.com.

Saturday, October 15, from 9 am to 5 pm 46th Annual Aldie Harvest Festival, Village of Aldie. Antiques, handicrafts, artwork, jewelry and collectibles, kiddie rides, pony rides, face painting, great food, live music and live Auction. The Auction will take place between the two Firequacker Duck Races on Little River. In the big Duck Race, which will be run at 3:30 p.m., more than 3,000 toy ducks will be staged in Little River and released to float downstream. One Duck will be worth \$100,000. The historic Aldie Mill, opened in 1808-09, will have grinding. Mike Devine will present the living history of the Mill and grind corn throughout the day. 17th Mississippi Civil War reenactors & the Blacksmith Guild of Northern Virginia. www.aldieheritage.com or www.villageofaldie.com.

Sunday October 16, following our 11 am service, Bethel United Methodist Church, 41799 Stumptown Road Lucketts, VA Please join us for our annual picnic; if you have a favorite dish, we'd love to try it! bring it along! For more info. 703-779-7745, www.cometobethel.org.

October 21-23, Sterling Playmakers, War of the Worlds. Join the Playmakers as they present this notorious old-style radio show, complete with sound effects. Excerpt of the show will be previewed at SterlingFest on October 8, 2011.

Saturday, October 22, 4 pm - 7 pm – Roszell Chapel United Methodist Church is having a Fall Feast – salad, chili, Brunswick stew, hotdogs, drinks, and dessert - at Cockrill's Hunter Oaks Farm at 19530 Silcott Springs Rd. about 4 1/2 miles south of Purcellville on Rt. 690. Come, enjoy the great food and country fun! All-you-can-eat! Free-will offering. Hope you can join us. 540-338-7833.

Friday, October 28, 6-10 pm, Hauntings Tours, Leesburg, VA. Tours leave from the Leesburg Town Hall every 15 minutes from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. For tickets and more information call 703-777-7427 or visit www.loudounmuseum.org/hauntings.html

Saturday, October 29, 6-10 PM Hauntings Tours, Leesburg, VA. Tours leave from the Leesburg Town Hall every 15 minutes from 6:00 to 10:00 PM. For tickets and more information call 703-777-7427 or visit www.loudounmuseum.org/hauntings.

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy Events, October 2011 – Details at www.loudounwildlifeconservancy.org

Birding Banshee – Saturday, October 8, 8:00 am. Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve monthly bird walk. Contact Joe Coleman at 540-554-2542 or jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org.

Birding the Lucketts Area □ Wednesday, October 12, 8:00 am. – 11:00 .m. Trip is co-sponsored with the Northern Virginia Bird Club. Questions: contact Gerco Hoogeweg at drgerco@hotmail.com.

The Fascinating World of Bats □ Wednesday, October 12, at the Carver Center in Purcellville, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Free adult program is sponsored by the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy. Questions: contact Joe Coleman at jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org.

Family Stream Day – Saturday, October 15, 11:00 am. – 3:00 pm. The 10th annual Family Stream Day is taking place this year at Loudoun Water (rain or shine) 44865 Loudoun Water Way, Ashburn, VA.

Sunday in the Preserve – Sunday, October 16, 1:00 pm. Free, informal family walk around the preserve. For information call the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve at 703-669-0316.

Birding the Blue Ridge Center – Saturday, October 22, 8:00 a.m. Free bird walk at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship (BRCES), a beautiful 900-acre preserve in northwestern Loudoun County. Directions: at www.brces.org. Questions: Joe Coleman at 540-554-2542 or jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org.

Identifying Hawks: A Class and Field Trip to Waggoner's Gap, Pa. October 27 and 29. Registration Required. (\$10/member or \$15/non-member). Sign up online at www.loudounwildlife.org/SignUp.htm or contact Laura McGranaghan: lmcgranaghan@loudounwildlife.org.



Aldie Heritage Association

Award Winning!
Visit Loudoun's
"Best Event 2010"

Visit the Village

Saturday, October 15th
9am – 5pm

46th Annual Village-wide Aldie Harvest Festival!

Join us for a day of...

