Proposed Code Changes Delayed

Public Pressure Pushes Decision To New Mayor And Council

The outgoing Purcellville Town Council held sway over a loud and angry crowd in a packed meeting on June 24 as it considered whether to make significant changes to amend town code Section 54-78. In the end, the decision was delayed until the next Town Council meeting, when Mayor-Elect Kwasi Fraser and a new Town Council will have taken office. Section 54-78 controls the expiration dates of what are known as "Certificates of Design Approval" (CDAs) by the town's Board of Architectural Review related to the demolition of historic structures, site plans, zoning permits, and other construction-related documents.

While the town's public hearing notice for the proposed code changes did not specify that these changes related to the 100,000 plus square feet mixed use Vineyard Square development, the majority of citizens attending the meeting clearly believed otherwise.

Christopher Rankin stated, "Do not amend the code, keep the dates as is." The only reason for the last minute change, he claimed, was because the developer was seeking another favor. "Let this go to the next town council," Rankin continued.

This sentiment was echoed by numerous speakers including Don Nichols, son of Ken Nichols, owner of the 100 year old Nichols Hardware Store. Nichols noted that amending the code to suit one developer would set a dangerous precedent. Would the council amend a code "just for me and nobody else?" Nichols asked.

Frank di Perna asked the council "not to make another bad mistake ... We're basically rational people [and] we know it's connected."

David Eno, a resident of the Purcellville area for 32 years, questioned the public notice saying that it did not mention Vineyard Square itself when it should have.

Councilmember-Elect Karen Jimmerson saw the move to amend the code as a power play and urged the council not

Continued on page 23



At a black-tie event, in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall in June, in front of a sold-out crowd of 2,500, two Loudoun Valley High School students took home CAPPIES Awards for their work in Loudoun Valley's production of "Legally Blonde." CAPPIES (Critics and Awards Program) recognizes the best of the best in high school theater from among 68 schools in Maryland, D.C., and Virginia.

Grace Vaughan, senior at Loudoun Valley High School, was awarded the CAPPIES Award for best supporting actress in a musical for her portrayal as Paulette Buonafonte. Vaughan will attend James Madison University in the fall and study theater.

"Whether or not I won a CAPPIES award, I was still going to pursue theater," Vaughan said. "The other nominees in the category of supporting actress in musical were incredibly talented; just being nominated into a group like that was reward enough—I was not expecting to win."

Alie Campbell was awarded the CAPPIES Award for female vocalist for her role as Elle Woods. This is



Photo: LoCo-Photo.com
Campbell's third CAPPIES award. In 2013, she earned
CAPPIES for make-up and for best comedic actress in
a musical for her portrayal of Penelope Pennywise in
Loudoun Valley's "Urinetown." Campbell is a junior.

Continued on page 9



The Loudoun County Fair Returns July 21-26

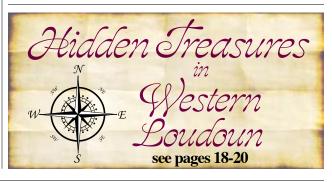
Kids, Cows, Corn On The Cob And Cowboys Return For 79th Year -

- By Andrea Gaines

There is nothing better than a good old-fashioned county fair, and the Loudoun County Fair stands out as one of the best.

The fair includes a wide variety of attractions including carnival rides, animal exhibits, fabulous food and an amazing display of crafts. There's the popular watermelon eating contest and hay bale toss. There's wonderful music – this year featuring 7Bridges, a Nashville based Eagles tribute band and Chris Lane, who has opened for greats such as Florida Georgia Line, The Band Perry and the Eli Young Band. There's also the Demolition Derby and Karaoke Contest, Professional Bull Riding and Rodeo and fun and educational things for kids including Hubba Bubba

Continued on page 4









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Ask Dr. Mike

- By Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D.

Dr. Mike,

I was very upset to find an e-cigarette in my son's room the other day. At first I didn't even know what it was but then figured it out. My son is 17,



he's a good boy and this is very surprising and upsetting for us as parents. We have never had to talk to our son about this sort of thing, so my husband and I would certainly appreciate your advice on how to handle this.

Concerned Parents

Concerned Parents,

Last week, findings from a large-scale European study revealed that individuals between the ages of 15 years and 24 years were most likely to have tried e-cigarettes than any other age group. The study assessed the smoking attitudes and opinions of 26,566 individuals across the life span from 27 countries. These findings are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where the CDC found that the use of e-cigarettes doubled for middle school and high school students between 2011-2012.

And Northern Virginia is not immune to this emerging problem. As a psychologist who works with a lot of kids and teens, a number of my older teen clients have either tried e-cigarettes or use e-cigarettes on a regular basis. A few of my teen clients have even shown me their e-cigarettes in sessions and one client recently went so far as to ask me if I minded if he used his vaporizer during our meeting. While these individuals in my practice have all been over 18, the presence of e-cigarettes in their day-to-day lives is concerning for several reasons.

First, none of the teens I've spoken with are using e-cigarettes to quit smoking. Rather, these teens already smoke cigarettes and are using e-cigarettes when they cannot use combustible tobacco or as an adjunct to smoking. Thus, for teens, e-cigarettes arguably serve to promote ongoing nicotine use. If that is the case, then e-cigarettes are not dissimilar to methadone for heroin users where methadone as a synthetic opioid is prescribed as a replacement to help heroin addicts quit heroin. The problem, however, is that many heroin users eventually become dually addicted to methadone and heroin. E-cigarettes then can arguably be seen as a "gateway drug" to combustible tobacco and other substances for our youth. The product is already being marketed in ways that would attract a younger crowd (e.g., celebrity use Continued on page 23

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Planning Commission Still Moving Forward With Major Zoning Changes

In one of the most significant zoning shifts in recent months, the Purcellville Planning Commission has made clear its intent to move forward with a proposal to eliminate the CM1 (Office Light Industrial) zoning along the Hirst Road corridor. The collection of properties is located on Hirst Avenue from the corner of Hirst and Maple Avenues to shortly before the corner of Hirst and Hatcher Avenues. The area is zoned for office light industrial (CM1) and if changed would become Mixed Use Commercial (MC). This change would allow residential units, entertainment venues such as Tilley's Entertainment, and commercial uses.

This land was the proposed site for the Catoctin Creek Town Center complex. The proposal – complete with bumper boats, go-carts, bumper cars and more – was denied by the planning commission shortly before the May 2014 town elections. If the Planning Commission undertakes and approves this change after a public hearing has occurred, the land owners would then have "by right" zoning – including the ability to construct residential units, commercial buildings and entertainment businesses. Further, the "by right" designation means that the land's zoning uses cannot be challenged.

Attending the four-hour work session

were Planning Commissioner and Town Council Member-Elect Ben Packard, Planning Commissioner Cathy Bowman, Planning Commissioner Chip Paciulli, Planning Commissioner and Town Council Member-Elect Doug McCollum, and Planning Commissioner Dennis Beese.

At a previous Planning Commission meeting, Packard had assured in his public comments that the Planning Commission was not going to propose any zoning changes in this corridor. However, this is exactly what has now transpired.

During the meeting, staff distributed an email sent prior to the work session from Mayor-Elect Kwasi Fraser, who posed these questions to the planning commissioners:

- If the proposed zoning consolidation and use designations are approved and adopted, will a future application for a project equivalent to the entertainment/sports complex (Tilley's Entertainment), proposed earlier in the year, be required to have a special use permit and zoning change?
- In your expert judgment, what are some of the intended and unintended consequences of the proposed zoning consolidation and use designations?
- What are key risks and impacts to Purcellville's citizens if this zoning Continued on page 13





Ashburn Teacher Part Of Summer Teaching Institute

Patricia Becker-Sabik of Eagle Ridge Middle School in Ashburn, Angie Rollett of Chantilly High School and Christine Watson of Daniels Run Elementary School in Fairfax have been selected from a pool of more than 400 applicants to participate in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Summer Teacher Institute for the week of July 7-11.

Each year, the Library of Congress provides the opportunity for a group of K-12 educators to attend one of its five teacher institutes in Washington, D.C.

During the five-day program, participants work with library education specialists and subject-matter experts to learn effective practices for using primary sources in the classroom, while exploring some of the millions of digitized historical artifacts and documents available on the library's website.

Educators attending the teacher institutes develop primary-source-based teaching strategies that they can take back to their school districts, apply in the classroom and share with colleagues. Teaching with primary sources is a way to help students ask engaged, probing questions, develop critical-thinking skills and gain knowledge. All educators can access classroom materials, teaching tools and strategies for teaching with primary sources from the library's site for teachers at www.loc.gov/teachers/.



Fair, continued from page 1

the Clown and The Bone Show With Dr. Funny Bones. So much to see and do.

4-H members will be there giving amazing horse demonstrations and showing off their prize goats, chickens, rabbits, sheep, cows, pigs and more.

Said Loudoun County Fair Superintendent Doug Fidler, "This year marks the 79th year for the Loudoun County Fair. We take great pride in hosting the Loudoun County 4-H member and their animals. We also provide a fun filled week of activities and entertainment for the entire family. There are many things that have changed, but our community is at the center of everything we do. We are excited to provide another year of a good old country fair with the sights and smells of the good life."

The first Loudoun County Fair – called the Loudoun 4-H Fair at the time – was held in 1935. It moved around a bit over the years – from Fireman's Field in Purcellville to the Middleburg Community Center to the



All ages having fun at the Loudoun County Cair

Lincoln School. But, it now has a permanent home – the Loudoun County Fairgrounds.

Legends and memories and gratitude fill the air at the fair. In 1960, a livestock sale was added to the fair to assist the 4-H members enrolled in those projects in marketing their prize steers, sheep and pigs, and the young people have benefitted greatly from it. In 1989 history was made when the "Golden Gallon of Milk" brought a world's record price – \$20,000. Then there's that famous pair of fair supporters Nelson Ashby and Ellen "Granny" Stowers. In 1993, Loudoun 4-H Club & Associates, Inc. established a 4-H

scholarship in their names.

There will be many memories, names, stories and high tales floating around the fair grounds July 21-26, and more to be made and passed along when the last tent comes down. Get ready to go, Loudoun.

The Loudoun County Fairgrounds are located at 17558 Dry Mill Road in Leesburg. For directions to the fair, ticketing information and a full schedule of events go to the fair's website: www.loudouncountyfair. com. Tickets are available in advance until July 19 at discounted prices, and also available at the gate.





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Good News – Virginia Budget Passed

- By Delegate Dave LaRock, 33rd District

I hope folks have heard the good news that Virginia has passed a two-year budget, and passed it without allowing our new governor to force Medicaid expansion on Virginia. Disaster averted!

Trust me; opting out of Medicaid was the right decision for all people in Virginia, rich or poor. The more I learn about Medicaid, it is clear that, like other welfare programs, it



adds a huge burden to working folks while it squanders their money in a vast bureaucratic system with woefully inferior results.

What Medicaid proponents won't tell you is that Medicaid expansion would worsen the cycle of dependence and harm the economy. Medicaid imposes a huge disincentive on the poor to find work because they fall out of the program once they start earning better incomes. Expanding

Medicaid means that patients who are already enrolled in the program, many of whom have nowhere else to go for coverage, would be competing for medical services with more people being added to the program.

The most vulnerable patients who have the greatest needs are likely to have the hardest time getting care. Keep in mind, coverage is not the same thing as care. Approximately one-third of physicians nationwide do not accept new Medicaid patients. This is largely because Medicaid generally pays doctors and hospitals far less than private insurers. As a result, few doctors can afford to take Medicaid, and patients therefore often lack a consistent source of outpatient care.

