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JANUARY 2016

Randall Sets High Mark As The New Board Chair

– By Andrea Gaines

At times fun-loving but never deviating from a strong sense of bipartisan purpose, new Board of Supervisors chair Phyllis Randall has made it very clear how she hopes the diverse body will conduct itself in the months and years ahead, and how she plans to lead it.

In a ceremonial swearing in at Lansdowne Resort on January 2 – the first time in county history that Republicans and Democrats took their oath of office together – Randall struck quite a tone ... and the cheering audience loved it.

“I not only find it illogical ... I find it unwise” that Democrats and Republicans have traditionally taken their oaths of office separately, said Randall. “We are one county” and “We are one board,” she repeated over and over. “We are in office to serve the people and we should do it together.”



Randall is sworn in.

Securing the chairmanship last year campaigning on a distinctly bipartisan platform – and cutting through the county’s Democrat vs. Republican rancor with quite the adept political knife – Randall is by all accounts – literally and figuratively – taking her role as chair very seriously.

After thanking outgoing board chair Scott York for his long years of service – and paying special homage to her campaign staff and her family – Randall turned quickly to

Continued on page 30

Mayor Kwasi Fraser Announces His Bid For Re-Election

Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser has announced that he will be seeking a second term as mayor. The Purcellville town election for mayor and three town council seats is Tuesday, May 3. Mayor Fraser said, “I am humbled by the outpouring of support while serving my first term as mayor. Granted, it has been tough at times to get winning votes on council that reflect our citizens’ will because I have but



Mayor Kwasi Fraser

one vote, but I am committed to fulfilling their vision for our town. The vision is to guide Purcellville to being a more fiscally conservative, transparent government and to implement strategies to obtain optimal value from our existing assets rather than seeking inconsistent and uncharacteristic growth outside our borders. Currently, there

is enormous pressure to grow the town by hundreds of acres, and the upcoming election will determine the future of Purcellville.”

Fraser continued, “We still have much more to accomplish. With continued citizen input and support, committees of volunteers, experienced staff and the strength of our local businesses, our goals can become reality. I ask for your dedicated support to fulfill

these goals and to bring our shared vision to fruition so that Purcellville can maintain its integrity as a great place to live, to work, to raise a family, and to do business. It is with these goals in mind that I am running for re-election and ask for your vote for Mayor of the Town of Purcellville in the May 2016 election.”

Quiet Firebrand Kristen Umstadd Moves From Mayor’s Seat To BOS

– By Andrea Gaines



Umstadd at a Fall 2015 event for veterans with Marine Jim Kuiken and his service dog, Freedom.

Kristen Umstadd’s Facebook page says a lot about who she is as a person, a politician, and a woman. Energetic. Engaged. Productive. And, fun.

In a recent entry she highlights a news article about a teacher at Frederick Douglass Elementary School, singled out over the holidays for her generosity towards her students by the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

In another she reassures concerned citizens about a police investigation into shots fired near a residence in Leesburg.

And, when Umstadd herself appears in any of the many photos posted there she is almost always wearing sneakers – on the move and right

in the middle of the action.

As mayor of Leesburg for 7 two-year terms, Umstadd brings a wealth of good feelings with her to her new seat on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, which she assumed on January 1.

In that race, Umstadd was outspent by her opponent, Will Estrada by more than two to one, yet won almost 60 percent of the vote.

She is certainly popular. But, while one Facebook fan recently compared her to the celebrated fictional character in one of our country’s most beloved films – George Baily in *It’s A Wonderful Life* – Umstadd is earnestly modest about herself. And, she is also very clear on what the move from the mayor’s chair to a seat on the county-wide Loudoun County Board of Supervisors will mean.

She believes that, in general, serving in local

government allows her to be closer to the people she serves. “The higher up the ladder you go,” notes Umstadd, “the less contact you have with the individuals in your district. At the local level, you have a greater chance to make life easier and more enjoyable” for constituents.

On the specific issues facing Loudoun County, however, while Umstadd is extremely grateful for opportunities she enjoyed as Leesburg’s mayor – describing it as “a true honor” and “more fun than any other office could be” – she looks forward to broadening her horizons.

For example, working on school funding issues as a member of the BOS is one of the things she seems anxious to tackle. Said Umstadd, “Once my daughter had graduated from the Loudoun

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The Scorpion, The Frog, And You!

– By Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D.



Dr. Mike

A scorpion and a frog meet on the bank of a stream and the scorpion asks the frog to carry him across on its back. The frog asks, “How do I know you won’t sting me?” The scorpion says, “Because if I do, I will die too.”

The frog is satisfied, and they set out, but in midstream, the scorpion stings the frog. The frog feels the onset of paralysis and starts to sink, knowing they both will drown, but has just enough time to gasp “Why?”

Replies the scorpion: “It’s my nature ...”

There are several variations of this fable. As an allegory, the main message is to not blindly trust others and that fundamentally malicious and backbiting (pardon the pun) natures cannot change. Just as a leopard cannot change its spots, the scorpion in the fable cannot help itself from stinging the frog, even if that action leads to its own demise.

But, in my opinion, the fable goes beyond the transparent message and invites us to think about ourselves more deeply; highlighting how we behave and

the changes we might wish to make as we journey forward in life.

Interestingly, unlike the scorpion and the frog, human beings don’t need to reactively sting or blindly choose to be stung, so to speak. That’s because we have higher order intellectual resources that animals do not possess. The frontal lobe allows humans to process incoming information in elaborate ways - it allows us to exercise good judgment and impulse control, and it affords us with socialization and problem solving tools that far exceed those of any animal. But if we have the intellectual capacity to avoid maladaptive behaviors, why then do we some times still reactively sting or blindly choose to be stung in our endeavors and relationships?

Entering (and remaining in) a bad or harmful relationship. Acting-out in various ways. Being too harsh or too permissive with our children or loved ones. Why do so many of folks behave in these sorts of problematic ways and regret what was done, but then repeat the behaviors again at a later time?

Getting in touch with your inner turtle and your inner scorpion is a good place to start. I offer the following three points as an invitation to break your old,

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Makers Movement Eyes Property In Purcellville

Introduction: One year ago this month the Blue Ridge Leader took a look at the phenomenon known as the Maker's Movement. Organized in Loudoun County in 2014, "makersmith" represents a worldwide community of individuals networking to share ideas about the things they want to make, the problems they want to solve and the roadblocks and avenues to success they find along the way. This is a follow-up to that January 2015 article.



Unused town property that is the subject of the Makersmith's proposal.

– By Andrea Gaines

In a December letter to Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser and the Purcellville Town Council, Makersmith Executive Director Pat Scannell, armed with "a massive amount of volunteer hours and current and future funds" has asked the town to give his organization a crack at rehabilitating a 9 acre unused piece of town property near the intersection of A and South 20th Streets in Purcellville.

Scannell proposes to transform the

property into a place fashioned after the group's current "makerspace" in Leesburg, and anticipates having operations up and running by the spring.

Makers – as they are known – have spurred everything from the world's first desktop diamond-manufacturing device, to the world's cheapest drip irrigation system, to a low cost baby warming device that is projected to save the lives of 100,000 premature babies in the next few years, to award winning start-ups,

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An Interview With Mayor Kwasi Fraser

The Blue Ridge Leader sat down with Mayor Kwasi Fraser to go over his first eighteen months in office and what he sees for Purcellville's future. He comments on recently passed zoning use changes, the Fireman Field debt, the Kline annexation, and numerous other issues facing Purcellville today.

Blue Ridge Leader: What do you think about your eighteen months in office?

Mayor Kwasi Fraser: I remain encouraged by the continuing support of Purcellville's citizens and business owners who understand that I represent their views about maintaining the town's pastoral uniqueness, and I challenge the idea of increased residential/commercial development (being the only solution) to tackle our \$60 Million debt burden by effectively managing the over \$125 million dollars in assets the town owns. Over the past eighteen months, we have accomplished a lot without incurring any new debt and have instituted plans to sell an underperforming asset for over \$300,000. Some of our accomplishments are as follows:

- Settled the Southern Collector Road

condemnation case with Sam and Uta Brown which provided an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with them and also substantially reduced the town's financial risk exposure.

- Maintained our AAA rating from Standard and Poors, an AA from Fitch, and an Aa2 from Moody's, all exceptional first time credit ratings. In August 2015, Fitch confirmed the Aa2 rating during a rating review.
- Completed downtown Streetscape, Phase II Project with sidewalks, curb and gutter, storm sewer, street and landscaping work along N. 21st Street.
- Completed E. Main Street Sidewalk Project, replacing missing segments of sidewalk that allow pedestrian access from North Maple Avenue to Pickwick Drive.
- Initiated Forestry Management Program for selective tree cutting during spring 2016 to achieve additional non tax revenue and to encourage healthy tree growth.
- Initiated Re-Use application to submit to Department of Environmental Quality to obtain additional revenue via the sale of effluent water from our Waste Water Treatment plant.
- Conducted a citizen led study with Washington Gas about the viability of natural gas deployment in Purcellville.
- Welcomed over 50 new businesses, including home occupations, which have provided over

260 new jobs in Town.

- Initiated pilot bulk water program.
- Hired a new Police Chief.
- Implemented bike patrolling and certified 3 police officers for bike patrol.
- Voted second safest town in the Commonwealth.
- Conducted interviews for committees in public and placed audio of town committee and council meetings online.
- Developed and launched the town's Facebook page.
- Created a team that established requirements for the new town website and contracted for its development.
- Conducted our first Citizen survey in three years and established a process to have these conducted annually.

On the personal side, I served on the Vision 20/20 Steering Committee for Loudoun County Public Schools to assist in developing the strategic vision of the key skills/competencies LCPS graduates should possess, served on the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority and the Northern Virginia Regional Authority to advance transportation funding and other regional policy efforts, and also helped, via my executive relationship with the National Football League, to secure over 4 dozen new sweat suits for the Sweats for Vets program.

BRL: The majority on council just passed zoning use changes. What

are some of these changes, and are they beneficial or disadvantageous for Purcellville and its residents?

KF: The integrity of the process used by the Planning Commission, to determine the proposed zoning use changes without considering our citizens' input is my major concern. The PC told this council that the current proposed zoning use changes resulted from the 2011 Comprehensive Plan review; however, no revisions were made to the 2006 Comprehensive Plan after the 2011 review. Moreover, our attorney later discovered that the zoning use change process three years prior had been incorrectly initiated in that it lacked the required language and an established timeline for completion and response to the previous Town Council. Subsequently, our current council had to reinstate the process by including both the correct language and the timeline for the PC to present to us for approval.

So, despite feedback from many citizens urging us to first review/revise the Comprehensive Plan prior to implementing any zoning use changes, the majority of the PC and Town Council members voted to adopt the changes. Subsequently, many citizens who sent emails and attended public hearings during which they were told their concerns would be considered,

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

Letter To The Editor

Where Is Representative Government In Purcellville?

Dear Editor:

As I sit down to help my 9th grade daughter study for her World History test on government, I'm reminded how our own local government has forgotten the true meaning of representative government.

Citizens of Purcellville and neighboring Loudoun County residents banded together to send emails and speak at the December Purcellville Town Council meeting regarding the proposed annexation of property currently in the county – Purcellville Crossroads. The Kline property is zoned for 3-acre homes, but the landowner can make lots more money if he develops the land with higher density. To get the density the owners want, the property must come into the town.

Some on Town Council believe this annexation will be a tax windfall, however, after the Town pays for maintenance, increase in emergency services, staff, more police etc., they stand to make a fraction of what they think they will be getting, and we have heard this excuse with every past annexation. But the citizens will instead be saddled with even higher taxes and overcrowded schools. Growth does not pay for itself. If it did all the major cities would have the lowest tax rate, and we all know this is not the case.

Citizens have contacted their local representatives to ask for assistance, and no response. Our representatives are not representing us. They are carrying out their own personal agendas, or those of special interests, and not listening to the will of the people.

