

Blue Ridge LEADER & Loudoun Today

Since 1984

MARCH 2015

RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER
ECRWSS

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

Outdoor Enthusiasts Seek Public Access To 1,271 Acre Purcellville Gem

Policy Limiting Use Of Watershed To Select Town Employees And Friends Unfair, Group Says

– By Andrea Gaines



View of Loudoun Valley, including the watershed property from the Raven's Rock Trail.
Photo: Marjorie MacDonald

In 2009 the town of Purcellville made history by placing over 1,200 acres of public watershed land in conservation easement with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF). The easement was the largest of its kind ever created in Loudoun County, made even more significant by the fact that it was a town rather than a private landowner protecting land in this way.

Government officials, foundation officials and the public alike applauded the decision.

Said Bob Lee – foundation executive director at the time – “While the majority of easements donated to VOF are from private landowners, this project is a great example of how municipalities, too, can take advantage of the Commonwealth’s unrivaled land conservation

“... following a town policy in force now since the 1930s, 20 year town manager veteran Rob Lohr has steadfastly barred interested members of the public from using the land in any way, a method of managing the property supported by a long list of town councils, mayors and town councils, including the more recent administration of mayors John T. Marsh, Bill Druhan and Bob Lazaro.”

programs.” Then Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine echoed this sentiment, saying “This conservation easement is remarkable, and it demonstrates the significant

Continued on page 14

Celebration Of Secretariat In Doswell

Hall of Fame jockey Ron Turcotte, who piloted Secretariat to his Triple Crown victory in 1973, will headline the annual Secretariat Birthday Celebration at The Meadow in Doswell, Va., March 27-29. Joining Turcotte at Secretariat’s birthplace will be Charlie Davis, who galloped “Big Red” as his exercise rider; author Bill Nack, whose book “Secretariat – The Making of a Champion” served as inspiration for Disney’s major motion film “Secretariat;” and Kate Chenery Tweedy, daughter of Penny Chenery and co-author of “Secretariat’s Meadow – The Land, The Family, The Legend.”

“I am always happy to come back to The Meadow,” said Turcotte. “I’m really looking forward to seeing all the Virginia fans.”

The three-day event is part of the new Virginia Horse Festival. There will be autograph sessions at the Secretariat



Ron Turcotte, 1973

booth in the exhibit hall, along with Secretariat merchandise and memorabilia. New this year are VIP tram tours of the farm. VIP tram tour tickets are \$25 and will be available on site each day at the narrated tour station. Basic tram tours also are available for \$5.

On Saturday, March 28, Turcotte, Davis, Nack and Tweedy will be the guests of honor at the VIP Reception and Secretariat Storytelling Program from 5-7:30 p.m. in Meadow Hall. After the reception, Nack will share an intimate perspective on Secretariat, providing his favorite stories and personal recollections. Tickets are \$100 and must be purchased by March 22. Seating is limited. The price also includes one-day admission to the Virginia Horse Festival.

Go to VirginiaHorseFestival.com.

A Philadelphia Eagle Makes His Way To A Purcellville Prom

– By Hannah Hager



Acho at Woodgrove with Delmonte from season is in full swing. Perhaps this is why Delmonte, who may have been inspired by social media stories from around the country of regular

Continued on page 12



PROPANE COSTS TOO MUCH!

This Spring is the Ideal Time to Make the Switch.

“So very happy we switched to Hunt Country. My only regret is that we didn’t do it sooner. How much money we would have saved...However, we finally made the right choice about our propane. For years I have been receiving offers from other companies offering low rates, only to find out you have to enter a contract with them. It never made sense to me that you could drive around town and shop for fuel for your car, but not for your home. It’s nice to see that a business owner understands this and caters to the customer. We received our first delivery this past Saturday and the owner himself brought it out. The service was excellent. Of course, I’m not surprised, as the initial account set-up was easy and the lady in the office was so pleasant!” –Caroline T.

“I have been buying propane from Hunt Country for about a year now. My previous propane provider was much higher priced. The staff was rude and didn’t seem to care if you gave them business or not. When I was shopping around for a new company, thankfully I found Hunt Country. The staff is friendly, professional, knowledgeable and genuinely cared that you gave them your business. Hunt Country prices are consistently lower than their competitors. I highly recommend that you call Hunt Country Propane, if you don’t, you’re making a BIG(\$!) mistake. Thanks Hunt Country!” –Ed, Leesburg

**Hunt Country
Propane**

540-687-3608

huntcountrypropane.com



Less • Local • Honest



DONATE SHOP VOLUNTEER

Remodeling? Redecorating? Donate!

Donate your new and gently used appliances, cabinets, furniture, building materials, lighting & more!



- Tax deductible
- Supports Habitat in Loudoun County
- Free pick-up available for large items

A GOOD DEAL for you, the community & the environment!

Exeter Shopping Center, 700 Fieldstone Dr., Leesburg VA 20176 **Donation Hotline 540.579.4508**
NEW HOURS Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Ask Dr. Mike

– By Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D.



Dr. Mike

Dr. Mike,

I love my sister, but her Facebook posts are causing me problems. My sister is very, very wealthy, and she is constantly on Facebook posting photos of her family's many exotic travels and purchases. She rarely returns my calls or cards because it seems that she is always too busy, but she's sure not too busy to post to the world her family photos at the Ritz Carlton in Paris or their safari excursions in Africa or their many far away tropical travels. And do I really need to see again and again photos of her new jewelry and new cars and upgrades to the beach house that she can afford but I can't? All of it is just gross, and it offends my husband and me and it upsets our kids. With all of her travels, my sister hasn't once visited us. I suppose we're not fancy enough here in Loudoun County to be a destination spot? I want to tell her how I feel, but there doesn't seem to be a good way to say anything without coming off like a jealous brat. I also don't want to be the older sister complaining to her successful younger

sister about real life problems that she can't handle or relate to - like not having enough money sometimes to pay for things, etc. What are your thoughts?

Concerned in Loudoun

Dear Concerned in Loudoun,

At its best, Facebook is a convenient way to share experiences and to remain connected to our loved ones. At its worst, Facebook postings can be hurtful and offensive and can actually serve to drive a wedge or distance us from the ones we care about most. And while your letter is clearly an example of the latter, I do not think that your problem is with your sister's Facebook posts as much as it is with your larger relationship with her.

You write that you love your sister, yet you do not write anything loving about her. Instead, her behaviors (in relation to you and your family) are off-putting and even "gross" from your perspective. Perhaps there was a time when you and your sister were close, but your lives have taken you in different directions.

Money seems to be the culprit to your sibling relationship woes; where your sister is a wealthy jet setter and you are not. Thus, I think the initial work to be done (or at least

Continued on page 34



ACTIONS SPEAK MORE THAN WORDS

MARCY KNOWS THE LOCAL MARKET



ROUND HILL \$547,500

(NEW PRICE!) Spacious & beautiful w/easy access to Rt. 7. 5BR/3.5BAs, workshop, porch, no maintenance deck. Handicap accessible lower lvl apt w/its own entrance.



PURCELLVILLE \$506,000

(NEW PRICE!) 4BR/3BA home on approx. 5 acres, 3 stall barn, riding ring w/lights, ride out & board fenced paddocks. Home offers HW floors, brick FP, stone patio, views & in-law suite w/separate entrance.



BLUEMONT \$899,000

95+ acres of woods & views. 3BR/3.5BA home w/main level master, HW floors, built-ins, decks, covered porches. 2 large workshops. 3 addl. DURs. Easy access to Rt. 7 and Rt. 50.



PURCELLVILLE \$612,500

Two stylish dwellings on 13+ ac w/stream, great views. Main house: 2BRs/2BAs, radiant heat, ceramic tile floors & large deck. Second house: cedar sided, 2BRs/1.5BAs, INCOME OPPORTUNITY.



LOVETTSVILLE \$469,900

Updated 1800s farmhouse. 4BRs/2.5BAs, HW floors, pellet stove, deck/porches, pond w/waterfall, detached studio & garage, fenced yard.



BERRYVILLE, VA \$247,000

Two houses. A diamond in the rough. Main house: 3BRs/2BAs, HW floors & awesome sunroom. Cottage: 2BRs/1BA + rough-in for 1/2BA. On approximately 1/2 acre. Fenced back yard.

SELLING HOMES, FARMS AND LAND

LICENSED IN VIRGINIA & WEST VIRGINIA



MIDDLEBURG REAL ESTATE
ATOKA PROPERTIES

MARCYC@MARCYC.COM | 540-533-7453

WWW.MARCYC.COM



DON'T WAIT! BEAT THE SPRING RUSH!!

We are committed to providing you with the best work and customer service available.

- Custom Residential Interior & Exterior
- Exterior Wood Replacement
- Wallpaper Removal
- Drywall Repair
- Inside and Out Gutter Cleaning
- Power Washing Siding and Decks
- Deck Staining and Sealing
- Honest and Dependable Mechanics
- Every Job Owner Supervised



Family Owned & Operated
 Serving Loudoun County Since 1997
 Over 35 Yrs Experience



JOE FLEMING PAINTING CONTRACTORS

703-771-1494 Cell 703-431-7751



Angie's list

www.joeflemingpainting.com



Phase II Of Downtown Project Will Commence In Spring

The Purcellville Town Council voted unanimously to authorize town manager Rob Lohr to execute the contract with Jefferson Asphalt Products Company for Phase II 21st Streetscape improvements and also to GeoConcepts Engineering.

The project has changed from the initial concept. There will be no loss of parking on the east side. The project will consist of drainage work starting at the lowest point - from near the train station and moving up to close to the Pancost building, which is near the White Palace Restaurant. The work will be done from 10 p.m. to 10 a.m., starting Sunday and stopping Friday morning 10 a.m.

The underground waterline which is presently 8 inches on the west side and put in in the 1940's will be abandoned and all the service will move to the east side, which has a 12 inch line.

An underground conduit will be put in so in the future if the town desires, they can bury the power lines and eliminate the poles on 21st Street.

The above ground work will consist of eliminating two parking spaces on the west side, but adding two on the east side. The work consists of adding approximately four decorative street lights and four crosswalks. The width of the street will be narrowed to 16 feet wide in some locations. In a Jan. 20 letter from the Purcellville Volunteer Fire Company, Fire Chief Bob Dryden states, "This narrow width [16 feet width] can

significantly restrict the necessary ability to safely set up the aerial Tower Ladder. When deploying the stabilizer jacks to safely use the ladder to access upper levels and rooftops during emergencies, the apparatus requires a minimum of 18 feet of roadway. We recommend that the thickness of the sidewalk on the entire length of the west side of 21st Street be reinforced. This will allow the vehicles stabilizer jacks to be safely deployed, if needed, on the sidewalk without compromising the safety of the operation or damaging the sidewalk."

Some of the sidewalks will retain their current width of 4 feet - and there will be an increase in width in certain areas to 5 and 6 feet. In front of the Dental Arts building there will be a bump out with low landscaping. Citizens have asked for a bench in that area. In front of the Nichols parking lot there will be a textured parking space for trucks to unload.

The project might start in April and the town will have weekly meetings at the train station on Wednesdays from 4-5 open to the public. Eighty percent of this project is paid for by grant monies and 20 percent is directly paid for by Purcellville taxpayers. The breakdown of the revenue stream is as follows: VDOT grant is \$1,097,192, Federal earmark allocation is \$499,915, and \$431,769 from the town - totaling \$2,028,876. The bid came in lower and the town will not be spending the full amount.



Propane Costs Too Much!

Winter Sale

\$1.85/Gallon*

- We're Less
- We're Local
- We're Honest

A 5-minute call could save you \$1,000 or MORE!



Hunt Country Propane

540-687-3608



www.HuntCountryPropane.com

*Restrictions apply. Limited time.

Also — Propane Tanks • Pool Heaters
KOHLER GENERATORS

LOST MY LEASE! TIME TO RETIRE!

ALL MIELE AND SIMPLICITY VACUUMS

10%-33% OFF OF INTERNET PRICE

SAVE SOME SERIOUS DOUGH!!!\$



HOY!

VACUUM STORE

SALES & SERVICE

703.771.7188 703-B EAST MARKET ST. LEESBURG, VA

HOURS:
TUES - FRI 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.
SAT 11 A.M. - 4 P.M.
CLOSED SUN AND MON

Board Of Architectural Review Discusses Duplex Design Of M/I Homes Proposed "Cottages at 32nd Street"

Purcellville's Board of Architectural Review on Feb. 17 heard from M/I Homes' representatives regarding their proposed duplex development on S. 32nd Street, in the town's historic overlay district. The property is currently zoned for 19 homes and M/I Homes has applied for a comprehensive plan amendment as well as a zoning amendment to allow for a density increase to 42 units on 10 acres. Each unit is proposed to be between 2,500 to 2,800 square feet with a price tag of \$450,000 to \$500,000. BAR Chairman Pat Giglio noted that M/I Homes' application is currently undergoing review by town staff. Representatives of the developer presented plans for four building models that would consist of two units each. They displayed

drawings of the duplex designs, showing that each unit making up one building would have different architectural features. Architect David Robbins described the building design plans to the BAR, saying the developer is incorporating multiple features to reflect design patterns seen on the existing neighborhood's homes. BAR members, however, having heard the presentation informed the M/I Homes representatives that among other things their design "has many inconsistencies with BAR guidelines," "is too busy," "is of a mass and design inconsistent with S. 32nd Street and Purcellville," and "is inconsistent with architecture throughout the town." BAR members told the M/I Homes representatives that the building facades

include too many features and materials not typical to design patterns in Purcellville. They said the developer has not proposed four-sided architecture that would incorporate design features around each side of a building, rather than simply on the facades, in keeping with historic building design. One BAR member described the development's design on the street as "a mass of concrete." Another member said the buildings "look like boxes."

BAR member Tim Gloeckner said the development would not have the same feel as the rest of Purcellville and does not fit the proposed part of town or most of the town in general.

Chairman Giglio noted that other duplexes in town are mirror images of each other,

as opposed to the two different designs per building that M/I Homes proposes to build. Giglio observed that the relationship between the buildings and the street is inconsistent with Purcellville's neighborhood patterns and said "the repetition is not in keeping with the character of the street or town." BAR members also emphasized that town design guidelines specifically call for limited use of vinyl siding, cultured stone and other synthetic materials; all of which M/I Homes currently proposes to use. BAR member David Marlowe told the M/I Homes representatives that "32nd Street is hugely important" for the historic character of the town and asked whether they had toured other housing developments for ideas about relating new housing to older streetscapes.

Who Is In Charge Here? Five Questions The Public Should Ask Purcellville About Town Zoning And Development

– By Andrea Gaines

In different periods of American history state, local and the Federal governments have considered it easier to proceed with the business of governing without the involvement of the governed.

All levels of government have in place rules about how government officials, commissions, legislatures, agencies and the like are required to act in relationship to the people they represent.

Due to the huge amounts of money involved in the decisions local governments make with respect to zoning and development, these calculations are at particular risk for being made out of sight of the public.

In Purcellville, citizens have been effectively shut out of the planning process,

sometimes in blatant ways and sometimes in more subtle ways for years. The problem is coming to a head right now as the town council and the planning commission debate a series of massive re-zonings that would open the door to, among other things, the development of dense residential and commercial "mini communities" ... floating zoning districts that could go anywhere – near an established residential community, in an historic overlay district, in places where most of the surrounding land is zoned for agriculture/ rural development.

Many members of the town council, including Joan Lehr have argued that the public is always invited to participate when zoning issues like this are discussed. But, basically, they say, the public doesn't show up, and so the process goes on – with or

without the public's support.

This is the very definition of a town planning process gone amuck. And, this is particularly true when the zoning changes being proposed conflict with the town's Comprehensive Plan.

Here are five questions the public should put to the Purcellville Town Council and Purcellville Planning Commission to get things back on track.

Question 1: How Does The Comprehensive Plan Relate To Zoning Regulations?

Purcellville's Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2006, based upon an intensive period of design and planning activity. Organizers sought and succeeded in getting broad participation in a series of very public input sessions, hearings and presentations.

The formal Town Comprehensive Plan was then adopted, complete with the zoning regulations designed to implement the plan.

Today, given the mounting pressure from property owners, developers and others to make major changes to the zoning regulations that implement the plan, Mayor Kwasi Fraser, along with Town Council member Karen Jimmerson are in favor of an immediate and thorough comp plan review. Both campaigned as change agents – elected officials intent on challenging the status quo, which had, over time, reduced the public's influence over town zoning changes. Both want zoning changes to take place only after such a review is completed, with the full participation of the public.

Said Mayor Fraser during a recent town council session, "I [recently] attended the town sponsored 83rd Certified Planning Commission Program (CPCP) in Richmond ... [The program reinforced for me that] a fundamental flaw exists in our current approach to the zoning use changes in absence of a revised Comprehensive Plan ... the Comprehensive Plan was referred to as the 'bible' and guide ... [and] Tonight, in fairness to the citizens who have appointed us to serve them, I must state that our planning commission's current approach contradicts the Planning Commission Program's dictates and must be stopped now if we are to meet the needs of our citizens."

The CPCP is the most thorough and comprehensive tutorial of its kind, covering the zoning law principles that guide a municipality's planning practices. It is designed to inform public officials – including town staff and elected leaders – of the "hows and whys" of handling the matters, requests and conflicts that come before a planning commission. The goal? Confirm the techniques that make zoning decisions and other actions taken by planning commissions, staff and towns both legally defensible and compatible with a municipality's duly debated and adopted comprehensive plan.

Question 2: How Do The Various Zoning Changes Being Proposed Relate To The Opportunities For Citizen Input?

Individuals and corporations investing in land in a town such as Purcellville first and

Continued on page 5

Blue Ridge LEADER & Loudoun Today

Since 1984

PUBLISHER & EDITOR
Valerie Cury

CREATIVE DEPARTMENT
Meredith Hancock, Layout/Design

ADVERTISING
Judy D. Harbin
(703) 727-1321
JudyDHarbin@gmail.com

Here's How to Reach Us!
Email advertise@BRLeader.com
or call (540) 338-6200



[@BRLeaderNEWS](https://twitter.com/BRLeaderNEWS)

EDITOR:

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

SPECIAL EDITORIAL
Andrea Gaines
andrea@andregaines.com

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

WEBMASTER:

webmaster@BRLeader.com

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 325, Purcellville, VA 20134-0325

Copyright 2015 Blue Ridge Leader & Loudoun Today.
All rights reserved.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Submissions may be sent to
Editor@BRLeader.com, or via mail to, PO Box 325, Purcellville, VA 20134-0325.
Please include your name, address and telephone number.

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

Blue Ridge Leader Editorial Calendar 2015

March

Landscaping (4 months; March – June)
Camps (4 months; March – June)

April

Out and About Loudoun and Beyond!
Hidden Treasures Map
(4 months; April, May, June July)

May

Retail – Shop Loudoun – Dine Loudoun

June

Safety - Graduation

Purcellville Voice of the Citizens Open Town Hall meeting rescheduled for Monday, March 16 – 7 p.m. – 221 S. Nursery Avenue.

Who Is In Charge, continued from page 4

foremost seek maximum return on their investment, which means going for the greatest density – the maximum number of units a zoning district allows per acre, and the most profitable use given the market – adding commercial to a residentially zoned property, for example.

This push/pull – where a particular property is zoned for 50 houses and the developer wants to build 100 – is not unusual. But, the way the Purcellville Planning Commission and Town Council have approached the potential conflict between what citizens expect and developers want, is still wrong. As previously reported:

At a planning commission meeting in January, developer and attorney Mark Nelis asked to change the town's "big box ordinance" to allow buildings up to 30,000 or 40,000 square feet vs. the 10,000 square feet currently allowed. He also asked that the zoning limits on restaurant size be increased from 4,000 feet to 10,000 feet.

At this same meeting, developer John Chapman asked that minimum acreage for PDH districts (Planned Development Housing) be reduced from 10 acres to 5 acres. He made this request to help maximize his return on a specific property he owns along Hirst Road, which is currently zoned for CM-I zoning/office light industrial.

Both the size limits that apply to big box stores and restaurants – which address the appropriateness of large scale national chains, and the acreage limits that apply

to PDH districts are zoning regulations written to deliver on the public's intent to maintain Purcellville's small town feel and create distinctions between residential and commercial areas. However, should changes to the PDH districts be approved in the manner proposed, the most that the citizens would get would be two brief hearings – one at the planning commission level and one at the town council level.

Most members of the town council and planning commission – siding with developers – are pushing to have such issues dealt with quickly. The public will have some input, but the question of whether zoning changes conflict with the comp plan – and they do – will never be addressed. Nelis in fact has previously asked the planning commission to effectively eliminate special use permits, also his clients do not want to have to apply for a comprehensive plan amendment nor a zoning use amendment, both of which have much more rigorous public input requirements.

This is what Mayor Fraser was referring to when he said that "a fundamental flaw exists in our current approach to the zoning use changes in absence of a revised Comprehensive Plan ..."