Expanding Medicaid comes with an additional hidden cost to people with private insurance. Because both Medicaid and Medicare underpay doctors and hospitals for their costs of care, providers make up the difference by charging higher rates to private insurers.

Expanded Medicaid is a mini version of its big brother, Obamacare. It is a big government top down model that thinks our healthcare decisions can be better-managed by politicians and bureaucrats; it steals individual freedom, creates barriers to free market solutions, and does all this at an enormous financial cost to taxpayers. That is not the path which has brought Virginia to a prominent status in this great nation. Saying "no" to this federal program expansion will further distinguish us as a state willing to define its own destiny.

As the Delegate from the 33rd District, it was an honor to be aligned and working hard with the majority in the House of Delegates to achieve this win. But while the question of Medicaid expansion is resolved, the real challenge still remains: What can be done to make quality healthcare affordable and accessible to those already on Medicaid and those who currently don't qualify, and to do all this without making impossible demands of everyone else?

Virginia needs to push to reform Medicaid, and, in general, healthcare reforms that will lower costs and improve the quality of healthcare. One possibility is federal block grants that would allow Virginia to spend the money on subsidies for residents who make up to 138 percent of the federal poverty line. This would allow Virginia to provide subsidies to individuals and families based on their ability to work, their household incomes and access to health care through employers. Participants would have to make co-payments, and would contribute toward their own health care.

We simply can't put more people into a broken system. States should demand from Washington greater control over spending to better fit coverage expansion with their state's needs, resources, and budgets. The quick fix is rarely the best. I'm confident time will test and approve the course we are on.

Have a great summer. Thank you for allowing me to serve you. Please contact me anytime at DelDLaRock@house.virginia.gov.

Waterford Third Graders In Congressional Record

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10th) has entered into the Congressional Record a resolution drafted by the third-grade students at Waterford Elementary School in favor of celebrating George Washington's birthday on the actual day rather than the third Monday of February.

Wolf also entered a letter of support from George Washington's Mount Vernon

Estate.

Wolf has been leading an effort change the date of the federal holiday. In addition to Mount Vernon – and the third graders at Waterford Elementary – a number of leading Washington historians and scholars support the legislation, H.R. 681.

During a visit to Waterford Elementary earlier this month, Wolf was asked what the

students could do to help. He said that if they sent him a letter of support he would enter it into the Record and list all their names so the world – and history – would see it. They went a step further and drafted a formal resolution.

Following is the resolution:

"Resolution in Support of Congressman Wolf's Bill to Make February 22 the Official Holiday of George Washington's Birthday

"We are gathered today in third grade at Waterford Elementary School, in historic Waterford within the County of Loudoun, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, to affirm Congressman Wolf's proposed bill to honor George Washington, and

"We have learned of Congressman Wolf's initiative to celebrate the significance of President Washington's birth to the birth of our nation, honoring his unparalleled role in American History; instilling in the American people a deeper desire to learn more about this great man:

"WHEREAS, as General and Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, Washington led the Patriots to victory in the Revolutionary War. Absent this, the United States may have never been born, and

"WHEREAS, following his dreams of a free and democratic country, Washington refused to become a king and refused to serve more than two terms as president. He pioneered the qualities of our government that helped to establish clear roles of its leaders by establishing a system of checks and balances, and

"WHEREAS, Washington's efforts and actions led to the design and construction of our capital city. Washington, himself, laid the cornerstone of our U.S. Capitol, and

"WHEREAS, our first and one of the greatest presidents, was president of the Continental Congress, a key author of the Constitution, and an instrumental force in uniting the thirteen colonies, and

"WHEREAS, Washington was the ONLY president unanimously nominated for that office by the electoral college for both his first and second terms, and

"WHEREAS, Washington, a man of incredible vision, freed his own slaves in his

Continued on page 31

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Deadline for print edition is the third week of each month, or, online any time.

June 17 Swearing In - Purcellville New Mayor And Council - Terms Begin July I -



Father Escalante from Saint Francis De Sales Catholic Church gave the invocation.



Council Member-Elect Ben Packard.

All photos by Sarah Huntington



 $Council\ Member-Elect\ Doug\ McCollum\ getting\ a\ congratulatory\ kiss\ from\ his\ wife.$

Gary Clemens, Clerk of the Loudoun County Circuit Court delivered the oath of office to Mayor-Elect Kwasi Fraser, and Council Members-Elect Karen Jimmerson, Doug McCollum and Ben Packard. Father Escalante, from Saint Francis De Sales gave the invocation. Former Purcellville Mayor Eric Zimmerman delivered opening remarks and told the newly elected members that they represent all the citizens of the town.

The swearing in ceremony ended with Clemens telling the attendees that the new council members are "accountable to you."

The term for the new members and mayor begins on July I. The first town council meeting will take place on July 22 at 7 p.m. at the town hall, instead of the ongoing second Tuesday of the month. A few newly elected members have planned commitments that were organized months before the campaign started and they could not make the first Tuesday. Over the years, council meetings have been rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts especially in the summer and right after an election.

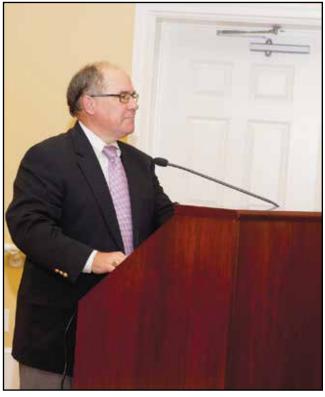


After the swearing in on June 17; Mayor-Elect Kwasi Fraser with the Clerk of the Loudoun County Circuit Court, Gary Clemens.

Purcellville Planning Commission and Board of Architectural Review Vacancies

There are three vacancies for the Purcellville Planning Commission. Two vacancies are to fill the seats of Ben Packard and Doug McCollum, both of whom were on the planning commission and are now newly elected members of the town council. The third commission vacancy is for that of former councilman Tom Priscilla. Of the three vacant seats, one will be filled by someone on council, as there is always a representative from the council on the planning commission. In September, there will be three planning commissioners whose terms on the commission expire (Commissioners Cathy Bowman, Dennis Beese and Chip Paciulli). Applications for the planning commission can be found on the town website, www.purcellvilleva.com.

The Board of Architectural Review also has a vacancy. Newly appointed member Greg Wagner moved from the area and his seat is now vacant.



Former Mayor Eric Zimmerman, who gave opening remarks.



Council Member-Elect Karen Jimmerson.

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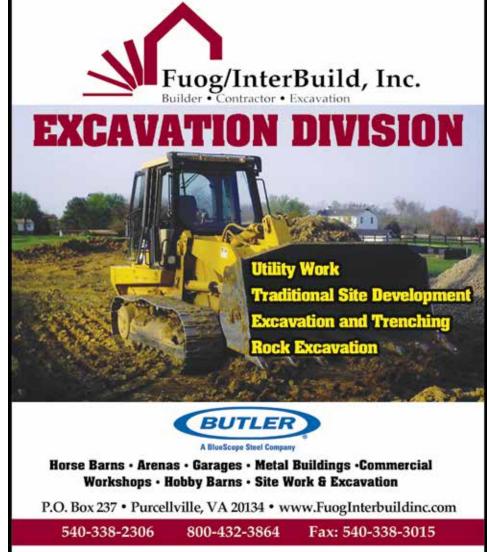
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"For our cast members, seeing other shows and experiencing the incredible talent from around the national capital area has been humbling," Campbell said. "This was Loudoun Valley's second year participating-last year, Loudoun Valley received several CAPPIES for our production of Urinetown, and again this year, Loudoun Valley was recognized for our production of Legally Blonde. Being recognized for our hard work is amazing, but getting to be involved in these productions and putting on a show that our audiences love is the true reward."

The CAPPIES consists of student critic teams that review student productions and select nominees and winners in more than 30 categories that mirror the TONY Awards. These student-written reviews are published in local publications, including The Washington Post and showbizradio.

Six Loudoun County high schools participate in the National Capital Area program. They are Dominion, Freedom, Loudoun Valley, Stone Bridge, Tuscarora and Woodgrove.

Loudoun County took home more than their share of CAPPIES Awards this year. Other winners from Loudoun County include: Stephen Coakley from Tuscarora



Photo by Patty Schuchman Photography

for best actor in a play, Vinny Okechukwu from Heritage for male vocalist and rising critic Sarah Santoro from Stone Bridge.

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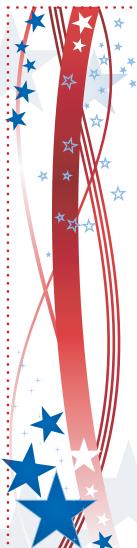






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Cool And Creamy Coleslaw ... Sweet & Spicy BBQ

- All You Need To Do Is Add Crusty Bread

- By Andrea Gaines

I developed my love of coleslaw from my grandmother. She never used mayonnaise, opting, instead, for heavy cream. It was such a cool summer taste at the dinner table. Here's a recipe that would have made her proud, along with a BBQ sauce you can use on a variety of proteins and a crusty bread to die for ...

Super Cool Cole Slaw

1 head of cabbage, chilled & shredded (make it thin!)

1-cup shredded carrots

1 cup of whipping cream

1/2-cup sugar in the raw

1 tsp. salt

1/3-cup cider vinegar

Freshly ground pepper to taste

Sprinkle of freshly ground nutmeg

Make your whipping cream mixture and then add the shredded cabbage. Always refrigerate 'til you are ready to serve.

Super Sweet BBQ/Marinade Sauce: Use as a marinade on beef, poultry or pork, and

either grill or pan sear. This can also be used on fish, but in that case you might want to use the broiler. The magic is in the sauce.

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large onion, finely minced
- 3 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar or honey
- 4 tablespoons sweet molasses
- 1/3-cup raw organic apple cider vinegar 6-ounce can of organic tomato paste

1 tsp. ground cumin

1/2 tsp. ground cayenne pepper

Salt & pepper to taste

1-1/2 cups water

Heat the olive oil, add the onions and cook until caramelized (15 minutes). Add the garlic and brown sugar /honey and stir for about 2 minutes. Add the molasses, apple cider vinegar, tomato paste, cumin, and cayenne, salt, and pepper, and stir again to combine. Add the water and puree the sauce. Bring the sauce to a soft boil and stir constantly until thick, about 30 minutes.

Super Crusty Bread

This is so easy and so flavorful. Start with any bread that has a hard crust –

Italian, sourdough, baguette, even Panini. In a bowl, combine your favorite olive oil with crushed garlic, lemon and/or lime juice and the fresh chopped herbs of your choice — I like rosemary, a tiny bit of oregano and tarragon. Add a bit of salt and pepper to the olive oil blend, and, then, coat the bread in the olive oil mixture and let it sit for 30 minutes. Then, bake in the oven until crisp. Let the bread cool and slice with a nice sharp knife. Use left over olive oil mixture as a dipping sauce for the bread.













TW PERRY FAMILY FUN DAY!

