

# Blue Ridge LEADER & Loudoun Today

November 2011

RESIDENTIAL  
CUSTOMER  
ECRWSS

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

## Duvall Fundraiser Focuses Attention On The Needs of Children ... From Winchester to Places Worldwide



Above: A large screen featured vignettes of Robert Duvall's lengthy film career and American Westerns while the Heavy Country Band played; Right: Luciana Duvall addresses audience.

– By Valerie Cury Joyner

A recent fundraiser and lecture hosted by actor and filmmaker Robert Duvall and his wife, Luciana showcased the “Great American Western” and the couple’s deep interest and innovative approach towards meeting the needs of the world’s children.

The fundraiser was the second in a lecture series called “The Making of Legendary American Western Films,” designed to benefit the Robert Duvall Children’s Fund (RDCF), an organization dedicated to improving the lives of children throughout the United States, Latin America and India. This particular day the focus was on micro-financing in Latin

America, education in India, and the Evans Home for Children in Winchester, Virginia.

In addition to the lecture given by the Academy Award, Emmy and Golden Globe winning actor, the event included a silent auction of unique film memorabilia, a private dinner with Luciana and Robert Duvall, and live band entertainment and dancing.

Said Duvall, “Luciana and I like to welcome friends and individuals to our home with whom we share our desires to help the lives of children and their families in need. We also want to join the many individuals that work in the different

*Continued on page 11*



### Kelli Grim Asked to Leave PBPA Board Meeting

“Real Parties of Interest” disclosure laws require that the public record include the names of businesses and/or individuals with a stake in the outcome of matters before various governmental bodies. Loudoun County and the Town of Leesburg have these requirements as part of their planning and development process. Applicants for rezoning, for example, must disclose the individuals and/or businesses with ownership of the property in question. Fairfax, Alexandria and Arlington have similar requirements.

Individuals, business owners and others in the Town of Purcellville have requested that the Town Council make Real Parties of Interest a requirement in its deliberations. This includes repeated attempts by local business owner Kelli Grim to make such disclosures the law in the Town.

Ms. Grim requested that the Town Council take up the topic many times over the last year. The issue was referred by the Council to the Ways & Means Committee and, in September, the Blue Ridge Leader also reported that the Council and the Ways and Means Committee were waiting to receive a recommendation from the private local business group known as the Purcellville Business and Professional Association.

The issue came to a head in September 2011, when, in a PBPA Board meeting attended by Ms. Grim,

*Continued on page 11*

### Loudoun GOP Email “Shameless and Offensive”

– By Carol Morris Dukes

An email circulated by the Loudoun County Republican Committee has received sharp criticism from both political parties in Loudoun, and the outrage has gone viral. The Halloween graphic depicts “Zombie” democratic leaders, and President Barack Obama with a bullet in his head.

Shortly after being emailed, residents throughout Loudoun began crying foul and denouncing the LCRC. Within several hours, Republicans and Democrats throughout the country had harsh comments. Virginia governor Bob McDonnell, through spokesman Tucker Martin, issued the following statement:

“The Governor believes this email is shameful and offensive. He calls on those involved to apologize for their actions, and to immediately ensure that such imagery is never used again. The Governor has long stressed the need for more civility and respect in our politics. An email like this one undermines those goals, offends all Virginians and discredits our entire political process. It will not be tolerated.”

News editors at the Blue Ridge Leader

*Continued on page 3*

### Special Opinion From an 18-Year-Old – VOTE!

– By Samuel Moore-Sobel

This year Election Day is on November 8. Candidates are campaigning for positions such as School Board Representative, Board of Supervisors, and even State Senator. These positions are all critical to the future of our com-

munity, and these candidates, if elected, will make decisions that will directly impact our lives.

The sad fact is that many people will not vote. Traditionally, local elections’ turnout is very low compared to those for President and United States Congress.

*Continued on page 12*

#### VOTE NOVEMBER 8th!

##### Voting Districts:

- Algonkian
- Ashburn
- Blue Ridge
- Broad Run
- Catoclin
- Dulles
- Leesburg
- Sterling

##### On the Ballot:

- Virginia Senate (Districts 13, 27, 31, 33)
- Virginia House of Delegates (Districts 10, 32, 33, 34, 67, 86, 87)
- Commissioner of Revenue

- Commonwealth’s Attorney
- Sheriff
- Treasurer
- Board of Supervisors
- School Board
- Soil & Water Conservation District
- Ballot question: Acquisition of Fire and Rescue Apparatus
- Ballot question: School Capital Projects
- Ballot question: Election Date Change



**Blue Ridge Leader Candidate Endorsements, Page 5**

On the web with daily updates at [www.brleader.com](http://www.brleader.com)

## Ask Dr. Mike

*Dr. Mike, My husband and I are republicans and Christians. We both really like Mitt Romney for the presidency – his presentation during the debates and his experience and knowledge. I plan on voting for Mr. Romney if he wins the republican nomination. However, my husband said that he will not vote for someone of the Mormon faith or for someone who is not a Christian for that matter, regardless of their qualifications. Can you help me talk some sense into him? K in Loudoun County*



K, I suppose the same could be said for an advice columnist with these topics. I suppose you could try to challenge your husband's position with the argument that even the founding fathers of our country recognized the importance of separation between organized religion and the affairs of the State. You could point him to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, or better yet, to Article Six of the Constitution which, "forbids a religious test as a requirement for holding a governmental position and holds the United States under the Constitution." However, I think the better approach to your husband (and your marriage) would be to understand and respect his position. If a candidate's religious beliefs are a factor that your husband values in determining who he is planning to vote for, I think there is little you can do but to be accepting. You might be interested to learn that there is some interesting psychological research on the impact of religion on voting. One large scale national survey showed that republicans attract more born again Christian voters as a group. But that same survey only found a small gap between republicans and democrats in terms of overall Christian faith. Research has also shown that democrats typically attract a wider range of religious perspectives when compared to republicans as a group. In the end, voting is a very personal and private matter, and our core values and beliefs, not surprisingly, do impact how we vote.

*Dr. Mike, I was horrified to see the viral video of that little girl in China who was run over by a truck recently. It was made all the worse for me when the video showed several people walking by the girl and ignoring her as she lay dying in pain. And I later*

*heard on the news that the driver admitted to running over the girl a second time to kill her to avoid having to pay her medical bills. What's wrong with the people in China? M in Loudoun County*

M, While I too was horrified by the video and news story, I would argue that what happened to that little girl in China could've happened anywhere in the world. Social psychologists have termed what happened as, "the Bystander Effect," which is a phenomenon where people who are present during an emergency do nothing to help the victim in need. The Bystander Effect is also referred to as the Genovese Syndrome. Kitty Genovese was a 28 year-old female who was stabbed to death by a serial rapist in 1964. She reportedly screamed and pleaded for help for over a half hour while none of the witnesses intervened or called the police on her behalf. There are countless other examples of the Bystander Effect, and a large body of research to support it as an actual phenomenon. Research in this area of study has also shown that as the numbers in a group increase, the likelihood of the bystander effect increases. For Kitty Genovese, 38 witnesses watched and did nothing as she was brutally murdered. For the little Chinese girl, 18 bystanders were present and did nothing. Research findings support two main reasons for the Bystander Effect – social proof and diffusion of responsibility. Social proof involves our using the clues and cues of a situation to determine how we will react in an emergency situation. If an individual looks around and sees no one else responding, then that individual will be less inclined to intervene – even in an emergency. Diffusion of responsibility occurs when each person in an emergency situation assumes that someone else will take action and no one ultimately steps forward. To your other point, I feel much less forgiving toward the driver, who I hope is punished to the full extent of the law.

*Dr. Mike, I recently discovered that my husband has reconnected with some of his old girlfriends on Facebook. I also discovered that he is also now actively texting one of his ex's, and the texts are very flirty. We've also been fighting more lately, and I think our marriage of 23 years may be in trouble. Needless to say, I am hurt and scared by what I have found and where we are. How do I productively confront my husband with what I have found? O in Loudoun County*

O, Facebook is an amazing social networking tool. It allows us to stay connected with our friends and reconnect with old ones....including past romantic partners. As a clinical psychologist, I have seen an increase in divorce over the past five years with my clients due to social networking sites. And an attorney friend of mine in Leesburg recently

*Continued on page 30*

## 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](http://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](http://www.joeflemingpainting.com)

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



## Candidate Bellanca Addresses Rural Development Issues

Tom Bellanca, candidate for Chairman of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors held a press conference to address his vision for Loudoun's rural economic development.

Bellanca noted that other candidates had only been discussing Loudoun County's economic development in terms of commercial businesses in Eastern Loudoun and the need to attract new commercial development to Loudoun, while he believed it was

also important to recognize the need to preserve, protect and grow the rural economy. "The rural economy in Loudoun plays an important role in reducing traffic on our roads, moderating burdensome growth, and reducing overall property taxes on homeowners. My campaign supports continuing efforts to organize and advance the growth of the rural economy and the County Rural Economic Development Council's current planning for a Rural Economic Development Strategy," said Bellanca.

The "rural economy" is comprised of many different categories, including Commercial Horticulture, Crops Hay & Livestock, Wine & Grapes, Equine, Farmers' Markets, and Agribusiness. Banking & Finance, Real Estate, Conservation, Professional Services, Environmental Resources, Outdoor Recreation, Education, Direct Marketing, Bed & Breakfast/Rural Lodging Establishments and Historical Tourism Property also play a large role. "According to a study generated earlier this year by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia, the equine industry in Loudoun County is growing larger, but is also under increased pressure in recent years from home development that is threatening the availability of land and pushing the industry Westward. The impact of this home development adds traffic to our roads and increases the already overburdened school system. Maintaining the rural area to lower housing densities is not only a part of the current citizen generated Comprehensive Plan, but it is essential to reducing and managing growth throughout the county and reducing the overall population growth in the schools. It is also part of an important element in keeping our property taxes down ... Keeping the rural economy strong is essential to the survival of these policies," continued Bellanca.

Rural economies like the equine industry also serve not just western Loudoun but the whole County, and, they have a positive ripple effect.

"In addition to the horse farms, there is a substantial commercial horticulture business in the rural part of the county. 70% of the farms are under 50 acres in size and grow small fruits, vegetables, cut flowers and landscape production. These small farms are ideally suited to serve the growing populations in the East through sales at road side stands, farmers markets and community supported agriculture. Berry production in Loudoun County has almost doubled in the past ten years. Loudoun also tops the state for nut production with 10 farms producing walnuts, chestnuts and other types of nuts on 24 acres in the county. Finally, Christmas trees are also a large production of Western Loudoun with many choose and cut farms operating in the rural area," said Bellanca.

"In the beginning of my campaign, I spoke about the need for new leadership to balance the needs of the East with the needs of the West ... The challenges of growth have not disappeared. Loudoun County is still the fastest growing County in the State of Virginia. As a result, it's essential to elect candidates that will continue to support growing the rural economy ... We cannot afford to return to the ways of bonus densities in the transition area and adding subdivisions to the west as we experienced under the previous Republican Board."

## Loudoun GOP Email, continued from page 1



wrestled with whether to print the offensive image. "It's difficult to print this sort of thing," commented Valerie Joyner. "In the end, we decided that the story was not complete without the image. It says it all."

The following text was included with the offensive graphic in the original email: "Halloween Parade Republicans On The March LCRC members and Republican candidates: We are going to vanquish the zombies with clear thinking conservative principles and a truckload of Republican candy. Join us at 5pm at Ida Lee Park to decorate our floats. Bring candidate / endorsee signs and help us show our colors and then pass out the candy to the 20,000 strong parade crowd. The parade starts @ 6pm. It's fun and a great way to represent our candidates to a ton of voters (and their kids) just before the election."

# All New Granite Countertops, Delivered in Just One Week.

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

## 50 sq. ft. GRANITE COUNTERTOPS \$2500

# FREE

- ✓ SINK
- ✓ FAUCET
- ✓ PLUMBING
- ✓ REMOVAL
- ✓ STANDARD EDGE

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](http://www.GraniteExpoOnline.com)

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

BBB Accredited Business

1/4309300

Showroom Open Mon-Sat 8am-6pm  
**703-435-3350**  
4500 Underwood Lane, Unit J & K - Sterling, VA 20166 (1 mile west of Rt. 28, just off Rt. 606)

## Do You Know Where Your Candidate's Money is Coming From?

– By Valerie Cury Joyner

Everybody who donates money or in kind services to a candidate running for office has a reason.

Many small donations are from average citizens who always vote for the party the candidate represents or believe in the principles the candidate espouses. Then there are the donors that usually contribute larger sums because they expect something in return for their contribution when the candidate is elected.

Fortunately, because of campaign finance laws in Virginia, you can go on line and easily find out how much was contributed by an individual or corporation to a particular candidate\*.

We decided to review the campaign finance reports of the candidate for Blue Ridge Supervisor, Janet Clarke, because of the large amount of money raised for her campaign and the number of donations from special interests.

According to official reports, Janet Clarke has raised over \$91,000. (She will probably go over \$100,000 by the time of the November 8th election.) These numbers are in some cases double or triple the dollars raised by other candidates for Loudoun County Supervisor positions.

For example, her opponent Jim Burton has raised \$40,000 (Mostly from individual residents from the area.). Other candidates in other districts such as Geary Higgins (Catoclin District), raised \$40,000. Malcolm Baldwin (Catoclin District) raised \$30,000 and Eugene Delgaudio (Sterling District), \$54,000. Only the candidates for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Scott York and Tom Bellanca, have raised more than \$100,000.

Some of Janet Clarke's largest donors have made contributions either in cash or for "in kind" services. These donors have also raised questions that we think the candidate should answer.

First, let's consider the in-kind donation of office space rental by builder and developer John Chapman of Valley Commercial, LLC totaling over \$10,000. She has also received over \$7,000 in office furniture rentals from a company run by a land developer in Purcellville. Another is an in kind contribution of \$9,540 for "Phone system/office design/consulting"

from a co-owner of an IT phone company.

Donations by builders, contractors and other interests to Board of Supervisor (BOS) candidates warrant particular scrutiny ... especially those contributors that have issues and/or projects before the Board.

In addition to in kind contributions, records show many other contributions from companies with business before the Board, as well as individuals who work for these companies – contributions from, for example, interests involved in cable, telephone and internet services. (Just one example: a contribution by M.C. Dean an electrical contractor and an owner of OpenBand, a telecommunications contractor – OpenBand's franchise agreement is currently before the BOS.)

The question here is, because of these donations to her campaign, will Janet Clarke recluse herself if and when a contributor's issue comes before the Board?

And, we've not even touched upon the many contributions Janet Clarke's campaign has received from Political Action Committees (PACs) and others with developer and health-care interests before the Board. (Just one example: Clarke's campaign has received large donations from a company that has connections to "big box" stores.)

What's more ... many special interest political donors conceal their identity by spreading out their donations through individuals and by the use of different business names. Some donors make last minute donations that don't get recorded until after the election.

It's really up to the voter to ask your candidate questions concerning where they got their campaign money from and how this money will affect their vote on important issues.

**Clarke Campaign Donations Update** (from report released October 31st, 2011): Janet Clarke added an additional \$22,148 in contributions from the last reporting period (October 17th), to bring her total amount raised to \$113,618. Major contributors were various developer PACs.

\* Campaign finance information can be found on the Loudoun County website under the "Voter Registration and Elections" section.

## Letters to the Editor

### Burton: Strong Intellect and Impeccable Integrity

Dear Editor:

It was my honor to serve the citizens of the Blue Ridge District on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors for eight years alongside Jim Burton. Since leaving office I have avoided the political fray; however, the upcoming election is of such importance I am compelled to write and urge the Blue Ridge District residents, both old and new, to vote and re-elect Jim Burton as your supervisor.

During our years of working together at hundreds of meetings, public hearings and work sessions I found Jim to be a hard working and dedicated public servant of strong intellect and impeccable integrity. His work over the years from the writing the Board's Code of Ethics, standing firm and working to get Woodgrove High School built, and managing to find funds for the county's growing needs while insisting on keeping our tax rate affordable for our citizens demonstrates his ability to find answers to tough challenges.

We need Jim Burton's steady presence on the Board of Supervisors representing the families of the Blue Ridge District. – Eleanore C. Towe, Purcellville (Blue Ridge District Supervisor, 1996 – 2004; Vice Chairman of the Board 2000 – 2004)

### Thanks From the Yeatts Family

Dear Editor:

Words cannot express our gratitude for the overwhelming support and kindness we've received since our home was destroyed by fire on September 26th. We wish to express our deep appreciation for the generosity that the Loudoun community has showered on us since the fire – the gifts of food, furniture, toys, clothing and funds are helping us to rebuild our lives. We especially wish to thank the hard working firefighters and emergency responders who tried to save our home. We also wish to thank those who organized, donated to and attended the fundraiser for us on October 15th including Philip Message of the Bush Tabernacle for use of the Purcellville Skating Rink to host the event, Brian Damewood of Tillett & Damewood Auctioneers for conducting the live auction, the Purcellville Merchants Association (especially Dan Abramson of Belle Maison, Scott Kinney of Shamrock Music Shoppe, Michael Oakes of ReLovelt, Kelli Grim of the Little Green Dress Shop, and Jennifer Alves of Jazzy Jenn Designs) for organizing the event along with many volunteers and many generous contributors to the silent auction, especially John & Robin Heyner of Round Hill.

This outpouring of support has made us ever more aware how fortunate we are to live in Purcellville, among such loving neighbors and friends. There is no substitute for small town kindness. We hope to see you in our store, Its Bazaar on 21st Street in Purcellville, so that we can thank you for your kindness in person, and hope you will celebrate with us in 8 to 12 months time when our permanent home is rebuilt. – With our deepest gratitude, The Yeatts Family: Bill & Rebecca, Hunter, Chase MacKenzie and Aideendale

### Why Not Simply Answer the Question?

Dear Editor:

The following questions have been asked of Janet Clarke multiple times.

"On July 19th, the BOS voted 7-2 in support of an agreement to pay at least \$135 million for garages. Supervisor Burton stated that "we don't have the debt capacity to take on \$135 million for these garages ... we're right up against the limits trying to keep up with building schools and to take on any more debt is to me a risky thing to do."

How would you have voted and why? Do you believe that taking on more debt is a wise approach? Are you of the belief that we have reached a debt limit issue and how would you address that?"

"A blog written this week stated that you told an individual that you would not take contributions from developers, yet this appears to not be the case. Do you have any comment on the statement made on the blog and its validity?" (A look at Ms Clarke's campaign contributions more than proves that she is heavily supported by commercial developers.)