Question 3: What Other Development Projects Have Weakened The Citizen-Driven Comprehensive Plan?

The most striking example of a project whose approval is in stark contrast to the

comp plan is the yet to be built Vineyard Square complex in historic downtown Purcellville.

As previously reported, Vineyard Square is an approximately 100,000 sq. ft. mixed-use residential/commercial project, complete with underground and above ground parking to be located in the heart of the Purcellville Historic District. A highly valued area, the district is within Purcellville's Historic Corridor Overlay District and is also on the National Register of Historic Places, the Virginia Landmarks Registry, and the U.S. Historic Districts listing.

The comprise to the citizens' intent as reflected in the comp plan was the move by the Lazaro Administration, in 2008, to rezone the property, giving the Vineyard Square developers (John Chapman and Mark Nelis) "by right" permission to move forward with a mixed-use residential/commercial project at this site.

As former councilman Karl Phillips said at the time, "What came out of the charrette was protecting the historic buildings and historic character of that part of town. There was never a mention of dramatic or otherwise increases in height." Countered Mayor Lazaro years later – defending the project, "We have put this zoning in place to see [Vineyard Square] occur ..."

As town council member Karen Jimmerson previously noted, "If you give someone carte blanche zoning, you are sanctioning his or her ability to disregard the integrity of the property, the character

of the town, and the voting rights of which people have a say about what transpires in and around their community. ..[this is] similar to back room Washington D.C. deals in which lobbyists write laws that benefit them and then Congressmen submit and vote to approve these laws. Purcellville's zoning in recent years seems to benefit the developers and not the community as a whole, and this sets a terrible precedent for this town and our reputation."

Question 4: Where Do Other Zoning Professionals, And Purcellville's Leadership Stand On The Level Of Public Input Needed?

At least one high level court – the Oregon Supreme Court – has ruled that since a city had adopted a plan, it was required to zone in accordance with that plan. A plan, said the court, as a constitutional document for land-use planning, is superior to zoning regulations.

Purcellville Planning Commissioner Nedim Ogelman, agrees. In a recent memo to the Town Council Ogelman said: "... I disagree with the decision making process we on the Planning Commission are pursuing with respect to sweeping changes to zoning uses – mostly [by] adding significant by-right uses because we are excluding most citizens from parts of a process that could dramatically alter town development..." Ogelman went on to say: "Citizens should know that we are in

Continued on page 23

Letters To The Editor

Let Valley Energy Expand – Don't Change Use In Entire District

Dear Editor:

I would like to be sure that my comments at the Purcellville Town Council meeting held on Feb 10, 2015 were clear. I was not opposing the request for Valley Energy to expand their operations; quite the opposite. My comments of concern refer to adding the usage of storage and distribution of propane to the entire CM-I District, of which some of these districts are adjacent to residential properties and even across the street from one of our high schools.

Propane storage and distribution belongs in an industrial area, right where Valley Energy is located. The use should not be added to the entire CM-I District, simply because Valley Energy would like to expand. I feel that there should be consideration given to Valley Energy, as an existing business to allow for him to expand his current operations, but this should not be added back into the district's usage unilaterally, as it was previously removed, and for good reason. I agree that there are few incidents that occur at propane storage facilities, however, when they do occur, they

are tragic. Having said that, the locations of other CM-I Districts in Purcellville are too close to residents and students.

The Town of Purcellville should begin and complete the Comprehensive Plan Review immediately and put a moratorium on any zoning use changes, annexations, boundary line adjustments, etc. until the review is done.
Lydia Clark
Purcellville

Cozy Relationship

Dear Editor:

During the February Purcellville Town Council meeting, members had a discussion about the Volunteer Award program. The debate was about separating the town from a private event hosted by a private organization. This award ceremony is not a program the town council organized. It was brought to the public's attention at the January 2014 Purcellville Business Association (PBA) by former Mayor Bob Lazaro in his State of the Town Address, "... after discussion with Business Association President Bowman, this March at the PBA's Annual meeting luncheon, we will recognize an outstanding volunteer and/or volunteer

organization..."

What followed that February was an official town press release sent by the town that included a nomination form with both logos of the Town and the PBA instructing to return forms to the assistant of the town manager. An email dated Feb. 26, 2014 from town manager Rob Lohr stated "... Mayor Lazaro announced the new awards program and asked the PBA to be a partner", he went on to say the person and/or organization would be "selected by a committee made up of both groups". Lohr also said, "The award will be given at the PBA annual banquet, and the town will be providing the awards and plaque identifying the winners from each year."

Mayor Kwasi Fraser and Councilmember Karen Jimmerson did not support the town getting involved with the PBA because it is a private organization. Those that attend the award ceremony pay to attend whether or not they choose to eat. To attend the Volunteer Award Ceremony hosted by the PBA – the price is \$22.

All of PBA's documentation – website, Facebook, and official records of the town have shown them to be a non-

profit organization. According to the IRS' website, this is not true. Until July 2014, the PBA had enjoyed for many years a link to their website from the town's website. The town's 22-page Business Guide has the PBA's contact information under the heading "Additional Government & Non-Profit Agency Contacts."

When I sought for 2 years to have the town implement a "Real Parties of Interest Disclosure" that is used in Loudoun County and Leesburg, the only input sought by the town was to ask the PBA's input. The town received a letter from the PBA Board stating they did not recommend the town implement this policy. We did not elect the PBA to represent the interest of the citizens.

This shows the cozy relationship between elected officials and this quasi political business association. Some of the board members are: Judy Stearns contributing editor of a local paper, Council member Joan Lehr, developer John Chapman (previously Mark Nelis was on the board) and banker Jim Bowman.

Kelli Grim
Purcellville

Review - The 2015 General Assembly Session

– By Delegate Dave LaRock,
R-33



Delegate Dave LaRock

This year's session was intense and fast-paced. During the last six weeks in Richmond, I was privileged to buckle down alongside fellow delegates and senators as we worked to make Virginia a better place to live, work, and do business. As always, my top priority remains serving the citizens of Virginia and the 33rd District by passing laws that boost economic recovery, allow the creation of good, dependable jobs, improve education, reform government spending and protect our individual rights.

This year I introduced 11 bills and another 10 resolutions in the House of Delegates as patron, and co-patroned another 26 bills and 56 resolutions, many of which passed one or both houses and are now enacted. For a complete list, I encourage you to visit my website (votelarock.us); here are some of the highlights:

One of my top priorities this year was to require rating for all mass transit projects that receive funding from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. I introduced this legislation for the first time last year, and this year it passed both houses and awaits the Governor's signature. I believe that this bill will result in smarter transportation spending, better roads, and reduced congestion.

I also patroned legislation to require approval of the Virginia General Assembly before any adoption of national Common Core Curriculum standards. The implementation of these standards is raising serious concerns and has become entangled in political considerations. The parents and students of Virginia deserve the assurance that their schools will not be forced to adopt these standards without careful and deliberate review.

Another bill I patroned last year that passed both houses this year was House Bill 2009, a bill to protect the rights of Virginians who seek to conduct legal transfers of firearms that fall under a federal application process. This bill makes it clear that local officials can't obstruct these legal transfers by simply refusing to respond to form requests.

HJ 635 is a low-flying bill that could have substantial and favorable economic impact on the counties in the 33rd District. Simply put, it enacts a study on the implementation and performance of the Communications Sales and Use Tax. Adjustments based on the results of this study could mean more local revenue and improved broadband access in our rural areas.

One measure I pursued passionately was HB 2238, a bill to create Education Savings Accounts that parents of special-needs children could use to pay for alternatives to public schooling. This bill made incredible progress for its first year of introduction, passing the House and coming within one

vote of passing the Senate as well. Virginians overwhelmingly support school choice, and when we succeed in eventually passing this bill it will give that choice to children who need it desperately.

While I co-patroned several pieces of legislation, two are notable because of the constituent interest they fostered. Northern Virginia's veterans support network needs to be augmented to meet the needs of our military veterans, and I proudly co-patroned legislation that will allocate \$95 million to create a new 230 bed Veterans Care Center in Northern Virginia. I also supported Virginia's "Tebow" bill, legislation passed by both houses that will allow local school divisions to make their own choice as to whether or not home schooled students can participate in sports.

Many citizens and institutions of our district made noteworthy achievements that were deserving of commendation by the General Assembly. They are too many to list here, but I was pleased to help recognize Zora M. McCall "Mac" Brownell, the Loudoun First Responders Foundation, John R. Riley, Jr., Scott K. York, Nichols Hardware, the Clarke County High School Wrestling Team, the Loudoun County High School Volleyball Team, and the Loudoun 98 Red Girls' Soccer Team.

Last, but not least, the House and Senate worked together to quickly pass a budget that meets the needs of our Commonwealth while maintaining strict standards of fiscal common sense. This budget eliminates \$11.7 million in fees proposed by Governor McAuliffe, spends \$1 billion less from the general fund than last year's originally-adopted budget, and shores up the Virginia Retirement System and the Teacher Retirement Fund, reducing unfunded liabilities and saving future taxpayer dollars.


Looking forward, the people of Virginia and our district still have many challenges to overcome. These run the spectrum, ranging from personal struggles like finding a job, securing a quality education, battling Lyme disease, or feeling the impact of Federal EPA regulations in our monthly utility bills. I'm eager to meet these challenges head-on, and I want to hear from each of you about the problems that I can help you solve. I'm honored to have the opportunity to work alongside you as your delegate.

Del. Dave LaRock represents the 33rd House District, including parts of Loudoun, Clarke and Frederick Counties, and the towns of Leesburg (partial), Purcellville, Berryville, Lovettsville, Round Hill, Hamilton and Hillsboro. LaRock serves on the Transportation Committee, the Science and Technology Committee and the Courts of Justice Committee. Dave and his wife, Joanne, have lived in Loudoun for 28 years, building a successful family-owned general contracting business. The LaRocks reside near Hamilton with Abby and John, the youngest of their seven children.




LOUDOUN CARPET CARE
PURCELLVILLE, VIRGINIA

CLEAN YOUR CARPETS FOR THE WINTER SEASON
In-Plant Rug Cleaning ~ Upholstery Cleaning
On-Site Cleaning! ~ Ceramic Tile & Grout Cleaning
HONESTY, INTEGRITY, PUNCTUALITY
129-C N. BAILEY LN, PURCELLVILLE, VA
704.777.5056 ~ www.LoudounValleyFloors.com



TAX REFUND?
YOU NEED NEW FLOORING



Call us today for FREE Estimates for Cleaning or New Installation

LOUDOUN VALLEY FLOORS
PURCELLVILLE, VIRGINIA SINCE 1991

Locally owned and operated
Hours: Mon. Thru Fri. 9am-6pm
Sat. 9am-3pm • Evenings by Appt.

129 N. Bailey Lane #C • Purcellville, VA
LoudounValleyFloors.com
540.338.4300 • 703.777.8056
**Carpet Cleaning • Tile & Grout Cleaning
Carpet Re-stretching and Repair**



NOW OPEN, EXPANDED SHOWROOM AND DESIGN CENTER IN LEESBURG!

BASEMENT REMODELING



BATHROOM REMODELING



KITCHEN REMODELING



0% INTEREST FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE

W.A.C.
90% Approval Rate.
Easy Application.

WE MAKE IT EASY.

INSPIRATION ~ DESIGN ~ EXPERTISE

Go to AbbeyDesignCenter.com to see our current specials or to schedule your free design appointment



CARPET



HARDWOOD



TILE & STONE



AREA RUGS



RUNNERS



Leesburg
161 Fort Evans Rd., NE
Next to Wolf Furniture
703-779-8181



Abbey Design Center

FLOOR, KITCHEN & BATH

Remodeling from Concept to Completion

& Basement!



AbbeyDesignCenter.com

Sterling
21465 Price Cascades Plaza
In Front of Costco
703-450-8181

Love The Outdoors At Your Lovettsville Home

– By Hannah Hager

“In my deepest troubles, I frequently would wrench myself from the persons around me and retire to some secluded part of our noble forests.” – John James Audubon

What is a home if not a place for seclusion and restoration? Audubon, the famed naturalist who identified 25 new species of birds, would have perhaps found solace in this home on a corner lot in Lovettsville.

In fact, this home is primed for its owner's enjoyment if not only because of its namesake. Situated at 7 Black Forest



Address: 7 Black Forest Lane
Lovettsville, VA 20180
Bedrooms: Four
Bathrooms: Four and 1.5 baths
Fireplaces: Three
Built: 2006
List Price: \$509,000
Realtor: Kathy Shipley, RE/MAX Premier
Phone: 540-882-5123

Lane, this street is named after one of the most-famed forests in the world - the Black Forest in Germany, an appropriate designation for the Dutch settlement.

The home boasts a widow's walk on its roof. One can imagine the birds, sunrises and sunsets to behold. If you prefer to stay closer to the ground, you can rock out on the slate-covered front porch or entertain guests on the back deck with a slate patio trickling by a stone wall to the backyard.

You'll find the indoors to be just as enjoyable. The entryway is home to a spiraling staircase. To the left is a cozy formal living room with deep crown molding and wood floors that continue

into the formal dining room. Walk through the kitchen with its stainless steel appliances, mahogany cabinets, recessed lighting and granite countertops to the family room where you'll once again find more intricate stonework surrounding the fireplace. Sunlight floods in from multiple directions, including from the glass doors that provide an egress to the outdoors entertainment area.

More relaxation awaits within the reading room that contains built-in bookshelves. In the master bedroom you'll find plenty of space for yourself and your spouse, including a fireplace seating area. The third fireplace – again with intricate stonework -- is found on the lower level, which also has a walkout to the backyard.

In a home so conducive to relaxing, entertaining and immersing yourself in your surroundings you'll find that there truly is no place like home.

JOIN THE SOLAR MOVEMENT THIS SPRING!

HOME - BUSINESS - CUSTOM SOLAR SOLUTIONS WITH CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY



COME BY OUR OFFICE IN BLUEMONT AND CHARGE YOUR EV AT OUR NEW SOLAR POWERED CHARGING STATION FOR FREE!

5 Reasons to Go Solar with ISS:

1. Lock in your electricity rates for the next 25 years. The demand for power is going up — and the prices will too, but if you're producing your own power with an ISS solar panel system you won't have to worry.
2. Receive a 30% federal tax credit this year.
3. Solar energy is clean, abundant and renewable.
4. ISS is a locally owned and operated company. Helping our friends and neighbors and improving our community is our #1 goal.
5. Solar power is cool — use it to keep your house cool too :)

 Save Money On Your Electric Bill

 Bluemont, VA 20135 | 571-721-0131
Info@IndependentSolarSolutions.com LEED CERTIFIED
www.IndependentSolarSolutions.com

GRADES

aren't the only

THINGS

it improves.

The smiles. The laughter. The bright, upbeat child you know is back. When school is going well and homework is a snap, life is better for everyone. So why struggle or rely on tutors year after year when there is a long-lasting solution?

LearningRx strengthens the connections the brain uses to learn. And we do it in a fun, enjoyable setting. We call it brain training. Parents and kids call it life changing. See their stories and learn more at learningrx.com.

\$50.00
DISCOUNT
ON THE
COGNITIVE
SKILLS
ASSESSMENT

 Leesburg Today
2015
BEST OF
LOUDOUN
BEST TUTORING
SERVICES

LearningRx
train the brain. get smarter.
learningrx.com/leesburg 571.465.2277

Five Must-Have Spring Fashion Trends

– By Hannah Hager

“Flowers? For Spring? Groundbreaking.” You may have heard this eponymous quote from Miranda Priestly in *The Devil Wears Prada* that implies florals in fashion for spring are, in fact, not groundbreaking.

Designers disagree. New York Fashion Week has concluded and the designers have spoken: It’s full-on for florals. It might be hard to see the end of winter, but spring is just around the corner. It’s time to refresh your wardrobe with these five fashion trends:

Florals for spring days

What comes to mind when one thinks of spring? Flowers, of course. London’s Victoria Beckham and other designers such as Celine and Max Mara sent flowers down the runway in February. Further- many of them were pink.

(Shop: Altar’d State Rose Garden Tunic, \$79.95 – The Village at Leesburg)



Leather



One may consider leather to be a fall fashion staple, but spring temperatures can still necessitate the thick fabric. Saint Laurent and others like it as skirts and shirts in addition to jackets. Don’t knock it until you try it. (Faux leather skirts for \$19.99 and Lamarque Sissy Lamb Leather Skirt (shown) for \$249.99. It’s your choice at Wilson’s

Leather at the Leesburg Premium Outlets)



All white everything

Imagine a vacation to Cuba where everyone’s donning white linen tops and pants down by the beach. That’ll be you this spring, just at home and probably to work. White ushers in warm weather and now we’re seeing it doubled – and tripled – up throughout outfits. Don’t be afraid to wear all white, just make sure that the tones match.

Also try white nail polish (Essie’s marshmallow is a favorite, \$8.50, found in most drugstores.)

Finally flat

Finally the day has arrived that designers have embraced flat shoes. No longer do you have to toddle down hallways and sidewalks on stilettos. Long accepted by the fashion set in New York as practical and fashionable for hitting the streets, the flat is making a comeback on the runways as well. Pointy-toed and ankle-strapped versions are the hotness right now. The biggest surprise, however, is that designers are showing sneakers at their shows. (Fit yourself at Potomac River Running, which specializes in custom-made sneakers.)

Beautiful bohemian

Boho, the new term for bohemian, is essentially wearing cuts, fabrics and styles that harken back to the 1960s and 70s, but with a modern flare. Flowy shirts, crop tops, bell-bottomed jeans and statement necklaces will be seen throughout the soon-to-be warm weather days. What better place to shop for these pieces than where vintage goes to thrive – Re-Love It on 21st Street and Blue Ridge Hospice Thrift Shops. There’s one in downtown Purcellville.



Hillis Travels For ‘Open Air’ Painting

Round Hill painter Catherine Hillis is one of a handful of international artists invited to paint in “Plein Air Curacao.” She will be painting in the Curacao competition during early March. It is a juried event which selects artists from around the world to compete and exhibit their work.

Plein air is a French term meaning “in the open air” and refers to artists who work outdoors and on site. Artists have always painted “en plein air,” but the French Impressionists brought attention to outdoor painting, helped along with the invention of manufactured tubes for paint and the portable easel. Paintings created on site are lauded for the technical ability of the artists, who generally create art among the elements, and the art is generally noted for its freshness and emotive quality.

Hillis is a nationally recognized watercolorist who has been published in many venues and accrued numerous awards regionally and nationally. After participating in “Plein Air Curacao,” Hillis will paint as one of 15 top plein air painters in the “Southeastern Plein Air Invitational” sponsored by the Gadsden Museum of Art in Gadsden, Ala. She will participate as one of 30 top artists from across the nation in the “Winter Park Paint Out” at the Albin Polasek Museum in late April.

Hillis’ work can be seen locally at the Gateway Gallery in Round Hill.

Leesburg/Loudoun County Spring

Home

Saturday March 14 10AM-6PM
Sunday March 15 11AM-5PM

EXPO

FIND IT ALL UNDER ONE ROOF!

Douglass Community Center
405 E Market Street, Leesburg, VA 20176

BRING THIS AD FOR ONE FREE TICKET!

For more information, visit:
www.midatlanticexpos.com

JAMES YOUNG
From DIY's I HATE MY KITCHEN
Sat, Mar 14 | 12PM & 3PM

FREE ANTIQUES APPRAISAL
by Antique Expert Todd Peenstra
ALL WEEKEND!

One stop shopping for your home owners needs! Find a contractor, save with great show specials, meet with representatives with companies specializing in home improvements and enhancements of all kinds, from kitchens, baths, counters, heating and air, gutters, doors, flooring, and more! With over 60 hand-picked exhibitors that value quality work and customer service, the Spring Loudoun County Home Expo is a can't-miss opportunity for any home owner. Get ideas and get inspired!

SHOP LOCAL



Hardwood Flooring • Live Edge Slabs & Countertops
Reclaimed & Antique Lumber • Mantles • Cabinetry

Now Open Tuesday thru Friday 10AM-5PM
Saturday 10AM-1PM

540-441-7142

500 East Main Street, Purcellville, Virginia 20132
www.localwoodva.com

701 WEST MAIN

Purcellville, Va 20132

PAINT & PAPER PLACE 540.338.5100	BALCH'S TRANSMISSION 540.338.7447
AUCTIONS ON MAIN 540.441.7635	PURCELLVILLE FLORIST 540.338.4161

SHAMROCKER SUMMER CAMPS!

Leesburg Today **2015 BEST OF LOUDOUN**
Best Music Instruction Finalist Best Music Store

ready to **Learn? Teach!** we're ready to

LUCKY YOU!

Lessons - Rentals - Repairs
New & Consigned Instruments
Accessories

SHOP PHONE: (540)-338-3313 LESSONS LINE: (540)-333-2271

108 N. 21ST STREET • PURCELLVILLE, VA 20132
www.ShamrockMusicShop.com




STAY TUNED!
WE ARE MOVING TO A
NEW LOCATION SOON!

