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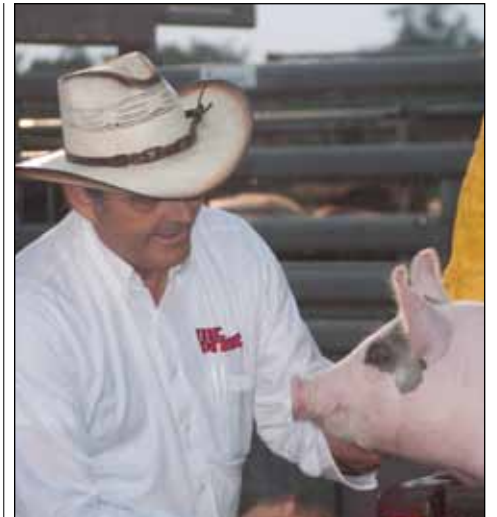
Aaron Farris aboard the USS Harpers Ferry with shipmates

## Ship Brings Memories Of Home

Aaron Farris feels at home when he looks around his Navy ship, the USS Harpers Ferry. Although the ship is far from Harpers Ferry, there are plenty of mementos of the area displayed around the ship.

Farris now travels all around the world, but he was born in Leesburg, where he attended Catoctin Elementary. His family later moved to Winchester, and he graduated from She-rando High School in 2000. His family has

Continued on page 3



Nolan Barzee of Mr. Print is the 2013 winner of The Loudoun County Fair Kiss A Pig Contest.

## Three New Drive-Throughs For Entrance To Purcellville

In July, a joint public hearing was held between the Purcellville Town Council and the Purcellville Planning Commission for three special exception applications within the Purcellville Gateway (Harris Teeter shopping center). Special exceptions allow a developer/property owner to change the original zoning plan for a particular parcel. In this case, two food-related businesses with drive-throughs – and one restaurant which added a drive-through – will replace what was originally planned to be a single office building.

Frank Stearns, the attorney representing the Harris Teeter shopping center, which is owned by Jordan River Acquisitions LLC, and managed by Roadside Development LLC, came before the council to talk about the special exceptions and to answer questions.

Three special use permits (SUPs) were approved for the shopping center. SUP 13-01 for an eating establishment in excess of 4,000 square feet (5,915 square feet) with a

drive-through service lane. SUP 13-02 for an eating establishment greater than 4,000 square feet with a two lane drive-through service lane and SUP 13-03 which would provide for construction of a drive-through lane for an already approved, but not yet constructed restaurant. The land that two of the three restaurants will occupy will replace a 22,000 square foot office building approved by the town council as recently as just several years ago as part of an overall concept plan.

The town council voted unanimously to approve the SUPs on the same night as the public hearing (with Mayor Lazaro absent for the vote), citing the need for economic growth and residents wanting more restaurants.

The Loudoun County Department of Planning had issued extensive comments and recommendations on the proposed changes

Continued on page 8

## Public Hearing For Purcellville's Zoning Ordinance – Aug. 15

The Purcellville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing Thursday Aug. 15, 7p.m. at the town hall on proposed changes to uses that are permitted “by-right” and uses permitted “by special use permit.”

Today, uses “permitted by-right,” are just that; they do not require public input – the land owner can develop per the specific zoning. However, uses permitted by “special use permit,” because of their impact on the community, require input via public hearings. This allows the citizens to voice their concerns on changes that will impact the community such as traffic, noise, safety, pollution etc.

The proposed changes would be to the following districts: R-2 single-family residential district, R-T single-family residential district, R-8 townhouse residential district, R-15 apartment residential district and the IP institutional

and public use district.

In an April letter to the chairman of the Purcellville Planning Commission and the Director of Community Development Patrick Sullivan, Jim Bowman, president of the Purcellville Business Association (PBA)

Continued on page 20



Luna Moth – Magical, Lime-Green Marvel

Wild Loudoun, page 31

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## Ask Dr. Mike

- By Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D.

*Dr. Mike,  
My brother has recently found God through AA. Everyone in the family is glad that he is finally sober after many years of watching him destroy his life (and his wife and children's lives) with alcohol. His newfound religion and recovery program, however, is driving us all crazy. It seems he is now addicted to God and AA just like he was addicted to alcohol, and he's constantly trying to convert us to his ways and corrects us on what he calls our "moral shortcomings." Even our children have expressed concern regarding their uncle's drastic changes. Every other statement is an AA slogan like, "one day at a time" or "it works if you work it" or "easy does it" or "turn it over." Any thoughts on how to be a good big sister without going insane?  
J from Loudoun County*



Dr. Mike

on what you've written, your brother has recently embarked on a journey of absolute sobriety, which is a very difficult undertaking. He will require a significant amount of support, which is why, I imagine, God and AA have become so important to him. The dogma and any piousness your brother is directing at you, is very likely really for him more than for you as he is in the process of redefining his sober identity. He's practicing sober ideas and sober ways.

I think you should speak to your children (age appropriately) on the changes they have noticed in their uncle. They should view their uncle's changes as being a positive aspect of his personal growth. You, and your other family members, may also want to consider attending a few Al-Anon meetings, which is a group/organization that specifically supports loved ones of recovering alcoholics. I think you would find those meetings helpful in understanding your brother's changes better. I also recommend two very good books on this topic, "The Family Recovery Guide: A Map for Healthy Growth" and "Loved One in Treatment Now What!"

J,  
I think you should have more understanding and should exercise more patience with your brother. Based

Remember, while you may find your brother's changes to be off-putting in

*Continued on page 29*

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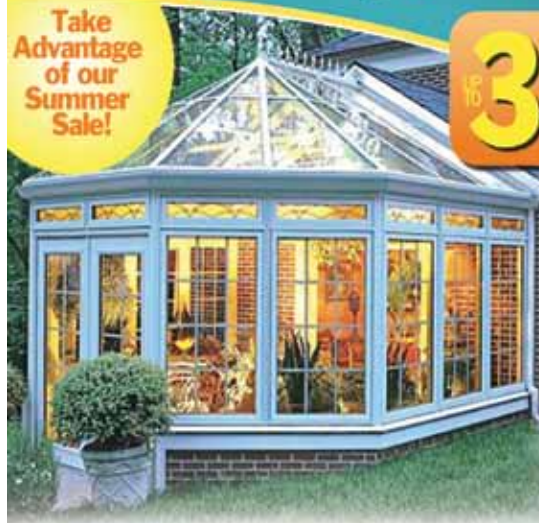
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The USS Harpers Ferry

Ship, continued from page 1

strong ties to the Loudoun County area. His parents both grew up in Loudoun, his father graduating from Loudoun County and his mother from Loudoun Valley.

"My uncle farmed Ida Lee Park and lived in the house there before the park was even thought of," Farris said, "Then they moved onto the farm that is where the new middle school and high school are built just down the road."

Growing up he camped on the Potomac, swam in it and caught crawdads and catfish.

"I can remember going on field trips [to Harper's Ferry] every year, I never thought I would be stationed on a ship named after the area," he said.

After joining the Navy and being stationed at various commands in the San Diego area, Farris reported to the Harpers

Ferry in May 2011. He is the interior communications electrician first class petty officer. He oversees 24 junior sailors in various specialties. The division is in charge of the maintenance, repair and operation of various systems. He is also in charge of making sure the entire ship is meeting its maintenance requirements and coordinating repairs both completed on and off ship.

"The USS Harpers Ferry is the lead ship in its class," Farris said. "It's classified as a dock landing ship. We carry Marines and their equipment for amphibious assaults."

The ship is 610 feet long and has a displacement of 16,601 tons. The crew is currently preparing for a deployment to the Persian Gulf. They expect to be gone for about 6 to 9 months.

Farris's wife, Corinne is serving in the Navy as an operations specialist. They have two daughters, Bethany, 8, and Abigail, 6.

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## Guest Opinion – Supervisor Delgaudio's Dishonor

– By John P. Flannery

Sterling Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio's dishonor is self-dealing, with little respect for those he was elected to serve or work with, and, all the time, pretending otherwise.

On the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Delgaudio inextricably intertwined his "private" business with Public Advocate, concerned with Mr. Delgaudio's infamous gay-bashing, with his job as Supervisor.

Mr. Delgaudio had his Public Advocate staff telling his County Board Staff what to do. Mr. Delgaudio also engaged in abusive practices in hiring and running his office and had a low regard for the citizens that he was elected to serve.

When Mr. Delgaudio gave Donna Mateer a job interview to join his staff, he did it at Chick-Fil-A. He inappropriately asked her what her religious beliefs were, also her views on marriage and on homosexuals. After she was hired, Mr. Delgaudio put the other staffers down, and the other Supervisors as well. He said the other Supervisors were "idiots" and he was "the only hope for Loudoun County."

Ms. Mateer said Mr. Delgaudio made racial remarks about Asian people, making fun of the way they spoke, calling them names,



Flannery

and he did as much with Hispanic and Black citizens. Mr. Delgaudio also used his County staff to set up meetings for him to raise funds to pay his campaign debts; so he had taxpayers underwriting his personal fund-raising efforts. And, Mr. Delgaudio gave Ms. Mateer a script to use to arrange meetings with "interested citizens." Some of these "interested citizens" lived in Manassas, Chantilly, Centreville, and Gainesville. The script changed from time to time at Mr. Delgaudio's direction.

Mr. Delgaudio told Ms. Mateer that these appointments that she was making were "very beneficial" and that any appointment was "extremely important." He told her at one point that he'd pay her 5 percent for any appointment that resulted in a \$500.00 contribution. He promised if an appointment resulted in five more names, he'd give her 10 percent of whatever he made. He promised it, but he never did reward her.

As you can well appreciate, it was Mr. Delgaudio who certified to the County paymaster that Ms. Mateer was working on County business when she was not. Since Ms. Mateer made these disclosures in March 2012 to Board Chairman York, we've had the *Washington Post* run a series exposing Mr. Delgaudio, prompting a grand jury report that underscored Mr. Delgaudio's misconduct and revealing that Ms. Mateer's claims were corroborated by other witnesses.

In more recent days, the Board of Supervisors censured Mr. Delgaudio, stripped him of his committee assignments,

*Continued on page 9*

## Guest Opinion – Of School Discipline

– By Bob Ohneiser



Ohneiser

Let me state upfront that I found nothing incorrect or misleading about John Flannery's article about school discipline. Only because I spent eight years directly involved with Loudoun County Public School's discipline do I have the need to go a bit farther in detail than John's article.

As a fellow attorney I too am disturbed by the overreaching done by LCPS especially when critical "exigent circumstance" justifications are not present. We should all appreciate that with almost 2,000 individuals in a high school there are plenty of interactions which could be objectionable depending on one's sensitivities.

When an emergency occurs such as a shooter in the building, fire or bomb threat, absolute control is necessary to move everyone to safety while diminishing the threat which may need to be done in seconds depending on circumstances. This could be easily resolved by fronting discipline policies with the phrase "other than in exigent circumstances" the parents/guardians of a student being disciplined should be contacted prior to being interrogated by school staff.

Unfortunately during my eight year tenure on the school board very few board members were willing to put such restrictions on the superintendent. Is it reasonable to have the exact same zero tolerance rules apply to students who might be parking on school property during a summer weekend getting ready to go off on a camping trip together compared to a full blown emergency while school is in session.

We have even seen discipline applied to students in foreign countries "based on safety" which is even a greater stretch.

One of the concepts that truly seems against public interest is to force a student to stay out of school if they choose to appeal the charges brought against them even when there

is absolutely no basis to claim the student presents a risk to anyone. This is obviously intended to create a chilling affect against the student's family from accessing their rights to appeal anything.

Finally, we have the interrogations and the ability of LCPS to punish the students should they deem them as not being cooperative. The student doesn't even have the ability to say I don't understand what you are asking me or the ramifications of my answers. "May I call my parents first" is not part of this process in my experience.

In summary, if there is an emergency then LCPS needs the tools to resolve the danger but when the only danger is the permanent destruction of the students record there should be more checks and balances. As an attorney with considerable school board experience I welcome the opportunity to obtain Circuit Court orders to protect students should the current board choose not to do so.

*Bob has been a lawyer since passing the New York bar exam in 1987. He is currently licensed to practice law in New York and Virginia including federal courts up to the US Supreme Court. He created and taught "How to win large government contracts" at NOVA and spent decades in various international business development roles worldwide. He served on the Loudoun County School Board for 8 years representing Broad Run.*

## Letters To The Editor

### I Will Never Use The SCR

Dear Editor:

After spending millions of dollars and dividing the town emotionally and Brown's farm physically what have we to show for it.

Now, along with the traffic jams where they presently are, we will have a new one at the Stupid Cruel Road roundabout (number 2) and Main Street. And all this on once productive farm land whose tax revenues and tourist dollars helped the town when it was the smallest speck on the map.

The people of the area should be ashamed of themselves for what happened to the Browns and the wasted millions of dollars. A more accurate name for the SCR would be Boondoggle Boulevard.

Doug Focer  
Lovettsville

### Let's Call A Spade A Spade

Dear Editor:

Another local newspaper published an article recently regarding the Phase II Downtown Streetscape Project in Purcellville. The article stated that "The project received the support of the Purcellville Business Association and property owners." The reality is that few owners approved of the project and some were completely unaware of it. The other "various businesses" to sign letters of support in the application were in fact seasonal temporary vendors of the Farmer's Market who sell their products at It's Bazaar on 21st Street, vendors who are neither owners nor licensed businesses on 21st Street.