- Vintage & Antiques Flea Market
- Craft & Jewelry Vendors
- Baked Goods & Great Food
- Kids' Fun Fest with Pony Rides, Face Painting & Moonbounce
- Living Historians & Historical Lectures
- Blacksmith Demonstrations
- Annual Duck Race* in Little River
- 2 Live Bands, Shopping & Fun



VISIT THE VILLAGE



Media Sponsor

Visitors can tour the restored Aldie Mill. Historical talks will be offered throughout the village. See the 17th Mississippi. 'Save the Date' cards redeemable for a free gift or coupon. Pick up a card at any of the shops in Aldie today!

Directions: West on Route 50 (John Mosby Hwy) into Loudoun County towards Middleburg. Go 1 mile west of Gilbert's Corner traffic circle (Intersection of Rt 15 and Rt 50).
FREE Admission \$5 donation for parking.

*Only A Buck per Duck! Sales ongoing until 3:30pm, Sat, Oct 15th or until supplies last.
Win \$100,000, a Paintball Party, a TV and lots of other prizes!
For more information, visit www.villageofaldie.com or call 703-327-5313.

My Grandma lives near us...  ...mine lives in another state. 

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com    Annimills LLC © 2011 V8-N36



Fun with Grandma and Grandpa

Hi! We are Penny and Ben. We are twins. Last weekend we went to visit our grandparents. They live in another state so we got to stay with them for a whole week. Grandma gave us lots of hugs. We baked desserts, rode bikes and played video games.

Grandpa helped us build bookcases. He took us on a walk every morning. He would buy his newspaper then let us choose a treat for later in the afternoon.

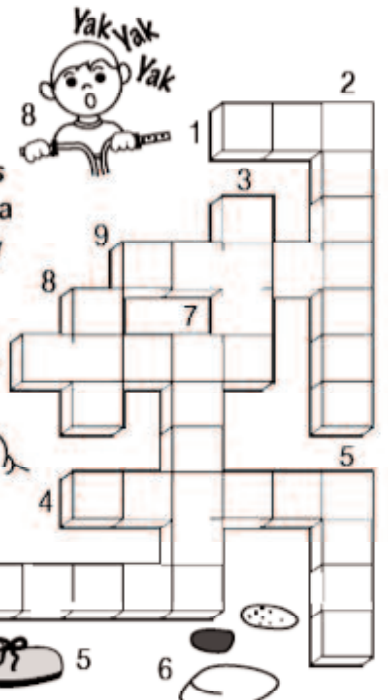
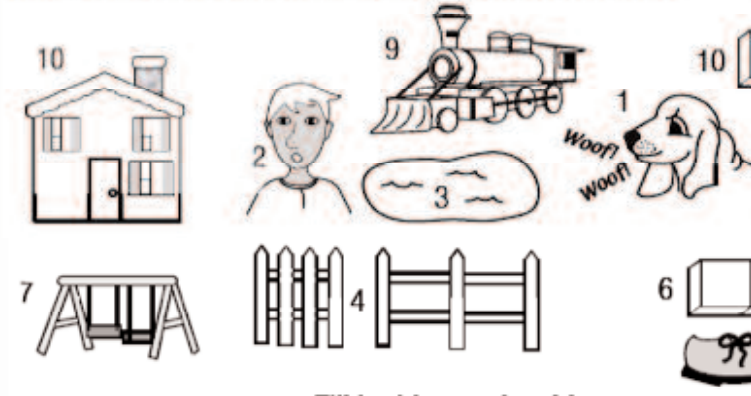
We want to tell you a story about our longest walk:

One hot morning we went for our walk with Grandpa. A 1 barked at us! 2 talked to a grown-up. The 3 shimmered from the hot breezes. 4 surrounded the lake to keep kids safe. My 5 kicked up some sand. We threw stones over the fence. The little 6 splashed into the water. 7 dangled in the park across the lake.

A 8, chattering as he rode his bike, followed us. A whistling 9 roared by on its tracks. Then Grandpa pointed out where our father lived after he was born. It was a small 10 sitting in a grassy yard.

When we got home Grandpa taught us how to throw hula hoops along the driveway in just the right way so they would return to us. Hooray for walking and talking with Grandpa!