Janet Clarke's response: nothing. Not even a "thanks for the question." What is clear is that Ms Clarke has to be scripted by her supporters and lacks ability to live up to her own campaign promises as a candidate, which lends many to think what will happen as an elected official. A Republican doesn't propose "taking" money from the airlines to pay for the Dulles Rail project. The last I checked, Ms Clarke and the Republican party as a whole were against big Government. "Who is going to benefit most from the Metro coming to Dulles?" Clarke said. "... the airlines are not in the red anymore. They are in the black with all their baggage fees that they have instituted." Is that really the solution that a supposed Republican/Conservative/Capitalist would support? Further, Ms Clarke's campaign website states, "Additionally, I will fight to prevent increases in your property taxes. My record in public office during my time on the Purcellville Town Council reflects my commitment to not raising taxes. I will work to eliminate wasteful spending, which, in turn, should place the county in a position to maintain its bond rating." This is where it is clear that Ms Clarke is being disingenuous as she was very much involved in wasting millions of dollars in taxpayer dollars in the legal battle over Woodgrove High School and the construction of the

*Continued on page 6*

# 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](mailto:blueridgeleader@aol.com)

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

## Candidate Endorsements

### Burton for Blue Ridge Supervisor ... Unbought & Unbossed

A member of our editorial board suggested that Jim Burton be described as "Unbought and Unbossed." As descriptive as that is of Burton's remarkable career, even that does not begin to describe the man or his accomplishments. A better word and a more simple one, would be *Integrity*.

In a career that began at the Air Force Academy as a member of the first graduating class, then a twenty-seven year career in the Air Force, retiring as a colonel, his honesty in describing the flaws in the military procurement system, at great personal and professional cost, Burton continued a life of public service on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, as an Independent, where he fought for responsible growth, quality education, better infrastructure, improved transportation, and always with an eye toward financial responsibility.

This would be the time to hope that he would find a worthy opponent. Sad to say, that is not the case. Instead, his opposition, based largely on a pro-development group in

Purcellville, has made the race the most non-fact-based in memory, engaging in a series of statements that at best can be described as having the same relationship to the truth as the fireman does to the fire.

While an endorsement is the place for honest conclusions, not a list of accomplishments, it is fair to note that Burton has been a member of the board during a time when the county became one of the fastest-growing in the nation, and one of the richest; he can hardly be described as "No Growth."

Rather, Jim Burton simply does not see the wisdom in more massive residential rezonings at a time when the housing market is already depressed. Nor do we. For, the likely effect would be to make existing home prices go farther south, and put more mortgages under water, to say nothing of the increased traffic congestion, pressure on the school system, and financial demands on the taxpayers' pocketbooks to keep up with the demand for public services.

He was instrumental in bringing the new elementary and high schools to Purcellville while his opponent and her allies launched a fruitless series of lawsuits that cost County and Town taxpayers both money and time. Real experience and accomplishment count, not election-year slogans. Perhaps that is why this race is not being fought on issues.

There may be some honest quibbles with parts of what Jim Burton has done. Or it may be that his independent and high-minded approach irritate insiders. We suspect that is more likely the case. But, it behooves us as voters to keep an eye on the big picture, and it is on that, on a long list of accomplishments, that make Jim Burton a real asset to the Blue Ridge District, and someone who deserves your vote.

A ballot for Burton, whether cast by an Independent, a Democrat, or a Republican mindful of a long history of party frugality, gives a vote for all three of his qualities: Unbought. Unbossed. Integrity.

### Baldwin for Catoclin Supervisor ... A Steady Course for the District

Malcolm Baldwin embodies many of the same principles that Catoclin voters approved of when they sent Sally Kurtz to the Board in three successive elections. If Catoclin voters liked the one, they will like the other. If there is a sense of déjà vu to this contest, it is because Baldwin's opponent, Geary Higgins, twice ran unsuccessfully against Ms. Kurtz. This time, she's not running; instead, she has endorsed Baldwin, and his candidacy represents a tradition worthy of the voter's support.

The district is slightly different – slightly less rural – as a result of this year's re-districting. Hamilton Village is now part of the Catoclin District, as are some outlying parts of Leesburg. The sense of the district has always been, and probably always will be pragmatic and steady, qualities that play well in small towns and the country as a whole. Baldwin, who has a legal background and is now a full-time sheep farmer and wine grape grower north of Lovettsville,

has the intellect and a sense of surefooted practicality to keep in step with his constituents.

While his emphasis is on maintaining the quality of life in the district – some of which has been enhanced by growth, and some not – he styles himself as a fiscal conservative who wants to hold taxes down, while maintaining a first-rate educational system and working towards a more efficient government. Yet, he has not neglected other aspects of our increasingly urban life, including traffic congestion, recreation and public safety.

He also favors a government accountability office. If that idea could be expanded into a County Ombudsman, a citizen watchdog, so to speak, who could correct bureaucratic abuses in government without recourse to the courts, so much the better.

His emphasis is on handling growth, the eight hundred pound gorilla in much of the eastern part of the county and

now in ever greater measure, in the western part, as well. Increasing the commercial tax base is laudable (bringing Metro to Loudoun is as well, if it can be done economically). But, the problem is rapid growth and how to handle it in such a way as to maintain our quality of life without burdensome traffic congestion, poorer schools, and, of course, increasing the already heavy tax load on the County's taxpayers. We believe Baldwin has the intellectual heft and the regard for the interests of his constituents to accomplish all of that.

His statement that we are paying for past mistakes is not an argument for continuing to make them. That his opponent has developer money in his campaign coffers is another argument for caution and for a continuation of the Sally Kurtz tradition. A vote for Malcolm Baldwin does just that.

### Simpson for Sheriff ... Experience & Performance

The Blue Ridge Leader is proud to endorse Sheriff Steve Simpson for re-election as Loudoun County's chief law enforcement officer.

Simpson brings a total of thirty-three years of experience to the job. Neither of the other two candidates has had local law enforcement experience in the past 20 years. There's been a full generation of change in police work since their service.

Simpson served twenty-four years in the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, 5 years in the Vienna Police Department, a year at the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and 3 years with CIA Internal Security. He has also served as Second Vice President for the Virginia Sheriff's Association, and is a graduate of the FBI Academy's Executive Development Program, and the Sheriff's Office Management Program.

As a Vice President for the Virginia Sheriff's Association, Steve Simpson is at the forefront of today's police work – to say nothing of the esteem in which he is held by all sheriffs across the state.

For parents, he meets in all neighborhoods in Loudoun County to advise them about monitoring their children's use of the Internet and text-messaging systems. Simpson

has also been criss-crossing the County working with parents on the potential social media dangers facing their children – from criminals seeking to make contact with underage minors to privacy issues on sites such as Facebook. He has also assigned deputies to teach D.A.R.E. in every public elementary school in Loudoun County.

Combined with an outstanding Loudoun County school resource officer operation, Sheriff Simpson has worked with Congressman Frank Wolf to implement the Youth Gang Task Force, responsible for a 42 percent drop in gang violence and other crimes. He also serves on the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force.

As a member of the Virginia State Sheriff's Association Legislative Committee, Simpson regularly meets with Governor McDonald on criminal justice issues and budget issues affecting all local sheriff offices.

Other Simpson accomplishments include:

- Working with Federal authorities to secure Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) training for deputies;
- Working with Fire & Rescue to implement a Reverse 911 system to notify citizens in the event of emergencies;

- Initiating Loudoun's Truck Safety Inspection Unit to remove unsafe, dangerous trucks from our roads;
- Implementing the Woman's Self-Defense Course to train women how to protect themselves from an attacker;
- Seizing millions of dollars in property and vehicles, from drug dealers, with proceeds used to buy specialty equipment;
- Implementing an advanced public safety radio system allowing the Sheriff's Office to communicate with neighboring jurisdictions in times of crises. This system is also shared by fire and rescue and town police to better communicate and respond to all emergencies; and
- Creating an Auxiliary Deputy program to expand our services utilizing volunteers throughout our community.

Experience and performance matter. Crime has dropped significantly under Sheriff Simpson's leadership, and he well deserves re-election.

*Voting Day is Tuesday, November 8th, Polls open 6 am to 7 pm.*

On the web with daily updates at [www.brleader.com](http://www.brleader.com)

## Zoning ... and the Power to Destroy

– By Kelli Grim

We have often heard that the power to tax is the power to destroy. The same can be said of zoning.

Zoning controls what a particular piece of land can be used for and how intense that use can be. Residential use versus commercial use, for example ... one house per acre versus 10 houses per acre ... a high rise commercial development versus a simple commercial strip.

Zoning influences the entire direction and quality of life of any town, and has destroyed/made generic the original downtowns of many. Zoning and annexation are one of the most powerful tools that towns, cities and counties have, along with condemnation of land. More than one politician has climbed his way up the ladder by annexing and up zoning properties (making their use more intense and profitable for the developer). This is where the money and influence are, and this is where politicians get their war chests for political office.

But the wrong kind of development – and overheated development – creates shortages of schools and inadequate road systems. This in turn creates a loss in quality of life that robs people of the contentment so remarkable in the “Blue Zone” communities so many have written about, communities that are walkable ... have manageable tax rates and traffic ... and are able to support vibrant small businesses.

### Purcellville is No Blue Zone ...

Towns always have the ultimate choice of what zoning they can impose on a property. Property annexed into town (by a vote of the Purcellville Town Council, for example) does not automatically have a specific zoning. It is up to the Town Council to choose a specific zoning.

Planned and well-coordinated growth through zoning does not overtax the citizens or overstress the services those citizens need. Nor does it create debt. Towns are mandated to review the Comprehensive Plan every five years. However, this does not obligate the Town to change the zoning in any way. But, Purcellville is constantly tinkering

and changing the zoning, which makes it impossible to have a steady vision for what the Town will be in the future.

### How Zoning Impacts Tax Rates ...

Unlike Maryland, whose counties can put a moratorium on growth, Virginia is a Dillon Rule State, which means that the only tool towns like Purcellville have to slow down growth is zoning. The “Right Growth Policy Institute”, with money from developers, deceived the public by suggesting that the so-called elite, on their horses, on their farms, in their open spaces, were the reason that people's taxes in the were rising so rapidly. “Look at that, all that space that we can't build houses on. That's the reason your taxes are going up so much.”

It made intuitive sense. But, it was completely wrong. Every house built in Loudoun County cost the taxpayer thousands of dollars in taxes because residential development demanded more in services than it paid in property taxes. On the other hand, farms don't cost the taxpayer a dime. Farms don't cause the overcrowding of schools, increase traffic congestion, or raise water and sewer bills. Farms pay twice as much in taxes as they demand in services.

### The Financial Benefit of the Small Business ...

Small business owners keep four times the number of dollars in their community as the big chains do, and they maintain economic diversity, community and a uniqueness that gives a town distinction and the power to keep people engaged and loyal. These businesses become what sociologists call the “third place,” after the two primary places of home and businesses in a family's life.

Zoning that works against small businesses diminishes the community. It causes a constant shifting of populations whose disillusionment with the loss of their quality of life forces them to leave for better pastures. Over fifty percent of the population of this country moves within a five-year period. Rather than engaging the leaders and forcing them

to listen, and respect, the wishes of the citizens, they make it increasingly hard to find those “Blue Zones” where contentment is much greater than average, largely because the leadership in those places work with the citizens to keep the quality of life high.

### Now, Back to Purcellville ...

The Town of Purcellville tells its citizens that intensive commercial growth is needed to expand the tax base and relieve them of their tax burden. The reality is that the Town has overspent consistently on projects that were not necessary ... such as the new Town Hall ... which was assessed at \$700,000 but the Town paid \$2,000,000 for it ... and now that very project is almost complete at a cost of well over \$7,000,000.

Without the Special Use Permits recently voted on by the Town Council, many projects could not have been completed. For example, the drive-thru restaurant on the edge of town would not have been built. The same would also apply to the Rite Aid and Walgreens, which will ultimately be only about 100 feet from each other. Special Use Permits have about thirteen criteria, all of which are routinely ignored by Purcellville's leadership. One of those criteria is whether or not the project will adversely affect traffic. The massive Cole Farm/Purcellville Gateway/Catoctin Corner projects will make traffic at the already failing 287/Business Route 7 intersection worse. The Planning Commission voted not to give Catoctin Corner zoning for six commercial buildings (four of which are drive thrus), yet the Town Council voted yes ...

When questioned by residents about certain zonings and annexations, the Town makes the excuse that it really doesn't have any control over zoning. But, of course it does. Through a combination of straight out rezonings ... Special Use Permits ... and a clear pattern of very loose application of clear zoning criteria, the Town is getting just what it wants: roads through farms, big box stores, more drive-thrus. The power to destroy.

## Letters to the Editor, continued from page 4

new Purcellville Town Hall. Ms Clarke, if you are going to make political statements and promises, do so with a greater level of honesty. And positive community-based leadership isn't done by putting up a false front during a campaign. That's called being a dishonest politician, not a leader. – Ryan J. Cool, Purcellville

### Bullets Through the Head Never Appropriate

The Loudoun County Republican Party had some fun on Halloween night, posting an iconic image of President Barack Obama with a zombie's eyeball and a bullet hole through his forehead. Party President, Mark Sell quickly apologized to anyone who might see the image as an attempt to “portray the President as the victim of a violent crime” ... (i.e. a bullet to the head). How about simply apologizing for the spirit of the message, acknowledging that even things done in jest have the power to suggest that the President of the United States is fair game for such crudeness? There are very important issues facing our County and our County. This kind of political communication isn't even professional. Is this how we portray people with which we don't agree? – Andrea Gaines, Lincoln

### Road Spam

Dear Editor:

While Fairfax County has very forgiving ordinances about political signs, Loudoun has mostly managed to enforce the Virginia Code and VDOT regulations that prohibit political signs in medians and public spaces. As a citizen, I expect campaigners in all the races to follow those rules that keep our public spaces uncluttered. It does not speak well for 2 of the Loudoun Sheriff candidates (Speakman and Chapman) that they continue to recklessly break the law by posting their political signs at ramps, intersections and on medians throughout Western Loudoun. “Ignorance of the law” is no excuse,

especially not for a candidate for Sheriff, for gosh sakes!

– Gina Faber, Hamilton

### Across Party Lines

Dear Editor:

More and more you'll see the phenomena of bi-partisan support in the yard signs around the Catoctin district ... much to the chagrin of the Loudoun County Republican Committee who has made it very clear they disapprove. You'll find these two candidates' signs in my yard as well. Let me shed some light on why this is happening. Many of us don't vote party line. We vote based on the issue and the individual which is why you'll see Malcolm Baldwin signs placed with Mike Chapman signs. I have lived in Loudoun County just over 18 years and have seen the “good ole' boy network” firmly entrenched in our local politics. I believe Mr. Baldwin, a farm owner, lawyer and businessman will work for the best interest of the Catoctin District. Unlike his opponent he does not need to ride on the coattails of other elected officials. Mr. Baldwin is a Democrat who believes in fiscal responsibility while also addressing the issues that face the entire county. As for the second race after reading that our current sheriff has been the subject of an FBI investigation regarding his business practices I have to question ethics on the most basic level. Is this sheriff just phoning it in until retirement? The other candidate, Ron Speakman, acknowledged texting a photo of male genitalia to a female acquaintance he met in a bar. He was also shot by a former girlfriend years ago. Is this the type of behavior and history we want from the individual running our sheriff's department? I spoke to Mike Chapman on the phone and in person, grilling him on various topics. Our discussion on “ethics” and his background in law enforcement are what sealed the deal for me. The status quo serves no

one in Loudoun. The back room handshakes and the good 'ole boy network need to end. This November I'm casting a vote for a “D” and “R”, Malcolm Baldwin and Mike Chapman, and I hope you'll do the same. – Laura Leiberman, Lovettsville

### It Has Been An Honor To Serve Loudoun

Dear Editor:

Who would have believed how quickly four years have passed. It seems like just yesterday that I joined the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors. It has been an honor to serve my friends and neighbors in the Sugarland Run District. The partnership that we have forged during my term has proven once again that many heads are better than one.

I have worked to meet the needs of current residents, even as I helped position Loudoun for the future. There is a tension between those two goals, since at times, the short-term fix may not be best for the long term.

Loudoun County has been my home for 14 years. I've seen the population skyrocket, which has certainly created challenges for elected officials, particularly when combined with the economic downturn that has gripped the country. Fortunately, we have pulled together and collaborated to find shared solutions. The challenges will continue. There is always more need than there are funds. We have one of the best school systems in the country and need to find ways to preserve that caliber of education while keeping the tax rate affordable for residents.

It's all a matter of balance and finding the middle ground.

I have treasured the input from constituents through thousands – maybe even tens of thousands – of emails, through phone calls, through meetings and through chance encounters at the grocery store or on the sports fields. Who better to flush out the issues than residents? We are all stakeholders in

*Continued on page 11*

## High Water Rates a "Mandate?" ... Absolutely Not – by Ryan J. Cool

According to Purcellville Mayor Bob Lazaro: "When I was elected to the Town Council [in 2004] our certification for water was about 540,000 gallons a day. We peak in the summer now over 700,000 depending on the circumstances. We have the investments we have made not only for today but for the future. We have just received certification from DEQ [Department of Environmental Quality] for over 1,000,060. We had to upgrade our sewer plant to meet the mandate of the Chesapeake Bay Act, and while I understand your concern all of us up here are rate payers. None of us gets a discount. Decisions made in the 90's in terms of development in the community have made a real squeeze on the amount of water we need and we have to meet that challenge."

By Mayor Lazaro's own statement, the mandate was to upgrade the filtration. There were many solutions to upgrading the plant, some less costly than others, and all would meet the new requirements.

Now consider the options that were available to the town:

- Tweak the operations to just meet the new requirements;

- Build a pipeline to Leesburg (the water study provided a cost estimate of \$15 million); or,

- Expand the plant capacity by 50% and incorporate "beyond the state-of-the-art" processing.

But what did the town do? You guessed it; the town opted for the most expensive – spending approximately \$33 million to expand and retrofit a very new plant that only cost \$8 million (built eight years earlier). The difference between the \$8 million and the \$33 million has to do with adopting beyond (and therefore unnecessary) state-of-the-art technology. Just a little more benefit costs a huge amount of money.