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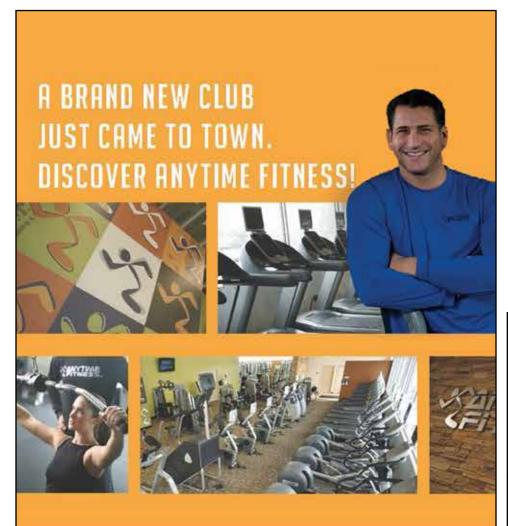
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Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth: Blue Ridge Mountain Road

- By Tim Jon

It wasn't until I saw it all under heavy fog that this place really came to speak to me; sure, I'd seen it in rain, snow, sleet and just about every other condition you could name, but before that blanket of milky white from the descended clouds covered it head to toe, I never really felt that palpable sense of what I call the Top of Loudoun County. Blue Ridge



Mountain Road lives up to its name and more, as it cuts sharply uphill from Route Seven; it ascends in pretty much a straight path until you reach the summit – more or less – a couple of miles into the climb. This rate of incline – by the way – can be most dramatically brought home by viewing it from across the highway – several hundred yards up on Raven Rocks Road – another hair-raiser of a journey during anything like inclement weather.

But, back to Route 601: it runs right along the spine of 'The Mountain,' as folks like to call it, and the ones who know it best have a quaint, cliché-like saying: "It's a whole different world up there." And they're right. Get this: you might be enjoying a nice drive in the early-morning spring rain down in Purcellville or Hamilton or Leesburg, but for the unlucky motorists on Blue Ridge Mountain Road, the going may be laced with a couple inches of glaze ice; and, since there really are no level surfaces up there – you're going to have a tendency to slide downhill – which may be your chosen path, or it might be a rocky outcropping, or maybe an oncoming vehicle, or 'just' a ditch studded with mature trees.

The conditions up there just aren't very forgiving – even if you've got an expensive SUV and consider yourself a good driver, under just about any circumstances. Sure – it's breathtakingly beautiful – but so were those bewitching anti-heroines of ancient mythology – waiting to trap the unwary in a lurking web of danger. You take your eyes off the road up here to gaze at the spectacular scenery on your right or left (and there are some truly stunning views up here) and you do it at the risk of leaving the



roadway – or impacting an oncoming freight truck. For the frequent traveler on Route 601, you feel you've earned any memorable images etched into the intellectual data banks – possibly paid for in narrow escapes from any number of treacherous items: fallen rock, deer suddenly appearing in your driving lane, other drivers in too much of a hurry, or your own lack of discipline when one of those striking vistas appears to tempt a quick look.

See – I've been stuck up here, desperately trying to coax an ungainly vehicle away from a snow-covered depression at the side of the road – I've been towed out of driveways so steep that mere mud can render your vehicle as powerless as if it had no wheels – I've also slid down ice-lined paths leading to people's houses so slippery I've wondered not only how they get home, but why they choose to live up there in the first place. I've earned my memories of Blue Ridge Mountain Road in payments of hair-raising experiences, from which I was glad just to walk away in once piece – more or less.

So, now that you're too scared to even take a Sundayafternoon summer drive on 601, I can tell you about the rewards that make some of my perilous escapes worth their toll. Those same delivery demands that terrify the driver in winter can be just as pleasant, in the extreme, in the warm days of summer, or fragrant airs of spring, or the visual riots of colorful autumn. Getting a chance to witness the mountain turning green after the harshness of last year's severe winter is one of the highlights of recent memory. The freshness of the air up there hits you like a cool mist – and the scent of blossoms, new leaves and tender needles will make you swear you've got to be further from the smell of national politics than just that straight line into DC.

Even the hallowed ground of the tragic TWA Flight 514 crash site – near the Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center – takes on a softer look as the seasons turn to rejuvenation – as if an annual life-affirmation takes place at the spot, even in the face of that horrific 1974 air disaster. Dense fog hampered recovery efforts on that December day; dense fog also reached out to grab me on a recent spring morning atop the mountain – the 'soup' was so thick I drove from mailbox to mailbox by memory rather than visual recognizance. When you navigate such primal, history- ridden ground by the 'Braille System,' it gets etched into your body at the cellular level. No... I didn't see any ghosts that day at the old crash site... they, too, were waiting in the fog.

What Should I Do With The Rest Of My Life?

- By Samuel Moore-Sobel

Like many other students more than halfway through college, I find myself contemplating what I am going to do with the rest of my life. Lately I have been considering attending law school. Being a lawyer was one of my childhood dreams. I entered college with the goal of going to law school after graduation, and as of late I have been weighing the pros and cons of such a decision.



MOORE-SOBE

Generally additional career opportunities and higher pay accompany earning an advanced degree. Considering that so many people obtain college degrees, an advanced degree might be an excellent way to set oneself apart. Yet there are many cons to choosing to go to law school. Many have been attempting to dissuade me from taking such a path, pointing out that the field is oversaturated and that many law school graduates currently do not have a job in the field. There is some truth in this statement. According to many studies, somewhere between 50 percent and 60 percent of all 2012 law school graduates are employed in this specific field. While this may be true, it seems to ignore the fact that there are other fields where a law

degree can be useful. For instance, in 2012, lawyers made up 37 percent of the United States Senate.

There is also evidence that the long-term benefits of having a law degree may outweigh the short-term losses, although as with anything else in life, a law degree does not guarantee success. Over a person's lifetime, earning a law degree can help a person increase their earnings by hundreds of thousands of dollars when compared to those who have obtained a bachelor's degree, at least according to a study featured in The Washington Post. Also, this field tends to be cyclical, so who is to say that in five years if the economy greatly improves that newly minted lawyers will be in more demand? Without a crystal ball or a direct line to God, it is impossible to know for sure what the future holds.

My thoughts have been accompanied by people offering me a ton of unsolicited advice. Some people think earning a Masters in Business Administration is a better investment. Others tell me to avoid graduate school while many believe that an advanced degree has become necessary in the growing and changing economy. The advice is never ending and very contradictory, albeit well-intentioned. Ultimately, just like every other student, I will have to make the decision based on what I think is best for me.

As usual with my writing, this issue has too many facets to tackle in one column. There are many things to consider when it comes to attending graduate school. Financial

matters should be taken into account, and I am quick to admit that the prospect of going into thousands of dollars of debt is very unappealing. Earning an advanced degree is not for everyone and there are plenty of successful people who did not go to graduate school. There is truth in the idea that you should not receive additional schooling just because you don't know what else to do with your life. In the same vein, I don't believe that education is ever a complete waste. Overpriced? Probably, but I won't attempt to make that case this month!

I still have a lot of thinking to do, and my decision will be based on many factors. To all of those other students contemplating their future remember that at the end of the day, you are the only one who is going to have to live with the decision that you make. Recently I read that a decision can be viewed as successful not by the outcome, but instead by whether or not it made sense based on the information available at the time. So to everyone else pondering how they will make their mark on the world, be confident that you can make the right decision based on the information you currently have at your disposal. Maybe one of these days I will try to tackle a less complicated subject. Don't count on it.

Samuel Moore-Sobel is a junior at George Mason University and an Eisenhower Intern at the Republican National Committee in Washington.

Amy And Dan Smith's Planning For Life

- Amy and Dan Smith

I'm pleased to join Amy in this column. There are topics, which I know from my years of experience in the estate planning field are of interest to folks and which can be rather confusing. We'll try to set forth information that is helpful, relevant and understandable.



To begin with, there is much confusion among the terms "Living Will," "Advance Directive," "Medical Power of Attorney" and "Do Not Resuscitate Order" (DNR). We'll try to make sense out of all these terms over the next few columns.

One of the most frequent questions I get is "What is a living will?" A living will is one's statement of intentions and desires regarding medical treatment at an end-of-life stage. Historically, it was a standalone document executed by the author with only his/her signature. While it can still be a separate document, the current practice is to include living will language in a longer form called an "Advance Directive," "Medical Directive," or a "Healthcare Power of Attorney."

If the patient is capable of expressing his/her wishes during this end-of-life stage, then the living will is not operative. In such case the patient simply directs the caregiver verbally as to the desired medical treatment. For the living will to be relied upon by the medical caregivers, the patient must be "incapable of making an informed decision."

Typically, in a written declaration, a person is directing that life-prolonging procedures **NOT** be administered if the attending physician has determined that he/she has a terminal condition and that life-prolonging procedures would only artificially prolong the dying process. This does not eliminate the use of comfort care, pain alleviation, food and water.

If the patient has appointed an agent for the purpose of making healthcare decisions, then such agent may be the person who finally decides to "pull the plug." However, before the agent can make such a decision, two healthcare professionals must certify in writing that the patient is incapable of making an informed decision. Also the attending physician must determine that the patient is in a terminal condition and that life-prolonging procedures would only artificially prolong the dying process.

The Code of Virginia contains suggested language for end of life instructions at §54.1-2984 as part of a long "Suggested Form for Written Advance Directives." We'll discuss the Advance Directive in the next column.

As one who has experienced, both personally and professionally, the issues involved with end of life decision-making, I recommend that you discuss with your family members – and, especially, with the person(s) who may have to make decisions on your behalf – your express wishes regarding your medical treatment. What are your thoughts about artificial nutrition and hydration? Kidney dialysis? Mechanical breathing? Cardiopulmonary resuscitation? Under what conditions, if any, would you want those or other treatments? Obviously, not every situation can be addressed in advance, but a general expression of your desires, at least, would be helpful to those who may have to make decisions on your behalf.

The foregoing article contains general legal information only and is not intended to convey legal advice. For legal advice regarding estate planning, the reader should contact his/her lawyer. 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 and Dan Smith and not necessarily those of Raymond James. Raymond James does not guarantee that the foregoing material is accurate or complete and does not provide legal advice. Dan Smith is not affiliated with Raymond James.

Zoning, continued from page 3

consolidation and use designation is not adopted and approved within the next three to six months?

• What are key risks and impacts to Purcellville's town staff if this zoning consolidation and use designation

is not adopted and approved within the next three to six months?

In response, the Planning Commissioners deferred to answer Fraser's questions saying they would deal with it later.

Other Zoning Topics Discussed At The Work Session

- (Several commissioners said a car repair business and gas station on West Main can operate as an existing use, but the use would be designated "non-conforming," prohibiting expansion. On this topic, Packard said that, coming from the Bay Area, he believes that used car, tractor equipment and gas station businesses should not be located on Main Street. "I don't think they blend in with other commercial." Bowman, Paciulli and Beese were vocal about keeping the cars and the tractors in the community because they are traditional businesses in Purcellville.
- Staff members and some of the commissioners also discussed Special Use Permits, indicating repeatedly that they are expensive for the developer. The SUP requirement triggers a public hearing, giving the public a chance to weigh in on development when the potential impact on the community is great. For example, a drive-thru requires an SUP because of the potential for increased traffic and noise. Commissioner Paciulli said he would also like "institutional" zoning to require a SUPs, "because it could have too much impact on residential areas."
- Another point of discussion was that all drive-thrus should require SUPs because of traffic, "It makes me nervous [if you don't require an SUP]," said Packard. The commissioners also mentioned the fact that McDonald's Restaurant has a problem because it is next to the busiest intersection in town. McDonald's wants to expand 200 square feet and Beese said it should not be expanded. Chick-fil-A and Starbucks were mentioned because they are going to put in double lanes, which will be tight. Staff said they needed a larger property (These two businesses are going in the Purcellville Gateway Shopping Center).
- Beese said he wanted to allow eating establishments up to 10,000 square feet and then require SUPs for anything over and "see what happens."
- One staff member said that "sooner or later" there will probably be a Sheetz Gas Station in town.

