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## High-Density Adult Community Proposed For 32nd Street

TMG Construction Corporation, in partnership with architect Michael L. Oxman and Associates, Ltd., has proposed a gated adult townhome development of 50 units on the 10-acre Ball property in Purcellville. The land is just south of the intersection of 32nd Street and Main Street, adjacent to the Loudoun Golf and Country Club.

TMG is owned by Tanya and Joe Matthews. Tanya Matthews is on the board of the Purcellville Business Association and past president of that organization. She currently serves on the Loudoun County Government Reform Committee.

Joe Matthews and developer Jack Andrews came before the town of Purcellville Board of Architectural Review (BOA) in June to discuss the concept design for the gated community. They also discussed the demolition of an existing nearly 100-year old residence surrounded on three sides by the Ball property. The residence is in the Purcellville Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Historic structures within the Historic District

cannot be demolished without approval by the BOA and according to specific criteria. For example, BOA guidelines state: "There must be a compelling reason to demolish or relocate a significant historic structure."

The applicant's argument for demolishing the residence was that it would be necessary to do so for the proposed gated adult community to be "commercially viable." The applicant also submitted the following reasons for demolition: "a. The house's design and block exterior walls are not consistent with other homes located nearby and it does not contribute to the scale or consistency of the neighborhood; b. The house is nearing the end of its useful life and its energy consumption is much higher than homes that meet today's standards; c. Retention of the house would lead to an awkward architectural island that would be inconsistent with future R-2 development as currently zoned or as the center of adult housing project (if it was to remain and this proposed project was built round it)."

As stated by the applicant in the preliminary submission to the BOA, the

*Continued on page 11*

## Ribbon Cutting For The Southern Collector Road



**See View From The Ridge, Page 5, For Our Editorial On This Topic**

The Town of Purcellville had the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Southern Collector Road on June 28. Mayor Bob Lazaro (in the middle of the photo) is flanked on the left by Sean T. Connaughton, secretary of transportation for the commonwealth of Virginia and on the right by Blue Ridge

Supervisor Janet Clarke and Chairman Scott York. Also joining the mayor were present and former council members and former Purcellville Mayor John Marsh. Dave Stegmaier, director of community outreach for Congressman Frank R. Wolf's office, was also in attendance.

## Catoctin Creek Apartments Approved For Tax Credits

— By Karen Jimmerson

The developers behind the Catoctin Creek Apartments have forged ahead, applying for and being approved for housing tax credits through the Virginia Housing and Development Authority (VHDA). The developer is asking the town of Purcellville to change the zoning of a 13.7-acre portion of the 20-acre site on Hirst Road from Commercial-1 to Planned Development Housing -15 to provide for the construction of a 176-unit affordable apartment project. They are also asking for a Comprehensive Plan amendment.

An application of this kind typically includes a letter of input from the municipality and is requested to illuminate "local needs and support." The town of Purcellville did not provide the typical input, whether pro or con. For example, a Nov. 20, 2012, report from the Purcellville Board of Architectural Review could have been submitted, as well as the Planning Commission staff report, a 96-page summary critical of the development. The developer's VHDA application was submitted in March without input from the town, a move

*Continued on page 28*



*Happy Independence Day!*



*Morven Park & Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy*

*Wild Loudoun, page 22*

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## Ask Dr. Mike

Dr. Mike,

*I know you just wrote about Facebook last month, but I have my own Facebook dilemma that I hope you can help me with.*

*My 16-year-old niece has posted what I think are very concerning comments about her hating both herself and life. I reached out to her father (my brother) to express my concerns, but he just brushed me off, telling me that I am "being overly dramatic." Neither he nor his wife are Facebook friends with their daughter (which I think is irresponsible on their part), but I am and have access to her posts. Help.*

– R in Loudoun County



Dr. Mike

worry about or not. Your brother may be right that there is nothing wrong with his daughter, but he may also be wrong. I recommend cutting and pasting the postings of concern into an email and sending them to your brother for his review. I also recommend reaching out to your niece by phone or in person to let her know about your concerns. Keep in mind that your actions may upset your niece, and she may even unfriend you on Facebook. In the end though, the good that would come of your reporting things to your brother more clearly, if there is indeed a problem with your niece, far outweighs the possible negative feelings your niece might have toward you if she is fine.

Dr Mike,

*What are your thoughts on the recent bullying incident involving the older woman who was bullied by several boys when she was serving in her role as bus monitor? I know you were on Good Morning America as an expert for bullying last year, and great job by the way! This seems like an area of interest and expertise for you, so I was just wondering if you had an opinion on what happened. I think all of the children*

*Continued on page 29*

R,

It is not uncommon for adolescents to make exaggerated or existential-like comments about life or death on Facebook. It is also not uncommon for depressed and suicidal adolescents to post those sorts of things. In situations like this, I think it is always better to err on the side of caution since you are an adult family member and since you really do not know if the posts are something to

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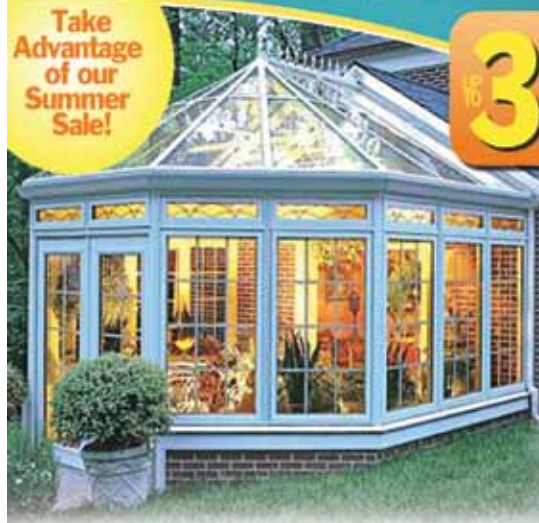
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## Board Of Supervisors Moving To Rescind Special Exception Requirements For Schools

— By Mary M. Bathory Vidaver

Sounding slightly less certain than a year ago, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors proceeded with its effort to rescind the special exception requirement with its mandatory public hearings for public schools. At its June 5 business meeting, the board directed staff to initiate an amendment to the zoning ordinance eliminating the special exception (SPEX) requirement for public schools in almost every zoning district. Over the next six months, staff will undertake the necessary public process to pursue such an amendment. The board's final vote is expected in December.

The Loudoun County School Board and its staff have long lobbied for such a change to the ordinance. As reported in *The Blue Ridge Leader* last July, Sarah Howard-O'Brien of the Loudoun County Public Schools' planning staff estimated that the change would conservatively save the county \$50,000 per application, but "the real savings," albeit hard to quantify, would be the months saved and the efficiency gained by a single focus on a site plan. In July 2012, citing greater efficiencies, process streamlining, and cost savings, a unanimous board agreed to pursue such a change.

Supervisors continued to point to these benefits at the June 5 meeting. However,

several, including Chairman Scott York (R-At-Large), who made the motion, informed citizens that the vote merely initiated the conversation. "I just want to get to the point where we're having the discussion," he explained.

Most of the bitterest battles regarding school site selection and construction have occurred in western Loudoun and citizens who spoke at the meeting's public comment period were entirely from the west. Many were veterans of the debates over the Grubb, Cangiano and Fields Farm sites and most were opposed pursuing these changes. After a scathing assessment of past school selection efforts by LCPS, resident Dan Schmidt concluded, "Major land improvements should not be placed in the hands of the school administration. Loudoun cannot risk handing them a streamlined process to place schools where they don't belong."

Sarah Stinger, a long-time proponent for neighborhood schools, especially a Lovettsville high school, supported the concept of streamlining school construction by eliminating the SPEX requirement, but warned that the proposal before the board lacked any incentive for the school system to site schools in the "right place." She suggested that the SPEX requirement be

*Continued on page 14*

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## Guest Opinion – Statement On Non-Indictment Of Eugene Delgaudio

– By John P. Flannery

The Arlington County prosecutor looking into the gay-bashing Loudoun County Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio never invited the grand jury to decide whether he committed any crime; she took the decision away from the grand jury; she repeated what she said on the first referral, after having reviewed little or no evidence that time, saying that there was no basis for a criminal prosecution.

I objected to assigning the same Arling-



Flannery

ton County prosecutor to handle the case after her initial referral because she'd already given her opinion - clearing Delgaudio in record time - when few prosecutors ever clear anyone publicly of a crime.

In the end, the Arlington County Prosecutor didn't think it was criminal theft to mislead the county paymaster to pay part time hires to work for the county when they were really working on campaign fund-raising instead.

We prosecute ordinary citizens for taking \$200 that isn't theirs.

The prosecutor proposed reforms as a cover for failing to return any charges against Delgaudio.

This Loudoun County Board of Supervisors doesn't even have an ethics policy to follow. Reform is not in their vernacular.

I said at the beginning of this grand jury investigation, this is going nowhere - and it didn't.

Some asked months ago, why one should file a petition by the citizens of Sterling to recall Supervisor Delgaudio.

This announcement is the reason.

Only the people can rid themselves of politicians like Supervisor Delgaudio."

*John P. Flannery is a former New York federal and State prosecutor who prosecuted official corruption cases including the bribery*

*of Congressman Dan Flood, served in the US Senate and U.S House of Representatives as Special Counsel conducting investigations of presidential appointees and corrupt officials, and he also served with the Democratic minority in defense of the impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton; in private practice, John has an active criminal and civil practice at the trial and appellate level, was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), writes about law and politics, lectures and appears on tv and radio network shows, and is listed in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in American Law.*

## Letters To The Editor

### Why Protest? Why Even Be There?

Dear Editor:

When the Southern collector Road finally opened the other day, I stood there with Sam Brown and a few friends holding up signs protesting the road that cut Sam's 250 year old farm in two so a few commuters could cut their hour commute by 4 or five minutes. I know ... what a waste of a Friday morning, I am sure most people say. You cannot stop progress. Today I spent 20 minutes held up on the back road going from Hamilton to Lin-

coln by a VDOT crew paving over the gravel road that had carried Loudounites between the two villages for centuries. Once again, progress, which cannot be stopped. Someone's Lexus was getting dust on it. But why bother? It is a good question.

In one of my favorite Faulkner stories, "The Bear," Ike McCaslin participated in the hunt for the Old Bear, that symbol of the wild wilderness that was here before human progress came in and drove it down. He did not want the bear to be caught; when he had a chance to shoot it, he never even pulled the trigger. So why bother, his cousin demanded. Why even be there at the hunt? The question is the same one I faced. Faulkner answered it better than I could:

*It seemed to him there was a fatality in it. It seemed to him that something, he didn't know what, was beginning; had already begun. It was like the last act on a set stage. It was the beginning of the end of something; he didn't know what except that he would not grieve. He would be humble and proud that he had been found worthy to be part of it too or even just to see it too.*

The small Dutch village of Haarlem became New York City one Southern Collector Road at a time, one development at a time, one paved dirt road at a time. The commuters must be satisfied. Commerce must be served. Someone else in some other state, or some other country, will grow our food. But the rural community I moved to almost 30 years ago is all but gone. The least we can do is be there to acknowledge, and grieve, its passing. – David Williams, Swampoodle

### Shooting In Costco Was Wrong

Dear Editor:

About a month ago two male Loudoun county deputies shot and killed a 38-year-old female pizza server inside the Sterling Costco.

After reading she was armed with a pair of scissors and an unknown type of knife, I assumed our local papers would be filled with letters and at least one editorial asking why this mother of two was shot

to death. Rather than subdued with mace, tackled or clubbed with night sticks.

Maybe she was acting strangely and did threaten the deputies. Yes she may have threatened them, but with scissors and a kitchen knife, not a rifle.

Even if it was a butcher knife, they decided killing her and shooting inside a crowded store was the best solution? A life was taken for nothing!

Yet, not one letter in The Loudoun Times Mirror, Blue Ridge Leader, Leesburg Today or Purcellville Gazette. Not one passionate liberal letter asking about police brutality.

Not one passionate conservative letter asking about out of control government police.

NAACP where are you?

Not one letter, no one cares. Not my wife, daughter, coworker, friend, not part of my race or ethnic group. If a dog or cat had been shot to death, it would have brought more reaction. If her neighbors shot her, breaking in the house at night, it would have brought more reaction. If they beat her up, there would have been more reaction.

Parts of my family have lived in Loudoun since the late 1700's. Both my parents and grandparents are from Loudoun, and I can tell you the law was respected and the officers were genuine. If Chief Kidwell's officers had encountered a woman in the old A&P they would have just taken the knife and sent her to Loudoun Hospital. Same with Sheriff Legaurd, they would not have shot and killed a distraught woman armed with scissors or kitchen knife in the 1970s. Nor would Leesburg police shoot and kill male drunks armed with broken beer bottles at various bars, in the 80's or 90's.

In those decades past, I can remember at least three incidents that included unhinged people with guns and the police did not shoot. They talked it out until the gun could be taken or they set it down. No one was shot. In those days I respected law enforcement and felt they were there to protect citizens, now I am afraid of them.