**SHAVE
AND A
HAIRCUT**

144 N 21st Street
Purcellville 20132
540-338-2189

Hours: Tues and Thurs; 10-7 Weds and Fri;
9-5 Sat; 9-3 Closed Sun and Mon

Est. 1971



Piper Dan's Keltic Shoppe

Irish & Scottish Imports

109 E. Main Street, "Old Town" Purcellville, VA
540-751-0777

St. Patrick's Day Headquarters
Free Gift Wrapping

New Shipment of Pubbin' Stuff,
including t-shirts, fun hats, scarves,
boas, fine plastic jewelry, bubbles, and more.

New Guinness bar items and clothing.
Irish Soda Bread & Scone Mix
along with your favorite Irish jams

As always we offer FREE GIFT WRAPPING
for all of your St. Patrick's Day Gifts!
CELEBRATE SAFELY!

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH
BAGPIPING PERFORMANCES by
Danny Knight,
Professional Bagpiper
(call for times)

Bagpiping Services for any Occasion, and Instruction by Appointment

HUGE CLEARANCE SALE



up to **75% OFF**

FURNITURE HOME DECOR & CLOTHING
SALE ENDS 3/22/15

RE-LOVE IT
A Consignment Shoppe

HOME DECOR → CLOTHING BOUTIQUE → AND MORE

138 N. 21ST STREET PURCELLVILLE, VA
540.751.0707 Email us at: reloveit@aol.com
WWW.RELOVEIT.COM

Call Judy at 703-727-1321 to advertise your Shop Local Business!

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

SHOP LOCAL

KATIE'S COUNTRY OUTFITTERS
WESTERN WEAR ★ LEATHER GOODS ★ JEWELRY ★ GIFTS

Stetson Hats Have Arrived

Just Returned from Denver Trade Show

NEW Western Wear Arriving Daily!

109 E. Main Street, "Old Town" Purcellville, VA
540-751-0777 ★ CLOSED MONDAYS

LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL SOMETHING?

We make custom purses, totes, table runners, place mats, wall hangings, quilts, and other decorator items for birthdays, anniversaries, showers, any special occasion.


On Saturday, March 21, Jeff Carper will be in shop all day cleaning home sewing machines. Please contact Penny so she can add you to the list.

Artful Ideas
www.artfulideas.biz
ArtfulIdeasPurcellville@gmail.com
571-442-6443 Ask for Penny
201H N Maple Ave, Purcellville VA

Erie Insurance
Above all in sERvIcE™

Auto • Home • Business • Life

Call us for a quote today.

 **Nikki Englund**
Englund Insurance Agency
www.englundinsurance.com
nikki@englundinsurance.com
540-338-1130

S882 Not all companies are licensed or operate in all states. Not all products are offered in all states. Go to erieinsurance.com for company licensure and territory information.

Call Judy at 703-727-1321 to advertise your Shop Local Business!



Welcome!

Multi-Award Winner Over 20 Years Experience Committed to Quality and Service

River's Edge LANDSCAPES

SERVICES

- DESIGN & CONSULTATION
- HARDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION
- LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS
- QUALITY STONE WORK
- WATER FEATURES
- OUTDOOR LIGHTING
- PROPERTY MAINTENANCE



Bluemont, VA
www.RiversEdgeLandscapes.com
540.955.5720

NOTICE ASPHALT PAVING

Spring Special
Savings **12% Off** with ad

We are currently paving in your area.

With our crew and equipment close by, we are offering prompt service and reasonable rates to all area residents for a short time. Please call immediately if you are interested in having any asphalt paving done this year.



WE DO:

**HOUSE DRIVEWAYS • PARKING LOTS
FARM LANES • LONG LANES • DRIVEWAYS
PRIVATE ROADS • PATCHWORK
NEW HOMES • GRADEWORK • SEAL COATING
BASEWORK • ASPHALT MILLINGS**

Maybe you have a bit area you would love to have blacktopped but you can't afford to pave the whole thing right now. We install partial driveways. We can pave an area by your house just big enough to park your vehicles, or we can install as little as one load for you.

Tired of a Dust Bowl in the Summer and a Mud Hole in the Winter? Don't Fuss ... CALL US!

**Free Estimates • Fast Service • Quality Work
Full-Service Asphalt Paving**

Please call John Donohue for a FREE ESTIMATE

(571) 255-9187

From date, continued from page 1

citizens gunning for celebrity attendance at their events, contacted Eagles' linebacker Emmanuel Acho to ask if he'd join as her date to the high school's prom.

Acho is well known on social media for his charity efforts. So, she asked him if he would be her date to prom if a post on Twitter received 2,000 retweets. Acho upped the ante to 10,000 retweets. If she could reach that, she'd have him as her date. Delmonte topped that number within three hours and Acho found himself to be the loser of a bet, but a winner of a sure-to-be special night.

Acho spends the off-season as a graduate student at the University of Texas in Austin. But this didn't stop the NFL player from

purchasing a \$500 ticket to Purcellville and spending another \$450 for room and board in order to ask Delmonte one special question in person.

On Thursday, Feb. 26, Delmonte was exiting the principal's office where she was asking how to submit a special request to the School Board for Acho to attend prom when she rounded the bend to see the linebacker in the flesh.

"Will you go to prom with me?" He asked her.

Needless to say, she said yes. Now, Hannah is on the hunt for an Eagles green dress and Acho is looking for complimentary accessories. He told attending media outlets that he's also trying to figure out where to buy a corsage ahead of the May 9 event.

**Mom's
APPLE PIE**

hill high

*Visit our location
at Hill High Orchards!*

**OPEN WEEKDAYS 8-7
SAT 8-6 SUN 8-5**



**Try Mom's
March Special
IRISH SODA BREAD!**

Sweet & Savory Pies

Sandwiches • BBQ • Ice Cream • Coffee • Espresso

Trickling Springs Organic Milk & Cheese

Wine & Craft Brews

**MOM'S APPLE PIE HILL HIGH
35246 HARRY BYRD HIGHWAY, SUITE 120
ROUND HILL, VA 20141
540.338.1800**

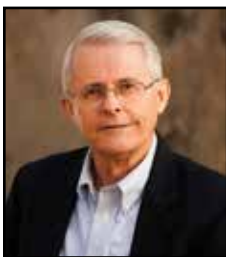
and our original store:

**220 LOUDOUN ST SE, LEESBURG, VA 20175
703.771.8590**

MOMSAPPLEPIECO.COM

Bill To Aid Sexual Assault Reporting At Colleges

Senate Bill No. 712, which relates to higher education institutions and the reporting of sexual assault, was chief patroned by Sen. Richard Black (R – Loudoun and Prince William), and the bill passed the Senate with a vote of 38-Y 0-N.



Sen. Richard Black

Senator Black was a previous JAG Officer in the Army, where he successfully prosecuted countless cases of rape, and earned a reputation of being tough on crime when he was promoted to Chief Prosecutor, heading the Army's Criminal Law Division, out of the Pentagon.

It was initially a concern that this bill would require victims of sexual assault to come forth and pursue law-enforcement involvement, once a faculty member was told of the assault. However, upon review by the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, a sturdier version of the bill has emerged which takes careful consideration of the victim.

Upon receiving information about a sexual assault incident, any responsible person employed at a public institution of higher education must inform the Title

IX coordinator on campus of the assault within 4 hours of its receipt. The Title IX coordinator then informs the victim that she/he has the option of notifying proper law-enforcement entities, as well as informs the victim of the assessment team process. Such process includes a team of, at minimum, a designated employee of the institution, the Title IX coordinator, a representative from the campus police department, and a representative from the local primary law-enforcement agency; the team will meet within 48 hours of receipt by the Title IX coordinator of a report of sexual assault and its job is to conduct necessary research into the matter and to determine the most viable means of confronting the issue, with respect to the victim's wishes.

Last year Senator Black sponsored SB658 which, upon being signed into law, began the process for mandatory rape kit testing and processing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. All rape kits in the possession of the Commonwealth must be processed and documented in a state-wide database to ensure the proper handling of sexual assault and rape cases. The law could potentially help identify serial rapists, as well as close unfinished cases.

Stop Hunger Now - April 11 Event

On Saturday, April 11, from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., Stop Hunger Now will hold its fifth annual meal-packaging event in Round Hill to be held at Round Hill Elementary School, 17115 Evening Star Drive, Round Hill. The event is hosted by Round Hill United Methodist Church. Five hundred or more volunteers are needed to package at least 50,000 meals.

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world. The organization is driven by a vision of a world without hunger and a mission to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-saving aid to the world's most vulnerable and by creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources. Stop Hunger Now's meal packaging program provides volunteers the opportunity to package dehydrated, high protein, and highly nutritious meals that are used primarily to support development programs and to save lives in developing countries around the world.

This manpower-intensive, single day project is an outstanding public service opportunity for individuals, church groups, youth organizations, or other community service organizations to get involved in a major service project that is already planned and organized on your behalf. To sign up and donate go to <http://events.stophungernow.org/rh2015> or email Regina Kyle at stophungerroundhill@gmail.com.

Each meal costs approximately 29 cents and monetary donations are also needed to fund the 50,000 plus meals.

WE TREAT YOUR WATER WELL!

WATER SOFTENERS

WATER FILTERS

IRON & SULFUR REMOVAL FILTERS

ACID NEUTRALIZERS

SEDIMENT FILTERS

Email: rbarr@harviewwater.com
harviewwater.com

Do you have any of these water quality problems?

- Hard water - white/gray buildup
- Iron stains - yellow/reddish brown stains
- Hydrogen sulfide - rotten egg color
- Acidic water - blue-green stains
- Sediment - clogged aerators, damaged appliances

HARVIE WATER SOLUTIONS

FREE WATER ANALYSIS - CALL TODAY: 703.728.7460

Kathy Shipley

"Excellence in Real Estate"

REMAX Premier Each office Independently Owned and Operated

www.KathyShipley.com | kathyshipleyremax@comcast.net | 540.822.5123 | 703.314.5539

NEW LISTING

30 ACRES \$449,000

Rarely available Potomac River Front property. Absolutely stunning!! Approx 2550 Ft of River Frontage. Views to Harper's Ferry. True beauty and wildlife including bald eagles. Very livable 2 bedroom home w/full basement. One of a kind property.

CHARMING CAPE COD

\$509,000

Gorgeous home built by Craftmark with their known quality. Over 4,600 finished sq ft. on 3 levels w/lofty 9 ft ceiling on each. 4 bedroom, 4.5 baths!! 3 Fireplaces, hardwood thru out main level, gourmet kitchen, luxurious master suite w/FP, slate front porch, rear azek deck w/stone walls and patio. A perfect 10!!

COMING SOON

2 SEPARATE LOTS INCLUDED IN PRICE!! \$399,900

Absolutely charming cape cod w/huge front porch. Private lot w/fruit trees, minutes from town on hard surfaced road. Finished area above garage includes, kitchen, bath & 2 extra rooms. Perfect for home office or studio. Beautiful stone FP w/electric insert. Plantation shutters thru out. Fresh paint and enclosed porch.

COMING SOON

\$495,000

One of a kind brick ranch with 2800 sq ft on main level and 1407 on the lower level. Beautifully maintained with many hardwood floors. Huge Rooms. Delightful screened porch with entrance from LR, FR, and Master that overlooks stunning views. Fireplace in LR. Huge master bath w/separate shower, tub and double sinks. Alarm and smoke security systems. Stunning home.

COMING SOON

\$399,000

Fabulous, unique log home. Over 2500 finished sq ft on two levels. New kitchen w/solid surface counter tops. Charming stone surround free standing gas stove in LR. Large deck off Kitchen. Sunny basement is fully finished with FR, Rec Rm, Full Bath, and 3 additional rooms. Walk out to large lower level deck. Beautiful mountain views from front porch. Detached 2 car garage & shed. On hard surface road.

List with Kathy. Get Great Results.

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN WORLD HUNGER

Packaging meals is a fun, hands-on way to make a difference and impact the lives of those suffering from hunger!

SAVE THE DATE:
ONE day only!

Saturday, April 11 • 8 am - 12 pm,

Round Hill Elementary School
17115 Evening Star Drive
Round Hill, VA 20141

STOP HUNGER NOW.

Working together
to end world hunger

EVENTS.STOPHUNGERNOW.ORG/RH2015

Watershed, continued from page 1



No trespassing signs and locked gates. Locked mailbox with map of property for invited guests.

leadership role local governments can play in preserving open space. The town's decision will help protect local drinking water and maintain the area's natural beauty for generations to come."

Property Remains Closed To The Public Despite Historic Easement

Despite the historic easement filed by the Loudoun County Clerk of the Court on Earth Day, 2009, the 1,200 plus acre natural gem remains closed to the public.

While the easement limits present and future development of the property, as is routine with agreements of this type the easement does not prohibit traditional uses such as farming, management of the forests for timber harvesting, set asides for natural areas and use of the land for public recreational purposes.

However, following a town policy in force now since the 1930s, 20 year town manager veteran Rob Lohr has steadfastly barred interested members of the public from using the land in any way, a method of managing the property supported by a long list of town councils, mayors and town councils, including the more recent administration of mayors John T. Marsh, Bill Druhan and Bob Lazaro.

Private Permit System

Successive Purcellville administrations have supported the policy of limiting access to the land to select town employees, volunteers, friends and others for personal hunting and fishing activities. While individuals must meet the training and other requirements for a valid hunting and/or fishing license and be "permitted," records as to who has accessed the property, when and why is not easily traceable via public record.

At the same time, members of the general public are not given access to the property for any reason, nor are county employees or members of the State Police. Members of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Department are likewise excluded.

Unlike other publically owned properties of its kind, the 1,200-acre property – is also closed to teachers and students within the Loudoun County public school system, as well as educators and students from area private schools.

Each year the town issues a series of permits that allow select individuals, including town employees and the professional volunteers that work on various town commissions and boards to hunt and fish on the property. According to town manager Rob Lohr, hunting permits are granted, in part, to help control deer populations. Parts of the property have also been used to harvest timber, mostly in connection with efforts to control insect infestations. But again, only people loosely described by Lohr as "serving the town" can qualify for permits.

The town and its select number of permit holders have access to the reservoir watershed through easements granted by the property owners. There is no public road access. Two entrance points framed locked gates are posted with "no trespassing" signs.



One of the property's reservoir pools.

Public Access To Watersheds And Other Natural Areas Common And Economically Beneficial

With the proper security and management protocols in place, public access to watershed lands, the areas around public reservoirs and other public outdoor sites are common and widespread, not just because of the health, educational and other benefits they provide to nearby communities, but also because of their significant economic benefits.

Outdoor enthusiasts point out that the Purcellville watershed's proximity to the Appalachian Trail and nearby recreational venues presents the town with a wealth of opportunity to capture both local and regional tourism dollars. Today, cyclists, trail runners, equestrians, birdwatchers, hikers, hunters, fisherman and others pump thousands of dollars into the local economy through their use of Bear's Den (Snicker's Gap at Rt. 7), the 35-mile Waterford Cruise Loop, Seneca Creek State Park (Gaithersburg, Md.), Sky Meadows (Upperville), and Raven's Rock (Bluemont) and Sleeter Lake (Round Hill).

In Virginia, cities, towns and villages up and down the Appalachian Trail, along the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers and in proximity to national forests and other public outdoor areas have adopted ambitious programs to promote their natural resources, provide for community recreation and shore up their economic base.

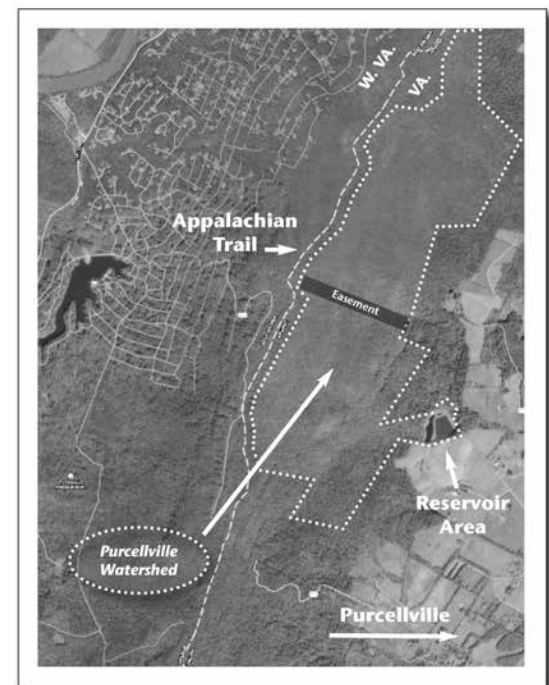
These include Blue Ridge Parkway communities and areas with town and city parks and public watersheds from Damascus, to Roanoke, to Luray, to Waynesboro and Harpers Ferry, among others. In the Washington, DC area advocates have worked tirelessly to develop the recreational and economic benefits of the Capital Crescent Trail, the C&O Canal, the Little Falls Branch Stream Valley Trail and others. Fredericksburg has the popular Motts Run Reservoir Recreation Area – a small parcel of land with a 160-acre reservoir and an 860-acre natural area. Charlottesville has the very successful Ragged Mountain Natural area and Ragged Mountain Reservoir, carefully managed lands that provide for hiking, fishing and wildlife observation. In Roanoke, Va. – a city well know for its promotion of city-owned natural areas – officials estimate that up to 2,500 people are employed providing outdoor recreational services or in manufacturing, distribution, retail and services for the outdoor market.



Purcellville Watershed trail: All trails in the watershed are closed to the public.

Watershed Promoters Seek Citizen Input, Advocate For A Sense Of Public "Ownership"

According to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation 2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan, Purcellville spends only \$3.47 per capita providing recreational opportunities for its residents, a low grade for the



Map of Watershed Property

region as a whole. Appropriately managed public access to the Purcellville watershed would go a long way toward closing that gap with no cost to the public at large, as the Friends of the Purcellville Watershed is offering to plan and build the multi-use trails at no cost to the town.

In fact, statistics show that public trails and other recreational assets also increase nearby property values, promote physical and mental health, provide income opportunities for businesses that serve users of such systems, including restaurants, cafes and coffee shops, bicycle shops, fishing and hunting supply companies and local hospitality businesses, including B&Bs.

Promoters of public access to such areas point out that open spaces, watersheds and reservoir lands that are properly managed benefit immensely from the sense of ownership that hikers, cyclists, equestrians, hunters, fishermen, students and teachers develop in relationship to them. Sportsmen, conservationists, local businesses, school children and others often help maintain trails, for example. And, regular public usage of outdoor areas also helps park police, local sheriff's departments and maintenance crews keep these places safe and secure.

Momentum Grows For Greater Public Access – Presentation Scheduled For March 10

In most cases, security and liability issues have been raised as biggest concern with respect to public access to watershed lands.

However, last year mountain bike enthusiasts lead the fight to secure approval from the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors to allow mountain biking on county park properties and worked with the Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services and equestrian and other groups to open a multiuse trail near the county landfill.

A common theme among other watershed areas opened to recreational use is that the active usage promotes a local sense of ownership and actually provides increased security, as there are more eyes and ears watching and protecting this resource. Currently, anyone could enter the watershed from any number of directions unnoticed.

In Purcellville, a diverse coalition of individuals and organizations speaking on behalf of hunters, fisherman, educators, equestrians, mountain bikers, birdwatchers and others is now challenging what they see as Purcellville's antiquated and privileged access-only policy with respect to the 1,200 acre watershed property.

During a June 2014 meeting, the Purcellville Town Council unanimously adopted a resolution reiterating that there would be no trails established – either for horses,

Continued on page 15

Watershed, continued from page 14

cyclists or walkers – on the reservoir property. This policy also remained unchanged when the property was renamed the Robert W. Lazaro Watershed Property – after then outgoing Mayor Bob Lazaro – in June of 2014.

Now, following up on efforts that have gained momentum

over the one and a half to 2 years – including grassroots organizing that took place during the 2014 local elections cycle – a group known as Friends of the Purcellville Watershed has emerged and will make a formal presentation in support of public access to the watershed to the Purcellville Town Council’s monthly work session on March 10.

Uphill Battle But Proponents Of Public Access Hope To Prevail

Friends of the Purcellville Watershed have acknowledged that they face an uphill battle, but are hopeful that a mutually beneficial agreement can be reached.

The goal of the group is to convince the town to replace the current town-employee-only access policy with a policy that welcomes the public to the property based on a simple and affordable, self-funding fee system. As the grassroots petition for the group details, “The 1,200 plus wooded acres in the watershed are currently used by a select few town approved employees for hunting and fishing, but is currently closed to everyone else ... The purpose of this petition is to show citizen support to the Purcellville Town Council to allow recreational access to the property for a multi-use trail system ... trails [that] would allow hiking, running, cycling, equestrian activities, as well as provide educational and leisure opportunities[for all].”

