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An Interview With BOS Chair Phyllis Randall "I Love My Job"

- By Andrea Gaines

The Blue Ridge Leader interviewed Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall by phone at the end of August, a time when many professionals, while still maintaining a busy schedule, are mixing it up with end-of-thesummer, back-to-school and family events.

Our goal for the interview was to get an update on the board's summer 2016 activities and share with our readers something about upcoming priorities. We also wanted to learn a little more about how Randall herself approaches the task of running something as dynamic and diverse as the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

Setting An Easy, Positive Tone

Interestingly – and this is, I think, quite definitive of Randall's style as a public servant - no matter what might be burdening or distracting her at any one moment, she is always upbeat, easy to talk to, and fun. Her quiet, unflappable style is in stark contrast to her many achievements - from the mark she has made on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Council of Governments and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, to her service on Virginia's Fair Housing Board and the Virginia State Board of Corrections, both of which she chaired



Randall takes a "selfie" with students from a local elementary school.

As we started the interview I asked if this was still a good time for her, as we were both juggling our schedules to make the interview happen. She didn't hesitate in saying yes, adding that she was about halfway into the process of making chicken salad, and would it be ok if she finished while we talked?

Why not? We both agreed, and feeling like I could ask her just about anything at that point, I went to the question I had planned to save for the end of the interview: What impact has your role as chair had on your family life? You seem to do both with a great deal of ease ... "

"Actually," said Randall, "That can be a

challenge. My boys are off to college now. One is studying engineering and business and one is studying business administration he hopes to manage a sports team someday."

"That makes the house pretty empty," she confided, "And a little hard on my husband. But, I like to stay busy and he is just so supportive," she continued. "I love my new job, and feel so humble, so blessed to be serving the people of Loudoun County in this way." We miss our children, she went on. But, she explained, her husband seems to understand that this is what she was meant to do right now, and that makes him happy.

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Photo credit: Instagram via @puppynamedcharlie

Fido And Feline Welcome

See page 8

Photo by Sarah Huntington. L to R: Mayor Kwasi Fraser, William S. Shipp (principal of Woodgrove High School) and Council Member Karen Jimmerson welcome teachers back to school

Schools Start New Year With Great Enthusiasm

- By Andrea Gaines

Loudoun County's public schools -approximately 90 in all - opened for the Fall 2016 semester on Aug. 29. Some 78,000 students will be in attendance this year. And, although it's hard to give up the flip-flops for pencils and notebooks, students and teachers seem equally anxious to get the new year going.

LCPS Website: The LCPS website, www.loudoun.k12.va.us has a wealth of information on it. It includes a Student Rights & Responsibilities paper, links to the School Board's Policy Manual, the LCPS School Profiles report, registration requirements, medical information, and more. The site also has fun feature articles and videos about students' summer achievements, such as golf championships, conservation projects,

writing campaigns, and food drives.

School holiday schedule: After Labor Day: Oct. 10, Columbus Day; Nov. 23-25, Thanksgiving; Dec. 22-Jan. 2, Winter Break; Jan. 16, Martin Luther King Day; Feb. 20, Presidents' Day; April 10-14, Spring Break; May 29, Memorial Day; June 9, Last Day of School.

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ASK DR. MIKE: New Book Helps Balance Children's Screen-Time And Play Time

- By Amanda Clark

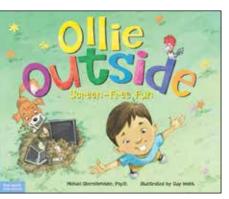
Michael Oberschneider, a clinical psychologist and founder/director of Ashburn Psychological Psychiatric Services, has just released a book titled



Ollie Outside. This book addresses the very timely and important topic of screenand media-time management for children. Ollie Outside is a story about a boy who wants to spend time with others, but everyone around him is preoccupied with some sort of technology. Ollie is resourceful and active and loves the outdoors, so he turns his moments of upset into action to solve his problem. At the end of the book, Ollie and his family come together to learn the valuable lesson of managing technology better, and putting their relationships first. "This is a very timely and relevant message for young children to hear in today's technology-focused society," says Oberschneider.