Read the story about Penny and Ben. Some of the **nouns** are missing from their story. Remember that a **noun** names a person, place or thing. Use the number clues in the story with the picture clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:



Fill in this puzzle with more nouns from the story:

Keeping in Touch

Hi Penny and Ben, Don't forget to write to us...or send us an email to let us know what you are doing!

Follow the dots to see how Gram and I are getting to the mini-golf tonight:

Penny and Ben's story has lots of action. The words that show action are called **verbs**. Can you find and circles these verbs?

Keeping in Shape

barked
talked
chattering
splashed
shimmered
surrounded
kicked
dangled
roared
build

Sometimes when we write a story we want to use different words that mean the same thing or almost the same thing. These words are called **synonyms**. Can you match each word to another that means the same?

Nouns
(words that name a person, place or thing)

1. game
2. monster
3. detective
4. clown
5. squirt gun

A. jester
B. contest
C. water pistol
D. creature
E. private eye

Grandma and I like to play word games!

I enjoy reading stories that Meg writes in her letters to me.

Let's see.... fishing, playing catch...

Grandpa and I like action. We are going to race go-carts.

Verbs
(action words)

1. play
2. frighten
3. follow
4. laugh
5. squirt

A. track
B. compete
C. scare
D. spray
E. chuckle



– By Dane Mullins

Fall is officially here and things are busy at Woodgrove. It is hard to believe we are now on our 4th week of school. Fall sports teams are all doing very well.

- Football Varsity 3-2 JV 3-1 Freshman 5-0
- Volleyball Varsity 6-7 JV1-9 Freshman 9-2

The Cross Country team is making a name for itself. Wolverines are often placing in the top 10, while teams are ranking in the top 5 in all of the meets. Oatlands Invitational:

- JV Underclassmen Boys 23rd/65
- JV Underclassmen Girls 9th/40
- JV Upperclassmen Boys 23rd/52
- Varsity A Boys 31st/46 - Evan McCarthy 18th /316
- Varsity A Girls 14th/41- Audrey Houghton 15th/272

Golf- 4 -1 Scored in the top 15 in four tournaments, and ranked 6th over all in the 2011 Dulles District Tournament.

Cheerleading is also busy with the following competition schedule:

- District Mini – September 24 at Valley – 4th place
- District Mini – September 27 at Dominion – 4th place
- District Mini-October 4 at Woodgrove

- District Championships – October 19 at Briar Woods (Yes, Cheerleading is a sport!)

The ever-committed Marching Wolverines and Color Guard never disappoint at a performance. They really keep the spirit going in the stands.

The Woodgrove Dance Team's first half time performance was this past Friday and they really displayed some great moves. For Woodgrove's inaugural senior class five students have already pledged their commitment to the following Division 1 Colleges:

- Lexi Clarke – Soccer – Stony Brook
- Tabitha McHale – Soccer – UNC Greensboro
- Charlotte Ratcliff – Soccer – Coastal Carolina
- Matthew Reed – Baseball – Clemson
- J.J. Sarty – Baseball – William and Mary

Preparing for graduation has already begun. Many seniors are busily completing enrollment applications, essays, requesting letters of recommendation and researching schools that they may attend to further their education.

Some seniors who have are completing technical programs are now applying for permanent positions in their chosen field. Success comes in many forms.

Keep your eyes peeled for information on the upcoming Fall Theatrical production. Rehearsals have already begun. Last year's performances were fantastic and the cast and crew are all back for an encore.

The Woodgrove PTSO annual Citrus Sale order information will be out soon so start making your list. The Woodgrove PTSO is committed is support to the following projects:

- Construction of the nature trail and outdoor class rooms connecting Woodgrove with Mountain View Elementary;
- Funding teacher special needs and requests
- Creating a senior scholarship legacy gift
- Maintaining a discretionary fund for students and families in need
- Sponsoring an after graduation party (Project Graduation) to start a tradition by providing the inaugural senior class with a safe and exciting event.

To have a successful Inaugural Woodgrove Project Graduation, the committee is requesting any individuals, families, businesses, corporations or organizations that desire to contribute a tax deductible monetary donation or gifts to please contact Committee Chair Rhonda Wells WoodgroveHSProjectGraduation@gmail.com.