Nichols Hardware is one of the oldest businesses operating on 21st and they

were never informed of plans for this project until after the entire project was put into motion and the application had been made. When there were meetings, Kenneth Nichols was treated with little respect and his input was ignored.

Mayor Bob Lazaro requested that \$499,915 in federal money be transferred from one approved project (Maple Ave & Main St intersection improvement) to Phase II. Some residents would argue that transportation improvements are more important than aesthetic ones right now. The article stated that "The taxpayers have been saved money" due to the \$68,000 grant, but with a price tag that will likely exceed \$2 million, it seems unlikely there will be much savings. As with all government projects, cost overruns are

*Continued on page 9*

## 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.*

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**The SCR Roundabout – A Dangerous And Costly Intersection**

– By Valerie Cury

It didn't take long for the first of many accidents to happen after the Purcellville roundabout near the Harris Teeter Shopping Center opened. The photo below, snapped by a bystander, shows the typical accident that occurs in a roundabout ... sideswiping. This occurs when a car entering a roundabout fails to yield to one that's already in the roundabout. The accident highlights a common problem when roundabouts are introduced into the traffic pattern of a community, as most drivers in Virginia don't have regular experience with roundabouts.

In many states and areas of the country, roundabouts are common, in Virginia, they are relatively new. In order to accustom drivers to a new roundabout, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends that a single lane rather than a double lane roundabout be used initially, so that drivers can learn how to yield and avoid accidents.

So, really, why are accidents occurring at this roundabout? The answer may surprise you: Purcellville did not take VDOT's recommendations for the initial operation of the roundabout.

In an email dated July 22, 2013 between two VDOT employees the following was noted:

"There are two issues:

As you mentioned ... it is nice to allow drivers to get acclimated to a one-lane roundabout before they have to contend with the more complicated two-lane



configuration ...

In general, roundabouts are safer when they only have one circulating lane. Some roundabouts are constructed large enough to allow two circulating lanes, even though the extra lane isn't needed for many years based on traffic forecasts. In these cases, it is preferable for safety reasons to operate the roundabout with only one circulating lane until the second is needed to satisfy traffic demand. In this case, the second lane may not be used for many years after the opening."

So, what did the town do about these recommendations? They insisted that the roundabout be two lanes. The following reasons were given: "To now require the Town to put in a single lane roundabout with markings and safety delineation posts which will cost over \$150,000 to install and then will effectively have to be removed

with another construction project, is unacceptable." Yet the town can budget \$130,000 for a ticket booth and a shed at Fireman's Field.

The town also claimed that drivers have had experience with the first roundabout, which was a single lane. The problem with that logic is that the first roundabout didn't include the Southern Collector Road. Most traffic from the Southern Collector will go north on Rt. 287, crossing traffic going east and west on Main Street. This tricky traffic pattern wasn't there in the first roundabout.

The town also claimed that the two-lane roundabout was needed immediately because of traffic anticipated from the soon-to-be-built Catoctin Corner and future O'Toole property developments.

Furthermore, the town said that a single lane roundabout would "... also

require the Town to reschedule our opening dedication that has been in place for over two months." And, "In addition the Governor has indicated an interest in trying to attend along with Senator Warner and several other elected officials who are firming up their plans as we speak." Really? Basing transportation policy on a pre-planned dedication ceremony?

**Why Did The Town Tear Down The First Roundabout To Build A Second One?**

The Southern Collector Road (SCR) passed through the O'Toole property and intersected Rt. 7 in line with Rt. 287. This original alignment was in the County Transportation Plan and would have worked perfectly with the first roundabout, built with proffers by the Harris Teeter Shopping Center. The town decided to change the route of the SCR, taking it off the O'Toole property and onto the Brown property (Crooked Run Orchard) so that the road intersected Rt. 7 ninety feet west of Rt. 287. As a consequence, the first roundabout had to be torn down and replaced, because it would not work with the new alignment.

**The Re-Packaging Of Catoctin Creek Apartments**

– By Karen Jimmerson

The "more-residential-development" gloves are off and Purcellville's residents need to be ready to avoid the punch.

Facing stiff community opposition to an original proposal to add 178 low-income residential units to Purcellville's housing inventory, attorney Mark Nelis, representing the developers of the proposed Catoctin Creek Apartments, has come forward with a whole new plan.

At the June Purcellville Planning Commission meeting, Mr. Nelis – stating that had he met with and now represents all of the landowners in the Hirst/Maple Avenue corridor who want to develop their properties – presented a revised plan that, in addition to the 178 residential units on 13 acres, would provide for 22 additional acres of commercial development, and 5 acres of "open space."

The 13-acre Catoctin Creek Apartments parcel is currently zoned commercial (CM-1) and is the only formal development application submitted thus far; tax-credit apartments with a request to change the current zoning from commercial to PDH-15 (high-density).

CM-1 zoning allows for light industrial development – usually offices and other lower volume businesses. Mr. Nelis suggested to the planning commission that for the 22 acres, this new plan "is your highest value of commercial use," and "where you are going to get the restaurants ... where you might get a hotel ... where you're going to get your high-end retail."

But one has to wonder, is this new approach – which attempts to pull in all of this new commercial development – just a way to hide and quell opposition to the enormous growth in residential development the Catoctin Creek Apartments represent? With a new townhouse community under construction off 21<sup>st</sup> Street and a proposed senior community off 32<sup>nd</sup> street, Purcellville continues to increase the residential population faster than planned growth projections. In 2007, the town had a population of 4,961 and in 2013 it is roughly 8,000. With the 2020 planned population projection set at 7,818 and 11,093 residents for 2030, why is the town entertaining so much residential development?

Most people moved to Purcellville for its "small town feel." Isn't the real issue, not how you can re-package a new residential development to make it more palatable, but whether or not Purcellville has the will to address residents' concerns about the huge amount of growth being proposed, period? This growth will render any new road construction inadequate due to high volumes of traffic.

The Hirst Rd/Maple Avenue corridor is an important southern entrance for the town and the Purcellville comprehensive plan recommends this area for low volume professional office development or similar uses, which is why the current zoning should be adhered to. The Hirst Road Charrette – widely attended with input from town residents, including those specific communities that would be most impacted by the area's development – reinforced this, noting "the purpose of this district is to provide for planned office parks with limited supporting retail." Inexplicably, the town now says that the charrette, not being part of Purcellville's formal comprehensive plan, cannot be used to support or deny the Catoctin Creek Apartments application.

But why not make this citizen input part and parcel of the comp plan? The plan has just been reviewed and this kind of public input needs to be respected. The town needs to track and follow through on the wishes of its citizens and existing zoning instead of entertaining every development proposal that comes forward ... no matter how it is packaged.



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### Chef Comes To Winchester Medical Center



Chef Mullen

Chef, restaurateur and cookbook author Seamus Mullen will be visiting the Winchester Medical Center on Thursday, Aug. 15.

He will be discussing his battle with rheumatoid arthritis and a new initiative, Rethink RA, that focuses on techniques he has found successful for simplifying food preparation.

Mullen will be at the Winchester Medical Center, 1840 Amherst St., from 6-8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

"I don't think of cooking as an art - it's a craft for me," Mullen said. "What I love most about cooking is the opportunity to bring people around a table to share love, conversation and food. Everyone loves going out, and I derive a lot of joy from cook-

ing. As someone who has RA, it's important for me to cook things that make me feel good, and for some people with RA they feel overwhelmed. There are some things they can do that are empowering - it's fun, and when you make something delicious it makes you feel accomplished - which brings you joy. If you go to rethinkra.com/cooking you can see my recipes, videos and download the kit."

The Rethink RA campaign is designed to help people with rheumatoid arthritis enhance their understanding of the disease and prepare them to have more meaningful conversations about RA symptom management with their doctor.



Mary Ann McGowan

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## BBQ Fundraiser Kicks Off Cross-Country Bike Trip By Wounded Warrior

During his 2012 deployment to Afghanistan, Marine combat engineer Rob Jones was hit by an improvised explosive device, resulting in double above-knee amputations of both his legs.

On Monday, July 8, Jones and his partner, Oksana Masters, won the U.S. Para-Rowing Championships in Princeton, N.J., qualifying them to represent the U.S. at the world championships in South Korea this August.

And this November, Jones will be embarking on a cross-country bicycle trip from Maine to Southern California to raise awareness and money for some of the charities that aided him in his recovery.

Fired Up to Help, a non-profit organization based in the Washington, D.C., metro area, hosted a BBQ fundraiser July 27 at Loudoun Valley High School in Purcellville to help Jones in his efforts. LVHS is Jones's high school alma mater. Proceeds from the event will support his bike journey through the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes (Coalition), a leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding the lives of severely wounded veterans of the War on Terror.

"Rob is one of the most inspiring men I have ever had the honor to meet," said David Walker, president and CEO of the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes. "He is obviously a unique individual, but the role he plays in motivating and challenging



Sean Kirgan (to Rob's left) Rob Jones in USA shirt Shawna Garrison, Loudoun Valley HS grad in Rob's class of '03 (to Rob's right) Others are volunteers at the event.

his fellow combat-wounded and in raising funds and awareness for organizations like ours, is extraordinary."

Jones and his partner, known as Team Bad Company, were bronze medalists for the U.S. at the 2012 Paralympic Games in London. The pair placed third in the Samsung World Rowing Cup in England last month. Jones was named USRowing's 2012 Man of the Year.

"When we found out what Rob was preparing to do, we just knew we had to pitch in with one of our BBQ fundraisers," said Shawna Garrison of Fired Up to Help. "Everyone in the local area was invited to come out, enjoy some delicious food and support two great causes: The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes and Rob Jones."

To learn more about, or to support the upcoming cross-country bike trip, please visit [www.RobJonesJourney.com](http://www.RobJonesJourney.com).

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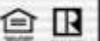
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# Amy V. Smith's Money Talks

## 13 Financial Planning Strategies for 2013 – Part Five Of A Seven Part Series

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

### 10. Homeowners – Consider the advantages of your mortgage

Mortgage interest deductibility was not affected by ATRA as some had predicted, but the overall limitation on itemized deductions – sometimes called the 3 percent haircut – has been reinstated, reducing the value of total allowable itemized deductions for individuals with income in excess of \$250,000 or for joint filers with income in excess of \$300,000.

As a result, many affluent investors may no longer realize the full deductibility of their mortgage interest and ask whether they should stay invested or pay it down faster. Additionally, when purchasing a new property they may ask whether they should liquidate assets to pay cash or whether they should finance the purchase.

### We suggest weighing the opportunity costs of these decisions to decide if a mortgage is your best option:

Mortgage rates are at historical lows, resulting in low borrowing costs, even before considering potential tax benefits.

Selling assets to pay down a mortgage or pay cash for a new property could trigger capital gains taxes that exceed borrowing costs.

For many investors, their home is one of

their most significant assets but also one of their most illiquid assets. Now, more than ever, it is difficult to gain access to the equity in one's house. As a result, aggressively paying down a mortgage with more liquid assets can disrupt access to liquidity should you need it in the future as well as derail progress toward your long-term goals.

EXAMPLE: Individual In The 39.6 percent Tax Bracket, percent Mortgage:

Can only deduct limited mortgage interest expense due to new limitations.

Averaged an after-tax return of 5 percent on portfolio since home purchase.

For this individual, staying invested versus taking funds out to pay down the mortgage was the right choice.

*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. 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.*

### New Drive-Throughs, continued from page 1

to the concept plan. Planning commissioners Ben Packard and Gilbert Paist voted against the SUPs. However, there was no discussion by either the Purcellville Planning Commission or the town council relating to significant traffic and parking concerns raised by county staff. For example, a 5,915 sq. ft. restaurant with drive-through lanes could generate 2,200 trips per day, while a 22,000 sq. ft. office building is estimated to generate 242 trips per day. The restaurants would also require more parking.

In their comments, county staff also raised concerns that the applicant did not provide "evidence documenting and demonstrating that the exhaust fume and noise impacts upon the [adjacent] residential properties would be mitigated by typography," as the applicant had stated. Several homeowners located within 60 feet of the drive-throughs echoed this sentiment. In addition, the increased traffic from the restaurants, noted

the county, "could have a substantial impact upon bicycle and pedestrian use of the trail ... " The Gateway proffers and concept plan call for a 10-foot wide bicycle and pedestrian trail to adjoin the projects.

The three SUPs that were passed did not allow for proffers (funds provided by developers to insure that the infrastructure – roads, sidewalks, lighting, etc. – needed for the project is completed). The county's comments went on to say: "special use applications are not accompanied by a rezoning application and as such additional conditions and proffers to mitigate impacts are not available." In conclusion, the county report recommended that the planning commission and Purcellville Town Council "hold open the public hearing for SUP 13-01 and SUP 13-02 until such time as the applicant applies for a rezoning that changes the concept plan and proffers ... " However, –the special exceptions stand as approved.

## Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth: Digges Valley Road

– By Tim Jon

It really isn't much of a road: it's not very long, and it's not very wide – just a thin stretch of dirt running between a two-lane blacktop and another gravel road set right out in 'the sticks;' there's no rush hour out here, and I'm always surprised when I see other vehicles on this stretch, as I figure it's only used by the local residents – and then only when pressed to travel. Even the name of this little conduit sounds to me like it could come from some obscure, half-supernatural



JON



tale by the eccentric Civil War-era writer, Ambrose Bierce; Digges Valley Road conjures up images (to me) of long forgotten habitations, strange – perhaps heroic – exploits of nameless men and women, and maybe a (still) lost party or two.