He says, "We live in technologically driven times, and technology is entering





our children's lives at very young ages. Recent research in this area has shown that 38 percent of babies under two years use

Continued on page 30



Painted Barrels Auction October 8



You've seen them all over town this summer. Now you will have a chance to own one of the fantastic Painted Barrels. All 35 barrels will be up for auction Friday, October 8 at the Bush Tabernacle / Skating Rink. Doors open at 7 p.m., and bidding will begin about 7:15. Admission is \$10 a person, and tickets enter you to win one of the Painted Barrels.

The auction will be conducted by Damewood Auctioneers of Purcellville. There will be a cash bar with beer and wine, along with Mexican food by Casa Tequila. All money raised during the auction will go to future Community Art Projects in Purcellville. The purpose of the Painted Barrels around Purcellville was to bring

visitors to the town, show off the work of Loudoun County artists, and to kick start a string of self-funding Community Art Projects. Tickets to the auction are on sale now. To purchase, go to www. brownpapertickets.com/event/2585292.

The next project is already in the works. According to Michael Oaks, project coordinator and Economic Development Advisory Committee member, artists will be painting huge Christmas decorations to be displayed on street lights throughout downtown Purcellville this holiday season. "I vision Purcellville looking quite festive this year for the holidays," Oaks said. For more information, call Michael Oaks, 540 751-0707.







Willowsford – Trying And Succeeding To Be Different



Willowsford farm stand produce.

- By Andrea Gaines

With an average income of \$119,000 per year, Loudoun County has many new, well-heeled communities, and Willowsford, with its custom homes, sweeping views, private places, and idealistic feel, is certainly one.

But, Willowsford – the Washington, D.C. area's only farm-to-table community built as a farm-to-table community – is both trying and succeeding to do things differently: combining conservation, recreation, convenience, exclusivity, farming, and beautiful architecture into a unique, self-contained lifestyle. Roads are called "streetscapes" here. And, although that sounds like language invented by a master real estate marketer, there is something very special going on in Willowsford.

The development itself is located south of Leesburg and east of Rt. 15 - in the vicinity of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve and the historic Oatlands Plantation. Under Loudoun's comprehensive land-use plan, this part of the County is known as the Transition Policy Area, designed to be not as densely developed as the suburban east, but more developed than the rural west. The TPA includes important County natural areas - wetlands, creeks, forested ridges, and meadows - as well as working farms. And, it includes large new, modern homes, which vary from 2,300 to 6,000 sq. ft., carry the names of well-known builders, and cost between \$500,000 and \$1.2 million.

But, that – a new community with large, fairly expensive homes – is where traditional, upscale housing developments end, and Willowsford begins.

For this place has beauty built right into its design and functionality: a working farm that helps feed the people who live here, a 2,000-acre conservancy with walk-out-your-back-door recreational opportunities, four distinct villages that give residents an extra layer

of lifestyle individuality, and community facilities and programs that make living here, so, well, whole and complete – including farm-food cooking classes, nature hikes, community gatherings, and more.

Willowsford is ... the real thing.

The development's 300-acre farm produces more than 100 varieties of vegetables, herbs, fruits, flowers, and livestock. ACSA program – Community Supported Agriculture – supplies a farm market. A farm-garden demonstration area shows people what is being grown on the larger farm, and is also place for tours and pick-your-own berries. While not organic, the farm is managed to rebuild what many years of traditional agricultural use had taken away, encouraging beneficial insects, companion planting, nutrient recycling, soil conservation, and the like.

And, Willowsford, as a community, has quite the sense of adventure.

The farm raises chickens, for both meat and eggs. They are kept healthy and well protected in large, movable enclosures that allow the birds to forage on fresh grass while controlling the insect populations. It's quite a sight.

Willowsford has, yes, goats, too – put to work as chemical-free grazers to help control weeds and invasive plants. Property owners can request to be a part of the goats-as-grazers program to help control vegetation on their land. As the community's website says, "In addition to their weed-eating services, goats possess a keen ability to kick start conversations about conservation, engage students, and attract volunteers to projects and places they visit."

Willowsford, then, is beauty and function spiced up with a little whimsy, a nice walk in the woods, a farm stand just down the "streetscape," and weed-eating goats.