The Town of Purcellville sent out a survey, the majority said no annexations, no more development. The Town Council staged several citizen comment sessions. The overwhelming majority said no annexations, no more development. Yet the majority on Town Council (Council Members Doug McCollum, Patrick

McConville, Joan Lehr and Ben Packard) plowed through those remarks, emails, and personal pleas to vote yes to move the Purcellville Crossroads annexation process forward. They are not listening to the citizens. Who are they representing? The majority of the residents want Purcellville to remain a quaint small town. They have said no to bumper boats and to growing the town significantly once before (Catoctin Creek Town Center).

How do we make our voices heard? How are we to trust any politician when they are only carrying out their own personal agenda and not representing the will of the people? If your constituents ask for a time-sensitive meeting about an issue that will impact their quality of life, property values and safety and well-being, it is the duty of the representatives to meet with the group ASAP. No wonder voter turnouts are low and the citizens are apathetic regarding our political system. It's because it's not working. The people have lost their ability to be represented and thereby have lost their voice.

Town elections are coming up in May 2016 and it's time to give the Mayor a clear majority – a majority who will listen to the citizens.

Angie Isidro Bresnahan
Purcellville

Response To Reid

Dear Editor:

With regard to Mr. Reid's op-ed piece in the December edition regarding U.S. military response to ISIS, there is a problem with his attempt to contrast U.S. military practice with that of ISIS. He states, "While we will do everything possible to limit civilian casualties, ISIS deliberately targets civilians."

The recent bombing of a Doctors Without Borders (MSF) hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan by U.S. AC-130 gunships would suggest this

statement is without basis. Well in advance of the attacks the U.S. military was repeatedly told the precise coordinates of the hospital, which had been operating there for years. According to the New York Times, the building was clearly identified as a hospital with a large red and white flag on the roof and was among the most brightly lit buildings in Kunduz. The hospital was repeatedly hit for close to an hour in very precise strikes as MSF officials frantically pleaded with the U.S. military to stop. Afghan officials from the start said explicitly the hospital was a valid and intended target. AP reported that "the Army Green Berets who requested the Oct. 3 airstrike were aware it was a functioning hospital." NBC News reported that as doctors and staff attempted to flee the burning building they were shot by U.S. planes.

The Pentagon's story about what happened kept changing, radically, literally on a daily basis. And the Obama administration has adamantly refused MSF's demand for an independent investigation into what happened and why.

But if you look at the U.S. military record, you will see this is nothing new. "Bombing of Hospitals Called Routine." That was the August 9, 1973, Newsday coverage of congressional hearings on "clandestine U.S. air and ground activities in Cambodia and Laos." "In direct testimony and in letters, the veterans said hospitals often were considered targets rather than areas to be avoided as required by the Geneva Convention."

Perhaps we should all ask ourselves: If we really support the high principles we believe this country stands for, is it alright to turn our eyes away and give tacit approval when our government commits war crimes? Or should we be calling out those responsible and demanding accountability?

Lenny Bianchi
Bluemont

An Interview With Mayor Kwasi Fraser, continued from page 4

now believe that their positions are not being represented by their elected officials. That said, I am also concerned about the following:

Permitting "general retail use" in the CI district currently zoned for small office use that only allows for a small pharmacy in an office building. I pressed my fellow council members and the PC to ensure that the changes in the CI district along the Hirst Rd. corridor remain consistent with that district's established purpose, but my recommendation was disregarded.

By permitting "by right" general retail use in our existing CI district, our ability to obtain proffers for any infrastructure development is significantly reduced. The Hirst corridor needs transportation improvement, and future proffers would be immensely valuable, but the "by right" permit now restricts the Town Council in negotiating with developers.

Allowing cell towers in more commercial districts under the assumption that this will increase Purcellville's wireless coverage. Having worked in the wireless industry for 20+ years, I stated during a town council meeting that a town of 3.4 square miles does not need multiple large cell towers for enhanced coverage because the equipment on the towers enables them - not their quantity. The town gets a yearly income of \$150K from the only cell tower in town. Allowing cell towers in more districts presents a risk for revenue to the town. Ignoring this statement, the majority of the council members approved the proposed changes.

Finally, the PC told me they lacked the resources to determine the economic, environmental, and social impacts of the recommended use changes. This being the case, we should have invested in the resources first to assess potential risks and then carefully enacted measures to protect our community's welfare.

BRL: Can you please explain the debt with regard to Fireman's Field and the Fireman's Field Tax District?

KF: Fireman's Field is a heritage asset which dates back to Purcellville's first settler, James Dillon. The 1998 Comprehensive Plan identified Fireman's Field as an important property that should remain a public park or community facility and also stated that should the Purcellville Volunteer Fire Department ever consider selling FF, Purcellville or Loudoun County should buy it. In 2008, the town purchased the 12.6 acre property, protected from development by a conservation easement, via an owner financed note for \$1.7 Million over a 20-year term at 0 percent APR. Following this purchase, the previous council financed the Fireman's Field parking lot upgrades and the Bush Tabernacle renovations in the amounts of \$1,610,200.32 and \$2,024,565.10, respectively. The total of the purchase, upgrades, and renovations was then increased to \$5.3 Million. Presently, most of Fireman's Field related debt is being serviced by the Fireman's Field Service Tax District, which, in January 2013, the previous council imposed on all residents at a rate of 3.5 cents per every \$100 of assessed property value. This tax accounts for 69 percent of the Parks and Rec Revenue, and, as of July 2015, the total debt balance was \$3.8 Million. Given projected maintenance/repairs coupled with ballooning debt payment, the current revenue from the FFSTD and other Parks and Recreation resources will not

sufficiently cover future expenses. Thus, we must generate more revenue from other sources or raise the tax. Our bond counsel reports that generating more rental revenue from existing lease agreements is limited by IRS restrictions on tax exempt bonds. I am willing to evaluate any options that will ensure Fireman's Field remains a heritage asset of Purcellville and not a significant debt burden to our citizens. One option, as was envisioned in our Comprehensive Plan, would be to sell FF to the county, which currently leases the property and independently controls any use of it. Selecting this option would ensure that Fireman's Field will remain a treasured asset and that it will be managed like other county owned assets in Purcellville such as our library, Community Center, The Carver Center, and schools. Ultimately, however, the future fate of Fireman's Field should reflect the will of our citizens.

BRL: You voted against a proposal for a \$400,000 financial software package recommended by town staff. Why?

KF: The town's current financial software systems, implemented in 2005, insufficiently meet the needs of our financial department. However, with less than 80 employees, under 2,800 residences, and 815 businesses, Purcellville should not need a \$400K software solution plus additional staff to manage the software. Given the many cloud-based financial software solutions available, we should consider several competing bids rather than to solicit a bid from a lone company with a reputation of serving substantially larger municipalities. Also, this council should be closely reviewing the current financial management end-to-end process to identify its inefficient and flawed areas. Perhaps one of our local universities could produce a less expensive solution via computer software program to meet our financial software needs.

BRL: Can you give us an update on Purcellville's watershed property?

KF: We are awaiting a selective cutting proposal which is slated to encourage healthy growth and generate non tax revenue. We are also considering evaluation of the process used to place the 1,272 acres in protective easement and what added recreational and economical values this asset presents without adversely impacting the reservoir, the surrounding environment, and residences bordering the property. Some citizens would like us to expand access to the property beyond only town staff, council members, and their guests. Also, because towns currently receive no financial benefit from placing properties of this size and value in protective easement, I would like to pursue legislative action for towns to receive compensation for conservation.

BRL: Are the two current annexation proposals beneficial for the town and its residents?

KF: At this point, I will only discuss the Kline Annexation, which the majority on council recently voted to advance to the Board of Supervisors for consideration. I voted against this action because the majority of our citizens oppose this proposed annexation, and proper

due diligence must be performed to determine its impact on our water resources, transportation infrastructure, schools, natural environment, and existing economic base. Moreover, the county has voiced concern about this development proposal being inconsistent with its surrounding area, so why waste time presenting it to the county when this inconsistency still exists? I also question why some council members, who voted for the elimination of PUGAMP because they opposed further growth, have now reversed their positions to support this particular annexation. As our enormous debt burden was present when they voted to eliminate PUGAMP, they cannot now claim debt as an excuse for changing their minds.

With balloon payments due in 5 years, our significant debt burden is our primary focus. We are not so desperate for revenue, however, as to entertain development that promises significant financial gain with little or no account of its cost to the town's current/future operations and environment.

That said, sound strategy should never be replaced by poorly devised quick fixes that will cost us more in the future. For example, the proposed Kline annexation, along with current developments and other annexations in progress, theoretically will bring our wastewater treatment capacity to an additional peak of 1.48 million gallons per day, resulting in significant necessary upgrades to our existing plant. So, we may solve one problem by generating cash flow to pay down the current utility enterprise debt only to create another one - having to fund costly upgrades to support the new users. Second, while we have received estimated impacts on our schools and roads from the developer, essential input from VDOT or Loudoun County Public Schools has not been presented. Why? Third, the proposed development plan mentions a hotel with no indication of its style, brand, or consistency with the surrounding development. At best, our strategy for any annexation should include the following, which are clearly missing in the Kline application:

- Positive economic benefit, after all revenue and expenses are accounted for now and in the future.
- Alignment with the citizens' vision, via the Comprehensive Plan and supporting charrettes, for our town.
- Assurances of no negative impact on our infrastructure, trees, roads, streams, and sewer/water facility.
- A specific time frame to build, enforced by financial penalties if developer fails to comply.
- Consistency and clear transition with adjacent property and areas.
- Protection and preservation of historic character and prevailing architectural design.

A final point - regarding the perceived conflict of interest that one council member works for a firm which will directly benefit from this annexation, I, and many other citizens, recommend that the member recuse himself from future involvement in this matter.

BRL: What are some of your goals and solutions for the future?

- KF:**
- To reduce water and sewer rates for citizens and businesses by lease or sale of excess capacity and/or underutilized properties.
 - To reduce our debt burden by leveraging our

My Vote Against The Proposed Zoning Use Changes

As stated by Mr. Justice Sutherland in the definitive Village of Euclid (Ohio) v. Ambler Realty case, "Every community has the right and responsibility to determine its own character, and as long as that determination does not disturb the orderly growth of the region and nation, it is a valid use of the police power."

Our Comprehensive Plan, which reflects the citizens' vision for our community, enables us to be proactive but not reactive, and strategic but not purely tactical, in our approach to development. We have invested over \$100K, not including time spent by the staff, council, Planning Commission, and citizens, to contract with skilled professionals in the areas of land use and zoning, economic development, planning and design, to review, revise, and validate the citizens' vision of Purcellville over the next year. To now implement 2 months prior to receiving expert guidance our own piecemeal, lacking expert analysis and due diligence, tactic is unwise and a waste of taxpayers' money. The Oregon Supreme Court found in Baker v. City of Milwaukie (1975) that since the city had adopted a plan, it was required to zone in accordance with that plan. Clearly, several of the proposed zoning use changes remain inconsistent with our current Comprehensive Plan and may also with the future Comprehensive Plan. But, most importantly, our citizens have stated repeatedly that we should await completion of the Comprehensive Plan's review and revision. The overall zoning use change effort, with its noted inconsistencies and accidental downzoning of commercial and residential properties, begs question about the integrity of this process. So, based on the views expressed by the majority of our citizens, I voted not to make any changes until they can be validated by the revised Comprehensive Plan.

- existing assets and operational efficiencies.
- To increase bulk water sales by partnering with the county and Chamber of Commerce to engage potential customers.
- To increase citizen engagement and input for our Comprehensive Plan review/revision.
- To increase financial transparency of and accessibility to our financial data via interactive online solutions.
- To realize sustainable revenue from the 189 acre Aberdeen property via public/private partnerships.
- To advance environmental/agricultural efforts via the Environmental Sustainability and Tree and Beautification Committees.
- To establish/advance a time frame for completion of the Rte. 690/7 interchange by partnering with the County, VDOT, NVTA, and the Coalition of Loudoun Towns.
- To collaborate with property owners to implement strategies to fill commercial vacancies.
- To enable innovative economic growth and promotion of Purcellville through our Economic Development Advisory Committee.
- To lease or sell underperforming town owned properties such as the 9 acre maintenance facility.