Rather than do the minimum (and conserve taxpayer dollars), the town used a much more expensive solution, so much so that Chuck Epes, Assistant Director of Media Relations for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, wrote an article describing the process as "beyond the state-of-the-art." For example, the old requirement was 8 parts-per-million (ppm) for nitrogen and the new requirement is 4 ppm. The new plant

*Continued on page 13*

## Beyond Our Town – by Dan Shaughnessy

Many years ago, when we were much younger – 27 years old, to be exact – my wife and I packed up some belongings, and moved with our five (then small) children to New Delhi, India. In the space of two or three days, thanks to Pan American Airlines, the seven of us traveled from our little cape cod home in Alexandria, through overnight stops in London and Beirut, to what was literally, a different world.

We spent four years in India, seeing and doing things that would, otherwise, never have been a part of our lives. Everything seemed different at first, but driving a nine passenger Chevy station wagon on the left side of narrow and crowded New Delhi streets, competing with cows and camels, thousands of bicycles, rickshaws, overcrowded doubledecker busses, and taxis that had as their primary item of equipment, their horns, quickly acclimated us to a new environment. (We wore out two horns on that old wagon.)

Over those four years, the sights, sounds and even the aromas of India provided us with experiences that together, became a threshold event in our lives. We were lucky enough to avoid the extremes that often accompany change and to be balanced in our understanding of a different culture. Those years became a turning point for us, both professionally and personally, and provided a basis for decisions on what we did and were later able to do as our lives and family progressed.

In one way or another, we all experience these threshold events – as do our communities and our society. Some of these events are planned and expected; some are gradual and developing, and some occur with seri-

ous and unexpected consequences, often having a significant impact on many of us and our institutions.

Today, as individuals, citizens, and neighbors, we face decisions about how we will contend with events that affect our nation as well as our communities. Serious economic issues dealing with debt, deficits and employment are accompanied by concerns about local leadership, representation and management of our public institutions. We are at a decision point on these matters and events, and the outcome of those decisions will undoubtedly become the threshold through which we will step into the future.

We may not have an old station wagon to drive around the streets of New Delhi, but we do know that these decisions will demand sensible actions and sensible leaders. This is no time for zealotry or ideological extremes; we do not need leaders or representatives who only pursue power or control, or who prioritize special interests over civic responsibility. Change is occurring, and it must be addressed with balance and understanding.

For our part, we need to express our willingness to listen to others and to seek solutions. We also need to be active in selecting experienced and reasonable individuals who will represent us. Otherwise, our silence will convey acquiescence to extremism and our inaction will demonstrate a lack of caring.

Threshold events, such as those we are now experiencing, occur infrequently, but when they do, they are a blueprint for the future. Our involvement will determine what that future will be.



## Did You Know...

### You'd be home soon if I was your Realtor®!

*Opportunity is knocking call Karen  
TODAY and find your home faster.*

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

4/5 BR, 4 BA, 4582 sqft  
3 acres  
**Purcellville**  
\$599,999  
LO7708490

**NEW LISTING**  
4 BR, 5.5 BA, 5670 sqft  
3.20 acres  
**Lovettsville**  
\$695,000  
LO9001460

**PRICE REDUCED**  
4 BR, 4 BA, 3712 sqft  
16.44 acres  
**Purcellville**  
\$699,000  
LO7633637

5 BR, 5.5 BA, 5385 sqft  
1.02 acres  
**Ashburn**  
\$875,000  
LO7543760

5 BR, 4.5 BA, 6000 sqft  
5.67 acres  
**Waterford**  
\$749,990  
LO7643669

**LAND FOR SALE**  
10.90 acres  
Backs to N Fork of  
Catoctin Creek  
**Purcellville**  
\$225,000  
LO7633674

**FOR SALE**  
**COMMERCIAL**  
1700 sqft Currently  
Used as Retail  
.30 acres  
**Leesburg**  
\$599,000  
LO7593462

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

**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

**SOLD**  
3 BR, 3.5 BA, 1566 sqft  
Lakefront!  
**South Riding**  
\$289,900  
LO7635308

**UNDER CONTRACT**  
3 BR, 1 BA, 1233 sqft  
.57 acres  
**Hamilton**  
\$205,000  
LO7698789

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



**Karen Cooper**  
Experienced. Supportive. Professional.

Your Native Loudoun Expert.

540.454.0467 Cell  
703.554.6668 Office

**Century 21**  
REDWOOD REALTY

**KarenCooperRealtor.com**

44075 PIPELINE PLAZA, SUITE 225 ASHBURN, VA

## North of Nine Artists Host Catoclin Holiday Art Tour

– A Unique Shopping Experience in Rural Loudoun –

– By Carol Morris Dukes

A group of western Loudoun artists calling themselves the “North of Nine” (As in Route 9), have combined their talents to host their first ever Holiday Art Tour this month.

On November 12th and 13th from 12 to 6pm, artisans will open their studio doors to holiday shoppers, giving everyone a sneak peek into the cottages, sheds and basements in rural Loudoun where these creative artisans paint, sculpt, hammer, and fire their unique creations.

The tour features seven stops and fifteen artists scattered throughout the areas of Morrisonville and Lovettsville. Each studio provides visitors a chance to observe the creative process and to buy unique holiday gifts directly from the maker.

Judy Haynes Levins, sculptor, works clay with incredible detail, creating a myriad of pieces from useful to whimsical. Of particular interest are the lifelike pixie faces that adorn her bookshelves, potted plants and tables. Her work is exquisite. Her imagination: inspiring. Judy and her artist husband, Peter Levins, are at Tour Stop 3.

In the heart of Morrisonville, just off Route 287, The Tour begins at “Art at Garden Corner,” the name given the studio owned by Jill Evans-Kavaldjian. Together, she and Amy Manson will welcome visitors into a



Full List of Tour Stops & Artists on Page 31



delightful, bright cottage buzzing with creative energy. Filled with pottery, paintings and prints made from hand created print blocks, this studio sets the mood for the whimsical country tour that follows.

A map is essential for this fabulous Tour. A few of the studios are off the beaten path and getting lost on back country roads could easily

happen. On second thought, wandering aimlessly through western Loudoun may not be such a bad thing.

For more information, or to download your own map, visit [www.catoclinart.net](http://www.catoclinart.net).

## Virginia Builders Push Traffic Onto State Roads, Refuse to Build Adequately Interconnected Streets

– Lobbyists Undermine Signature Bipartisan Reform – of 2007 General Assembly Session

October 19, 2008 "At a time when VDOT can't keep up with transportation needs, Virginia's building lobby wants the taxpayers to shoulder even more of a burden by pushing more traffic onto our arterial roads," said Stewart Schwartz, Executive Director of the Coalition for Smarter Growth.

Today in Richmond, VDOT will ask the Commonwealth Transportation Board to reduce the street connectivity and sidewalk requirements approved after the 2007 General Assembly session. The proposed changes would remove the Connectivity Index and only require one real external connection for a new suburban development (for every 200 houses). The other connection can be a stub-out that might be connected in the future. In contrast, the Connectivity Index would have resulted in more external connections and options for drivers, reducing pressure on arterial roadways.

"Virginia was hailed for its 2007 statute mandating increased

connectivity of streets – for those streets that developers ask to be transferred to public ownership and maintenance. It's been shown that more interconnected street networks reduce traffic and offer more options for shorter car trips, walking and bicycling," said Schwartz.

"The building industry will be forcing on the taxpayers the higher cost of widening arterials and building very costly grade separated interchanges to handle all of the traffic funneled from their developments," said Schwartz.

The changes were pushed by lobbyists for the homebuilding industry through a VDOT committee with the support of VDOT staff even though, as a result of the recession, the existing connectivity regulations haven't been tested. In addition to the weakened connectivity standards, the proposed changes would reduce the number of cases where sidewalks need to be provided on both sides of the street, and would reduce Traffic Impact studies.

## Amy V. Smith's Money Talks

– Social Security is Worth the Wait –

According to the Social Security Administration, more than nine out of ten individuals age 65 and older receive Social Security benefits.

Anyone considering retirement and drawing Social Security retirement benefits should have an understanding of how this important decision will affect his or her family and themselves. For someone whose full retirement age is 66, drawing benefits at age 62 permanently reduces an individual's per year base benefit by 25%. While it is true that some people needed to retire, or found themselves in situations where the decision was made for them, it is more financially advantageous to wait. "If you wait, you will receive a guaranteed increase each year of 7% - 8% per year until you reach age 70," says Raymond James Senior Tax and Estate Consultant Susan Hartman.

If you start collecting benefits and change your mind, you can withdraw your application for retirement benefits within 12 months of your first month of entitlement. You are limited to one withdrawal per lifetime. If your request is granted, you need to repay the SSA all of the payments you and anyone else have collected as benefits and subsequently refile as if it were your first time filing.

Of course, receiving Social Security benefits is only a supplement to retirement income from other sources, including investments and retirement plans. And while some expenses will go away, others will remain—and increase—like healthcare and Medicare. "If you can afford to wait, do so, even if you have to spend assets while you wait," says Hartman.

However, it is likely that Social Security will provide a

smaller portion of retirement income than you expect. In order to keep the system solvent, some changes will likely be made. The younger and wealthier you are, the more likely these changes will affect you. But keep in mind that Social Security was never meant to be the sole source of income for retirees. As President Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "The system is not intended as a substitute for private savings, pension plans, and insurance protection. It is, rather, intended as the foundation upon which these others forms of protection can be soundly built."

No matter what the future holds for Social Security, focus on saving as much for retirement as possible. When combined with your future Social Security benefits, your retirement savings and pension benefits can help ensure that you'll have enough income to see you through retirement.

Remember, Social Security also offers disability and survivor's benefits. With all the focus on retirement benefits, it's easy to overlook the fact that Social Security also offers protection against long-term disability. And when you receive retirement or disability benefits, your family members may be eligible to receive benefits, too.

Another valuable source of support for your family is Social Security survivors insurance. If you were to die, certain members of your family, including your spouse, children, and dependent parents, may be eligible for monthly survivors benefits that can help replace lost income.



Do not forget to consider taxes in addition to reduced or withheld benefits before Full Retirement Age. Always consider the net (after-tax) benefits you will receive. A working spouse may cause more of your benefits to be taxed – and at potentially higher tax rates.

For divorced individuals, an individual must be unmarried when he or she applies for benefits if applying for spousal benefits based on an ex-spouse's work history. If a widow or widower collecting survivor benefits remarries, he or she does not lose benefits.

You should apply for Social Security benefits approximately three months before your retirement date. No matter when you apply for Social Security, you'll be eligible for Medicare at age 65, so make sure you contact the SSA three months before you turn 65, even if you plan to retire later.

For specific information about the benefits you and your family members may receive, visit the SSA's website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call 800-772-1213 if you have questions.

I welcome your comments. Just send me an email at [amy.v.smith@raymondjames.com](mailto: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 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](http://www.amysmithwealthmanagement.com).

The opinions and recommendations here are those of the columnist.



**Blue Ridge District School Board Representative Priscilla Godfrey**

As a member of the Loudoun County School Board for the past eight years, I am proud of what we have accomplished despite student growth coupled with budget decreases because of the recession. In those eight years, the student population increased 45% or an additional 19,000 students arrived and we built and opened 19 new schools. We provided two desperately needed new schools to the Blue Ridge District – Kenneth Culbert Elementary School and Woodgrove High School, despite lawsuits and many delays. We underwent two efficiency studies, one underwritten by the State by the MGT Company and one done of all the schools in the DC metropolitan area. Of the 60 recommendations of the MGT Company, we have changed procedures to comply with 45 of them; the only remaining savings to be realized is with the reform of the land acquisition and permitting process with the county which I am hopeful we can undertake with the new Board of Supervisors. The second efficiency study rated us second in the area with one of the lowest costs per pupil. Budget cuts by the State and local government resulted in an operating budget in 2011-2012 that we had



in 2008-2009 when we were educating 9,000 fewer students. We are now sitting at a cost per pupil (\$11,019) that we had also back in 2008, three years ago. This was accomplished by freezing teachers' and staff salaries for three consecutive years and by increasing class sizes systemwide by 2 more children per class than we had in 2007. This increase in class size results in some elementary and high school classes in the 30s and some secondary teachers responsible for educating 150 students rather than 130. Many challenges lie ahead; we are behind in providing relief for overcrowded schools; we need to return to salaries that will retain experienced teachers and enable us to hire new college graduates; and we need to work toward returning class sizes to school board goals. In eight years we have improved graduation rates, narrowed the achievement gap, increased participation in AP and SAT college prep tests and have more students applying to college than ever before. I want to be a part of continuing the long line of education excellence that has been established while at the same time addressing areas that need improvement.

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



**Loudoun Nursery is open for container evergreen selection.**



**Loudoun Nursery, Inc.**

*Evergreen, Shade & Flowering Trees. Container Grown in Loudoun County From Rt. 7 W, take Rt. 287 towards Purcellville, go a short distance to right onto Hirst Rd., follow to right onto Rt. 690 (Hillsboro Rd.); left onto Rt. 711 (Allder School Rd.); then right onto Rt. 716 (Short Hill Rd.); 3rd driveway on the left.*

-  Colorado Blue Spruce & Norway Spruce to 5-6'
-  Evergreen trees \$125-\$150
-  Other trees available
-  Container grown light-weight Spruce & Fir

**Open by appointment**  
 Photos of this year's crop visit [www.LoudounNursery.com](http://www.LoudounNursery.com)  
 Questions? Call (540) 338-4635

**On the Market ... with Sam Rees**



Round Hill, Purcellville, Bluemont, Hamilton, Leesburg, Lovettsville, Waterford



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



**NEW Listing - Round Hill**  
 5 bedrooms and 3 full baths on upper level .54 acre lot - located on heart of old town!  
**\$444,700**



**SOLD - Multiple Offers - Listed for \$319,900 - Round Hill**



**SOLD - Listed for \$325,000 Sweetgum Place - Round Hill**



**Carr Lane - Waterford**  
 Top of the line finishes grace this lovely home on 6 plus acres in historic Waterford.  
**LO7565341 \$619,990**



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



**NEW LISTING - Round Hill**  
 Waterford - 6 bedroom estate on 35 acres.  
**Listed for \$1,650,000**



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

**Sam's Market Update** This summer real estate market finished very strong. In September the average days on the market for Loudoun County were only 66 days! There is a real shortage of quality listings on the market. For a complimentary analysis of your home's value I hope you will give me a call. (Source: Real Estate Business Intelligence, LLC. An MRIS company.)

**Call Sam Rees, Associate Broker, Prudential Carruthers Realtors**

Cell: 703-408-4261 [sam.rees.pcragent.com](http://sam.rees.pcragent.com) [samvrees@yahoo.com](mailto:samvrees@yahoo.com)



**Sam.Rees.PCRAgent.com**

**Every Real Estate Market has Great Opportunities**



# A Thank You, from Malcolm Baldwin

I'm Malcolm Baldwin, candidate to represent you as Catoctin District Supervisor on the Board of Supervisors.

I want to thank everyone I have met during my campaign, for taking the time to speak with me as I have knocked on your doors and met you at campaign events.

Thank you for considering my qualifications and positions – and now, in advance, for taking the time to vote on Tuesday, November 8.

Over the course of an election season that began when snow was still flying last winter, I've met Democrats, Independents and Republicans in neighborhoods all across this sprawling district of both suburban and rural communities.

Each and every meeting has been an opportunity to listen and learn.

And I've learned a lot.

We have great people here, with hopes and concerns that are remarkably consistent across the full political spectrum.

The people of the Catoctin District – whether suburban or rural – want to be sure we keep our county and our communities great places to live and raise a family.

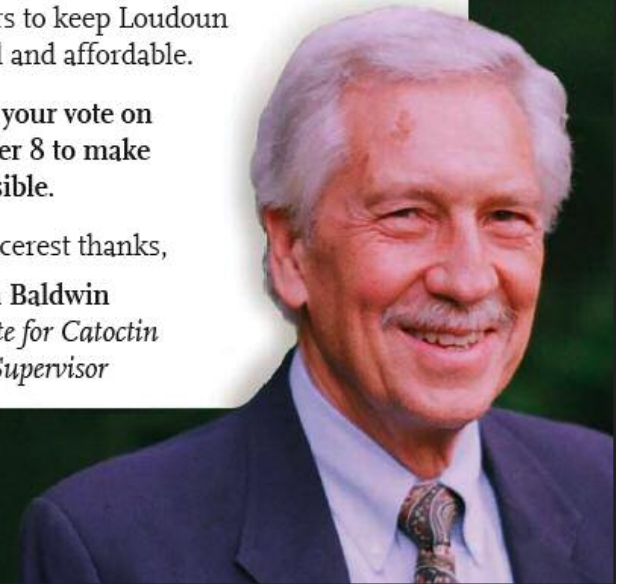
Folks are concerned about traffic, taxes, schools, land and water resources (and in some areas, water rates) and the pace and costs of rapid growth.

But along with the concerns, I hear how much people love living in Loudoun, and how they want to protect the things they love about their communities.

I hear you. I listened. I hope to continue our conversation as your representative on the Board of Supervisors, and to have the opportunity to work with you over the next four years to keep Loudoun beautiful and affordable.

I ask for your vote on November 8 to make that possible.

With sincerest thanks,  
**Malcolm Baldwin**  
*Candidate for Catoctin District Supervisor*



Paid for and authorized by Baldwin for Supervisor

**School Bus Drivers Needed**  
On-Line Application [www.lcps.org](http://www.lcps.org)

Questions? Call  
Transportation Training  
**571-252-1720**

**Loudoun County Public Schools**  
Transportation Training  
**571-252-1720**

**Duvall, continued from page 1**

organizations we sponsor in any capacity we can. Our home is a place that allows us to raise funds, to bring awareness and create a network of special and generous friends. With all of them we have been able to rebuild homes for the disabled, send children to school and promote successful micro-financing. We look forward to continue sharing our home, a place where we have found happiness and purpose."

Also speaking at the event was 14-year old Julia Leggette, the First Ambassador for the RDCF. Recently, Julia raised \$3,500 for a well in Bail, Haiti selling jewelry she makes herself and through other. "I really like being Ambassador to the Robert Duvall children's Fund," said Julia, "because I like helping people and changing lives. That is one of the most important things to me. I like helping people who are less fortunate than me."

Micro financing is a strategy which helps the world's poorest people lift themselves out of poverty through access to information, small loans, and viable business opportunities.

For more information visit <http://rdchildrensfund.org>.



Above: Julia Leggette and her mom, Kathy; Right (left to right): Mr. Duvall, General William Keys of Colt Manufacturing, Andra Olson and Jim Hanson. Andra and Jim are with the World Mounted Shooters, which performed at the event.

**Letters, continued from page 6**

our community. We are all part of the solution. Every one of us has a role to play.