Why was it different then?

In my opinion the police then did not

think of themselves as soldiers at war with the public. Even though many were Vietnam veterans or had been peacetime MP's. To them, killing would be used as a last resort and certainly not for a pair of scissors or pizza knife. They took pride in being able to handle confrontations such as what happened at Costco without resorting to taking a life.

Modern law enforcement has been militarized, and in many cases officers are trained to neutralize perceived threats without hesitation. Hence realistic police training targets in use by the Department of Homeland Security called "no hesitation targets." They are life sized photos of people with titles like "pregnant woman with gun", "old man in garage with gun", "old lady in living room with gun" and "little boy with gun." The idea is to desensitize officers about shooting people they may otherwise hesitate in shooting.

A bank robber with a sawed off shotgun is one type of threat. A 38-year-old mother in a store with a pair of scissors and/or a knife is quite another.

Somebody needs to start asking hard questions, and if we don't get some answers then we should get the Virginia State Police to investigate. Right now my gut feeling is the Sheriff's Department will protect its own.

The public needs to care or it will happen again.

– Mark Crosen, Hamilton

### Stony Point Ruins Are Special

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed Tim Jon's pensive piece in the June issue on the Stony Point Ruins of the Potts-Neer Mill. Indeed, it is a very special landmark. The Keating family who live next door and are stewards of the ruins, are very interested in seeing these stabilized, and have met with experts in the field to review the possibilities. They care, in particular, because these are the most visible ruins from the massive Union burning raid of 1864. Once a going grist mill built in 1842

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**PUBLISHER & EDITOR**  
Valerie Cury Joyner

**CREATIVE DEPARTMENT**  
Meredith Hancock, Layout/Design  
Andrea E. Gaines

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Judy D. Harbin, (703) 727-1321,  
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Carol Morris Dukes,  
Carol@BRLeader.com

**EDITOR:**  
(letters to the editor & press releases):  
editor@BRLeader.com

**HOT NEWS TIPS:**  
Valerie Cury, (703) 943-8806,  
tipline@BRLeader.com

**WEBMASTER:**  
webmaster@BRLeader.com

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
PO Box 325, Purcellville, VA 20134-0325

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## We Welcome Your Letters To The Editor!

Submissions may be sent to Editor@BRLeader.com, or via mail to PO Box 325, Purcellville, VA 20134-0325.

Please include your name, address and telephone number.

*We reserve the right to edit submissions as necessary. Deadline for print edition is the third week of each month, or, online any time.*

**View From The Ridge – It's Not "Time For Compromise"**

– By Andrea Gaines

The photo op tents are in place and the state and local government officials, local business leaders and more are lined up – current and former mayors of Purcellville, Virginia Transportation officials, members of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, local developers.

The press is here, and a broad white ribbon has been pulled across part of the Southern Collector Road. Bob Lazaro, the Mayor of Purcellville has conducted his ceremonial ribbon cutting signaling that the road is open, and a muted moment of hand-clapping has blown off into the warm June breeze.

Yes, the Southern Collector Road is open and ready for our cars and trucks and commercial vehicles. And, it's a big, beautiful wide and majestic road.

But, if you know the path it takes – and recognize that the tall wooded areas on either side were once part of a contiguous (and still functioning) farm – you know you are travelling across, not just a new roadbed, but old farm land that a family probably fought tooth and nail to save.

For, on either side of the political handshaking and ceremony is not only remnants of apple trees, but citizens who worked for years to save Crooked Run Orchard from being split in two by a highway that the town's own studies showed would relieve traffic in Purcellville by maybe 2 percent ... feisty, never give up citizens of every political stripe and color with hand-made signs reading: "Scar on the Land," ... "Road to Lazaro's House" ... "Stop Eminent Domain Abuse Who's Next?"

One of the sign holders is good old Sam Howell Brown. Looking at the picture of



Purcellville Mayor Bob Lazaro with former Mayor John Marsh and Purcellville Business Association President Jim Bowman. When Mayor Lazaro ran for the Purcellville Town Council in 2004, he ran on a slow growth platform that was against building any roads that would support growing Purcellville.



Carolyn Lazaro (shown left), wife of Mayor Bob Lazaro, had this to say to Purcellville resident Kelli Grim following the ribbon cutting as she was leaving, "This land is God's land and the farmer was just trying to keep it for himself. Besides, you're just doing this because you're upset because my husband just keeps on getting re-elected."

him standing out there in the sun, I really can't imagine what it took for him to come out today. He has farmed this land for years, cultivating pick your own berries, a wide variety of apples and peaches, herbs, vegetables, pumpkins and squash. Sam's dad, Howell Brown farmed it before that, and many generations of Brown's before that, going back to when the family was deeded the land by Lord Fairfax in 1741 before we became a nation. Today, 20,000



Secretary of Transportation for the State of Virginia and Chairman of the Commonwealth Transportation Board Sean Connaughton at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Southern Collector Road.



The Town of Purcellville took by Quick Take approximately 7-1/2 acres of Sam Brown's Crooked Run Orchard for the Southern Collector Road. This divided Brown's property in two, leaving neither him nor his customers safe access to his peach orchard (no cross walk and no path for his tractor). The town left approximately the 16-acre adjacent O'Toole property untouched, for future commercial/residential growth.

customers pass through Crooked Run Orchard each year.

On this day, police officers have respectfully directed the concerned citizens to stand behind a line near the ceremony lest they be given a ticket for trespassing. Trespassing on land that was once owned by the Brown family, but taken by eminent domain and the dysfunctional and self-serving Purcellville political system – a system of you-do-this-for-me-and-I'll-do-this-for-you that now threatens western Loudoun County's remaining agricultural

jewels and small town and village ways of life.

One of the public officials speaking at the event suggests to everyone present: "It is time for compromise," meaning, presumably, can we just move on? Ok, time for compromise, time to move on? But, what have the forces that be compromised to serve their own interests (the road) while at the same time protecting this farmer's property rights and family heritage? Nothing. No shifting of the roadbed so it wouldn't split the farm. No safe crosswalk

Continued on page 9

**Loudoun's Grand Jury – The Verdict Is In**

– Mary M. Bathory Vidaver

The grand jury verdict is in – the commonwealth's attorney will not bring an indictment against Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio (R-Sterling) for misuse of public funds, campaign finance violation, or general bad behavior towards his staff. However, the members of the grand jury took the unusual step of reporting out in detail their findings, frustration, and questions.

Had they asked me, which they didn't – not even the whisper of a subpoena – I could have answered any number of the grand jury's questions about the status and treatment of Loudoun County board aides, the history of the Herring law and other ill-fated efforts to enhance ethics and transparency in Loudoun and Virginia government, and a whole host of other facts gained from having served as a board aide for nine years. Had they asked me, which they didn't, here is some of

what I might have shared with them.

**Transparency in Government**

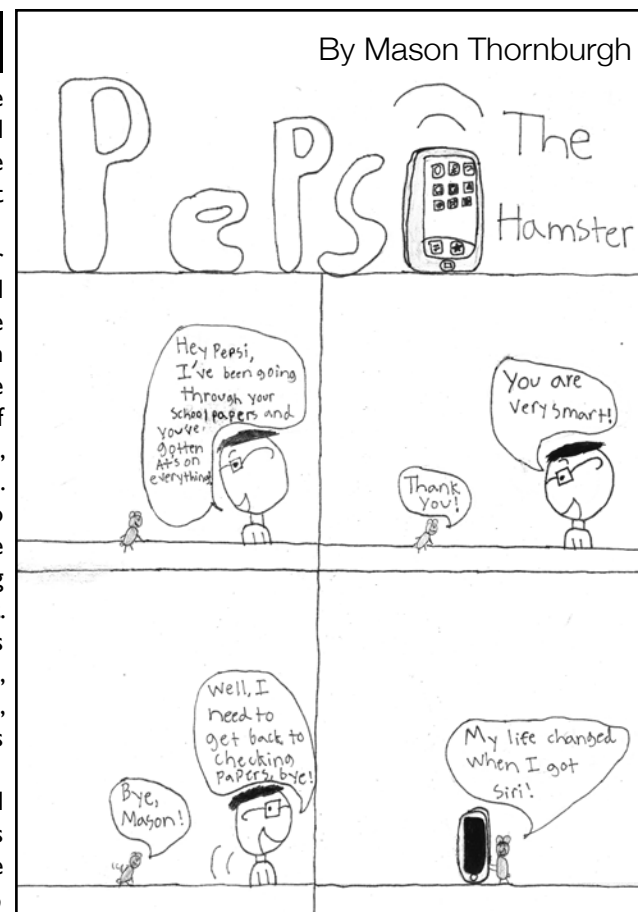
In the summer of 2007 after *The Washington Post* published a series of articles about the unethical and potentially criminal behavior of Loudoun County officials and their appointees, members of the Loudoun League of Women Voters met several times with State Sen. Mark Herring. The topic of the meetings was possible legislation that Senator Herring might sponsor to address the behavior described in those articles. The meetings resulted in the preparation of a 13-page document, offering suggestions "to address current gaps in existing State legislation and to provide Counties throughout the Commonwealth with the means to prevent even the appearance of corruption proactively." The report's 19 recommendations encompassed conflict of interest rules, decision-making transparency, campaign

financing, and enforcement. Had these recommendations been championed and enacted, the grand jury might have faced fewer frustrations. So, what happened?

The LWV team passed their report on to Sen. Herring, who used five of its recommendations as the basis for legislation he submitted in January 2008. Two bills died in House committees despite the support of large Senate majorities (in one case, unanimous). One bill died in the Senate. Of the two bills passed, a change to one's language created a very large loophole, the other was the 'Herring Bill' discussed in the grand jury report. The grand jury raised three points: its application to Loudoun County alone, the complexity of the bill's language, and the one-year statute of limitations on prosecutions.

The LWV report stressed the statewide applicability of its recommendations. In the case of the

Continued on page 9





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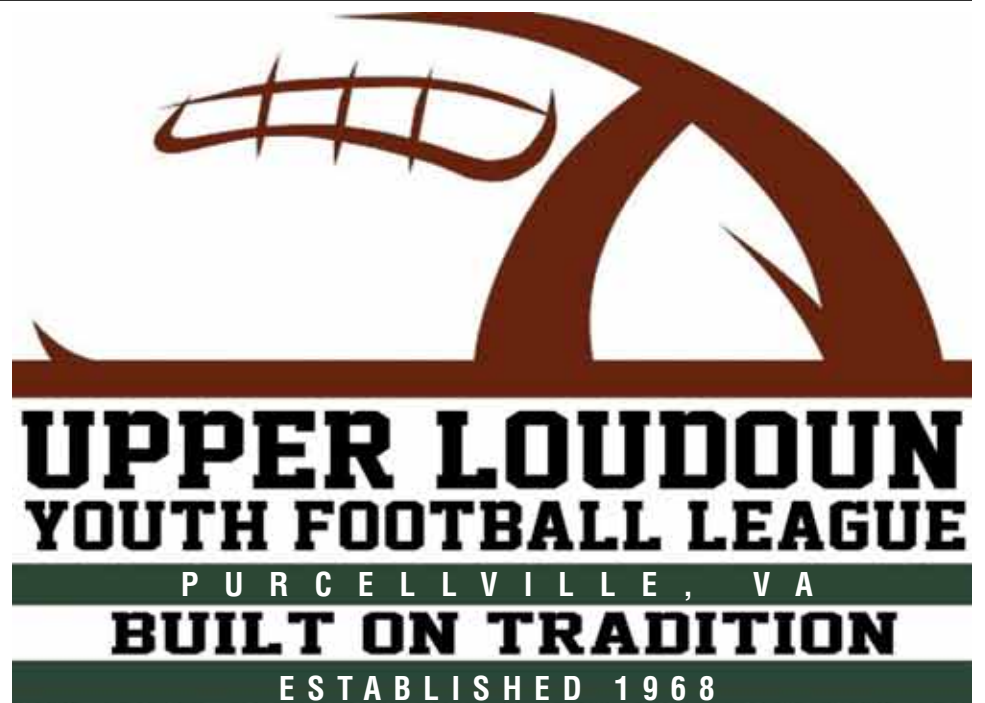
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Town and county residents came to the ribbon cutting of the Southern Collector Road in support of how the Browns have been treated by the town. They were told by Purcellville's large police presence that they could not sit under the tent as it was for invited guests. They had to stand in back of a cordoned off area, and if they crossed it they would get a trespassing ticket, and then, if they wouldn't leave the area they would be arrested and taken to jail.

View, continued from page 5

or access to Sam's back orchard. No assistance in minimizing how the years of construction on the road bordering his farm would affect his business.

It's not "Time To Compromise." No, I don't think so. It's time all of western

Loudoun got behind a citizen-directed plan to make Sam Brown's situation the last time politicians and others are allowed to sacrifice our historic farm businesses and agricultural heritage for the sake of a vision we don't share.