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Packard Pushes Vote For Purcellville Crossroads Annexation

"I don't have to convince you that I am right, I just need to convince three other council members. I am pretty sure I can get those votes ..."

Vice Mayor Ben Packard

— By Valerie Cury

At the December Purcellville Town Council meeting, the council voted 4-3 on a motion by Vice Mayor Ben Packard to proceed with the Kline annexation request — sending the Purcellville Crossroads Annexation proposal forward to the Board of Supervisors to commence work with the town to reach an agreement. Vice Mayor Ben Packard and Council Members Joan Lehr, Doug McCollum, and Patrick McConville voted to move the annexation process forward. Mayor Kwasi Fraser and Council Members Karen Jimmerson and John Nave voted against this action.

The proposed annexation is for a mixed use development on 50 acres north of the Route 7 bypass and west of Route 287/Berlin Turnpike (and Saint Francis Court). The property, which is in the county, is zoned for 1 house per 3 acres which would be approximately 16 homes. The proposal is to annex the property into the Town of Purcellville to have access to town utilities thus having access to increased density. The current plan proposes three zoning districts for the properties: Mixed Commercial (MC), Residential (R-3) and Institutional (IP). The developers are proposing 74 single family dwellings, 75,000 square feet of mixed commercial to include restaurants and retail, an 80 room hotel, a proposed arts building, children's splash pad, a performer's park and Tilley's (entertainment) to include go karts and bumper boats, to name a few offerings. The indoor entertainment of Tilley's would also have bowling, laser tag, arcade games and restaurants. There will also be an outdoor area for tents, parties or events. The hours of operation would be opening at 9 or 10 a.m. and closing at 10 p.m. weekdays and midnight on weekends.

In a late October email to Mayor Fraser, Council Member Ben Packard accused Mayor Fraser of delaying to place the Kline Annexation proposal on the November agenda by saying Fraser had a "secret agenda." Fraser answered back, "I have no secret agenda to delay action on this matter. As stated, I am becoming more mindful of the need to manage the quantity of items we place on the agenda and people's time. Citizens and most recently the spouse of one of our council member [s] have voiced concern about the length of our meetings to me."

Packard responded, "I don't believe the agenda is that full...it appears to me you are trying to delay any further discussion of the annexation for some reason and as such, will argue against anything I say ... prove me wrong by putting it on the agenda...I don't have to convince you that I am right, I just need to convince three other council members. I am pretty sure I can get those votes, but I think it looks better for the council to not have to go that route."

Before the majority vote in December to pass the motion to send the Kline Annexation proposal onto the BOS for comment, Council Member Joan Lehr said, "I said it earlier; I need to understand what the county wants to do with this land [Kline]. I believe it is better to control something than to not control it." She continued, "... I would prefer to control the land than not control the land, and if controlling it means we have to annex it, then we need to annex it." This sentiment was echoed by Council Member Doug McCollum, "Annexation gives the town a chance to manage its growth. And the land represents a potential for future growth." He also said that he didn't really know what the county wants.

The County Department of Planning and Zoning, however, did weigh in on the Kline annexation proposal on June 2, and the comments were in the December Purcellville agenda on pages 108-110. They state, "County staff would encourage the Town to apply land use policies and zoning districts that are compatible with the surrounding development pattern. With regard to the land uses proposed by the applicant, County comprehensive plan policies support commercial areas within the Towns being located within their downtown areas as the preferred, principal location for retail and service businesses, office development, and major civic uses."

Council Member Patrick McConville, who works for the company which is handling the Kline proposed annexation and numerous projects in Purcellville, said that he "wants to see what the county comes back with." "They could come back with absolutely nothing, but I want to give them the opportunity to say yes or no ... I kinda want to see what the future holds," he said.

"When it comes to the annexation process it was very interesting when I was doing my research. Back in 2006, the Town of Leesburg on the Crosstrail project actually met 9 times in a joint planning...they had a committee of four — 2 Board of Supervisors and 2 Town of Leesburg council members ... so I am very disappointed we don't have that committee so that we can decide ... and get some more information and vet it beforehand," said Council Member Karen Jimmerson. She also said that the town has control of the land more by not annexing it because without town utilities it can only be developed by-right.

"It is imperative that we not replace strategy with poorly thought-out quick fixes that will end up costing our citizens more in the future," said Mayor Fraser.

"Once the land is annexed who has the advantage? I believe the developer does. If we annex the land with the intent to lessen our debt what if that does not happen, what if this is not agreed to for years? What if the tap fees, taxes, property and otherwise fees are not what we expected? Then we have annexed the land without doing what we thought we were doing? Lessen our debt. People may disagree but I think we are at a disadvantage," said Council Member John Nave. He continued, "Voting in favor of this annexation will change Purcellville into something it is not, it will be the beginning of the end for Purcellville as we know it, and as I have said, once it's gone it's gone."

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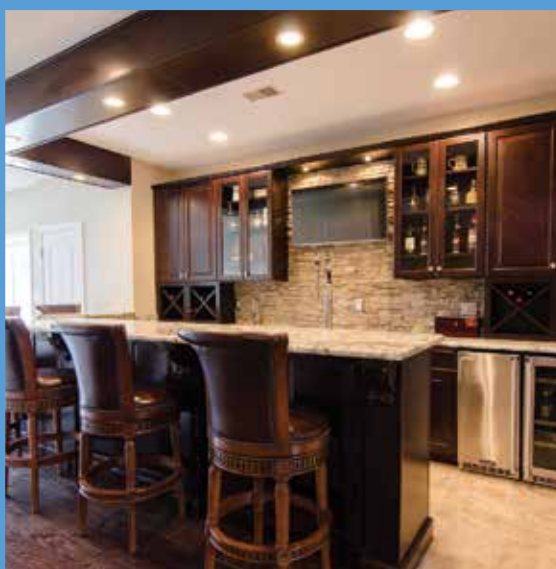


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Makersmith, continued from page 3

one of which is worth billions of dollars. The organization was incorporated in Virginia in September of 2014, held its first annual Loudoun County Maker Fair in October of that year, and opened its first makerspace in Leesburg in August of 2015.

As the Makersmith's website says, "We are makers, entrepreneurs, inventors, geeks, artists, thinkers, tinkers, [do-it-yourselfers], engineers ... and some normal people."

Makersmith has proposed leasing the Purcellville property – including the entire lot of unoccupied land and two buildings – for 36 months. In exchange for what it describes as nominal rent, the organization would make various structural and cosmetic improvements to include electrical, plumbing, HVAC, build out and cleanup, with the goal of being up and running by the spring. After the 36 month lease is up, Makersmith hopes to secure a right of first refusal to purchase or continue to lease the property under favorable commercial terms.

Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser recently shared the story of a young Leesburg girl who obtained a prosthetic hand that was made from a 3D printer, one of the most well known tools of the Maker Movement.

On a personal level, Fraser himself appears very welcoming of the Makersmith proposal. "Before making any decisions the proposal before us needs to be vetted by council and staff, and ultimately be acceptable in the eyes of our citizens. I am, however, optimistic of the enormous economic possibilities based

on my knowledge of the Maker Movement. It has the potential to position Purcellville as an enabler of the reemergence of American manufacturing, and as an incubator of business start-ups attracting [venture capital] dollars ... What's more attractive is that the proposed site is on a non-performing town owned asset with old buildings ... this proposal promises significant private investment to revitalize this non-performing asset and its surroundings into a performing asset that will not compromise the character of our town."

Makersmith suggests both long and short-term benefits to Purcellville in its proposal. Based in part on what the group describes as its on-the-ground experience in Leesburg – as well as extensive national research – those benefits include economic development, and the organization's custom of making a wide variety of tools, training and other assets available to residents and small businesses, STEM education, church groups, neighborhood associations, nonprofits, and everyday hobbyists.

Said Makersmith Executive Director Pat Scannell, "I'm sure [Purcellville] will have plenty of questions for us, so I look forward to hearing about how we might formally pursue this vision together. I know our volunteers are excited about the opportunity, and, maybe like your team, a little daunted by the sheer ambition of it. Together we can make it happen though, so I very much hope you'll give this request serious consideration." The Purcellville town council is due to take up the Makersmith proposal early this year.

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Middleburg Academy Model UN Club Travels To D.C.



Students from Middleburg Academy bring home the Global Classrooms DC Distinguished Global Education Certificate

– By Matt LaMotte

Middleburg Academy launched its first Model UN Club program this fall. The group plans to participate in Model UN competitions hosted by colleges and universities like Georgetown and the University of Virginia.

After several preparatory meetings with Faculty Advisor, Matt LaMotte, and Student Assistant, Saki Vellanki, 15 students travelled to the Pan American Health Organization building near George Washington University and attended a Model UN Training Conference. Hosted by the

United Nation's Global Classrooms organization, the students were immersed in a day-long series of discussions, debates, caucuses, and speeches, culminating in a resolution recommending adoption of a global vaccination program. Ranging from 8th graders to juniors, the students came away with a much clearer idea about what the UN does and how the UN works Vis a' Vis parliamentary procedures, negotiations, and international relations.

The team came home with a "Global Classrooms DC Distinguished Global Education" Certificate. Plans are to attend a full-blown, high school level Model UN conference in the spring.

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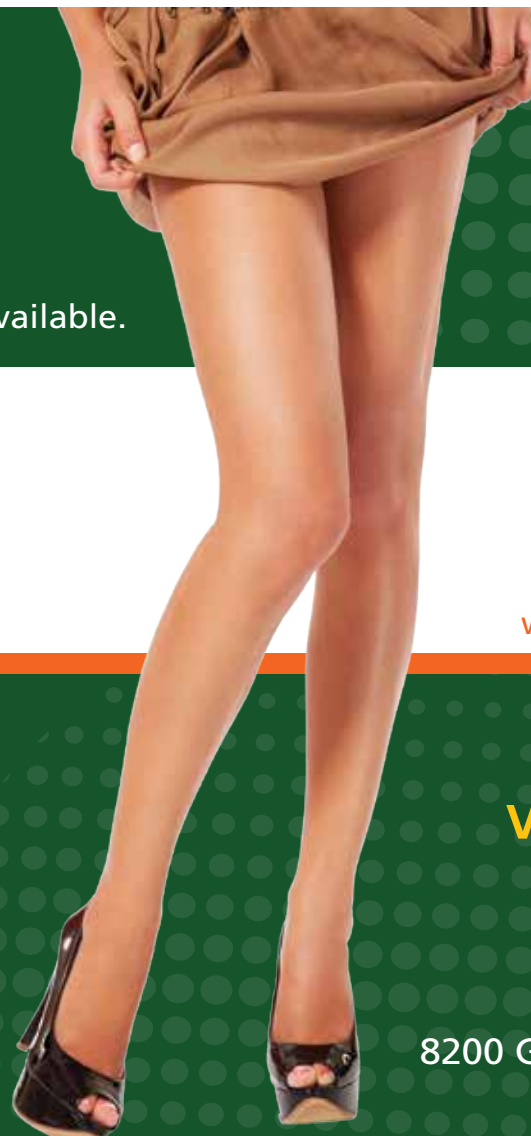
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Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth: Rotary Park

- By Tim Jon

I couldn't help thinking, as I strolled around this little green space – with a basketball court on one end – that if Robin Hood and his band had wanted to do some hoopin' out in Sherwood Forest, the setting may not have looked too much different than these immediate surroundings. Sure, they wouldn't have had a paved street 10 yards from their playing area, and their wooded greenery – understandably – would have been much thicker and infinitely more expansive – but I don't think I could find a 'greener' place for an impromptu game of buckets around these parts.