Throughout the years, I have enjoyed working with constituents, community associations and county staff as we pull together to address our shared concerns. The collaboration has led to thoughtful decisions in the best interest of us all. I have met many amazing, engaged people along the way, who shared their expertise for the betterment of our community.

For that, I thank you Loudoun County, and especially Sugarland Run District, residents. I am richer for the experience of having served you on the Board of Supervisors. All the best. — Susan Klimek Buckley, Vice Chair, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, Sugarland Run District

**Kelli Grim, continued from page 1**

who is a PBPA member, the PBPA leadership questioned her presence due to her connections with this newspaper and her advocacy for the Real Parties of Interest disclosure requirement. Many within the PBPA, including development and other business interests who have plans for commercial development that will eventually come before the Town Council oppose Real Parties of Interest disclosure, claiming that some "investors" will shy away from development projects if their names were part of the public record. Rather than continuing with the normal September PBPA meeting protocol, where issues are openly discussed and all PBPA members are invited to participate, the leadership instituted new policies limiting a PBPA member's abil-

ity to speak, and then, in an attempt to exclude Ms. Grim from the proceedings went into "closed session" (Board members only, including a current Town Council Member and the Executive Editor of another local newspaper), at which time Ms. Grim was asked to leave.

Ms. Grim attended the normal October Board Meeting of the PBPA and was immediately told she had to leave because they were once again, "in closed session."

To date, after more than a year of lobbying by Ms. Grim and others on behalf of Real Parties of Interest disclosure, no action has been taken by the Town Council and the Purcellville Business and Professional Association has not issued any recommendation on the issue.



## LOUDOUN COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY — NOVEMBER 13, 2011



Join us from 3:00pm to 5:00pm

www.LCDS.org

703.777.3841 20600 Red Cedar Dr., Leesburg, VA 20175



# SCHOOL BREAK CAMP KODA

NOVEMBER 7-11  
MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:30AM-5:30PM FULL DAY  
8:30AM - 1:00PM HALF DAY  
NO WEEKLY COMMITMENT


ASK ABOUT OUR  
AFTER SCHOOL FUN!

For more information  
please call 703-779-8082  
or e-mail [info@aaesva.com](mailto:info@aaesva.com)

AMERICAN ACADEMY  
OF EQUESTRIAN  
SCIENCES

19844 James Monroe Hwy.  
Leesburg, VA 20175



**Special Opinion, continued from page 1**

While voting in national elections should absolutely be encouraged, citizens should vote in local elections, too, as local politicians, arguably, have more of an immediate impact on our lives.

School Board members make detailed, everyday decisions regarding our schools. Students who are eighteen can vote in local elections and have a say in who "makes the rules" in their schools.

Local lawmakers make decisions regarding how much money will be spent on services for the community. They make decisions to repair roads, to maintain libraries, and to keep up trash collection. Also, the money they spend is not just from the Federal Government, but from the state and local taxes that all citizens pay.

One of my fellow classmates put it this way: "I think we tend to take our local elections for granted, even though they have more of an immediate impact on our day to day lives," said Nick Gibbiser, a senior at a local high school, "Whereas, any action by the national government takes time to both pass and trickle down to the states ... the work of our local government can be seen every day in our parks, streets, public buildings, etc."

Voting is not just a right, but more importantly, a responsibility. We have the opportunity to have a say in our government, and we must exercise this right in order to keep it.

There are many other countries that do not allow their people to vote, and in most cases those people are oppressed and denied basic rights. If we want to continue to have so much freedom, we must vote to preserve our freedom. "I think voting is important because it forms the basis for our entire democracy and is one of the very few opportunities for the individual to influence government," Gibbiser went on to say.

A common argument used by many Americans is that their vote doesn't count. But, your vote always counts.

In a local election, with so few citizens voting, your vote really does count! One vote really makes a huge difference and just a handful of votes can determine the outcome in a close local election.

President Obama makes many decisions, but not all of his decisions reach our local community for months or even years after his decision is made. Our State Senators are making decisions regarding the State of Virginia's budget and other important issues.

I turned 18 on October 16, 2011 and I will vote for the first time on November 8th. I am excited to finally be able to take part in our great country and to cast votes for the candidates of my choice.

So for everyone reading who is eighteen or older, research who is running and what they believe, and then make an informed decision and go vote on November 8th! Claim your opportunity to make a difference in your community!

*Samuel Moore-Sobel attends high school in Ashburn and has been writing for his school newspaper for three years.*

**First Loudoun Distillery Since Prohibition Wins Innovation Award**

Catoctin Creek Distilling Company has been named a Silver-level certified green business and awarded the Innovation Award in the 2011 Green Business Challenge.

"We are thrilled by this," says Scott Harris, Vice President and General Manager at Catoctin Creek. "The Green Business Challenge affirms our commitment to sustainable practices, while producing the finest rye whisky, gin, and brandy in the area ... we are simultaneously preserving our environment and saving big on energy and waste expenses."

Catoctin Creek Distilling Company recycles all by-products of their whisky production process. Waste alcohol is recy-

clered into fuel-grade ethanol for blending into gasoline, and the spent rye mash is given away freely to local farms as a nutritious and organic-certified cattle feed.

The Green Business Challenge is a partnership between the Loudoun County Government and the Chamber of Commerce to encourage Loudoun businesses to adopt environmentally sound business practices.

Catoctin Creek Distilling Company is the first distillery in Loudoun County Virginia since before prohibition. Certified organic and kosher, Catoctin Creek produces high quality spirits and liqueurs: rye whisky and gin from organic sources, brandy from Virginia wines, and seasonal



specialty liqueurs. For more information, contact Catoctin creek at [www.catoctin-creek.com](http://www.catoctin-creek.com) or 37251C East Richardson Lane, Purcellville, VA 20132. Tel: 540-751-8404.



## Happiness is letting someone else deal with your commute.

If you drive to work every day, think about how much extra time and money you'd have if you weren't stuck behind the wheel. On the Tysons Express, you can let someone else do the driving while you read, sleep, use the onboard wi-fi or just relax. And you'll be saving close to \$1500 a year on gas and other expenses.

### Now picking up passengers at the new Harmony Park and Ride Lot east of Hamilton

The Tysons Express runs every weekday between Loudoun and Tysons Corner.



Call Loudoun County Transit at 877-GO-LCBUS or visit [loudoun.gov/bus-tysons](http://loudoun.gov/bus-tysons)

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

### Lucketts

This time, no one was there. Understand, most of my memories of visits to the grounds around the Lucketts Community Center come alive with crowds of fairgoers, or attendees from various other events. Anyone who's been to the annual Lucketts Fair – assuredly – has similar pictures from which to draw. But my most recent stop came in the peaceful moments right around dawn on a midsummer morning, as birds were testing their throats and the sun was just sort of scratching the horizon, and most 'normal' citizens were either sleeping or – at least – still in their PJ's.

But, despite the serenity of the scene, I could still – almost involuntarily – see ghostly images of summer fairgoers from the back of my mind, and hear the shouts of children playing in their recreation area, the music of bluegrass from the now-occupied – now-empty – band shelter, and the collage of various and sundry sounds providing the constant backdrop to one's attendance at the popular annual attraction. And, in spite of the early hour of my solitary stroll, I kept sensing the aromas of the veritable smörgåsbord of goodies laid out in the name of the Fair: fresh roasted peanuts, hand-churned ice cream, bloomin' onions, corn-on-the-cob, barbecued meats, and many other personal favorites.

And, I could still recall the flavors of some of the prize pies from an annual contest I helped judge about five years back – as part of my memory – bank of experiences from inside the historic community center. (I think my vote that day went for the Michigan cherry.) And, as long as my imaginative senses were about it, they conjured up the spirits of other pastries past –

put up for display and sale each year for the two-day fair. Zucchini breads, home-made cookies, cakes and other concoctions of flour, sugar, butter and the other satisfactory necessities – as well as fruit and vegetable preserves to take home and enjoy for the upcoming months.

Funny how all this can crop up from a simple early-morning visit to a familiar place. Jeez – I'm glad they were all good memories that I had from which to pick – I'da' been at a real loss if I'd been thinking back on times of trouble and strife.

But, in reality, on this particular morning appointment, the Lucketts grounds were deserted and quiet, hushed and dark in the half-light of a warm, summer dawn. The band shelter was empty and still, the historic, former schoolhouse building locked and under wraps for off-season repairs – its cupola – steeple carefully placed on the ground for the fix-up job. The at-other-times-countless vendors of hand-made soaps, jewelry,

woodcrafts, rustic antiques and other fondly-displayed home furnishings were – like my other imaginative conjurations – notable in their absence – at least as far as I was concerned.

And – so were those with whom I've visited this annual fair – no loved ones to point out common interests, no associates with whom to discuss proper Fair coverage, no news contacts for potential interviews.

Or weren't there?

Just wait a minute.

It felt for a brief moment like they were here, after all. Didn't it – did you sense it, too? Kind of like, having a dream about someone close, and then, later in the day, asking them if they just so happened to have that same dream at the same time.

So – on this particular summer dawn, were the 'they' in my life somewhere else – thinking about being at the Lucketts Fair – with me – if I should be so lucky?

I should be so lucky. A nice thought, but sometimes too much philosophizing can get you in trouble – like digging into the past and getting stuck there.

So – back to 2011, me and my camera at the Historic Lucketts Fairgrounds ... by the time I'd circumnavigated the familiar Community Center and strolled the empty grounds, some local first responders were testing their equipment at the nearby firehouse. The 'here and now' portions of the day were getting under way – in serious fashion.

Time for dreamers like me to get home and do the same. Hope you find a similar balance in your morning.



## Water Rates – continued from page 7

operates at less than 3 ppm nitrogen.

The other major cost was expanding the capacity of the plant from 1 million gallons-per-day (mgd) to 1.5 mgd. This part of the renovation was entirely voluntary on the part of the town. While the town had been granted a total load by the state based on an expanded plant, the load would have been reduced to that of its previous size with no adverse effects on the operation of the plant.

The current plant operates at less than 50% of the old capacity or about 30% of the new capacity. With the current downturn in housing construction, and limits that the Purcellville Urban Growth Area document puts on where new homes can go, the extra plant capacity today's taxpayers are already paying for will not be used for decades to come.

But this project is really very consistent with the choices made by the Town Council beginning at about the time that Bob Lazaro became Mayor. Always the most expensive option is chosen. The town does not seem to recognize the term "good stewardship" with the citizens' money. Instead, the town finances everything, almost as if they are trying to keep pace with the Federal Government's debt. In actuality, the Town is approaching the legal debt limit imposed by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Now the

Town is in a very delicate financial situation relative to its huge amount of debt (larger than any other single debt incurred by the Town in over 100 years), because the debt has to be repaid. Unfortunately, there are not enough new water and sewer connections being purchased by developers to meet the capital payment expenses. Consequently, the Town must increase the fees for processing sewage to "pay the mortgage." Prior to the recent increases, the sewer treatment plant operated at about \$2 million per year. However, the debt service for the sewer plant itself has risen to about \$2 million per year. The Town is actually gradually increasing the rates by withdrawing most of the reserve funds to make the loan payments while increasing the rates such that the tax income will double in approximately three years.

These are now fixed expenditures that no one can do anything about. Your elected Mayor and Town Council members have stuck it to the citizens of the Town. (The interesting political twist to this is that the most recent rate increases were the lowest of the option that were presented. Why? It's an election based decision. Look forward to much larger increases following the next election to make up for the current increase in place now.)



Beautiful to look at  
...a pleasure to use

DAVID NORTON  
POTTERY SALE

With guest jewelry artist LIZ HALL

ANNUAL SALE - NOV 12 & 13

POTTEROSA

ROUND HILL, VA

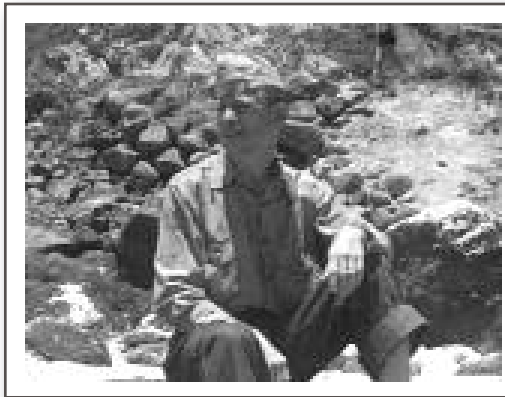
540-338-9502

DavidNortonPottery.com

## A Tribute to My Father

– By Sue Thompson

In October of 2011, Norman Cooper Watkins joined "The Long Gray Line", that continuum of all graduates and cadets of the USMA at West Point, as he passed from the pages of his family's history to his eternal rest. Norm served his country proudly, taking his family with him around the world. He retired as a full Colonel to enjoy his beloved children and grandchildren. A gentle man, he appreciated the simple things in life. Sitting in the wooden pew of the little brick church in Haymarket, Virginia, listening to the closing strains of a favorite old hymn as we bid Norman farewell, my thoughts drifted back to my own father and I realized that in the midst of all of my musings and writing I had yet to pen him a tribute. So here it is dad, long overdue but full of the love of a daughter that misses you every day.



money in his pocket. A CCC Camp in the Blue Ridge Mountains paid better. The food was decent and there was enough money to send home.

Life might have settled into a routine for a while but the rumbles of war sent dad to the recruiter's desk. He chose the Navy so he could see the world. Submarine duty paid the most and dad fought the Japanese from the depths of the Pacific Ocean. He told me in later years that the military was a God-send for him. It provided room, board, clothing and medical care; everything he needed. He was able to send his entire paycheck home to his mother.

Stationed off the coast of Australia, dad's fleet would put into port in the little towns that dotted the coastline, the sailors pouring ashore at every opportunity. Dad was a member of the elite 'submariners', a dashing group of swash-bucklers that turned more than a few female heads. One head in particular turned and kept looking. Nell Eileen and Henry Rudolph Jr., were married in Brisbane, Australia in 1943. Mom was a beautiful brown eyed brunette with a trim ankle and an eye for style.

Like most of "The Greatest Generation", dad seldom spoke of the war years and when asked, he would mumble a brief comment before changing the subject. Some things were better left alone. He much preferred the years

*Continued on page 30*

My father, Henry Rudolph Burkhardt was born on February 22, 1916, in Montgomery, Alabama. The fifth of 10 children, the family knew the deprivation of poverty that the Depression threw like a blanket over the just and the unjust. His father, Henry Rudolph, Sr., died when dad was 13, leaving his mother widowed for the second time and penniless. Valedictorian of his high school class, dad literally walked away from Montgomery with a one year scholarship to Columbia University in his pocket, hitchhiking to New York with a cardboard suitcase and no money. The year was 1934.

What the Depression didn't kill in the way of hope, cancer tried to. News from home that his mother was ill sent dad away from Columbia. Sick and unable to work, his mother needed help feeding the young ones still at home. With jobs as scarce as money, the skinny boy from Alabama found work as a lumberjack, the rigors of which he said, put some muscle on his bones but little in the way of

*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.*

### Let's Dwell On It – 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		

#### Across

1. Santa's present carrier
5. Physics calculation
9. Goes with Saxon
14. S-shaped molding
15. Chip in?
16. Fabric
17. Part
18. Back of the house
19. Rumba relative
20. Start of a house?
23. In-flight info, for short
24. Consume
25. Jane Eyre, e.g.
28. It's always sold in mint condition
30. Appear
32. "We \_\_ family"
33. Gas used in welding
35. Wolf, coyote, fox, dog family
37. House plan related
40. Maids
41. Actress Bloom
42. Alter, in a way
43. Not just "a"
44. "Indian Idol," for example
48. Italian town

#### Down

1. Cold dessert
2. Short-eared rabbit
3. Abdominal
4. Fall (over)
5. "Besame mucho" singer
6. Concerning
7. For men only
8. Balkan native
9. Knight's "suit"
10. Civil rights org.
11. Equestrians' field day
12. Court play
13. "Walking on Thin Ice" singer
21. "Six Feet Under" subjects?
22. What a house stands on
26. Fleshy seed covering
27. "Waking \_\_ Devine" (1998 film)
29. Microsoft support rep
30. Nee AI (anagram)
31. Gut areas
34. Carve in stone
35. Horse move
36. God of war
37. "The \_\_ have it"
38. Butting equipment
39. Snigger maker
40. "Bingo!"
43. Backgammon impossibility
45. Attach a hose
46. An alloy
47. Supposed, for Shakespeare
49. Building style
50. Refine, as metal
51. Eagle home
54. Didn't dillydally
55. Ending with hard or soft
56. Shakira's don't lie
57. Appropriate
58. Orchid arrangement

Answers on page 20

# Holiday Fashions at Ann Taylor

## Capturing Old Hollywood Glamour ...



**Above:** Faux Shearling Motor Jacket, Whisper Blouse, Fete Mini Skirt.

**Left:** Crystalline Top, Velvet Straight Pant, in maple neutral.

**Below:** Elegant Faux Fur Stole, Beaded Icicle Top, Winter Tweed Pant, Chanelier Necklace, Opulent Faux Fur Throw.



*Fireside Blouse  
Snow Flower Lace Skirt  
Exotic Perfect Skinny Belt*



# Truly "local" Thanksgivings are hard to pull off ... but not here in Loudoun County! Get your turkey from Fields of Athenry **before we sell out!**



## **Happy Holidays from your local farmer!**

I'm Elaine Boland, owner of Fields of Athenry Farm, on Snickersville Turnpike in between Purcellville & Middleburg.

We have every kind of delicious, fresh-from-the-farm meats you might need for your holiday table this year – hormone & antibiotic-free and lovingly raised here and on the healthy pastures of area farms, and fresh cut each week to your order.

**We have Thanksgiving Turkeys, of course (for which we are famous!) – but, also, fabulous ham, prime rib, steaks, lamb, and chicken. Local wines, raw milk cheeses, gift baskets, nutritional broths and supplements, Vital Choice seafood products, essential oils.**

Call us at 703.300.5765 or go to our website for more information and to place your order. Stop by the farm with family and friends to see what we're all about. Relax on our patio for fresh homemade chili/stew and a glass of wine on Saturdays, or, tour the farm with the kids!

**Shop the Farm Shop, we're open  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday,  
11 am to 6:30 pm.**

**Fields of Athenry Farm  
38082 Snickersville Turnpike  
Purcellville, VA 20132**



## **We also offer home delivery!**



**Holiday Gift Baskets!**

**Go to [www.FieldsOfAthenryFarm.com](http://www.FieldsOfAthenryFarm.com) to Place Your Order.  
Convenient Home Delivery or Farm Shop Pick Up for All of Your Holiday 2011 Needs  
is Just a Click Away! Farm Shop: 703.300.5765.**



## – Sushi ... A Thanksgiving “Tail”

Well, I (the Mighty Carin Terrier, “Sushi”) never felt more like singing to the stars because I have so much to be thankful for. I was in one of those deep hearty moods – you know that feeling when you enjoy great satisfaction at the end of a hard night’s work? When you want to sit on top of a hill under a full moon, look out over the farm, breath deep and digest all that went right that day?