And there's really quite a bit to gander at in its short (physical, that is) distance from Harmony Church Road in the west to Canby to the east: steep hillsides, aging farm buildings, historic homesteads, deep woods, open cropland, some running water (depending on the recent weather), and at least a few road ruts that'll shift a filling if you're not careful. And if you meet some of the aforementioned, albeit intermittent, traffic at just the wrong place (say, the narrow, blind curve, lined by groping tree branches and shoulder ditches worthy of the leftover wagon ruts of Pioneer days), you could have – at the least – an interesting standoff, as to who's going to back up far enough for the other to pass by.

But, the casual traveler's careful negotiations with the geography have their rewards: The vine-covered, ramshackle, yet photogenic barn on the south side of the road, the densely-packed woods that crowd the way with shade and the fresh

scent of green nature, the relatively vast sections of open fields of various crops and grasses of that particular season, the peaceful little tree-lined 'run' that holds water in all but the driest months of summer, and maybe some squirrels, a deer, or even a couple of wild turkeys. The handful of residences along

Digges Valley Road are fairly well-scattered – and most are set back far enough to remain almost unseen, at least in the summer months of dense cover.

At that time of year, you pretty much have two climate experiences: the

warm, sunny open stretches with lots of sky, dust and heat waves – and then the cool (in comparison) forested areas that contain a hush and cover from the hot sun. But, they're both pretty peaceful, when I come to think of it – at least as I match them side-by-side with some of the busier sections of Loudoun County. An isolated hot and dusty is far different than a hectic, stressed-out, car-honking day of the same conditions. It is for me, anyway.

So, as you disappear into the darkness of the deep woods, and then find yourself once again in the still heat waves of the open fields, then head again for big timber, just keep your wits about you and keep your eyes on the road surface – and always be ready for a fellow traveler in the most unlikely of places along the lonely curves and hills of Digges Valley Road. And, know that your trip along Digges will reveal the abundance of whatever season you currently enjoy: the profusion of greenery during the warm months, the still blanket of white over the coldest of times, a riot of colors in autumn, and the transformation from dull grey to the undeniable signs of life each spring. And, somehow – each is my favorite – depending on which I'm in at the time.

## PRAYER TO THE BLESSED MOTHER

(never known to fail). O Most Beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show herein you are my Mother power. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein you are my Mother, O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (3 times). Sweet Mother I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Thank you for your mercy to me and mine. Amen.

This prayer must be said for 3 days and after 3 days your request will be granted, and the prayer must be published. J.J.



# A Call To Action

– By Samuel Moore - Sobel

If there was a way for you to eradicate the debt of the federal government would you do it? This is the question I have been pondering as the budget talks are set to resume in September



MOORE-SOBEL

and once again a crisis concerning the budget will take Washington by storm. The whole nation seems to watch expectantly, hoping for a reasonable solution. Yet at the same time they are ready to complain if it doesn't work out, and the tales of how the Congressional deadlock is the worst it has ever been will begin anew.

The national debt currently stands at \$16.8 trillion, and it shows no signs of shrinking. While Americans blame Congress for not coming up with a satisfying solution, we ignore the fact that in a way we are really all to blame. Americans have consistently been demanding more from the government. We want government to spend less, but we are not willing to give up any benefits in order for the budget to shrink. Most seniors are not willing to receive less Medicare or Social Security benefits, young people do not want less Pell grants to go to college, and the middle and upper class don't want their income taxes to be raised any higher. We all want from government yet few are willing to contribute.

Yet no one is talking about this in the media. Instead, in our 24 hour news cycle, we get to hear about how divided Congress is and how the president is not being a unifying force. Some think it is all Congress' fault, while others blame the president. Some blame the GOP, while

others blame the Democrats. Everyone seems to be wrapped around the blame axle, unwilling to consider the possibility that we might be all to blame.

If this is true, then what can we do about the national debt? There is a little known way through [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) for everyday Americans to donate money in order to pay down the deficit. Many are already donating, since almost 8 million dollars was raised in 2012. Will it completely solve the problem? No. But if all 300 million Americans donated just one dollar, 300 million dollars would be raised. Those of higher means such as Warren Buffett could donate much more instead of waiting for taxes to be raised on the top 1 percent.

The notion that we can pay off the national debt with a few donations is ridiculous. But isn't it our duty as Americans to do our part to make a difference? Doesn't every cent add up? Instead of relying on Congress, isn't it time we took action? We all have been given the opportunity to live in America, the greatest nation on earth. We have been given so many benefits just because we happened to be citizens of this great country. Isn't this worth some financial sacrifice to bring our country back from the brink of financial ruin?

I decided it was time to take matters into my own hands. Will my small donation solve our nation's problems? No. But I want to look my children and grandchildren in the eye one day and tell them that I did everything I could to help our nation pay down its debt. I hope we all begin to take this issue very seriously. If not, the effects could be extremely damaging to our nation's future. It starts with you.

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

*Flannery continued from page 4*

staff and authority over budget. The *Washington Post* ran an editorial applauding the Board's resolution. Chairman Scott York circulated a notice to all Sterling residents assuring them that the censure was appropriate and that he would see that they suffered no loss of services.

The fair question some may ask is: Must the county endure Mr. Delgaudio for the rest of his term? The fair answer is "it depends." It depends on us, the citizens, to get behind a petition to remove Mr. Delgaudio from office.

Citizens in Sterling have been circulating such a petition, in reliance on a statutory procedure that provides for removal, if citizens get enough signatures, and their claim holds water that the office holder abused his public trust.

A wise man once said, "To oppose corruption in government is the highest obligation of patriotism." It is because corruption undermines the rule of law, favors the arbitrary secret connections to get things done, and breaks the trust necessary for government to serve its citizens.

A famous journalist, Edward R. Murrow,

said, "A nation of sheep will beget a government of wolves." We have seen of late too many public officials in both parties, and across the political spectrum, dishonor their office and the public they purport to represent. We the people have to prod, poke, and push our elected officials, all of them, to censure Mr. Delgaudio.

We therefore have to support those Sterling residents who will petition the court to remove Mr. Delgaudio.

Mr. Delgaudio has joined that tawdry team that lacked the personal character to hold our trust. The remedy is simple: Throw the bum out!

*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. John has an active criminal and civil practice at the trial and appellate level. John also writes about law and politics, lectures and appears on television and radio network shows, and is listed in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in American Law.*

*Letters To The Editor, continued from page 4*

prevalent (Purcellville Town Hall now exceeds \$8 million).

Let's call a spade a spade: This project is a gift to developers who want to build a hotel or condos in this corridor. I am all for improving the downtown area, but not at the cost of one business for another, especially a business that will be celebrating its centennial next year. I fear for these businesses as they will have to suffer through major construction and the loss of parking spaces when all is said and done.

Karen Jimmerson  
Purcellville

## The Gospel According To Saul Alinsky

Dear Editor:

In the article by Andrea Gaines, Carolyn Lazaro is quoted as saying, "This land is God's land and the farmer was just trying to keep it for himself."

If this is a correct quote, then Mrs. Lazaro does not believe in private property. It would be interesting to find out just how far she would take this belief. Should all property belong to the people? Should all you people who live in Purcellville sign over your deeds? But, sign over to whom? The people? Purcellville? Regardless, property must be managed. The "right people" would have to manage all of this property for the people. I assume that the Lazaro's could help select those managers. Of course there may be problems along the way. The Castro brothers could describe some of the pitfalls that they have experienced in that paradise on earth called Cuba.

Why stop at land and buildings? What about cars, trucks, bicycles, even tricycles and strollers?

Private property ownership is one of the foundations of America that helps make us strong. Attacking that ownership is a tactic of nihilists, socialists and other true believers in the gospel according to Saul Alinsky.

Dan Mc Ginnis  
Round Hill

## Address Clean Energy Now

Dear Editor:

Loudoun County is home to many successful companies that base their work on science and technology, from Orbital Sciences to Howard Hughes Medical Institute to Raytheon. Our community is thriving thanks to a well-educated work force, in sectors such as health care, intelligence, defense, biomedical, aerospace, information technology, data centers, and telecommunications, all of which depend on sound science and technology.

The National Academy of Sciences, our nation's premiere scientific organization, has been trying to get the nation's focus on the greatest scientific and technical issue of our time -- human caused

climate change. In May 2009 these preeminent scientists released a Joint Statement of the National Academies of Science for the G8 and Five Nations, "The need for urgent action to address climate change is now indisputable." Source: <http://www.nationalacademies.org/includes/G8+5energy-climate09.pdf>

As a business and thought leader in so many highly technical fields, Loudoun County should be at the forefront of addressing this most urgent and critical of issues facing our citizens. In recent times, Loudoun County was considered a national leader on climate and energy issues, working in bipartisan partnership with the national capital region and with federal leaders such as Senator John Warner. Governor McDonnell praised the creation of Loudoun's Energy Strategy, adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2009. The National Association of Counties used Loudoun's forward-thinking energy strategy to teach the nation about community energy planning. Unfortunately the current Board of Supervisors is not playing a leadership role in addressing clean energy and climate change. We call on them to dust off the energy strategy and tell Loudoun citizens and businesses how we will once again lead the nation on these issues. Let's not lose our competitive advantage to China and Silicon Valley. We have the technical know-how, the work force, and the citizen passion to step into the forefront again. We need the board's focus and strong leadership on climate change.

350 Loudoun is a new group of citizens that is demanding that our elected officials join the national capital region and leaders around the country to create policies that will address climate change. As the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere soars past 400 parts per million, due to the burning of fossil fuels, the climate is becoming unstable. The polar ice caps are melting, our food supply has already been weakened by droughts and floods, and our homes and businesses and families are threatened by extreme weather. We are already seeing the real impacts of climate change. It is time for the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors to reread the Loudoun County Energy Strategy and tell us how they plan to implement it. We are eager to help them make Loudoun a national leader on these issues once again.

Brett Merritt, Ashburn  
Laura Horvath, Leesburg  
Bill Roman, Sterling  
Kathe Myers, Purcellville  
Natalie Pien, Leesburg  
Barbara Jarvis, Hamilton  
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Audrey greets her donkey pals. Photo: Natalie Mancini

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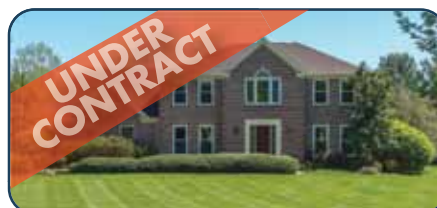
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# August In Northwestern Virginia

- By Donna Williamson

Somehow I don't mind August. When I first moved to Virginia in 1978, most of my neighbors and colleagues would dramatically complain that the "dog days" would be brutal. In my life, June and July can be major heat engines blowing in your face and wilting your enthusiasm.

August brings noticeably shorter days. Because we are harvesting our gardens rather than planting them, there is time to look around and enjoy the bounty. And the annuals are fabulous! Enjoying my Aztec marigold – 3 feet tall!

My dahlias are abundant in August and well into October, having gotten a good start in May. My tomatoes are delicious and there are enough to start some canning for winter. The basil is fresh and wants to flower. Chopped leaves with olive oil mixed in and then frozen in ice cube trays (and bagged up in freezer bags once frozen) keeps the flavor fresh – welcome during a snowstorm!

The peppers are developing beautifully. Canning sliced jalapenos is easy – pack sliced pepper rings in jar, fill with white vinegar, and process for 10 minutes. Just remember to wear gloves when slicing hot peppers...no eye-rubbing either.



There seems to be a little time once the lawn grass slows down and we try to tidy up other plants. Pruning woody plants in late summer and fall is still a bad idea. Folks inadvertently end up pruning off next year's spring extravaganza – the flower buds are

already on the forsythia, lilac, viburnums, hollies, and others.

Better to consider where you might plant young trees and shrubs this fall. It's a great time to plant woody plants. Fall rains and cool temperatures reduce stress and encourage growing of good roots.

Many books tell you to divide and replant perennials in fall. I don't do that. Maybe it's that rollercoaster of temperatures, but I can't tell in advance what kind of winter we will experience and perennials need some lead time

to get well rooted in the ground. Otherwise, they can be heaved by frost and air space under and around the roots will damage them badly.

One more thought about replanting. There are warm and cool season grasses. Many of the ornamental grasses we use in the landscape – panicums, miscanthus, muhlenbergia, and others are warm season grasses. They come up late in spring and flower in the fall. After that they go dormant. Their roots will not knit into the ground during dormancy. Don't move them until spring.

Cool season grasses like stipa (*Nassella tenuissima*), fountain grass (*Pennisetum spp.*), helictotricon, blue fescue, and others are movable in fall because they are coming out of summer dormancy and will develop roots. Don't move them in the summer. So many little rules!

*Donna Williamson is a master gardener, garden designer, and garden coach. She has taught classes at the State Arboretum, Oatlands, and Shenandoah University. She is also the author of The Virginia Gardener's Companion: An Insider's Guide to Low-Maintenance Gardening In Virginia. Donna can be contacted at dwfinegardening.com 540 877-2002.*

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# All-Star Teams Win Their Districts

Two Upper Loudoun Little League All-Star teams had a summer of baseball with district and state play.

The Upper Loudoun American Little League team (comprised of 12 year olds) won the District 16 championship in early July with a final score of 16 - 2 in only four innings played against Loudoun South. During the District 16 tournament this lineup of players outscored opponents to a differential of 61 runs scored to 5 runs allowed in their five games, playing all the way through the winners bracket. Their tournament pitching was "lights out" according to team manager Jeff Brown. They had the most home runs of any tournament team at 15. Connor Miller led the team with five home runs, John "JB" Byram hit four and John Marquart added three. They also turned eight infield double plays along their march to winning the championship being led by Andrew Dunkleberger with six turns from second base.