Speaking of support ... Woodgrove High School wants to thank our community for all of its continued support and commitment. WOW.

Dane Mullins, Woodgrove HS, Class of 2012!

Dane Mullins is a native of western Loudoun. He attended Loudoun Valley High School and is dual enrolled at Woodgrove High School and Northern Virginia Community College. Dane grew up on a farm and has a passion for tractors. He has been the owner and operator of Dane's Hometown Services since 2008. His company provides estate maintenance, landscaping and farm services, excavation and clearing as well as welding services.



The Haunting Spirits of Leesburg



– by Molly Pinson Simoneau

Loudoun County is home to equestrians, antique dealers, farmers, winemakers, and according to many, ghosts. It seems like nearly everyone you talk to in Loudoun has a story about a friend of a friend who heard a voice, or saw a face, or felt a tap on his shoulder.

Some local ghost stories are well documented, with historical accounts to back them up. For instance, the ghost who haunts the Glenfiddich house on North King Street in Leesburg, has been determined to be Col. Erasmus Burt who died in the house after being wounded in the October, 1861 Battle of Balls Bluff. The blood he reportedly spilled as he was carried into the house is said to reappear on the stairs at night. Burt has occasionally appeared in the house, standing in the hall in full uniform, but he has only appeared during daylight hours.

Some circulating stories, however, seem all too similar to urban legends told all over the country. One such story, also associated with the deadly Battle of Balls Bluff, involves some teenagers who were hanging out near the Balls Bluff cemetery several years back. They heard the sounds of screaming and ran back to their car. When they got there, the car would not move. When it suddenly lurched forward, the teens drove it back to town where they later found mysterious muddy handprints on the trunk.

One person who collects stories like these to share on the Loudoun Museum's Hauntings tours is Peter Kelpinski, a

member of the Loudoun Museum's Board of Trustees. "I figure that North King Street is probably the most haunted street in Leesburg and perhaps Loudoun County," says Kelpinski, who started Hauntings in 1991. "There are [ghosts in] the Lynch and Glenfiddich family houses, the Courthouse, the Sona Bank – and there is supposed to be a ghost in one of the restaurants," although, Kelpinski admits, he hasn't learned much about that last story yet.

The Lynch family house has become home to one of the best known hauntings in Leesburg. "It's so popular because it's a great story," says Kelpinski. "It's the Woman in White." Years of research have given the Woman in White a name: Liza Thompson. She lived in the house during the Civil War. When her husband, who had left the deed to the house with a local banker, never came back from the war, she was forced to undergo a long legal battle to keep the house. Many believe that, because she fought so hard to stay in her home, she refused to leave it even after her death.

The stories of Liza's ghost began when a child living in the house began reporting that he had seen a woman in white in his bedroom. It became clear that the boy was not just imagining the apparition when some guests of the Lynch's who were staying in his room saw Liza as well. The current residents of the Lynch house are not afraid of Liza, as they have always felt that she is "a benevolent presence."

The Lynch family house is also where Peter Kelpinski said he had his first encounter with the paranormal. He was alone in the house preparing for that year's tours when he heard a disembodied laugh from one corner of the parlor. It was later that evening that Kelpinski learned that a psychic had recently revealed that Liza was not the only ghost in the Lynch family house, but that there was also a man who lurked in the very corner from which Kelpinski heard the laugh!

One of Kelpinski's favorite stories is a little too far out of the way to be included on the Hauntings tours, but involves a house on West Market Street in Leesburg. It was once the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nichols. Mrs. Nichols reportedly loved children, but was never able to have any of her own. Recently, a family with two young children were staying at that house for the holidays. The adults were preparing for a Christmas party while the children were playing in a large upstairs ballroom. When their mother called the children so that she could help them get dressed in their party clothes, they came down the stairs already dressed in clean, pressed clothes; the young girl's hair braided and tied with ribbon.

Their mother, who knew they could not get dressed on their own, asked how they did it. "The nice lady upstairs helped us," they told her. Sometime later, when they were looking over some old things from the house, the children identified a photo of Mrs. Nichols as the woman who helped them dress for the Christmas party.