According to Friends of the Purcellville Watershed member Christian Ramsey, the public access suggestions being made by the group are both quite moderate and quite common for public properties of this kind. “What we are asking for is not unusual, and has been accomplished safely and easily in many places, including locally. Given that, we’ve been surprised at the political resistance we’ve encountered. It seems that many of the public officials in in Purcellville who’ve controlled the situation for so long don’t even want to have the conversation.”

The group is spreading the message that, again, access to watershed properties for recreation purposes is not uncommon. Frederick, Md., Roanoke, Va., New York City, Washington D.C., and Los Angeles are all examples of municipalities which allow recreation access to their watershed lands and also rely on the public to help maintain them and keep them safe for all users. In Purcellville, trails would allow hiking, running, cycling, equestrian activities,

Continued on page 18

History And Description Of The Watershed Property

The Purcellville watershed is today among 196 Loudoun County properties totaling almost 25,000 acres protected by conservation easement by the Virginia Outdoor Foundation. Loudoun ranks fifth in the state in terms of the number of properties protected, and seventh – behind Arbermarle, Bath, Fauquier, Orange, Rappahannock and Rockbridge counties – in terms of the total acreage protected.

The reservoir itself is 8 acres in size and located in a small southeast corner of the property at the end of Potts Lane off of Edgewood Road (Rt. 716). It is fed by Harris Spring, Potts Spring and Cooper Spring and sits on land at the headwaters for the Catoctin Creek Watershed. The reservoir has a storage capacity 29 million gallons and provides nearly one-half of the drinking water for the town. Constant monitoring of the reservoir and associated pools, berms and water levels ensure adequate water supplies for the town of Purcellville. While the three springs that feed the reservoir flow and originate throughout the 1,200 plus acre town property, the majority of the acreage is free from restriction with respect to how its use would affect water levels.

The watershed is bordered on the west by a dramatically beautiful high-ridge segment of the Appalachian Trail. The 2,174 mile trail runs through the Appalachian Mountains from Maine to Georgia, and attracting local day and weekend hikers, and others. The property’s northern, eastern and southern boundaries are framed by privately held land, including farms, vineyards,



The historic Circa 1746 Potts family farm. Photo: Tom Lussier

large estates and residential neighborhoods. One of the most historic bordering properties is Edgewood Farm, homesteaded in 1746 by the Potts family.

Whether private or public – as in the case of the Purcellville watershed – conservation lands like this represent the natural resource banks of the future. All permanently protect land as open space, preserving the health of wildlife populations, wetlands, ground water, stream corridors and forest systems. Depending on how they are managed, they also provide for broad educational and recreational opportunities, and in most cases provide significant economic benefits to the community as a whole.

Join us for our

St. Patrick's

Birthday Bash for Murphy!

March 14th from 12-4pm

We are kicking off our Patio Service Season by celebrating the 2nd birthday of our loveable GIANT, Murphy!

FREE ADMISSION

BEER • WINE • FOOD • FAMILY FUN • LIVE MUSIC

FARM SHOP OPEN

Th - Sat, 11am - 5:30pm

Fields of Athenry

JOIN US SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!

12 noon-4pm

Enjoy fresh farm cuisine, beer and wine on the patio. Check out website for more information.

pasture-raised, antibiotic & hormone-free fresh meats, local & organic prepared meals, cheeses and more

www.FieldsofAthenryFarm.com

Home & Office Delivery Available!

ORDER ONLINE!

LOUDOUN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Be A Part Of It!
2013-14 SMALL BUSINESS AWARD FINALIST

703-300-5765 38082 Snickersville Turnpike Purcellville, VA 20132

All of your lawn & landscaping needs

GARDEN DELIGHTS

Garden Care Services

Spring Clean-up • Garden Design
 Bed & Garden Prep • New Planting
 Dividing & Transplanting
 Mulching • Weed & Pest Control
 Shrub Trimming • Tree Pruning
 Landscape Cloth Protection
 Soil Improvement & Fertilizing
 Brush Clearing/Removal • Tilling
 Turf Repair & Home Sales Prep

GARDEN MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS AVAILABLE

Knowledgeable & Experienced Gardeners For All Your Garden Needs

540-822-4434
www.GardenDelights4U.com

YOUR LOCAL TREE SERVICE.

We Take Care of Your Trees.

- Hardwood • Stump Grinding
- Tree Trimming & Removal
- Hardwood Mulch

ARBOGAST LAWN & TREE INC.
 Licensed Insured

530 E. G Street • Purcellville, VA 20132
 540-338-5714 • Cell 540-454-0514
arbogast6@aol.com

SHOP GREEN 540-338-9118 SHOP LOCAL

ABERNETHY & SPENCER

Greenhouse & Garden Center

Specializing in native, local landscapes and gardens
 18035 MAPLE AVE./LINCOLN RD. • PURCELLVILLE

Organic & Heirloom Seeds
 Best Mulch in Loudoun!
 Soil Nutrients & Starters
 Tools • Gloves
 Pottery & Statuary
 Pest Control
 Garden Accents • Gifts
 5 acres of trees, shrubs, grasses, perennials, annuals... so much more!
 Committed to our community with green & eco-friendly products

abernethyspencer.com

Find us on Facebook

OPEN MON. - SAT. 9 TO 5 • SUN 10 TO 4

Decorative Concrete & Hardscaping Specialist

Providing Your Home with a Unique & Special Look

Call Today for your FREE Consultation & Enjoy Summer on your new Patio!

Established and Impressing Clients Since 1983

GREAT FALLS DEVELOPMENT CO., INC.

571.323.2566 | GreatFallsDev@msn.com
www.GreatFallsDevelopment.com

LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATES INCORPORATED

DISTINCTIVE LANDSCAPE DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION
 Home - Farm - Estate

WWW.LANDSCAPEASSOCIATES.NET
 703.327.4050
 540.687.8850

It's Mulch Time. Our Selection is Great!

WE DELIVER

Mon - Fri 8 am til 5 pm
 and Sat 8 am til 2 pm

Double shredded
 Hardwood Mulch;
 Leaf Mulch;
 Dyed Black Mulch

Plus, all kinds of stone, gravel and pea gravel, sand for your landscaping needs

LOUDOUN MILLING
Loudoun County Milling Company
 Rt 7 Bypass @ Hamilton Exit
540-338-7161
www.LoudounMillingFeeds.com

Nine Ideas As You Prepare Your Garden For Spring

– By Donna Williamson

As winter winds down, we are so eager to get out and start cleaning-up and getting the growing season going. Many folks start pruning; remember that annual/regular pruning is not required or necessary. Spring flowering plants, like forsythia, can be pruned after flowering. Summer bloomers, like lavender, can be pruned earlier in spring as they flower on new growth. (For more info see pruning lists at www.dwfinegardening.com)

Soils can be very wet in spring – wait until they dry out a bit. Plants need both air and water to thrive and winter wet soils are very low on air spaces. To test, put one half cup of soil in your hand and form a tight ball. Drop the ball on the soil from about 3 feet high. If it breaks into small pieces or shatters, the soil is not too wet. If it breaks into a couple of big chunks or doesn't break at all, it's still too wet. Soils with a lot of clay, especially areas where the topsoil has been removed (newer construction) will be slow in draining. Better to build a sand/compost berm above the clay and plant in that. Roots will eventually reach the native clay soil and be fine.

Moderating spring weather can still present problems. Late frosts have become common in our area and can devastate flowering fruit tree crops. Thunderstorms can bring strong winds and hail. Tomatoes, basil, coleus, and other warm season growers can be hit by late frosts or set back by cold soils. Try to resist planting too early. Make sure it's reliably warm before planting warm season plants – regularly 55 degrees at night is good. Keep some big baskets or boxes around to cover new plants in case a hailstorm hits.

Thinking about vegetables? Raised beds can be a bonus in



the spring since soils drain quickly (a problem in dry summer) and soils warm earlier. There are several positive reasons to grow your veggies in raised beds. Tilling is not necessary, just a clean up from previous plantings. Good compost is easy to add. Depending on their height of the beds, rabbits and other small critters can be kept out of lush lettuce, arugula, and other delicious plants. As we get older, working while standing is more comfortable than squatting or kneeling. Planting areas can be mowed or mulched around easily and fertilizers can be used only where needed. Raised beds may seem like a big effort but they pay off in the long term.

Birds don't feed their babes seeds – they feed them hundreds of tiny caterpillars. Even the hated tent caterpillars nourish baby mockingbirds and other species. Try not to worry to much about these critters – if they set up in your close-to-the-house cherry or crabapple, you can wind up the nest with a nail in the end of a broom handle and leave it at a distance on the ground where mice and birds will feast. No need to set it on fire or spray with toxic chemicals. Tents in wild cherries are fine. All of these trees can re-foliate after the tents are naturally gone. And the bird babes will get fat and sassy.

A layer of good compost in rose, annual, and vegetable gardens is a way to keep nutrients at good levels for these seasonally heavy feeders. Perennials, woody plants and trees don't usually need any extra fertilization – they are long term residents and pushing extra growth with fertilizers can be detrimental over time.

If you need to move perennials or shrubs, this is the time to do it. With plenty of moisture in the ground, usually plentiful spring rains, and warming temperatures, plants moved at this

time will get growing quickly in a new location. Dig them with a nice ball of soil and plant them at the same level in their new spot.

Put a couple of plastic barrels out to catch generous spring rainwater. Rain barrels are great – if you don't have one, a 30-gallon plastic barrel will be fine. You can use a pitcher to get water for containers or those seedlings you just added to the garden. Plants respond very well to rain.

Try some new and different plants this year – annuals are a good value for gardeners – they continue to bloom for extended periods, feed pollinators, and can cover the ground. Perennial plants can add to your landscape year after year with charming flowers and season-long foliage. Shrubs and trees build permanent beauty into your landscape and provide habitat and food for birds.

Donna Williamson is a garden designer and coach. She has taught classes at the State Arboretum of Virginia, Oatlands and Shenandoah University. She has two e-books on Amazon. Email Donna at donnawilliamson2002@earthlink.net or call 540 877-2002.

The Real Valentine's Heart

– By Mary Rose Lunde

A hero is someone who cares enough to make a difference. Most are known for bravery, strength and selflessness. Selflessness is the real key. Putting another person's needs in front of your own is not an easy task, and it requires much personal sacrifice. In my opinion the truest of these heroes are those who are humble enough to stay in the shadows. They are the people that we see around us, who we all assume are common, ordinary people. But they aren't.



LUNDE

I've recently discovered a new type of hero based on these criteria. Last week, I found myself taking a six and a half hour trip back to Northern Virginia on a Wednesday. It meant leaving the comfort of Virginia Tech where I had a community (Chi Alpha) that supported me. I left though to deal with a family emergency. My sister, only 14 years old, went into open heart surgery earlier that morning due to a heart condition that was discovered the previous day. The actual condition, known as ALCAPA, developed before my sister was born. Her left coronary artery was connected to a pulmonary artery instead of the aorta.

When I arrived at the hospital I expected to see bleak white walls - somewhat similar to the concrete blocks that line my dorm. What I didn't expect was the bright, almost neon colored walls that lined Children's Hospital in Washington D.C. It seemed to me that the intention was to cancel out the negative connotation of a standard dreary hospital. They succeeded, until you walked into the specific room you were supposed to visit.

Honestly though, despite the circumstances of a visit to the hospital, the positive outweighs the negative connotations of a hospital. Those positive feelings come from the staff—the real heroes. They are the ones who are always around - whether it is 2 in the afternoon or 2 in the morning.

Every day they came and greeted my sister with warm hearts. We weren't the only ones encouraging her to eat and walk. We weren't the driving force behind her

Continued on page 19

All of your lawn & landscaping needs

GET PLANTING!
FRUIT TREES, VEGETABLES & HERBS

IT'S CHICK TIME!

Variety of breeds arriving weekly.
Turkeys, Guineas and Ducks also available!

SOUTHERN STATES
Farmer owned since 1923.
SOUTHERN STATES PURCELLVILLE
261 North 21St, Purcellville VA 20132
Phone: 540-338-7136

DESIGN
BUILD
MAINTAIN

OASIS
LANDSCAPING
703.723.0099
WWW.OASISLANDSCAPING.COM

HARDSCAPES | POOLS | LANDSCAPING | DECKS
FENCES | IRRIGATION | LIGHTING | PAVILIONS
PERGOLAS | OUTDOOR KITCHENS | FIREPLACES



S
U
M
M
E
R
C
A
M
P
S

My Best Horse Camp Ever!

Healthy Environment • Close Supervision

- LEARNING through FUN - ADVENTURE - FRIENDSHIP
- A new exciting THEME every week
- DAILY RIDING LESSONS and HORSE ACTIVITIES
- BAREBACK RIDING
- COUNSELOR in Training Program
- CAMP HOURS for working parent(s) 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM
- CAMP SHOW every Friday Afternoon
- And soooo much more...

- Spring Break Camp
March 30-April 3

- (One Day Camp) April 6

- 11 weeks Summer Camp
June 22-Sept 4



AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF EQUESTRIAN
SCIENCES

www.campkoda.com
info@campkoda.com

Call now for a personal tour or more info.

703.779.8082

MAIL: 19876 Riders Success Lane
Leesburg, VA 20175

ON YOUR GPS: 19844 James Monroe Hwy

Are you Looking for a Place for Your Child This Summer?



MINNIELAND

AT LEESBURG

3 Greenway Drive
Leesburg, VA 20175

703-771-9656

leesburg@minnieland.com



**CAMP
EDVENTURE**



For One Affordable Price Our Campers...

- Fuel their active day with free breakfast, lunch and snacks
- Swim in our private pools and cool off in our water play areas
- Run, jump, ride, slide and swing on our amazing playgrounds
- Pursue their interests in the arts, reading, cooking and robotics
- Exercise active bodies with organized sports activities and games
- Participate in fun, educational and enriching Field Trips
- Enjoy their well-deserved summer vacation with their friends

More than 55 locations in Virginia

Find the nearest Camp Edventure near you at www.minnieland.com,
or call 703-583-6158 for more information.

Watershed, continued from page 15

as well as provide educational and leisure opportunities.

A fee based permit system, which requires users to purchase either a day pass or annual pass, are options of what could be implemented.

The Future Of The Purcellville Watershed

Friends of The Purcellville Watershed have collected nearly 500 signatures in support of some form of public access to the Robert W. Lazaro Watershed property.

The organization is hopeful that upon the conclusion of their presentation on March 10 the Purcellville Town Council will see fit to forward the issue for consideration to the Town Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and /or its Economic Development Advisory Committee. "We envision the watershed as a place the residents of Purcellville, as well as visitors (and their tourism dollars), can use to exercise and enjoy leisure time, walking and listening to the wind blow through the trees and the birds chirping; as well as providing outdoor educational opportunities for children and adults of all ages," said Rob Harrington - a member of the Board of Directors of the Potomac Heritage Trail Association who is also working with the Friends of the Purcellville Watershed. The group has stated that they have no intention of including recreation anywhere near the reservoir.

The Parks and Recreation Board's duty is to "serve as the coordinating and reviewing body of the Town for matters related to parks, sidewalks, trails and recreational facilities and activities in and adjacent to the Town limits." The Economic Development Advisory Committee provides the town council with advice on matters "relating to the promotion of a sound economy for the Town," including "recommendations on new policies and programs to strengthen the Town's commercial tax base by supporting the existing business community and encouraging new businesses to locate within the Town."

Said Mayor Kwasi Fraser: "We cannot have a comprehensive asset management strategy without considering Purcellville's 1,200 acre watershed property that includes the Hirst Reservoir northwest of town in the Blue Ridge Mountains. This property has significant recreational, environmental, and economical value for our citizens. With thorough risk assessment and planning, it can be leveraged to inform and to compliment an integrated park, recreational and environmental conservation strategy. Over the next few months, we look forward to hearing from our citizens, adjacent property owners, and other stakeholders about their visions for this property."

As FPW advocate Ramsey noted, "The way the town has allowed access to a limited group of people for so long is unfair. For that reason, we hope that the town staff involved in the decision-making will involve our group in their analysis of the pros and cons of public access to the watershed. It is time."

Information on the friends of the Purcellville Watershed's efforts, including their online petition can be found at www.facebook.com/PurcellvilleWatershed. The agenda for the Purcellville's March 10 work session, along with requests to submit public comments and/or speak can be found at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

Amy & Dan Smith's Planning For Life: Looking Beyond U.S. Borders

– By Amy and Dan Smith

Even though U.S. equities still represent the single largest portion of the world stock markets, more than half of the world's total stock market capitalization lies outside the United States, and economic growth rates outside the United States have in some cases exceeded that of the United States. Investors are beginning to consider diversifying their holdings beyond U.S. borders as a result. In the past, I have often recommended allocating no more than 10-20 percent of an investor's overall portfolio to international funds. However, with the growth of global markets and the European Central Bank's recent initiation of quantitative easing, many experts now suggest an even higher percentage can be appropriate given the right circumstances.

The following article "Thoughts on Europe" is from Chris Bailey, Raymond James European Strategist. The complete article can be found on my website www.amysmithwealthmanagement.com under "Market View" then "Investment Strategy Quarterly".

Thoughts on Europe

From the perspective of American investors, this year's rise of the U.S. dollar pushed most international markets into losses although the history books show that, in local currencies, many European and international equity markets made gains during 2014. However, any losses are modest compared to those apparent in mid-October when most international equity markets hit their lows for the year. By contrast, fixed income markets in Europe and Asia have been very strong with generally material yield compression to levels not seen in modern financial history.

To understand the reasons for the above, it's necessary to review the policy actions of the European Central Bank (ECB) and Bank of Japan (BOJ) and the People's Bank of China (PBOC). Throughout

2014, the ECB loosened policy that included interest rate cuts and the announcement of asset buying support mechanisms. Meanwhile, the BOJ announced a material expansion of the quantitative easing program and the PBOC also cut interest rates for the first time in two years.

Unifying reasons for these actions was a fear that these economies would slip into a slower growth zone, such as outright recession in Europe and Japan and below recent-trend-growth rates in China. In the last few months of 2014, the anticipated expansion of these pro-growth policies into 2015 has provided a strong boost since the mid-October lows. In late December, market fears about the euro zone resurfaced amid political crisis in Greece, stoking concerns about a renegotiation of it bailout.

Europe's outlook for 2015 rests on the credibility of policy-makers. Further stimulus measures to help boost growth seem very likely in the euro zone; however these are unlikely to be sufficient on their own to sustainably boost the local economies and retain investor confidence. This role rests with the speed of structural reforms around taxation, labor markets and other company productivity initiatives. If legislative movement in Europe can be successfully accomplished, the investment outlook for the euro zone in particular is bright.

The foregoing article contains general information only and is not intended to convey investment advice. Amy V. Smith Wealth Management, an independent firm, 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. Dan Smith is not affiliated with Raymond James. Past performance may not be indicative of future results. Investing involves risk and investors may incur profit or a loss.

International investing involves special risks, including currency fluctuations, different financial accounting standards, and possible political and economic volatility. Investing in emerging markets and frontier markets can be riskier in well-established foreign markets.

Valentine's Heart, continued from page 17

recovery, her nurses and doctors were. Each and every one of them carried their job with a smile on their face, not easily since it is a hospital. I commend each and every one of them and thanked them profusely for helping my sister.

On Valentine's Day, they even brought a cookie for her to decorate as well as a homemade Valentine card from her favorite nurse Amy. It wasn't much, but it meant a lot. Taking the time to care for someone that is going through a rough time is hard—especially if they had to deal with an overly emotional parent or big sister. I don't know how these nurses embody so much hope and positivity when they are working in such a negatively associated place.

It isn't easy to watch someone you love and care so much for hurting. It is easy, however, to watch them being taken care of by someone who genuinely cares. These nurses are the strong ones, who are always there to lend a hand. They're the true heroes on Valentine's Day for those who need some love.

Mary Rose Lunde is a freshman at Virginia Tech involved in Chi Alpha student ministry. She wants to thank Children's Hospital and all of the nurses that helped take care of her baby sister.

Make Like a Daffodil ... Think Like A Bluebird

– By Sarah Nearis

Designer Prabal Gurung, known for his daring yet timeless fashions, has said that the inspiration for his spring 2015 clothes is to allow women "to be caught in motion." Another designer, Lie Sang Bong, favors fashion that celebrates the body. His spring 2015 collection will, he says, "evoke optimism." And designer Wes Gordon, known for luxury and sophistication with a youthful edge, has said that his spring 2015 line is inspired by "the colors, atmosphere, and freshness of morning light."

The "freshness of morning light?" OK. I think I know what that means. Because while the world that fashion designers occupy is, in many ways, a bit removed from that of the everyday woman, as we fantasize about shedding those itchy wool scarves and scuffed up winter boots, terms like optimism and the freshness of morning light sound downright practical! Clothing-wise, we're all ready to lighten up, pop out of our winter shells and welcome the warmth.