Verdict, continued from page 5

'Herring Bill,' according to his staff person, efforts to apply it statewide would fail. The language of the LWV recommendation, based on a proposal for campaign contributions developed by Board Chairman Scott York (at the time an Independent) and former Supervisor Lori Waters (R-Broad Run), was far simpler and applied to any matter before the board not just selected land use votes. Recognizing the complexity of many matters, but especially land use applications, the LWV recommendation encompassed a longer time period than the "Herring bill."

The LWV team also passed on its report to former Supervisor Jim Burton (I-Blue Ridge). The report in its entirety formed Phase III of the Transparency in Government initiative he submitted in January 2008 for consideration by the Board of Supervisors. After the year-long, sometimes contentious consideration of Phase II, a majority of the Board indicated a lack of interest in pursuing discussion of Phase III. Herring, too, lost interest in the topic. He resubmitted two bills on the subject in 2009, both of which died in the House despite the unanimous support of the State Senate, and then moved on to other topics.

**Hostile Work Environment**

Yes, it is true that Delgaudio was verbally tough on his aides. Sitting two offices down the hall, I frequently heard his aides' voices get louder and higher as they stuttered, "Yes, I did," "That's not what you told me," "I did too!" Still, such verbal abuse was not limited to the Sterling office. Without any trouble I can recall instances of verbal and

non-verbal abuse by at least three other supervisors, including a few that occurred in the board room.

There was the supervisor who received VIP tickets to the Polo Cup, bestowed them upon his aides, and then just before the event, asked for the tickets back. Although the two aides had invited dates and invested in new outfits, their boss insisted they return the tickets. Not surprisingly, the young men resigned almost immediately afterwards. Then there was the supervisor who publicly chastised her aide's decision to interrupt her with the documents she needed on the dais. There was the supervisor who felt driven to puncture any pretensions of professional status by his aide, insisting that she really wasn't much more than a secretary. And, my all-time favorite, the supervisor who, ignoring the trash can under his desk, signaled his aide up to the dais during a board meeting just to hand her an empty soda can.

While county staff might speak quietly to a board member about their more egregious behavior, for the most part, they refused to accept any responsibility for the aides' well-being. As the grand jury noted, "It is apparent that aides to the BOS live largely if not entirely outside the normal HR policies and protections that apply to other County employees." Yes, we most certainly did on many different levels. Well into my seventh or eighth year as an aide, I discovered a "panic room" on the fifth floor quite by accident - no one in county administration had ever bothered to reveal its existence to

Continued on page 14

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# In Summer – Plants Grow Wildly

– By Donna Williamson

In mid-June, my *Penstemon digitalis*, a native I grew from seed last year, decided to bloom madly. It is just lovely. I knew about some of the other penstemons but this one almost looks like the fancy foxgloves that people love but struggle to keep going here.

The photo is an evening shot of a fat bee collecting pollen from the penstemon. The bee and I could not be happier with this lovely plant...and to think I spent so many years without it!

June was a great month for my roses. I don't know where the aphids were; they usually annoy roses in the spring but I haven't seen any of those little critters. Perhaps the unusual cold spells interfered with their fun – am grateful nevertheless since the roses have bloomed for weeks and are spectacular.

Roses take about three years to knit into the landscape and some folks get disappointed too soon. Give them a nice chance and you will be delighted.

I grew a variety of milkweed species last year, didn't plant them before winter, and, sadly, I still have them in



pots. They are doing well and at this point, I think pulling them apart to plant will do them more harm than good. They are sitting around a big container of tropical milkweed and I'm hoping any stray monarchs can find them all.

There is one milkweed that seems willing to grow in part shade, *Asclepias exaltata*, or poke milkweed. This is its

second year (grown from seed and I am eager to see it bulk up this year. We have had some good rain so we'll see how it does.

Even though I have dry soils here, I am growing the swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) carefully by drenching it at least once a week. Want it to be happy!

Also have lots of varieties of pollinator-favorite goldenrod coming along, as well as wild senna and the regulars: tomatoes, jalapenos, shallots, dill, and arugula. Lush and bountiful!

**“In summer,  
the song  
sings itself.”**

~William Carlos Williams

*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, and Shenandoah University. She is Author of The Virginia Gardner's Companion: An Insider's Guide to Low-Maintenance Gardening In Virginia. She can be contacted at 540 877-2002.*



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Adult Community, continued from page 1

purpose of the community would be to provide a unique lifestyle for its residents, and that these residents could possibly acquire country club membership. The development might also encourage redevelopment of the mixed-use commercial property to the north.

The Ball property is currently zoned R-2 which provides “for low-density single family detached residential development;” the kind of single family zoning that currently surrounds the parcels in question.

As the developers want to build 50 townhome units, they would have to apply for both a zoning amendment and a comprehensive plan amendment (neither have been filed). They are proposing a change from R-2 to R-8 zoning. Said BOA Chairman Walter Voskian, “This is zoned R-2 for a reason ... [R-8] is just too intense.” Other commissioners added that this type of development would add another 200 car trips daily and something would have to be done traffic wise. The commissioners didn't know how a gated community would work with the community as a whole, thinking that it would be counter to a neighborhood feel.

Joe Matthews said that the 50 units could possibly be scaled back to within the 40-unit range, arguing that any less would not be economically feasible. The commissioners were not in favor of tearing down the house, noting that this would fly in the face of historic preservation.

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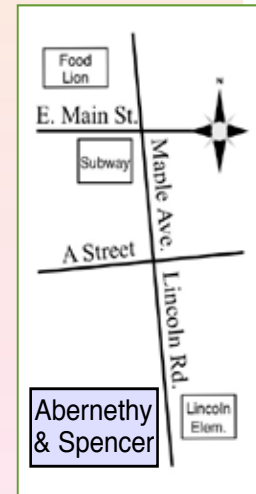
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*School Board, continued from page 3*

waived for sites that can hook up to public utilities and retained elsewhere. Such an approach, however, would not address school sites in eastern Loudoun or the transition area, both of which are served by public utilities.

Given the Board's stated commitment to economic development, zoning staff requested input from Tom Flynn, the county's director of economic development. However, Flynn's response focused exclusively on eastern business development. He expressed strong concerns about the negative impact on business recruitment and retention of allowing schools by-right in business and commercial districts. However, his memo omits any discussion of potential impacts of by-right schools on the rural economy. Mary Terpak, representing the Rural Economic Development Committee, informed the board that committee members unanimously opposed the removal of the SPEX requirement in agricultural areas. It is not clear whether this opposition extended to those portions of the transition area that are currently involved in agricultural activities.

In the board's discussion prior to the vote, Supervisors Ken Reid (R-Leesburg) and Geary Higgins (R-Catoctin) continued as strong proponents for the change. Supervisors Ralph Buona (R-Ashburn) and Suzanne Volpe (R-Algonkian) echoed York's rationale for supporting his motion, while also expressing some reservations. Those reservations swayed Supervisor Matt LeTourneau, (R-Dulles), who commented, "We are learning everyday that site specific conditions have to be taken into account ... at this point, this is an intent to amend and I don't have that intent."

Up until the June 5 board meeting, Janet Clarke (R-Blue Ridge) supported the removal of the SPEX requirement. However, after significant public outcry from constituents, Clarke changed her mind. During the meeting, she requested that York accept a friendly amendment to exclude all rural zoning districts from the proposal, but York refused. Under the board's rules of order, Clarke could have offered her amendment independently for the Board's consideration; however, Clarke did not pursue that option. Clarke's proposal would also not have addressed the issue of schools in the transition area.

What is at stake with this proposed change? There are three key differences between a by-right and a special exception application: the decision-maker, opportunity for public input, and decision criteria.

	<i>By-Right / Administrative Process</i>	<i>Special Exception / Legislative Process</i>
<b>Decision-Maker</b>	County Staff	Board of Supervisors
<b>Public Hearing Required?</b>	No	Yes
<b>Decision Criteria</b>	Predetermined set of performance standards	Negotiated through a 3-step public process

It is the flexibility inherent in the decision criteria that is at the heart of the zoning ordinance's inclusion of a special exception process. It recognizes certain uses may have a negative impact on neighbors and provides the Board of Supervisors with the opportunity to require the landowner to mitigate those impacts beyond the minimum standards imposed by the zoning ordinance. Staff must approve an administrative application that meets or exceeds the performance standards found in the zoning ordinance. In a legislative process the Board of Supervisors has the flexibility to customize requirements for unusual or atypical circumstances. Such mitigations include restrictions on the use of outdoor lights, loudspeakers, or hours of operation, off-site road improvements, and additional trees to conceal the site from neighbors.

Proponents of the change note that the impacts of a new school and mitigation conditions imposed on them are "usually similar in nature." Given such similarity, they argue, why not just address those impacts through the adoption of performance standards?

Proponents also mention the retention of the commission permit requirement; highlighting this process includes at least one formal public hearing. York emphasized this point in his comments. Howard O'Brien noted that retaining the commission permit not only preserves the public hearing requirement, but also moves the timing of the hearing to an earlier point in the process. In conversations last July, both she and School Board Chairman, Erik Hornberger pointed out that the extensive community outreach and impact

mitigation efforts for the Lansdowne high school began long before the submission of materials for the SPEX. Given the level of detail that occurred in those efforts, Hornberger wondered what value a special exception process provided to the public. While such efforts allow the community to provide input at the beginning of the process, they are not required of school boards. Further, without the SPEX process, there is no forum to insure citizen requests are actually implemented.

A January 2013 referral memo from the county's Transportation Division to the Zoning Office Project Manager Larr Kelly, notes, "With a SPEX process, the County can require that impacts be addressed to a greater extent than can be required through a by-right site plan (STPL) application." Referring to the recently approved SPEX application for HS-8 in Lansdowne, "the legislative process resulted in traffic calming measures in the surrounding neighborhood ... to be in place at the time of the school opening, and the remainder within the following two years. Otherwise, all traffic calming efforts would have had to go through the typical VDOT resident petition process and installation would have been delayed until well after the opening of the school." While the proposed performance standards do require a traffic impact analysis for school sites – not typically mandatory for by-right applications – it does not indicate whether county staff have the power to insist on implementation of the analysis' recommendations as a prerequisite for approval.

A memo to Kelly from an environmental team lead in the Building and Development Department expresses similar concerns. "There are environmental conditions and commitments included with the special exception applications that are not accounted for in the draft performance standards. These would be lost as a result of the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment." After listing a variety of potential conservation and preservation issues, the memo recommends, "To minimize impacts of the proposed ZOAM on environmental resources, ERT [Environmental Review Team] recommends that the draft performance standards be expanded to address the conditions and commitments commonly associated with prior special exception applications." After a request to collaborate with LCPS staff on developing such standards, the memo continues with a list of eleven suggestions as a starting point for such collaboration. The amendments presented to the board include six of those suggestions.

*Verdict, continued from page 9*

the aides, though we were just as likely a potential target for an irate citizen with a gun. How symbolic.

County staff's abdication of any responsibility for the aides, as documented in the public record, including the presentation of outright untruths to the board and the 2003 failure to fully implement board direction, helped create the environment described above. However, the rejection by board members of both parties to efforts that would have professionalized the aide position, created parameters for hiring and compensating aides, and provided some level of parity with county staff ensured that office fiefdoms and barely restrained abuse would continue.

After *The Washington Post* broke the story that resulted in the grand jury's empanelment, the board did undertake some effort at revising the policies. However, those policies do not go anywhere near the scope of the grand jury's recommendations. While there is now a "path by which an aide can report activities that may be illegal or ask questions about the legality of an activity," the policy still provides no protection to an aide of the attendant risk of being fired for bringing unwelcome attention to the board member's questionable activities. No whistleblower protections, here.

Without the assistance of an outside third party to objectively look at the legality of the aides' employment structure and to consider the types of protections private sector employers of at-will employees routinely provide and without a board willing to adopt the recommendations of such a third-party, the situation will not change or, in fact, worsen. After all, so long as board aides are neither officer, agent, or employee of Loudoun County (as is their current status), we now know they are free to misuse public assets for private or personal purposes without any criminal liability. Deleting the word "full-time" from the statute, as the grand jury recommends, would not affect them one whit.

**Citizen Involvement**

The grand jury's report concludes, "This investigation has been an eye-opening experience for this jury. As a result we expect to all spend more time learning about our respective supervisor and other local politicians. We likewise strongly encourage every other individual who is eligible to vote to learn about his or her local representatives and candidates and to participate in voting when the time comes." I echo the grand jury's sentiments. I am glad that they have seen the light and hope other citizens will do so too.

What can you do? Get involved. Demand that the current board sign the Ethics Pledge. Demand that the

board hire an outside third-party to examine the structure of board aides' employment.

Then, read the LWV report – it's posted on [www.jimburton.org](http://www.jimburton.org) in the Transparency in Government section. This fall, ask candidates what they will do to improve ethics and transparency in the Commonwealth. Then insist that they follow through on those promises once elected. Talk to friends and family who live elsewhere in Virginia. Ask them to lobby their own representatives to support ethics legislation. Without sufficient pressure on more than just Loudoun representatives to the statehouse nothing will change. And without changes to state laws, the county is limited to voluntary policies rather than laws.