Willowsford is trying and succeeding to be different.

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Local Government Accountability Where's The Paper Trail?

- By Andrea Gaines

Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser made a town-wide Operational Efficiency Audit one of the first priorities in his first term in office.

An OEA is a review of operations - from contract writing, to bidding, to payments, to timelines, to budgets - to take a critical, unbiased look at internal effectiveness. The goal? To provide recommendations to reduce costs and improve operational efficiency, program and project efficiencies, and effectiveness and transparency - what a citizen sees and hears about what government is doing matches what government is doing within the nooks and crannies and documentation of everyday operations.

OEAs are used to maximize revenues, reduce expenditures, and otherwise promote effective use of resources from the salaries it pays, to the income it brings in, to the way financial assets are managed. This kind of audit also looks to evaluate how well a particular department adheres to policies and procedures, and how well it functions.

Fraser revisited the concept of an audit with the new Council that took office July 1, and, with the exception

of Council Member Doug McCollum, who voiced concerns about timing and costs, the majority of Council members expressed their support for the idea. On the issue of costs, Town Council discussions noted that numerous firms provide such services pro bono. In his first term, Fraser had found a firm willing to perform the audit at no cost, but he did not have majority support on the Council to make it happen. But, support appears to be growing.

At a July Town Council meeting, Council Member Nedim Ogelman said that the goal of an OEA would be "selfimprovement" of government. And, to boost trust between the Town and the citizens it serves, he suggested the audit should start with the Town administration. Council Member Karen Jimmerson said she feels the Town would benefit from this effort. Council Member Ryan Cool expressed his support, too, noting that the effort is similar to performing an audit of one's personal finances there is opportunity in that, and ways to use an audit to improve government efficiencies. Council Member Kelli Grim expressed the idea that there are many phases associated with such an audit, and that there are numerous opportunities to

make the Town's procedures run more efficiently

"A good starting point," said Grim, 'would be to review details from the City of Hampton, which has their own internal audit department. Their records reflect [the] many changes [that] have brought about positive efficiencies and cost savings.'

Fraser seems willing to continue his championship of this idea. "There are firms that can do this pro bono," he repeated. And, he urged the Council "not get caught up on the potential cost without further investigation." He added that he supports the audit idea whole heartedly, and would like it to be an agenda item for future evaluation.

Editor's Note: In a June 2016 Town Council meeting, Council Member Kelli Grim gave an example of how an audit might benefit the Town, entering into the record and providing to the Town manager details about a transaction that began in 2014, and cost the taxpayers \$2,300, even though the project as originally proposed installation of security glass inside the police station – was eventually

Case Study: New Glass For **Police Department Lobby**

The following example shows how easily just one of the hundreds of financial transactions a town such a Purcellville makes can get lost in the shuffle, and end up on the taxpayers' tab.

In an interview with Council Member Kelli Grim, she describes how in late 2014 the head of the police department obtained a quote for \$14,897.39 from Valley Commercial LC for custom security glass to be installed in the department's lobby. Valley Commercial was the police department's landlord, and was owned by local businessman, John Chapman, at the time.

The police department obtained a requisition number from the Town finance department to allow the landlord to purchase and install the custom glass. This order was subsequently voided by the Town at the request of the department, because, according to an email dated October 22, 2014, the department believed that it had been quoted a lower price, and was "waiting on John Chapman's office to adjust it." ... but that's not how things ended up.

On April 29, 2015 - Chapman Brothers LLC (Valley's parent company) provided a custom quote from Roy's Glass Service, Inc., with a revised quote of \$10,848.99 (down from the original \$14,897.39). The company required a 50 percent deposit upon ordering. On April 29, 2015 Chapman Brothers LLC signed and approved the custom order, and on May 1, 2015, a company named CaseCo LLC (owned by John Chapman's son, Casey Chapman) stated they issued the required deposit to Roy's Glass Service, Inc. in the amount of \$5,424.50 (according to Freedom of Information documents, there were no copies of third party canceled checks or a receipt of the deposit transaction).