Leesburg Rotary Park sits in a pretty secluded little corner of Town – up on the north end of the community, immediately across from the parking lot which many people use for access to the County Courts Complex. The plot lies just west of Northeast Church Street – with a small strip of land extending all the way to North Street. Now, there are – in addition to the basketball court



– a set of playground equipment for kids, and a few picnic tables as well – and a substantial, grassy area for a quiet stroll under the tree canopy, fenced off from the neighbors' yards – the 'walls of solitude' giving it a bit of a boxed-in, backyard feeling.

On the morning of my last visit to Rotary Park, I was the sole explorer of this acre of ground, so the atmosphere was much more subdued than if I'd interrupted a local group of basketball players, or even a clutch of youngsters in the play area; the most striking activity I recall came from a few squirrels in the vacant lot north of the park, scampering around in the undergrowth for whatever they could find, and a low-flying hawk skimming through – perhaps in lieu

of those same squirrels.

Other than that, my memory list reveals: Cool, quiet, shady, green, still – and quite small. You're not going to find miles of hiking trails here, or white-water rapids through which to kayak, or even a challenging hill to climb for a better view. What Rotary Park offers is just a little oasis of open green space, under the cover of mature trees, far enough off the 'beaten path' to provide a sense of sanctuary and private thought, which one might find harder to come by in the nearby Courthouse Square, or Government Center lawn – or even on the picturesque Town Green.

I can recall many visits to the local halls of justice – following some of the more prominent legal trials during my local radio days – where I parked my car and walked past this same Rotary Park, thinking, "Man, I'd love to have the time – someday – to just come up here for a visit, with absolutely nothing else to do." Well, in the 'Be careful of what you wish for' department, I now have that chance – with a far different job which does offer official days off- on which I sometimes have nothing else to do (or, almost, anyway), so I find myself in places

like this – locations across Loudoun County which strike me one way or another – almost in an impressionistic way – perhaps the way one of my favorite painters – Claude Monet – was struck by his rows of poplars, or his water lilies, or haystacks, or the Rouen Cathedral. Or – maybe- perhaps more likely – more like some of the artists of Mad Magazine: Mort Drucker or Don Martin. That leaves quite a bit of creative ground, in-between, for a lower-profile rendering of our local Rotary Park into a visionary playground for a group of guys dressed in Lincoln green – with one of them looking remarkably like Errol Flynn – leading a band of five against another team dressed in darker patterns – led by a duo of Basil Rathbone and Claude Rains. They weren't there the day of my last visit, but I dream of them 'duking it out' on that little court under the trees, then sitting down to a feast of turkey legs, venison and other rustic fare – right on those picnic tables along Church Street – accompanied, of course, by their female admirers – including one bearing a striking resemblance to Olivia De Havilland. That would be my ultimate Rotary Park experience.

Plan To Reduce Congestion On I-66 Approved

The Commonwealth Transportation Board approved new travel choices to ease congestion and improve reliability on I-66 inside the Beltway during rush hours. Improvements will move more people with fewer vehicles by increasing transit, carpooling and other multi-modal options and allowing single-occupant drivers access to the facility for a toll.

"After years of exhaustive study and public input, we finally have a pragmatic solution that can be implemented quickly and provide real results to improve traffic flow on one of the nation's most congested roadways," said Transportation Secretary Aubrey Layne. "The CTB supported the McAuliffe administration's proposal to deliver reasonable solutions to ease congestion in Northern Virginia."

The CTB approved an agreement with the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, in which the Virginia Department of Transportation will deliver and manage the tolling operation, and the NVTC will invest toll revenues in multi-modal improvements to directly benefit users of the corridor. Last week, the NVTC approved its part of the agreement to invest toll revenues.

The expected benefits of the project include the following: To end more than 26,000 person hours of delay a day by 2040; to move more than 40,000 additional people through the I-66 corridor a day by 2040; to provide reliable travel speeds of at least 45 mph during rush hours in the peak

direction; and to provide increased travel choices for single-occupant drivers and transit users.

Extensive studies performed over the past several administrations in Virginia show a combination of dynamic tolling and multi-modal improvements will provide a faster and more reliable trip on I-66 inside the Beltway during peak travel times, providing a minimum reliable speed of 45 miles per hour.

If you carpool today (two or more people in a vehicle), you will continue to ride the lanes for free when dynamic tolling is scheduled to begin in 2017 during morning and evening rush-hours (5:30 am to 9:30 am eastbound and 3 pm to 7 pm westbound). Solo drivers can ride the lanes in exchange for paying a variable toll based on the distance they travel. Average toll is expected to be \$6 a trip.

In 2020, lanes will be free to vehicles with three or more people during rush-hours (carpoolers, vanpools and buses) and motorcycles per adopted regional policy. All others will pay a variable toll. The lanes will remain free to all traffic during off-peak periods. There will be no tolling in the reverse commute. All of the revenues raised from the tolls will finance transportation improvements in the corridor. Estimated toll revenue in 2018 is \$18 million.

Should traffic not flow better in five years, toll revenues will be used to widen I-66 eastbound from the Dulles Connector Road to Ballston.

Wakefield Senior And Prospective Doctor Goes On Far-Away House Calls

Byron Bushara is a senior at Wakefield School in The Plains and his life's dream is to be a doctor. Because of Byron's passion for medicine, he decided to dedicate part of his senior year to immersing himself in "Goals Beyond The Net", a non-profit organization based in Haiti. Far from civilization as he knew it, Byron has found himself in the bowels of Haiti's impoverished areas with the goal to "learn" but also to "give back".

"Goals Beyond the Net" is an organization whose programs in Haiti help and guide over 300 children to a better life. "Goals Beyond the Net" was founded by Dr. Kathleen Leggette and her two daughters, Julia (current Wakefield Senior) and Diane (Wakefield Alumni and a Princeton University undergraduate). Dr. Leggette describes how they came to start this organization: "Years ago, my oldest daughter, Diane, went down to Haiti to play soccer and volunteer. She was very taken by two aspects of Haitian culture. The Haitians are very family oriented and they love soccer. However, the children do not have basic needs and have no means of ever working their way out of poverty." The Leggette family decided to start GBTN with the premise that soccer is the driving force for success in Haiti.

They tied education, medical care, goat farming, and character development to being able to play soccer. The children are motivated to be better citizens, attend school and be healthy in order to be able



to play the game they love. The soccer coaches are all accomplished Haitian soccer players and are the children's advisors and mentors. The teachers, doctors and helpers all hold the children accountable

for their actions. If they do not show up to class, they don't get to play soccer that day.

Byron shadowed Dr. Antoine, a Haitian medical doctor, in the hospital and on house calls. Dr. Leggette says, "Byron is now like the 'Pied Piper' of the neighborhood. The children just love him and follow him around everywhere". The overall goal of GBTN is to set these children up for success in the future. As Dr. Leggette stated, "To educate and empower is to create sustainability". These children now have private feeder schools in the area that will grant them scholarships to attend high school and college through their academic success, as well as being successful athletes with the opportunity to receive scholarships to play soccer in Haiti or abroad.

When Byron recently returned to Warrenton, he told the Wakefield community: "I have learned so much and made lifelong friends that I shall never forget. I am torn between the excitement of seeing my family and enjoying running water and the heartbreak of having to leave my Haitian family". For his investment of time and abilities, Byron is coming away as a much more caring and aware person, and someday doctor.

To learn more about the program, visit www.goalsbeyondthenet.org.

Woodgrove's Own Kyle Miller: Filming His Way To Fame



Kyle Miller filming

- By Amanda Clark

Kyle Miller, junior at Woodgrove High School, has his own film company titled SendItFilms. He specializes in filming action sports such as Motocross racers like himself. Miller says, "I started SendItFilms with the idea in mind to bring high quality video to places and people that otherwise would not have the ability to access such a service."

Miller was first interested in making videos in the 5th grade. A couple years later a media company called Vurbmoto released a META Edit Contest in which they provided clips of raw footage that you needed to edit yourself into creating a 3-4 minute video. Miller said,

"This opened my eyes to what I could really be capable of." Last winter, Miller purchased around \$1,000 worth of gear and began to put his name out there via social media. After that SendItFilms took off, Miller has made enough money to pay off his original investment and now makes a profit from it. "With each project, I try to change things up a tiny bit and I am always experimenting with new techniques to see what exactly will get me the best results," said Miller.

In the future, Miller would like a degree in Cinematography so he can continue to do what he loves. To contact Miller for filming you can reach out to him via Youtube, Facebook, or Instagram with the username SendItFilms

JANUARY 2016 SCHOOL EVENTS

WOODGROVE

- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 7 at 6:30 p.m. — Home Gymnastics Meet, Woodgrove, Park View, Rock Ridge, Riverside, and Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 at 9 p.m. — Swim Meet, Loudoun Valley HS v Woodgrove at Ida Lee.
- ☉ Sunday, Jan. 10 from 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. — PRCS and WLBL Rec Games. Main & Aux Gyms.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 11 at 5:45 p.m. — JV Girls Basketball Game, Loudoun Valley HS v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. — Freshman and JV Boys' Basketball, Loudoun Valley HS v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, and Varsity Girls Basketball Game, Rock Ridge v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 14 - from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. — Woodgrove HS Odyssey of the Mind Fundraiser at Jersey Mikes.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 14 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball Game, Sherando v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball Game, Heritage v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 9 p.m. — Swim Meet, John Champe v Woodgrove at Ida Lee.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 16 — FAFSA day for Loudoun Valley HS & Woodgrove families.
- ☉ Sunday, Jan. 17 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. — Western Loudoun Wrestling Tournament.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 19 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. — WHS Newspaper Fundraiser at Chipotle.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball Game Park View v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. — Home Wrestling JV. Jam Rock Ridge, John Champe, Park View, Heritage, and Freedom.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball Game, Freedom v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 23 at 8 p.m. — Swim Meet, Dominion v Woodgrove at Ida Lee.
- ☉ Sunday, Jan. 24 from 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. — PRCS and WLBL Rec Games, Main & Aux Gyms.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 25 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball Game, Riverside v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — V and Varsity Boys' Basketball Game, Fauquier v Woodgrove JV.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. — Wrestling Meet, John Champe v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 28 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball, Dominion v Woodgrove.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 28 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. — Desserts on Broadway Play.

VALLEY

- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 7 at 5:45/5:45/7 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball, Potomac Falls v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 at 5/6:15/7:45 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball, Rock Ridge v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 at 9 p.m. — Swim Meet, Woodgrove v Loudoun Valley HS at Ida Lee.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 5:45/5:45/7 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball, John Champe v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. — Wrestling Meet, Park View v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 5:45 p.m. — Freshman Girls Basketball, Clarke County v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 from 5:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. — JV and Varsity Girls Basketball, Park View v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 16 at 1:30 p.m. — Swim Meet, Freedom v Loudoun Valley HS at Claude Moore.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. — Gymnastics Meet, Loudoun County HS, Rock Ridge, Potomac Falls, Freedom, Heritage.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 7:45 p.m. — Varsity Boys' Basketball Woodgrove v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. — Varsity Girls Basketball, Woodgrove v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 5:00 p.m./10 a.m. — Wrestling, Loudoun Valley Duals.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. — Swim Meet, Rock Ridge v Loudoun Valley HS at Ida Lee.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 25 at 5:45/5:45/7 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball, Dominion v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 5:45/5:45/7 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball Broad Run v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 28 at 5:45/5:45/7 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys' Basketball, Heritage v Loudoun Valley HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 29 at 6 p.m. — Swim Conference, 21 East Meet.

JOHN CHAMPE

- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 6:7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Kettle Run v John Champe.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 6 p.m. — Freshman Girls Basketball, Freedom v John Champe.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Riverside v John Champe.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 at 5:45 p.m. — Freshman Girls Basketball, Loudoun Valley HS v John Champe.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 at 8 a.m. — Kaplan mock ACT/SAT.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Loudoun Valley HS v John Champe.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 13 at 6/6/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Fauquier v John Champe.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 9 p.m. — Swim Meet, Woodgrove v John Champe at Ida Lee.

- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Rock Ridge v John Champe.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 18 at 6/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Boys Basketball, Liberty v John Champe.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, County v John Champe.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. — Varsity Wrestling Meet, Freedom v John Champe.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. — JV Wrestling Meet Freedom v John Champe.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. — Rising ninth-graders meeting.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. — AP Information Night.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls' Basketball, Dominion v John Champe.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 23 at 3:30 p.m. — Swim Meet, Freedom v John Champe at Claude Moore.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 25 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Heritage v John Champe.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 25 at 5:45 p.m. — Freshman Girls Basketball, Tuscarora v John Champe.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 6/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Liberty v John Champe.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 28 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Park View v John Champe.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 30 at 9 a.m. — Varsity Wrestling Meet, Cancer Classic.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 30 at 6 p.m. — Swimming Conference Meet at Claude Moore.

BLUE RIDGE

- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 7 — Geography Bee.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 7 — Chorus Concert.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 — All district band auditions.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 — All county orchestra auditions.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 — Band 6 concert.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 — Spelling Bee.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 23 from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. — Grade 7 social.

HARMONY

- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 — Winter movie night.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 — All-County Band and District Band auditions.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 6 p.m. — CoEd Varsity Wrestling Meet, Loudoun Valley HS v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 8 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Heritage v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 at 1:30 p.m. — Varsity Swim & Dive Meet, Rock Ridge v Loudoun County HS at Claude Moore.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 — Special Olympics.

- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Blood Drive.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Dominion v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Riverside v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 18 at 5:45 p.m. — Freshman/JV Boys Basketball, Skyline v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, John Champe v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. — CoEd Varsity Wrestling Meet, Heritage v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 7:15 — Varsity Boys Basketball, Skyline v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Park View v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 23 at 6 p.m. — Varsity Swim & Dive Meet, Heritage v Loudoun County HS at Ida Lee.
- ☉ Monday, Jan. 25 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball, Freedom v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 5:30 p.m. — CoEd Varsity Wrestling Meet, Park View v Loudoun County HS.
- ☉ Thursday, Jan. 28 at 5:45/7:15 p.m. — JV/Varsity Girls Basketball Riverside v Loudoun County HS.

TUSCARORA

- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Special Olympics Basketball Tournament.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 9 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Practice ACT & SAT tests.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 5/4:45/6:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball, Stone Bridge v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 6:15/7:45 p.m. — JV/Varsity Boys Basketball, Stone Bridge v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 6:30 p.m. — Gymnastics Meet, Oakton, Battlefield, South Lakes, Broad Run.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. — Wrestling Meet, Potomac Falls v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Boys Basketball, Briar Woods v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball, Potomac Falls v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Friday, Jan. 22 at 7:15 p.m. — Varsity Boys Basketball, Potomac Falls v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 23 at 11:30 a.m. — Boys and Girls Varsity Swimming, Broad Run v Tuscarora at Claude Moore.
- ☉ Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 5:45/5:45/7:15 p.m. — Freshman, JV, Varsity Girls Basketball, Woodgrove v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. — Wrestling Meet, Briar Woods v Tuscarora.
- ☉ Saturday, Jan. 30 from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. — Desserts on Broadway Show.

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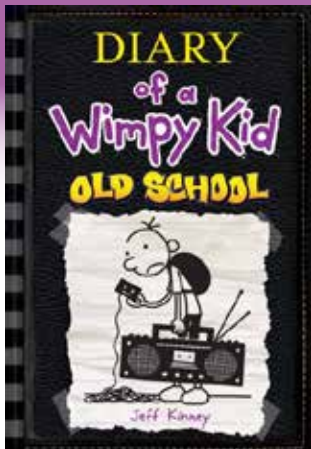
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Leesburg Family Receives Free Roof From DryHome Roofing



Replacing roof of house from a previous year.

DryHome Roofing and Siding has selected Leesburg's Sandy Leoni, a widow and mother of two elementary-aged children, as the recipient of a new roof through its 12th annual Free Roof for the Holidays program.

"Sandy and her children have struggled through so much hardship and loss. We hope this new roof lessens some of the burden. Knowing that they will spend the holidays safer and warmer makes this even more special for our team," said Steve Gotschi, president of DryHome.

Throughout November, Sterling-based DryHome accepted nominations from customers and the community to identify a Northern Virginia individual, family or nonprofit in need. Leoni was nominated for the second year in a row by numerous neighbors and friends. DryHome selected Leoni as

the recipient based on her needs, the condition of her roof and the heartfelt nominations.

Leoni lost her husband a year ago to a brain tumor after his 13-year battle with the disease. He was diagnosed shortly after they moved into the home. After her husband was unable to work, expenses mounted and home improvements took a back seat. Of particular concern, the roof leaks into her children's bedrooms and the garage.

Here are excerpts from a few of the nominations received in support of Leoni: "When a group of friends was asking Sandy's kids what they wanted for Christmas, Sandy quickly chimed in ... I just need a roof! Please consider Sandy's Christmas wish and take one worry/expense off of her list!" Another friend said, "Sandy is the type of person who can always put a smile on your face even if she is crying inside."

HELP PLAN PURCELLVILLE

First Comp Plan Review Meeting

Sat., Jan. 23, 10 A.M. & 2 P.M.

Residents of the Town of Purcellville and all other interested persons are invited to express their opinions about Purcellville's future and discuss updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan at two public meetings being held by the Purcellville Planning Commission on Saturday, January 23 at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Carver Center located at 200 Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville.

A comprehensive plan is an official public document adopted by the town that articulates the community's vision for its future; it serves as a guide for decision-making and future development. The *Purcellville, Virginia 2025 Comprehensive Plan* was adopted by the town in December 2006, and while many changes have occurred in Purcellville since its adoption, the comprehensive plan has not been significantly updated during that time.

Because of this, Town Council has made updating the comprehensive plan a top priority in an effort to ensure that the plan's goals and policies continue to accurately reflect the needs and desires of Purcellville residents.

"For this effort to be successful, it is vital that the final plan accurately represents the community's vision for the future, so it is important for the citizens of Purcellville to be actively involved in updating their comprehensive plan from the very beginning," said Senior Planner Daniel Galindo.

These two meetings are the first in a series of community engagement meetings that the town will hold in 2016 as it works to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for March 17; the location has yet to be determined.

Plan For The Unexpected

– By Samuel Moore-Sobel

With the mark of a new year comes a new round of opportunities and challenges. Over the last few months, my brother has been completing college applications. The flurry of activity among him and his friends has brought back memories of a time in my own life that seems so long ago.



MOORE-SOBEL

My senior year of high school was filled with preparation for college. College essays were particularly challenging. The goal is to either tell how wonderful you are without sounding arrogant, or to detail a one-of-a-kind dramatic story that happened only to you. I wonder what the admissions officers think when they read these essays. How can you tell if a traumatic event really happened or if someone has a talent for creative writing? Or does it matter?

All of this effort goes into trying to make a college like you. It is like going on a date. If you are somehow able to convince the college of your dreams that you are the one for them, your reward after all of your hard work is a large tuition bill that you will not likely be able to pay. What a privilege!

I hate to tell you this, but to all of those high school seniors that have likely just completed their college applications, your journey is just beginning. Near the end of your college career, you learn that next up is the job search. A whole new kind of dating. While my brother worked on college essays, I spent the fall writing and re-writing my resume. When I say re-writing, I mean completely changing the document over and over based on the opinions or whims of each person who read it.

After countless rounds of editing, it was time to start submitting applications supplemented by sending my resume to everyone I, my parents and friends know in the professional world. After inundating hundreds of e-mail inboxes, it is time to visit the college career fair, where one hopes that meeting a person face-to-face will lead to a full-time position in order to avoid living in your parent's basement for the remaining years of your young adulthood.

The night before this momentous career fair, I was frantically looking for my suit. As I started rummaging through my closet, a wave of panic swept over me. Did I forget to pick up my suit from the dry cleaners? Did someone take it? I finally found my suit pants, but no sign of the jacket emerged. Flying through the house I went, tearing apart every closet I could find and accusing anyone within earshot of culpability on the missing jacket. Let's just say the family was not amused. Halfway through my tirade I realized that I had taken my jacket to my internship just

in case I ever needed it at work. My panic turned out to be entirely unnecessary.

The next morning I drove to the office, running in just long enough to grab my jacket and leave. Fellow co-workers looked at me quizzically as I raced in and out, but I was in too much of a rush to explain. At least I provided the office some entertainment for the day. Off I went, arriving at the career fair just in time. Making the rounds, patterns began to emerge. There were the employers who simply wanted a resume in front of them before they could even muster a "hello." There were others who acted like they would rather be just about anywhere else under the sun. The same pat answers were repeated. "We will take a look at your resume," as they placed yours onto a stack of what seemed like a few hundred others. Maybe the career fair wasn't as good of a place to find a job as I thought. Damn. I could have left my suit jacket at the office.

After passing out thirty resumes and walking around for five hours, I felt like I had done my due diligence. The career fair lasted for two days, but I figured that one day was enough. That night my mother wisely advised me to return the next day. I begrudgingly took her advice. Most of the companies there were not particularly of interest to me nor were the positions being offered. After an hour or so I decided it was time to leave. I had gone during my lunch hour and needed to get back to the office or the closet where I keep my suit jacket. As I turned to leave, a company caught my eye. I approached the table and found the position with an attached job description that made me smile. After some additional research, it soon became my dream job; and, after a few rounds of interviews and more than a few prayer-filled nights, that dream became a reality.

There are many lessons to be gleaned from this story. One, know where all parts of your suit are at all times. Secondly, always listen to your mother even if you disagree with her advice. Thirdly, you never know what opportunity is just around the corner. Life rarely works out the way you plan, so be open to anything and always be prepared for the unexpected. Life may throw you curve balls, but the key is to be strong enough to handle anything that comes your way. So to all of those stressed out high school seniors, take a deep breath and relax. Much bigger challenges await you. Plus, at least you know where your suit jacket is.

Samuel Moore-Sobel graduated magna cum laude with a degree in Government and International Politics from George Mason University last December. This month, he begins working at CGI Federal as a Business Analyst.

Amy and Dan Smith's Planning For Life: When The Road To Success Leads Back Home

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The day our children move out of the house, graduate from college, or land their first full-time job isn't always-or even often-the day they achieve independence. Life is full of twists and turns, and even young adults with the best laid plans can veer off course, turning to their parents for support when things get tough. One study, conducted by Arizona Pathways to Life Success, says that half of recent graduates ages 23 to 26 depend on their family's financial support to meet their current needs.

There are many reasons why an adult may want or need to return to their family home. Difficulty finding a job after college ranks high on the list, but divorce and layoffs could factor in, too. And of course, you'll want to help. But what happens when your soon-to-be divorced son escapes into video games, instead of searching for an apartment? How can you make sure your home is a launching (or re-launching) pad rather than an endless vacation?

You may be willing to welcome our children back home with open arms, a full refrigerator, free laundry and more, but there's a fine line between helping and

enabling. So what a loving parent to do? It seems the answer lies in boundaries.

And the time to set them is before your children lug their suitcases back over the threshold. Let's take a look at some of the things to keep in mind if you or someone you know finds an adult child heading home again.

Be Realistic

Returning home as an adult doesn't carry with it the same benefits and privileges of childhood, for good reason. As parents, it might be your instinct to give your loved one as much as you can-the way you've always tried to in the past. But many adults supporting family members overestimate their ability to give and don't think about how long they'll be paying to feed another mouth.

Worse, may don't think though what it could mean for their futures. They raid their own savings and retirement accounts, often using more than they intended to, and ignoring the fact that they may not have as much time to make up for the losses. Remember, too, that having less than you've planned for can greatly affect your quality of life in retirement.

To avoid this, try sitting down for a few hours as a family. You'll need to discuss whether or not you can (or will) fund your child's nonessential, such as trips, cellphone, entertainment and clothing expenses. If your new housemate is able, ask them to pay rent, help with bills or split the chores to ease the financial and physical burdens.