Local Author Inspires Teens



- By Mary Rose Lunde

The amount of young writers has significantly increased in the past few years. The interest in taking creative writing classes has skyrocketed with rosters filling up quickly each semester. Having waited until my senior year to take the class, I was extremely excited

to broaden my view of writing. I didn't know; however, that I would get to actually meet a local self-published author when I signed up.

A normal school day in May local author Kristi Strong, who wrote "The Lady of Steinbrekka," joined my class to lecture about the benefits of self-publishing and the overall enjoyment of writing. Creative writing teacher Leah Hawley said that she invited the author because she "thought it would be a neat experience for students to hear motivation from an experienced author and not just me as a teacher."

The class itself focused not only on the different aspects of writing, but also about the actual language and creativity involved. The lessons emphasized that it takes a degree of passion to be able to string words into sentences, sentences into paragraphs, paragraphs into chapters and chapters into books. One cannot simply just will it to happen overnight. However, anyone can write, there is no actual definition to how creative writing can get, it is simply indescribable. Writers use words to convey their thoughts, their beliefs, the truth, and even, what they want to be true.

To have an actual published author come in to speak with us was worth everything to those that truly enjoyed to write and had dreams of becoming one of the greats like Christopher Paolini or J.K. Rowling. Incoming junior Olivia Emery commented that she thought bringing Strong in was "cool because she walked us through the process of publishing a novel." This wasn't just a simple sign and minute long greet like most authors have. Instead, Strong came to explain the long, complex steps of both publishing through a company and self-publishing. She allowed for a realistic approach as well as igniting a spark of hope in those that want to delve into the profession of becoming a writer. Having personal goals of publishing my own book, I know I'm not the only one who enjoyed taking notes on the pros and cons of self-publishing as opposed to publishing through a major company such as Firebird or Hyperion.

Not only was Strong's visit beneficial to determining what route of publishing is most appropriate it was also motivational. Recent graduate Sarah Berg said that the best advice "that [Kristi Strong] told me was to never stop writing, to just go whether you write 10 pages or a sentence just write." It seems like a general statement, but every word, every scene counts. Berg also explained how "that piece of advice has forced me to everyday open Word and type out just one scene or quote that's floating around in my head to see where it takes me."

A great author can come from anywhere, and everything I learned from Strong's lecture will stay with me forever. As a writer, I benefited in many ways from what she told me about the process of publishing and the importance of personal motivation. Her words reminded me that progress no matter how slight is still progress. I will always be thankful for Hawley's lessons which continue to strengthen my writing and the advice Strong gave on how to publish it. In any case, writing is one of the most important skills a student can possess, whether directed at class assignments or for personal enjoyment.

Mary Rose Lunde is a recent graduate of Potomac Falls High School and will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall. She is looking forward to auditioning for the Marching Virginians and plans on studying biology and creative writing.



















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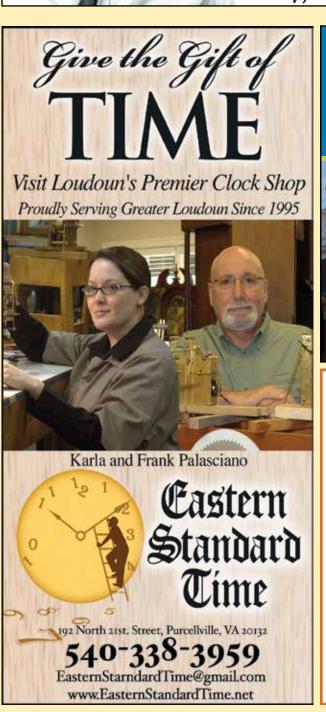
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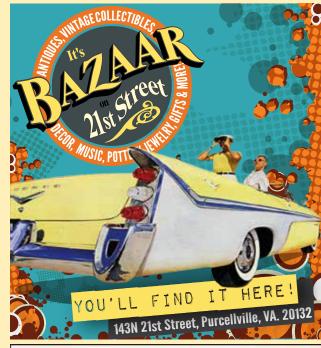
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Take-Charge Attitude At League Of Women **Voters Of Loudoun County Annual Meeting**

The Loudoun County chapter of the League of Women Voters held its annual meeting at The Bungalow Lakehouse in Sterling last month, with a take-charge attitude typical of the many men and women long dedicated to LWV's mission. As member and board member Jean Brown said, (in referring to the League's support for one particular issue, nonpartisan redistricting), "Don't tell me it can't be done. Those are the worst words you can ever hear."

This sentiment was expressed by all as applying to a wide variety of LWV issues and activities, including Loudoun LWV President Priscilla Godfrey.

The keynote speaker for the event was Julie Leidig, provost of the Northern Virginia Community College.

While discussing and presenting on a many topics, including the tremendous growth in community college enrollments, Leidig expressed great enthusiasm for developing special partnerships with LWV, perhaps around projects such as voter registration on college campuses.

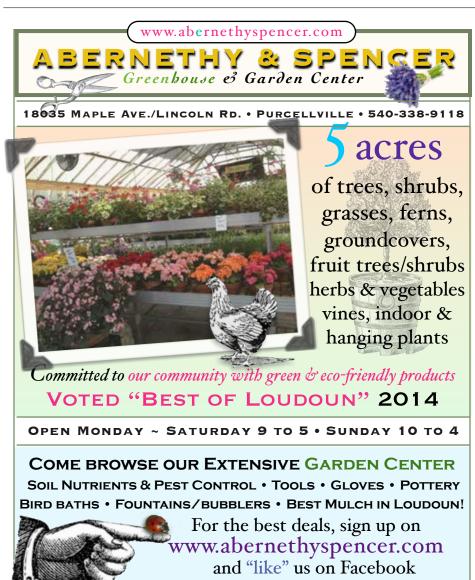
The League of Women Voters is a political nonpartisan organization



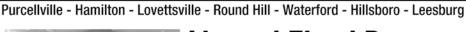
Left to right: Members of the LWV of Loudoun County Board of Directors for 2015 - Denise Pierce, Kathleen Hughes, Jean Brown, JoEllen Keating, Priscilla Godfrey, Ellen Heald, Alicia Cohen, Hatsy Cutshall. (Marla McIntyre, absent)

encouraging the informed and active also to advocate for or against specific participation of citizens in government. Its purpose is to present unbiased, nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process and the issues and www.Loudoun.VA.lwv.org.

policies related to citizen participation in government. For more on the League of Women Voters of Loudoun County to









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Middleburg Bank, a full-service commercial bank serving individuals, families and businesses across Virginia, marks its 90-year anniversary in July. The company was founded in 1924 by two masters of the Middleburg Hunt, Daniel C. Sands, a Wall Street financier who had a local farm in Middleburg; and Charlotte Noland, who was also founder and headmistress of Foxcroft School.

Today, the company is a publically traded company under the umbrella of Middleburg Financial Corporation (NASDAQ – MBRG), a financial holding company that conducts its operations through two wholly owned subsidiaries: Middleburg Bank and Middleburg Investment Group.

"Our founding philosophy of keeping a high touch connection with the community and establishing trust with our clients is still one of our greatest strengths. Our knowledgeable and dedicated staff go the extra mile for clients," said president and CEO Gary R. Shook. "We survived the Great Depression just a few years after opening our doors, the recession of recent years and the financial ups and downs in between; but through perseverance and dedication to community we stand strong and look forward to our centennial anniversary and beyond.

"To kick off our 90th anniversary celebration we will host Client Appreciation Week from July 8 through July 12 and give out ice cream and gifts in all our financial service centers. Over the next six months we will celebrate our history, reminisce on our communities, and celebrate individuals and partners who exemplify dedication and community service," Shook said.

For more information visit www.middleburgbank.com.





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5th Grade Emerick Eagles Soaring To Blue Ridge Middle School

- By Kelli Grim

The last two weeks of June were jam packed with wonderful events to make great memories for the four graduating fifth grade classes at Emerick Elementary.

Almost 100 students, teachers and chaperones filled two buses as they traveled to Baltimore for their final field trip. Accompanied by Principle Dawn Haddock, the first stop was a tour of Oriole Park at Camden Yards. After a nice picnic lunch, the large group in matching blue T-shirts explored the Maryland Science Center. An unexpected surprise was a Pirate Ship ride, and then all enjoyed dinner at the Baltimore Inner Harbor.

More events for the fifth graders included an evening of awards and official graduation ceremony. The school gym was transformed to look like an Olympic event on the last day of school.

Emerick Elementary's fifth Grade Graduation Celebration Committee would like to thank Purcellville sponsors: Giant Grocery Store, Harris Teeter, Gruto's Ice Cream, Food Lion, and photographer Christy Bell (CBellPhotos.com). Also, in Leesburg sponsors included Chick-Fil A, and Wegmans.

A tradition is the "Clap Out" that occurs at the end of the day. All the students from K-fourth grade, teachers,



administration and parents line the halls clapping and cheering as the fifth graders are the first to leave the school. It is quite emotional to watch and participate in, yet is a wonderful tradition along with the multi colored hand prints that are placed on the school wall by each fifth grade class. I think it is safe to say that fifth grade at Emerick Elementary is something that these future graduates of the class of 2021 will always remember.

Inside A Baseball Umpire's Mind

- By Bill Roth

Many say that baseball is a slow game. To the observer in the stands, it can sometimes be. To the umpire behind the plate, it is anything but. What goes on in their mind and how quickly?

In a matter of seconds the umpire checks the field to see if there are runners. Here is what happens in no time. Batter is ready and in the box, catcher is getting the signal from the coach, he kneels down ready to take the pitch. The catcher signals the pitcher while the batter is taking a practice swing, and the pitcher is starting his windup. The catcher shifts to the inside, the coach must have called for an inside pitch. The batter is crowding the plate, and the pitch is on the way. In less than two seconds the batter jumps back, and the pitch crosses the inside of the plate. It's belt high, strike one. The crowd goes berserk reacting to the batter and not the pitch.

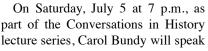
The catcher returns the ball to the pitcher, and the batter gives the umpire a dirty look and prepares for the next pitch. The catcher remains in place, and the pitch is on the way. The batter swings, and it's a foul directly into the arm of the umpire. My goodness that hurt, but don't show it. "Foul" calls the umpire, and he returns the ball to the catcher who returns it to the pitcher. The pitch is on the way, and the batter turns to bunt. Everyone is yelling bunt, infielders are moving in, and the batter lays down a bunt. The runner at first takes off, and the umpire pulls out and heads down the line to watch for a pulled foot. It is going to be close, stay out of the catcher's way. The catcher throws to first, pop of the glove, slap of the foot, batter is out, crowd goes insane again (at least the half that is on offense.) Base coach wants to talk about it, but you don't. It was a clean quick play, and it was close but he was out.

Walk back to the plate, and the ball is still live. Runner at second sees that and takes off for third. Need to help cover, move halfway up the line, get the right angle. Base umpire calls him safe, and the coach wants to appeal. Appeal what you ask, that the pitcher had the ball, makes no difference, he was not ready, nor was the catcher or batter. Runner is safe, now call time to give yourself time to return to the plate and start all over again.

That whole scenario took less than a minute and will be repeated almost 200 times in a full game. So if you think it is a slow game, think again. There are a multitude of things that can happen on every pitch and quite often do. So the next time you see an umpire, rather than berating them for missing a ball or strike in the second inning, thank them for what they do. It is not nearly as easy as it may look from the stands.