Make Like A Daffodil ... Let Spring Inspire You

My grandmother, Wanda, had the elegance of a daffodil as winter turned to spring. My sister and I loved to raid her closet at all times of the year. But, spring was the most fun. Even at age 70 she loved white denim, a stylish belt and casual espadrilles.

Wanda's skin and hair allowed her to wear colors that many women shrink from, lime green being one. While lime green is not necessarily a color I would want to define my look, in the spring I am in the mood to transition from my pallet of "cozy colors," as I call them – the browns, greys, burgundies, creams and dark golds that dominate my winter wardrobe — into the pale pink, white, light blue, yellow and lavender pallets we start seeing this time of year.

That's what I mean when I say, "make like a daffodil." You don't need to appear at the Easter table dressed in head-to-toe yellow – it is a transition you're aiming for, after all. You also don't have to be a slave to fashion to enjoy your spring wardrobe, and – I'll say it over and over again – you don't need to go out and spend lots of money.

Most of what you need to take advantage of the warmer weather



– and look at your wardrobe differently this spring – is right there in your closet.

Think Like A Bluebird ... And Keep Temperature In Mind

One technique I use is to put together four or five spring looks and then lay them out on my bed – a choice of shoes or sandals, pants, a skirt or some leggings, a top or blouse, a light jacket, and maybe some jewelry and/or hair accessories.

This process usually leads me to recreate a look from last year. So, I then do an exercise I call "Think Like A Bluebird."

Bluebirds are a really pretty combination of a rusty pink and a heavenly French violet, unusual colors but somehow perfect together. So, after I lay out my outfits I start switching things up, taking the jewelry from one outfit and adding it to the skirt from another, the scarf I'd used in one gets tied onto the purse I'd included in another, and so on. All of a sudden you have several new looks – all from one old closet.

Simplifying your wardrobe can take you easily into spring, too. So, don't stop wearing black and grey altogether – these colors look great with pale colors and allow you to focus your look on what you've paired them with.

And, even though you are moving into lighter fabrics and crop pants, take an extra layer or two with you to stay warm on a cool spring night or a rainy day. A light sweater or jacket that you can tie around your waist until and if you need it is an ideal choice, as is a silk scarf.

Finally, if you've gotten away from dresses, pull them out and see how you can make them work for spring. A simple floral, striped or lightly textured dress is a very versatile spring item. Make like a daffodil ... think like a bluebird!

Sarah Nearis is a fashion stylist, fashion blogger and style expert. A graduate of Bay State College in Boston and The School of Style, Sarah's attitude is as refreshing as her impossibly sweet personality. Connect with Sarah on her All Things Beautiful blog: sarahnearis.blogspot.com.

Public Asked To Name Two New Parks And Adult Day Center

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has directed the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services to initiate the public participation process for naming two new county park sites and the county's adult day center in western Loudoun.

The C.D. Smith park site, a developer proffer in the Dulles district, is located in the community of Stone Ridge, off of Northstar Boulevard, adjacent to John Champe High School. The original public solicitation to name this site was issued in October 2014, but naming was deferred by the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Board at its Dec. 6, 2014 meeting. The 14.5-acre property will feature a permeable trail, meadow, playground, pavilion, pond and parking.

The Kirkpatrick West site, also a developer proffer in the Blue Ridge district, consists of 15.29-acres, of which approximately 7.5 acres are designated for recreational use. The proposed park will be located adjacent to Kirkpatrick Farms, at the intersection of future Gardena Drive and Northstar Boulevard. The property will feature a pond, one (unlighted) rectangle field, landscaping and parking.

The western Loudoun adult day center in Purcellville, opened in July 2007 in a separate wing of the Carver Center. The adult day facility provides a supportive social setting and therapeutic activities for participants with memory loss and/or physical limitations. The center has been known as the Carver Adult Day Center. Loudoun residents requested that the County consider an independent name for the facility.

Email Steve Torpy at prcs@loudoun.gov by March 17, or call 703-777-0343.



Western Loudoun VBC U17 Team Elite celebrates their ninth place finish out of 72 teams during the recently held Capitol Hill Volleyball Classic held over President's Day weekend at the DC Convention Center. Bottom row: Madi Nail, Kirsten Mullin and Alisa Moortgat; back row: Emma Lindemeyer, Kira Riddlemoser, Ashton Marquart, Jessica Cagnina and Jordan Croson

Purcellville Volleyball Team Finishes 9th

The Western Loudoun Volleyball Club U17 Team Elite placed ninth out of 72 teams at the Capitol Hill Volleyball Classic hosted by Metro American VBC. More than 700 teams from around the world played at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., Feb. 14-16. WLVCB Team Elite went 6-2 during the weekend, including placing first on the net Saturday, second on the net Sunday and winning a crossover match that placed them in the Gold Division, before losing the final match on Monday. The WLVCB Team is coached by head coach Bob Daniels and assistant coach Hope Marquart and based in Purcellville.

Woodgrove Boys Basketball Co-Champions Of Dulles District

The Woodgrove boys' basketball team claimed Dulles District Co-Champion honors when they beat the Rock Ridge Phoenix 60-44. This is the first ever District Champion accolade for the boys basketball team in the 5-year history of Woodgrove High School. The win was a team effort with Matt Gilson leading all scorers with 20 points, five assists and two steals. Davie Wick added 16 points and seven rebounds. Prakash Ellis had 6 points, three steals and five blocks, and Jameson Copeland adding seven assists and 7 points. Kevin Hernandez, Carl Huber and Brendan Whitfield excelled on defense to put the team in position for the win.



Woodgrove Boys Basketball Team.

Haute Dogs and Fries Offering Locally Sourced Broth

Haute Dogs and Fries added another locally sourced item to its menu this month. Through a partnership with Fields of Anthenry Farm, Haute Dogs and Fries will use their ingredients to create a healthy option for a warm beverage in the form of broth.

Starting this month, owners Pamela Swanson and Lionel Holmes want customers to try bone broth, but as a beverage. The warm, savory liquid most people affiliate with a bowl and some hearty ingredients can be purchased alongside coffee or tea in a cup to go, or possibly as a side dish.

"Being so close to our food source at the Virginia farm has brought up several good opportunities for us," Holmes said. "We chose to offer Fields of Anthenry Farm bone broth at this time because of the health benefits, which many people are still unaware of, in addition to how good it tastes. Think of lobster bisque, and the satisfaction after your first bite. There's really no need for much more."

The story behind the bone broth involves a young woman suffering from Cushing's Disease, a disorder that occurs when the body is exposed to high levels of the naturally occurring hormone cortisol. It takes a toll on the organs and their ability to function, so the farm owners created a broth she could consume easily that contained organ meat and bone. Spices and herbs were added to what is now an extremely popular menu item among athletes.

According to the Fields of Anthenry Farm website, the broth is "cooked with apple cider vinegar and a special blend of spices and herbs for over 36 hours."

Broth as a side will accompany the hot dogs and sausages or can be purchased alone as a light lunch. A smaller broth portion size will accompany a meal. Quart size will be available for purchase to take home.

Haute Dogs and Fries is located at 609 East Main St. in Purcellville and 610 Montgomery St. in Alexandria.

Our Family Has Been Caring for Your Comfort for More than 20 Years!

CLIMATIC
HEATING & COOLING, INC.

Leesburg Today
2015
BEST OF LOUDOUN

Thank You for Choosing Climatic Heating & Cooling as The Best Heating & Air Conditioning Company in Loudoun County!

24 Hour Same Day Service

\$25 OFF ANY SERVICE CALL
NEW CUSTOMERS

UP TO \$1,100 REBATE
FOR NEW SYSTEM INSTALLATIONS

12 MONTH SAME AS CASH FINANCING
WITH CREDIT APPROVAL

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed!

Family Owned & Operated | Request an appointment at www.climaticva.com or 703-779-7455

Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth: Oatlands Mill Road

– By Tim Jon

I've never joined in on the bird-watching activities in the big swamp off to the side of this little dirt road, and I've never seen the crumbling walls of the 19th Century mill site that sits on the bank of the nearby Goose Creek; I have, however, taken a good look at some of the historic buildings that lie a bit closer to the public right-of-way - and I've seen what changes can be wrought on its features by the cycle of seasons, or a particular misty morning, or brilliant sunset. Oatlands Mill Road only runs for something over a mile from Route 15 to its intersection with Gleedsville Road to the east, but its corkscrew corners, chuckholes and washboard surfaces may make it seem much longer by the time you're on more reassuring surfaces. This short, dirt road harbors some treasures along the way, though; you can read internet documents about archeological research done on the Oatlands Mill ruins site back in the 1970's (by the National Trust for Historic Preservation)- the structure once stood tantalizingly close to today's commuter corridor of James Monroe Highway, just north of Goose Creek.

As you head east on Oatlands Mill, you'll notice some official-looking signs on the south side of the road, forbidding public entry; this marks one of the borders of the Dulles Greenway Wetlands Mitigation Project- about 150 acres of Loudoun County's version of the Okefenokee Swamp. The Toll Road Investors Partnership set this land (and water) aside - to offset the loss of this type of habitat in constructing the Greenway. It's off limits to the general



JON



public, but the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy monitors the area - to keep tabs on the number and variety of different bird and animal species in the preserve.

Swampland has always had an allure for me; these areas provide breeding space for finned and feathered creatures, as well as a water source for animals and surrounding vegetation. If you've ever heard the symphony created on spring evenings by redwing blackbirds, frogs and insects in a wetland area coming to life after a long winter, you may empathize. These places - in the dead of night - can leave one with an eerie feeling of being either not alone, or too alone for comfort - thanks to some of the odd sounds produced by their denizens, not to mention the folk beliefs in will-o'-the-wisps, mysterious swamp creatures and 'who knows what' might lurk out there - in that inaccessible place.

In contrast to whatever spooky sensations emanated from your drive by the fenced-off, forbidding wetlands, your return trip to Route 15 takes you right past some of the most reassuring symbols known to modern man: the historic Oatlands Church of Our Savior and Parish Hall - established in 1876, on land formerly owned by the plantation; a more peaceful setting is difficult to imagine, nestled under the protective shade of stately trees amid the quiet countryside. The flat Goose Creek floodplain helps to

give this little place of worship a sense of 'groundedness,' relative to the sometimes disorienting feeling one gets from traveling up and down the neighboring hillsides. "Down in the hollow, by the River," aptly describes the location of "Conservative Traditional Episcopalian Worship," as reads the sign near the white Parish Hall.

So - back to the namesake of Oatlands Mill Road itself: why are the remains of this historic workplace a set of mere ruins, instead of a preserved or restored artifact? Well, from what I've read, the wood portions of the Mill burned in the early 1900's, and bricks from the site were used in the construction of a nearby private school. I've seen pictures of a couple of the original walls - taken during the National Trust's excavations - others in recent years - and I get the sense that a combination of factors enter in to the continued degradation: invisibility (out of sight, out of mind), seasonal flooding and the advanced state of disrepair render the site more or less a lost cause - unless you'd be willing to sink in some heavy funding, lots of muscle labor and the patience to deal with the private Trust's dictates.

And, what about that Greenway Wetlands area: Will we ever see a day when it welcomes the public to stroll through a wild swampland environment on some sort of floating trail system - allowing us to experience the benefits of its very preservation? I hope so; until then, I'm glad it's there - giving those redwing blackbirds and frogs and insects a suitable environment to perform their spring symphonies.

The future for the historic Oatlands Church, by the way, is in good hands: they're even building a new facility on a parcel of land just north of the historic plantation.

See what a wealth of discovery can lie along what appears to be just a plain old dirt road?

Spring Cleaning For Your Body...

WHY CLEANSE?

- Improves your health
- Increases energy levels, which helps you loose weight
- Removes harmful toxins
- Increases metabolism rate

Healthy By Nature

703-443-6632 | 305-O East Market Street, Leesburg, VA
healthybynatureleesburgva.com

LEARN ABOUT OUR SPECIALS!
Please like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

A Day In The Life Of A College Student

– By Samuel Moore-Sobel

My day begins bright and early each morning when the war with the alarm clock commences. After hitting the snooze button multiple times, I jump out of bed and grab a granola bar before I hit the road. The cold weather throws some complications into the morning commute.

Dad believes the car should be warmed up for what feels like an eternity (15 to 20 minutes) while I think 5 minutes will suffice. If in a hurry, the morning routine involves sneaking out of the house in order to avoid hearing a lecture from my father. Too bad my secret is out! Just chalk it up to the perils of being a columnist.

After surviving the 45-minute commute, it is time to find a parking space. For those who attend George Mason University, they know the troubles one encounters in parking on campus. There are infamous stories of being so desperate for parking that you start following/stalking any student who walks by and sort of looks like they might go to their car and leave. This semester I caved and purchased a parking pass that allows me to park in a garage. I figured the extra \$75 was worth some sanity. Yet there are unexpected dangers one encounters. Consider the drivers who may be so tired or have just returned from a semester abroad and are unsure of which lane to use throughout the garage, nearly causing an accident every morning. There are those who are more interested in texting than keeping their eyes on the road, making driving through the parking garage a test of the reflexes.



MOORE-SOBEL

“Is college robbing me blind, or am I its willing victim?”

After what seems like an eternity, it is time to brave the bitter cold and sprint to my first class, which is conveniently located on the other side of the campus. Days are spent sitting in class and listening to lectures given by different kinds of professors. Those who are long-winded and seemingly take great pleasure in hearing the sound of their own voice reverberate around the room. Then there are the professors who complain about lack of student participation, and spend class time encouraging people to speak up. When one finally does speak up, the professor interrupts them almost as quickly as they have begun. The best professor is the one who takes the time to explain the material while displaying a passion for the subject.

The students of course play their own important role. There is the student who seems to believe he knows it all, who is not afraid to speak up and seems to be saying with every word he utters: read my lips, I am smart. The rest of the class is too terrified to speak up, so the few courageous ones dominate the course. Then there is the role of the young idealist, who feels that the world the professor is

describing could never possibly be in existence. He or she tries to challenge the professor and succeeds in annoying the rest of the class.

Once a class is over, you run to the door in order to make it to your next class in a timely fashion. Sometimes it feels like you are a character in the game Frogger as immortalized on “Seinfeld,” taking one step forward, two steps back in an effort to make it to class on time. If you see friends on campus and stop to talk, they are soon whisked away by the crowd of people, all seemingly moving towards the same inexplicable place – maybe a parking space. When you make it, your reward is more lectures and time spent furiously taking notes.

After classes are done, there is still the marathon back to the car but a feeling of euphoria washes over you as you foolishly believe that you are going to beat the afternoon rush. Like an Olympian, you reach for the finish line, only to find out that after navigating out of the parking garage you will be waiting, stuck on Braddock Road for what seems like an eternity. It is almost always around this point where I marvel at the fact that I have chosen to pay for this experience. Is college robbing me blind, or am I its willing victim? Am I on the road to the podium or destined for the treadmill?

So with this slightly sarcastic glimpse into the life of a college student in the 21st century, who is ready to go for gold? Oh, how I long for spring!

Samuel Moore-Sobel is a junior at George Mason University majoring in government and international politics.



Generators

SERVICING ALL MAKES

GENERAC SPECIALIST

Install or upgrade

Repair or replacement

CALL TODAY!

Gerry Pierce Owner

Over 22 years experience.

Providing complete service that includes the engine, generator, and transfer switch.

Whether it is propane, natural gas, or diesel, *we won't leave you powerless.*

GENERAC®

**WINCO
GENERATOR**

Purcellville - Hamilton - Lovettsville - Round Hill - Waterford - Hillsboro - Leesburg



Lingual Fixed Braces

Fixed to the back side of teeth, you never see them!

- DELTA - AETNA - CIGNA - GUARDIAN - METLIFE - ETC. PROVIDER!
- MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS / NO INTEREST
- TMJ / HEADACHE THERAPY - REMOVABLE CLEAR ALIGNERS

KURT A. PIERCE DDS MS ORTHODONTICS & TMJ THERAPY

American Board of Orthodontics Certified Diplomate of American Board, 26 years in practice

200 N. Maple Ave Purcellville - Directly next to Loudoun Valley HS

www.dr-pierce.com 540-579-0559

Blue Ridge

LEADER & Loudoun Today

Since 1984

DO YOU WANT TO...

Work from Home? Create Your Own Hours?

Meet Wonderful Business Owners?

Get Connected to the Community?

Plus, have Total Independence as an Independent Contractor?

HELP US GROW!

Apply NOW as a Sales Rep for the Blue Ridge Leader

Email resume to advertise@BRLeader.com

Who Is In Charge, continued from page 5

the process of proposing sweeping changes ... These by-right use changes would limit the ability of Purcellville residents to shape, control, or drive future development and would give limited special interests a blank check to dramatically alter the character and feel of Purcellville ... [they] are tantamount to rezoning at best and de-zoning at worst [and] do not ring true to the vision outlined in the Comprehensive Plan to value the town's 'natural beauty, its history and tradition, and its home town feel, ... to 'strive to sustain and enhance the quality of life in Purcellville by reflecting on the unique aspects of the Town's location, history, and people' ..."

In a recent letter to the editor in this newspaper town council member Ben Packard, who has also served on the Planning Commission challenged the notion that the public was being excluded from zoning decisions saying, " ... all planning commission recommendations and council consideration thereof have been, and will be, open to citizen comment before recommendation or action..." He later said, "We will take it to public hearing and see what happens."

Council member Doug McCollum, who also serves on the Planning Commission downplays the significance of the changes being made, saying "The [current] set of uses are outdated, and don't make a whole lot of sense ..." McCollum gave the example of how in one district auto repair

is allowed, but lawn mower or boat repairs are not. However, the zoning changes being proposed are clearly more consequential than whether it is logical to allow auto repair businesses in an area, but not lawn mower or boat repair.

Said Mayor Fraser at the January town council meeting, "After listening to the audio discussion of the last Planning Commission meeting, I [see that] ... clarification from this Council to the Planning Commissioners is clearly needed. This Town Council has never voted to direct you to continue with this two-year effort regarding the zoning use changes. What should be occurring is directing all of our resources to complete the Comprehensive Plan review and then to approach the zoning use changes in an assessed and managed fashion with full citizen engagement and participation. This is not about stopping government, as some of my esteemed council members might suggest ... I view our current path as directionless, and I urge my fellow council members to apply the brakes tonight to zoning use changes and to ... engage our citizens in the process to review the Comprehensive Plan."

Question 5: What Does Purcellville Intend To "Look Like" In 10 Years?

The short answer to this question is that not even the most in tuned citizen – the one that reviews the transcripts of every town council meeting, every Planning Commission

session and every back and forth between developers and town staff – can be expected to understand where the town is going.

It is fair to say that few people would have expected a 100,000 square foot multi-use complex to dominate historic downtown Purcellville, or that Purcellville would be bringing into town a huge swath of land north of Rt. 7 (Autumn Hill/Mayfair).

On the issue of zoning changes vs. a comp plan review, the pendulum has been swinging for about eight months now, with local developers and developer representatives on the side of fast action, and more prudent planners pleading with all to apply the brakes.

"I have listened to many of the planning commission meetings and there has been much discussion on collapsing/combining zoning and uses as that is what they have been tasked with doing. I agree with the need to eliminate outdated uses or duplicative uses, but I am concerned when I hear discussion about rezoning an entire zoning district and the need to change zoning and uses in an area since any zoning use changes should only take place after a comprehensive review has taken place," said Councilmember Karen Jimmerson.

In order to determine their future, the citizens must regain control of both the Comprehensive Plan and the ways in which it is implemented. For that reason, this newspaper stands firmly on the side of putting a halt to piecemeal zoning changes.

Catoctin Creek Enters California Market

Catoctin Creek Distillery expanded its distribution into California through JVS Imports, a wine and spirits importer and wholesaler located in South San Francisco. Initially, the Purcellville distillery will ship its award winning Roundstone Rye and Roundstone Rye "92 Proof" into the California market.

"This is a watershed day for us, since California is one of the biggest and most significant markets in the U.S.," said Scott Harris, founder of the distillery. "We've waited quite some time before feeling like we were ready for the West Coast again. We feel JVS will be an excellent partner in distribution into the state."

This marks the return of the Virginia distillery into the California market. Originally in California in 2010, the company later pulled back from the state to focus on local markets like Virginia, D.C., and Maryland. "Now, with the expanded capacity of the new distillery on Main Street in Purcellville, we feel we have the product supply to move into California more confidently," Harris said.

"We at JVS Imports are delighted to be adding the Catoctin Creek selection of products to our existing portfolio of American Craft Spirits," said Sam Filmus, president of JVS Imports.

Initial distribution will start around the southern California area before moving into the rest of the state.

Loudoun Propane®

"Your Hometown Propane Company"®

Tell your friends...propane is

\$1.95 [★]/gallon

Check your gauge and call Jim with your percentage today.

(703) 777-2051



Valid for current, former and new customers.

Amount will be pre-authorized on credit card before delivery.

Price only valid for customer owned tanks 500 gallons and larger.