As for me, after a decade of involvement in Loudoun politics, as a citizen activist and then as a board aide, I am heading to Divinity School, where I expect the air will be a little cleaner, the morals a little more robust, and the dialogue a little kinder. I've done my part. It's time for others to pick up the standard. Good luck.

*The author, Mary Bathory Vidaver, served as Board Aide to Supervisor Jim Burton (I-Blue Ridge) from 2003-2011. She was the primary researcher and writer of the League of Women Voters report and the staff contact on the county's transparency efforts between 2006 and 2009.*

## Amy V. Smith's Money Talks

13 Financial Planning Strategies for 2013-part four of a series

— By Amy Smith

Congress passed the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA) on New Year's Day. A number of changes came out of the act that will affect your tax bill. In this month's column, I will be offering financial planning strategies for you to consider in 2013 that by taking appropriate action may help you avoid an unexpected tax bill next April.



SMITH

### 9. Manage Short-Term Cash Flow Needs

If you're faced with short-term liquidity needs such as a large tax bill or another significant expense like a family member's college tuition, think about how you will pay for it. Don't immediately default to selling part of your portfolio that could result in capital gains, trigger new higher taxes, unbalance your asset allocation and disrupt your overall investment strategy. Consider options that may ultimately cost less to meet your cash flow needs.

Ask yourself "How will I pay for unplanned or unanticipated expenses?" If your answer is, "I don't know" or the thought of selling assets comes to mind, consider making sure your accounts have margin availability or establishing a securities-based line of credit (SBLC) just in case something unexpected arises.

Both margin and SBLC are convenient and flexible borrowing options. Neither has a cost to establish, and both allow you the flexibility to repay at your convenience at relatively low interest rates. The application process is simple and credit and credit is generally established immediately. By borrowing from a margin loan or SBLC, you can delay the need to sell assets that may generate capital gains and perhaps earn a return that more than offsets the interest on the loan.

However, keep in mind that margin or securities based line of credit may not be suitable for all investors. Borrowing on securities based lending products and

using securities as collateral may involve a high degree of risk. Market conditions can magnify any potential for loss. If the market turns against the client, he or she may be required to deposit additional securities and/or cash in the account(s) or pay down the loan. The securities in the pledged account(s) may be sold to meet the margin call and the firm can sell the client's securities without contacting them. The interest rates charged for a securities based line of credit are determined by the market value of pledged assets and access to capital. The interest rates charged for margin are determined by the amount borrowed. For additional information on margin, visit <http://sec.gov/investor/pubs/margin.htm>.

Securities based line of credit provided by Raymond James Bank. Raymond James & Associates, Inc. and Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. are affiliated with Raymond James Bank.

*Amy V. Smith Wealth Management, LLC, is an independent firm. Amy V. Smith, CFP, CIMA offers securities through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/ SIPC. Her office is located at 161 Fort Evans Road, NE, Suite 345, Leesburg, VA 20176. (Tel: 703-669-5022). [www.amysmithwealthmanagement.com](http://www.amysmithwealthmanagement.com). Any opinions are those of Amy V. Smith and not necessarily those of RJFS or Raymond James. Expressions of opinion are as of this date and are subject to change without notice. The information contained in this report does not purport to be a complete description of the securities, markets or developments referred to in this material. The information has been obtained from sources considered to be reliable but we do not guarantee that the foregoing material is accurate or complete. Any information is not a complete summary or statement of all available data necessary for making an investment decision and does not constitute a recommendation. You should discuss any tax or legal issues with the appropriate professional.*

## Learning Through Making Decisions

— By Samuel Moore-Sobel

I cannot believe it has been more than a year since I have written a column. When I stopped writing last summer in preparation for attending college in the fall, I didn't think



MOORE-SOBEL

much of it. So much was happening then that it was hard to keep up. But when the dust settled, I found myself missing writing. I am so grateful to be able to have another chance to put my thoughts onto the page.

A lot has happened since the last time I wrote. Most notably last fall my family and I made our way up to Drexel University. It was time for me to begin a new chapter in my life. I was excited, apprehensive and most of all unsure of what the future would bring. I was hopeful that things would work out, that Drexel was the place for me.

As the year progressed, it became clear that Drexel was not the place for me. It turned out to be much more of an engineering school than I first realized. I hated living in the dorm, the lack of privacy, the constant noise and disruption. I also found out I didn't like living in the city of Philadelphia. Finally, I woke up one morning and asked myself, "Why am I going into debt for a school that I do not even like?"

So right then and there I decided it was time to start submitting transfer applications.

It was a hard decision. I didn't want people to think I had failed out or that I wasn't up to the task of living away from home. I was ashamed and felt like I was the only one. After some research, I found out that in fact one in three students transfer colleges during their academic careers. I wasn't the only one after all.

I struggled with the feeling that I had chosen the wrong college, that perhaps I had made a mistake. It is easy as human beings to get bogged down in a situation. We make a decision, it doesn't work out and we decide that it is something we must regret. After much thought and reflection, I have chosen not to regret my decision. I learned a lot about myself in the past year. I learned that after all I had been through I could leave home and go to a city that I had only visited briefly in the past. I learned that I could be successful academically even in a place that I did not like. I learned and saw how strong I was. Through the decisions we make it sometimes becomes easier to see who we really are.

I have decided to attend George Mason University and I could not be happier with my decision. I have returned to live at home with the family that I love and have started a new job selling cars at CarMax. I believe these decisions are the right ones. But even if they aren't, I know that there will be plenty to learn along the way.

*Samuel Moore-Sobel is a rising sophomore at George Mason University.*

## Lovettsville Cooperative Market - Third Annual Barn Dance & Silent Auction

The Lovettsville Cooperative Market is hosting its third annual Barn Dance and Silent Auction on Saturday, July 27, from 6p.m. to 10p.m., at Weatherlea Farm in Lovettsville. This annual event raises funds for development of the cooperative's planned local grocery store.

The Barn Dance will feature old-fashioned barbecue prepared by Smokin' Willy of Purcellville, whose menu will highlight locally sourced ingredients, as well as live music by The Short Hill Mountain Boys, Craggy Island, and The Main Line Gravy Soppers with Rock Candy.

A cash bar will feature local wines and beers from 8 Chains North Winery, North Gate Vineyard, Tarara Winery and Flying Dog Brewery.

A variety of silent auction items include locally created art and handicrafts as well as gift certificates for dining, travel and local services. A few of this year's donors include The Restaurant at Patowmack Farm, Yoga Time Studio, Trail's End Cycles, Kissmet Spa, and



Technique Colour Hair Studio.

The event will take place in the historic barn at Weatherlea Farm, off Berlin Pike -north of Lovettsville.

Prices and tickets are available at [www.lovettsville-grocery.com/barn-dance](http://www.lovettsville-grocery.com/barn-dance). Payment may also be made by check sent to Lovettsville Cooperative Market, P.O. Box 216, Lovettsville, VA 20180. Limited tickets may be available to the door, but cannot be guaranteed.

Anyone interested in donating items for the silent auction can donate online at [www.lovettsville-grocery.com/barn-dance](http://www.lovettsville-grocery.com/barn-dance) or email [info@lovettsville-grocery.com](mailto:info@lovettsville-grocery.com).

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— Jason Dengler, Owner, Wildwood Landscape, LLC



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## Independence Day Celebration July 6 At Hillsboro Old Stone School

Hillsboro's annual Independence Day celebration, hosted by the Hillsboro Community Association and Friends of the Old Stone School, starts July 6 at 6 p.m. The celebration is at the Old Stone School, at 37098 Charles Town Pike in Hillsboro.

There will be live music by the Franklin Park Big Band, games, prizes and free ice cream donated by the Hill Tom Market and Dot Shetterly. There will also be a performance by the Blue Ridge Thunder Cloggers (and a chance to dance with them after their performance), BBQ chicken dinners prepared and sold by the Hillsboro

Ruritans, a bake sale, a chance to decorate a square that will be used by Joshua's Hands to make a quilt for service men and women wounded while serving our country, sidewalk chalk art, face painting and more.

At dark, there will be fireworks. There is a charge for some activities and items. Also, jars will be passed around at 8 p.m. on the 6th to collect donations for the celebration, which costs nearly \$10,000.

The HCA is also looking for about 100 volunteers to help with the celebration. Visit [www.HillsboroVa.org](http://www.HillsboroVa.org) to sign up and to make a donation before the event.

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## GARDEN TIPS FOR JULY

- If you remove their spent blooms in time, certain perennials will bloom again.
- Dead-heading always helps to tidy up the garden, but leave a few seed heads for our feathered friends.

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## Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth: Lime Kiln Road

– By Tim Jon

There's a little two-lane blacktop road that runs to the west from Route 15 (just south of Oatlands Plantation) to Snickersville Turnpike; this probably sounds picturesque enough already; the real kicker - for me - is, that it snakes right along the Goose Creek flood plain for much of its length. I guess that's what makes it kind of unique for Loudoun County: it's very windy, (with a long I, that is) but not really hilly. Now, I love our curvy mountain roads with their ups and downs and twists and turns as much as anybody, but I must admit that I find a particular relaxation about the gentle sweeps along Route 733 - otherwise known as Lime Kiln Road.

Part of that comfort level - I'm sure - comes from the nearly constant 'companionship' of Goose Creek; its waters offer a reassuring sense of close contact with the earth's elements. I've stated before that I find a very ancient form of power at work here (with moving water, that is); it generally has a healing - almost regenerative, effect on me. Makes me just a bit jealous of the folks who enjoy life from the homes adjacent to the Goose, but I can still access the energy from a quick visit.

This little Creek helped mold the landscape along Lime Kiln Road in recent centuries, and necessitated the bridges that lie dotted along its length; the one at Crooked Bridge Lane used to be my favorite - being so deformed that I dared not cross the structure, which struck me as more appropriate in a Salvador Dali painting (or a Ma and Pa Kettle movie), than spanning Goose Creek in current, real-life Loudoun County. It's since been replaced by a more practical, visually sensible, yet less striking structure; I'm sure that's exactly what the residents ordered. Oh, well; I guess that's what they call 'progress.'

On one of my professional stops along Lime Kiln, I made



JON



a special delivery to a spread so large that I noticed a private gas station and convenience store at the heart of this Ponderosa-sized estate. On another such adventure, I followed a series of tight switchbacks up a Vertigo-esque slope to find a charming, Art deco-styled home perched high above the Goose Creek flats and Route 733. On other occasions, I used to watch the progress of swarms of tadpoles in the roadside ditches - their parents having taken advantage of spring floods or recent rains to spawn another generation.

But I think my most vivid memories of Lime Kiln Road are the return trips to Route 15; having made almost all my stops on my westward trip, I could now pretty much just relax and enjoy the drive back to the east. Lots of trees, curves in the road, rocky outcroppings and brief glimpses of water stand out as recollections. And of course, I can't forget the 'river flats' as I'd leave the tree-lined Creek edge and gain perspective on the lay of the landscape.

Back amidst the hurly-burly of traffic on Route 15, one quickly missed the peaceful nature of good old Lime Kiln Road, and its nearly parallel relationship to the moving waters of the Goose. But, I was always thankful for having had the experience. All the traffic in Northern Virginia can't take that away from a weary traveler.

My softer sentiments keep reminding me that I haven't returned to those roadside ditches for a few years now - to check up on those families of tadpoles. I hope they're still there, and maybe somebody else is keeping an eye on them. Or, maybe they're keeping an eye on us. Maybe those amphibians have it all figured out: start out life in the water, and hang out there for a while, then go out on dry land only when it's safe. Those little pollywogs have sure stuck with me a long time - swimming around in my head - from their pool along Lime Kiln Road. I'm glad I got to make their acquaintance.

### Letters To The Editor, continued from page 4

by E. D. Potts (whose name still graces a stone on the mill ruins), it was bought by his neighbor Nathan Neer in 1842. It was he and his wife who worked the mill in 1864 when it met its untimely destruction in time of war.

The week after Thanksgiving, 1864, 5,000 Union cavalry under General Wesley Merritt were brought into the Loudoun Valley and Upper Fauquier to burn barns, outbuildings, crops, farm machinery, and processing mills to destroy forage for the hundreds of captured horses used by Mosby's Rangers and destroy his civilian support. The Potts-Neer Mill and the miller's house behind were torched on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 1864, when only the miller's wife was at home, as were hundreds of other structures in western Loudoun. From the road looking through the windows, one can still see the orange-tinted stone, an indication of the intensity of the fire. It is the most visible of the ruins left from that week of devastation.

For days, Loudoun smelled of smoke, yet most of Mosby's men soldiered on, to (as they saw it) free Virginia from federal invasion. Due to a shortage of forage and food, three companies of Mosby's 43<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Virginia Cavalry had to be removed to the Northern Neck in January 1865. Nonetheless, Mosby's operations continued in Loudoun and the surrounding area until April 21, 1865 when the famed fighting unit was disbanded, and Rangers returned home to act on General Lee's words - "Go home and make Virginia great again." After four years of Civil War, there was much to repair, including the divisions among Loudouners brought by the War.