Doing so reinforces responsibility-with the added benefit of putting into practice essential budgeting and money management skills. Creating a financial plan with your son or daughter also could help keep disagreements in check alter on. Try turning to your advisor for help determining how you can strike a balance between assisting your children and making progress toward your own goals.

Should your meetings get a little contentious, try taking a break for a few hours, or even postponing the conversation until a day when everyone's spirits are higher. As money issues arise, ask your advisor if they can offer some financial education to your children. Their objective guidance, along with your support, might be the push your loved one needs to rejoin the real world. Wherever your conversations end up, focusing on the love that you share will help guide you toward the right path for your family.

The foregoing contains general information only and is not intended to convey investment advice. Amy V. Smith Wealth Management, LLC, 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.

Goose Creek Friends (Quakers) To Provide Free Trigger Locks To Gun Owners

In an effort to reduce gun deaths and injuries in the local community, Goose Creek Friends Meeting (Quakers) in Lincoln is working with the Town of Purcellville to make 60 high quality trigger locks available for free to the public. The locks, which work with almost all types of firearms, can be picked up starting January 3 at Purcellville Town Hall and Purcellville Police Department.

According to the most recent statistics available from the Centers for Disease Control, more than 33,600 people in the United States were killed by firearms in 2013. Of that number, more than 21,000 were suicides. There are no statistics available for gun-related injuries which are not reported to the CDC.

By making trigger locks available, GCF are hoping to reduce the number of people in the community who are killed or injured, either accidentally or intentionally, by firearms. Quakers have historically carried a deep concern for fostering peace in the world. For more information call: 703 798-6631.

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Empathy — A Blessing And A Curse

— By Mary Rose Lunde



LUNDE

Empathy, according to the Marriam-Webster dictionary, is: “the feeling that you understand and share another person’s experiences and emotions.” This definition only covers the basics of what being an empathetic person is. Most people assume the best, that being an empathetic person helps relationships, and they’re not entirely wrong, but there are a lot of negatives that can come from it.

So, your friend has just broken up with her boyfriend and you, as the caring friend you are, rush to her aid to support her. When you’re with her watching her cry and sob in pain you want nothing more than to console her and free her from her pain. That’s the normal feeling, mixed perhaps with some anger toward the heart-breaker. And yet, as an empathetic person your feelings rush beyond that, you can physically feel the pain that your friend feels, the emotional trauma she’s experiencing. You want nothing more than to take away her pain, and that’s exactly what you do, unconsciously anyway. You take in other people’s pain that they are experiencing and help bring them back to their true selves. Now, this may seem noble, but by extension it hurts you.

So, if an empathetic person helps someone and is synonymous to an emotional vampire, how is that a bad thing, especially if it helps sooth the pain of others? Well, when you have all this extra emotion what do you do with it? The answer is simple, you take it on yourself, you start to feel the pain or the happiness others are feeling, instead of the emotions that you need to be feeling. Yes, it can be beneficial when you are supposed

to be sad about something and everyone else is happy, but the reverse is also true. An empathetic person who is around a negative situation has no option but to start to feel negative unless she wants to shut off a part of who she is, which is dangerous.

Pain is not something the human body can tolerate after a certain threshold. Yes, an empathetic person can help and take in some of the pain a person feels, but then she has to process that pain. If the pain is too much, then the person can’t handle it and they end up struggling. Often, empathetic people have trouble drawing the line and prioritizing their own needs over those of the others.

As an empathetic person myself, I know the true limits that an empathetic person has. It is indeed a blessing and a curse. While empathy can help people relate to one another, it also hurts when you get too close to someone and have no choice but to watch him or her suffer without being able to help. This semester I’ve learned that even empathetic people need to put their needs before others. This decision doesn’t mean that empathetic people can’t help people though. I still choose almost always to help a friend over protecting myself.

I can’t speak for all empathetic people, but I can speak for myself. I do it because I want to help, and I don’t enjoy watching people in pain. Besides, if I was given this gift why wouldn’t I use it for something good? So, to all you empathetic people out there, remember that your empathy is a blessing and curse, so use it wisely

Mary Rose Lunde just finished her fall semester at Virginia Tech and is grateful that it is winter break. She is a naturally empathetic person and struggles with balancing her life and prioritizing what is best for her.

Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

maladaptive patterns and to make 2016 a year for meaningful change.

First, strive to become aware of your unconscious repetitions and patterns of behavior. The father of psychoanalysis, Dr. Sigmund Freud, coined the term “repetition compulsion” over 100 years ago. For Freud, we unconsciously and endlessly repeat certain life patterns later as adults because of events (e.g., traumas) in childhood that had significance. Later developments in the field of social psychology and cognitive-behavior psychology described this sort of enduring psychological framework or phenomenon as “psychological schemas.” The idea here is that we learn and internalize what was modeled for us as children or what we experienced in our early years and we then take those scripts forward in life.

What part of your life script do you want to re-write this year? Do you identify, for instance, with the frog in the fable in your marriage or in your relationships with your children, boss/co-workers or friends? If so, why do you choose to be a victim? And is the frog (or you) truly the victim? Meaning that if scorpions sting, and you are spending

time with a scorpion, maybe the change you are waiting on or expecting in others isn’t realistic. Maybe it is you who needs to change how you think about things and behave in relation to others.

Or maybe you identify more with the scorpion in the fable. Do you find yourself behaving in ways that are off-putting to others and is there a pattern to that behavior in your history? While certain behaviors may have worked well for you as a child (e.g., being guarded or angry) those behaviors may not be working out so well for you in your relationships in adulthood.

Reflecting on your worst memories as a child can be a helpful exercise in beginning to gain insight and self-awareness into residual and unwanted behavioral patterns. How do those memories inform your current thoughts, feelings and behaviors? How did those moments matter to you in the past and what evidence is there to support that there remains a lingering problem today?

Sometimes connecting the dots and working through residual problems can be done without psychotherapy, but working with an experienced psychologist is most often the best way to address longstanding emotional conflicts.

Kristen Umstadd, continued from page 1

County Public Schools, I felt it was time to get involved in the issues surrounding education funding. For the 13 years that our daughter, Kendrick, was in school, we watched the classrooms become more and more crowded and the teachers lose more and more support.”

Umstadd also has very distinct views on Loudoun’s future economic potential, and it’s economic challenges. “Loudoun prospers when it has a diverse and growing commercial base,” she says. But, she cautions, “It borders on unaffordable, from the standpoint of both residential and commercial taxpayers.” It’s a problem when residential growth moves forward without supporting commercial growth, she notes. Specifically, “The rezoning of commercially zoned land to residential uses aggravates this problem,” she says, citing Leesburg as a model for how things might be structured differently. “Leesburg has the advantage of being a charming and thriving town [that], because of its historic role as the

county seat [has] a healthier commercial to residential tax base than the county at large.”

From an economic point of view, the questions Umstadd plans to ask include: How can Loudoun attract a more diverse commercial tax base? Are there opportunities in sectors such as clean manufacturing and others that the county has not yet fully explored? Can the county be mindful of residents’ concerns about development as it accommodates the commercial growth that it needs to more fully support the already approved residential development?

On other issues, including education and transportation, Umstadd believes the county must work to “turn a good public school system into an excellent one,” and pay for a public transportation system “committed to funding without depleting other essential services, such as the public schools, public safety, and road-building.”

“The prospect of working on these and other issues, is what makes service on the board so interesting and appealing,” said Umstadd.

Medics USA Adds Primary Care Provider

Experts continue to warn that the nation is suffering a growing lack of primary care providers. That problem will be a little less severe in Western Loudoun with the addition of Carissa Dear to Medics USA’s Care Center in Purcellville.

Dear is a Board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner with Bachelor and Master’s degrees in nursing from Georgetown University. She grew up in Vienna and graduated from Vienna’s James Madison High School. She has over 10 years’ experience as a registered nurse and then as a nurse-practitioner in Northern Virginia hospital emergency rooms and family practice facilities. She is especially interested in pediatric medicine and infectious diseases, as well as emergency

medicine.

Medics USA was founded in Purcellville in 1998, when it was the first urgent care clinic in the area. Since that time, the practice has added complete primary care/family practice capabilities, as well as extensive occupational and travel medicine departments. All Medics USA offices are accepting new primary care patients at this time and offer same-day appointments.

When she joined Medics USA, nurse practitioner Carissa Dear was asked her “practice philosophy.” What she said can be applied to the whole Medics USA family practice team: “I am committed to building relationships with patients and their families to ensure holistic, compassionate, and individualized care.”

Second, strive to adopt an internal locus of control. In 1954, research by the eminent personality psychologist, Dr. Julian Rotter, led to term “locus of control” as part of his work to understand how human’s self-evaluate. Dr. Rotter’s research showed that individuals with a strong internal locus (‘location’) of control believe that they have great control over their actions and outcomes in life and these individuals are psychologically better adjusted. For example, if you have a strong internal locus of control and you receive a horrible year-end bonus for a legitimately poor work performance, you would be able to recognize your boss’s position and accept your responsibility in that moment. In contrast, individuals who have a strong external locus of control tend to blame or praise external factors for their realities. Thus an individual with a strong external locus of control would be quick to think that his boss is a jerk for giving him a bad bonus, even if it is deserved.

Third, have an action plan and practice, practice, practice. Some research has shown that it takes about 21 days to make and/or break a habit when the behavior is practiced consistently. However, other research has shown that

making lasting behavioral changes can take much longer. In order to make changes matter and last, most researchers agree that several factors need to be present. It is important to determine an action plan with reasonable expectations. It is also important to be consistent and to practice the changes you are attempting to create for yourself over and over. It is also important to develop a support system so that you can turn to your allies when needed. Lastly, it is important to reward yourself along the way for the changes you are beginning to make and to be good to yourself for the setbacks you might experience.

Make 2016 your year. There is no need to be a scorpion or a turtle anymore. Just strive to be your best self.

Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D. is the founder and director of Ashburn Psychological and Psychiatric Services. He has been featured on the Good Morning America, CNN and other popular media spots as a mental health expert. He has also received the Washingtonian Magazine “Top Therapist” honor for his work with children and teens. Go to www.ashburnpsych.com or call 703 723-2999.

Middleburg Hires New Town Treasurer

The Mayor and Middleburg Town Council are delighted to announce that Ashley M. Bott has been hired to be Middleburg's Town Treasurer. Ms. Bott has over 15 years of experience in accounting administration and customer service and holds a BS in Finance from George Mason University. She will begin her duties as Town Treasurer on January 7, 2016.

"I am thrilled to welcome Ashley Bott as our new Town Treasurer," said Mayor Betsy Davis. "She will be a great addition to our well-respected town staff. I thank Vice-Mayor Darlene Kirk

and the staff who served with her on the recruitment team for the great job they did to bring us such a strong final group of candidates to interview."

The Mayor and Council, as well as Town Administrator Martha Mason Semmes, look forward to working with Ms. Bott to carry on the tradition of excellence in small town government services enjoyed by the Middleburg community.

Any questions can be directed to Martha Mason Semmes, Town Administrator, at 540-687-5152 or townadmin@middleburgva.gov.

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Dr. John Morgan Wins Governor's Emergency Medical Service Award

Doctor John Morgan of Loudoun County has been awarded the Governor's EMS Award for Physician with Outstanding Contribution to EMS, The Frank M. Yeiser Trophy.

The 2015 Governor's Emergency Medical Services Award winners were recently announced at the 36th Annual Governor's EMS Awards Ceremony in Norfolk, Virginia. Governor Terry McAuliffe recognized 10 outstanding EMS providers and organizations from across the Commonwealth for their dedication to EMS and excellence in the field. The awards are presented in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services Annual EMS Symposium.



Doctor John Morgan

"Dr. Morgan's dedication to emergency medicine and significant contributions to Loudoun County's EMS providers have made him an invaluable asset to the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue System," said Fire Chief W. Keith Brower, Jr.