Please allow one week for delivery and offer subject to expiration without prior notice.

Only valid in zip codes: 20117, 129, 132, 134, 135, 141, 158, and 180.

Clip and Save

Clip and Save

Two Kitchen Cousins Present ...

Mason Jar Salads – Healthy, Pretty, Convenient & Fun

– By Lisa Wasson & Andrea Gaines

To begin, line up your mason jars (or any wide-mouthed glass jar with a lid) along with your chosen dressing and ingredients. Prepare and season the ingredients as you normally would – slicing, blanching, roasting and shredding – so they are all ready to go. Return pasta, roasted vegetables and other cooked/steamed ingredients to room temperature before layering, and also drain items that come in their own juice – including canned, pickled or marinated vegetables and beans.

The dressing goes in first, followed by other ingredients – layered in the order shown below to prevent the softer, more delicate items from getting soggy.

1. 3–4 tablespoons of dressing

This will stay in place until you're ready to serve – just keep the jar upright.

2. Hard fresh vegetables

Examples: raw carrots, peppers, celery, cucumbers, cauliflower, broccoli and tomatoes.

3. Beans and other soft items

Examples: chick peas, kidney beans, mushrooms; porous vegetables such as zucchini, yellow squash; olives, artichokes, avocados and corn; steamed, roasted or boiled vegetables.



4. Grains and pasta

Examples: macaroni, ziti, penne, orzo; ravioli or tortellini; quinoa, rice, barley, wheat berries; noodles of any kind.

5. Protein

Examples: Eggs, meat, seafood, tofu and cheese. (Strong smelling things like tuna or blue cheese, and freshly grilled things like chicken, are best added just before serving.)

6. Greens and nuts/seeds

Top off your mason jar with lettuces, greens, nuts and seeds.

Leftovers work really well in mason jar salads – everything from pasta to breakfast sausage. You can also take the flavors and ingredients in one of your favorite dishes – fajitas, for example – and make them into a mason jar salad.

Get creative! Or, experiment with one of these tested favorites:

– Savory Citrus & Fennel Salad –

Ingredients and layering order, from the bottom up:

1. Dressing
2. Thinly sliced fennel (washed and patted dry)
3. Thinly sliced shallots
4. Fresh orange, grapefruit or mandarin orange slices
5. A mix of hardy gourmet greens, such as radicchio, frisee and endive
6. Parsley, roughly chopped

Dressing/serving suggestions: use a citrus vinaigrette dressing with sweet tones (orange juice and/or julienned fresh fennel), and add a sprinkle of orange zest and toasted sesame seeds after the salad is tossed.

– Classic Salad Nicoise –

Ingredients and layering order, from the bottom up:

1. Dressing
2. Tomato wedges & lightly steamed green beans
3. Nicoise or Calamata olives – pitted and halved
4. Small boiled potatoes (baby red or fingerlings), sliced, hard cooked egg
5. Arugula and watercress mix (washed and patted dry)
6. After the salad is on the plate and tossed: Add anchovies and/or imported canned in oil or fresh-grilled tuna

Dressing/serving suggestions: Use a classic champagne vinaigrette with mustard, salt and pepper and olive oil; garnish the plate with a wedge of lemon.

– The Loudoun Cobb –

Ingredients and layering order, from the bottom up:

1. Dressing
2. Cherry tomatoes, halved
3. Asparagus, lightly steamed
4. Granny Smith apple slices, dipped in lemon to prevent browning
5. Virginia ham, diced, and shredded white cheddar
6. Spring greens mix (washed and shaken dry)
7. Fresh basil, fresh tarragon (finely chopped)
8. After the salad is on the plate and tossed: Added candied pecans and crumbled, apple-smoked bacon

Dressing/serving suggestions: Suggest blue cheese dressing.

Mason jar salads are as easy to make, and fun to serve. You can put anything in these “meals in a jar” - fresh vegetables, grains, pasta, meat, cheese, nuts, your first spring greens from the garden - serving your creation immediately.

Andrea and Lisa are cousins who grew up on Long Island together. Andrea is a well-know writer for the Blue Ridge Leader & Loudoun Today. Lisa is a private chef who has been making people's mouths water ever since she started baking fresh muffins for her office mates in New York City.

Change Your Clocks, Check Your Smoke Alarm Batteries

Sunday, March 8 we once again spring forward and set our clocks ahead one hour to Daylight Savings Time. As we do this, Loudoun County's Department of Fire Rescue and Emergency Management reminds citizens that this is the perfect opportunity to check the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.

Last month a properly installed and maintained smoke alarm alerted a family to a fire within their home allowing them to safely escape. Smoke alarms can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whether you're awake or asleep, a working smoke alarm is constantly on alert, scanning the air for fire and smoke. A smoke alarm with a dead or missing battery is the same as having no smoke alarm at all.

“Smoke alarms are the first line of defense in alerting a person to the dangers of smoke and fire,” said Fire Chief W. Keith Brower, Jr. “Therefore, it is critical that these life-saving devices are checked and tested frequently to ensure proper functioning.”

All smoke alarms should be tested monthly and kept free of dust and debris. Check the manufacturer's expiration date and specifications on the label, replace the batteries if needed and clean dust away so that smoke can enter freely. Whether hardwired or battery driven, all smoke alarms should be completely replaced every ten years. In addition to regular testing and maintenance of these alarms, develop and practice a home escape plan so that everyone in the home knows what to do if an alarm sounds.

Serving Loudoun County Since 1986

Choose the One Company with Experience & Knowledge

LANDSCAPING & EXCAVATING SERVICES

• Mowing contracts • Edging • Mulching • Garden Tilling • Seasonal Cleanup • Seeding • Sodding • Fencing • Fence Maintenance
• Ponds • Driveways • Riding Arenas • Bobcat, Loader and Backhoe Services

BULK MATERIAL IN STOCK

• Top Soil • Mulch • Boulders • Driveway Stone • Fill Dirt

RSR
LAWN & LANDSCAPE

"The Personal, Professional Touch"

P.O. Box 534, Round Hill, VA 20142
540-338-7539



Franklin Park Arts Center Go Out Without Going Far!



Lúnasa

Tuesday, March 17 8:00PM

Ireland's finest traditional instrumental band takes the stage at Franklin Park for the first time featuring flutist Kevin Crawford, violinist Colin Farrell, uilleann piper Cillian Vallely, guitarist Ed Boyd and acoustic bassist Trevor Hutchinson. Lúnasa's innovative arrangements, virtuosity and passion have brought them to the forefront of Celtic music and they will bring you to your feet. This Gold Start Performance is co-sponsored by Franklin Park Arts Center and Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center.

Tickets: \$55 All Seats, Reserved Seating www.franklinparkartscenter.org

VSA Presents: Around the World in 80 Days

March 6, 7, 13, 14 7:00PM

March 8 & 15 3:00PM

VSA of Loudoun presents another sensational musical with an inclusive cast of all ages and abilities. Travel around the world with Phileas Fogg as he visits India, England, "The Wild West," and various other countries in this retelling of the classic novel.

Tickets: \$18 Adults, \$10 Seniors, Students & Children

www.vsaloudoun.org

NEW! Gallery Coffeehouse: Alex Little: Acoustic Music

Sun, March 8 6:30PM

Our lobby Gallery will be the backdrop for a new performance series. Richmond musician and singer/songwriter Alex Little will perform acoustic guitar selections. Coffee included.

Tickets: \$8 per person

Purchase tickets at the door

Bob Brown Puppets: World on a String

Wed, March 18 10:00AM

Visit amazing places with puppet characters from Australia, China, The Congo, Egypt, France, Holland, Ireland, Japan, Russia, Ukraine and the good old USA. Bob Brown Puppets have been seen on The Muppet Show and Sesame Street.

Tickets: \$5 per person

For tickets call 540-338-7973

Franklin Park Big Band

Sun, March 22 3:00PM

Franklin Park Big Band's goal is to give local musicians a steady outlet to perform big band jazz, with music ranging from the Andrews Sisters to Michael Bublé and everywhere in between. Currently the band contains 18 instrumentalists and 2 vocalists.

Tickets: \$10 per person

For tickets call 540-338-7973

NEW! Gallery Coffeehouse: Readers Theater Love, Loss and What I Wore March 22 6:30PM

Readers Theater, presented by Imagine That!, will present one script each month with a handful of actors interpreting the written word using only their expressions and voice. Coffee included.

Tickets: \$8 per person

Purchase tickets at the door

Jazz&CO Dance March 27 at 7:30PM, March 28 at 3:00 PM and 7:30PM, March 29 at 3:00PM

This outstanding group of dancers from the Loudoun School of Ballet will present an uplifting evening of artistry and entertainment. The company has a repertoire which ranges from hip hop to contemporary ballet, with works by resident and guest choreographers. Benefit for the Teri and Shari Malone Foundation.

Sharon Mercke, Artistic Director Tickets: \$12 Adult, \$8 Senior/Student

Purchase tickets at the door

NEW! Gallery Coffeehouse: Poetry, Prose and Prompts

March 29 6:30PM

Readings of published and unpublished works plus an opportunity to explore a creative writing experience through prompts relating to artwork in our gallery. Coffee included.

Tickets: \$8 per person

Purchase tickets at the door

FRANKLIN PARK
ARTS CENTER

36441 Blueridge View Lane
Purcellville, Virginia 20132
540-338-7973



PROUDLY FEATURING:

MARVIN
Windows and Doors
Built around you.

Your Window and Door Specialist

(540) 837-9351

10 South Greenway Avenue, Boyce • www.ottercreekmillwork.com

OTTER CREEK
MILLWORK



ARTIST'S PROFILE

DALE BRIGHT, WOOD TURNER – SETTING THE TREE AND THE LANDSCAPE FREE

– By Andrea Gaines

“My name is Dale Bright and I am a wood turner. I am passionate about my craft ... using a wood lathe and tools to release the natural beauty that is already inside a piece of wood. Mother Nature has done all of the real work. My job is to simply reveal what is inside.”

That’s how this absolutely charming man – a quiet and dignified artist – describes himself and what he does with wood. His end products are some of our most common, everyday things – salad bowls, dinner plates, bottle stoppers, ice cream scopes, pepper grinders, rolling pins. But, nothing about Bright or his talent is anywhere near common nor everyday, except that he learned his craft the old fashioned way – from his grandfather. And, that he takes such common pleasures from it, dotting his Facebook page with pictures of his newborn grandson, Colt, sleeping peacefully in a newly made salad bowl with the caption: “Baby In A Bowl!!! Colton Dale Blankenship on his 2-week birthday. The Cherry bowl is 21 inches across and 7



Bright’s newborn grandson sleeping in one of his beautiful works of art, a photo he refers to as “baby in a bowl.”

inches high, Colt is a big boy.”

In Bright’s hands wood truly reflects the beauty of the landscape it came from. And, it’s a very organic thing that he does. The great majority of the material Bright works with is wood that has been brought down naturally by Mother Nature – a fallen tree, for example, or an old log that’s been rotting

away in the woods or a tree taken down to avoid having it land on a house or car. This is not waste wood to Bright, it’s solid gold. Much of it, he says, spits out sap and water and other bits of organic stuff when he first starts to work with it, shaping and cutting it only roughly, then setting it on a shelf to age like a soon to be fine wine.

He wants the wood to be in this messy, untreated condition the first time it’s put on a lathe or cut into with a saw. While most people who work with wood want it to look today what it will look like tomorrow, Bright wants to let his rough cuts dry for 6-8 months. This allows the moisture to leave the wood slowly, letting the material settle in and harden at its own pace, staining and streaking itself to reveal the unique natural patterns, bore holes, colors and surface structures that will emerge as the wood seasons. This way, the wood will warp as it will but also have fewer cracks. Once it is set, he can shape and polish it to the form he wants without worrying it will warp or crack after the fact.

While mushroom hunters scour the forest floor and soils for the most rare and prized fungi, wood turners such as Bright search for wood that is naturally interacting with nature, including the many varieties of fungus that occur in damp environments. The patterns and textures of ambrosia maple, for example, is the result of a fungus cultivated by ambrosia beetles living inside the tree. The red and pinkish streaks found



Rough cut of “flame” box elder vessel. The dramatic red color is created by the combination of a fungus and a beetle that feeds on the wood. Similar darker patterns appear in what is known as “ambrosia maple,” the result of another insect’s interaction with trees and felled wood.

in the pale white sapwood is a pigment left behind by another common fungus. You’d never know by looking at the wood – you’d just be thinking, “How beautiful!”

Bright proudly announces that he does no “flat work,” and uses no tools other than the lathe. People, he says, are as interested in how the wood feels as how it looks. People want to take in the color and pick up and feel the cherry or walnut bowl, the apple wood plate, the dogwood or elm vessel. As he says, his job is to simply reveal what is inside – by sight and by feel.

Dale Bright has a lot of fun along the way. A good friend who throws a really big Halloween party every year casually asked him to make 50 wood vampire stakes she could use as part of her display. He obliged. He is also fond of something known as a “spurtle” or spirkle – a 15th Century Scottish kitchen tool used for flipping griddlecakes and stirring oatmeals and soups. A spurtle is a wooden rod with a contoured top, often in the shape of a thistle for both beauty and a more secure grip.

Functional as well as incredibly beautiful – again. Thank you, Dale Bright.

More examples of Dale Bright’s work can be seen www.facebook.com/HuntCountryWoodTurner. Bright’s studio will be on this year’s Western Loudoun Artist’s Studio Tour, June 20–21. See www.wlast.org for details.



One of Bright’s beautiful, near-finished bowls.

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

ONGOING EVENTS

- ☉ **Nursing scholarship** - The Ladies Board of Inova Loudoun Hospital is accepting applications for nursing scholarships until April 7. Application forms are available at the Gift Shop at Inova Loudoun Hospital. For more info. go to <http://www.ladiesboard.org>.
- ☉ **Thrift Shop Needs** - Blue Ridge Hospice Thrift Shops are in need of donations. Bring gently used clothing, housewares, home décor and furniture.
- ☉ **Adult Spring Flag Football League** - Registration is open for the 2015 Spring Adult Flag Football League. Divisions include men's (recreational and competitive), coed and women's. The registration deadline is Friday, March 27. For more information, visit www.loudoun.gov/adultsports.

MARCH EVENTS

- ☉ **March 5, Thursday, free garden lecture, "The Magic and Mystery of Vernal Pools"** at 7 p.m. at the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office, 30 Catocin Circle, Leesburg.
- ☉ **March 6, Friday, The Kennedys** perform at the Old Stone School at 37098 Charles Town Pike in Hillsboro. Doors open at 7 p.m. for dinner. The concert is at 8 p.m. Reserve tickets by calling 540-668-6192 or emailing contact@HillsboroVa.com.
- ☉ **March 6, 7, 8, 13 and 14, Friday and Saturday, Very Special Arts Presents "Around the World in 80 Days"** at Franklin Park Arts Center in Purcellville. Show time is 7 p.m. on March 6, 7, 13 and 14. Show time on March 8 is 2 p.m. Purchase tickets at www.vsloudoun.org.
- ☉ **March 7, Saturday, "When You Wish,"** 7:30 pm at the Middleburg Community Center; a special performance for A Place To Be. Tickets \$20 each, call 202-293-1548. March 7, Saturday, Safe Sitter class from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Inova Loudoun Hospital, 44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg. Call 703-858-8818 for information.
- ☉ **March 8, Sunday, Gallery Coffeehouse: Alex Little** from 6:30-8 at Franklin Park in Purcellville. Tickets are \$8, purchase at the door.
- ☉ **March 12, Thursday, Inova Loudoun blood pressure screening** from 10 a.m. to noon at the Carver Center, 200 Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville.
- ☉ **March 13, Friday, 11th annual Forum for Rural Innovation**, 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. at the Lee-Jackson Motor Inn & Conference Center in Winchester. The forum is open to the public, but space is limited to the first 150 registrants. Pre-registration is required by March 6. Go to biz.loudoun.gov.
- ☉ **March 14, Saturday, Brandy Stills Band at the Lovettsville Game Club Dance**, from 8 p.m. to midnight at 16 S. Berlin Pike, Lovettsville. Tickets are \$10. Go to www.lovettsvillegameclub.org.
- ☉ **March 16, Monday, Medical Explorers** from 7-8:30 p.m. at Inova Loudoun Hospital, 44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg. For ninth to 12th graders interested in the medical field. Call 703-858-8818 for information.
- ☉ **March 17, Tuesday, Lúnasa** performs at Franklin Park Arts Center in Purcellville. Show time at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$55. Go to www.franklinparkartscenter.org.
- ☉ **March 18, Wednesday, Bob Brown Puppets: World on a String** at 10 a.m. at Franklin Park Arts Center in Purcellville. Tickets are \$5, purchase at the door or call 540-338-7973 to reserve.
- ☉ **March 19, Thursday, Inova Loudoun blood pressure screening** from 11 a.m. to noon at the Lovettsville Community Center, 57 E. Broad Way, Lovettsville.
- ☉ **March 21 and 22, indoor yard sale** to benefit the Loudoun 4-H Leaps & Squeaks Rabbit and Cavy Club. Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Sykes Hall at the 4-H Fairgrounds, 17558 Dry Mill Road, Leesburg.
- ☉ **March 21, Saturday, third annual Youth Career Expo** at ProJet Aviation at the Leesburg Executive Airport, 957 Sycolin Road from noon to 3 p.m. Go to www.leesburgva.gov.
- ☉ **March 22, Sunday, Franklin Park Big Band** at the Franklin Parks Arts Center at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10.
- ☉ **March 22, Sunday, Gallery Coffeehouse, "Readers Theater Love, Loss and What I Wore"** at Franklin Park Arts Center in Purcellville from 6:30-8 p.m. Readers Theater, presented by Imagine That!, will present one script each month with a handful of actors interpreting the written word using only their expressions and voice.
- ☉ **March 22, Sunday, Lovettsville Business Expo** from 12-3 p.m. at the Lovettsville Game Club, 16 S Berlin Pike, Lovettsville.
- ☉ **March 26, Thursday, Inova Loudoun blood pressure screening** from 10 a.m. to noon at the Carver Center, 200 Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville.
- ☉ **March 27, Friday, information session on real estate tax relief**, 10:30 a.m. at Purcellville Library. No appointment required. Go to www.loudoun.gov/taxrelief-forms.
- ☉ **March 27, 28 and 29, Jazz&CO Dance at Franklin Park Arts Center** in Purcellville. Showtimes ☉ March 27 at 7:30, March 28 at 3 and 7:30 p.m. and March 29 at 3 p.m.
- ☉ **March 27 - 29, Friday to Sunday, Shakespeare in the 'Burg at the Middleburg Community Center**, 300 West Washington St. in Middleburg. Performances of Shakespeare by the American Shakespeare Center actors, workshops in stagecraft and acting and a one-act playwriting competition.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ☉ **April 4, Saturday, Lovettsville's second annual EggstravaganzaFEST** from 2-4 p.m. on the Lovettsville Town Green. Activities will include an egg hunt, egg roll, petting zoo, coloring activities, cake walk and more.
- ☉ **April 4, Saturday, first Purcellville Passover Seder** at 6 p.m. at North Gate Vineyards. Volunteers needed to help planning. Go to the Facebook event page "Purcellville Passover Seder."

CARVER CENTER MARCH EVENTS

The Carver Center is at 200 Willie Palmer Way in Purcellville.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Tuesday, March 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For ages 55 and older. Celebrate all things Irish and the 8th anniversary of the Carver Center. Irish dancing by the Celtic Rhythm School of Dance, followed by a traditional Irish lunch.



Wildlife Presentation- Tuesday, March 24 from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. For ages 55 and older. Carol Hadlock will be giving a presentation on hummingbirds.

Health Presentation-A History of Influenza - Thursday, March 5 from 11:15 a.m. to noon. For ages 55 and older. Stephen Hood with the Loudoun County Health Department will conduct a presentation on the history of influenza from the Spanish flu of 1918 to the present. He will also remind seniors of flu preparedness actions that should be taken right now.

Computers for Absolute Beginners - Tuesdays from March 17 through April 21 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. For ages 55 and older. Cost is \$48. A friendly introduction to using computers, including email and the internet.

Computers for Advanced Beginners - Tuesdays from March 17 through April 21 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. For ages 55 and older. Cost is \$48. Designed for those who already use a computer but want to increase their comfort level in working with files and folders, the Internet, and basic applications.

Get More Out Of Word - Tuesdays from March 17 through April 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For ages 18 and older. Cost is \$48. A course for those who already know how to use Word as a typewriter, but don't know how to use the formatting capabilities (tabs, graphics, headings, etc.).

Beginner Bridge - Tuesdays, beginning March 3 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. For ages 55 and older. Jane Olah provides a gentle introduction in this on-going group activity.

Intermediate Bridge - Tuesdays, Beginning March 3 from 12:45 to 2:15 p.m. For ages 55 and older. A class for those who know the basics but are not yet ready to join Carver's Thursday afternoon Bridge Group.