ULA then traveled to Lynchburg for the Little League state tournament.

"We didn't hit as we did in Districts and fell one win short of getting out of pool play. So goes baseball," Brown said. "These are special boys with a great baseball future. I'm proud of them."

The second team to hoist a 2013 District 16 trophy and travel to States is the Upper Loudoun American 10-11 year old team who took their championship also in early July. In their District 16 title game, the team defeated Dulles



**District 16 Little League 10-11 Champions – ULA**

Front row (l to r) Sam Reid, Ben Alter, Bryce Becker, Kyle Caylor, Justin Nelson, Riley Ashby; Back row (l to r) Matthew Melstrom, David Gingras, Alex Polivka, Landon Warren; Coaches (l to r) Coach Jody Warren, Coach Ed Nelson and Manager Mike Alter.

National 15-7. Starting pitcher David Gingras yielded a couple early runs and then settled down to retire the last nine batters he faced. The offense was led by the third, fourth and fifth hitters, Sam Reid, David Gingras, and Ben Alter.

Team defense was key in holding down the Dulles attack, with diving catches by left fielder Kyle Caylor and short



**District 16 Little League Champions - Upper Loudoun American**

Front row (l to r): Dylan Small, Hunter Furr, Ryan Hammer, Conner Miller, John Byram, Andrew Dunkleberger; 2nd row (l to r): Hunter McCormick, Michael Grupe, Cole Sheffer, John Marquart, Reese Goodlin, Sean Murphy; Back row (l to r): Coach Greg Goodlin, Manager Jeff Brown, Player Wyatt Serafin, Coach Terry Sheffer

stop Justin Nelson helping keep the bases clear. The ULA 10-11's then traveled locally to Springfield to play in their division of the state tournament. In a couple of high scoring games they came up just short.

"We played tough. Our hitting was great," their manager Mike Alter said. "Pitching (on both sides) struggles in the heat."

## Loudoun Rugby Keeps Growing



Loudoun Rugby did well at the 2013 Summer Youth and High School Championship tournament July 27-28.

Loudoun's emerging coed touch rugby program was given a boost when their U7 team took home the state championship title at the tournament held at Northern Fauquier Community Park in Marshall, Va. It is their second year as a program. The U7 team is led by coaches Chris Scheuerman, Ken Fraine and David Downer.

The U13 boys tackle program also continued their dominance from the regular season this summer and took home the top prize as they went undefeated at the tournament. As with the U7 team, the U13 boys went undefeated during the regular season, giving them a perfect record for 2013.

The coed touch rugby program was developed last spring when Ken Fraine, former head rugby coach at Gonzaga High School, decided that he wanted his son, Tyler, to have



a chance to play for a rugby team.

"I always told myself that if there was not a touch rugby program in Loudoun when Tyler was old enough to play, then I would create one," Fraine said. This came as good news to Loudoun Rugby director Steve Lough who was looking to expand the rugby program in Loudoun. After months of planning and lots of help from other rugby enthusiasts in Loudoun, the touch rugby program was born in June 2012 and has grown in numbers since then.

Loudoun Rugby has opportunities for both boys and girls to play touch rugby for players ages 5 to 12 and tackle rugby ages 11 to 18. If your son or daughter is interested in playing rugby, please contact Steve Lough at slough@loudounyouthrugby.org or visit the website at www.loudounyouthrugby.org or the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LoudounYouthRugby.

## Western Loudoun Liberty Softball Team Wins

The Western Loudoun Liberty 12u Girls Softball team won the 2013 Mid Atlantic All Star Open, which was held July 13-14 in Laurel, Maryland. The Liberty outscored their opponents 70-46 over six games, which culminated in a 11-4 victory over the Ashburn Pride in the championship game.



Back row: Left to right, Paige Kerens, Keely Hemminger, Cassidy Daniels, Cristi Beeson, Caitlin Williams, Olivia Stah, Natalie Blankenship, Jillian Haas, Keeley Glasper

Front row: Left to right, Elyse Haas, Sarah Murtaugh, Chloe Rice, Annalise Jackson



Natalie Blankenship delivers a pitch



Sarah Murtaugh sends a strike

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# Remembering Lil And John Palmer

Olivia (Lil) Cloyes Clark Palmer, 74, and John Claiborne Palmer, 78, of Purcellville died due to a car accident July 27 near Petersburg, W.Va. Lil was killed in the accident and John was airlifted to Morgantown, W. Va., where he died July 29.

Lil was born on August 16, 1938, in White Plains, N.Y., she was the eldest daughter of Frank Crandall Cloyes and Ruby Mae Shorter Cloyes. She spent many summers in her early years in Stockbridge, Ma., where her work at the Audubon Society camp helped to shape her lifelong love of nature and animals. Lil graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1960 where she met her first husband, Ronald Clark. She was active with her children in many equestrian activities and an avid foxhunter. She was a member of the Casanova Hunt and the Old Dominion Hounds. For the last 20 years she has served a select group of clients handling all the myriad details of their financial and administrative lives.

She was active in her church and volunteered with many local charitable organizations. She was instrumental in the organization of the Neighborhood Learning Center at the St Andrew Presbyterian church in Purcellville.

John was born June 21, 1935, in Warrenton, to the late Dr. John Claiborne Palmer and the late Jane Foster Palmer. He was raised at "Glenville" his maternal ancestral home near The Plains. As a child growing up in the country, he developed a love for the outdoors and a fondness of its wild



critters. After graduation from Washington and Lee High School in Arlington, John enlisted in the Marine Corps and reported to Paris Island, S.C., in August 1953. While serving in the Marine Corps he started to play golf which became a lifelong passion.

After completing six years of military service he earned a degree from Richmond Professional Institute now known as Virginia Commonwealth University. He went on to earn a second degree at American Institute for Foreign Trade in Phoenix, Az. John joined Middleburg National Bank in 1967 and worked there until his retirement as senior vice president in December 1995.

During his 28 year career, he worked in many positions at the bank including serving on the board of directors. It was at the bank where he met Lil.

One of John's favorite hobbies and past times was collecting antiques. John passed this passion onto Lil and shortly before retirement, John and Lil opened Clark & Palmer Antiques in Purcellville. They were active collectors and were well known for their knowledge.

Lil and John were predeceased by John's son Carter Palmer and sister, Mary Burnett, and Lil's sister, Leslie LaVerghetta. They are survived by children and grandchildren Elizabeth Clark Lonnes and husband Michael; Leslie Clark Kopp and husband Chuck Coltman; son David Clark, Emily Palmer Wagner and Marc Wagner, children Luke and Sarah; Jane Palmer and Bill Bridges; Sarah Palmer Geyer and Kelly Geyer, children Emily and Olivia; Ping Palmer and children Yiwen Chen (Von-Von), Alan, Thomas, Anna Li and Carter.

A memorial service was held for Lil and John on Aug. 2, 2013 at the Loudoun Golf & Tennis Club in Purcellville.

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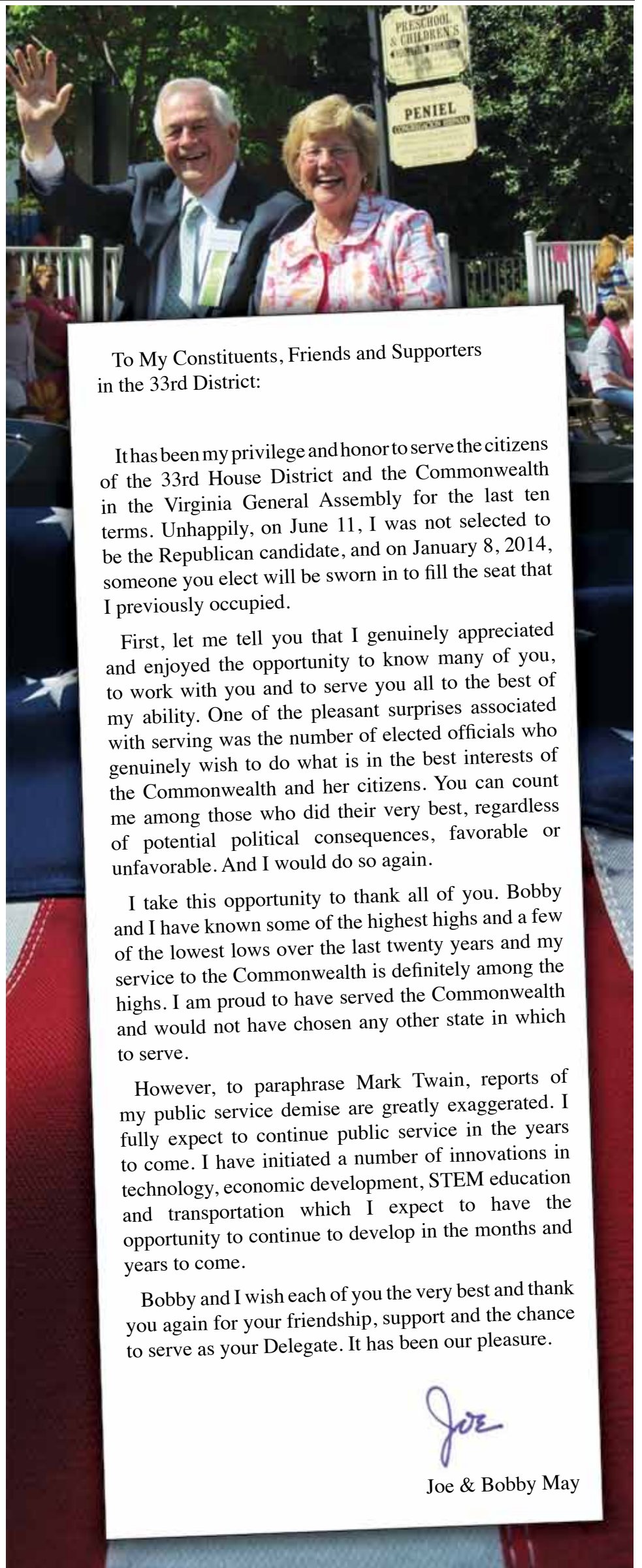
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First, let me tell you that I genuinely appreciated and enjoyed the opportunity to know many of you, to work with you and to serve you all to the best of my ability. One of the pleasant surprises associated with serving was the number of elected officials who genuinely wish to do what is in the best interests of the Commonwealth and her citizens. You can count me among those who did their very best, regardless of potential political consequences, favorable or unfavorable. And I would do so again.

I take this opportunity to thank all of you. Bobby and I have known some of the highest highs and a few of the lowest lows over the last twenty years and my service to the Commonwealth is definitely among the highs. I am proud to have served the Commonwealth and would not have chosen any other state in which to serve.

However, to paraphrase Mark Twain, reports of my public service demise are greatly exaggerated. I fully expect to continue public service in the years to come. I have initiated a number of innovations in technology, economic development, STEM education and transportation which I expect to have the opportunity to continue to develop in the months and years to come.

Bobby and I wish each of you the very best and thank you again for your friendship, support and the chance to serve as your Delegate. It has been our pleasure.

Joe

Joe & Bobby May

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Public Hearing, continued from page 1

wrote that the association had established a committee to review Purcellville's zoning regulations, and that they would like to "parallel the efforts of the Purcellville Planning Commission." Instead of PBA members attending the planning commission meetings where zoning changes were being discussed in public, they requested to meet with one member of the planning commission in private to "coordinate our respective reviews and generate recommendations."

In the letter Bowman said that the PBA "would like to see the special exemption uses evaluated with the goal being to make more land uses by-right and adding performance criteria where needed." Eliminating by-right uses would not give the public a chance to comment on a specific development change.

A similar request was made by Patrick Henry College (PHC). In an email to Patrick Sullivan in May a representative from PHC wrote that he had been discussing with the college's legal counsel on "how the Zoning Ordinance might be amended to permit institutions of higher education as a by-right use within the IP Zoning District." In a June email PHC requested, "...PHC and our legal counsel would like to be involved in drafting the final text amendment so we know what we'll be dealing with once approved." This would allow 64 acres of newly annexed PHC property to be developed without public comment.

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# Public Gives Input On Zoning Change For School Site Approvals

- By Sarah Stinger

A recent public hearing on the Board of Supervisor's proposed zoning ordinance amendment called ZOAM Schools-By-Right brought open dialogue between supervisors, county staff and the public.

The July 31 public input meeting was about the county's proposed changes to the legislative process for approving public school sites. The proposed change will eliminate the need for Special Exception permits (SPEX) for new school sites in many zoning districts. Such a change will also eliminate the associated SPEX hearings. The meeting began with project manager Larr Kelly presenting the county's proposal. Citizens who spoke came from several areas, including Lovettsville, Lincoln, Purcellville and Leesburg. All opposed any action that would reduce public involvement in school siting decisions.

In lieu of SPEX, the ZOAM would implement various performance standards which must be met for proposed schools sites. Kelly presented the standards recommended by county staff, including those requiring schools be served by public utilities, specific light and noise limitations and minimum buffers (distance and vegetative). However, mitigating traffic impacts of public schools, particularly considering the large size of Loudoun's schools, remains one of the greatest challenges for school site approvals. And because developing universal traffic-related performance standards is difficult, support for the proposed ZOAM may be eroding.