When asked why all these ghost stories should be associated with the Loudoun Museum, Kelpinski insists that it's not just about the ghosts, "It's about oral history," he says, "It's preserving the local lore." And it's about having fun. On the tour, he says, "People aren't going to jump out with a chain saw. It's to scare you with a good story."

AN EXCITING TRIAL.

**STRONG CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE
REJECTED BY A JURY.**

**The Case of Mrs. Lloyd, Tried at Leesburg, Va., on the Charge of Poisoning her Daughter—The Trial and Verdict.
LEESBURG, VA., October 30.**

Did She Get Away With Murder?

A Loudoun County woman, Emily Lloyd, was the "Casey Anthony" of 1872. She was vilified by headlines across the country when she was charged and tried for poisoning her daughter, Maude. Members of the community became alarmed when every member of the Lloyd household: Emily's husband Charles, his aunt, the Lloyd's two sons, a daughter, and finally Maude, all died of similar symptoms within a few months of each other. Lloyd responded to concerns by saying simply that "All the Lloyds die that way," as if there was some genetic disease which killed them.

A pharmacist testified that he had sold arsenic to Lloyd when she complained of a rat infestation in her home. It was probably the testimony of several doctors who could not entirely rule out the possibility of other diseases with similar symptoms to arsenic poisoning, which forced the jury to return the verdict of not guilty on October 31, 1872.

BOO!!! THE BEST LOUDOUN HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Oatlands' Paranormal Tours, Monday, Oct 24, 2011 – Sunday, October 30, 2011

Experience a different Oatlands after dark! Tour guides will share exciting ghost legends and personal tales of unexplained happenings. Guests will also learn about the findings of the ongoing paranormal investigations at Oatlands. Tour was a hit last year and we have new findings to share this year. This fun tour is suitable for children 8 years and older. Space is limited to 20 people; call for reservations. \$12/adult; \$5/child under 12 years of age. Oatlands Historic House and Gardens 20850 Oatlands Plantation Ln Leesburg, VA 20175, 703-777-3174; www.Oatlands.org.

20th Annual Hauntings Tour, Friday, October 28, 2011 – Saturday, October 29, 2011

The Hauntings Walking Tour allows visitors to tour the haunted homes and businesses of Leesburg. Once a year, we're able to take the tours inside several of the haunted places. Hear about the widow who fought to keep her house and has never left – she even helps with the housework; the Civil War Colonel who watches over the office staff during the day; and many more bump in the night spirits! Tour leaves from Leesburg Town Hall every 15 minutes from 6-10pm; \$15/person with advance purchase; \$20/person at the door. Tickets can be purchased by mail, phone, or walk-in. Advance ticket purchase is highly recommended. Loudoun Museum, 25 West Market St, Leesburg, VA 20175, 703-777-7427; www.loudounmuseum.org.

Shocktober Friday, Oct 28, 2011 – Sunday, October 30, 2011

Every weekend in October, Paxton Manor is transformed for Shocktober! The late 1800s Paxton Manor Inn is filled with large rooms and dark halls. Over the years, many strange and horrific events have taken place in the rooms. Different theme every weekend, as well as varied attractions including the Haunted Well of the Soul, The Last Ride, and The Funhouse. Family friendly events until 6:30pm - after 7pm, get ready for the scare of your life (PG-13)! Saturday, October 1st, kickoff event, Shocktober-fest, takes place with live (free) music all day, beer and concessions. Fri 7-10pm, Sat-Sun 2:00-6:30pm (family friendly hours) and 7-10pm \$5-\$30/person ARC of Loudoun, 601 Catocin Circle NE, Paxton Campus Leesburg, VA 20176 www.shocktober.org.