I urge citizens to get out and explore Loudoun's historic landscape for the proverbial Sunday drive or whenever, particularly now during the Civil War Sesquicentennial. It is a landscape lush with history that teaches us much.

– Rich Gillespie, Director of Education  
The Mosby Heritage Area

### The Delgaudio Dilemma

Sterling Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio survived the criminal probe into his fundraising and due to a technicality, no indictment was issued. But, that's not really the big news.

This week's Grand Jury - a handful of people who don't even live in Loudoun, and likely never heard of Eugene Delgaudio before now - took the initiative to issue a kind warning worthy of every resident in Sterling, or Loudoun County for that matter.

"This investigation has been an eye-opening experience for this Jury," they wrote. "Individual voters need to increase their involvement in local politics. Local elections can significantly impact one's life on a wide range of matters such as property taxes, education, local transportation, community services."

An exasperated Chairman York was a little harsher a few months ago at a public town hall meeting when The Delgaudio Dilemma was ramping up - "Hey, you voted for him." That's right, we're the boss, and we hired him. The question is, what do competent managers do? They let go of bad employees.

Now the good news.

Elections aren't just seven-to-seven one day in November. We watch, we research, we listen, we find out what's going on in that supervisor's office we paid the lease on.

And if the misconduct is great (and it is) and Sterling deserves better than that, we jump into the weeds and make a fuss. Kick and scream; get down-right irritated.

We make our voices heard at 'the ballot box' - this time in petition form - where hundreds stand together and demand a solution to The Delgaudio Dilemma.

No indictment? No problem. We keep going.

Want to sign the 'Recall Eugene Delgaudio' petition, or volunteertohelpgatherpetitions? GotoSterlingDeservesBetter.com and send a quick email... we make house calls! Or send an email to sterlingdeservesbetter@gmail.com.

– Joan Kowalski, Sterling Deserves Better

## Sushi – "Tails" from the Barnyard

### Unconditional Love – Remembering Clover

My love for our farm is unconditional. If you really know me, you can see it in my eyes and it is always in my heart. I love children when they come to visit us and when the light in

a child's eyes shines, my heart shines. It's amazing how children can speak right to our hearts, the touch of their hands, and the smiles on their face, the innocence of pure love in their excitement of the day.

In the entire world you'll never find a place more loving of children than my world at Fields of Atherny Farm. It is a place where children can run and play and just be - children.

A lot has gone on at our farm this past year and the hardest moment recently was the loss of our wonderful bullmastiff and my best friend, Clover. Each of your children brought a smile to Clover's life. It made her complete - she truly cherished every child's gentle or harsh tug and hug. She returned love to all that came through the farm shop doors as she did each lamb on this farm. In her world her life was complete when giving to you a wag of her tail or to a newborn lamb its first lick of life. From the depths of her soul she loved unconditionally and fought a brave fight for her farm. I miss her as we all do. This story is about her greater glory. She fought a good fight and her life was about giving of oneself.

Clover's life was one we call a LGD - livestock guardian dog. Her purpose was that of the "night watchman's guard dog" that protects and defends her property no matter what.

Clover always defended against all predators be it possums, raccoons, weasels, bear, neighborhood dogs left to run loose or coyotes. Did you know her name was Clover because she was born on Saint Paddy's Day, March 17?

One of Clover's greatest attributes that I have learned from and hope to perpetuate in guiding our new LGD - Murphy - is the simple farm fact that: Nothing replaces faith, family and hard manual labor for teaching character, morals and values.

Clover taught me to realize when running alongside the cowgirls on this farm, that there's nothing like good hard labor - I mean working the fields, mucking stalls, sweating to earn a buck, determination, a pride at the end of a hard day's work ... it builds character, plain and simple.

I miss Clover in the kitchen under Mrs. B's feet while cooking up a storm to fill the farm shop refrigerators. I miss stealing bones from under her nose while she snored in her sleep. I know I have to figure out how to teach this new pup Murphy a few things around here, I just hope it can be with the same spirit in which Clover taught me.

She treated each day as if tomorrow would never come. She tried to make each day count. It is a love she gave unconditionally. Clover taught me to take each day and make it my best day.

– With all my love, Sushi



Rest in peace in farm heaven, Clover.  
We will never forget what you taught us.



My master, Elaine Boland lives with her husband and five daughters in Purcellville at Fields of Atherny Farm. She cherishes farm life and the joy of providing her customers with fine fresh meats and products. She can be reached at [www.fieldsofathernyfarm.com](http://www.fieldsofathernyfarm.com), or (703) 926-8444.

## Kitchen Science Kids: Reactions-Fizzy, Foamy and Fun

– By Leah Enright

Chemical reactions are important, and we see them every day. Birthday cake, the gasoline in your family car, that broccoli you ate last night, (or pushed around your plate); and a rusty tin can are all products or producers of these reactions. Chemical reactions occur when ingredients are mixed together, and form something new. Yeast, water and flour are not tasty alone, but together, combined with heat, they form warm, toasty bread. Cleaners, medicines, and machines rely on chemical reactions.

Creating reactions in the kitchen is simple and fun. With a parent's permission, let's try a couple . . .

### Classic Vinegar Volcano

1. Fill a cup with ½ cup vinegar, and place it in the sink.
2. Add ½ cup baking soda to the vinegar.
3. Watch what happens!

### Gas-sy Bags

Here's a new twist on that old idea.

1. Fill a zip-style lunch bag with ¼ cup vinegar.
2. Seal it, and set it in the sink.
3. Place a tablespoon of baking soda in a paper napkin, and wad it into a ball.
4. Carefully open the vinegar baggie, and place the baking soda ball inside, holding it through the bag, **away** from the vinegar.
5. Seal the bag **completely**, placing it in the sink, and allowing the napkin to drop into the vinegar.
6. Watch the bag-what do you see?

*For the daring, try this again, doubling the ingredients. Warning: It will pop!*



So, what happened? Vinegar and baking soda are safe for use in kitchens, yet powerful enough to demonstrate scientific ideas. In this case, you saw that when mixed together, vinegar, (also called acetic acid), and baking soda, (also called sodium bicarbonate), became something new-gas and water. (The gas floated out of the cup in the first activity. In the second, you trapped it in the bag. If there was more gas than the bag could hold, it popped!) These are examples of **chemical reactions**.

So, the next time you scramble an egg, run a little faster after drinking a smoothie, or clean the bathroom sink with baking soda and vinegar, you will know that you have experienced a chemical reaction, and chemical reactions can be fizzy, foamy and fun!

*Leah Enright loves children, art and science, and often creates huge messes in the kitchen by combining the three. She lives in Round Hill with her very patient family, including a minipoodle named Snoopy.*

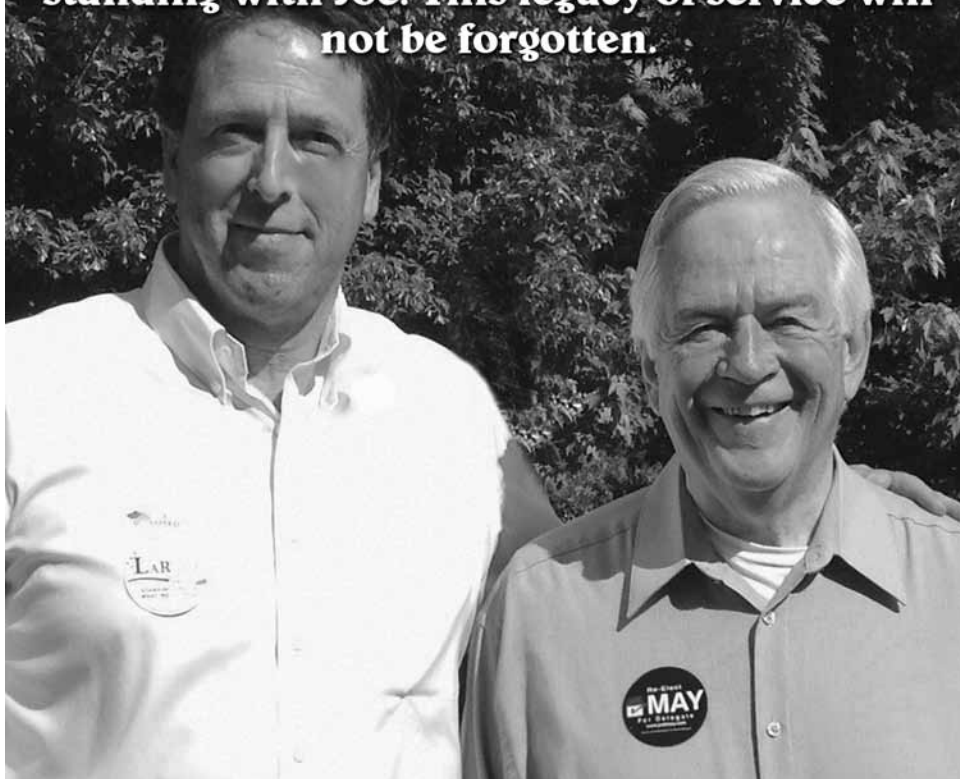
## Loudoun County Master Gardeners "Saturdays In The Garden" Talk - July 20

Come on out for free expert advice on vegetable gardening at the Loudoun County Master Gardeners' "Saturdays in the Garden" program Saturday, July 20 with a talk on "Managing Insects in the Vegetable Garden". The program is held at the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden at Ida Lee Park, Leesburg, 10am to noon. The talk will be followed by a question and answer session with experienced master gardeners.

The award winning Loudoun County Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden is a practical organic garden that is open to the public to visit and learn about chemical-free gardening. The approximately 1/3 acre garden includes raised beds and small space vegetable areas, a Heritage garden highlighting some plants from Virginia's past, a children's garden featuring child-friendly plants and activities, a shade garden created under beautiful pine trees, bulb and drought tolerant gardens, a butterfly garden and a fruit tree area. All produce grown is donated to Interfaith Relief Food Pantry.

For more information about the Loudoun County Master Gardener program, please visit [www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org](http://www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org) or call the Loudoun Extension Office at 703-777-0373.

**Thank you to Delegate Joe T. May for 20 years of tireless service and to his wife Bobby for standing with Joe. This legacy of service will not be forgotten.**



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Dave LaRock

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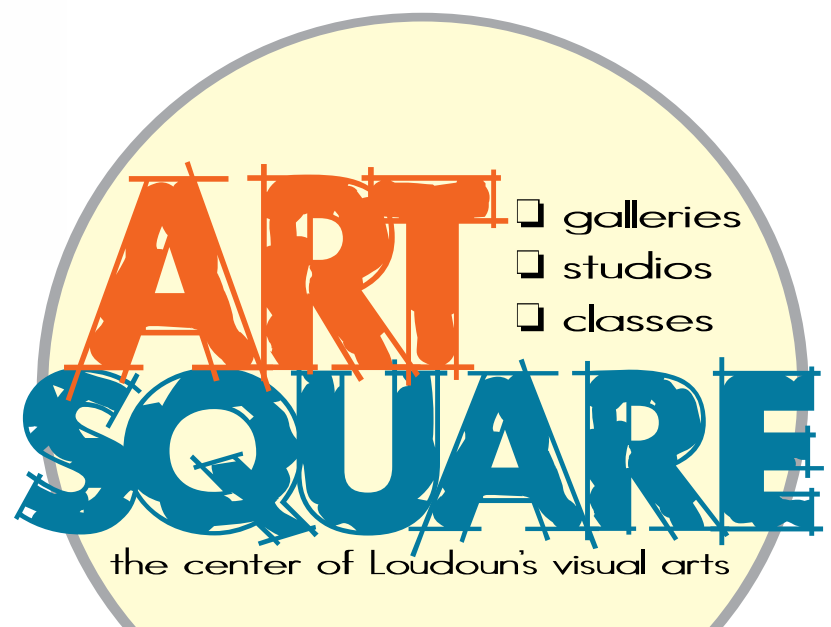
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# Wild Loudoun

## Morven Park & Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy – Partners in Conservation

– By Andrea Gaines

For this month's *Wild Loudoun* we focus on a very special partnership between Leesburg's Morven Park and the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy. When two organizations like this come together, the opportunities to promote "Wild Loudoun" are enormous.

A National Register Historic Property, Morven Park was once the home of Virginia Gov. Westmoreland Davis. Through programs offered at its three museums, sports/equestrian complex, and 1,000 acres of open space, Morven Park focuses on civic responsibility, agricultural sustainability, and improvement of life for rural Virginians, as well as historical preservation.

LWC is one of Loudoun County's most respected and effective wildlife conservation organizations, offering its members and the general public a wide variety of programs – from advocacy before state and local government officials, to recreational activities, camps for children, and educational opportunities for adults.