Cavalry Fight Anniversary At Mt. Zion

As part of the 150th anniversary commemorations planned for the Cavalry Fight at Mt. Zion Church, the Mosby Heritage Area Association and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority are offering two special evening programs on July 5 and July 6, both at Mt. Zion Church, 40309 John Mosby Hwy, Aldie.



on "Inglorious Warfare: Fighting the Gray Ghost." Bundy, a Massachusetts historian, will discuss the California Battalion, the young Bostonians who confronted Mosby's Rangers at Mt. Zion Church in 1864. Bundy is the author of "The Nature of Sacrifice, a biography of Charles Russell Lowe." Tickets are \$10 for adults and students are free.

On Sunday, July 6 at 6:30 p.m., the Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee program will be featuring first person historical interpretations of "Upon the Sesquicentennial of the Fight" at Mt. Zion by the Gray Ghost Interpretive Group. The living historians will present a series of dramatic reminiscences



by lantern light, as we discover the nature of the horrific clash at Mt. Zion Church late on the afternoon of July 6, 1864. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students.

The weekend marks the 150th anniversary of the Cavalry Fight at Mt. Zion Church and kicks off on Saturday, July 5 at p.m. with an unveiling of new interpretive signs at Mt. Zion Church. Following that, at 7:30 p.m. will be the Conversations in

History talk by Carol Bundy. The next day, Sunday, July 6, begins at 9 a.m. with Union Cavalry Officer Mark Dudrow who will interpret life of a cavalryman. At 12 p.m., a guided tour of Mt. Zion's cemetery is offered by historian Wynne Saffer. At 3 p.m., historian and author Horace Mewborn will speak on the fight at Mt. Zion. Historian and author Eric Buckland will speak at 4:30 p.m. on Mosby's Rangers, followed by the opportunity to bring a picnic dinner to the historic grounds of Mt. Zion Church. The Cavaliers, Courage & Coffee program closes the weekend at 6:30pm. Go to www.nvrpa.org/park/mt_zion for more information.

Virginia Earns Top Special Education Rating

Virginia is one of only 18 states and territories earning a "meets requirements" designation under the U.S. Department of Education's new results-driven accountability model for rating state compliance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Previously in rating states, USED focused on procedural requirements such as timelines for student evaluations, due process hearings and transitioning children into preschool services. The new results-driven accountability model includes the participation of students with disabilities in state assessment programs

and state progress in narrowing achievement gaps in reading and mathematics between students with disabilities and non-disabled students.

"That Virginia was one of a relative handful of states to earn a meets requirements designation under this new system speaks to the commitment of our public school divisions to helping students with disabilities reach their fullest potential," Superintendent of Public Instruction Steven R. Staples said. "Behind this success are thousands of teachers, principals and administrators committed to serving all children, regardless of the challenges."

Free Master Gardeners' Talks: "Saturdays In The Garden"

The Virginia Cooperative Extension is offering three free garden talks in July, August and September. This follows a very successful series held in April, May and June. Experienced Master Gardeners are always on hand to share their knowledge and experience.

- July 12: "Fall Vegetable Gardens Can Be Great." The focus of this talk is on how to plan a fall vegetable garden. Master Gardeners experienced in perennials will also be present to answer questions.
- August 2: "Butterfly And Pollinator Gardens." In this talk participants will learn how to create a sustainable habitat for butterflies and bees. Master Gardeners experienced in vegetables will also be on hand to answer questions and explain the current happenings in the vegetable section.
- September 6: "Fall Flowers Keep the Color Growing." This is an introduction to summer and fall flowers that "just keep going." Again, Master Gardeners experienced in vegetables will also be on hand to answer questions and explain the current happenings in the vegetable section.



All talks are followed by a Q&A session. The talks take place at the Loudoun County Master Gardeners' Demonstration Garden at Ida Lee Park in Leesburg from 10 a.m. to noon. As this is an outdoor program, participants are cautioned to bring bug spray and wear



appropriate clothing and sunscreen. For more information visit the Loudoun County Master Gardener website: www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org or call the Loudoun Extension Office at (703) 777-0373.

Proposed Code, continued from page 1

to grant an extension to benefit one developer.

Disagreeing, Councilman Patrick McConville said, "We are not the first town to do it ... Fairfax does it ... it is not for one developer." Councilman John Nave, however, replied, "If a deadline is given a deadline should be met. We are not Fairfax. We are Purcellville." At that, the audience broke out in cheers.

Councilmembers Joan Lehr, and Tom Priscilla, and Mayor Bob Lazaro denied that the code change was for one developer.

Vineyard Square was approved by the town council virtually unchanged over the objections of the town's Board of Architectural Review (BAR). The BAR has control over the scope, mass, and design of projects within the Historic District. The Vineyard Square project is a 4-5 story retail/ residential project that will dominate Purcellville's historic downtown area with approximately 30,000 square feet of retail plus 45 condominiums, underground garage parking, and more.

Presently, the Vineyard Square developers face three critical CDA deadlines. The first is Nov. 14, 2014, for the demolition of all of the buildings on 21st Street, O Street, and other buildings behind 21st Street (except two brick buildings on Main Street). The second deadline is Dec. 15, 2014, for the demolition of two brick buildings on Main Street with an approved site plan and zoning permit. The third deadline is Jan. 14, 2015, with an approved site plan and zoning permit for new buildings to be constructed.

If the town code were changed as proposed, the Vineyard



Rendering of design for Vineyard Square.

Square developers would have the 12-month extensions they seek for demolition, site plan, and zoning permits including commencement of construction. According to a Purcellville staff memo dated May 29, 2014, if the code is not changed and the CDA deadlines are not met, the Vineyard Square developers will have to "apply for new CDA's if and when the existing ones expire. Given this

scenario, there is the possibility that approvals will not be forthcoming and the project would have to stop."

At the end of the meeting, the council voted to move the issue to the July 22 council meeting for a vote. Mayor Lazaro voted no and Vice Mayor Keith Melton was absent for the vote. The next meeting with the new mayor and town council will commence at 7 p.m. at town hall.

combustible tobacco if he chooses. Because of this, I think your talk needs to focus more on education, safety and your concerns as parents than simply saying "no."

I propose your being over prepared for the talk. Bring literature to the discussion that details the harmful effects of nicotine use and go over your points with care and concern. If you handle the talk well, it is my hope that your son would open up about his e-cigarette use and perhaps other things that he might be doing (e.g., drinking or pot smoking). Moreover, a good talk should leave your son informed and feeling supported, putting him in a better position to quit.

If, during your discussion, you learn that your son is addicted to nicotine, you will need to come up with a game plan for him to quit. Again, you cannot make him quit without his consent, but if he agrees, you will absolutely want to help. Nicotine addiction is one of the most difficult addictions to over come.

Lastly, sometimes going through the backdoor to a call 703 723-2999 to learn more.

problem is more productive than going through the front door, so to speak. At 17, your son is likely smoking because he is around others who smoke and he may not be ready to stop right now just because you request him to. Perhaps then you could try to expose your son to more active and healthy activities this summer, and perhaps some of these activities could be away from his routine and every day peer group - a camp, volunteer work or Outward Bound. By exposing your son to new people and environments and healthy active options, he may come around to the correct idea that smoking (in any form) is bad and that he should

Michael Oberschneider "Dr. Mike is the founder and

Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

and endorsements and multiple fun flavors).

Safety is another concern regarding e-cigarettes. One can become addicted to nicotine via e-cigarette use and in turn suffer withdrawal side effects when trying to stop – anxiety, restlessness, depression, irritability, etc. Moreover, E-cigarettes have not been fully studied and are not yet regulated by the FDA. We presently do not know if the chemicals being inhaled have harmful shortterm or long-term negative effects.

Before speaking to your son, both you and your husband need to agree on your expectations of him. If your position is "zero tolerance" for smoking, or if there is some flexibility, be in agreement as parents before the talk. Keep in mind that the legal age for smoking in the USA is 18-19 (depending on the state), and he is just around the corner from legally being able to use both e-cigarettes and

Director of Ashburn Psychological Services, a private mental health clinic comprised of 12 MD and PhD level mental health clinicians. Go to www.Ashburnpsych.com or

Gary Sinise's Foundation – American Legion Plan Ground Breaking For New Home For Injured Vet

The American Legion teamed up with The Gary Sinise Foundation and others July 2 in a ground-breaking ceremony for a new home for a badly injured soldier in Lovettsville. The ceremony was attended by veterans from Post 293 in Purcellville.

Legion Post Commander John Maus and David L. Eno, chairman of the Legion's Hometown Heroes Committee, said a 20-foot flagpole bearing the U.S. flag and a Marine Corps flag were dedicated at the groundbreaking.

Marine Corporal Ronny (Tony) Porta suffered burns over 30 percent of his body and lost one arm and four fingers off his remaining arm. He has undergone 38 surgeries to save his life and heal his combat wounds. He was injured by a roadside bomb blast in Iraq in 2007.

"Hollywood actor Gary Sinise created his foundation after becoming notable for his hosting of July 4 televised galas at the nation's Capital and his extensive travels to U.S. Army Marine, Air Force and Navy bases in the mid-East and around the world to entertain our troops," Eno said.

He noted that the Sinise's Foundation first targeted jobs for combat veterans and later targeted other needs for badly wounded veterans. Eno said the foundation was being joined by the Building For America's Bravest Foundation and Tunnels To Towers Foundation in funding the home and the legion was given supplemental finding by the Leesburg V.F.W. in funding the flag project.

Let's Start Thinking About Planning A Fall Garden

- By Donna Williamson

There is so much information out there about gardening and planting – it makes my head spin. Some good information, some bad information that just gets repeated over and over - so here is some info I hope will help.

You can water your plants in the sun. Thunderstorms do it all the time. Better to have enough water than to wilt and be stressed.

If possible, water in the morning before it gets too hot and stresses the plants.

There are cool season weeds and there are warm season weeds. The cool-loving ones have already bloomed, set seed, and gone dormant while the warm season plants are very strong in July. If you don't have time to weed them out, at least cut off and throw away the seeds they are producing so you will have fewer weeds next year.

Late July and August is perfect timing to start those fall veggies that like cooler weather. They get a good start in warm soils and then can boldly get through the cold nights of fall and even winter with some protection.

Not sure what you call them but there are lightweight reinforcing wire panels almost 7 feet long and 4 feet tall that are used for concrete. They sell them at the local big box hardware in the rebar department. I use them on posts to give my raspberries a place to lean.

I also easily bend the panels over, jamming the short ends inside the sides of my wooden raised-beds to form a hoop. Double heavy weight plastic sheeting to cover the hoop, anchoring the plastic with bulldog clips on the wire frame. This is a nice place for the spinach, peas, carrots,



lettuces, and arugula in winter.

In a normal winter, the veggies last a long time before it gets too cold. You can even cover them inside the hoop with some spun polyester for added protection. Cover the doors of the hoop well to keep outdoor cats from lounging on your spinach. Get your late veggies planted by the end of this month.

I know – it's July and here I am thinking about cold weather gardening...while I drink lemonade and rest in the hammock under the shady leaves.

Donna Williamson is a garden designer and coach. She has taught classes at the State Arboretum of Virginia, Oatlands and Shenandoah University. She can be reached at donnawilliamson2002@earthlink.net or 540 877-2002.

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Open Fridays and Saturdays, 10am until 5pm April-December. Other days by request or appoint ment. Our MapQuest location is 19929 Telegraph Springs Road, Purcellville, VA, 20132 www.bloominghillva.com 703-431-0779

Wild Loudoun Fireflies – Green Sequins Of The Night

- By Andrea Gaines

I don't usually start my Wild Loudoun column by sharing information about the scientific classification into which a given plant, animal or insect falls. But, in the case of the firefly, it's too fun not to.