During public input, former Planning Commission Chairman Al Van Huyck shared his appreciation of the SPEX process, noting the public input he received as a commissioner was very informative and helpful. The reported \$75,000-\$150,000 cost of the SPEX process was noted by one speaker to be a worthy investment considering the high costs of \$20-70+ million to build and furnish Loudoun's schools, the significant impacts they represent to the surrounding area and their relative permanency. Recognizing many citizens don't have a clear understanding of the lengthy school siting process, Malcolm Baldwin suggested the steps and their sequence be presented to the

public to facilitate a meaningful analysis by all stakeholders such that efficiencies may be found, while preserving public involvement. County staff admitted to not knowing the front-end process managed by LCPS, but offered to work on providing the information.

Supervisor Chairman Scott York responded to the public's expressed concerns and engaged in ongoing dialogue throughout the meeting. Blue Ridge Supervisor Janet Clarke also spoke several times and stated her position against the proposed ZOAM for schools-by-right in western Loudoun.

In contrast, Leesburg Supervisor Ken Reid defended the proposal stating, "There will still be opportunity for public input without the SPEX." The dialogue between officials and citizens remained civil and respectful throughout the meeting, with no time limit nor other restrictions imposed on citizens asking questions or making comments. By the end of the meeting, the public's keen interest in school issues was made clear, as was the point that any government effort to reduce public involvement with school siting will be met with strong opposition.

The delicate balance of siting schools in the west was reaffirmed during the meeting, which may be part of the reason why the county chose to host it at Woodgrove High School in Purcellville. The search for future western school sites had been a focus for LCPS and the county for some time. Voters approved a bond referendum in 2007 to purchase land for schools, including land for the third western high school (HS-10). The bond approval relieved many western families because, while most have a strong desire to preserve the west's rural character, no one wants a repeat of the long overdue opening of Woodgrove High School (HS-3 at Fields Farm). Five years have passed and \$2 million spent since 2007 and western Loudoun still waits for land to be acquired for the next schools (ES-25, MS-10 and HS-10.) The 2014-2018 Capital Improvement Plan, approved by the School Board in January 2013 does not include western school site acquisitions.

*Sarah Stinger is a geologist and has been a Lovettsville resident for 23 years. She frequently advocates for community based schools and transparency in government.*

“  
**There will still be opportunity for public input without the SPEX.**  
 ”

- Supervisor Ken Reid

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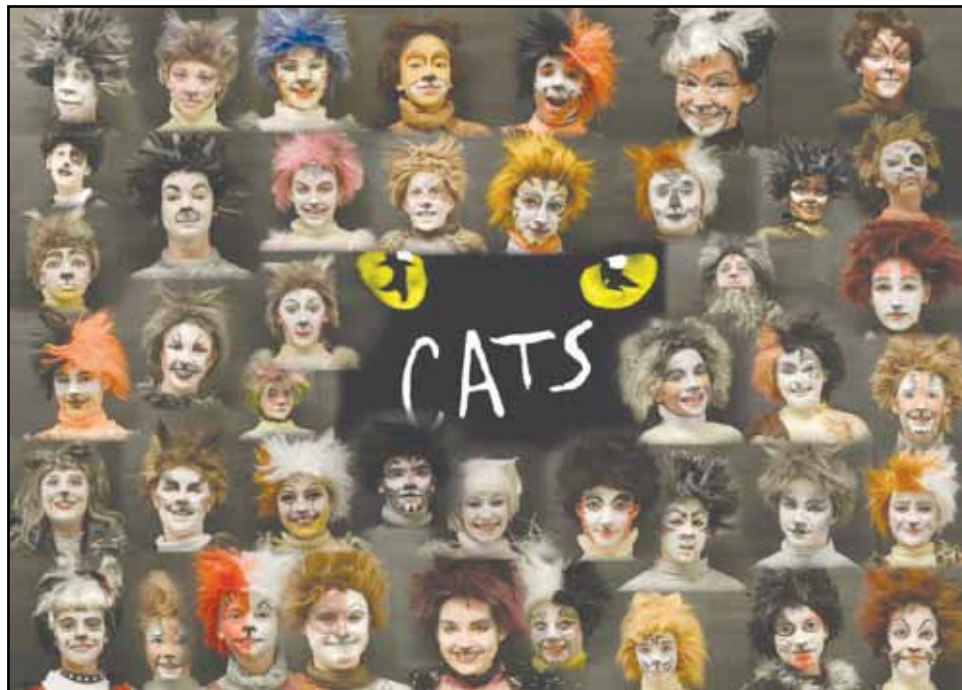


Photo collage of the cast; photos taken and created by Laura Rahn.

## Blue Ridge Middle School Drama Receives National Recognition

Three months of preparation and countless rehearsals has paid off well for the 42 Blue Ridge Middle School students and the many adults who worked so hard on this year's production of the Broadway Musical "Cats."

The cast, crew, volunteers and teachers knew they were one of only a few schools in Virginia – and maybe the only middle

school in the entire country – to perform the full musical. But, they didn't know they were being considered for national recognition for their efforts.

Their production closed after four sold-out performances ... and that was reason enough to be proud.

Then they received the really exciting

*Continued on page 29*



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## Halloween Costume Drive To Benefit Families

Let's Help Kids, a nonprofit that provides nonessential items to children of Northern Virginia families facing financial hardship, is holding a costume drive. They are collecting used costumes at several Loudoun locations, with a plan to re-sell them this fall to raise funds to help more local children in need through the holidays. Clean, gently used costumes should be bagged along with any accessories and dropped off now through Aug. 31 at any of the following Loudoun County locations during business hours:

- Ashburn Sports Complex, 20585 Ashburn Village Blvd, Ashburn
- Broadlands Nature Center, 21907 Claiborne Pkwy, Broadlands
- Countryside Proprietary, 6 Pidgeon Hill Dr, Sterling
- South Riding Town Hall, 43055 Center St, South Riding
- Town of Purcellville, 221 South Nursery Ave., Purcellville

"Most parents buy their children new costumes each year, which can be expensive. Meanwhile, beautiful costumes, worn once, are sitting in

storage in our basements," said Jen Sterling, mother of LHKs' 9-year-old founder Rachel Harris, "The costumes we collect this summer can be resold for less than the cost of a new costume, and the money we make will help us in our mission to help families in need."

Costumes of all sizes are being collected. Please make sure they are clean and bagged with all their accessories.

Let's Help Kids was started in 2010 by then 6-year-old founder Rachel Harris. LHK provides non-basic needs, such as birthday presents, Halloween costumes, bicycles, dance or sports lessons, books, or movie or amusement park tickets to children of families facing financial hardship. It targets children in grades kindergarten through sixth from Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties. LHK relies on monetary donations to purchase new items for children in need. LHK has raised more than \$60,000 since it started, and provided gifts to more than 500 children. More information is at [www.letshelpkids.org](http://www.letshelpkids.org).

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## Purcellville Wine And Food Festival – Fun Was Had By All

The Purcellville Wine and Food Festival was held in July on north 21st Street. It showcased the best of Loudoun's wine, food, and music – plus the community. There were around 13 wineries and numerous food vendors.

Premium and top sponsors for the event included: Catoctin Creek Distillery, Harris Teeter, Epicurience Virginia in partnership with Saveur Magazine, and Cardinal Bank. The Village at Leesburg and NOVA Medical Group were title sponsors. Benefactors included: JP Events and Consulting, Yoga4Life, Dental Smiles. At the Friends level were: BB&T Bank, Valley Energy, Middleburg Bank and Dominion. Partners included Shamrock Music Shoppe, which organized the music, and Dulles Greenway. GeoConcepts and Browning Equipment were supporters.



Photos: Sarah Huntington

## New Leader At Middleburg Academy

Middleburg Academy welcomed Colley W. Bell III as its new head of school on July 1.

"We are excited to draw upon Mr. Bell's lifelong love of independent schools and his demonstrated leadership qualities," said Michael S. Hoover, chairman of Middleburg Academy's Board of Trustees. "Everyone we've spoken to who has worked with Colley invariably describes him as an engaging and motivating figure, one who succeeds at getting people to accomplish challenging things."

Bell has served since 2008 as Head of School at Nansemond-Suffolk Academy, a 750-student PK-12 independent school in Suffolk, Virginia. Prior to that, he was Assistant Headmaster at Tower Hill School in Wilmington, Delaware. Mr. Bell's independent school career, which began in 1984, has also included teaching, coaching and administrative positions in Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts and New York. He is married to Edwina G. Bell, director of development and communications for the Chrysler Museum of Art in



Mona Botwick Photography

Norfolk. Together with their 11-year old son, Colley Bell IV, they will make their new home in the Headmaster's Carriage House on the Middleburg Academy campus.

Bell said his family was anchored in Loudoun and Fauquier for the better part of the 19th and 20th centuries.

"The road to Middleburg Academy is a road that brings me home -- back to the very roots that started me on this professional path," Bell said. "The size of the school lends itself to so much that is essential in a great secondary school experience. If there is a single moment in life where being a part of a tightly knit community is important, it is in adolescence. These are the very formative years, and so much of what is instilled in the experiences at this stage shape one's adulthood. My own

secondary school experience included a student population of 135 – and that experience has informed my daily pursuits for over 35 years."

Middleburg Academy is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory high school in Middleburg, Va.

## Carver Center August Events

The Carver Center is at 200 Willie Palmer Way in Purcellville. Contact them at 571-258-3400.



**Tues., Aug. 6, National Night Out Free Family Fun Dance** from 6-8:00 p.m. For

all ages. Get a free taste of Carver at this family-centered community event. Entertainment and refreshments provided by Morningside House Assisted Living of Leesburg.

**Mon., Aug. 12, Whodunits, Furry Sleuths, and Cozy Mysteries** at Purcellville Library at 1 p.m. Bus transportation provided from Carver Center at 12:45. The staff at the Purcellville library will be breaking the mystery category into its various sub-genres and introducing you to some popular authors in each style.

**Wed., Aug. 14, Try Something New Day** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Non-members pay a \$2 facility drop-in fee. Explore a selection of mind-challenging books from Purcellville Library's Outreach program from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Then taste a selection of unusual fruits with your lunch. At 12:30, enjoy a performance of Indian music. From 1-2 p.m., join local author Bobbi Carducci for an introduction to creative writing.

**Fri., Aug. 16, play performance of "It's Big Foot"** from 1-2 p.m. Non-members pay a \$2 facility drop-in fee.

**Fri., Aug. 23, Ballroom Dance Social** from 7-10 p.m. \$10 if preregistered or \$15 at door. Rumba lesson from 7-8 p.m.



Zoe and Sydney Althouse enjoying the summer days.

## August

☀ **July 13 to August 18, Wines and Vines** at Franklin Park Arts Center Gallery, 36447 Blueridge View Lane in Purcellville. Features works in a variety of media from regional artists and craftspeople. Monday to Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and during evening and weekend performances. Free. Call 540-338-7973 or [www.franklinparkartscenter.org](http://www.franklinparkartscenter.org)

☀ **Thursday, Aug. 8, Loudoun County Master Gardeners** monthly lecture series at Rust Library in Leesburg at 7 p.m. Saving and organizing seeds (and composting) is the topic by speaker Michael Neese. Call 703-777-0373 for more information.

☀ **Saturday, Aug. 10, country breakfast** by Ebenezer United Methodist Church. From 8 to 10:30 a.m. or until they run out of food at the firehouse at 11762 Harpers Ferry Road in Purcellville. Biscuits and sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, sausage patties, home fried potatoes, pancakes and more. For more information call 540 668 6504. Free will offering.

## Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy August 2013 Events

Don't miss these great Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy events/appearances for August. You'll also want to get an update on their Bring Back the Monarch conservation campaign Loudouners are raising monarch caterpillars and releasing the fully matured



adults this summer and into the fall. More information at [www.loudounwildlifeconservancy.org](http://www.loudounwildlifeconservancy.org).

17th Annual butterfly Count, Saturday, Aug. 3, 8 a.m.

Birding Banshee, Saturday, Aug. 10, 8 a.m.

Gathering of the Butterflies, Saturday, Aug. 10, 10 a.m.

Fascinating World of Bats, Friday, 7 p.m.

Lucketts Fair, Saturday & Sunday Aug. 17-18, 9 a.m.

Butterflies of the Blue Ridge Center, Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

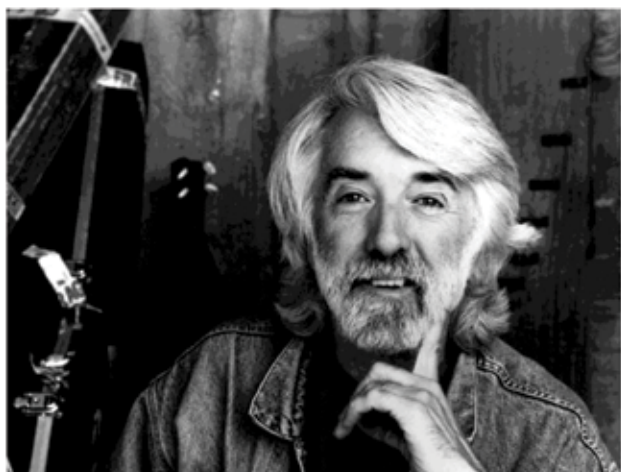
The Songs of Insects, Tuesday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m.

A Hummingbird Evening, Friday, Aug. 23, 5:30 - 7:30.