In May the Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation, which operates Morven Park, approved a "working partnership" with Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy. The agreement between the two non-profits provides LWC with a much-needed home base ... while ensuring that the native plants and wildlife within this treasured landscape are protected and made more accessible to the public.

In recent years, Morven Park adopted a master site plan that included offering public recreational and educational opportunities within one of its property's most important natural jewels – a 350-acre wooded ridge area. Morven Park's partnership with LWC will help bring the right expertise to the table, so that this and other parts of the park's acreage are both more protected and more available to people in the area.

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy is a volunteer-based organization, with approximately 75 regular volunteers and as many as 600 who donate their time from time to time. As Morven Park noted in its press release highlighting the new partnership, "This enthusiastic group of volunteers possesses an immense amount of collective knowledge and initiative, but until now had no base of operations."

Morven Park will provide office, meeting, and classroom space to LWC and in turn the organization will undertake projects that support the restoration of the site's Catocin Ridge forest and wildlife habitats. They will also work under the oversight of Morven Park staff to create and manage a public trail system and develop environmental education programs.

According to Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy president



Continued on page 23

# Hillsboro Women Form Home Demonstration Club

A group of women in Hillsboro are in the beginning stages of a new club. It is based on the Home Demonstration Clubs that began in the 1920's throughout the United States.

The clubs originally started out of efforts of the Department of Agriculture. Women were appointed to become home demonstration agents. The agents became instrumental in forming the Home Demonstration Clubs throughout the United States to provide a place for the women to meet socially as well as demonstrating how to canning and preserving food, knitting, sewing, rug making, soap making and many other artisan crafts of the time. There were several of these clubs in Loudoun County. Diana Taplin remembers that her mother belonged to one of these clubs in the 1950's. She belonged in the 1960's.

"It was fun and rewarding," Taplin said. "I hope our



Lori Keating, Faren Tempchin, Jen House in background, Connie Bolten.



Ruby holding the delicious pie

club will follow in the footsteps of these amazing women."

The Homestead Traditions Club is using traditional methods to re-cultivate artisan crafts of past generations to help insure future generations have the knowledge and opportunity to develop these traditional skills, Taplin said.

Candle making, soap making, knitting, gardening and canning are just a few of the learning opportunities the club will offer.

At their most recent meeting, Lori Keating led the demonstration on making a pie crust. The group will have a pie baking contest at the July 6 Hillsboro Farmers Market at the Old Stone School beginning at 10 a.m.

Their next meeting is Wednesday July 10 at the Old Stone School Community Center in Hillsboro at 7 p.m. The program for that evening will be How to Grow Organic Vegetables and Herbs. Everyone is welcome.

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## Blue Ridge Middle School Students Give To Non-Profits

Spectrum students at Blue Ridge Middle School design and sell pencils for their business and economics unit. This year, five non-profit organizations reaped the rewards of those efforts. Students, who are in grades 6-8, selected organizations to receive their donations, and the school closed out the final week by commending the students for their acts of kindness in helping others. The five, non-profit organizations receiving the donations this week were the Red Cross, Loudoun County Animal Shelter, Joshua's Hands, and the Purcellville Fire & Rescue.



"We are so appreciative of the hard work of the Animal Writes Company. Their donation to Loudoun County Animal Services will help better the lives of the animals here at the shelter," says Stephanie Gordon.



Andrew Kelley, Chief Battalion for Loudoun County Fire & Rescue and Emergency Management and Bob Dryden, Fire Chief of the Purcellville Fire Department accepted a donation to the Purcellville Volunteer Fire and Rescue from 8th grade Blue Ridge Middle School Spectrum students.



Joshua's Hands: Joshua's Hands founder, Joyce Guthrie, shared quilts the organization makes for the Wounded Warrior Project. The Umm... Yeah Pencil Company donated to the organization to assist them in making quilts for our wounded warriors. These young entrepreneurs honored Mr. Doug Dillon, their history teacher, but he also carries another title that prompted this group's act of kindness – Lieutenant Dillon is Commander of 450th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne). "We must never underestimate the abilities of our students to do good in the world. When set into motion as a group, they can achieve greatness," stated their teacher, Jayne Bowen.

## Carver Center July Events

The Carver Center is at 200 Willie Palmer Way in Purcellville. They can be reached at 571-258-3400.

**Friday, July 19, Senior Idol Concert, 12:45-1:45 p.m.** Non-members pay a \$2 drop-in fee. Come and see Captain Chuck Fisher, a semi-retired Chesapeake Bay fishing guide who is also a former vocalist/guitarist from a top 40 show group.



**Thursday, July 25, Senior Ball by the Loudoun Debutantes, 1-2:30 p.m.** Sunday best attire is requested. Non-members pay a \$2 drop-in fee. The National League of Junior Cotillions Loudoun Chapter is helping to organize this intergenerational tea dance.



**Friday, July 26, Ballroom Dance Social** from 7-10 p.m., \$10 if preregistered. Salsa lesson from 7-8 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 31, Master Gardener Presentation,** 12:30-2 p.m. Non-members pay a \$2 drop-in fee. Learn about compost from Master Gardener Julie Borneman.

## Brady Hippler Wins Silver

Brady Hippler, a rising 2nd grader at Culbert Elementary, competed in the George Mason Presidents Cup-National Tae Kwon Do competition. He won the silver medal, coming in second place in the 6-8 yr old sparring division. He is a student at USTMA in Leesburg. Brady has been doing Tae Kwon Do since he was 2, and recently tested for his Black Belt. He will be receiving his belt for this accomplishment in September.



Culbert Elementary Student Brady Hippler wins silver – places second.

## Little League Registration Time

Upper Loudoun Little League currently is accepting registrations for their 2013 fall season. Registration has started and will continue through the month of July. ULLL is accepting registrations for those players whose birthday falls between May 1, 2001 and May 1, 2007. A 6-year-old can play if they played in the spring 2013 season. Otherwise they are not eligible to play fall ball. Please also note that the league age for the 2013 fall season is a player's age as of April 30, 2014. You can register by going to [ulll.org](http://ulll.org) and click on the register now button. Registration closes on Aug. 1. After that date, registrants will be placed on a wait list.

### Wild Loudoun, continued from page 22

Nicole Hamilton, the goal is to improve the natural state of the ridge by leading habitat restoration projects that enable native woodland species to thrive and to provide people with greater opportunities to engage in and learn about plant and animal communities so that they can take that knowledge back to their neighborhoods and apply it there. "This partnership demonstrates the significance of collaborating on environmental stewardship, and we hope we can encourage others throughout the state to engage in similar conservation initiatives," she said.

The ridge at Morven Park is a sanctuary and stopover point for migratory birds, such as scarlet tanagers,

ovenbirds, wood thrush and vireos. It also provides habitat for amphibians such as the Jefferson salamander and wood frog, eastern box turtles, coyotes, and deer and other fauna. Morven Park is also the only place in Loudoun County where the "White M" butterfly has been documented. On the day that Morven Park voted to approve the partnership, LWC members participated in a bird walk through the site's forests and documented 52 different species of birds – a wild indication of diversity on the ridge and the potential for this new partnership.

For more information go to [www.morvenpark.org](http://www.morvenpark.org) and [www.loudounwildlife.org](http://www.loudounwildlife.org).

# July

☀ **Thursday, July 11, free garden lecture,** Rust Library in Leesburg at 7 p.m. Loudoun County Master Gardeners presents "Green Lawns, the Bridge between Homeowners Associations and a Healthy Watershed." For more information, visit [www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org](http://www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org).

☀ **Thursday July 11 through Sunday July 14, "TOMMY,"** presented by the Piedmont Arts Foundation. "Tommy" is based on the Who's 1969 rock opera album. At the Franklin Park Arts Center, 36441 Blueridge View Lane in Purcellville. \$15/adults, \$12 students/seniors. Show at 8 p.m. July 11 to 13. Showtime is 2:30 p.m. on July 14. Reserve seats by calling 540-338-7973.

☀ **Friday, July 12, outdoor movie at the Lovettsville Town Green.** Movie begins at dusk. Bring chairs and blankets, picnics encouraged. Call Lovettsville Community Center at 540-822-5284 for movie title.

☀ **Friday, July 19, Last Ham Standing performs at Franklin Park Arts Center in Purcellville.** Showtime 8 p.m. Tickets \$12/adult, \$10/student and \$8/child. Buy tickets to this improve show at [www.franklinparkartscenter.org](http://www.franklinparkartscenter.org) or call 540-338-7973.

☀ **Sunday, July 21, Lovettsville Cardboard Boat Regatta,** 7-9 p.m. Contestants make boats out of cardboard and tape and rely on their inventions to keep them afloat as they travel across the Lovettsville Community Pool. Only 12 boat spots available. \$3/ages 3 and up, 50 cents/Age 2 and under.

☀ **Saturday, July 27, Franklin Park Sumer Thunder Car Show,** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hundreds of vintage cars and trucks at the baseball/softball fields and lower parking lot of Franklin Park in Purcellville. Public will park in the field across from the pool and take a shuttle bus to the event area. The event is free.

☀ **Saturday, July 27, National Dance Day.** Try Zumba at the Loudoun Valley Community Center, 320 W. School Street in Purcellville from 1:30-3 p.m. Everyone 15 and older is welcome. Cost is \$5, register at [www.loudoun.gov/webtrac](http://www.loudoun.gov/webtrac) or call 540-338-4122.

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## SHERRY ZVARES SANABRIA:

## TRIUMPHS OF THE HUMAN SOUL AS REVEALED THROUGH INTERIORS

- By Andrea Gaines

If while taking in the wasted interior of an old, broken down building you'd swear you could hear the voices of the people who once lived in or passed through the place, you might be, not standing within it, but looking at a painting by Loudoun County artist Sherry Sanabria.

While most artists paint the present – even if rendering an old building – Sanabria paints the passage of human time, presenting the bones of an old doorframe or ceiling – or the light pouring through a window – with the intention of speaking about the people who were once there.

Sanabria's paintings are both spare and rich at the same time; simple in angle and highlights but bursting with blues and greens, shades of terra cotta and burnt orange. Their mood is quiet and pensive – as if to say: "Be still now. Be quiet now. And, listen for the click of a footstep or the private conversation between two people. It's decades or even centuries since they were here, but if you listen, you can still hear them."

Sanabria was born in Washington, D.C., and earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from American University. As a 4-year old she recalls her mother asking her who had carefully copied the tiny decorative images that appeared on one of her favorite things, her childhood chalkboard. "I did," said Sanabria. Well, "Do it again!" said her mom, as she erased the board. Now, the road to becoming a full-fledged professional artist took many twists and turns from that 4-year old's world – dovetailing and absorbing the very influential energy of the 1970s women's movement – but even as a child Sanabria knew she was always meant to paint.

Sanabria took summer classes for children at the Corcoran in Washington,



D.C., and later, art education classes at George Washington University. Along the way she was a student teacher, the one activity, Sanabria recalls, that "taught me more about art than anything I've ever done." While at American University she worked with a teacher who "saw something in my paintings of interiors," so she started looking into rooms and interiors "to see what they had to offer me" and came to understand that the answer was everything. Composition, horizontal and vertical rectangles, shadows and light. Everything she wanted to reveal.

Sanabria later joined an organization called the Women's Caucus for the Arts and participated in her first major show: "13 Answers," a 13 women show inspired by a quote from Gertrude Stein. On her deathbed, Susan B. Toklas asked: "Gertrude, what is the answer?" Stein replied, "What is the question?" That is from where the show inspiration came.

The collection of paintings with which Samaria most identifies depict what she calls "sites of conscience" – places with a sometimes brutal past where human life was humiliated and challenged – and crushed mercilessly – but shown to be, in the long term, indomitable. These are places like the interiors at Ellis Island, World War II concentration camps, the church at Oradour – the only structure to survive in a French village burnt to the ground as the men, women and children

living there were executed by the Nazis, and an old slave quarters in Loudoun County's village of Arcola.

"Many people have passed within the places I paint," notes Sanabria. "Places that seem to hold the spirits of those who inhabited them."

Take in one of Sanabria's paintings and you'll see how true those words are. In T.S. Elliot's book "The Family Reunion," he writes, "In an old house there is always listening, and more is heard than is spoken. And what is spoken remains in the room, waiting for the future to hear it."

During her professional life Sanabria has had 35 one-person exhibitions at public and private spaces, including the Phillips Collection and the American Institute of Architects in Washington, D.C., Ellis Island Immigration Museum in New York, the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Maryland and galleries in Washington, D.C., Virginia, Georgia, New Jersey and New York City. Her work has been included in more than 40 group exhibitions, including the Williams College Museum in Massachusetts, the Columbia/Barnard University and American Academy of Arts and Letters in New York, the University of Richmond, Tennessee's Vanderbilt University, the Federal Reserve System and Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Bermuda National Museum in Hamilton, Bermuda. Sanabria's paintings have been featured in "Who's Who in American Art," "American Artist," "Southern Accents," "Virginia Living," "New American Paintings," "Art in America," "The Washington Diplomat" and "The Washington Post," among others. Her work is also featured in notable books, including "Fixing the World" and "The Ashen Rainbow" by Ori Soltes, and is included in permanent collections both nationally and in Europe.