On June 22, 2015 CaseCo LLC submitted invoice #256 to the Town for \$2,300 - reimbursement for a glass restocking fee, as the Town had canceled the order. "This restocking fee is to repay CaseCo LLC for costs incurred on the Purcellville police station bullet resistant glass work order #10167.

Once the order had been submitted and the material procured, the Town of Purcellville canceled the project. CaseCo LLC was able to work out a deal with Roy's Glass Service to restock the glass and issue a reimbursement of \$3,124.50 (of the \$5,424.50 paid).

However, according to invoice #256, Roy's Glass Service would only do so for a restocking fee of \$2,300. So, the Town of Purcellville issued a check of \$2,300 to CaseCo LLC on June 29, 2015. (At the time of this transaction, the phone to Roy's Glass Service was disconnected, and, in fact, the business license in the State of West Virginia for this company was terminated in November 2013. While restocking fees are common, it is standard business practice for all parties to provide detailed paperwork documenting payments received, with canceled checks.)

"My concern is that the proper procedure for procuring the item was not followed and the Town taxpayers lost \$2,300," said Grim. "The entire process was extremely complex, difficult to follow, and lacked detailed documentation"

Taxpayers may differ in their opinions of whether this \$2,300 – with no work performed -- was just the cost of doing business in a small town. And, it is not unusual for local consultants, builders, and tradesmen to enter into regular and ongoing contracts with their local government. But, from a fiscal responsibility point of view, there must be an open and concise paper trail detailing where the money went, to whom, and for what purpose.

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87th Class Virginia Certified **Planning Commissioner Program**



Purcellville Vice Mayor Karen Jimmerson and Council Member Kelli Grim attended and completed the Virginia Certified Planning Commissioner program in Roanoke, August 30. The program focused on the responsibility of planning commissioners, and the legal framework for planning and zoning principals, to name a few. "Going through this program solidified to me how critical our zoning ordinances are and how important it is to follow our comprehensive plan. Proper zoning protects our plan – present and future – and knowing what our community wants is a key component to our vision," said Grim. "The Land Use Education program provided a good foundation for creating inclusive citizen participation at all levels of planning," said Jimmerson. She continued, "Effective comprehensive planning provides for efficient and sustainable development or can help stimulate redevelopment opportunities. Gaining better insight of the planning process will allow our council to weigh zoning applications or changes with greater confidence and more measurable results."

Comp Plan Debate: Give In To Suburbia Or Follow Citizen Sentiment

- By Valerie Cury

The Purcellville Planning Commission held a work session on the Comp Plan Review every Thursday in-August, and also began meeting with representatives of town committees to discuss the areas of the plan relevant to their particular committee expertise.

The commissioners began by creating individual drafts of mission and vision statements for the Town's Comp Plan with commissioners sharing their short statement around the room.

Purcellville Senior Planner Daniel Galindo argued in favor of including future annexation and growth in the Comp Plan, based on town resolution #15-01-02 adopted January 27, 2015, which directs the Planning Commission to include a plan for the physical development of land located within the County and Town's Joint Land Management Area - JLMA - around Purcellville.

The sentiments of each commissioner what each sees as the mission of the Comp Plan – can be paraphrased as follows:

- Chair Theresa Stein: The plan's vision is to preserve Purcellville's small town character - a small town character that is atheistically pleasing – and to preserve the unique heritage of the community while managing and controlling growth to provide the town with needed and desirable amenities.
- Commissioner Britt Adkins: purpose of this plan is to establish practical guiding principles as our community looks toward a future vision of Purcellville. And, to pair those principles with a strategy of managed growth that enables our town flexibility



- to anticipate the inevitable and yet unforeseen demands of coming years, while maintaining a deep respect and allegiance to the history and character of our past.
- Commissioner Chip Paciulli: The mission of the plan is to "strive to sustain" and enhance the quality of life in Purcellville, by reflecting on the unique aspects of the Town's location, history and people, and strategically guiding our community into the future.
- Commissioner Tip Stinnette: We the people of Purcellville want to preserve and protect our historic, rural, smalltown charm. We want to responsibly consolidate past growth, provide highcaliber community services, safe roads and pedestrian paths, and enhance our environmental stewardship. We want

future development to be smart, targeted and balanced, and to maintain the vitality and quality of life of our small town.