Pumpkin Glow Night, Friday, October 28, 2011 – Saturday, October 29, 2011, 6-9 pm

This spectacular display of over 1500 carved and lighted jack-o-lanterns is simply amazing. The magical moment when we cut the lights will take your breath away! Bring your carved Jack-o-lantern to enter in our carving competitions. Jack-o-lanterns are judged for Best in Glow, Scariest, and Funniest in 3 classes: children grades K-5, youth in grades 6-8, and adult carving. Warm yourself by the bonfire and roast some marshmallows. The glow of this unique opportunity to spend an evening in the country with your family will remain with you for a lifetime! Local schools help us carve the pumpkins for this great event. Email us if your school would like to join the fun and have a carving day. Businesses Scouts and Sports teams have all helped carve so email us today for information about host a carving party. 6 pm - 9 pm, Great Country Farms, 18780 Foggy

Bottom Rd, Bluemont, VA 20135, 540-554-2073; www.greatcountryfarms.com.

Leesburg Halloween Parade, Monday, October 31, 2011

Each Halloween since 1957 the Leesburg Kiwanis have sponsored the Halloween Parade down King Street in Historic Downtown. Leesburg's Annual Halloween Parade is the longest running parade east of the Mississippi. The floats, bands, and costumes are awarded prizes. The 2009 parade featured over 200 police, fire and rescue units; high school marching bands; floats; horseback riders; walkers; decorated vehicles; and politicians, passing out candy as they paraded down the one mile route. These units and

many spectators donated over 1,000 pounds of food and hundreds of dollars to Loudoun Interfaith Relief. 6-8 pm, Town of Leesburg Historic Downtown, King Street, 20175 703 737-2175; www.leesburgkiwanis.org.



73RD ANNUAL LADIES BOARD Rummage SALE

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

FRIDAY,
OCT. 14 &
SATURDAY,
OCT. 15
2011

EARLY BIRD HOUR
Friday, 8am-9am \$5 ticket
Proceeds benefit Polly Clemens Nursery Fund

Morven Park International
Equestrian Center
41793 Tutt Lane
Leesburg, VA 20176

703-771-2985
WWW.LADIESBOARD.ORG

How does a man go from briefing the Secretary of Defense to flipping Papa John's Pizzas, to Winning "National Franchisee of the Year"? Here's how...

When people walked into the first Papa John's Pizza in the Washington Metropolitan Area in Sterling, Virginia in 1993, they saw a smiling man standing out of the way, but clearly overseeing the operation. Many wondered, and sometimes even asked, "Is that Papa John?" It wasn't Papa John, it was Colonel William Freitas and here is his story...

Colonel Freitas, a highly decorated Vietnam Veteran, rose through the officer ranks of the United States Army after graduating from Colorado State University as a distinguished military graduate. "The Colonel" (as everyone calls him) accepted his commission and was stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He was a Bird Dog pilot in Vietnam in 1967 where he flew Cessna spotters. He returned to Vietnam in 1971 as a Cobra helicopter pilot. He then was selected to command an air cavalry troop in Fort Hood, Texas in 1976, and then a tank battalion in Fort Polk, Louisiana in 1983. A stint at the National War College brought him and his family (his wife Frances and sons Andy and Patrick) to the Washington, DC area in 1985. While in DC, he worked with the Joint Chiefs of Staff as Chief of Conventional War Plans during the Gulf War.

Upon retirement from active duty, The Colonel and his eldest son, Andy went to Louisville, Kentucky to research this new franchise opportunity called "Papa John's". They found such synergy with their business ethics, practices, food quality, and customer service standards, that their choice became clear. But what really won them over was the great taste of Papa John's Pizza! They knew they had to be a part of this great team and that their lives were changing right then and there.

The Colonel not only put his heart and soul into his first store, but every penny he had. His goal: To make his one store the best run Papa John's in the country. He believed in the brand so much that he reinvested every penny made into building more stores, not even taking a paycheck for over 5 years.

The Colonel and Andy ran the business with Andy as the company's first general manager (he now serves as the Chief Operating Officer). His youngest son, Patrick, joined the team as a delivery driver and now serves as Senior Vice President of Operations supervising Papa John's stores in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties in Maryland.

By August 2007, The Colonel was operating over 50 Papa John's locations throughout Maryland and Virginia.

By 2009, Colonel's Limited was recognized by Papa John's International as "National Franchisee of the Year" – Best of the Best in the USA!

Please let the Papa John's Manager at this store know of any way we can enhance your experience with us. His "Troops" are here to serve you and The Colonel wouldn't have it any other way.