## Loudoun School Of Ballet's JAZZ&amp;CO DANCE, 2013-14 Season

Dancers from the Loudoun School of Ballet's JAZZ&CO DANCE are preparing for their 2013-2014



season with the school's two week Jazz Intensive. Jazz Intensive brings in guest teachers in all styles of contemporary dance. This year's faculty includes Jerome Alexander, who has danced in music videos and live stage shows for Kanye West, Lady Gaga, Jennifer Lopez, Ok Go!, Lil John and Sean Paul, as well as having performed in many television shows and commercials. Chase Madigan has performed in the Broadway revival of "West Side Story" and has toured the world with Rasta Thomas' Bad Boys of Dance. Candra Preshong,

Tiffanie Carson, Jimmie Manners, and Michaela McGowan are among the other outstanding faculty who will be teaching at this year's Intensive. Younger students at the school have the opportunity to hone their performing skills in numerous camps and workshops starting with two hour camps for 3 year olds and including the Jazz Performance Workshop for intermediate dancers, which runs for two weeks five days a week. More info at



www.loudounschooll ofballet.com.

The multi-talented Rachel Walton, who choreographed the Main St. Theatre Co's production of "Oklahoma" at Franklin Park Arts Center and danced the role of "Dream Laurie," is a member of The Loudoun School of Ballet's Contemporary performing company, JAZZ&CO DANCE, as well as being a member of the Loudoun Ballet Company. As a student of the Loudoun School of Ballet, Rachel qualified to compete on a national level at both New York City Dance Alliance and West Coast Dance Explosion and will be competing as an Elite Dancer at the WCDE National Convention in Las Vegas. Rachel attends Loudoun Valley High School and the Academy of Science and plays saxophone in the LVHS Jazz Band.

## Franklin Park Visual &amp; Performing Arts Center, July 2013

For reservations/tickets call 540-338-7973 or visit

www.franklinparkartscenter.org.

**Saturday, July 13 – Sunday, August 18 – 4th Annual Creative Challenge: Wines & Vines.** Juried creative challenge exhibition sponsored by Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center. Competing artists and craftspeople present work inspired by the wine industry. Each piece submitted must use at least one element from a local Loudoun winery (label, bottle, grapevine, wine glass, grapes [or grape stains!], photo, etc.). Exhibition and opening reception (Sunday, July 21, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.) open to the public.

**Thursday, July 4 – Independence Day at Franklin Park.** Bring the family for an evening of music, food, fun and fireworks! Gates open at 6 pm. Live local entertainment including a performance to accompany the fireworks by the Loudoun Symphonic Winds. Fireworks display will begin at approximately 9:20 pm. \$5 per carload.

**Friday, July 19, 8 p.m. – Last Ham Standing.** Hilarious show full of laughs for the entire family. A group of talented performers take suggestions from the audience to create wacky scenes and funny improv games. Tickets: \$12 Adults, \$10 Students, \$8 Children.

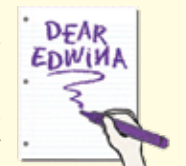
**Thursday, July 11 – Sunday, July 13, 8 p.m. – Pie Arts: Tommy.** A fantastic "ROCK Opera," Tommy is based on the Who's 1969 Rock Opera Album. Presented by the Piedmont Arts Foundation. More details at www.piearts.org.

**Saturday, July 20, 8 p.m. – Sam Woods in Concert.** An evening of pop and rock music with Sam Woods, also featuring musicians Zach DeHart, Patrick Foit and Noah Woods. Sam Woods is a Loudoun County resident and a 2012 graduate of Loudoun Valley High School.

**Thursday, Aug. 1, 2 p.m. – Main St. Theatre Co.'s Dear Edwina.**

A performance by junior high school students of Dear Edwina, a musical by Zina Goldrich (music) and Marcy Heisler (book and lyrics). \$5 All Ages.

**Friday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 3, 8 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 4, 3 p.m. – Franklin Park Arts Center Summer Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew.** Produced by Franklin Park Arts Center in conjunction with Run Rabbit Run Theatre. Franklin Park Summer Theatre is an educational and inclusive summer theatre program aimed at providing a training ground for area youth to become part of a full scale Shakespeare production. Tickets: \$10 Adults, \$8 Students/Seniors.



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*Apartments, continued from page 1*

interpreted by some as tacit support.

When first approached to comment on the Catoctin Creek Development, Purcellville Mayor Bob Lazaro stated it would be "arbitrary and capricious" to make any comments. Other council members have taken similar stances. Meanwhile, Mayor Kristin Umstadd in Leesburg held no reservation about a similar proposal for the Leegate Development, stating that as it is now "she would likely vote against it."

The VDHA application contained inaccurate and misleading information. As part of the application, MGMiller Valuations conducted a market study. The report states that the apartments will be located in the "central portion of the county," but according to all available information, Purcellville lies in western Loudoun County, approximately 9 miles west of the county seat of Leesburg and even further from the employment hubs of eastern Loudoun and Fairfax.

Transportation is an important component of low-income tax-credit residences and the application states "this proposal seeks to qualify for points associated with proximity to public transportation." An earlier December 2012 traffic study released by Bowman Consulting shows that two regional bus services serve this area and that the bus stops for them are 1.25 and 1.75 miles from the development, which means that it is, according to their own report, "unlikely that a significant portion of trips would be made exclusively via transit." In contrast, the current VHDA application contained a surveyor's certificate of proximity to transportation from Bowman Consulting, which certified that the nearest access point to an existing public bus stop is one-quarter mile from the development.

The MGMiller market study indicates that the landlord (Catoctin Creek Apartments) will pay for water and sewer, which contradicts the VHDA application which states that: "water expense is sub-metered/tenant will pay monthly or bi-monthly." This is an important distinction that may affect town revenue and the approval process through VHDA.

The dialogue from the town council with regards to water/sewer issues seems to provide cover as an argument against development. However, according to the town's 2014 budget proposal, the town "will have to rely on creative revenue options and increased business opportunities from residential growth in western Loudoun to allow us to continue to see a positive expansion in our overall revenue source." Before the utility system was upgraded it was operating at 40 percent, and upgrades to the system were mandated for sewer improvements, not for increasing capacity. The justification for increased capacity came after Purcellville suffered through several droughts, and to meet the town's long-term needs it now requires new "water customers" to pay for a bloated system that has caused water/sewer rates to increase yearly. The burden on existing residents is enormous, with rates rising 8 percent for water and 15 percent for sewer this year.

Meanwhile within the public sphere, Mayor Lazaro recently expressed concerns

about water supplies with regards to the proposed Autumn Hill Development (492 quadruplexes). And, who could forget the legal wrangling with regards to Woodgrove High School. The Purcellville Town Council held firm in their opposition arguing that the high school would strain the town's roads and utility system. All this is done as 61 townhouses are currently being built on 21<sup>st</sup> Street and developers are proposing an adult community with 50 townhouses on S. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street.

According to the Planning Commission, the Catoctin Creek Apartments do not conform to the overall goals of the Comprehensive Plan. Changing the land use from commercial to residential will not advance the town's goal of achieving a 30/70 percent revenue mix. The town's housing policy calls for a balance between residential and commercial development. The developer cites a George Mason University regional study (2011) that Loudoun needs more affordable housing. However they neglect to provide any statistics on that need in Purcellville specifically, a town that currently has the highest ratio of tax-credit apartments in Loudoun. The most recent county forecasts confirm, "The supply of multi-family housing units, both existing and planned, will meet demand through 2037." The Planning Commission report noted that "allowing additional multi-family dwelling units in an area of the county where they are not anticipated could oversaturate the market and impact the viability of already approved developments."

With 176 units there is a potential for an additional 540 residents in the community based on occupancy per unit. This is also based on the 2010 Census figures of 3.07 persons per household in Purcellville, increasing the town's population roughly 6 percent when the traffic study indicates the town will have only 2 percent growth per year. The applicant however, estimates that there will be approximately 310 residents based on numbers gathered from similar projects.

The developer, as well as the Loudoun County school system, contends that the number of units that will serve families with children is 37, which is 21 percent of the units, and the exact number of three bedroom units. The implication is that children will only reside in three bedroom units, even though according to the VDHA application families with children will be given priority and there is no restriction on the number of children living within any unit.

A recent inquiry call to a S.L. Nausbaum property (Catoctin Creek Apartment developer) indicates that their properties house "a lot of children." When asked if more apartments would be built in Loudoun County, the response was a resounding, "Yes, it is a definite" that S. L. Nausbaum would be building in Purcellville.

Hundreds of residents opposed to the Catoctin Creek Apartments have signed an online petition. One resident summed it up by saying; "This project is too big for Purcellville. We want to see growth here, but it's got to be smart growth."

The project is expected to go to the planning commission for a public hearing, and then the town council for a vote sometime this year.

Ask Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

**involved should be expelled from school, and I hope Ms. Klein gets rich off of the experience.**

– C in Loudoun County

C,  
Thank you for the kind words regarding my work on bullying. As a psychologist in private practice, I have had quite a bit of experience working with children and adolescents who are bullied, as well as those who bully. I am aware of the incident you are referring to and have also watched the YouTube video that went viral and prompted donations and international sympathy for Ms. Karen Klein. In my opinion, there are two types of bullies in the world. The first group are those individuals who know right from wrong, and yet they still choose to act out angrily or aggressively toward others. Their motivations are intentionally mean spirited. The second group of individuals who bully involve children and adolescents who have personally experienced significant emotional and/or physical abuse or who have legitimate psychiatric conditions. For this latter group, many of these children and adolescents do not have the self-awareness or capacity to regulate their behavior adequately at all times. Moreover, for this latter group, their bullying behaviors should be understood in the context of their history and conditions. I do not know the backgrounds of the involved children for the incident you are writing about, so I really am not in a position to formulate an opinion on their behaviors or what their con-

sequences should be. I do feel strongly that the incident should serve as a teaching tool for parents. As parents, we are responsible for modeling appropriate behavior and for teaching our children appropriate values and morals. I hope Ms. Klein does several talk shows and that the topic remains hot in the media for awhile since the exposure, as unpleasant as it is, is good for parents and children to see. And yes, I think we all feel badly for Ms. Klein, and I too hope she continues to benefit monetarily from the hardship she endured.

Dr. Mike,

**My children are really good friends with our neighbors' children, and I am pretty good friends with their mom. Both of our neighbors work full time, and the children's grandmother cares for them during the week. Grandma does a pretty lousy job watching her grandchildren who then end up spending most of their time over at our house with my kids. I am a stay at home mom and have never minded helping my neighbor out with her kids here and there, but since school has been out, I find that I am carrying the burden while grandma passively watches on. Not to come off like a frugal jerk, but I am also funding way too many lunches and snacks. How do I talk to my neighbor about the situation without upsetting our friendship or the friendships of our children? I can't be the daycare center I've become for the rest of the summer.**

– H in Loudoun County

H,

While I agree that you need to say some-

thing to your neighbor, I also think you need to approach this with care and respect. I would advise you against saying anything negative at all about the children's grandmother. Even if you feel that she is underperforming in her role as a caretaker to her grandchildren, she is still a member of that family. By complaining about grandmother not doing her job well, you run the risk of hurting and upsetting your neighbors. The better approach would be to focus on how things are impacting you. I would tell your neighbor how expensive things have gotten for you with having all the children over at your house for meals and snacks and that you simply cannot afford things at the current pace. This statement then opens the door for an open discussion without a harsh confrontation. You could then brainstorm with your neighbor on how things should change. If the discussion with your neighbor does not go well, as a stay at home mom, you could also make some changes of your own. You could begin to plan out or schedule the day's activities for your children, which would include some time with the neighbor's children and some time without them. You could also leave the house more frequently with your children to run errands and for planned activities (e.g., visiting the library, pool, park, having a picnic, etc.).