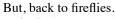
Fireflies are part of an insect family known as Lampyridae, as in "lamp." Of course they are, you say. Firefly larva – the worms that grow into an adult – are known as glowworms. Again, of course – makes sense to me.

Not so much a fly as a flying beetle, there are 2,000 species of fireflies world wide, and Virginia has many of its own native species with their own particular habits and behaviors.

All fireflies love moisture. So, while they

can exist in dry climates they will always be found around available moisture – the seep in a rock, the last remaining wetland, and the place where the scant spring rains collect.

The light produced by fireflies is a type of chemical reaction called bioluminescence, involving, among other things, oxygen and a substance called luciferin. Interestingly, this reaction, and the glowing values it produces can be duplicated genetically and has applications in forensics, medicine and other fields. One effort, called the Glowing Plant Project is (literally) exploring ways to make trees glow as a substitute for installing streetlights.



In firefly larva, the glowing effect is thought to be a warning to predators. In adults its function is to attract a mate. Steady glows mean one thing, and flashes mean another. In birds the call is unique to the different species. In fireflies, the flash pattern is unique to the species. Nature is so complex yet so simple.

In terms of the firefly flash, in some Virginia species there is more to the story. Female fireflies like to eat male fireflies to absorb a toxin that makes them unpalatable to predators. So, the female uses her flash and glow to lure the male closer. They are known as "femme fatale fireflies."

Fireflies can be diurnal – active during the day, nocturnal – active at night, or crepuscular –

active primarily during twilight. Nocturnal and crepuscular fireflies rely more on their glowing abilities. But there are some diurnal fireflies that, because of their shadowy habitat do glow.

Virginia, because of its abundance of moist grassy and wooded areas near streams, lakes, rivers and ponds – is a great place for fireflies. They also like our humid summer weather.

That makes me happy. That, and sitting out on the porch watching the fireflies emerge and do their green sequin dance.



LL YOUR LANDSCAPING NEEDS...



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Get The Frizz Atta Here

- By Tony Salahi



There is a huge amount of great hair products on the market. Every now and then, though, something comes out that truly stands out from the rest. For me and my staff, that product is CEZANNE Perfect Finish Keratin Smoothing Treatment. It's a win-win product for clients and stylists. CEZANNE is for anyone who wants a long-lasting treatment that gives straighter, smoother,

frizz-free hair without formaldehyde or any other dangerous ingredients. Stylists benefit from it by not being exposed to the health dangers of excessive formaldehyde usage over time.

So what is the CEZANNE Perfect Finish Keratin Smoothing Treatment or CPF? CPF is a transformational, long-lasting and safe salon treatment that brings hair to its ideal condition without damaging or harmful chemicals. It reduces frizz and produces straighter, smoother, stronger, healthier, and more manageable hair. The bonus – it will last for months, depending on your hair type, hair texture, and maintenance routine. CPF is not a Japanese straightener or relaxer and will not produce perfectly straight hair. The results achieved with CPF are similar to formaldehydebased keratin treatments, without the formaldehyde or risks. No masks – no fumes.

CPF is made of a combination of ingredients including sericin (a component of silk), keratin, glycolic acid, botanical extracts (sugar cane, lemon, apple, and green tea extracts) and vitamins (B3, B5, B6, C, and E). CPF uses a low ph system to open up the hair cuticle and infuses these ingredients to the cortex. When heat is applied during the flat iron process, the cuticle is closed and the blend of healthy ingredients is locked into the hair, protecting and smoothing it from the inside out.

CPF can be used on any hair type and texture, even colored, bleached and highlighted hair. It works great on African American hair and can be applied over relaxed hair. It can also be used on hair extensions if they are human hair. Truly – so many of us can benefit from this revolutionary treatment.

Consultations are complimentary at The Hair Mill Salon. Owner, Tony Salahi can be reached at 540 338-1169 or go to www.hairmillsalon.com





@BRLeaderNEWS

- ARTIST'S PROFILE -

Barbara Sloan, A Beadazzling Talent

- By Andrea Gaines

arbara Sloan is not just a "beader," she is the creator of pieces of jewelry that are like art that you wear, from a fine string of deep pink faceted garnet to a beautifully chunky, multi-strand necklace of citrine and pearls – one of her signature designs.

Barbara has been a good friend of mine for a long time and it was beading that first brought us together. A mutual friend introduced us about ten years ago. I had just moved to Loudoun County and had started to do a little of my own beading. My kitchen table was covered with clasps and wire and semi-precious beads and, invited over for dinner at Barbara's, I walked into her dining room to see that she had the same passion – albeit more developed than mine. There were beads and stones everywhere, and finished earrings, bracelets and necklaces

carefully displayed on black velvet forms.

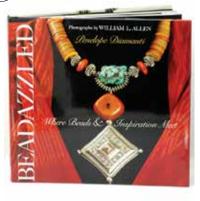
Barbara's style of beading is opulent and exotic. Her work looks like something you'd pick up in the most exclusive shop in a market in Mumbai, India, or have custom designed for you with stones hand selected for their color, shape and size.

She comes from a long line of beaders – including her grandmother – and both her sister and mother are famous for their work among family and friends. Her cousin Penelope Diamanti started the best line of bead stores locally – "Beadazzled" – with shops at Tysons Corner, DuPont Circle and in Baltimore. Barbara's work is featured in Penelope's book by the same name, "Beadazzled – Where Beads And Inspiration Meet."

Barbara's career as a high-level organizational consultant has her traveling all over the world – from Europe to Africa to Asia to Central America. And, she takes advantage of the small bits of time in between her client







meetings to source really spectacular beads. Tibetan silver, Persian turquoise, tribal inspired glass, stone and wooden beads from Africa and pearls from Asia. Barbara grew up in the American west and still has family there. In her travels to see them she also visits her favorite "bead haunts" in Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Salt Lake City. Turquoise is one of her favorite stones, as are carnelian and apatite. An impossibly cool kind of teal green, good quality apatite is hard to find.

But, Barbara seeks those delicious rocks out in a way that would make your head spin and weaves stunning necklaces with them.

This woman has a special zest for life and it shows in every piece of beaded jewelry she makes. Many local ladies have one or more of her pieces, and you'd be lucky to have been at a show where you were able to pick one up of your own. Barbara travels a bit too much these days to hold regular jewelry shows, but maybe one day soon ... we hope.



The Blue Ridge Center For Environmental Stewardship

11661 Harpers Ferry Road, Purcellville (540)668-7640

www.blueridgecenter.org.

BRCES offers trails and other recreational features free and open to the public every day from dawn until dusk. BRCES's Education Center and restrooms are open seasonally from April through November. Come for camping, programs, events, organic farming demonstrations, facilities rentals and more.

Boomerang Pirate Ship

Georgetown Waterfront 3100 K Street NW Washington, D.C. (202) 650-7005

www.boomerangpirateship.com
Man the water cannons, engage in a battle
to recover stolen treasure and master pirate
vocabulary. They offer adult and family
cruises of the Washington Harbor.

Castleton Festival

7 Castleton Meadows Lane, Castleton, Va. www.castletonfestival.org
For its sixth season the festival presents a new production of Mozart's Don Giovanni and Puccini's Madama Butterfly, along with a dramatic reading of G.B. Shaw's Don Juan in Hell, symphonic concerts, chamber music, song recitals and bluegrass.

C'MON! LET'S GO!

Chesapeake Beach Water Park

4079 G Stinnett Blvd. Chesapeake Beach, Md. (410) 257-1404

www.chesapeakebeachwaterpark.com A lazy river, lagoon, waterfalls, super soaking slides and a kids' activity pool are all part of the fun. They also offer birthday parties and cabana rentals.

Fallling Water

1491 Mill Run Rd, Mill Run, Pa. (724) 329-8501 www.fallingwater.org
Tour this unique home designed by
Frank Lloyd Wright in the 1930's for the Kaufmann family.

Great Waves Waterpark

4001 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria (703) 960-0767

www.greatwaveswaterpark.com Tube slides, speed slides, a play pool, a sand play area and a wavepool are all at the park. Food, souvenirs and pavilions are also available.

Harpers Ferry Adventure Center

37410 Adventure Center Lane,
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(800) 836-9911
www.harpersferryadventurecenter.com.
They offer whitewater rafting, water

They offer whitewater rafting, water tubing, zip line tours, kayaking, canoeing, team building, fishing, hiking, camping, off-road Segway tours and more.

Luray Caverns

101 Cave Hill Rd, Luray www.luraycaverns.com

This natural landmark is the largest cavern in eastern America. They are open every day of the year with tours departing about every 20 minutes.

Marriott Ranches in Hume

5305 Marriott Ln, Hume (540) 364-2627 www.marriottranch.com The Marriott Ranch offers a variety of horse-related activities, including 90-minute trail rides across parts of their 4,200-acre working cattle ranch.

National Harbor

165 Waterfront St. National Harbor, Md. www.nationalharbor.com
The harbor offers live music, boat tours, shopping and dining.

The National Sporting Library

102 The Plains Road, Middleburg (540) 687-6542 www.nsl.org.

Come for exhibitions, lectures, seminars, publications and special events. Open to researchers and the general public.

Potomac River Boat Company

205 The Strand Alexandria (877) 511-2628 www.potomacriverboatco.com Tours out of Alexandria are offered in the Washington Harbor.

Seadog Cruise out of Baltimore

561 Light St. Baltimore (866) 845-3463

A 50-minute Seadog sightseeing and speedboat tour combines a speedboat ride with a narrative of Baltimore's historic sights.

Watermelon Park

3322 Lockes Mill Road, Berryville (540) 955-4803

www.watermelonpark.com
This is a family campground, recreation
and event venue along the Shenandoah
River. Tubing, camping, concession
stands, music and more.

Western Loudoun's Historic Villages

Look for country stores, historic post office buildings, art galleries, antique shops or just places to park and wander.

Lincoln, 3 miles south of Purcellville on Lincoln Road:

Waterford, about 3 miles north of the intersection of Rt. 7 and Rt. 9Hillsboro, Rt. 9 north of Purcellville

Middleburg, Rt. 50 about 8 miles west of Gilberts Corner.

Whites Ferry

(301)349 5200

This historic ferry is the last one on the Potomac River. It has been in operation since 1782. The White's Ferry Store and Grill is also available along with canoe rental.

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

Summer at Franklin Park Arts Center Go out without going far!





Independence Day at Franklin Park

\$5 per carload.

Bring the family for an evening of music, food, fun and fireworks!

Threesound

Fresh, catchy songs that encompass rock, jazz, funk, jam, dance and beyond.

The Crawdaddies

7 PM

Louisiana swamp rock, Zydeco, and their own unique fusion of Northeastern Roots Rock.

Red White and Blues

This local group will get your toes tappin' with some hot licks and cool grooves.

The Loudoun Symphonic Winds

9 PM

Patriotic favorites to the fireworks which will begin at around 9:20



Last Ham Standing

Fri, Jul 11 Fri, Aug 1 8PM

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! Reserved Seating Special pre-show performance by our Last Ham Comedy Bootcamp performers at 7:30 pm on July 11th

Tickets: \$12 Adult, \$10 Student, \$8 Child. Visit www.lastham.com or www.franklinparkartscenter.org

Johnny Cash & Nashville Greats Tribute Band

Sat, Jul 12

8PM

This show will take you back to the time when country music was really "country." Hear classic hits performed live by this tribute band in the style of Hank Williams, Bobby Bare, Merle Haggard, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Conway Twitty, George Jones, Tammy

Wynette, Loretta Lynn, Randy Travis, George Strait & more in this full 2 hour concert culminating with a salute to America. Experience a nostalgic event you will NEVER forget.