# Our 6th Season Starts Sept. 19th!



Don't miss this event:

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September 19th at 8PM

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*This unique evening celebrates the music and creation of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's landmark 'Circle' album (instigated by John McEuen in 1971), and tells the story of how Carter Family music became a classic American Music form through Mother Maybelle Carter. It is discovered how the historic sessions happened with Earl Scruggs, Vassar Clements, Roy Acuff, Doc Watson, Bashful Brother Oswald, Merle Travis, and Jimmy Martin... and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.*



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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Liz Hall - A Jewelry Artist With Wings

- By Andrea Gaines

Lovettsville artist Liz Hall's jewelry is so unusual and intriguing it literally defies description. One of Hall's newest pieces is something she calls "Sungate." Hearing the word you'd think, "I bet that piece of jewelry is really spectacular." Then you see it and realize it is beyond spectacular - wondrously creative is a more apt term.

In the jewelry world the Saul Bell awards are one of the most prestigious of them all, and Hall is one of the few worldwide artists to earn the distinction of "finalist." Looking at her work you can see what attracts such recognition - with shapes and collections of colors that mimic something as cool as outer space and as warm and organic as a rain forest.

Hall uses both traditional and non-traditional elements in her jewelry pieces. There are the standard metals such as silver and gold and prized gems such as sapphires. And then there are the polymers (plastics or resins in the most simple of terms) and precious metal clay, a material that is shaped and treated with heat to reveal the gold, silver or other metal at its core.

Almost all of Hall's jewelry pieces are one of a kind; each piece is made from the ground up without molds. Every shape is



tinted and molded to perfection. Each link, clasp and bead is a small piece of art unto to itself.

One of Hall's signature techniques is to coax a fine, wood-like appearance and texture from polymers. Looking at many pieces you might think you are looking at a bit of rare polished tree. She has also pioneered adding iridescence to the same material to produce the look of an opal - a stone the natural iridescence of which comes from water trapped within its mineral layers.



Hall develops and shares her designs using Facebook and Etsy - a sales-oriented website for all kinds of artists. She thinks of herself as an ambassador for her jewelry's more unusual materials, such as the polymers, and notes that the feedback she receives from customers and other jewelry artists helps drive the creativity so important to her work.

All artists are driven by something inside that compels them to create something reflective of their spirit. In Hall's case the spirit has wings, with every piece of jewelry taking flight from her hands to the lucky person who owns it.

(Visit [www.lizardsjewelry.com](http://www.lizardsjewelry.com) to see samples of Liz Hall's pieces.)

## Calling All Artists

The Village at Leesburg is inviting artists in Clarke, Loudoun, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick and Prince William counties; in Frederick County, Maryland; and in Jefferson County, West Virginia to submit their entries for The Artful August Juried Art Show.



Organizers will award \$5,000 in prizes to winners in the show's adult division and three \$500 scholarships to high school division winners (with a matching donation to their high school art departments). Other participating artists will be recognized with a Village at Leesburg gift card, valued for their paid entry fee. (No entry fees for students.)

All artists' work will be displayed at the Artful August Show from August 14 - 18 at the Village at Leesburg.

Submissions are scheduled for the Juried Art Show on Saturday, Aug. 3 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Artful August Show: 1603 Village Market Boulevard SE, Suite 100, located near the center of Village at Leesburg. Entry forms are available at [www.villageatleesburg.com](http://www.villageatleesburg.com) and on Saturday at the Show location. For more information contact Barbara Combs 703.777.8577; [bcombs@jpevents.biz](mailto:bcombs@jpevents.biz).

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

For reservations/tickets call 540-338-7973 or visit [www.franklinparkartscenter.org](http://www.franklinparkartscenter.org).

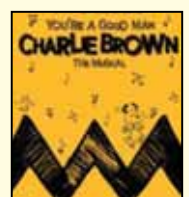
Sat., July 13 - Sun., Aug. 18 - 4th Annual Creative Challenge: Wines & Vines. Juried creative challenge exhibition sponsored by Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center. Competing artists and craftspeople present work inspired by the wine industry. Each piece submitted must use at least one element from a local Loudoun winery (label, bottle, grapevine, wine glass, grapes [or grape stains!], photo, etc.).

Fri., Aug. 9, 7:30 p.m., Sat., Aug. 10, 12:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Sat., Aug. 17, 12:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. - Loudoun Centre Theatre: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown. In this energetic, day-in-the-life snapshot of Charlie Brown, his little redheaded girl, Lucy wants to woo a Beethoven-obsessed Schroeder, Snoopy fights the Red Baron from the top of his doghouse, Linus holds tight to his blanket, and Sally finds a whole new philosophy. Tickets: \$13 Advance, \$15 at Door.

Fri., Aug. 16, 8 p.m. - Last Ham Standing. Don't miss this 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.

If you like Whose Line Is It Anyway?, you'll love Last Ham Standing, the other comedy meat! Tickets: \$12 Adults, \$10 Students, \$8 Children.



Thurs., Aug. 22, 2 p.m. & Fri., Aug. 23, 7 p.m. - The Growing Stage: Young Frankenstein. The Growing Stage Theatre Camp will present Young Frankenstein, A wickedly inspired re-imagining of the Frankenstein legend based on Mel Brooks' classic comedy masterpiece. The story follows bright young Dr. Frankenstein who succeeds in creating a monster - but not without scary and quite often hilarious complications. Admission is FREE.

Stay Tuned! The Capitol Steps are coming in September - details/tickets on website.

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# Registration Launched For 11th Annual Town-Wide Tag Sale

The Purcellville Town-Wide Tag Sale is just around the corner and scheduled for Oct. 12 and 13. Registration opened on August 1.

Those wishing to participate either with home sales (both in and out of town), opening their businesses up for a special

sale to the expected 5,000 plus visitors, hosting a fund raiser for their organization, or those looking for booth space are all welcome to participate. To register, go to [www.townwidetagsale.com](http://www.townwidetagsale.com), or drop by town hall during business hours to pick up a registration form.

Tag Sale organizers seek commercial food vendors (ex, funnel cakes, cotton candy, kettle corn, and candied apples), children's entertainment such as pony rides, hair braiding and face painting, and entertainers (bands, singers, jugglers, etc.) for the main stage.

This event is an all-volunteer event with funds raised from registration going toward promoting the event throughout the Metro area and the Mid-Atlantic region. If you or your business is interested in sponsorship opportunities, email the organizers at [tagsaleguru@yahoo.com](mailto:tagsaleguru@yahoo.com).

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Ask Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

different ways, he (and all involved in his life) is much better off a sober man in transition than an alcoholic who was destroying his life.

Dr. Mike,

What do you think about the Miley Cyrus controversy regarding her lyrics on drug use and sex in her new song, "We Can't Stop?" My husband and I are offended. Our oldest daughter grew up with the then adorable Miley Cyrus, but she is now a long way from her likable Disney persona. How do I talk openly to my youngest daughter, who is now 13, about MDMA or cocaine or sex when she listens to this song or when she reveres Miley Cyrus because her older sister did?

B from Loudoun County

B,

There certainly is quite a bit of controversy over Miley Cyrus's lyrics for her song, "We Can't Stop." It appears that she is referring to MDMA when she sings, "Dancing with Molly" and cocaine when she sings, "Everyone in line in the bathroom/trying to get a line in the bathroom." She also sings, "Shaking it like we in a strip club" in the song.

In response to all of the criticism, Cyrus has denied singing about illicit drugs in the song and has argued that she sings, "Dancing with Miley" to explain the misinterpretation of "Molly."

So what do I think about the controversy? Not much. Child stars and celebrities grow up, and sometimes they do stupid things in the process. I understand that a video of Justin Bieber recently surfaced in which he is seen urinating in a mop bucket at a NYC restaurant while spraying a hung picture of former President Bill Clinton with a can of cleaning supplies. Bieber is also

supposedly overheard stating expletives about Bill Clinton during the video.

Cyrus is 20 and Bieber is 19. Teenagers and young adults don't always exercise the best judgment, and I imagine the desire to do stupid things or to act-out recklessly increases exponentially when you are not only young but also very rich and famous.

Whether Cyrus is singing about drugs or not, your concerns for your daughter are valid. At 13, your daughter likely has some knowledge of illicit drugs and how drug use, drinking and even smoking can be attractive taboo behaviors. At 13, your daughter may have even had some exposure to drugs, alcohol or cigarettes within her social network. Thus, I see the song as an excellent parenting opportunity for you to share your beliefs and views with your daughter who is at an impressionable age. You may also want to ask your older daughter to responsibly address the topic with her younger sister since the two of them are fans of Miley Cyrus. You can't protect your daughter from the negative influences of the media or what she learns through her friendships and life in general as a young teenager, but you can clarify and educate her on the unavoidable nonsense that she will be exposed to at times.

Dr. Mike,

I have had four kids (including one C-Section) and have a very bad postpartum belly to show for it. I've tried several diets and have done more sit-ups and crunches than your average pro athlete and nothing has changed. As I approach my 20-year high school reunion, I am feeling very fragile about my appearance and how others will see me. I've even considered getting a tummy tuck, but my husband thinks that I am being ridiculous and tells me that he loves me just the way I am, Why can't I stand

this kangaroo pouch around my waist and how do I start liking myself again?  
F from Loudoun County

F,

You have two options in my opinion. The first is to accept that you are not perfect! You've given birth to four children, and you seem to be holding yourself to a standard that is unattainable. You (nor are your classmates at your high school reunion) are going to have the same body you had when you were 17 – that's just a fact of life. The second option, given that you've exhausted all diet and exercise options as you mentioned, is to have a tummy tuck. The procedure will improve your mid-section woes all at once, but it may not be the quick fix to your self-esteem issues that you are hoping for.

It seems that the catalyst for your negative feelings and body image struggles is your upcoming high school reunion. Keep in mind that your classmates have aged too, and while surgery is an option, it isn't a good one for phase of life or self-esteem concerns. As you may know, surgery is expensive, takes recovery time and has associated health risks. In my opinion, your pride shouldn't be tied to your waistline but rather your family and accomplishments. I know people who have felt tremendous satisfaction after surgery, but others who have found that after all that, their self-image hasn't improved...Only you can weigh out the pros and cons for your situation.

Michael Oberschneider "Dr. Mike" is the founder and Director of Ashburn Psychological Services, a private mental health clinic comprised of 12 MD and PhD level mental health clinician. To learn more about Dr. Mike and the APS team, please visit [www.ashburnpsych.com](http://www.ashburnpsych.com) or call 703 723-2999.

Cats, continued from page 22

news that a DVD of their March 2013 performance had been submitted by parent Leslie McFadden to National Youth Arts (NYA), an organization that evaluates and recognizes outstanding performances in the youth theater community across the country. The best performances are considered for the organization's National Theater Awards.

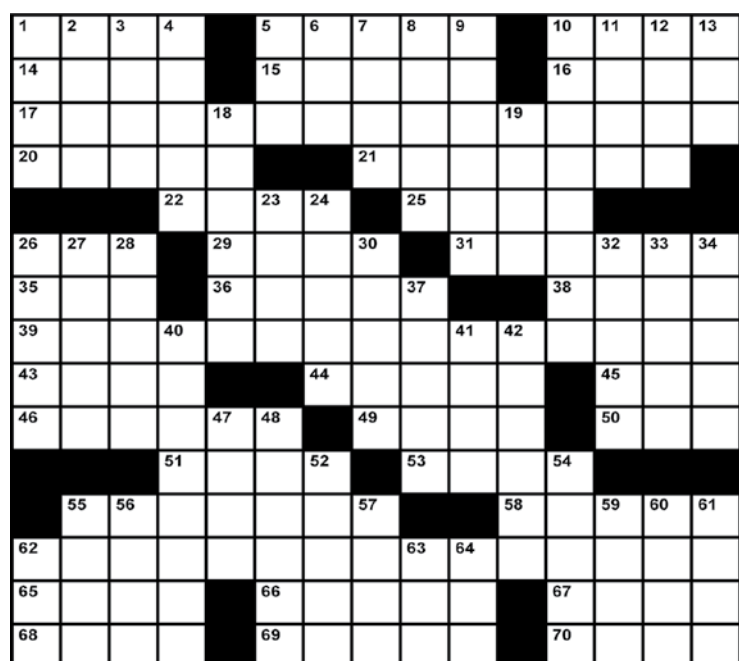
NYA will present its Eighth Annual National Youth Arts Awards this year, honoring outstanding work by youth in the arts. This year alone, more than 300 productions were considered – representing shows from more than 100 different theatres in more than 50 cities covering 10 states.

The middle school cast of CATS was showered with ten NYA Eastern Division nominations and four awards.

Nominations for the school's Cats performance included: Outstanding Production, Supporting Actor (Junior Division) – with Darius Fraser as Mr. Mistoffelees; Supporting Actor (Junior Division) – with Dane Luckman as Old Deuteronomy; Supporting Actor (Junior Division) – with Blake O'Brien as Rum Tum Tugger; Supporting Actor (Junior Division) – Noah Wade as Asparagus/Gus; Supporting Actress (Junior Division) – with Aubrey Winger as Jennyanydots; Featured Actor (Junior Division) – with Ian Carlson as Growltiger; Costume Design; Hair/Makeup; and, Direction (Dolly Stevens).

Awards included: Featured Actress (Junior Division) – with Jenna Gilberg as Bombalurina; Featured Actress (Junior Division) with Taylor Kamhong as Demeter; Featured Actress (Junior Division) – with Claire Poirier as Jellylorem; Ensemble – the cast is invited to the awards ceremony being held in New York City on Sunday, Aug. 18.