Dr. Mike,

**I heard your radio interview last week on the teacher sex scandal in NYC, and I completely disagree with you. Your position is that the 18-year-old student who bet his friends that he could have sex with his 27-year-old teacher (and did) is a victim?**

**How is he a victim? He is a young adult who did something stupid, but he's hardly a victim of sexual abuse.**

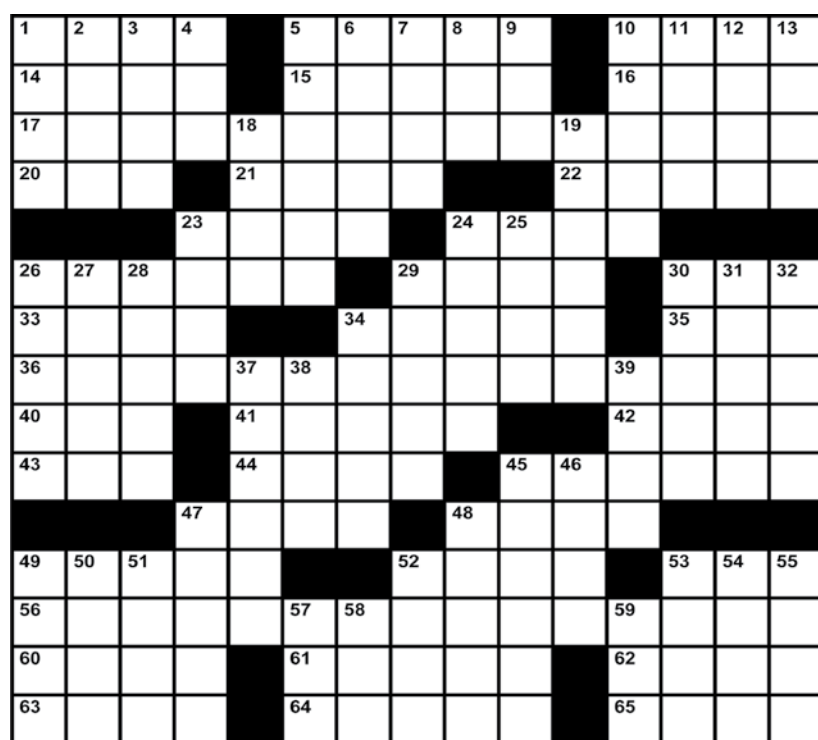
– H in Loudoun County

H,

I agree with you that the young man is not a victim of sexual abuse. At 18, he is at the legal age of consent to engage in sexual relations with other adults. But that does not mean that 18 year olds possess the full capacity to manage themselves across all adult situations. The research on development has clearly shown that the frontal lobe – the area of the brain responsible for exercising good judgment, impulse control, problem solving – is still developing into the early to mid-20's. As a society we know this is true and it is evident by the laws and restrictions we place on young adults. For example, younger adults cannot rent cars on their own or legally drink alcohol. My point in the interview is that the teacher should have known better and is certainly the more responsible between the two. First, she is an adult in every sense of the word. And second, she was the young man's teacher and thus held a position of authority and power over him. Just as bosses should not sleep with their employees due to the inherent power differential in their relationship, teachers should also not sleep with their students for the same reason...even when the student is 18.

Michael Oberschneider, Dr. Mike, is the Founder and Director of Ashburn Psychological Services (APS). To learn more about Dr. Mike and the APS team go to [www.ashburnpsych.com](http://www.ashburnpsych.com) or call 703 723-2999.

Escaped Cons — By Myles Mellor and Sally York



ACROSS

- 1. Donkeywork
- 5. Window type
- 10. "Love Will Find \_\_\_\_"
- 14. Puente \_\_\_\_
- 15. Winter wear
- 16. Radial, e.g.
- 17. Con escapes from the "City of

Festivals"?

- 20. Demagogue, for short
- 21. Plays mind games
- 22. Exigencies
- 23. Aces, sometimes
- 24. \_\_\_\_ lox
- 26. Some are secret
- 29. Diminish

- 30. Carney, to pals
- 33. Medicinal balsam
- 34. Daring Sufi
- 35. Former French coin
- 36. Con escapes from the home of ESPN?
- 40. Before now
- 41. Defeat
- 42. Italian magistrate
- 43. Nevertheless
- 44. British cape
- 45. Grim Reaper prop
- 47. 2.54 centimeters
- 48. Chutzpah
- 49. Scandinavian currency
- 52. Greek letter
- 53. \_\_\_\_ de deux
- 56. Con escapes from resort peninsula?
- 60. Drone, e.g.
- 61. Tyrone \_\_\_\_, American boxer
- 62. American record label
- 63. Snoop Dogg song
- 64. Sock fabric
- 65. Kid brother, e.g.

DOWN

- 1. Pack (down)
- 2. Medley
- 3. Common contraction
- 4. Down and dirty
- 5. Works
- 6. Libertines
- 7. Chafes
- 8. Squeeze out
- 9. Police, with "the"

- 10. Addled
- 11. Owl-ish?
- 12. Bone-dry
- 13. Cravings
- 18. Bee, to Opie
- 19. Flip
- 23. \_\_\_\_ probandi
- 24. "\_\_\_\_ Lunch"
- 25. Auricular
- 26. Safely distant
- 27. Deep valley
- 28. "The Hippopotamus" poet
- 29. Marriage announcement
- 30. English race place
- 31. \_\_\_\_ draft
- 32. Student getting one-on-one help
- 34. Kin
- 37. Dig
- 38. Powerful cartel
- 39. Romantic interlude (var.)
- 45. Shiny fabric
- 46. Attack with nails
- 47. Dickey
- 48. Bananas
- 49. Dole's running mate, 1996
- 50. Shag rugs
- 51. Bribes
- 52. Murti
- 53. Corn \_\_\_\_
- 54. Song and dance, e.g.
- 55. "Laugh-In" segment
- 57. \_\_\_\_ system (re: blood)
- 58. Neither's partner
- 59. Western Pacific island

answers on page 31...

# Upper Loudoun Little League Championship Results In

- By Carri Michon

Another season of youth baseball has ended and with it, champions crowned. More than 70 teams played spring baseball for Upper Loudoun Little League and in the end, there were three champions. Within the division of AA, AAA and Majors, each played out for their respective trophies although not in the order of final games as was originally planned. As rain would have it, the AAA game was played, then the Majors final and ending on Thursday, the AA championship game completed...a week after the original date. But, baseball can't control the weather.

With a final record of 17-3, the AL Phillies sponsored by TLH and Sons, took home the hardware for the Majors division. Jeff Brown, the Phillies Manager, said that this team had more home runs (28) than any team he had coached in more than 20 years of managing a Little League team. Outstanding Phillies pitching struck out 160 opposing batters. A pitchers' duel is what Coach Brown called their championship game against the Diamondbacks, with a final score of 2-0. Sean Murphy pitched a complete game shutout with Hunter Furr, Conner Miller and Sean Murphy all combining to drive in the winning runs. Said Brown said of his 2013 Phillies team, "this was a special group of boys."

The Reds took the AAA trophy home to Lovettsville culminating their 14-0 season. "Doing the little things right, led to a big payoff ... in a true team effort" said Amanda Rohs of her team's undefeated season. Rohs also praised her team saying "I am so proud of what this fine group of players was able to accomplish. It was an honor to be their manager." The AAA Reds met the Round Hill A's in their championship game. It was a close, nail biting game right to the end. Well played on both sides, the AAA Reds sponsored by Loudoun Valley Roofing, came out victorious.

The Rays had the venerable foe of the undefeated Nationals in the AA title game. Waiting longer than any other division for completion, no thanks to Mother Nature, the AA championship played out to be a tough game. The Rays coaches' mantra was "Play hard, play smart and have fun!" So it was last Thursday, as Manager Chris Boner said of his team, "They earned the championship by playing together as a team, lifting each other up and helping each other to play their best. The determination and improvement shown by every player on this young team exceeded all expectations." On this night, the AA Rays, sponsored by Total Pools, came out triumphant, keeping the AA trophy in Purcellville this year.

Upper Loudoun Little League congratulates the Majors AL Phillies, the AAA Lovettsville Reds and the AA Purcellville South Rays on their championships.



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Many countries celebrate their independence days in unique and fun ways. This week, Kid Scoop takes a trip around the world to discover how other countries show their love of independence.

## Celebrate Independence Around the World!

The Fourth of July in the United States commemorates America's independence from Britain. On July 4, 1776, a group of Americans signed the Declaration of Independence. Today, Americans celebrate with parades, barbecues, firework shows and wearing red, white and blue.

### Viva Mexico!

Mexicans celebrate "Grito de Dolores" (means "Cry of Dolores") on September 15. On that day in 1810, Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a priest in the town of Dolores, made a speech demanding the freedom of Mexico from Spain. Now on this day, the president rings the original bell from Father Hidalgo's church and recites Hidalgo's original speech. The president ends with the cry, "Viva Mexico!" which can be heard the rest of the night during celebrations, fireworks and other fun activities.

Use the code to learn what "Viva Mexico" means.

**SECRET CODE**  
C = ● M = ●  
E = ● N = ●  
G = ● O = ●  
I = ⊕ V = ⊕  
L = ● X = ●

### Poland

People in Poland celebrate their independence on November 11 when citizens place flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, to commemorate soldiers who have died for their country.

Citizens attend parades and ceremonies, wearing Poland's colors: red and white. In Warsaw, the capital city, thousands of runners participate in the Independence Day Run.

### Sum It Up!

After reading this page, write three short statements for each country that sum up how independence is celebrated there. Poland is done for you.

Poland	United States	India	Mexico
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear red and white clothing</li> <li>Participate in the Independence Day Run</li> <li>Put flowers on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier</li> </ul>			

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Students summarize information found in expository text.

### Flying Kites for Freedom in India

The night before Indian Independence Day, the president of the country gives a speech about how the country is doing.

On the day itself, August 15, citizens gather and watch their country's flag being hoisted to the top of the flagpole. This happens at offices, homes and schools. Afterwards, families and friends get together and enjoy delicious food.

Lots of people also fly kites on Independence Day to symbolize India's freedom from the British on August 15, 1947.

**Karan's Kite**  
Karan's kite has stripes. His kite has a tail, but not a short one. Karan doesn't like polka dots on kites. It is not a box kite.

### Headline Fun

Look at the headlines in today's newspaper. Rewrite each headline so it means just the opposite.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write in a variety of formats.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Loud fireworks can scare pets. Be sure to keep your pets indoors on Independence Day.

Dash through today's newspaper to find the letters that spell the words on these firecrackers. Spelling an entire word "defuses" the firecracker. Can you spell them all in five minutes?

POP EXPLODE IGNITE  
SIZZLE BURST BLAST  
ERUPT

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

The Online Scoop See fabulous fireworks displays in New York, Miami, Louisville, Denver, Cleveland and Paris. Video at: [www.kidscoop.com/kids](http://www.kidscoop.com/kids).

### Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

CELEBRATE  
HIDALGO  
PARADES  
KITES  
MEXICO  
FLAGPOLE  
FREEDOM  
CHURCH  
WORLD  
SPEECH  
POLAND  
TODAY  
INDIA  
BELL  
RED

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

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

### Country Search

Look through the newspaper to find the names of five or more countries. Find these countries on a map of the world. Why was each country mentioned in your newspaper?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use general skills and strategies of the reading process.

### What did one flag say to the other flag?

ANSWER: Nothing—it just waved!

### Kid Scoop Together: Missing Words

Fireworks have blasted some of the words out of this article. Can you find where each missing word belongs?

### Chinese Cook Has a Blast

Most Independence Day celebrations \_\_\_\_\_ include setting off fireworks. The exploding excitement of fireworks had its origins in a \_\_\_\_\_ in China. About 1,000 years ago, a Chinese cook \_\_\_\_\_ three ingredients \_\_\_\_\_ found in kitchens at that time. A \_\_\_\_\_ from the cooking fire \_\_\_\_\_ his concoction into a blast of sparks! Some say this was the \_\_\_\_\_ firework.

The three ingredients were saltpeter (used for pickling \_\_\_\_\_), sulfur (used to make \_\_\_\_\_ fires hotter) and charcoal (the \_\_\_\_\_ wood from the cooking fire).

MIXED COOKING FOODS  
WORLDWIDE FIRST  
KITCHEN EXPLODED  
COMMONLY SPARK CHARRED

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to understand the meaning of words.

### Kid Scoop-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word **WORLD** in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

	L		
W	O	R	L
		L	O
L			
			O
			L

### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **UNIQUE**

The adjective **unique** means being the one and only of its kind.

The fireworks show was **unique** to the area.

Try to use the word **unique** in a sentence today when talking with friends and family.

### Write On! What Freedom Means To Me

Write about what freedom means to you. What would life be like without it? How would what you read be different?

**CLASSIFIEDS**

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- Barn and horse tools
- Assortment of flowerpots, flowerpot stands, and lawn sprinklers
- Assortment of steel T-posts, treated fence posts, lumber and garden posts
- Assorted dog equipment including blankets, pads & backpack
- Electric fence materials, and more!



Answers to crossword puzzle from page 29 ...

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

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Correction: Crooked Run Orchard is not an Organic Farm. We apologize for this error.

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- \* **IN JULY**, we will have **peaches, blackberries and plums** (and towards the end of the month, Tydeman Red and Paula Red summer apples).
- \* **In August**, we will have **more peaches, blackberries and Gala apples**.
- \* **AND IN THE FALL** we will have **pumpkins, gourds and more farm surprises**.



Farm Stand Open 9am to 9pm  
or go to [www.CrookedRunOrchard.com](http://www.CrookedRunOrchard.com)

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Produced by Franklin Park Arts Center  
in conjunction with Run Rabbit Run Theatre



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**Aug. 2-4**

Fr/Sa 8 pm, Su 3 pm

**Franklin Park  
Arts Center**

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*Directed by Meredith Bean McMath  
Fight Choreography by Carolyn Cutshall*

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