The October moon shone bright. The cool night air blew gently across “Turkey Hill.” From my vantage point, I could see Stretch, sitting atop “Sheep Hill” aloof yet majestic, keeping watch in all directions for any predator that might harm his flock of ewe lambs. Stretch the Llama’s deep red fiber was highlighted by the colors of the autumn blaze maple tree that he sat under. My buddy Stretch and I are depended upon to protect the family farm.

I was finished for the day after having checked the fence lines along “Turkey Hill.” At the same time, I was keeping watch on the Sly Ones’ activities out in the forbidden woods. “Turkey Hill” watch is extremely important this time of year as Thanksgiving and Christmas approach. Each and every bird is accounted for, as these “table birds” are the making of family memories to come. October, November, December, are my master Mrs. B.’s favorite months of the year.

Many of my nights are spent protecting the farm’s poultry and fowl from the Sly Ones – the foxes that live out in the dark and forbidden woods. I live on a special farm called Fields of Atherny. Fields of Atherny is a place where we choose to live life as we think it should be lived. We work together, as a family, humans and animals side by side. Our farm is known for the meat it produces and sells, and the way we raise and care for our livestock.

This time of year our heritage breed turkeys are laying eggs and hatching is taking place in Mrs. B.’s incubator. As soon as the turkey poult’s can get moved, outside they go! Each breed is separated in their own field right now, to make new babies ready for the 2012 table birds! Mr. and Mrs. Bourbon Red, Mr. and Mrs. Royal Palm and Mr. and Mrs. Bronze prance and dance as if they are the Cat’s meow! Oh and speaking of cats – those two annoying barn cats; Hokie and Mountie can really be distracting in a young man’s work, especially when that young man is a dog. They are always trying to get me in trouble! I took one more trot around the turkey Mama’s pens as baby turkeys peered out from under their Mama’s wings. Life is good on this particular fall night; even old Gnarly Gander (the China Goose) and the rest of the Goose gang are content and peaceful under the twilight moon. Lord Percy and his harem of hens roosted serenely in the chicken palace.

I have a lot to be thankful for. With the Thanksgiving and Christmas season approaching it seems so appropriate. I decided to relish in my contentment with my old buddy Stretch. Stretch and I love meeting under the maple tree late at night, keeping watch over all the farm yards. Life was good. We had a strong year with very little livestock loss due to predators. I know Stretch and I will be rewarded by Mrs. B. and her family for our endless hard work throughout the year. It is so important to make someone happy through your actions. As you know; actions speak louder than words.

Every coyote fight, fox fight, skunk fight, possum fight has been worth protecting the farm for. Not always pleasant but someone has got to do the grunt work. That’s just the attitude Stretch and I take in our everyday duties that earn us the title of “Guardian’s” of Fields of Atherny Farm! Don’t ask what you can do for me but what can I do for you? Farm life teaches you this. So for now ... for this holiday season, come join Stretch and me and let our little light’s shine all around the barn yard. I know if I do my job well, Mrs. B. will have my favorite sautéed chicken livers, cooked to perfection for my holiday dinner! Maybe you have never had sautéed chicken livers, but let me tell you; a real farm dog knows good food when he tastes it and you don’t know what you are missing!

Christmas Eve, I will be snuggled by the light of the farm house fire place. I will be the center of attention, body massages and belly scratches from all. That’s right; scratches not scratches because that is exactly what dogs like. Even Stretch gets to join the fun! Yes, Stretch inside at Christmas – for you see Fields of Atherny Farm is a place where we choose to live life as we think it should be lived. We work together, as a family, humans and animals side by side.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas,  
Love Sushi!



MY MASTER, ELAINE BOLAND RUNS FIELDS OF  
ATHERNY FARM. ORDER HER FRESH MEATS AND PROD-  
UCTS AT [WWW.FIELDSOFATHERNYFARM.COM](http://WWW.FIELDSOFATHERNYFARM.COM).



## CREATIVE SOLUTIONS for OUTDOOR LIVING

**WILDWOOD LANDSCAPE** is the premier landscape design and construction firm serving Northern Virginia and southern West Virginia offering a full range of services from concept to maintenance including:

**MASTER PLANS**  
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 design dramatic and exciting landscapes and use great care when implementing them.

**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 skilled masons build walkways, patios, seat walls, retaining walls, fireplaces, fire pits and pool decks.

**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**  
Our water creations are designed and built to blend into the surrounding landscape. We design 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. Our knowledgeable and experienced crew provides quality maintenance services including: Mowing, lawn restoration and care, plant care and fertilization, pruning and weeding. Our gardening staff can change seasonal annuals in your beds and containers to keep your home and property fresh looking all year long.

**FOR A FREE CONSULTATION  
CALL US TODAY AT  
540.338.7190.**

404 BROWNING COURT, PURCELLVILLE, VIRGINIA 20132  
OFFICE 540.338.7190, FAX 540.338.6905  
[WWW.WILDWOOD-LANDSCAPE.COM](http://WWW.WILDWOOD-LANDSCAPE.COM) | VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

# Shop Local Buy Local ...

**BOODACADES  
BBQ  
RESTAURANT**

*NFL Sunday Ticket*  
12 Draft Beers & Local Wines Featured  
Ribs, Wings, & BBQ-Carryout Available  
4 Flat Screen HDTVs  
Floor to Ceiling Chalkboards in Kid's Corner

---

**Present this ad for a 10%  
discount  
on your entire order.**

---


251 N 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Purcellville, VA 20132  
(540) 338-1944  
[www.boodacades.com](http://www.boodacades.com)  
Facebook: Boodacades // Twitter: BoodacadesBBQ

**FACES OF  
THE HAIR MILL SALON & SPA**



MARTINI, ANNE, KIM, ANN MARIE, TONY, DIANN, SALLY

**Find Out How Radiant Color  
Can Look On You.**



Expert Color & Style Consultations  
With Master Colorists.  
**540-338-1169**  
**OPEN SUNDAYS**  
FULL SERVICE SALON • GIFT CERTIFICATES  
198 North 21st Street, Purcellville, VA 20132  
*~Located below Magnolia's*

**Got Gifts?  
for the Holidays**



Make  
**Premier**  
your first call!

Promote your company brand or charity event with "Signature" Accessories and unique company gifts — the possibilities are endless. Service is our guarantee and quality is our standard. Visit our showroom in Purcellville!  
Call us today.  
Gifts for the holidays

703 437-0636 [PPROMO.COM](http://PPROMO.COM) Premier Promotional Products **PPP**

**mr  
print**

501 East Main Street / Purcellville, VA

**Digital Copies • Printing**  
Graphic Design • Faxing • Large Format

*The ink of  
your imagination!*

Need copies in a hurry?  
Send your electronic file, come by and pick your copies up.

**540-338-5900 / [data@mrprint.net](mailto:data@mrprint.net)**

**TERRY'S  
BODY SHOP**  
*Loudoun's Collision Specialists*



Serving Purcellville & Loudoun County for 27 Years I-CAR Certified

- Complete Collision Repair Using State-of-the-Art Equipment
- Expert Color Matching - Oven-Baked Paint Finishes
- Insurance Work Welcome
- Towing Available
- Rental Car Office on Premises

**540-338-5500**  
Hours: 8-7 M-F, 9-1 Saturday  
101 N. Bailey Lane, P.O. Box 940, Purcellville, VA 20134  
[WWW.TERRYSBODYSHOP.COM](http://WWW.TERRYSBODYSHOP.COM)

**It's  
BAZAAR  
on 21st Street**

143 N 21st Street • Purcellville, VA 20132  
540-751-9260 • [www.bazaaron21st.com](http://www.bazaaron21st.com)

- Farmer's Market Saturdays November!
- Gifts, Hand-crafted Local Art, Knitwear
- Antiques, Collectibles, Jewelry
- Coffee Shop
- We sell gift cards!

**10% off store-wide with this ad**

*Happy Holidays!* *Happy*  
*Happy Holidays!*



# It's All Right Here!



**Save Fuel**

**Save Time**

**Save Money**

**Shop Local**

123 N. Maple Avenue  
Purcellville VA 20132  
540-338-4438  
M-Sat. 10 to 6pm  
Sun. 11 to 5pm  
www.twigsva.com




**BELLE MAISON**  
Affordable Luxury for the Home

We invite you to discover our collection of timeless European furnishings, vintage chandeliers, art and fabulous jewelry.

**UNIQUE FINDS ARRIVING DAILY!**

170 West Main in Historic Purcellville  
One block from Magnolia's  
Open Wednesday through Sunday  
540.338.2711

**NOW OPEN IN PURCELLVILLE**




**29 Vines**  
Winery | Tasting Room

Visit the Town of Purcellville's first winery and tasting room in the heart of Main Street's Historic District. Welcoming groups, business meetings and holiday parties.

**Local wines. Unique Gifts.**

HOURS: Open Friday - Monday, Noon - 10 PM | Open Thanksgiving Eve | Holiday Hours as Posted  
105 E. Main Street | Purcellville, VA 20132 • (540) 579-4467  
www.29vines.com



*Around the Block Books*



Coffee, Tea & Read

**BOOK LOVER'S GIFT BASKET**

Great Holiday Gifts Starting as low as \$29.95

Can include a paperback book, notepad, pen, journal, booklight, bookmark and more!

Design your own or let our expert staff design one for you!

**STORE HOURS**  
Mon. - Fri. 9am-8pm • Closed Thursdays  
Sat. 10am-8pm Sun. 12-5  
[www.AroundTheBlockBooks.com](http://www.AroundTheBlockBooks.com)  
120 North Hatcher Ave. | Purcellville, VA | 20132  
540-751-9161 main | 540-751-9729 fax

10% off Omega & Dynasty Cabinets!



**CABINET SHOWPLACE**  
FINE CABINETRY FOR THE ENTIRE HOME

Design & Sales  
540.338.9661  
www.cabinetshowplace.com

Sale ends November 18th and applies to retail pricing only

**It's better to give than receive...**



**Donate. Shop. Volunteer.**

We accept appliances, cabinets, furniture, building materials, lighting and more!

All donations are **tax deductible** and better yet, we offer **free, easy pick-up!**

*Holidays!*

*Happy Holidays!*

**Christmas Trees, Poinsettias, Wreaths, Garland & Gifts for Gardeners**

**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



**SHOP TODAY!**

**10% DISCOUNT OFF ONE (1) ITEM IN-STORE**  
Minimum purchase applies  
**COUPON EXPIRES: DECEMBER 31, 2011**

Coupon valid at the Loudoun Habitat ReStore  
711 E. Main Street, Purcellville VA  
Ph: 540.579.4508  
www.loudounhabitat.org/restore

Must present coupon to receive discount. No cash value. Minimum purchase must equal \$15.00 pre tax. Limit one coupon per customer. Some exclusions may apply.

100% of the profits from the ReStore support Loudoun Habitat for Humanity.



Donation Line: 540.579.4508  
711 E. Main Street, Purcellville VA  
www.loudounhabitat.org/restore

# W

– By Dane Mullins

## oodgrove High School

Home of the Wolverines

### Dedication Anniversary Celebration ...

Woodgrove had its dedication anniversary celebration the last week of October. Events included student spirit week, a powder puff football game (congratulations Junior Girls 2-0), an exciting football game between the two newest Loudoun County high schools – Woodgrove vs Tuscarora – and a celebration dance on Saturday night (regretfully postponed 'til Nov. 5 due to SNOW).

### Sports Wise, Woodgrove Has A Lot to Celebrate and A Lot to look Forward To ...

- Junior Sarah Hardison has been invited to attend a week of training at the U.S. Under-18 Women's National Soccer Team.
- Freshman Volleyball team stats are good – 12-5.
- Freshman Football team stats are great – 9-0.
- There's a big football match up, Woodgrove vs Loudoun Valley – Freshman and JV – Nov. 1 & Varsity – Nov. 4.
- Congratulations to the competition Wolverine Cheerleading team. They have placed 4th in each of their recent competitions.
- **The Cross Country team is continuing its winning streak.**

At the 34th Annual Frank Keyser Invitational at Boonsboro High School in Boonsboro, Md.;

– All teams raced in the large school categories in their respective divisions;

– JV Girls team placed 2nd of 7 teams: Carson Kiely was 2nd, Kirsten Gerczak, 4th and Elise Chaudet, 9th in a field of 97 runners;

– JV Boys team placed 3rd of 13 teams: Grady Workman was 7th, Kevin Barr, 10th and Robert Kramer, 12th in a field of 139 runners;

– Varsity Girls team placed 2nd of 17 teams: Alex Juzbasich, 8th, and Katherine Bruton, 13th out of a field of 111 runners;

– Varsity Boys team finished 4th of 19 teams, up from 10th last year: Evan McCarthy was 4th;

– In the Oatlands District Match Up: Girls Placed 2nd Overall and Boys Placed 6th Overall – Senior Audrey Houghton placed 3, Senior Evan McCarthy placed 2nd, Senior Lydia Cromwell placed 4th, Junior Peter Volpone placed 17th, and Junior Alexandra Juzbasich placed 19th.

### We Rocked Halloween ...



Woodgrove was represented by the Marching Wolverines, our mascot Walter the Wolverine, and the Cheerleaders in the Annual Leesburg Halloween Parade on October 31.

### Theater! ...

FALL THEATRICAL PRODUCTION – *Lady Windermere's Fan*. Rehearsals have already begun. Performances are schedule: Nov. 17-19. Evening performances scheduled for 7 pm.

### Good Deeds & School Support! ...

PACK A PICKUP: WOODGROVE CARES – Sponsored by WHS PEER Students, Oct. 31 – Nov. 4.

Please help us support the Western Loudoun Food Pantry which serves the needs of about 30 local families a month. You may bring items to WHS during the week or look for our Pickup at the Nov. 4 Woodgrove/Valley Varsity Football Game where donations will also be received.

### PACK A PICKUP MOST-NEEDED ITEMS:

Food: peanut butter & jelly, pasta & sauces, macaroni & cheese, canned tuna, chicken or ham, stew or soup – canned or dry mix, rice & instant potatoes, juice (bottles, boxes, mix), canned or dried fruit, cereal, breakfast bars, Bisquick or pancake mix/syrup, packaged mixes, side dishes, canned Vegetables.

Non-Food: soap, detergent, toilet paper, tissues, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, cleaning supplies, paper towels, wash cloths/towels, shampoo, diapers/wipes.

Notes: Cash and check donations are also welcomed and appreciated. Checks made out to Bloom or Giant will be used to purchase \$20 gift cards. One gift card is given to each pantry “shopper” to purchase perishable items.

The PTISO ANNUAL CITRUS SALE will kick off Friday, Oct. 28. Online orders end midnight on Wednesday, Nov. 16. Please help support WHS by purchasing Florida Indian River Groves Citrus from any WHS student or simply go online to the Woodgrove High Schools website and click on Parents, PTISO, and then the link to the Citrus Sale.

The funds raised will allow the PTISO to continue its mission to enhance the Woodgrove experience by providing



funding and materials to students, teachers, and other projects and activities to promote a positive school experience.

The INAUGURAL PROJECT GRADUATION EVENT is planned for June 12, 2012 at Adventure Park USA. The Project Graduation Program began in 1987 and is a celebration across our state committed to promoting a safe, supervised and a memory-filled All Night Graduation Celebration in an alcohol-free and drug-free environment. As a new school with our first graduating class, there is no existing fund for the event. Woodgrove's Project Graduation Committee is asking for community assistance to help make this event possible.

Individuals, families, businesses, corporations or organizations that desire to contribute a tax deductible monetary donation or gifts are asked to contact Committee Chair Rhonda Wells.

WoodgroveHSProjectGraduation@gmail.com or call WHS at 540-571-2600.

HELP BUILD “THE WOODGROVE GRILL” AND BE A PART OF HISTORY. Ensure that your name will be a part of Woodgrove High School for generations to come! When you purchase a brick, your name will be engraved on it and be used to build “The Woodgrove Grill” on the south end of the Football Stadium for use for all types of school activities and functions. All in the community are all welcome to participate. Go Team Woodgrove. For an order form contact WHS or go to [www.lcps.org](http://www.lcps.org).

Thank you to our community and “Team Woodgrove” for all your generosity, caring and continued support.

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 Origin of the Phrase: “Close, but no cigar.”

“Close, but no cigar,” meaning that you’ve failed to achieve something you set out to do (and may be rewarded with nothing for your effort!) may have had its origins in early fairground days.

In the mid-20th Century, fairground vendors gave out cigars as prizes for various games. If you tried at one and lost, the man behind the counter might have said, “You came close, but sorry, I can’t give you that cigar ...”

The phrase appears in the 1935 film version of Annie Oakley, where the heroine exclaimed “Close, Colonel, but no cigar!” According to the website [www.phrases.org](http://www.phrases.org) (what else!) the phrase also appears in a story from The Lima News, Lima, Ohio, in November, 1949. In the story, entitled “Close But No Cigar” the Lima House Cigar and Sporting Goods Store narrowly avoided being burned down in a fire. Hmmm ... maybe they were counting on the insurance money. “Close”, said the insurance agent. “But, no cigar.”

### Answers to crossword puzzle from page 14

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

# "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](http://www.FranklinParkArtsCenter.org) & click on "Support."

## 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](http://www.CountyChristianSchool.org)  
703-729-5968



## 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](http://www.lincolnpreservation.org)



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](http://www.PreserveLoudoun.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.

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](http://www.loudounCHC.org)

Place your non-profit ad here for December!



Join us in giving a Hand Up, NOT a Hand Out to our Partner Families who are seeking safe affordable housing in Loudoun County.

Go to [www.loudounhabitat.org/donate](http://www.loudounhabitat.org/donate) or call us at 703 737 6772

Place your non-profit ad here for December!

## ULYFL Shines!



(Pictured above: Eagle's Coach Jay Bryant and Drew Bodamer; Photo: David Polivka.)

*A SPECIAL THANK YOU* to all the Upper Loudoun Youth Football League Coaches and Volunteers for a great season! It wouldn't have happened without you! From the ULYFL Players, Cheerleaders and Families!