Zoom, Zoom – By Myles Mellor and Sally York



ACROSS

- 1. Awestruck
- 5. Gelling agents
- 10. Kind of car
- 14. Box
- 15. Nine performers
- 16. Roulette bet
- 17. Auto list

20. Besmirch

- 21. Sound entrance point
- 22. Metallica drummer, Ulrich
- 25. Limerick, e.g.
- 26. Good, in the 'hood
- 29. Insect stage
- 31. Female demons
- 35. Altar avowal

36. Period

- 38. As recently as
- 39. Auto list, part 2
- 43. One of the Simpsons
- 44. Rolls' first aero engine
- 45. Between pi and sigma
- 46. Enduring forever, old way
- 49. Cozy retreat
- 50. Bit
- 51. Math term
- 53. "La Scala di \_\_\_\_" (Rossini opera)
- 55. Anonymous guy in court
- 58. Rarin' to go
- 62. End of auto list
- 65. India setting
- 66. Deceived
- 67. Little biter
- 68. Cravings
- 69. Parkinson's treatment
- 70. Pianist, Dame Myra

DOWN

- 1. Short court figures?
- 2. Bit of physics
- 3. 100%
- 4. Kind of wave
- 5. "Wheel of Fortune" purchase
- 6. "The Bourne Supremacy" opening locale
- 7. Add to the pot
- 8. Chart anew
- 9. Chole or ergo followers
- 10. Rare

11. Music category

- 12. Cork's place
- 13. Like some humor
- 18. Milkshake
- 19. Perlman of "Cheers"
- 23. German industrial region
- 24. "The final frontier"
- 26. Religious book
- 27. Acknowledge
- 28. Throw the ice bucket
- 30. Geo-political org.
- 32. Dead to the world
- 33. Island greeting
- 34. Church assembly
- 37. Borders
- 40. Naturally formed methane
- 41. Different
- 42. Hunting dog
- 47. Diamond complement
- 48. Ultimate object
- 52. Put an edge on
- 54. Expression of disgust
- 55. "Light My Fire" singer, Feliciano
- 56. Father of Balder
- 57. Tropical plant
- 59. Heredity carrier
- 60. Geologists' studies
- 61. Vermin
- 62. "Waterloo Bridge: Gray \_\_\_\_" by Monet
- 63. Criminal's nemesis
- 64. Santa \_\_\_\_ winds

answers on page 33...

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## Sushi – "Tails" from the Barnyard

**Loyalty. Service. Honor. Integrity.**

Has anyone noticed that Virginia weather this year has been a little bit more than unusual?

My master, Mrs. B, is completely happy with the cooler than cool 2013 spring and summer we have had, while her daughter, Miss Bernie, would love the hotter than hot typical soggy Virginia summer day. A lot has been a more than unusual on this farm in 2013.

Let me tell you, I have all the inside scoop – and it comes from hours of laying patiently under the farm kitchen table, behind the farm shop counter, or taking a breezy ride around the farm on the Rhino, pretending I am just a dog. Seriously, do you even know where the CIA or the top seals – Navy seals – get the best of the best underground info? What? You don't know what a Rhino is? You don't know what a military trained dog is?

I pattern my life off of these guys and thank God we still have military parades and men who bring their dogs around sharing information on how they have trained and how from that training they were able to do their duty in the line of fire.

Often time us farm dogs find ourselves riding on a Rhino (4-wheel-drive vehicle) with our master into the fields only to leap off in the line of fire of a different sort ...

Maybe we are not up against snipers, artillery gunfire, grenades, or bombs – no those are real dog heroes to be admired and honored. But, we farm dogs do our duty in the line of protecting our livestock and let me tell you it can get pretty hairy out there into the dark of night and early dawn when it is only you, and if you're lucky, a wing dog by your side ... with eerier than eerie sounds looming from the forbidden woods where the sly ones and coyotes roam, along with bear and mountain cats. It's enough to make ones skin crawl.

My dog brothers are all for one and one for all. Do or die an unspoken code of ethics if you will. You see, a dog is a loyal creature, something more humans could really learn to copy. Waste not want not, and when you finally have a family, a good job, a warm home, food in your belly, for God's sake keep it at all costs. That is what a good dog does: work to keep it at all costs, even if it means our life. Do or die.

I recently got a new wing dog here at Fields of Athenry Farm after losing my beloved Clover, the farm's glorious and stately bullmastiff. (Mrs. B. was



heartbroken at the loss, as we all were.) But, life goes on and the work must continue. This is how it came to be that I got my new wing dog. He may be only 4 months old, his name may be Murphy, and he may be a Saint Bernard and he may sleep half the time – at least right now – but let me tell you he maybe the best wing dog at such a young age we have ever had on this farm.

This Murphy fellow came from a breeder in Greenwich, Ohio. As Mrs. B. says: "This breeder not only breeds a beautiful animal, but more importantly, a well-bred handled and cared for puppy – temperament and personality plus. He, with Sushi (that's me!) will be the farm protectors and mascots." It was clear from the moment this young pup arrived he was well bred for the job but also nurtured from birth by true breeders. I've learned a lot from Mrs. B. about the importance of true breeders when it comes to dogs bred and being raised in the task of instinctively knowing our jobs. This is even more important when the farm team's life is dependent upon each other. (After all, she picked me as a well-bred dog for the job! Didn't she?)

You see, with good breeding and training certain things come into play when life throws you curve balls – certain things you never ever underestimate. And this is where my military canine friends code of ethics comes into play in our brotherhood of being good dogs, worth copying until death do us part. Loyalty. Serve with Honor and Integrity. Be ready to lead and never ever quit ... taking responsibility for your actions and the actions of your wing dog. Through discipline and structure always excel to be your very best. Train hard, work hard and defend your family at all costs. Defeat anyone and everyone who would work to break apart your great family. Earn your bones every day.

With All My Love,  
Sushi



*My master, Elaine Boland lives with her husband and five daughters in Purcellville at Fields of Athenry Farm. She cherishes farm life and the joy of providing her customers with fine fresh meats and products. She can be reached at [www.fieldsofathenryfarm.com](http://www.fieldsofathenryfarm.com), or 703.926.8444.*

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# Wild Loudoun

## Luna Moth – Magical, Lime-Green Marvel



Photo Credits: Wikimedia Commons

The elegant luna moth. An extreme close-up of the colorful, feather-light scales on the luna moth's eyespots.

– By Andrea Gaines

I've seen a luna moth "in the flesh" several times, one time in the most unusual of places.

The first time I saw one I was driving down a quiet dirt road at night when a large, cool green-winged thing landed on the hood of my car ... I had a passenger with me and I must have scared her as I slammed on my breaks, jumped out of the car and exclaimed: "It's a luna moth! It's a luna moth! I can't believe it! I have never seen one before!"

Unlike most moths – which often flutter furiously when encountered – the luna moth paused where it had landed and then ever so slowly floated away into the dark woods on the side of the road.

The next encounter was the most unusual one. Coming out of a Purcellville convenience store late one afternoon I noticed a luna moth resting on the side of a brick wall. I tried to interest another passerby in my sighting, and they actually seemed pretty surprised, if only for a moment.

Then came the time I was able to study not one, not two but three luna moths that had wedged themselves in between a window and one of those Plexiglas bird feeders. I was just inches from them and just starred. Then, fearing that they were trapped and sure to die I carefully removed the birdfeeder as the three slowly flew away. But, obviously they were there for a reason and quite content, because not five minutes later they were back in the same exact place – a lesson, at least to me, that

nature knows when and where it wants to be. (Maybe that birdfeeder was protecting the lunas from other nighttime creatures that might want to eat them, I thought?)

It's not just the lime-ice color and distinctive eyespots that set the luna moth aside from other moths, it is their size. Adult luna moths are between 3 to 4-1/2 inches from wing to wing. And, they are translucent, making them appear even larger as ambient light passes through them.

Lunas follow the typical moth/butterfly life cycle. They start out as an egg laid on the underside of a leaf where they will incubate for 8 to 13 days. After hatching, the larva (or caterpillar) first wanders and then settles in to eat the particular plant they are on. They shed their skin repeatedly, sometimes leaving an intact "exoskeleton" behind. In the next stage the caterpillar "pupates" after spinning a cocoon from which the adult luna moth emerges. And there is one final stage where the luna pumps fluid from its body into its wings. When first emerging the moth's wings are extremely soft and must harden over a period of approximately hours before the luna can fly away. Maybe that is the process I interrupted in trying to "save" the moths seemingly trapped behind the Plexiglas birdfeeder? Guess I'll never know.

Biologically, luna moths belong to the family Saturniidae. As with all creatures in this category, the adults do not eat – nor do they have a mouth. With wings hardened the luna moth flies away, mates and dies, living for just about one week.

If you see one, consider it a very lucky – and beautiful – encounter.

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# Kitchen Science Kids: Glue From 'Moo'?

Glue-that sticky stuff that holds books together, seals envelopes, and keeps cereal boxes closed has a long and interesting history. Did you know that even the Greeks and Romans used glue? They relied upon it for woodworking and general construction, and made many improvements on the glue recipes of their day. What did they use? Food! Milk, eggs, vegetables, and even grains found their way into the mix. Though that was a long time ago, we can still create adhesives using simple kitchen ingredients.

You'll need:

1. 1 tablespoon of skim milk, (must be skim)
2. 1 teaspoon of vinegar
3. 1 small cup to mix it all in
4. Small scraps of paper to glue

Place the tablespoon of milk in the cup.

Add the teaspoon of vinegar and stir.

What do you see? You should see faint strands that are very white, mixed in with a lighter liquid. Your glue is ready.

Dip a small piece of scrap paper in the mixture, and press it against another piece of paper.

Allow to dry.

How does this work? Though deliciously drinkable, milk is not *all* liquid. It has solid parts in the form of a gluey protein called **casein**. Casein is digested when chemicals in our system break it into smaller pieces that can be used for energy. (Some people's bodies do not make the chemicals needed to digest casein-and therefore drinking milk causes discomfort.)

We may not think about glue very often, but it has many important uses. Home construction, furniture, clothing, toys and tools rely on this special substance.

Now we know that proteins have been contributing to the making of glues for a very long time, and one of the best sources of that protein may be right in your refrigerator-skim milk!

Glue from 'moo', who knew?

*Leah Enright lives, writes, and does science-y stuff in Round Hill, Va. She can be reached at exploringcreationscience@yahoo.com*

by T. Michelle Thoburn

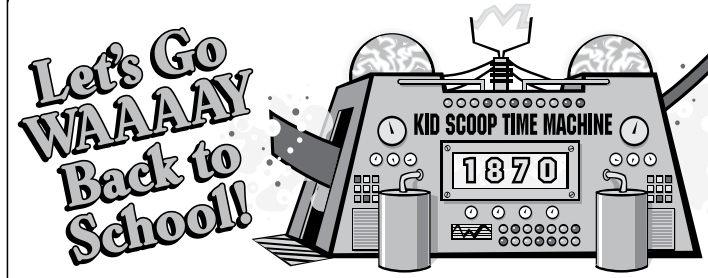


# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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Let's Go WAAAAY Back to School!

Welcome to the 1870s! School in the 1870s was different in many ways than school today. After reading today's Kid Scoop page, make a list of the ways school in the 1870s was different and the ways it was the same!

Schools long ago taught the three Rs: **Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic**. What subjects do you study today?

In the 1870s, children usually walked to school. Often they walked many miles. The children arrived at school at 8 a.m. The day began with a reading lesson.

There was a flag in the classroom, but no one said the Pledge of Allegiance. That started about 1890. The national anthem was not sung; none had been chosen.

Students in the 1870s played lots of fun games at recess. They played hopscotch, leapfrog, tag, horseshoes, Fox and Geese and more. Toys included marbles and spinning tops. Boys and girls did not play together. If nature called, students used an outhouse.



How many things don't belong in this 1870s classroom?

Standards Link: History: Students compare and contrast everyday life in different times and places and recognize that some aspects of people, places and things change over time while others stay the same.

## Spelling Recess

Look through the newspaper for the letters that spell each of the words on the spelling list. Using the letters, spell one word in each cloud above the game of horseshoes.

**SCHOOL PENCIL TEACHER CALENDAR ERASER**

Using headlines and ads, find words to make a crazy sentence. Draw a picture to illustrate your crazy sentence. Can you write a story to go with your sentence?

Standards Link: Sentence Structure; use correct word order in written sentences.

## What's for Lunch?

In the 1870s children brought lunch from home or ate a soup that the teacher made for the class.

### Make a Pot of Silent Soup

Look through today's newspaper for words that have silent letters. Cut them out and glue them on the Silent Soup pot. Can you fill the pot? Example; write.

Standards Link: Decoding and Word Recognition; recognize common word families.

## READING

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | • | K | L | • | P | Q |   |
| • | B | J | I | M | O | R | X |
| • | D | C | H | N | S | W | Y |
| E | F | G | • | T | U | V | Z |

## Hornbooks

Books were scarce in the 1870s. Students often learned their alphabet and reading skills on something called a **hornbook**. The lesson was placed on a wooden paddle and then covered with a thin, transparent (see-through) sheet of horn for protection.

Use your finger and then a pencil to go from A to Z on the hornbook.

## ARITHMETIC

Mental arithmetic was a popular way to teach math. Why? Remember, books were scarce!

Here is a mental math problem from a book used by teachers in the 1870s.

*If I sell a goat for \$8, how many goats will bring me \$24?*

Figure the answer in your head and then write it on the slate below.

Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Students move beyond problems by generalizing to other situations.