Duplicate Bridge - Wednesdays, March 4 through May 27 from 2 to 5:30 p.m. For ages 18 and older. Join Elliot Itkin for weekly American Contract Bridge League Duplicate Bridge sanctioned games.

Bridge Group - Thursdays, on-going from 1 to 4 p.m. For ages 55 and older. This group for intermediate party bridge enthusiasts welcomes experienced players.

Learn how to smile again!

Take a modern approach to straightening teeth and choose one of the following promotional packages:

\$500 Instant Savings
plus Free Whitening!

OR

24-Months Interest-Free Financing
plus Free Whitening!


Dr. Sean Grady

Sean Grady, DDS Aesthetic Dentistry
2 West Loudoun St. Round Hill, VA 20141

540-338-0046

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK www.SeanGradyDDS.com

BUY, SELL, LOAN



WE BUY GOLD
BEST PRICES PAID

We buy scrap gold, broken jewelry, all gold and silver coins and Sterling Silver Flatware

Jewelry Sale Savings up to 50% off Retail

LOUDOUN EXCHANGE
and *Jewelry*

M-F 10-6:00pm SAT 10-5:00pm
940-E Edwards Ferry Rd., Leesburg, VA
Next to Walmart
703.777.2520
www.loudounexchange.com

Serving Loudoun County Since 1993

Loudoun Valley Boys Basketball Winning Streak

After starting 3-8 they have won 12 of the last 14 including a 4th straight region quarterfinal win against 21-2 Culpeper on Friday Feb. 27. The Vikings advance for the fourth year in a row to the Region Semi-finals.

The Vikings mid-season improvement was largely due to the fact that they have started a freshmen point guard, 11 Jalen Williams, and two sophomore guards 2 Nick Ball and 23 Jamir Deree and it took some games against good competition to get them acclimated to varsity basketball and learning to win close games. Jalen, Nick and Jamir have become a young dominating force for both on offense and in the full court defense. Jalen leads the team with 45 made three point field goals, while Nick leads in point per game at 11, and Jamir averages 7.5 ppg and 5 rebounds per game.

Once the team started playing on both offense and defense they have progressed nicely this season. Juniors 30 Trey McDyre (who already accounts for 55 wins in his 3rd year as a Varsity basketball player) and 5 Jason Yoxthimer round out the starting five. These two control the paint with toughness and rebounding as well as provide much needed scoring and most importantly valuable leadership. Trey averages 11 points per game while Jason leads us in rebounding at 7 rebounds per game.

Seniors 15 Robert Fox and 35 Grant Frazier also provide valuable intangibles to the teams success. Juniors 25 Matt Eberhart (7 made 3 point field goals against



Loudoun Valley Boys Basketball Team during a recent game.

skyline) and 21 Malcolm Miller have also had big games this season. Freshmen sensation 0 Jordan Miller who recorded 17 points in his first varsity game, unfortunately has surgery recently to repair a bone in his knee and will miss the remainder of this season. Members of the team include:

- 24 Josh Auten - Senior
 - 20 Nathaniel Thompson - Junior
 - 3 Daniel Traub - Junior
 - 22 Ethan Stowe - Sophomore
 - 10 Dominic Peterson - Freshmen
 - 33 Matthew Traub - Freshmen
-
- 1st Team All Conference 28
 - 30 Junior Trey McDyre
 - 2 Sophomore Nick Ball
-
- 2nd Team All Conference 28
 - 11 Jalen Williams

VARICOSE VEINS are not just a cosmetic issue. Varicose veins and heavy, painful legs can now be easily treated in our office.

Contact us today to learn about the latest vein treatment options **FREE** screening exams are available.

- Minimally invasive
- Fast and mild recovery
- Covered by insurance



Expert sclerotherapy services are also available for the treatment of spider veins.

Call now to schedule a Vein Consultation
703-506-VEIN (8346)

Virginia Vein Care
www.VirginiaVeinCare.com

Virginia Vein Care
850A E. Main Street
Purcellville, VA 20132

8200 Greensboro Drive, # 210
McLean, VA 22102

LOCUST LANDSCAPING
Since 1983

10% OFF
SPRING CLEAN UP*

*Expires 4/30/15
NEW ESTIMATES ONLY

Patios • Flagstone Walkways •
Retaining Walls • Formal
Gardens • Lush Plantings •
Waterscapes • Garden
Design • And More!

703-777-8801
www.locustlandscaping.com

Locust Landscaping is a Virginia Class 'A' Contractor

STATION
AUTO WASH
PURCELLVILLE
EXTERIOR EXPRESS

NOW HIRING!
Apply in person

Award winning technology *and now*,
self service vacuum options!

Purcellville Station Auto Wash is pleased to now offer **self service vacs** for our customers who prefer to be hands-on when caring for their vehicle. Once your vehicle is impeccably washed, pull in to one of our multiple, indoor vacuum stations. We provide drying towels, cleaning towels, all-purpose cleaner, glass cleaner, air purge and 10 fragrance choices. This self service option has been extremely popular, but whatever you choose, you can always count on the highest quality service and value.

We have developed our own on-site water treatment facilities, with the capability of reclaiming 95% of the water used in the car wash and returning it to drinking quality level.

128 N. Maple Avenue, Purcellville, VA 20132 • 540.441.7475

www.stationautowash.com

End Of Season
SALE!

\$250 OFF
ALL IN STOCK STOVES
With Installation

QUADRA-FIRE
NOTHING BURNS LIKE A QUAD

Visit Us at the Home Show at
Martinsburg Mall March 13th-15th.

301 E. Stephen Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401 **304-267-3029**

www.SunfireEnergySolutions.com

SUNFIRE
ENERGY SOLUTIONS
YOUR TOTAL ENERGY EXPERTS

A ROACH FAMILY BRAND

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. Valid through 3/31/15

Support Local Business Owners & Neighbors!

MIDDLEBURG REAL ESTATE
ATOKA PROPERTIES
 540-533-7453
 MarcyC@MarcyC.com
 www.MarcyC.com
 Licensed in Virginia and West Virginia
 115 N 21st St *PO Box 190 Purcellville, VA 20134



MARCY CANTATORE

Your Virginia Pets R My Pets
 Daily Dog Walks & In-Home Vacation Pet Care
Joe Pillera
(703) 867-7158
 virginiaPets@comcast.net
 yourvirginiapetsmypets.com
 Fully Insured, Bonded and Licensed



Custom Painters, LLC

- ◆ Interior/Exterior
- ◆ Residential/Commercial
- ◆ Faux Finishes
- ◆ Pressure Washing
- ◆ Carpentry Repairs
- ◆ Drywall Repairs

Joel Welter
 President
540-338-8091
 Round Hill, VA
Ask about our Winter Discounts!



Serving Northern VA
 Loudoun County area since 1983
BBB A+ Rating
 www.custompainters.biz
 joel@custompainters.biz
 Licensed ◆ Insured ◆ References ◆ Free Estimates

Lawn Mower, Small Tractors & Bushogs
 Blade Sharpening & Maintenance
 Oil Changes • Greasing • Repairs

Sharp Blades
 We Come to You!

Ronnie Fox
540 338-3408
 www.sharp-blades.com

WF WILLIAMS FORD
 Personal Injury Law

Barbara S. Williams, Esq.
 101 Loudoun Street SW
 Leesburg, VA 20175
 703.777.6535 phone
 703.777.6963 fax
 barbara@williamsfordlaw.com
 WilliamsFordLaw.com

HES CO LLC
YOUR EXPERT TREE REMOVERS
15% OFF
 JohnQueirolo1@gmail.com
LICENSED & INSURED 703.203.8853
 TREE REMOVAL • STUMP GRINDING
 TRIMMING & PRUNING • STONE WORK
 www.ExpertTreeRemovalVA.com
 Angie's list

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




Paint & Stain LLC
 Complete Remodeling - Home Improvement
 Licensed and Insured Since 1997
Interior & Exterior Custom Painting • Drywall Repair
Granite Counter Tops • Carpentry • Bathroom Remodeling
Home Improvements & Maintenance • Deck Maintenance
Ceramic Tile Installation • Plumbing
FREE ESTIMATES
 Juvenal Orozco | 815 Grant St., Hemdon, VA 20170
TEL: 703-464-9366 Cell 571-243-9417
 www.paintandstains.com

On the Market... with Sam Rees

SAM REES
 Associate Broker
703.408.4261
 Sam@atokaproperties.com



Licensed in Virginia
MIDDLEBURG REAL ESTATE
ATOKA PROPERTIES
 www.onthemarketwithsamrees.com

Magic by Ryan

Birthdays
 Special Events
 Theatre Performances
 (540)454-4767
 MagicByRyanPh@gmail.com
 www.facebook.com/MagicByRyanPh
 FOLLOW Ryan @MagicByRyanPh



LUCKETTS EXCAVATING, INC.
703-443-0039

Gravel Driveway/Road Installation & Repairs
 Pond Installation & Repairs / Riding Arenas
 Land Clearing & Grading / Retaining Walls
 Pad Sites / Drainage / Lot Clean-up
www.luckettsexcavating.com

Customized Special Cleaning Everytime!

SPECIAL CLEANING SERVICE

Weekly • Bi-weekly • Monthly or Just One Time!
 FREE ESTIMATES • GREAT REFERENCES!

Call Maria Today!
703.477.1228
 CallMariaToday@gmail.com




MIDDLEBURG EYE CENTER

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

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

#4 Pendleton St. • P.O. Box 1360 • Middleburg, VA 20118
 540-687-3634 • Fax 540-687-3378 • eyez1@verizon.net



MUSIC JOY

Take up the gift of music.
 Build a sound foundation!

— In-home lessons for piano & voice —

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



Full Service Boarding, Training, and Lessons
 in Western Loudoun County VA
 Horses to Lease • Access to Several Hunts

The facility also boasts a large world class sand ring

Skip-n-Go Farm

HELP WANTED

(540) 338-8473
 info@skipngofarm.com | www.skipngofarm.com

Hair Designs by Rosemary

Master Haircutter Since 1969

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

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



Mary Kay Beauty Consultant 703-771-9311

HELP SAVE LIVES! FOSTER A LONELY DOG TODAY!

Save the Tails is a non-profit dog rescue based locally in Leesburg. We save dogs from high kill shelters. Our dogs need the sanctuary of a temporary foster home until a permanent one can be found—usually within 1-6 weeks. Food, crate and medical care for the dog is provided by us. When you foster a dog for Save the Tails, you help save a life!

Please foster! Call toll-free: 1 (888) 379-5558 ext. 1



save the tails
 savethetails.org
 PO Box 171
 Leesburg, VA 20178

Support Local Business Owners & Neighbors!

NORTH'S TREE & LANDSCAPING
Tree Experts For Over 30 Years
Family Owned & Operated
540-533-8092
 Call Brian Today!

*Spring & Summer Special
20% OFF
with this ad!*

CLEAN UP • TRIMMING • PRUNING • DEADLIMBING
 TREE REMOVAL • UPLIFT TREES LOT • MULCHING
 Cleaning • Grading • Private Fencing • Retaining/Stone Walls • Junk Removal
 Honest & Dependable Serv. • 24 Hr. Emerg. Serv. • Satisfaction Guaranteed
 Licensed/Insured • Free Estimates • Angle's List Member • BBB

LGD
Loudoun Garage Door, Inc.
Sales • Service • Installations
Accept No Imitations

Ph: 703-327-3059 13 Catoctin Circle SE
 randy@loudoungaragedoor.com Leesburg VA 20175
 Fax: 703-771-1747 www.loudoungaragedoor.com

Quality New Construction • Additions • Renovations
 Restorations • Barns • Homes • Repairs

No Job Too Small! 540-882-9655 (Office)
 No Job Too Large! 703-727-5500 (Mobile)

WALKER & CLARKE
BUILDERS, INC.
 CONTRACTING SINCE 1972

PCR
 Premier Computer Repairs
 Nigel Preece
571.209.8250
 www.premiercomputerrepairs.com

Century 21
 NEW MILLENNIUM


Tim Owen

20405 Exchange Street, Suite 221
 Ashburn, Virginia 20147
Cell: 703.298.8783
 Office: 703.858.2770
 Fax: 703.858.2755
 Email: tim.owen@c21nm.com
 Website: tim.owen.c21nm.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATES INCORPORATED

2013 finalist LANDSCAPER OF THE YEAR

540.687.8850
703.327.4050

LANDSCAPEASSOC@AOL.COM
WWW.LANDSCAPEASSOCIATES.BIZ

Middleburg Montessori School
 AMI fully accredited for children 2 ½ -14
BethAnn Slater
 Primary Directress and Head of School


 Est. 1980
 Fostering Independence and the Love of Learning

PO Box 35
 Middleburg, VA 20118
 (540) 687-5210
 www.middleburgmontessori.com

Affordable Sheds & Garden Products

Storage Sheds, Playhouses, Horse Barns
 Gazebos, Chicken Coops & Lawn Furniture

540-822-4524
 On-Site Installations www.affordablesheds.us

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
- PLANTING & GARDENS
- MASONRY
- OUTDOOR STRUCTURES
- WATER FEATURES/POOLS
- HORTICULTURAL MAINTENANCE
- DRAINAGE & WATER MANAGEMENT
- OUTDOOR LIGHTING
- LARGE CALIPER TREE TRANSPLANTING
- SPECIAL EVENTS

"BATMAN" Handyman Services

Electric, Plumbing, Drywall
 Carpentry, Tittle Work, Painting
 And much, much more...

Andrew Miller
 703-999-4315
 AndrewMiller264@aol.com
 www.batmanhandyman.com

SPOTLESS MAIDS
INTERIOR FULL CLEANING SERVICE
 "Let us help you clean so you can relax"
 Weekly/Bi-Weekly/Monthly Move-In/Move-Out Cleaning
REASONABLE RATES! FREE ESTIMATES!
SENIOR DISCOUNTS!

Residential & Commercial, Licensed, Insured & Bonded,
 Satisfaction Guaranteed!

We use our cleaning supplies or we can use yours.
 References Available Upon Request. Serving the Loudoun County Area
Call or text Kitty at (703)554-2487 Email at kettycas@live.com

MARY WISKER
 Realtor
 President's Club
 Serving Loudoun County

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


 www.MaryWisker.com
Mary Wisker
 Realtor

CLW Bookkeeping Services

Carole Wilmoth
 President

P.O. Box 2335
 Purcellville, VA 20134
 Phone: 540-882-9163
 Fax: 540-882-9164
 Cell: 703-909-1503
 clwbookkeeping@comcast.net

Ameriprise Financial

J. Noel Pinson
 Financial Advisor

Market Street Financial Group
 A financial advisory practice of
 Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
 307 E. Market St Ste 100
 Leesburg, VA 20176-4107
 T: 571.209.9600 D: 571.209.9583
 C: 434.426.8731 F: 571.209.9601
 noel.pinson@ampf.com
 http://ameripriseadvisors.com/james.n.pinson

An employee of an Ameriprise Financial Franchise

ROBCO PLUMBING, INC.

540.554.8786 • 703.999.1424

Former Plumbing & Gas Inspector
 NCCER Plumbing Instructor LFCC
 30 Yrs Exp. Serving Loudoun & Clarke Counties
ACCEPT NOTHING LESS THAN THE BEST!

ALL WORK PERFORMED BY OWNER/OPERATOR LICENSED AND INSURED

HELP SAVE LIVES! FOSTER A LONELY DOG TODAY!

Save the Tails is a non-profit dog rescue based locally in Leesburg. We save dogs from high kill shelters. Our dogs need the sanctuary of a temporary foster home until a permanent one can be found—usually within 1-6 weeks. Food, crate and medical care for the dog is provided by us. When you foster a dog for Save the Tails, you help save a life!

Please foster! Call toll-free: 1 (888) 379-5558 ext. 1


 savethetails.org
 PO Box 171
 Leesburg, VA 20178

There's No Place Like Home

Dorothy Beach
703-850-2864

Long & Foster Multi-Million Dollar Club, Lifetime Member
 Serving Loudoun County Since 1994

Dorothy.Beach@Inf.com
 508 E. Market St., Leesburg, VA 20176



Flynn's Lawn Maintenance



General Yard Clean-up, Mowing,
 Mulching, Weedeating, Bush
 Trimming, Garden Tilling and more

Bret Flynn, Owner (703)-727-9826
 flynslawnmaintenance@gmail.com

Licensed & Insured

Donna Williamson
- Fine Gardening-
Design & Coaching

*Large & Small
Landscapes
Meadows & Woodlands*

**New Gardening
Class for 2015
Feb. 4 to March 25**

Call (540) 877-2002
or go to
www.dwfinegardening.com

donnawilliamson2002@earthlink.net

Sushi – “Tails” From The Barnyard

– By Hokie Cat

Hello everyone, this is Hokie Cat from Fields of Athenry Farm. Sushi is in big trouble as we speak and is residing in doggy dungeon. I am here to fill you in on what took place.

My brother Mountie loves telling stories in March about Leprechauns, fairies, rainbows and pots of gold. He had a perfectly mischievous, devilish idea. One that would finally get the perfect little Sushi dog into a heap of trouble. One that involved green glitter. Glitter Mrs. B had out on the counter to decorate with, for the Saint Paddy’s day party coming up for Murphy. The same glitter Mountie purposely dipped his shabby cat tail into. He carefully trotted down to the compost pile, where he gleefully shook the glitter off his tail into a neat circle around a deep hole he had started digging earlier that morning.

Lunch time came round and Mountie called everyone together to sit under the story tree in front of the big white farm house. In short time, Mountie had the barn yard animals believing that if you followed the end of the rainbow underground you could actually slip past the Leprechauns to capture the pot of gold the Irish fairies had hidden deep beneath the earth.

Mountie Cat, could see he had Sushi completely captivated in his pot of gold story. Mountie shared with all our gullible friends that he had seen just this morning green glitter down near the compost pile.

I was trying to catch what rays of sun I could to stay warm in this nasty bitterly cold weather. I huddled, hunched up in the hayloft trying to keep warm. Our hayloft has the best cracks in the walls to spy on the barn yard without being detected. I could not only hear Murphy but saw him boldly standing on top of the compost pile commanding in his deepest voice:

Sushi! Sushi! What are you digging for? Sushi! Can you hear me little man? Sushi, you are making a huge pile of dirty mess and Mrs. B is not going to be too pleased. Sushi, come out of that hole now.

Sushi backed out of a hole so deep, it was as if he had dug his way to China. He was glittery green from head to toe mixed with mud, muck and worms.



Murphy exclaimed: “Sushi. What on God’s green earth are you doing?” “Why Murphy, don’t you know? I’d be after me pot of gold,” said Sushi.

Sushi my man, everyone knows that’s a pot of crock. You really didn’t fall for that trick did you? Sushi looked at Murphy quite bewildered. Mountie knew he’d been found out and high tailed it straight for the kitchen of the big white farm house. Sushi followed. Mountie flung himself upon the kitchen door handle and dodged into the house with Sushi in hot pursuit. Springing onto the kitchen counter and back out the door before Sushi knew where Mountie had gone to, Mrs. B came walking into the house and saw green glitter, mud, muck and worms across her clean kitchen floor. Sushi was in big trouble and Mountie cat smiled like a Cheshire cat all the way back down to the barn yard.

The surprise birthday bash is coming up Saturday, March 14, for the humongous, lovable, huggable Murphy dog. Can you even believe it? Me, a cat, calling that beast of a Saint Bernard dog loveable and huggable? (By the way you are all invited) Love,
Hokie cat

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

Hearing Health Initiative

60% of the people with hearing loss are either in the work force, or in educational settings (a majority of those being baby boomers!)



“ WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT HEARING HEALTH. ”

Blue Ridge Speech & Hearing announces the launch of our Hearing Health Initiative. We believe everyone age 50 and above should have a baseline hearing screening. Our offer to you is a free hearing screening as part of your overall hearing health.

A HEARING AID THAT CAN DISAPPEAR!

Lyric, the world’s first and only 100% invisible, 24/7 wearable, shower-proof, for-months-at-a-time hearing device can.

FINALLY,
EFFORTLESS
HEARING

EVEN SHOWER-
PROOF™



CLEAR, NATURAL
SOUND QUALITY

LYRIC CAN.
PHONAK

NEW LYRIC
TECHNOLOGY!
NOW AVAILABLE!

www.lyrichearing.com

Risk-Free 30-Day Trial* • Complimentary Lyric Screening



Linda E. Himler
Au.D., FAAA/ABA

BlueRidge
SPEECH & HEARING



Certified Lyric Hearing Professional
19465 Deerfield Ave, Ste 201 | Lansdowne, VA 20176

(703) 858-7620

www.speechhearing.org

*Individual replacement needs may vary. Duration of device battery life varies by patient and is subject to individual ear conditions. **Lyric is water resistant, not waterproof, and should not be completely submerged under water. †Professional fees may apply. Annual subscription begins the first day of trial. Lyric is not appropriate for all patients. See a Lyric Provider to determine if Lyric is right for you. Lyric, Distributed by Phonak, LLC ©2014. All rights reserved. MS03591B 923

Pet Remembrance Ceremony March 5

A pet remembrance candlelight ceremony will be March 5 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) at St. James Episcopal Church, 14 Cornwall Street NW, Leesburg. The service will include the Roll of Honor, a slide show and reading of the names of pets people have lost in the last year.