For over 10 years, Dr. Morgan has served as the Operational Medical Director for Loudoun County's EMS agencies. He works closely with the agencies, assisting in training programs, peer review process, protocol development, system planning and works tirelessly to ensure the quality of Loudoun's EMS System. Dr. Morgan

joined the Emergency Department Physicians at the Loudoun Hospital Center in 2003 and serves as an attending physician at the Lansdowne and Cornwall Emergency Departments. He regularly instructs BLS and ALS programs to career and volunteer providers and engages other physicians to teach in efforts to strengthen educational programs. He is a part of the Regional Medical Direction Committee and is a member of the Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System Executive Committee.

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Kerem Baki

Local Winemaker To Teach Three Viticulture Courses At NOVA-Loudoun

Kerem Baki, winemaker at Hillsborough Vineyards in Purcellville, plans to teach three viticulture courses at the Loudoun Campus of Northern Virginia Community College during the spring 2016 semester.

NOVA's viticulture program got off to good start in the fall 2015 semester with Baki teaching "Introduction to Viticulture." He will build on that course with "Viticulture I," "Introduction to Wine Making" and "Vineyard Pruning" in the spring. The courses are open to everyone with no prerequisites.

"Viticulture I" (VEN 120) studies grape vine training, pruning, trellising, shoot positioning, leaf pulling and other cultural practices used in a successful

vineyard. Students will learn about canopy management as it relates to disease control and how to research sites and develop skills for disease abatement.

"Introduction to Wine Making" (VEN 130) covers the process of wine making for both home and commercial wines. The course describes the science involved in the production of wine and includes hands-on projects for students.

"Vineyard Pruning" (VEN 195) is an eight-week class that includes field work at various locations.

NOVA's spring semester begins Jan. 11. To learn more about viticulture courses at NOVA-Loudoun, please call 703 450-2575.

The Nature Generation Brings Monthly Stewardship Actions To Readers



The Nature Generation is a nonprofit organization that encourages and inspires the Loudoun County community to be stewards of the nature that surrounds us. As keepers of the Chapman DeMary Nature Trail in Purcellville, the organization maintains the mile-long trail that runs along the South Fork Cactoctin Creek and offers hands-on educational programs throughout the year that include student and community water testing and nature walks. The Nature Generation also administers the nation's first environmental stewardship book award, the Green Earth Book Award, which is given to children and young adult authors whose literature inspires stewardship, and offers free online eco-games for students and teachers across the county.

As you plan your New Year's resolutions, consider taking on one new environmental

action each month – check back here each issue for suggestions. This month, the challenge is to get outdoors (even if it is cold outside) and take a nature hike on the Chapman DeMary Nature Trail or on one of the many beautiful trails or parks throughout the county. Look for animals in their winter habitats and try to identify types of trees without their leaves. Bring along *Winter Tree Trek* or *Nature Bingo* activity sheets to make the walk more fun and to encourage you to see things in nature, even in the winter, that you might not have seen before.

The Chapman DeMary Nature Trail is located behind the medical center on Hirst Road in Purcellville. Outdoor activity sheets and online eco-games can be found on the resources page at www.NatGen.org. Enjoy the beauty of the season.



Go Out Without Going Far! Franklin Park Arts Center

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THE BEAT HOTEL Saturday, January 16 8:00 PM

The Beat Hotel captures the Crescent City's unique musical hybrid of R&B, funk, soul and blues with a wonderful groove sensibility that is both creative and fresh. Their well-crafted melodies, a kicking horn section, and rich vocal harmonies have entertained audiences from the Monterey Blues Festival, The House of Blues, the 9:30 Club, Blues Alley, and the White House.

Tickets: \$20 All Seats, Reserved Seating www.franklinparkartscenter.org

LEESBURG CIVIC BALLET FESTIVAL Sunday, Jan 10 2:00 & 5:00 PM

Performances by professional and pre-professional ballet companies. Contemporary and classical pieces will grace the stage.

Tickets: \$10 per person Pay at Door

BLUE SKY PUPPETS PRESENTS:

THE ELEVENTH FINGER Wed, Jan 13 10:00 AM
 Since 1974, Blue Sky Puppets have been one of the finest touring children's theatres on the East Coast. Each performance dedicated to excellence in theatre, art, education and fun. In this production *Feathers*, an apprentice wood-carver sets off on a journey to discover the secret of the Eleventh Finger.

Tickets: \$5 per person Pay at Door

DANNY KNICELY'S 10th Annual Concert Sat, Jan 23 8:00 PM

Danny Knicely's tenth annual concert celebrates the 106th birthday of Gypsy Jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt. Featuring The Blue Rhythm Boys, Furnace Mountain, The Woodshedders, Dan Hicks and his Hot Licks, Danny Gatton's band, and The Dixie Power Trio.

Tickets: \$20 per person in Advance, \$25 per person at the Door
www.dannyknicely.com

LAST HAM STANDING COMEDY IMPROV Friday, Jan 29 8:00 PM

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JANUARY 2016 EVENTS

☉ **January 9, Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** Enjoy a breakfast of fresh donuts, sausage gravy, biscuits, eggs, coffee cake, pancakes, sausage, fried potatoes, more at the Between the Hills Community Association Center located at 11762 Harpers Ferry Rd., Purcellville (Neersville). Call 540- 668 -6504 for more information.

☉ **January 9, Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., A Day in the Cosmos** (Trivia Challenges, Scavenger Hunt Book Club and Computerized Planetarium). Rust Library, 380 Old Waterford Road, Leesburg.

☉ **January 11, Monday at 7:00 p.m., Books for Beginners Workshop.** Ashburn Library.

☉ **January 12, Tuesday, 7 p.m., Thomas Lippman presents his latest book, Hero of the Crossing** – How Anwar Sadat and the 1973 War Changed the World., at The Marshall House, 217 Edwards Ferry Road, Leesburg. Admission: Free for members, donation requested by non-members. RSVP required. For more info call 703-777-1301 or visit www.georgecmarshall.org/events.

☉ **January 15, Friday at 7 p.m., Joey and the Waitress — A Benefit Concert for the Old Stone School.** Live, acoustic music. Tickets are \$15, \$20 at the door. Light hors d'oeuvres, beverages sold by the glass. 37098 Charles Town Pike, Hillsboro. Purchase tickets online at www.oldstoneschool.org.

☉ **January 25, Monday at 7:00 p.m., Chapter Books Workshop.** Gum Spring Library.

Blood Pressure Screenings/Health Services Events

Inova Loudoun Hospital Mobile Health Services will be providing countywide blood pressure screening. For further information, call the Mobile Health hotline at 703-858-8818 or visit www.inova.org/mobilehealth.

☉ January 4, Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Levis Hill House
1000 West Washington Street, Middleburg

☉ January 4, Monday, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. — Medical Explorers

☉ Inova Loudoun Hospital
44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg
9 thru 12 graders interested in the medical field

☉ January 7, Thursday, 11 a.m. to noon — Lovettsville Community Center
E. Broad Way, Lovettsville

☉ January 9, Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. — Safe Sitters
Inova Loudoun Hospital
44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg

☉ January 14, Thursday, 10 a.m. to noon
Carver Center
200 Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville

☉ January 21, Thursday, 11 a.m. to noon
Lovettsville Community Center
E. Broad Way, Lovettsville

☉ January 23, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Derma View and BP Screenings
Ashburn Village Sports Pavilion Help Wellness Expo
20585 Ashburn Village Blvd, Ashburn

☉ January 25, Monday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Lewis Hill House
1000 West Washington Street
Middleburg, VA

☉ January 28, Thursday, 10 a.m. to noon
Carver Center
200 Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville

SAVE THE DATE

☉ **February 1, Monday at 7:00 p.m., Chapter Books Workshop.** Ashburn Library.

☉ **February 8, Monday at 7:00 p.m., Books for Beginners Workshop.** Gum Spring Library.

☉ **February 14, Tuesday, The Lovettsville and Purcellville Lions Clubs** will hold their annual youth music competition at Bethany Methodist Church in Purcellville. The competition is open to students who sing or play a musical instrument from age 8 to seniors in high school. The winners receive an award and move up to a regional competition. For more information, call Betty Hedges, 540 822-4808.

Hollywood Casino Hosts Peter Cetera And D.L. Hughley

Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races is rolling out the red carpet this January for star acts Peter Cetera and D.L. Hughley.

Best known as the front man of legendary band Chicago, Peter Cetera will take the stage on January 22 performing a collection of solo hits. After parting with Chicago in 1985, Cetera continued his run of success with his first single, "Glory of Love." In 1986, Cetera released and sold more than one million copies of the album *Solitude/Solitaire*, which produced the No. 1 hit and Grammy nominated duet, "The Next Time I Fall."

Next in the lineup, A-list comedian D.L. Hughley is bringing his brutally honest, knee-slapping humor to the Event Center

stage on January 29. In 2007, Hughley released an HBO special "D.L. Hughley: Unapologetic," and in 2008, he became the host of CNN's D.L. Hughley "Break the News."

Following are the dates of other upcoming shows:

- O.A.R.: Saturday, February 6 at 8 p.m.
- Billy Gardell: Friday, February 26 at 9 p.m.
- Clint Black: Saturday, March 5 at 8 p.m.
- Michael McDonald: Friday, April 1 at 9 p.m.
- Sinbad: Saturday, April 23 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com.

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Arts In The Village Gallery's January All-Artist Show

In January, Arts in the Village Gallery, 1601 Village Market Blvd. Leesburg, presents an all-artists exhibit, In With The New, featuring the diverse work of Gallery artists to celebrate the beginning of 2016. In conjunction with the show, a Studio Sale at the Gallery will take place, with a wide range of paintings, photography, jewelry, pottery, glass, wood and copper items.

Join the artists at the open to the public reception on Saturday, January 23 from 4 to 7 p.m. The studio sale, on January 23, will be held noon to 8 p.m.

For more information call 571-442-8661 or email info@artsinthevillage.com.

CARVER CENTER EVENTS - JANUARY 2016

The Carver Center is at 200 Willie Palmer Way in Purcellville.
Call 571-258-3400 to sign up for the following programs.

Beginning Tai Chi

Mondays from January 4 through March 7, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. (Ages 16 & up). Registration is available online at www.loudoun.gov/webtrac.

Intermediate Tai Chi

Mondays from January 4 through March 7, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Ages 16 & up). Registration is available online at www.loudoun.gov/webtrac.



Body Sculpting

Mondays and Wednesdays from January 4 through February 17, 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. (Ages 15 & up). Tighten and shape your muscles using resistance bands, Pilates balls and weights. Bring a mat.

Decluttering Paperwork

Mondays January 4 through 25, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. (Ages 55 & up). No fee for Senior Center members, non-members pay a \$2 facility drop-in fee.

Watercolor: Phase Two

Mondays from January 4 through February 22, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. (Ages 55 & up) (\$30). A class for students who have a basic understanding of working with watercolors using their own materials. Instruction by Alice Power.

Computers for Absolute Beginners

Tuesdays from January 5 through February 9, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (Ages 55 & up). A friendly introduction to using computers, including email and the internet. Fee includes \$12 cost of optional textbook.

Get More Out Of Word

Tuesdays from January 5 through February 9, 10:30 a.m. to noon. (Ages 55 & up). 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.).

Hatha Yoga I

Wednesdays from January 6 through February 10, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Ages 16 & up). Hatha Yoga is a powerful tool for self-transformation.

Watercolor Painting

Wednesdays from January 6 through February 10, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. (Ages 55 & up). Join Alice Power for an introduction to watercolor painting in a fun and supportive environment. All supplies provided.

Monthly Lunch & a Movie: Black or White

Friday, January 8, Noon to 2:00 p.m. (55 & up). Movie viewing includes popcorn and bottled water and is free to Senior Center members. Must pre-register for lunch before noon on Thursday, January 7 by calling 571-258-3459.

Pilates

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from January 12 to February 19, 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. (Ages 16 & up). A blend of upper body and lower body exercises featuring Pilates movements and weight lifting.