*FOOTBALL FOR MOMS!* ... Upper Loudoun Youth Football League held it's sec-

ond annual Mom's Powder Puff Football tournament on October 9, 2011 at Fireman's Field from noon to 2. They also held a Chili Cook Off and were accepting donations for Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The two teams featured here were the Femmes Fatales and Victorias Secret (in pink).



**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



**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

**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 Catoctin Circle, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175  
www.novacompusersinc.com

**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](http://www.LoudounGarageDoor.com) –  
703-327-3059 & 540-545-8800

Alpacas at  
Hum Along With Us



Larry & Ann Gross  
Berryville, VA

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

**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](http://www.sport-quilts.com).*



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

*An ideal gift for yourself or a loved one!*



**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

*We Welcome*

**Emily A. Morin, M.D.**  
Ophthalmologist

To the  
MIDDLEBURG EYE CENTER

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

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



**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

Charles Stine, O.D., P.C.  
Andrew L. Stone, O.D.  
Debra H. Bierly-Holman, O.D.

Optometry • Ophthalmology  
Exams • Contact Lenses • Laser Vision Consultation  
Fashion Eyewear

**MIDDLEBURG EYE CENTER**  
#4 Pendleton St. • P.O. Box 1360 • Middleburg, VA 20118  
540 687-3634 e-mail: eyez1@verizon.net

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

*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

On the Market ...  
with Sam Rees



**Samantha Rees**  
Associate Broker  
Cell: 703 408-4261

Licensed in Virginia



Prudential Carruthers Realtors, Leesburg

**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](http://ThousandHillsFarmllc.com)  
Email: [ThousandHillsFarm@live.com](mailto:ThousandHillsFarm@live.com)

**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>

**CLW Bookkeeping Services**



Carole Wilmoth  
President

P.O. Box 2335  
Purcellville, VA 20134

Phone: 540-882-9163  
Fax: 540-882-9164  
clwbookkeeping@hotmail.com

**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





## ► REAL ESTATE TICKER ► NEW RULES – BY CARL FISCHER

– By Carl Fischer

With the passage of time and little sign of improvement in the housing and lending markets, we find ourselves seeking new solutions to old problems. Many folks who really need a house, do not qualify for a loan based on the new lender guidelines. And, many who have applied, seem to constantly need “one more thing ...” in order to go forward with their loan approval ... but they never get there.

Recently, I have had success connecting responsible potential buyers with frustrated, stock-market weary investors in an arrangement that works well for both. One such scenario in process now connects a responsible wage-earner (“Joe” the buyer/tenant) who has demonstrated financial responsibility in the management of his resources, but whose income profile “doesn't work” for most lenders, with a conservative businessman (“Sam” the investor) who has a fair amount of cash now earning him .075% interest in bank Cats. (According to [www.usinflationcalculator.com](http://www.usinflationcalculator.com) the cur-



rent inflation rate is 3.9%. Our investor is LOSING MONEY by placing his reserves in CDs.)

Under this agreement, Joe signs a multi-year lease, and puts up a non-refundable cash deposit which protects Sam's interests. Sam then buys a home of Joe's choosing and leases it back to him at the market rate for a rental property. Sam collects interest only on his investment capital, while the remainder of Joe's payments cover the HOA, taxes and insurance. Though Sam holds title to the property, Joe is responsible for all maintenance, repairs and improvements to the property during the term of the lease, and he has the right at any time prior to the end of the lease to buy the home at the price agreed to at the time of the original purchase of the property. Everybody wins!

While this plan does not represent original thinking on my part, it does produce great results for all parties when a modicum of care and planning guides the process. Parallel procedures have worked well in my commercial real estate business as well. In order to sell commercial properties, which historically would go to end users, what I find myself doing today is leasing those properties instead to that “end-

user”, but structuring the lease so that the tenant ultimately gets to buy that property, thereby assuring himself the uninterrupted pursuit of his business.

Often, that's the only way the end user can achieve his goal, since most, if not all, of his start-up capital is used just getting the doors open while his new business builds to generate measurable revenue. Two or three years later, securing permanent financing from either the present owner, the SBA, or a local bank gets a whole lot easier because by then, the business man has a track record affirming his ability to meet his obligations in a timely and responsible manner. What's important to keep in mind is the fact that life here in Western Loudoun goes on in any market. As a dedicated professional, my job is to constantly develop solutions that work for my client's everyday needs so that they can focus on moving forward with their lives and their businesses with a minimum of stress and delay.

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

## 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](mailto:sales@novacomputersinc.com).

#### PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. (The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. LJG

## 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.

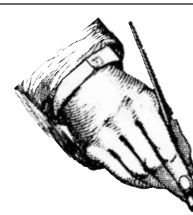
Diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Eggert R. Nielson and Michelle L. Nielson.

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

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



## Dear Doug

– Real Estate Q&A –

**Dear Doug:** I own a rental property in another town and have had a good tenant for the last two years who has always paid on time. He is currently on a month to month lease. This month, his rent has not arrived and is already one week late. I have tried calling and texting him, but an automated recording from his cell phone provider says “the subscriber is not available.” I think my tenant has abandoned my property. Can I enter my property to see if he is still living there? If he is gone, can I change the locks and proceed to find a new tenant? Help! - Carol



Dear Carol,

Welcome to the unpredictable world of land-lording! It is not always fun. Personally, I have had to evict people, garnish wages, and place furniture on the street. I have been threatened, and I still own rental property. Is it worth it? Only you can answer that ... The first step I recommend is to call the local landlord-tenant board and check the rules. Better yet – and if this is your first time – I recommend a real estate attorney who specializes in evictions. There are certain, specific rules you have to follow. In some counties you must first send the tenants a “5 Day Pay or Quit Notice” once the rent is “late,” according to the terms of your lease. Then, they have 5 days to pay what they owe or they must “quit” (leave) the premises. If they don't, then you can file another form, and the legal journey begins. The length of time it takes from start to finish is unpredictable. It can depend on how savvy the tenants are about the whole process. I strongly (yes, I said strongly) recommend an attorney who is well versed in these matters, since there are a number of steps along the way.

So, no. You can't just go in and change the locks. I do suggest you go there, after first giving notice that is spelled out in the lease, and see what's going on. But, even if you do find them gone, you can't do anything until you go through the procedures that are outlined in your lease and spelled out by your newly acquired attorney. Thankfully, I haven't had to evict anyone in the past 15 years. I have worked out some payment plans (and no, they haven't always worked), but I do continue to manage properties, and (knock on wood), have had very good results so far. Good luck, Carol. But don't try to do this yourself.

Douglas Frank holds a BA degree in English from Rutgers University and is a licensed realtor with over 20 years experience. Doug works with Prudential Carruthers Realtors in Fairfax, Virginia. He also has his Home Improvement License and owns a number of investment properties including houses, townhomes, and condos. Doug and his wife and two sons live in Fairfax, Virginia. (Opinions expressed here are ... only opinion!)

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 – [fairhousing@dpor.virginia.gov](mailto:fairhousing@dpor.virginia.gov); web: [www.fairhousing.vipnet.org](http://www.fairhousing.vipnet.org).



# TOWNS and Villages

## LINCOLN – By Anne Tiffany

The Lincoln Community League wishes to thank Ard Geller and his son-in-law, Michael Pawlak, for putting together our new website. You may view this at any time by going to [www.lincolncommunityleague.org](http://www.lincolncommunityleague.org). The LCL also want to thank Ard and Michael for all their hard work in providing our bulletins/posters for our upcoming events.

Ard's latest poster is advertising Lincoln's annual pumpkin decorating contest. By the time you read this article, this contest will have taken place. This event was started about five years ago and has grown in popularity. It is sponsored by the LCL and it takes place in front of the Lincoln post office. The pumpkins are lined up on the wall and are judged for many fun, comical and unique categories. While the judges are making their decisions, the entrants and their parents enjoy a dessert of pumpkin pie/cookies and apple cider.

The Ladies Board of the Loudoun INOVA Hospital would like to recognize David of Abernathy and Spencer, and all his hard working

crew, for their part in helping to clean up the barns at Morvern Park on Saturday afternoon, after the Ladies Board annual rummage sale. All the proceeds from this go into the Birthing Inn, nursing scholarships, and items needed for the hospital.

Early in October, the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, held a Swift Night Out on the front lawn of Emily Cochran's old house. Each spring hundreds of Chimney Swifts come to the Lincoln area to live and nest for the summer; and after flying ALL day, each night these little birds "dive" down into one of Lincoln's many chimneys to rest for the night. It is interesting to note, that because of the angle of these birds' legs, they cannot "perch" in a tree limb; therefore, they literally fly all day, catching and eating insects. However, shortly before they begin to fly south for the winter, the birds begin to gather in clusters, and hundreds of them will congregate for the night in one of our chimneys. This year they chose to use the chimney of the Cochran house where Noel and Sara are now living.

Beginning about 30 minutes before dark, Phil Daley had a group of about 20 spectators sitting in folding chairs watching these birds gather in the sky above the house, and then literally "drop" down into the chimney. When Phil asked Noel and Sara permission to bring WLC there for the evening, they had no idea these birds were coming into their chimney. The birds just dropped in to spend the night before heading out again after dawn. Google chimney swifts to see pictures and to learn more about these interesting birds.

I recently had a rather larger and much less attractive bird on my roof and chimney. Nine vultures were congregated above my house and they are not a sight to behold. Fortunately, I was able to bang two pot lids together, and they all flew well away. These birds are most useful in what they do, but you do not want them roosting nearby for the night.

I hope the monarch butterflies make it home to the south safely this year. I read that they are in jeopardy as their flight path south over Texas has been scorched by the recent fires, and these tiny creatures may have nowhere to rest for the night as they migrate south.

Email Anne Tiffany with Lincoln news: [tjiff70519@aol.com](mailto:tjiff70519@aol.com).

## ROUND HILL

### – By Gina Faber

The third year of the Round Hill Community Garden (RHCG) is coming to a close at the end of this month. It's been a good year for the Town/Community project: good soil, good weather, and good yields. Our Plant-A-Row donations to Interfaith Relief exceeded 300 lbs!

We benefitted from new amenities at the garden this year: Eagle-scout-built garden shed and sign, access to Town water through an on-site spigot, and a full bin of mature compost from our home-made compost piles. We learned some new lessons in dealing with the challenges of empty plots (we filled only 12 of our 18 plots this year) and stink bug damage control. We received in-kind or monetary donations this year from NOVEC, Blue Ridge Timber Company, Abernathy and Spencer Greenhouse, and Loudoun County Master Gardeners.

Though the garden closed down on October 29, the EARTH Team of volunteers who run and manage the garden are rolling up their sleeves for the coming month's season shut-down and preparations for next year's enrollment. Here are some highlights of the coming months:

- Nov. 1 - Nov 12, neighbors are asked to drop off bags of dry leaves by the fence of the garden on Falls Place any time.
- Nov. 12, 9am - 3pm is a garden workday: volunteers will pull remaining vegetation, unload compost deliveries, shred donated leaves, rotate the compost piles and other projects as directed by Garden Manager Tony Derrrow.
- Nov. 13 - Dec 2, leaf donations accepted.
- Dec. 3, second workday: plowing amendments in & putting the garden to bed!
- Dec./Jan. - recruiting volunteers and new tenants for 2012.

The Round Hill Town Council has provided their approval for gardening at Falls Place for the 2012 season. Round Hill's Tony Derrrow will be stepping up to the role of EARTH Team lead for next year and we hope to hear from area gardeners and Community Garden fans to join the EARTH Team to give our long-time volunteers a rest. Assistance with publicity, organizational maintenance (clerical), and community relations as well as light garden labor would be greatly appreciated.



RHCG volunteers take a break from turning compost at last year's Fall Workday to share a smile for the camera.

We are also hoping to hear from local experienced vegetable gardeners who would be willing to make a minor commitment to "mentor" inexperienced RHCG tenants next year. Thanks for considering this way of spreading your love of food gardening one-on-one with a newer gardener.

Visit us on the web at [www.roundhillgarden.org](http://www.roundhillgarden.org). Contact us at [info@roundhillgarden.org](mailto:info@roundhillgarden.org) or by phone at 540 338-8980 to volunteer.

**WATERFORD'S** Ed Good is out of the country this month, and so is his column! Look for Ed in December.

*The Blue Ridge Leader is looking for writers to supply Town/Village news for Brambleton, Middleburg, Philomont, Lovettsville, and Aldie. Contact Carol at [CarolBRLeader@yahoo.com](mailto:CarolBRLeader@yahoo.com).*

# Thank You!



Thanks to all of our loyal customers for a  
**GREAT Pick-Your-Own Season!**  
COME SEE US THIS MONTH FOR ...

– Already picked apples –

– Fresh-Pressed Apple Cider by Thanksgiving –

– Lots of Fun & Fresh Air All the Time! –



Holiday greens starting  
right after Thanksgiving

Farm is open Friday - Sunday, 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](http://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.



## Catching Up Time – By Donna Williamson



While the stinkbugs have become tiresome and I heard they were worse in Philomont, I prefer to focus on the moments of grace that recharge my spirit in the garden.

I was listening to the song "A Sleeping Bee" by Truman Capote and Harold Arlen and remembering the fat bees that sleep on my big dahlias this time of year. They are just big, I guess, not really fat, carpenter bees and in the cool mornings just cannot get going very early! Like to nestle into those silky petals and relax.

Today I turned over a container full of water to find four sleeping salamanders resting in the cool temperatures beneath, thinking they had found a good spot to overwinter. They were chilly, and it took the sun a few minutes to warm them enough so they could scamper away.

Tonight there are freeze warnings so the scorching summer is over. Wasn't a good year for tomatoes and my glads were sparse. Next year, next year. I went out late in the afternoon to cover the clivia, the unripe cotton bolls, the dahlias, and the basil.

If it does freeze, the basil will be ruined, even under the sheets, but I attempt protection. Boldness (or recklessness) comes from living on an east-facing hill and usually the frost rolls down to the flatlands. My Buck roses will continue to bloom I hope until Thanksgiving day, but each day is a gift with roses.

Found several nice dogwoods to try this year including *Cornus racemosa* – the gray dogwood, and *Cornus drummondii* – a native from eastern Texas. Both are shrubby and provide white berries in the fall for birds. Eager to see if they will do well here.

While I will miss the growing season once winter has solidly arrived, I have many new books to read. Having developed an interest in wildlife plantings and native plants gives me lots to learn. Of course, those delectable plant catalogs will be coming along with new and old plants to lust after when it snows! Last year I bought a nice goldenrod from Plants Delights that's 5 feet tall with lemony flowers. A tall beauty!

The low afternoon winter sun will create many sundogs, and they are always a gift.

Looking ahead, I realize that we are closer to the release of wasps that hunt stinkbugs and that will make a big difference. In the meantime, I am using an organic spray from St. Gabriel's that David at Abernethy & Spencer told me about. Better than the many very toxic compounds being advertised. Seems to kill them. Our horticulture society will be hosting Dr. Tracy Lesky, noted stinkbug expert, in February and she will have the latest info. ([www.pbrhs.org](http://www.pbrhs.org))

While I hate to see October go, November heralds shorter days but more light with the leaves down. The structure of the bare trees is elegant and I love to see the sycamore fingers reach into a bright blue sky. There is still time to get lingering bulbs into the ground and move a few more woody plants around. They will knit in nicely with the still warm soil.

This year I will leave as much leaf litter as possible so the critters can overwinter with ease. Many butterflies overwinter in the litter. I can share the space and then marvel at their colors, variety, and beauty. Fall garden clean-up is highly over-rated.

The garlic and shallots have already started up and will grow all winter. And then there will be another spring and we can revisit the daffodils – our old friends and perhaps a few new ones in the garden.

Gardening doesn't stop once you've been bitten – you just get to rest a little in December and January – and dream of May.

*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](http://dwfinegardening.com), 540-877-2002.*

## U.S. Army All-American Marching Band Selects Stone Bridge High School Tenor Drum Player

Andre Racanelli of Stone Bridge High School, Ashburn, Va. (shown at right in photo), has been selected to be a member of the 2012 U.S. Army All-American Marching Band.

Racanelli will join an elite group of musicians who will perform during halftime of the U.S. Army All-American Bowl at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas.

"The U.S. Army has a distinguished musical history with numerous bands and musical acts still performing around the world today," said John Myers, Director of Strategic Communications, Marketing and Outreach, U.S. Army Accessions Command.

"The skills and strengths necessary to be a successful band member are mirrored in Army Strong Soldiers. Only the strongest wear the Army colors, which is why we are proud to honor all of our 2012 U.S. Army All-American Band members and congratulate each of them on their selection."

The U.S. Army All-American Marching Band recognizes the top 125 high school senior marching musicians and color guard members from across the country, showcasing their talents during the largest celebration of high school football in America, the U.S. Army All-American Bowl (Saturday, January 7, 2012).

For more than 11 years, the U.S. Army All-American Bowl has been the nation's premier high school football game, serving as the preem-



inent launching pad for America's future college and NFL stars. Adrian Peterson, Mark Sanchez, Tim Tebow, Ndamukong Suh, Marcus Lattimore, and Andrew Luck all made their national debuts as U.S. Army All-Americans. The 2011 U.S. Army All-American Bowl drew a crowd of nearly 38,000 to the Alamodome, and was the most-watched sporting event on television over the weekend, excluding the NFL playoffs.

The U.S. Army Accessions Command (USAAC), a subordinate command of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, meets the human resource needs of the Army by transforming volunteers into officers, warrant officers, and enlisted Soldiers.



### RENEWABLE FASHION BOUTIQUE

Save your local economy 3 Independent businesses at a time. Stop in. Say hello.

Pick up something that brings a smile.

For every \$100 spent in an independent local store, \$68 remains local.

Go to: [www.350Project.net](http://www.350Project.net).

2011 "Certification" winner of Loudoun Green Business Challenge.



Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter



[LittleGreeneDress@gmail.com](mailto:LittleGreeneDress@gmail.com)  
[www.LittleGreeneDress.com](http://www.LittleGreeneDress.com)

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

## Hunt Country Gourmet's RESTAURANT REVIEW - Epic Buffet, Hollywood Casino

— By George Humphries

***"Our goal is to tell you where good food can be found ..."***

If you are a dedicated foodie, then the Epic Buffet at the Hollywood Casino (we still call it the Charles Town Races) is the closest you can get to heaven. Located on the lowest public level of the clubhouse building at the far end of a vast expanse of slots and gaming tables, this may be the most extensive spread of comestibles that can be imagined. According to the Sous Chef we cornered as he made his rounds checking on the various food displays, the Epic Buffet offers more than 100 different items at any given time, all of which are prepared on the premises.