Animals play many roles in people’s lives. They really are a part of the family. The hardest part of loving an animal is coping with the loss and sorrow we feel when they pass away. The service will help people seek comfort from those who share their feelings and understanding of the human-animal bond.

For more information, visit <http://wholisticpawsvet.com/candlelightceremony.html>. You may also submit photos for the Roll of Honor to Krisi Erwin at petcandlelightceremony@gmail.com.

Wild Loudoun

Bats – Flight On A Handwing

– By Andrea Gaines

Right about this time every year, a colony of an estimated 20 million Mexican free-tailed bats leave their winter roosts in that country and head toward Bracken Cave, a huge underground complex of caverns and naturally structured “flight paths” just outside the city of San Antonio.

Once they have set up house they set out from the cave. As the clock strikes 6 p.m. – or slightly later – the bats spiral out of their home’s 100-foot wide crescent-shaped opening and into the San Antonio night in search of food, including cotton bollworm and army cut-worm moths.

These winged creatures – occupying Bracken Cave for millions upon millions of years – represent the largest concentration of mammals on earth. Larger than the flocks of birds we see overhead, larger than the streams of wildebeests and zebras that follow their own ancient migration routes across the plains of Africa – larger, larger, much larger. The immense column of bats taking to San Antonio’s skies is 30 miles long and 20 miles wide and takes a full 3 hours to exit the cave.

These Mexican free-tailed bats eat perhaps several tons of insects per night, saving farmers in south central Texas some three quarters of a million in pest control costs each year. Loudoun’s bats perform the same function for area farmers and homeowners, as mosquitos are one of their favorite foods. All of our local bats feed on the adult forms of many crop pests such as codling moths, cutworm moths, leafhoppers, leaf bugs and assorted beetles. In addition, the eastern red, hoary, and silver-haired bats help to maintain forest health and feed on forest pests such as tent caterpillar moths. Because of their role in controlling insect numbers, the health of the wild bat population is important for maintaining the health of our ecosystem.

Bats are the only true flying mammals. They are classified under the order Chiroptera, meaning “handwing.” One in five mammal species worldwide are bats, for a total of 1,240 bat species. Loudoun County boasts seven different kinds of bats. Our caves are home to the big brown bat, the little brown bat, the northern long-eared bat and the eastern pipistrelle bat. Loudoun tree bats include the silver-haired bat, hoary bat and the eastern red bat.

The largest of Loudoun’s bats is the big brown bat. It body measures 4 to 5 inches, and it has an 11 to 13 inch wingspan, weighing in at between 1/2 to 3/4 of an ounce.

World wide, bats vary significantly in size. The largest is the golden-capped fruit bat with a wingspan of 5 to 7 feet. The smallest is the hog-nosed or “bumblebee” bat. It weighs a mere 2 grams. Incredible, the world’s largest bat has a wingspan comparable to the Bald Eagle, whose wings stretch from just under 6 feet to 7-1/2 feet.

Bats are beautiful, marvelously adaptable and ecologically important animals:

- In Virginia, the bats you are likely to see are the big brown bat and the little brown bat. The big brown bat is the state bat of Virginia ... who knew we had a state bat?
- Our bats eat bugs, consuming up to 3,000 moths, mosquitos, gnats, etc. in one night. In turn, bats are preyed upon by hawks and owls, raccoons, skunks and others. Our bats are also nocturnal, as are many of the animals that feed on them.
- Our cave bats give birth to just one “pup” per year, while our tree bats give birth to two or more per year.
- Bats do hibernate, undergoing physical and metabolic changes during the winter. This includes a heart rate that can drop from 400 beats per minute to 25 beats per minute. It is important not to disturb hibernating bats. This causes bats to dip into the fat reserves they need to survive the winter.
- When hunting, bats emit high frequency sounds, technically ultrasound, to detect and locate prey, communicate with each other and avoid obstacles.
- While bats mate in the fall, the females of the different species delay fertilization of the egg until spring when their will be food available for themselves and therefore their pups, which can fly at as young as three weeks of age.

How long do bats live? Up to 10 years or more is the answer to that question. Some bat species can live up to 30 years. Our bats emerge from hibernation at just about the same time that the Mexican free-tailed bats arrive at their spring, summer and fall home at Bracken Cave – just about now. Our female big brown bats, for example, will then form maternity colonies, while the males roost alone in smaller all-male groups until the summer after pups are born. They will then grace Loudoun’s night skies throughout the summer and mate and then go into hibernation in fall and winter.

San Antonio public officials and bat conservationists worked together to protect their Mexican free-tailed bats in 2014. Shortly before that agreement was signed, City Councilman Ron Nirenbergif entered Braken Cave for the first time, to “see what the buzz was all about.” Nirenbergif described the scene as a spiritual experience, noting, “ ... if you’re not moved to action to keep this a part of our [hill country] for our enjoyment and the enjoyment of future generations, then you probably should check your pulse.”

Loudoun County is not famous for the thousands of Chiroptera whirring silently over our dusk and dawn skies and cornfields. But, knowing that they are there and taking a few minutes to understand just how extraordinary this flying mammal is will, I hope, engender the same desire to protect them.

Tasty Treats – By Myles Mellor and Sally York

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

ACROSS

- Classified information?
- One way to be taken
- Fly, e.g.
- “It was ___ mistake!”
- Parlor piece
- Head or night starter
- Film unit
- Cockamamie
- Battering wind
- One way to move
- Rock fracture
- Gardener’s soil
- Whips
- Astringent
- Achieving Moksha is one of its goals
- Rivera product
- Elusive one
- One way to move
- Balancing pro
- Order
- Chills and fever
- Hordeolum
- Monovalent radicals
- Île de la Cité locale
- Free-for-all
- Every which way
- Boor
- Showy flower
- D.C. al ___ (musical direction)
- Suffix with neur-
- Hinder
- Opposite of charge
- Actor Green of “Buffy the Vampire Slayer”
- Fop’s footwear
- Wraps (up)

DOWN

- Rattles
- Promise, e.g.
- Cheese variety
- Playa
- Farewells
- Double
- “Stop!”
- Empty talk
- Had down cold
- Organized persecution
- Duck
- Goes (for)
- Deuce toppers
- Ate
- “Be-Bop-___”
- Accord
- Campus store
- Indian tourist stop
- Chichi
- Kind of partner
- Just
- G8 member
- Provocative
- Jewish month
- Strong cleaners
- More than unpopular
- Crooked
- Illegal shares of profits
- Rat
- Nuptial sites
- Island ring
- Flies alone
- Chew the scenery
- Indigenous Canadian
- Peach ___
- Pomp
- Does in
- Alternative to steps
- “Blue” or “White” river
- Avon anti-aging brand
- Historic Virginia family

Answers on page 34

High School Art Contest For 10th District

Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-10th) announced the 2015 Congressional Art Competition for the 10th Congressional District. The competition is open to all high school students who reside in the district. The winner of the competition will have their piece of art displayed in the United States Capitol. Comstock is a member of the Congressional Art Caucus and started the House Arts Caucus in the Virginia General Assembly.

"I am looking forward to seeing what interesting and innovative art the students create," Comstock said. "I want to wish all of the students good luck in what will be a great competition. A special thank you must go to the GW Virginia Science & Technology Campus for providing space so all of the students' art can be displayed for the community."

Students should drop-off their completed artwork on March 25 between 1 and 6 p.m. at Enterprise Hall on the campus of the George Washington Virginia Science & Technology Campus. All art submitted will be on display from April 3 to May 7 on the campus of VSTC. Art submitted must be ready to hang and entries are limited to two per student. On the evening of May 4, awards will be announced. For information go to <https://comstock.house.gov/services/art-competition>.

Remembering Theresa Diane 'Dee' McCullough

Theresa Diane "Dee" (Bracebridge) McCullough, 36, died on Jan. 23, in Norwich, Conn.



Theresa Diane McCullough

She was born on Jan. 24, 1978, in Falls Church and raised in Purcellville, where she graduated from Citizens High School, a home school education program. She attended Utah Valley University. She married her best friend and sweetheart, Steve, in the LDS Washington D.C. Temple on May 11, 2000. They moved to Charleston, S.C., then Bangor, Wa., and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, before finally buying a house in Norwich, Conn., where Steve is stationed for his service in the United States Navy. From the very beginning, she dedicated her seven children to God and encouraged them to explore the beauty of the world and the gospel of Jesus Christ. Dee was kind and soft-spoken, and always had time to answer a question or solve a problem, no matter how small. Her children remember her as a gentle and patient mother who encouraged them to follow the Savior.

She was an active and dedicated member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

day Saints and served in many ways, most recently as a Sunday School teacher for the youth.

She is survived by her husband, Steven Harold, and their seven children, Corwyn Bryant, Talyn Gwydain, Rowyn Embyr, Aurorya Krystal, Leilani Brynnyth, Trevyn Leythan and Lynnette Aryanna. She is also survived by her father and

stepmother, Bruce and Barbara Bracebridge of Lansdowne and her five younger siblings: Russ (Robyn) Bracebridge of Burke; Jim (Tory) Bracebridge of Lovettsville; Becca Sommers of Leesburg; Bethany (Thomas) Moore of Ashburn; and Mikki Bracebridge of Lansdowne, and many in-laws, nieces, nephews, friends and family.. Dee was preceded in death by her mother, Kathryn Ruth (Wooters) Bracebridge.

Memorial donations may be made to a Mission and College fund that has been set up to benefit her children at <https://www.gofundme.com/kurbi0/>. Condolences and memories may be sent to <http://hallfh.com>, Hall Funeral Home, Purcellville. She will be interred in Ashburn.

Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

most of it) should be done on your side of the fence and not hers, so I would not reach out to her until you figure some of this out for yourself. The first thing you need to do is accept, and come to terms with, the reality that your sister has a lot of money. Second, stop comparing yourself to her. Third, take some time to think about the things that give your life value, purpose and meaning and that bring you happiness. Fourth, get your own financial affairs in order; take control of what you can control regarding your finances. And lastly, try to be happy for your sister. I think your sibling feelings of jealousy are normal, especially when you are struggling financially, and your little sister has had such great monetary success. But remaining resentful and jealous of her is not the answer.

You also write that you are not as close as you would like to be with your sister and that your sister has not been responsive. Do you ever comment on her Facebook posts? Perhaps you could share more with her on Facebook since that is an open line of communication the two of you have already. Sharing and commenting on photos and experiences could eventually lead to a more

open dialogue between the two of you.

Also, I think it is important to keep in mind that everyone has problems. It seems that you are assuming that your sister's life is perfect because of all that she has and shows the world on Facebook. But remember, all that glitters is not gold, as the old saying goes. Your sister, I am certain, has her own struggles and her own ups and downs in life. Perhaps you can try to remember that as you make an effort to improve your relationship with her.

If, in the end, your efforts do not change your relationship much with your sister, you may need to accept things for how they are for now. Letting go of a relationship (or the idea of how a relationship should be) is not an easy thing to do, but it is sometimes the right thing to do.

Michael Oberschneider "Dr. Mike" is the founder and director of Ashburn Psychological Services, a private mental health clinic comprised of 12 MD and PhD level mental health clinicians. Go to www.Ashburnpsych.com or call 703 723-2999 to learn more.

MORVEN PARK
EASTER AT 'THE PARK'
Saturday April 4
10 a.m.-noon
Egg Hunt | Meet the Easter Bunny | Egg Roll on Lawn
17263 SOUTHERN PLANTER LN., LEESBURG, VA. | MorvenPark.org

LOUDOUN COUNTY ADULT DAY CENTERS

For Seniors with Physical Limitations or Memory Loss

Our licensed adult day centers provide:

- ◆ A safe, social environment with therapeutic activities
- ◆ Respite for caregivers needing support & free time
- ◆ Reasonable sliding scale fees

Offering engaging activities, individualized personal care, nutritious lunch and snacks, exercise, medication administration, health monitoring and limited transportation.
Open weekdays from 7:30AM – 5:30PM.

Purcellville Carver Center (off S. 20th St.) 200 Willie Palmer Way 571-258-3402	Ashburn (off George Washington Blvd.) 45140 Riverside Parkway 571-258-3232	Leesburg (near Leesburg Airport) 16501 Meadowview Ct. 703-771-5334
--	---	---

Video online at: www.loudoun.gov/adultday

Administered by Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging, Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Services.

Answers to puzzle from page 33

1	J	O	B	S	5	A	B	A	C	K	10	P	E	S	T		
14	A	L	L	A	18	D	I	V	A	N	19	O	V	E	R		
17	R	E	E	L	21	I	N	A	N	E	22	G	A	L	E		
20	S	O	U	T	H	E	A	S	T	W	A	R	D	L	Y		
23	F	A	U	L	T	24	L	O	E	S	S						
25	S	C	A	L	D	S	28	A	L	U	M						
30	Y	O	G	A			31	M	U	R	A	L		33	E	E	L
36	N	O	R	T	H	37	W	E	S	T	W	A	R	D	L	Y	
40	C	P	A			41	A	R	R	A	Y	42	A	G	U	E	
43	S	T	Y	E			44	A	L	K	Y	L	S				
46	S	E	I	N	E	48	M	E	L	E	E						
51	O	M	N	I	D	52	I	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	A	L	
57	L	O	U	T		58	C	A	L	L	A	59	O	F	I	N	E
60	O	T	I	C		61	E	M	B	A	R	62	F	L	E	E	
63	S	E	T	H		64	S	P	A	T	S	65	S	E	W	S	

The Blue Ridge Leader is pledged to the letter and spirit of Virginia's and HUD's Equal Opportunity Housing Policies. Virginia's Fair Housing Law makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, elderliness, familial status and handicap. This newspaper will not knowingly accept advertising for real estate that violates the Fair Housing Law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in the paper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. For more information about Virginia's Fair Housing Law, or to file a Fair Housing complaint, call the Virginia Fair Housing Office at 804.376.8530; toll-free 888.551.3247; for the hearing impaired: 804.527.4290; email - fair_housing@dpor.virginia.gov; web: www.fairhousing.vipnet.org.

Kitchen Science Kids: Molecules On The Move

After hurting my back in a trampoline accident, (a fun way to exercise), I visited a chiropractor in Purcellville. One of the first things he told me to do was to place an icy compress on my back, to “reduce cellular activity”, and bring the swelling down. Well, you know as soon as I heard the phrase, “reduce cellular activity”, I was interested. I had to learn more about this. Here is what I found – wait, I can’t tell you. You have to see for yourself.



ENRIGHT

just sat there, while the food coloring in the hot water mixed, mingled and quickly colored the water. So we can see that cold temperatures slow molecules down, while higher temperatures make molecules move faster. (This makes sense when we consider that very cold water freezes into ice, while very hot water boils - it’s all about how temperature gets those molecules moving). These principles come into play when bears hibernate for the winter, seeds sprout when the sun warms soil after a long winter, or pasta boils in a pot. Fascinating.

So here I am, ice on back, writing another Kitchen Science Kids article, and pondering the joys of learning about simple science. While I am enjoying a break, I hope I can get back to that trampoline soon.

Round Hill resident Leah Enright facilitated Science Enrichment Workshops for elementary school aged children for several years. She believes that encouraging simple scientific play makes for smarter students.

Gather These:

- 1 bottle of food coloring, (any color)
 - 2 clear cups or glasses that can hold hot or cold water
 - Ice
 - Water
 - An adult to approve and help
1. Fill one cup most of the way full with hot (but not burning or boiling) water.
 2. Fill the other with very cold water and ice.
 3. Drop two drops of food coloring in each glass, as close to the same time as possible.
 4. Watch and observe. What happened?
- Hopefully, you saw that the drops of food coloring in the cold water glass

CLASSIFIEDS

LANDSCAPE CREW PERSON

Experienced. \$13-21/hr+OT. Year round work. Residential planting & construction for top quality company working in Loudoun, Fauquier & Fairfax co.
Serious inquiries only.

Ph: 703-327-4050 Fax resume to: 703-327-4981

LANDSCAPE CREW LEADER

Design/built company offering top pay, overtime, benefit potential, and year round work needs quality conscious, detail oriented person able to do heavy physical work for executing superior, full-scale residential projects. Must have planting and construction experience, knowledge of plants, ability to read plans.

Serious inquiries only.

Ph: 703-327-4050 Fax resume to: 703-327-4981

EXCEPTIONAL RENTALS

- 2 Bedroom Apartment, Immaculate, Ceramic Tile Floors, Move in Ready!
- Excellent Equine Property For Personal or Business Use
Belmont Barn, 4 Lg Fenced Paddocks, Riding Ring, Wash Stall, Tack Room, Washer/Dryer, Horse Walker. Perfect Horse Property.

GREAT AFFORDABLE RENT IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYTHING

All on a beautiful, gated, safe, quiet
Middleburg Farm with Blue Ridge views.
Call (301) 514-8114



Reap the Rewards

If you work 15 or more miles from home, consider a **vanpool** for your daily trip to work.

- Save on monthly commuting costs—transit benefits accepted
- Tap into incentives from Vanpool Alliance and NuRide
- Travel in HOV lanes and avoid slow-moving traffic
- Enjoy time to read, relax or work while commuting

www.loudoun.gov/commute • (703) 771-5665



**Loudoun County
Commuter Services**

Travel Options > Information > Advice > Solutions

Member of **COMMUTER CONNECTIONS**
SUSTAINABLE WAY TO WORK



On the Market ... with Sam Rees

Serving Purcellville, Hamilton, Leesburg, Round Hill, Bluemont, Middleburg,
Waterford, Lucketts, Lincoln, Lovettsville and Berryville since 1995

703.408.4261

JUST SOLD



**PURCELLVILLE
WOODMAR FARM \$529,900**

ONE-OF-A-KIND



PURCELLVILLE

Light filled home on 11 acres with Stunning Views from every window. Lovely interior with wood floors, fireplaces, 5 bedrooms up, full walk out lower level with FP and full bath and 4/5 car garage. Screened in porch overlooks fantastic Gunite lap pool with retractable cover.

IMMEDIATE MOVE IN!



POWERS HOMES LEESBURG

Mountain Views - 2 Acres. Gorgeous new home with 5 bedrooms/ 3 baths upper level, 4th full bath on main level. Stunning kitchen w/ antique look cabinets/ granite. Wood floors whole main level, fireplace. Beautiful morning room to watch sun rises and mountain views. All paved roads. **\$644,500**

HORSE PROPERTY



BITTERSWEET FARM- FORMER HOME OF MARY GODFREY.

Stunning Stone Residence on 24 acres with classic features including high ceilings and moldings. 24 acres, beautiful stable and grounds. Immaculate with new metal roof and magazine caliber kitchen.

UPDATED & CLASSIC



DOWNTOWN HISTORIC LEESBURG

Classic home with wood floors and beautiful moldings. Charming and private. .22 acre yard with gardens and flagstone patio. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Nicely updated. 2 car garage. **\$648,900**

PURCELLVILLE 1/2 ACRE ! DOWNTOWN



MAIN STREET USA! PURCELLVILLE

Enchanting in town home with lovely rooms, wood burning fireplace, 2 main floor offices, circular drive for guests, rear drive leads to detached garage. Experience life on Main street! Large yard with gardens and terrific privacy. **\$539,000**

DREAM SETTING



LEESBURG

10 gorgeous acres- close to Marc Train and White's Ferry. Perfect for horses. Bring your builder or use ours.

TURN KEY HORSE FARM



LEESBURG

Foxwood Farm: 4 bedrooms, 9 foot ceilings, total privacy, delightful barn, paddocks, ring and ride out. **\$599,900**

MAIN FLOOR BEDROOMS AVAILABLE!



LEESBURG

We have just a few lots left at beautiful Loy Estates from 499,900. Lots range from 1.5 acres to 16 acres. Standard features include: Hardwood floors in foyer, kitchen and powder room, granite counters, 9 foot ceilings on main level, side load garage and several other value features! Mountain views and country living. Call for a personal tour with Builder and Agent.

Just some of the homes recently under contract and Sold by Sam!



IN 2013 & 2014 MARCH WAS A VERY STRONG MONTH TO LIST HOMES.

If you are thinking about listing your home this Spring you may want to consider March. Please call me for a no-obligation consultation! Moving should not be stressful! I work a strong team of stagers, interior designers, contractors and movers to make



GOT CHICKENS?
Keeping Chickens as pets is becoming very popular in Loudoun County- Please call me to find out which of these homes are "Chicken Friendly!"

MIDDLEBURG
REAL ESTATE
ATOKA PROPERTIES

Call Sam Rees
703.408.4261

Associate Broker

Sam@atokaproperties.com

Find me on Trulia