Jerry's Jukebox Dance

January 12 and 26 (and most second and fourth Tuesdays), 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. (Ages 14 & up). Enjoy a beautiful, large dance floor, music, a relaxed atmosphere and a helping hand for people who are learning to dance. Under 14 may attend if accompanied by an adult.

Martin Luther King Day Celebration

Friday January 15, 11:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. (Ages 18 & up). No fee for Senior Center members or non-members.

January Lunch Bunch - Blue Ridge Grill, Leesburg

Wednesday January 20, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Ages 55 & up). Transportation by bus is available to and from the restaurant from Carver for just \$2. Must register by Wednesday, January 13.

New! Intermediate Bridge Help

Thursdays, on-going, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (Ages 55 & up). No fee for Senior Center members, non-members pay a \$2 facility drop-in fee.

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Food For Thought By Sally York

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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72						73						74		

ACROSS

- 1. Bohemian, e.g.
- 5. Foreshadow
- 10. Beat
- 14. Calcite rock
- 15. Kind of force
- 16. Deplaned
- 17. Hoagie, e.g.
- 20. "What's Happening!!" character
- 21. Grand
- 22. 1965 Ursula Andress film
- 23. Delineate
- 26. Fertilizer ingredient
- 28. Common contraction
- 31. Some deer
- 33. B & B
- 34. Creamy dessert
- 40. The "B" in N.B.
- 41. "Arabian Nights" menace
- 42. "___ cost you!"
- 43. Basic
- 48. Blinking light, maybe
- 49. Jewish month
- 50. Cow, maybe
- 51. Zoroastrian
- 54. Nile wader
- 56. ___ system
- 57. Hot
- 61. Didn't walk
- 65. Cooking style
- 69. As a result
- 70. Doozie
- 71. Dance
- 72. Dither
- 73. Mesh
- 74. With understanding

DOWN

- 1. Bustle
- 2. Vermeer's "Woman With a ___"
- 3. A long way off
- 4. Care for

- 5. Dr. J's first pro league
- 6. Mantel piece
- 7. Surge
- 8. Bryce Canyon locale
- 9. City near Sparks
- 10. Aviary sound
- 11. Elite
- 12. Corner
- 13. Aromatic solvent
- 18. Foreword
- 19. "Beats me!"
- 24. Rank above maj.
- 25. Got wind of
- 27. Indigenous Canadian
- 28. Part of a nuclear arsenal, for short
- 29. Biblical pronoun
- 30. Lady of Lisbon
- 32. Ore remover
- 33. "___ Not There," 2007 film
- 35. Sea monster of myth
- 36. Dangerous bacteria
- 37. Greek promenade
- 38. Knocked off, in a way
- 39. If not
- 44. All excited
- 45. ___ Doubt, rock band
- 46. It has a certain ring to it
- 47. Excuse
- 51. Glazier's items
- 52. Scrub
- 53. Cheek cosmetic
- 55. Bar offering
- 58. Skin products maker
- 59. Swift fly
- 60. Oenologist's interest
- 62. Municipality in France
- 63. Organic compound
- 64. Buck
- 66. Word
- 67. Nod, maybe
- 68. Adaptable truck, for short

Answers on page 30

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Leesburg Receives Clean Audit Report For Fiscal Year 2015

The Fiscal Year 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and audit report was presented to the Leesburg Town Council on Tuesday December 8. The audit was conducted by PBMares, LLP, a public accounting audit firm that specializes in audits of local governments in Virginia.

The Town received a clean audit report which means there were no material

findings of problems with the financial statements, internal controls, fraud, or noncompliance with regulations or debt covenants. The only significant changes to the financial statements from the previous year are the addition of the Town's Internal Self-Insurance Fund for healthcare and new Governmental Accounting Standards Board accounting requirements for accrued

unfunded pension liabilities.

"The successful completion of the CAFR was the result of outstanding efforts by Department of Finance and Administrative Services staff, as well as support from many departments town-wide," said Kaj Dentler, Leesburg's Town Manager. "Despite staff turnover and vacancies, DFAS produced the CAFR about a month earlier than last year."

According to Michael A. Garber, CPA, MBA, and partner with PBMares, LLP, who presented the CAFR and audit report, the Town remains fiscally sound and is on track for funding its policy goals and long-term fiscal sustainability plan. The FY 2015 CAFR is available on the Town's website at www.leesburgva.gov/government/departments/finance/financial-reports-cafrs.

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Randall, continued from page 1

the task of how to lead the county in the years to come, and what success would look like.

Each supervisor was praised in great detail for the special skills set they brought to the table. At the same time, each was reminded of who they were there to serve, from “the man who sleeps in his car” to the “employer struggling to make payroll.”

Very populist in attitude, Randall emphasized that no Loudoun County constituent was too insignificant to get the

board’s attention, and no Loudoun County constituent’s challenges would be ignored. “We will see you,” said Randall.

Randall also hit directly at one of the most commonly manipulated political divides in the county – the policy chasm between east and west. “Western Loudoun County has no desire to be eastern Loudoun County ... from the Blue Ridge District to the Sterling District we are one county. Loudoun supervisors, we are one board and I am your chair and I see you.”



(Left to right) Laura Rinehart, Fire Chief W. Keith Brower, Jr., Supervisor Ralph Buona, Andrew Stephenson, Mary Jo Stephenson, David Stephenson, IV and Major John Fraga.

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Answers to puzzle from page 26



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Ashburn Teen Collects Teddy Bears For Eagle Scout Project

A Loudoun County Eagle Scout has collected almost 2000 new stuffed animals for first-responders as part of his community service project.

Andrew Stephenson, an Eagle Scout, Ashburn resident and Broad Run High School senior, originally set out to collect 200 teddy bears as part of his Teddy Bear Brigade project but ultimately collected 1,856 stuffed animals. The stuffed animals were presented to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office and the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue System as part of a ceremony on December 10.

The donated stuffed animals will be used by deputies and fire-rescue personnel to comfort children who are involved in an emotional or traumatic situation. Andrew began the project in March 2015. In addition to collecting teddy bears at many locations around the county, he coordinated an online fundraiser. According to Andrew's gofundme page, he wanted to collect the bears for Loudoun County emergency responders to give to children involved in

accidents, domestic violence, fires, or other emergency situations to comfort and build trust for those involved.

“A teddy bear in the hands of a deputy can be used to provide comfort and a distraction for a child involved in a traumatic event,” said Loudoun County Sheriff Mike Chapman. Fire Chief W. Keith Brower, Jr., said his personnel will also use the teddy bears to help children involved in a frightening situation. “The results of Andrew's project will help us direct a child's attention to the teddy bear during those scary moments, as first-responders are arriving on scene,” Chief Brower said.

Due to allergy concerns, no used stuffed animals could be accepted locally, but Andrew was able to coordinate their donation to overseas organizations.

An Eagle Scout is the highest advancement rank in Boy Scouting and in order to obtain the rank they have to plan, develop and give leadership to a service project for the community. Andrew is a member of Troop 2970 in Ashburn.

Flynn New Medical Director At Blue Ridge Hospice

Blue Ridge Hospice is pleased to announce that Brendan Flynn, D.O. has joined this not-for-profit, locally based organization, which serves an eight-county area of the Shenandoah Valley, Piedmont, and the City of Winchester.

Dr. Flynn comes to Blue Ridge Hospice as its Medical Director from Lakeland, FL, where he served as staff physician with Good Shepherd and Lifepath Hospices. There he provided home hospice care, conducted daily inpatient hospice rounds, and palliative care consultations. He previously served with the Denver Hospice in Denver, CO, as well.

Noting the Board of Directors' pleasure in welcoming Dr. Flynn to the staff of Blue Ridge Hospice, CEO Ernie Carnevale added, “Dr. Flynn's medical experience in hospice care, and his passion for the work of hospice, bring enhanced value to the health care services Blue Ridge Hospice provides our patients.”

With Blue Ridge Hospice, Dr. Flynn will conduct home visits to patients enrolled in the Blue Ridge Hospice program, as well as seeing hospice patients in the numerous health-

care facilities Blue Ridge Hospice serves.

A graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Flynn conducted his internship and family practice residency there. He was chief resident at St. Agnes Medical Center, 2002-2003, and did an externship with the National Health Service Corps, providing care to the underserved on a native American reservation.

Dr. Flynn is board certified in family medicine by the American Academy of Osteopathic Medicine, in hospice and palliative medicine by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and by the American Academy of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

He was a faithful volunteer at the Good Shepherd Hospice's annual weekend event for children who have suffered loss. Dr. Flynn also volunteered with Project Angelheart in Denver, CO where he delivered meals to chronically and terminally ill patients.

For additional information on Blue Ridge Hospice and its services and programs, visit blueridgehospice.org or call 540-313-9200.



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On the Market... with Sam Rees

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Amazing views from this 10 acre horse farm with 4bedrooms/3 baths (including main floor suite) and three finished levels. Stunning new kitchen. reclaimed board fencing , showcase flooring, built - ins and beams. Turn Key horse barn with 4 plus stalls, tack room, wash stall. Riding ring with observation deck. Immense shop for other Hobbies - **\$749,000**

On the Market...with Sam Rees Sold in 2015

19020 Yellow Schoolhouse Road, Bluemont (Represented Buyer)
19052 Yellow Schoolhouse Road, Round Hill (Represented Seller)
13 Broadway, Lovettsville (Seller)
39159 Rodeffer Road, Lovettsville (Buyer)
3760 North Fork Road, Purcellville (Buyers)
37132 North Fork Road, Purcellville (Seller)
14120 Seyzal Lane, Purcellville (Buyer)
36513 Spring Pond Lane, Purcellville (Seller)
38516 Titnore Court, Hamilton (Buyer)
17890 Dry Mill Road, Leesburg (Seller)
417 S King Street, Leesburg (Seller)
311 Locust Knoll Lane, Leesburg (Seller)
40016 Mt Gilead Road, Leesburg (Buyer)
43201 Whisperwood Terrace, Ashburn (Buyer)
15425 Cross Keys, Dominion Valley (Buyer)

MAGAZINE CALIBER INTERIOR



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1/10 1-4

Stunning updated school house circa 1920 on 3 acre. Updated interior with 10' ceilings that will amaze you. Immaculate and close to MARC Train. 3 bedrooms 2 full baths including main level suite. Other rooms include wonder enclosed stone porch, office, great room, living, dining and kitchen. - **\$499,900**

FREE REC ROOM & 10K FOR CLOSING COSTS!



OPEN HOUSE SAT/SUN 1/10 & 1/11 12-3PM

Nestled in the rural countryside of "Lucketts" (Leesburg) this 5 bedroom, 5 full bath home has mountain views and plenty of room for pets and gardening. Wood floors on entire first level, stone fireplace, Morning Room, deck and beautiful kitchen. Close to MARC Train and Historic Leesburg. Small community with only 14 homes. Ratify a contract with Powers Homes on this lot (Lot 1) by JANUARY 31, 2016 and receive both a Free Finished Rec Room and Bath and \$10,000 closing costs! - **\$644,500**

IF YOU LOVE NATURE



Dont' miss this Spacious and Immaculate home in Bluemont (Clarke County) for 349,900! 4 bedrooms, tall ceilings, wood burning fireplaces, wrap around deck off living and master bedroom. Beautiful 2 levels with skylights, wonderful kitchen and 11 acres. SOLAR! Close to boat launch at Shenandoah River and Route 7

FREE REC ROOM & BATH PLUS 10K CLOSING COSTS!



New Shenandoah Model to be built (\$629,900)- Just released by Powers Homes in Loy Estates. Includes a two story family room with floor to ceiling stone gas fireplace! Ratify a contract with Powers Homes on lot 6 ,7, 8 or 11 by JANUARY 31, 2016 and enjoy a Free Finished Rec Room and Full Bath OR \$10,000 toward your lender allowed closing costs. Home sites from **\$499,900**

JUST SOLD 2016 - HAMILTON



JUST SOLD 2016 - HILLSBORO



SOLD - PURCELLVILLE - 11 ACRES



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