Diners pay a flat rate to enter and are escorted to a comfortable booth or table. Lining the far end of the cavernous main room is a long buffet and steam table with most of the hot entrees. At the center of this wide expanse, two toqued assistant chefs stand behind the carvable offerings, waiting to provide you the quantity and degree of doneness or rareness you ask for among steamship round, prime ribs, pork roast, ham, turkey, or roast chicken.

Flanking the carving area on both sides is a vast array of hot offerings. On one side, we found mussels, clams, shrimp (one of



about five different shrimp dishes at one location or another), taco-crusted tilapia, a lovely salmon, curried chicken, pot roast, hush puppies, and a complete Vietnamese Pho station with broth, noodles, meats, vegetables and herbs layered to request. Next to this is a sushi station. On the other side, some Italian dishes, several kinds of pizza, Angus sliders, a steak dish, liver and onions, barbecue ribs, and catfish. Scattered throughout were vegetables such as broccoli, steamed cabbage, green beans, fried okra, Brussels sprouts, and various potato, rice, and pasta dishes.

At the center of the room is a racetrack-shaped buffet with soup, chili, breads, some five different green salads, 14 chef-prepared salads, and a dozen or so glorious desserts. This included crème brulee, cakes, cheesecakes, brownies, a particularly good bread pudding, and a sundae bar with sauces and toppings.

Unlike many buffets, this one is very accessible. You can approach it at any point without having to wait in a line. On two Saturday nights, the only line we saw was in front of the meat carving station, and that was only about five or six people. The room "works" remarkably well considering that it



seats more than 300, and on one weekend evening we went it had already served almost 1,000 people by 7 p.m. without seeming at all crowded.

Writing a food review is difficult, because it is all good, and no matter what people's preferences might be, including vegetarian, anyone can find enough to fill a plate at least once and even more times.

The Epic Buffet is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, with a brunch on Sunday. Weekday dinner prices are \$16.99; Friday

and Saturday \$21.99. Tuesday is crab leg night at \$34.99. And every night, that's for all you can eat, including your choice of beverages served at your table. Hollywood Casino has a total of seven restaurants and a food court. Epic is our favorite because we can have a big meal and then walk it off as we watch some horses at the track. Parking is free.

*George Humphries is a retired Navy aviator who began cooking at the age of 10 and has managed several large restaurants. He has lived in Loudoun Country since 1984.*

**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

[www.blueridgechiropractic.com](http://www.blueridgechiropractic.com)

## Attorney General Cuccinelli Addresses Eminent Domain Abuses

***Amendment Must Pass General Assembly in 2011  
to Be on Ballot in 2012***

Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli addressed more than 200 attendees recently at the NAACP State Convention in Richmond, discussing government abuses of eminent domain and the property rights constitutional amendment currently pending in the General Assembly.

The attorney general spoke about eminent domain and urban renewal, a project in the 1960s in which the government would raze blighted or poor neighborhoods, transforming the land for public use. This process displaced thousands of families and individuals, often in African-American neighborhoods, forcing them to give up their homes, businesses, and property, and forcing many into public housing.

"Life, liberty, and property are fundamental rights," said Cuccinelli. "The ownership of private property is one of the original building blocks of a free society. When the government starts to chip away at that cornerstone, the consequences can be devastating."

The attorney general has been an advocate of property rights during his entire tenure in public office. As a state senator, he successfully sponsored a 2007 law that protects homeowners, farmers, and busi-

ness owners from having their property taken by the government for use by private entities merely to increase tax revenues or create jobs. Last year, he helped craft the constitutional amendment which passed the General Assembly in its 2011 session and which must pass the 2012 session before it goes on the November 2012 ballot. The amendment would increase current private property rights protections for citizens, as well as better shield those rights by putting them in the Virginia Constitution, ensuring that any changes to those protections would have to be approved by voters, rather than just by members of the General Assembly.

Cuccinelli encouraged convention attendees to tell their city councils and county boards of supervisors not to oppose the amendment. He told them that the lobbying organizations for Virginia cities and counties are already asking legislators to vote against the proposed property rights protections, and that they are using tax dollars to do it. He also encouraged them to get the commitment of incumbents and challengers running for the General Assembly that they will vote for the amendment in the 2012 session. (The text

*Continued on facing page*

## Blue Ridge Leader "Picks" for Area Restaurants Open Over the Holidays

Do you ever secretly wish for a break from the holiday cooking experience? While many of us look forward to the warm holiday tradition of family mealtimes and merriment, there are a few closet hosts and hostesses who would give their right eye for a chance to relax and leave the preparation (and clean up!) to someone else.

Well, put away your aprons and dust off your dress shoes! The Blue Ridge Leader has compiled a list of cozy restaurants that will put a smile on your face and create a holiday memory without the holiday headache.

A few restaurants in our area offer full holiday meals with all the trimmings to go, but are not open for dining in. We have not included those establishments on our list, however.

The following restaurants, in random order, are open for dine-in for one or more holidays this season. Most of these establishments have altered their hours and menus for the holidays, so be sure to call ahead for reservations and other details.

### Open Thanksgiving Day:

Battletown Inn, Berryville: [www.thebattletowninn.com](http://www.thebattletowninn.com), 540-955-4100

Beautiful South Restaurant, Hamilton: [www.beautifulsouthdining.com](http://www.beautifulsouthdining.com), 540-338-7335

Blackthorne Inn, Upperville: [www.blackthorne-inn.com](http://www.blackthorne-inn.com), 540-592-3848

Eiffel Tower Café, Leesburg: [www.eiffeltowercafe.com](http://www.eiffeltowercafe.com), 703-777-5142

Goodstone Inn, Middleburg: [www.goodstone.com](http://www.goodstone.com), 877-219-4663

Hunters Head Tavern, Upperville: [www.huntersheadtavern.com](http://www.huntersheadtavern.com), 540-592-9020

Mosby's Grille, Purcellville: [www.mosbysgrille.com](http://www.mosbysgrille.com), 540-338-0002

Pen Oriental Kitchen, Purcellville: 540-338-1894

Red Fox Inn, Middleburg: [www.redfox.com](http://www.redfox.com), 540-687-6301

Restaurant at Patowmack Farm, Lovettsville: 540-822-9017

Vintage 50, Leesburg: [www.vintage50.com](http://www.vintage50.com), 703.777.2169

### Open Christmas Eve:

Anthony's Restaurant, Purcellville: [www.anthonysva.com](http://www.anthonysva.com), 540-338-7072

Battletown Inn, Berryville: [www.thebattletowninn.com](http://www.thebattletowninn.com), 540-955-4100

Beautiful South Restaurant, Hamilton: [www.beautifulsouthdining.com](http://www.beautifulsouthdining.com), 540-338-7335

Blackthorne Inn, Upperville: [www.blackthorne-inn.com](http://www.blackthorne-inn.com), 540-592-3848

Blue Ridge Grill, Leesburg: [www.brgrill.com](http://www.brgrill.com), 703-669-5505

Eiffel Tower Café: [www.eiffeltowercafe.com](http://www.eiffeltowercafe.com), 703-777-5142

French Hound, Middleburg: [www.thefrenchhound.com](http://www.thefrenchhound.com), 540-687-3018

Goodstone Inn, Middleburg: [www.goodstone.com](http://www.goodstone.com), 877-219-4663

Grandale Farm Restaurant, Purcellville: [www.grandalefarm.com](http://www.grandalefarm.com), 540-668-6000

Hunters Head Tavern, Upperville: [www.huntersheadtavern.com](http://www.huntersheadtavern.com), 540-592-9020

*"Do you ever secretly wish for a break from the holiday cooking experience?"*

Lightfoot Restaurant, Leesburg: [www.lightfootrestaurant.com](http://www.lightfootrestaurant.com), 703-771-2233

Pen Oriental Kitchen, Purcellville: 540-338-1894

Red Fox Inn, Middleburg: [www.redfox.com](http://www.redfox.com), 540-687-6301

Vintage 50, Leesburg: [www.vintage50.com](http://www.vintage50.com), 703.777.2169

### Open Christmas Day:

Goodstone Inn, Middleburg: [www.goodstone.com](http://www.goodstone.com), 877-219-4663

Pen's Oriental Kitchen, Purcellville: 540-338-1894



The Blue Ridge Leader will update this list for December, so if you want to add your establishment, please contact us at [Carolbrleader@yahoo.com](mailto:Carolbrleader@yahoo.com) or call 703-727-5576.

Continued from facing page

of the attorney general's remarks to the NAACP follow ...)

"... During the 2009 campaign for attorney general, you invited me to come speak to you. Back then, you also invited me to come back again, and that's why I'm here today. I'm not up for re-election. I'm not here looking for your vote. I'm here because I want to talk to you about an issue that's important to every citizen of this commonwealth.

Eminent domain is something that has affected communities across Virginia for decades. In the 1960s, cities across the country began the process of what they politely called urban renewal. They destroyed whole neighborhoods in the name of renewing the land for public use, and they left thousands of families displaced, with many forced to move into public housing.

And half a century later, this issue still affects us deeply. Homes and businesses still aren't fully protected. And African-Americans and the elderly are still disproportionately affected by land takings. Just as an example, right now, the people of Charlottesville are still hurting over the razing of the once-thriving Vinegar Hill, where many African-American homes and businesses were located. Although that urban renewal project happened decades ago, city council has just drafted up a formal apology that they'll vote on November 7. We need to make sure that what happened to Vinegar Hill, what happened in Roanoke and Norfolk and all over Virginia, doesn't happen again-not now, not ever.

I've been a long-time advocate of strengthening our property rights in Virginia and protecting them from eminent domain abuses by the government. Life, liberty, and property are fundamental rights. The ownership of private property is one of the original building blocks of a free society.

In 2007, I successfully sponsored a law that protects homeowners, farmers, and business owners from having their property taken and handed over to a private entity just to build some new shopping mall or condo complex. Although this law was a major step forward in the protection of private property rights, because it's only a law, it can be chipped away by future sessions of the General Assembly, putting our land in jeopardy once again. So the law needs to be enshrined in Virginia's constitution to protect it from the whims of politicians who favor dollar signs

over individual rights. If property rights protections are in the constitution, then they can only be changed by a vote of the people.

Last year, I helped write a property rights constitutional amendment which would create four reforms.

Those reforms are:

- Private property can only be taken for true public uses, not for enhancing tax revenues, economic development, or private gain;

Continued on page 31



ACUPUNCTURE  
& Related Healing Therapies

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

[www.LoudounCountyAcupuncture.com](http://www.LoudounCountyAcupuncture.com) • 117 North 21st Street • Purcellville, VA • 20132

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.

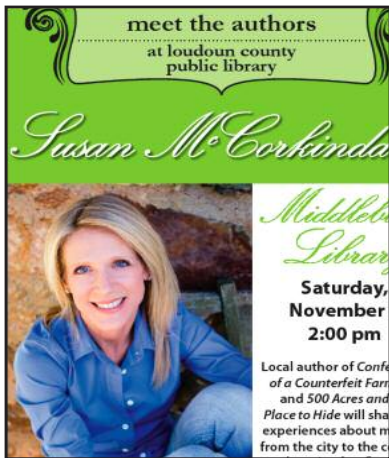
# Community Announcements

## November

For a complete listing, please visit our Events Calendar on our website at [www.brleader.com](http://www.brleader.com).  
To see your community event here, please send us an email to: [advertise@brleader.com](mailto:advertise@brleader.com)!

### Saturday, November 5: Meet the Author and Book Signing, Susan McCorkindale – 2:00

PM Middleburg Library 101 Reed Street. Local author of *Confessions of a Counterfeit Farm Girl and 500 Acres and No Place to Hide*, Susan McCorkindale will share her experiences about moving from the city to the country and getting her first book published. Book sale and signing to follow.



**Saturday, November 5, 9:00 a.m. Plant a Tree** – Join Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, Loudoun County and the Town of Leesburg at Ida Lee Park for a tree planting event designed to improve the water quality of Big Spring Creek and create new wildlife habitat in the park. Please bring work gloves and, if you have one, a shovel with your name on it. Questions: contact Scott Sandberg at 571-258-3304 or [scott.sandberg@loudoun.gov](mailto:scott.sandberg@loudoun.gov).

**Saturday, November 5, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Reading the Land** – Registration Required. Join Emily Southgate at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship (BRCES) on a walk to discover human impact on the land. The 900-acre Blue Ridge Center is comprised mostly of meadows in the valley and heavily forested slopes today; however, people have lived and used the

land there for centuries and have had a tremendous impact on it. Dr. Southgate, a historical ecologist, will describe what and how we can learn from studying man's impact on the land and ecology. The Blue Ridge Center, which is co-sponsoring this field trip, is located just north of Neersville at 11611 Harpers Ferry Road (Rte 671). Meet at the Education Center. Detailed directions can be found on the website, [www.brces.org](http://www.brces.org). Limited to 15 participants. To register, sign-up online at <http://brces.org/calendar>.

**Saturday, November 5, 5pm: Annual Fall Dinner, Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church**, Taylorstown. Country ham and turkey. Everyone welcome. Freewill offering. 540-822-5331.

**Sunday, November 6, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Cub (Bear and Webelo) Scout and Junior Girl Scout Fall Badge Outing**. Space is limited and Registration is required by Oct. 30. Looking for a fall activity for your scouts? Join naturalists from the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy who will lead informative nature walks at the mostly wooded Isaac Walton facility located in western Loudoun. This special area affords an opportunity to develop a better appreciation of the importance of forests and plants and animals found.

### Friday, November 11 – Sunday, November 13, Loudoun Sketch Club Members Art Exhibit

The 6th Annual Loudoun Sketch Club art show and sale opens November 11 at the Hillsborough Winery and includes a wide variety of original work – paintings, drawings and photographs – by dozens of Loudoun artists, both established and emerging. The exhibit, juried by artist/instructor Dean Taylor Drewyer, is on display through December 13. Come meet and talk with the artists during an Opening Reception on November 13 from 2 – 5 pm. Light refreshments and Hillsborough wines will be served.



**Saturday, November 12 – Catoctin Holiday Art Tour, 12noon – 6:00** – Tour the country roads, meet some talented artists, and

get your holiday shopping done during the weekend of November 12th and 13th, 2011. [www.catoctinart.net](http://www.catoctinart.net)

**Sunday November 13-Catoctin Holiday Art Tour, 12noon – 6:00** – Tour the country roads, meet some talented artists, and get your holiday shopping done during the weekend of November 12th and 13th, 2011. [www.catoctinart.net](http://www.catoctinart.net).

### Happy Cats Giving Program

November is a time to give thanks, and the Loudoun County Animal Shelter hopes to make a feline friend one of your blessings with the Happy Cats-giving program!

All cats adopted from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter in November will be spayed/neutered for free (if necessary). That means that all kittens will have a \$40 adoption fee! Cats aged 6 months to 7 years will have a \$20 adoption fee, and all cats over 7 years will only be \$10.

If you haven't yet discovered the joys of having a cat in your life, then November is the purr-fect time to visit the Loudoun County Animal Shelter! Lots of cats and kittens available for adoption – just visit [www.loudoun.gov/animals](http://www.loudoun.gov/animals) to see them.



**Saturday, November 19, 11-4pm: Life of a Civil War Soldier: Living History Day with the 17th Mississippi Regiment** – Morven Park, Leesburg: Relive history with the 17th Mississippi Regiment as they camp for the day and teach visitors about life as Civil War soldiers. Drilling and firing demonstrations and more. Free. 703 777-2890 ext. 6619. [www.morvenpark.org](http://www.morvenpark.org)

**Saturday, Nov 26, 8pm, Gold Heart Bluegrass** – Franklin Park Performing & Visual Arts Center, Purcellville: features sisters Analise (mandolin, 21), Jocelyn (guitar, 18) and Shelby (fiddle, 15). Music is rootsy, yet fresh and exciting! 540 338-7973, [www.franklinparkartscenter.org](http://www.franklinparkartscenter.org)

**Wednesday, November 30, 10:30 am, Glenfiddich Farm Cooking Class: Homemade Cheeses, Yeast Breads, and More** – Glenfiddich Farm Cookery School, 17642 Canby Rd/Leesburg, VA 20175. The two-hour class includes demonstration from a demo-mirrored island with an 8-burner Wolf cook top, hands-on participation for those who are interested, and a four-course meal. Classes are limited to 12-14 people. \$50/person. details: 703 771-3329, [www.glenfarmcookery.com](http://www.glenfarmcookery.com).

### New Initiative Seeks to Transform Elder Care in Loudoun County – Workshops Coming November 18 & 19 –

The Eden Alternative is a new approach to elder care in long term care homes and at home, that is gaining traction nationwide. In a nutshell, it calls for all of us – of any age – to become partners in nurturing and caring for one another.

The Eden Alternative was created by Geriatrician, Dr. William Thomas, after he worked in a small nursing home in upstate New York. That experience opened his eyes to the lack of nurturing and care of the human spirit that pervades the traditional nursing home setting. He responded by isolating and addressing the core problems associated with the institutional model and formulating a new way of elder care that addresses loneliness and boredom, opportunities for the elderly to give back to the community, meaningful activities, maximum decision making authority in those closest to the elderly person, and other issues.

The principles, initially developed to address elder care in nursing homes, are being expanded to home care through Eden At Home workshops. Participants have included elders and their family members, friends, and neighbors; volunteers, home health professionals; and others committed to changing the culture of care in our community.

**The next Eden At Home Care Partner workshop will be hosted by Spring Arbor of Leesburg Assisted Living, 237 Fairview St. NW, Friday November 18 and Saturday November 19, 2011. There is a \$40 fee for the two day workshop. The fee covers a work book and course materials. Lunch and snacks are graciously provided by Spring Arbor at no cost both days of the workshop.**

To attend this workshop, contact Sharon Lloyd O'Connor, Edén At Home Certified Trainer, 703-771-5630 or e-mail [Sharon.lloyd.oconnor@loudoun.gov](mailto:Sharon.lloyd.oconnor@loudoun.gov).

## Yule want to get your DVD before they're all gone!



### Nichols: The Last Hardware Store

A DOCUMENTARY FILM FROM THE LINCOLN STUDIOS

A copy of the Nichols documentary film makes a splendid holiday gift! Purchase yours at Nichols Hardware. Or visit our website: [www.thelasthardwarestore.org](http://www.thelasthardwarestore.org) where you can order with PayPal. Questions? Call Sarah Huntington at 540-338-7809. Happy Holidays to everyone!