## Double Double Word Search

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

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

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

# Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

## Recess in the 1800s

A game kids used to play is one enjoyed by kids today: Leapfrog!

You can play this game with two or more players.

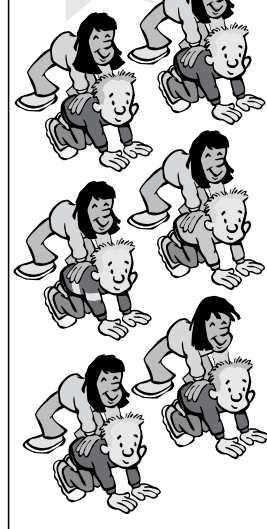
Find an open area to play.

Choose one person to start. All other players form a line, kneeling on the ground and resting their heads on the ground, covered by their hands.

Have the chosen starting player place his or her hands on the back of the person at the back of the line. He or she must press on the person's back and leap over the person, spreading his or her legs apart and hopping like a frog. The player continues hopping until reaching the front of the line, kneeling and covering his or her head.

There are no winners or losers in this game. The point is to have fun and be silly. And, the game can continue as long as you are having fun, or until the recess bell rings!

Look closely at each set of Leapfrog players. Can you find the two identical sets?



## Kid Scoo-doku™

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

|   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
|   |   |  | T | W |
| W |   |  |   |   |
|   | W |  |   |   |
| R | W |  |   |   |
|   |   |  | W | I |

## BEYOND Kid Scoop News By The Numbers

Circle a number that is greater than 3 on any newspaper page. Then look for other numbers on the page that can be added together for a sum equal to the circled number. Draw a line to connect all of the numbers.

Standards Link: Math; compute sums. Reading Comprehension.

If you put your hand in your pocket and found 2 quarters, 6 nickels and a dime, what would you have?

Someone else's pants on!

## Write On! If I Were a Teacher

How would you set up your classroom? What rules would you have? What subjects would you teach?



## CLASSIFIEDS

### – CARETAKER NEEDED –

P&R Enterprises, Inc. is currently seeking a Caretaker to oversee The Georgetown University Calcagnini Contemplative Center located in Bluemont, VA. The position includes live-in benefits and much more.

Any interested candidates, please send resume to Johana Amaya at [johana@p-and-r.com](mailto:johana@p-and-r.com) Fax: (703) 931-7271 or contact directly at (703) 931-1000 for further details.

### – PIANO LESSONS –

Local piano teacher with a Bachelor of Music Degree, has taught public school music, with 19 years experience teaching piano in Purcellville, is offering lessons in her home/studio off of Main St. She has a few openings for students age 7-adult, Mondays through Thursdays. Please call 540-338-1677 to reserve your space.

### – ROOM FOR RENT –

Room for rent in large house in Pville, central to town, shops schools restaurants. \$350/month includes utilities. Laundry/internet are available. Call 540-409-8893.

Answers to crossword puzzle from page 29 ...

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | A | P | T | A | G | A | R | S | U | S | E | D |   |   |
| E | T | U | I | N | O | N | E | T | N | O | I | R |   |   |
| F | O | R | D | F | I | A | T | M | E | R | C | U | R | Y |
| S | M | E | A | R | E | A | R | H | O | L | E |   |   |   |
|   |   | L | A | R | S | P | O | E | M |   |   |   |   |   |
| B | A | D | P | U | P | A | L | A | M | I | A | S |   |   |
| I | D | O | P | H | A | S | E |   |   | O | N | L | Y |   |
| B | M | W | M | E | R | C | E | D | E | S | N | E | O | N |
| L | I | S | A |   | E | A | G | L | E |   | R | H | O |   |
| E | T | E | R | N | E | N | E | S | T |   | T | A | D |   |
|   |   | S | I | N | H | S | E | T | A |   |   |   |   |   |
| J | O | H | N | D | O | E |   | E | A | G | E | R |   |   |
| D | O | D | G | E | A | N | D | C | A | R | R | E | R | A |
| A | S | I | A | L | E | D | O | N | G | N | A | T |   |   |
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## State Board of Elections Launches Online Voter Registration

HB2341, Sponsored By Delegate Ramadan, Authorizes Online Voter Registration

The State Board of Elections (SBE), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), launched online voter registration as a result of recently enacted legislation sponsored by Delegate David Ramadan (HB2341). Eligible citizens of the commonwealth will now be able to submit a voter registration application or update their registration information online.

In order to complete the application process online, citizens must provide their Virginia DMV customer identifier number, which is displayed on DMV issued identification cards or driver's licenses. Citizens who do not have a Virginia DMV customer identifier may still fill out the registration application online, but will be required to print and return the completed application to the appropriate local voter registration office.

All voter registration application submissions are subject to review and approval by the appropriate local general registrar. Citizens will be notified directly via mail by the local voter registration office once an application has been processed. Voters will also be mailed a new or updated voter registration card once the appropriate general registrar accepts the application or update.

The sponsor of this legislation, Delegate Ramadan, remarked: "The launch of online voter registration will enable eligible citizens to apply to register to vote and to update their registration information online, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, regardless of where military service, family or professional obligations may require them to be. I am proud to have sponsored this legislation to assist Virginians to more conveniently participate in elections. Online registration is secure and enhances the integrity of Virginia's voter rolls; further, it saves costs and increases efficiency and access."

Secretary Don Palmer stated, "Electronic online registration with verification of identification and data by the DMV will increase the accuracy and integrity of the voter rolls and assist state and local officials. More accurate registration rolls will ultimately lead to fewer problems and lines on election day as voters will have updated and accurate records when they arrive at the polling place to vote."

SBE encourages all eligible citizens to participate in this new method of applying to register to vote or update voter registration information. Additional information is available at SBE's website: [www.SBE.Virginia.gov](http://www.SBE.Virginia.gov).

## » Real Estate Ticker » Summer Look At Real Estate Market

– By Carl Fischer



FISCHER

Summer is upon us, and familiar patterns in residential housing have returned once again. Many families are caught up with summer camp, summer vacations or a general desire to just "disconnect" for a while, even though turbulent economic factors swirl all about them.

Summer in the mid-Atlantic is a great time to just "chill" and get away from it all. But some monumental events are taking place right now that significantly impact homeowners:

1) Home prices under \$500,000 are definitely continuing to creep upward, and

2) In the last six weeks we've seen the greatest run up in mortgage interest rates in the past 25 years: from 3.2 percent to currently 4.6 percent for 30-year fixed rate loans.

What that means for most buyers is:

The cost of home ownership is once again starting to climb in our area, and if purchasing a home is in your plans, sooner is better than later from a cost standpoint.

The residential rental market continues to be very challenging for tenants. Not only are there fewer units available at any given time, but many owners have opted to lease the properties themselves rather than to use the real estate agent community. So as a tenant you must be ever more wary of the terms and conditions of your lease agreement, since you may not be afforded the same safeguards incorporated in the standard Virginia Association of Realtors lease agreement.

The residential foreclosure and short-sale in inventory continues to decline. And I continue to hear cautionary tales of endless waits with short sales that end up in no contract for the buyer or the seller. Lots of lost time and energy, and no positive outcome.

I'm seeing sporadic activity in the sale of homes over \$800,000 in price, but the buyers are incredibly price-sensitive and cautious in their pursuit of these properties.

Residential land suitable for housing subdivisions close in is back in high demand by developers and builders, but price points are still quite low.

Farms and larger raw land tracks are once again appearing on the market, but this inventory is moving very slowly.

These conditions can create a "Catch 22" for buyers and sellers:

As a seller, do you watch the prices slowly rising, hoping to get more of what you feel you've already lost? And if you wait, does the rise in interest rates outpace the rise in prices, limiting the amount a few qualified buyers out there can, or perhaps more accurately, "will" pay for your house?

As a buyer, do you hold in place, waiting to see if the recent spurt in interest rates (though historically low) settles back down? Do house prices outpace your ability, (or willingness) to pay?

*Carl Fischer is the broker/owner of United Country Real Estate, which specializes in commercial, investment, and unique residential properties in Northern Virginia, the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and Northern Neck waterfront homes. He is licensed in Virginia and West Virginia, and is a member of the Dulles Area Association of Realtor as well as the Northern Neck Association of Realtors.*

## Community Is Alive And Kicking (And Pirating) In Lovettsville

People in the towns and villages of western Loudoun really take pride in working and playing together, and Lovettsville stands out as just one shining example.

On Aug. 6 Lovettsville citizens are invited to join Mayor Bob Zoldos, along with the town staff and officials for "a little party" known as the National Night Out Against Crime. Citizens enjoy games galore, emergency vehicle displays, swimming, dancing and frozen treats.

On Aug. 9 Lovettsville's children and adults are invited to dress in their "best pirate garb" and gather on the town green for the movie "Muppet Treasure Island."

As a town well known for its German heritage, Lovettsville is also well known for its Oktoberfest celebration ... an event open to all Loudouners.

The Lovettsville Library is also a hotbed of activity. A Summer Reading Program is about to hand out prizes and free books for completed Summer Reading Challenge

Cards. The library also sponsors Baby and Toddler Storytime, an Adult Book Club, a book swap, Family Storytime, and more.

History is a big seller in Lovettsville, too. The Lovettsville Historical Society will hold a talk entitled "From Loudoun to Bedford" on Sunday, Aug. 11. The talk will tell the story of the dozens of families who migrated from The German Settlement in Loudoun County, to Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Direct descendants of a number of the families will be the featured speakers.

Lovettsville's Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church will hold a Southern Gospel Concert & Potluck Dinner on Aug. 11 at 5:00 p.m. The event is a free-will offering.

The town also features a very successful Cooperative Farm Market on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through Sept. The market features locally grown or produced fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, eggs, bread, coffee, and other products, as well as local non-food products and handicrafts.



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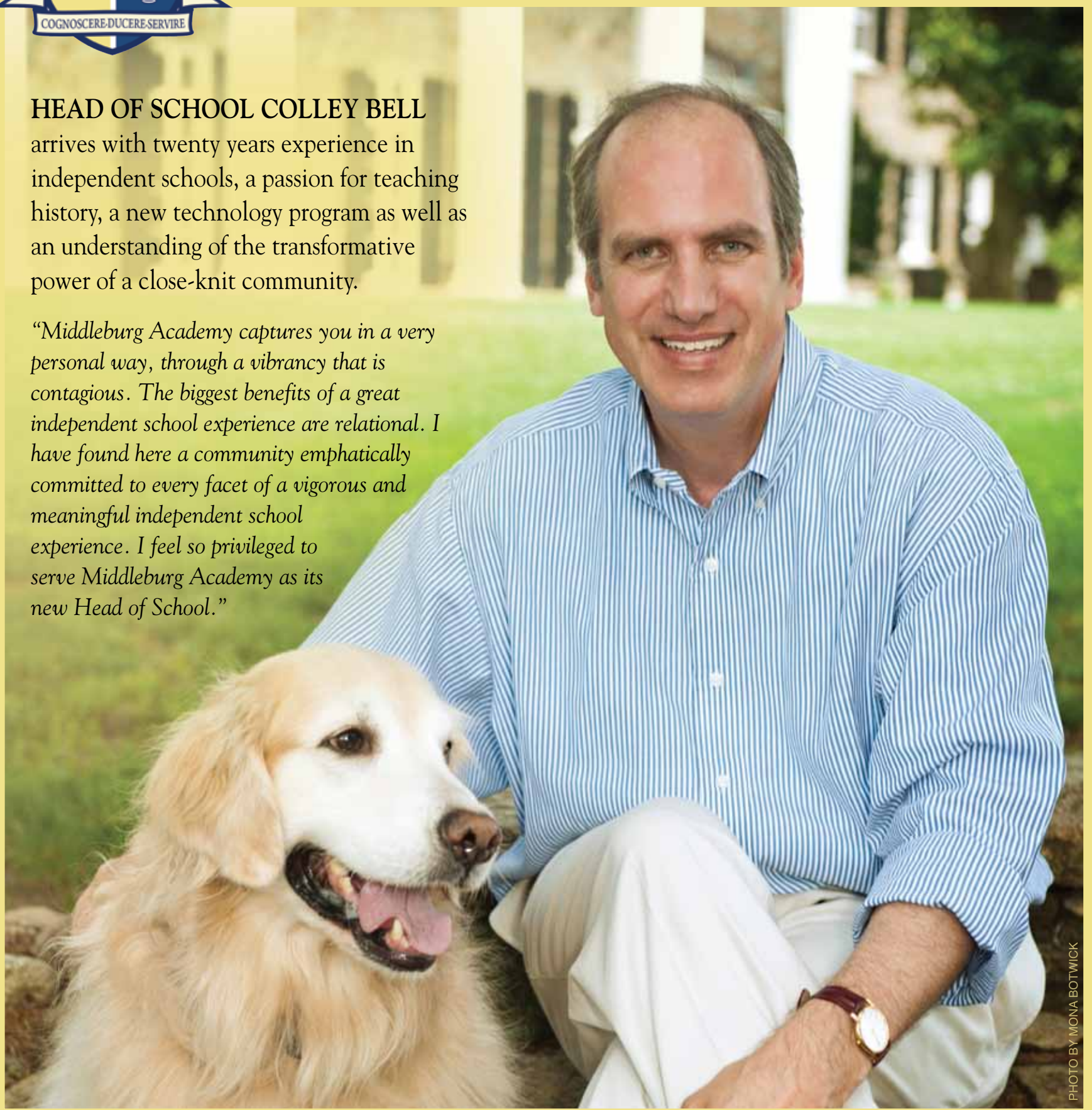


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