Tickets \$20 Visit www.franklinparkartscenter.org

Blue Sky Puppet Theatre: Bananas

Wed, Jul 16

10AM

Before the show, one of the puppeteers teaches the audience the show's theme song, "I want to Be Healthy, I want to Be Happy", which audience members will help sing during the show. You won't be sitting still during this show, loaded with audience participation. Bananas was written in partnership with the Children's National Medical Center as part of their healthy kids/anti-obesity campaign.

Tickets: \$5/ child Call 540-338-7973 to Reserve.

Art Exhibits and Classes

To find out more, contact the Franklin Park Arts Center 540-338-7973

Last Ham Standing Comedy Bootcamp (13 & up) Julv 7-11Class# 460603-01

NEW! First Stage Theater Camp (ages 5-7) July 14 - 17Class#463201-01 Patchwork Tote Bag Design Workshop (ages 12 & up) July 21 - 25Class# 463604-01

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NOW – The Encore Show Works exhibited by artists we hosted during the Western Loudoun Artists Studio Tour. Jan Blacka, Deborah Morrow, DaVinci Art Studio, Suzanne

Lago Arthur and Penny Hauffe.

NEXT – **Magical Miniatures** July 25 – Aug 25; Opening reception on July 27th.

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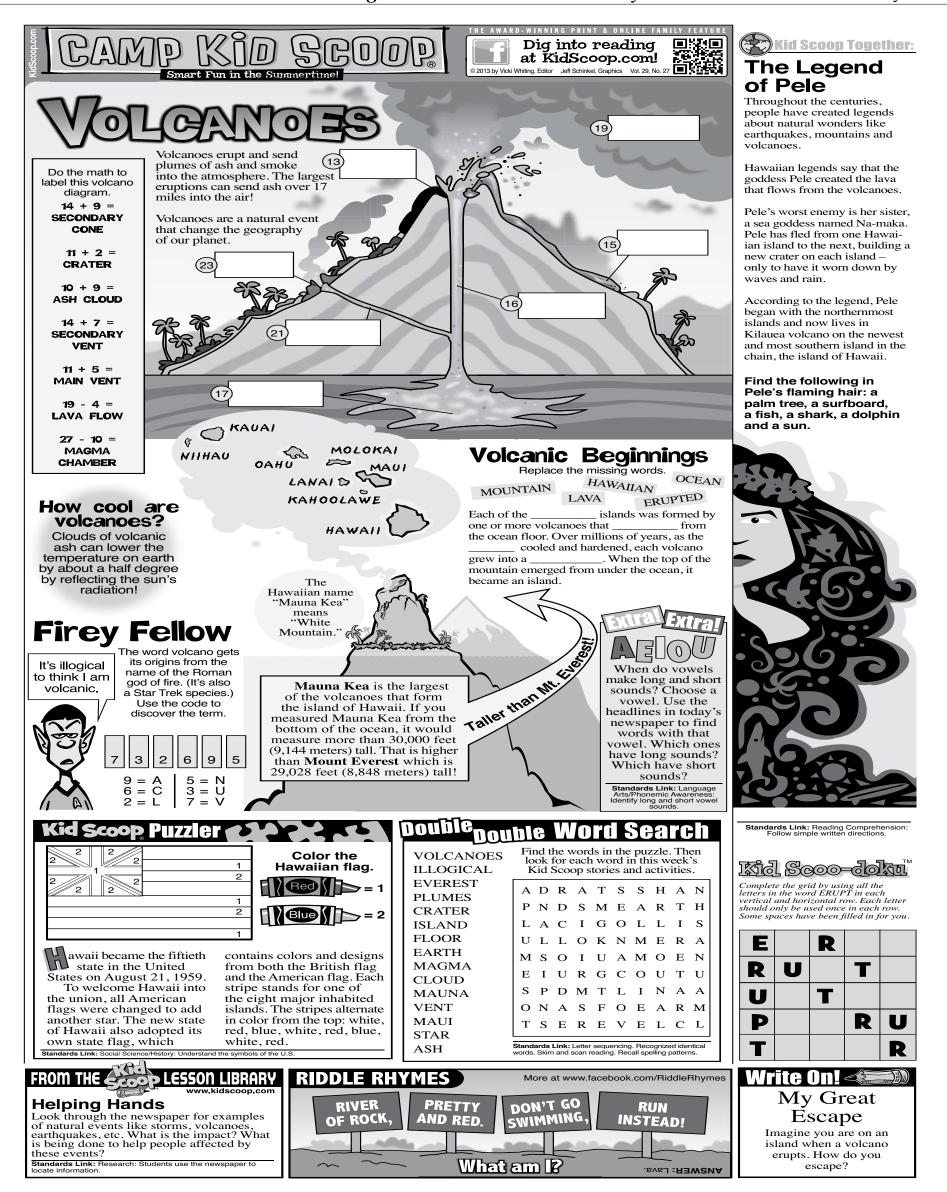
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Kitchen Science Kids: Photosynthesis

- By Leah Enright

What do you do when you get hungry? Hopefully, its lunch time, or at least there's enough time before dinner for a snack. You can run to the



'fridge or cabinet, and satisfy your hunger. But what if you couldn't do that? What if you couldn't move, because you were rooted to the earth? No talking, no arms to catch anything? Well, plants face this every day, and it would be a real problem were it not for a very important process: photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is a word with two parts: *photo*-, which means light, and synthesis, which is to create something. Have you guessed? Photosynthesis is the process by which plants use light to create

Wow, that's amazing.

To stay alive, plants use all of their parts: leaves absorb light like solar panels. This starts a chemical reaction that works with all parts of the plant and water to create food, and keep the plant alive. (We need our leafy friends: they absorb harmful chemicals in the air, and turn out oxygen that we need to breathe. Without them, all living creatures would have nothing to eat, because everything we consume is either a plant, or eats plants to survive.)

How can we tell if a plant is using photosynthesis? Its leaves will be green, as this green color is a result of the work that is going on inside of the plants cells.

Now we know that plants need sunlight to make food, and that the green color is

proof that photosynthesis is going on-can we do something to see this in action? Yes,

If you grew a plant for last months' activity, grab it now. If not, ask an adult if you can use an indoor or outdoor plant with soft, green leaves. Completely cover a leaf with a piece of masking tape, and check it in one week. What do you think will happen? Will the leaf turn green if leaves can't absorb rays from the sun to make food? If all goes according to plan, you should see a yellow leaf, because the plant was unable to make food in that location.

So now we know that since plants can't hunt or beg for food, they make sugar for themselves. Though they are on an allsugar diet, it's not the white kind you'll find in cookies, its all natural. You can taste it yourself in berries, carrots, tomatoes and potatoes... and it's delicious.

So, the next time you crunch a carrot, or bite into a soft banana, remember that we have photosynthesis to thank for that

Leah Enright eats her salads with her family at her home in Round Hill. She enjoys science, kids and writing.

Waterford Third Graders, continued from page 6

will, foreshadowing an identical outcome nation-wide on September 22, 1862, and

"WHEREAS, George Washington, the father of country, is admired and honored by all who know the significance of his contributions.

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to pass H.R. 681: to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that Washington's Birthday be observed on February 22, rather than the third Monday if February

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to tell Congressman Wolf how much his inspiration, wisdom, determination, and unfailing support for honoring George Washington means to us; and how grateful we are or his service."

Respectfully submitted: Riley E. White Paige E. Wenham Clay Ash Kierstin G. Culp Reggie Norton Matt Chmielewski Jackson Allgood Aiden Akers

Kevin Beach Ava Fahrner Luke Jenkins

Connor Thurston

Joseph T. Ravese

Barrett Ralston

Haley Oliver

Maxwell Twyford

Ava Mumaw

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Grace Gavlinski

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Collin Price

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Corey Schaeffer

Susan H. Verdin, teacher

Evelyn B. Hale, teacher

At The Library - By Myles Mellor and Sally York

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ACROSS

- 1. Measure
- 4. Belt the
- 9. Iota
- 14. Old NOW cause
- 15. Come from behind
- 16. Certain student 17. Deck (out)
- 18. Succeed
- 19. Bad loan
- 20. "Audition" et al.
- 23. Jack
- 24. Thumbs down
- 25. "The ____ of Night" (old soap)
- 26. Ever, old style
- 30. Start of a giggle
- 33. Echo
- 35. Thirst
- 37. Gardner tomes
- 41. Monastic officer
- 42. Apprehensive
- 43. Econ. figure
- 44. Scratch
- 45. Some auction bids
- 49. Enzyme ending
- 51. Acquiesce
- 52. "Angela's Ashes" et al.
- 59. 1935 Triple Crown winner
- 60. Capital of Ecuador
- 61. Make a lap
- 62. Clemson athlete
- 63. Of an arm bone
- 64. Catullus composition
- 65. Great balls of fire 66. Roll top?
- 67. Surfing site

DOWN

- 1. Move
- 2. Roughly
- 3. Disheveled

- 4. Cousin of a loon
- 5. Doctor Who villainess, with "the"
- 6. Not to mention
- 7. Ballyhoo
- 8. Ogler
- 9. Tope
- 10. Like some mothers-in-law
- 11. Needle holder
- 12. Wrap up
- 13. Florida has them
- 21. Wear oneself out
- 22. Whichever
- 26. Visa statement abbr.
- 27. Long-tailed primate
- 28. Detroit's county
- 29. Befuddled
- 30. Skater Babilonia
- 31. "___ Time transfigured me": Yeats
- 32. Dash widths
- 34. Suffix with pamphlet
- 35. Survey choice
- 36. Decorative plant
- 37. Car ad abbr.
- 38. Samovar
- 39. Van Winkle
- 40. Little 'un
- 44. Vereen 46. Prayer
- 47. Mock
- 48. Sonnet section
- 49. Son of Jacob
- 50. Takes off
- 51. Lifeless, old-style
- 52. Cookers
- 53. Utter
- 54. Eastern music
- 55. Prefix with plane
- 56. Break in the action 57. Series opener?
- 58. Greek letters

answers on page 33



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July Events At Carver Center



Qigong

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

July 3, Thursday, Independence Day Celebration from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For ages 55 and older for \$3. Celebrate Independence Day at Carver with fun, team-oriented games, snow cones, popcorn and a barbeque lunch. Water games will be featured, so bring a towel.

July 10, Thursday, Summer Supper Club from 4-8 p.m. Go to The Texas Road House in Winchester. Transportation fee is \$6 plus cost of dinner.

July 16, Wednesday, Lunch Bunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Travel to the Cracker Barrel in Winchester. Transportation fee is \$4 plus cost of lunch.

July 30, Wednesday, Heart Attack and Stroke Awareness Presentation from 12:30-2 p.m. Lisa Braun, public education manager at Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue & Emergency Management will speak about how to recognize the signs of a heart attack and stroke.

July 8 and 22, Tuesday, Jerry's Jukebox from 7:15-8:30 p.m. For ages 14 and older. Come to Jerry Smith's twice monthly dance lessons. Free to members and a \$2 drop in for non-members.