© 2011 THE LINCOLN STUDIOS

A Newspaper Activity Page for Young People



This Week: Thanksgiving

© 2006 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 22 No. 48

# Thanksgiving Together



Sure, Thanksgiving is about Pilgrims and history – and turkey, of course! But the best part about Thanksgiving is getting together with family and friends and remembering all the things for which we are thankful.

Today's Kid Scoop is for everyone in the family and features activities you can all do together!

## Make Thanksgiving Dinner Place Cards

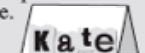
### Stuff You'll Need:

- Manila file folders (one per person)
- newspaper
- scissors
- glue stick



1. Cut off the folded end of a file folder to make a strip about 3-4 inches deep. Make one for each person coming to Thanksgiving dinner.

2. Cut out from the newspaper the letters that spell each person's name. Glue them onto one side of the place card.



3. Decorate the place cards with pictures from the newspaper.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple, multi-step written instructions.

## Turkey Trails

Start at the beginning of Trail A. Have a family member or friend start at Trail B. Who can reach the finish line first?



## Zany Turkey Day Tale

Pass the giggles! Ask a family member to give you seven nouns, one plural noun, one verb and one adjective. Then, fill in the blanks and read the story aloud. Let the laughter begin!

One Thanksgiving, we invited a \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN to the big feast. It was a huge mistake.

Our guest had horrible \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN manners, and enjoyed smearing \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN in people's hair. Our guest then decided to \_\_\_\_\_ VERB around Uncle Lou and

cover Aunt Madge with \_\_\_\_\_ PLURAL NOUN

Later, our delicious \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN pie ended up in our \_\_\_\_\_ ADJECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN

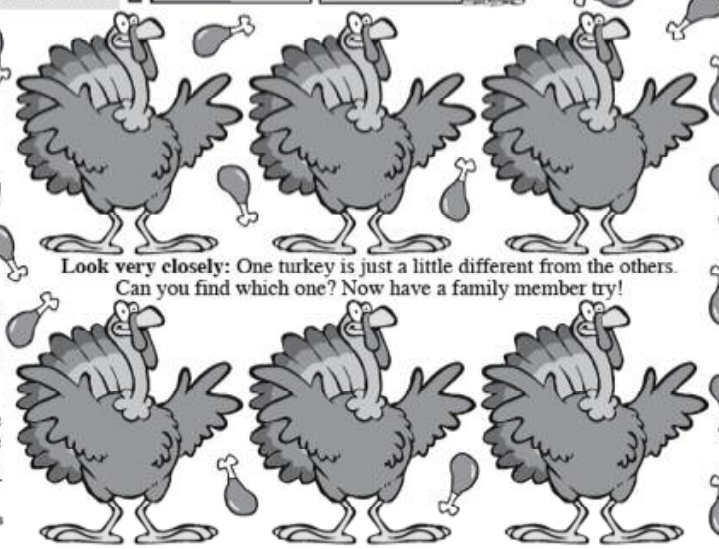
This year, we invited a \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN

Hopefully, our new recipe for \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN stuffing is a success!

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify and use nouns, adjectives and verbs in writing.

## Stuffed with Silliness

Each family member gets 60 seconds to see how many drumsticks they can find on this page. Whoever finds the most doesn't have to clear the table!



Look very closely: One turkey is just a little different from the others. Can you find which one? Now have a family member try!

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

## Extra! Extra! Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt

Give each person at your Thanksgiving feast a page of the newspaper. See who can be first to find these things on their page:

- A number greater than 100
- A proper noun
- Three different adjectives
- A location
- A date
- Three different pronouns

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

## The Kid Scoop Puzzler

Your parents are always reminding you to say it. Now you can amaze them by saying **Thank you** in seven different languages!

Match the Thank you to the country from which it comes. Solution available at: [www.kidscoop.com/kids/index.html](http://www.kidscoop.com/kids/index.html)

	Tak (takg)	<b>FRANCE</b>
	Gracias (gra-see-us)	<b>DENMARK</b>
	Merci (mehr-see)	<b>JAPAN</b>
	Kiitos (kee-toas)	<b>POLAND</b>
	Danke (dahn-kah)	<b>FINLAND</b>
	Arigato (ahree-gah-tow)	<b>MEXICO</b>
	Dziekuje (dsyne-koo-yeh)	<b>GERMANY</b>

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

## Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

TURKEY	R Y R O T S I H A S
LOCATION	E D T L T H A D M D
PILGRIMS	D A N O I U J I H R
CARDS	L N K C S E R U G A
ADJECTIVE	O K R A C G N K J C
FEAST	F E I T L T S A E F
HISTORY	M V I I N P G L Y
DINNER	T V P O L A N D I A
MERCI	E R E N N I D L F E
JAPAN	
POLAND	
HUNT	
FILE	
FOLDER	
DANKE	

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

## FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

[www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

### The Gift of Appreciation

Does it feel good when someone says *thank you* to you? Now you can give that feeling to someone else! Look through today's newspaper and find an article about someone helping others. Write a letter to the editor thanking the person.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write letters that show awareness of audience and establish a purpose.

## Write On!

### Thanksgiving Memories

Work with a family member to write a page filled with favorite Thanksgiving memories and traditions. Before the big feast, read it aloud to everyone gathered at the table.

## Kid Scoop Together: FAMILY TIME

Thanksgiving is a time to talk!

After you eat some of your Thanksgiving meal, take a break from feasting to find out about the older people at the table.

Snoop into the past of one or more by asking "When you were my age ..."

1. What did you eat on Thanksgiving, and who did the cooking?
2. How did you celebrate Thanksgiving?
3. What were you thankful for?
4. Did you have a pet?
5. What were your hobbies?
6. Did you watch television? What was your favorite show?
7. What chores did you do around the house?
8. How did you get spending money?
9. What did you like to spend it on?
10. What was your favorite story your grandparents told you?

Standards Link: Speaking Comprehension: Ask for clarification of stories and texts.

## Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **APPRECIATE**

The verb appreciate means to be thankful or grateful for something.

"I appreciate you reading me the newspaper article, Thomas," said Mr. Davis.

Try to use the word appreciate in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## 7th Annual Turkey Trot 5K and Fun Run

They're off and running with the 2011 Turkey Trot & Fun Run.

The popular 5k route will take trotters through historic Purcellville neighborhoods and down Main Street, starting and ending the race at the Loudoun Valley Community Center, the beneficiary of the fundraising event.

Running clubs have praised the committee as one of the best races in western Loudoun – from the awesome prizes (both for raffle and for winners of race) and a most interesting route. While it might be a little hilly, it's the scenery along the way in our charming town that makes it so special!

Race time is 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 13 at the Loudoun Valley Community Center, 320 W. School Street in Purcellville.

Registration is \$30, but early birds get a \$5

discount before October 31. Runners can register on site. Early pick up of packets is either Saturday, November 12 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. or Sunday, November 13 from 6:15 – 7:45 a.m.

### Fun Run

The Fun Run is a shorter distance for kids under ten years of age and their families and will begin immediately following the 5k (around 9:00 a.m.). There is no cost for this race but registration is appreciated on site. Fun Runners will get an "official" runners bib with an opportunity to win a great prize and a special ribbon at the finish line ... everyone's a winner in this race!

For more information, e-mail [libbywalker72@gmail.com](mailto:libbywalker72@gmail.com) or visit <http://pvilleturkeytrot.shutterfly.com>.

*To our young readers! ...  
See "Write On!" above.  
Send us your written Thanksgiving Memories and we'll publish a selection for Blue Ridge Readers in December! Send to [CarolBRLeader@yahoo.com](mailto:CarolBRLeader@yahoo.com).*

**A Tribute, continued from page 14**

after the war, spent with his family.

Dad loved to read and if he didn't have a tool in his hand you would find him holding a book. When he took the Civil Service exam after the war he scored the equivalent of a Master's Degree with only a single year of college. He loved classical music and sometimes after work mom would shush us kids so that we wouldn't disturb him as he lay on the couch with his eyes closed listen-

ing to a favorite Rachmaninoff Rhapsody, transported to some place far away from memories of war and work and worries.

He was a kind man with a generous heart, but it was hard to catch him in the act. If he saw someone in need, he would simply help. No fanfare.

There were ups and downs for dad in a marriage that spanned 42 years before his death from cancer in 1985. At some point in

time my mother began to suffer from depression but was too proud and stubborn to admit it. With her chin stuck out and fierceness in her eyes, she struggled for years and put us through hell when anxiety would overwhelm her and she would lash out. The three of us kids grew up and escaped by leaving home, but for dad there was no leaving. He told me once that he contemplated divorce and even went to speak to a lawyer, but in the end he

knew that it wouldn't be right to leave her. Real men just don't walk out on their families when their wife gets sick. He said that he had his children, and on a good day he had his brown eyed brunette from Katanning.

Like so many of his generation, dad endured. The good, the bad, all of it was what life is about. He taught me to laugh a lot so that I wouldn't have too much time to worry. He taught me the meaning of decency, commitment, self-reliance, and love. Mom outlived dad by 26 years. It wasn't an easy passing and I spent days and nights at her bedside, loving her into the next life. I think dad came for her in the end, driving the glory train to take his Nell home.

I learned so much from you dad. You live on in the green eyes and sandy hair that we share. And in the straightness of my back and the integrity of my mind that keep me safe and sane. I see you in my daughter and granddaughter. You and Norman and thousands like you have left a rich deposit for future generations. I pray we spend it well. Thanks dad, for everything. I love you. — Susan

*If you have a story about a family member who was part of The Greatest Generation and would like to share it, email it to [suebthompson@gmail.com](mailto:suebthompson@gmail.com). It could become part of my book titled "Loudoun Remembers the Greatest Generation."*

*Susan Thompson, a writer and photographer and a native of Virginia, lives in Purcellville with her husband Tim and a Schipperke named Rocket.*



# Thank You

*...to the many volunteers, the shoppers and the Loudoun community for supporting the 73rd Annual Ladies Board Rummage Sale held October 14 and 15, 2011. The sale grossed \$152,724 thanks to your generous spirit. Proceeds benefit patient care at Inova Loudoun Hospital and the Ladies Board Nursing Scholarship Fund. We also thank our business community friends:*

## Dulles Greenway • Loudoun Truck Center

Abernethy & Spencer	Habitat For Humanity	Raspberry Falls Golf & Hunt Club
Art Square	Heart's Delight	Red Fox Inn
Belmont Golf & Country Club	JK Moving & Storage	River Creek Golf & Country Club
Black Shutter Antiques	Leesburg Pharmacy	Sign Design
Blue Ridge Grill	Leisure World	Bryan Snow, Golf Pro
Blue Ridge Hospice	LEND Loudoun County Sheriff	Travinia Restaurant
Browning Equipment	Meadows Farm Nursery	The Lincoln Studios
DC United	Middleburg Humane Foundation	Twice Is Nice
Door of Hope	Morven Park – Tutt Lane	TWIGS
Everyday Elegance	N2 Design	Waste Management
Eyetopia	Not Your Average Joe's	Waterford Foundation
Franklin Park	Otter Creek	Waterford/Lovettsville Ruritans
Goodwill Industries	Potomac Green	

THE LADIES BOARD OF INOVA LOUDOUN HOSPITAL  
44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg, VA 20176 • [www.ladiesboard.org](http://www.ladiesboard.org)

**Ask Dr. Mike, continued from page 2**

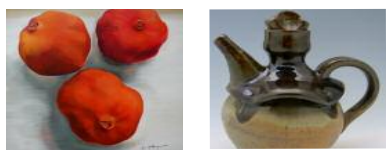
told me that the number of divorces in his firm have gone up exponentially during the same time period as a result of his clients rekindling old flames via Facebook. I don't, however, think Facebook is to blame for marital conflicts. Facebook, as a tool, may make it easier for us to find old partners, but no one is forcing us to look them up. In my opinion, by the time someone is actively searching for old girlfriends or boyfriends on the Internet, there are usually already problems in the relationship. I would tell your husband what you discovered and speak to him from a place of concern and not confrontation. Let him know that you are "hurt and scared." If the two of you are unable to successfully repair things as a couple and on your own, I strongly encourage you to work with a clinical psychologist with advanced training in marital and couple's therapy.

*Dr. Mike, My husband has climbed the ladder of his career quickly, and I am very proud of his success. He recently told me that he is embarrassed of our house and wishes to move to a grander residence. He found an amazing home for sale, which we have the means to afford. However, when we discussed the move with our children (ages: 13, 10 and 8) they all three became very upset. They all grew up in our current house and the move would present a lot of change and adjustment (e.g., their leaving familiar surroundings and friends and changing schools). I too am attached to our current home. My husband doesn't see the problem, and I am feeling very much in the middle of things. Any advice would help. F in Loudoun County*

F, First of all, your problem could be much worse. You are fortunately in a position of choosing to move up, as opposed to being forced into a short-sale or foreclosure as so many people have been. While the decision to move is ultimately an adult one, I think you should listen carefully to the little voices in your house. I'd ask you to consider that moving during the school year could cause very real adjustment and academic struggles for your children. Moreover, being uprooted from what is familiar and from neighborhood friendships can also prove to be too challenging for your kids. I think a sudden move, even into a castle, is inviting trouble. I am reminded here of the old saying, "if it's not broke, don't fix it." What you have now works well for everyone in the house except for your husband. I think you should speak to your husband and remind him about what matters most – not fancy things but your children's happiness and wellbeing. Perhaps you can convince your husband to put the move on hold until the Summer and when your children are out of school. You can then explore the idea of moving but as a family. I think getting your children involved in the moving process is important to avoid upsetting them and having them resent you later.

*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](http://www.ashburnpsych.com) or (703) 723-2999.*

## “North of Nine” Catoctin Holiday Art Tour



### Tour Stop 1

Art at Garden Corner  
38615 Morrisonville Rd.  
Lovettsville, VA 20180  
540-882-3182

Resident Artist, Jill Evans-Kavaldjian  
Painter, Printmaker

Guest Artist, Amy Manson  
Potter, Ceramic Sculptor

### Tour Stop 2

Clay Ward Studio  
38659 Bolington Road  
Lovettsville, VA 20180  
540-822-5092



Resident Artist, Carol Clay Ward  
Painter, Ceramic Sculptor

### Tour Stop 3

Lot 5 Studio  
39169 High Meadow Lane  
Lovettsville, VA 20180  
540 822-9246



Resident Artist, Judith Haynes-Levins  
Painter, Ceramic Sculptor

Resident Artist, Peter Levins,  
Photographer, Potter



Guest Artist, Meredith Hilt,  
Jeweler

### Tour Stop 4

White House Ceramic Studios, 16 East Pennsylvania Avenue  
Lovettsville, VA 20180  
540-822-4803 or 703-431-4692



Resident Artist, Kristen K. Swanson  
Porcelain Artist



Guest Artist, Deirdre Chipouras  
Fiber Artist



### Tour Stop 5

Pith Helmet Provisions, 2 South Loudoun Street,  
Lovettsville, VA 20180  
703-727-4247



Resident Artist, Kris Consaul,  
Artisan



Resident Artist, Chip York, Fearless  
Fabricator



Guest Artist, Becky Baldwin  
Fiber Artist

### Tour Stop 6

Whimsy 11687 Ropp Lane  
Lovettsville, VA 20180  
540-822-4309



Resident Artist, Kaarin Nelson  
Painter



Guest Artist, Kara Laughlin  
Fiber Artist

### Tour Stop 7

Blue Turtledog Designs  
11704 Ropp Lane  
Lovettsville, VA 20180,  
540-822-4707



Resident Artist, Alice Mullen  
Painter



Guest Artist, Meredith Kopp  
Potter

## Cuccinelli on Eminent Domain Abuses, continued from page 27

- The cost of taking property must be borne by the public, not by the individual property owner. Fair and full compensation must be given when property is taken or damaged;
- No more property can be taken than is necessary for the project; and
- The burden of proof that the taking is for a true "public use" is on the entity taking the property.

The amendment must now pass a second time during the 2012 General Assembly session. It then goes on the November 2012 ballot for the people to vote on.

I encourage you to tell your city council or county board of supervisors not to oppose the amendment. The lobbying organizations for Virginia cities and counties are already asking legislators to vote against these property rights protections, and they're using your tax dollars to do it! I also encourage you to get the commitment of incumbents and challengers running for the General Assembly that they will vote for the amendment in the 2012 session. And on Election Day in a week and a half, support the candidates who support this amendment and this very fundamental right of yours. YOU have the opportunity to put this power in the people's hands.

Finally, I can't leave without offering you my congratulations. I want to let you know I recently visited Lumpkin's Jail, the slave trail, and the slave burial ground here in Richmond. I want to congratulate you on your victory of getting that land in the hands of preservationists. While the site represents a dark reminder of Richmond's slave-trade past, it also reminds us that from evil can come good, as we saw with the establishment of a school to educate freed slaves on that very site; a school that would eventually become Virginia Union University.

I was also really struck by a quote engraved on the Reconciliation Statue on the slave trail. It said: Acknowledge and forgive the past; embrace the present; shape a future of reconciliation and justice.

That's a tremendous reminder of the power we all have to change society for the better and to preserve and protect the liberties of all people.

Thank you for letting me be here with you this morning.

## WHAT IS THE CARVER CENTER?



**CARVER CENTER IS A CHARMING HISTORIC COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER LOCATED IN BEAUTIFUL PURCELLVILLE. THE CENTER OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FITNESS CLASSES, TAI CHI, YOGA, LINE DANCE, COMPUTER CLASSES, BALLET, CHESS CLUB, BICUBING, LATIN GROOVES, AND MORE. SENIORS CAN BETTER WHO PURCHASE A YEARLY MEMBERSHIP OR GET FREE ACCESS TO THE FITNESS CENTER, COMPUTER LAB, AND MANY, MANY CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES.**

**THE CARVER CENTER HAS AN ASSORTMENT OF ROOMS TO FIT YOUR RENTAL NEEDS - FROM SMALL ROOMS FOR AN INTIMATE GATHERING, TO OUR GRAND HALL THAT CAN FIT PEOPLE.**

**THE CARVER CENTER IS A HIDDEN GEM. COME CHECK US OUT**

**For more information, stop by the Center or give us a call!  
200 Willie Palmer Way Purcellville, VA 20132 571-258-3400**

 [www.loudoun.gov/carver](http://www.loudoun.gov/carver)

# IMPROVE YOUR LIVING SPACE...

REMODELING YOUR KITCHEN  
INCREASES YOUR HOME VALUE.

Let our friendly and dependable staff Remodel for you this Fall!

INSTALLATION  
GUARANTEED  
BEFORE THE  
HOLIDAYS!

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 12.01.2011

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** DESIGN CENTER

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](http://www.floorsandmoreus.com)