July 25, Friday, Ballroom Dance Social from 7-10 p.m. Cost is \$10 if pre-registered or \$15. NADTA-certified Instructor Jason Conrad provides a one-hour dance class followed by two hours of dancing in a night club atmosphere. Beginners are always welcome, and partners not required. Pre-register by calling 571-258-3400 before 8 p.m. Thursday, July 24.

JULY EVENTS

3 July 4, Friday, Bumper Jacksons to Perform for the Bluemont Concert Series, 7:30 p.m. at the Old Frederick County Courthouse in Winchester. Bring a chair or blanket. Admission is \$5 per person, \$4 for Bluemont friends and seniors, \$2 for kids under 12. Go to www.bluemont.org.

◆ Saturday, July 5, Martinsburg Jazz Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. at the Middleburg Community Center baseball field, 300 West Washington Street. See www.bluemont.org.

• July 6, Sunday, Bluemont Concert at the Loudoun County Courthouse, 18 E. Market St. at 7 p.m. See Hard Swimmin' Fish, a blues quartet. Go to www.bluemont.org.

**July 6, Sunday, Photographing Nature* from 6 to 8 p.m. at Morven Park. Join professional wildlife photographer Jeff Mauritzen for a walk around the grounds of Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Ln, Leesburg, to view nature through the lens of a camera. Participants are encouraged to bring a camera. Registration required, go to www.loudounwildlife.org.

July 7-27, Opus Oaks and Clarke County Parks and Recreation offer a variety of camps for all ages including art, blacksmithing, photography, fashion design and more. Go to www.opusoaks.org for more information.

3 July 12, Saturday, art show reception from 5-8 p.m. at Arts in the Village Gallery, 1601 Village Market Blvd, Suite 116, Leesburg. See the show July 1 − 31, With the Grain -- an exhibit by wood turner Harriet Maloney and photographer J Riley Stewart. Go to http://www.artsinthevillage.com/.

• July 12, Saturday, Birding Banshee at 8 a.m. Join Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy and the Friends of Banshee Reeks for a bird walk at the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, 21085 The Woods Rd, Leesburg. Bring binoculars.

• July 12, Saturday, free gardening presentation on fall vegetables at the Demonstration Garden, Ida Lee Park, Leesburg, from 10 a.m. to noon. Go to www. loudouncountymastergardeners.org.

July 13, Sunday, Bluemont Concert at the Loudoun County Courthouse, 18 E. Market St. at 7 p.m. See Dixie Power Trio, a New Orleans funk ensemble. Go to www.bluemont.org.

July 14, Monday, join 350 Loudoun to learn about the climate change/vegetarianism connection and actions that you can take locally, regionally and nationally. At Mama Lucci's Restaurant, 302 Industrial Court, SE, Leesburg from 6-8 p.m. Contact: Natalie Pien-natcpient@verizon.net for details

July 17, Thursday, Celebrating National Moth Week, 8 p.m. at Morven Park. 17263 Southern Planter Ln, Leesburg. Join Dr. David Adamski and the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy in reviewing the most common moth families found in the Capitol Region. Registration required at www. loudounwildlife.org.

July 18, Friday, Birding Experience for Children, 6 p.m. at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship, 11661 Harpers Ferry Rd, Purcellville. For children ages 8 to 12 and their families; limited to 18 participants. Registration required: www.loudounwildlife.org.

July 19, Saturday, Butterfly Walk at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship, I 1661 Harpers Ferry Rd, Purcellville at 10 a.m. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required: www.loudounwildlife.org.

July 20, Sunday, Barns of Rose Hill present Marc Leepson's talk about his book, "So Proudly We Hailed: Francis Scott Key: A Life." Doors open at 3:30 p.m. and talk starts at 4 p.m. at 95 Chalmers Court, Berryville. The event is free. Go to www.barnsofrosehill.org.

July 20, Sunday, Bluemont Concert at the Loudoun County Courthouse, 18 E. Market St. at 7 p.m. See Mark Newtown and Steve Thomas, a bluegrass duo. Go to www.bluemont.org.

Monday July 21 to Saturday, July 26, The Loudoun County Fair. At the Fairgrounds, 17558 Dry Mill Road, Leesburg. Go to www.loudouncountyfair.com.

• July 26, Saturday, Birding the Blue Ridge Center at 8 a.m. Meet at the Education Center, I 1661 Harpers Ferry Road, Rte 671. Bring binoculars. See www.brces.org.

July 24, Thursday, 350 Loudoun offer film "Drill. Spill. Repeat" from 7-9 p.m. at Rust Library, 380 Old Waterford Rd NW, Leesburg.

July 26, Saturday, educational program "Wildlife on the Appalachian Trail (A.T.)" at 10 a.m. at the Appalachian Trail Conservancy Visitor Center, 799 Washington St. in Harpers Ferry, W.Va. The event is free. Visit www.appalachiantrail.org/events.

3 July 26, Saturday, Furnace Mountain performs at 8 p.m. at the Barns of Rose Hill, 95 Chalmers Court, Berryville.. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, 12 and under free. Visit www. barnsofrosehill.org.

July 27, Sunday, Bluemont Concert at the Loudoun County Courthouse, 18 E. Market St. at 7 p.m. See Solas, a Celtic band. Go to www.bluemont.org.



Acoustic On The Green Presents Loudoun's Own Guitarist Gary Smallwood - July 12

Performing professionally since he was 16 and one of the series most requested artist, Gary Smallwood brings his acoustic blues and classic rock show to Acoustic on the Green for the eleventh year, Saturday July 12, 7-9 p.m. He has shared the stage with or supported acts such as Robin Thrower, Frank Marino & Mahogany Rush, the late great Jeff Healey, Elliott Easton (the Cars), Marshall Tucker Band, Molly Hatchet, Bret Michaels, Guster, Catfish Hodge, Michael Fath and many more. For more information on Gary Smallwood, visit www.garysmallwood.com or www. acousticonthegreen.com – Leesburg Town Green, 25 West Market Street, Leesburg.

Photo: Sesha Evans

Sushi – "Tails" From The Barnyard

When Twinkle Lights Were Discovered!



- By Sushi

By now if you have been reading my "Sushi, Tails from the Barn Yard" you have heard about the infamous story tree smack dab center in front of the large white farm house at Fields of Athenry Farm, right?

A lot of fun goes on under that big tree, especially in the cooler hours of a typical Blue Ridge Mountain, Virginia, summer eve. We are in the midst of O'l Brother Moon shining his light at its fullest and brightest soon to fade to the darkest of darkness and that is just how it is in the scope of our wonderful ever changing astronomy.

Let me ask you this? Have you ever laid in an old Virginia farm house on the blackest of black nights in the summer month of July? Imagine laying in the comforts of your bed, yet too hot to sleep under covers, your windows are wide open to let any cool breeze in that might come your way, long before electricity and some newfangled airconditioning and ceiling fans. Seriously, close your eyes, make it pitch black and go back with me in time.... That's exactly how my great Grandfather Champion Cairnhoe Highlander OF Wolfpit (aka Charlie) told me about the ways of old, the ways of how electricity truly came to be and it wasn't that guy Ben Franklin from first Boston and then Philadelphia, no it really was not, my Great Granddad Charlie told me so - under the story tree - under the story tree there has to be truth because - well just because it has

Pitch black out, so hot out, too hot to sleep, Mama and Pops called us pups outside as they thought it might be cooler sleeping under the story tree than inside the old white farm house. It was so black out we really had to follow our noses to a resting spot under the grand sycamore tree. Great Granddad loved sleeping as a Cairn Terrier family under that tree and when we did you just knew the greatest of greatest "Tails" would be told and you'd hope they would never ever end, and then you would wake up never knowing when you really fell asleep. If you have never experienced this kind of special night with your family - let me tell you - you need to start these traditions right now. Right now in the dab center of a hot Virginia July - memories and

love will abound.

Okay, okay – electricity, twinkle lights – it is all really simple you know? Who really discovered the power of lighting up our world today as we know it, you might ask? Ha, it was a bug, a very small bug with wings, that flies - who knew? My great Grandfather Grandfather Champion Cairnhoe Highlander OF Wolfpit knew and he told me all about it under the story tree, so it must be true - it must truly be true.

The great ancient pine trees of old line the boundaries from one farm to another where we live, from one neighbor to another ... in the depths of the blackest of nighttime, the magic of the solar system occurs. It happens yearly if one observes. It is such that the greatest of nature's magical lightening show transforms spring into summer. Beauty beyond all measures as only o'l brother moon can perform in his ultimate wisdom ... he moves the atmosphere into the blackest of blackest nights upon which the most delicate and mystical of dances in the heart of summer's air takes place. The twinkling of the lightening bug, in and out, around and about the graceful branches of the great pines of old. One can sit mesmerized as if watching the flames of a fire leaping and prancing all around you. Yet it is the twinkling, sparkling dance of this little bug that lights up the darkest of darkest skies, that the great cities of the world took their cue, Christmas tree twinkle lights were born, fireworks of the world got their start and yes Ben Franklin got his idea for the light bulb. If a little bug could create that much light and love in the world why couldn't Ben Franklin light up the world?

Instead of a bug he used a key and string and the rest was history.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Love, Sushi



My master, Elaine Boland lives with her husband and five daughters in Purcellville, Virginia 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 or 703.926.8444.

Answers to crossword puzzle from page 31														
¹ B	² A	^{3}R		⁴ G	⁵ R	⁶ A	⁷ P	⁸ E		⁹ S	¹⁰ P	¹¹ E	¹² C	¹³ K
¹⁴ E	R	Α		15 R	Α	L	┙	Y		¹⁶ T	כ	Т	ш	Е
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Lovettsville Cooperative Market Hosts Member Appreciation Barn Dance July 26

host a Member Appreciation Barn Dance on Saturday July 26, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Barn at Georges Mill Farm Bed & Breakfast in Lovettsville. This year's Barn Dance will take an exciting turn, as it will be held in a new venue and will be free for current members. The suggested donation for members' guests and potential members who attend the festivities is \$5 with a maximum suggested donation of \$20 per family.

The Barn Dance will be an unforgettable summer evening, featuring local sausages hot off the grill, as well as other light dinner

The Lovettsville Cooperative Market will fare and beverages. Local beer and wine will be available for sale by the glass.

> Attendees can dance to live music by Craggy Island and other area musicians.

> All of this will take place in the barn at Georges Mill Farm Bed & Breakfast, 11867 Georges Mill Road, nestled on a 100-acre farm between the Short Hill Mountains and the Potomac River, just outside of Lovettsville.

> This event is the Co-op's opportunity to thank its members, meet potential new members, and bring the community together for a relaxing evening. RSVPs to admin@ lovettsville-grocery.com.





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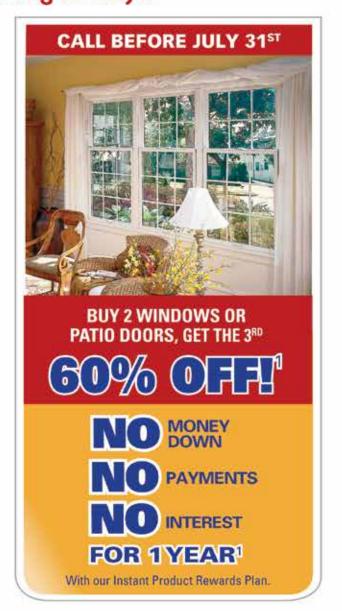
A CENTURY OF WINDOW EXPERTISE:

We're the replacement window division of Andersen, and when it comes to window quality, they've set the bar high for over 110 years.

Fibrex® material is

2X STRONGER

THAN





Call for your FREE Window Diagnosis: 800-285-9488