- Commissioner Kelli Grim: Purcellville Comprehensive Plan is the positive vision of town residents that value our unique history and small town charm, and shows our passionate commitment to preserve these resources and strengthen the connections between them.
- Commissioner EJ Van Istendal: The public seeks responsible economic growth, the protection of "rural land and small town charm," and the preservation of family values. My current and immediate concern is the Catoctin Corner development. This will burden Purcellville with another small retail center filled with businesses we don't want, to provide us with goods and services we don't need. Catoctin Corner is not a

- responsible example of growth and is vastly inconsistent with the public input received thus far during the Comprehensive Plan Review community meetings.
- Following up, and disagreeing with the smart growth aspects of previous individuals, Purcellville Senior Planner Dan Galindo said his vision included the following: The Comprehensive Plan shall promote maintaining the small town character of Purcellville first and foremost, but this does not preclude future development and redevelopment that would benefit the Town and its citizens.

Addressing Galindo's comments, Commissioner Grim noted that Purcellville must establish the vision first and implement the planning strategy, second. Both are required if we are to be successful, said Grim, as the Town seeks to build on its strengths and historic roots. Grim said what she had come away with from the citizen input portion of the Comp Plan sessions, collectively, was that residents do not feel like they are in control, and do not feel that their input has been listened to ... for a very long time.

Said Grim, "The County's Revised General Plan states, 'In 2012, recognizing that the Town did not desire any increased density and growth outside the current incorporated town boundaries into the JLMA, the Purcellville Joint Policies Review Committee and the Town of Purcellville called for the repeal of the PUGAMP [Purcellville Urban Growth Area Management Plan]. Accordingly, the County has revised and superseded policies in regard to the PUGAMP and the

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Planning Commission Denies Hastily Considered Drive-Thru

The Purcellville Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding a request to amend a previously approved location of a drive-thru restaurant at the Catoctin Corner project which is located northeast of the roundabout on East Main Street and Berlin Turnpike (Rt. 287). The property was rezoned by the Lazaro Administration in 2010, and given six special use permits – against the recommendation of the then Planning Commission. Granting the six special use permits and placing a gas station at the entrance of town was seen by many as not consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan and contrary to the Gateway Charrette held only months earlier.

The applicant, Purcellville Development, LLC, proposed to relocate a drive-thru restaurant from the rear of the property to the front main entrance on Rt. 7. Purcellville resident Patricia DiPalma-Kipfer spoke and noted that the required public notice stated that information related to the special use permit was available for review on the town's website or at the town hall. The information was not available at either location at the time of the



public notices. She said, "As a residential there were no details relating to the 50-foot property owner adjacent to and impacted by this development, I feel it is wrong to advertise a public hearing when the backup documents needed to make an informed decision are not available for review at the same time as the required posting."

Commissioner Kelli Grim (who also serves on the Town Council) expressed concern that

easement granted to VDOT by the previous owner, and it appeared that the property owner was building in violation of the easement. Commissioner Chip Paciulli noted that the town has a noise ordinance in place and that he had concerns about the speakers of the drive-thru restaurant. Commissioner EJ Van Istendal asked why there was a

delay in getting materials to the planning commissioners. Commissioner Tip Stinnette said he felt the communication of the plan has been ineffective due to the number of unanswered questions. Commissioner Grim had also asked for a review of the project to include elevations, landscaping, retaining wall, and pedestrian safety measures, "so we could understand the unique topography of this project ... Why isn't this already available? ... This does not provide a complete and accurate picture of the issues that need to be considered."

The public hearing remained open and was continued to August 18.

At the continuation of the public hearing on August 18, the commissioners were not pleased that the applicant presented material no more than a half- day in advance. The commissioners had traffic and pedestrian concerns with the main entrance on Rt. 7 where the gas station and the drive-thru restaurant would be located. The Planning Commission made a recommendation to deny the relocation of the drive-thru restaurant because it did not plan for adequate and safe vehicular access.

Fido And Feline Welcome

- By Andrea Gaines

Lots of areas market themselves based upon how pet-friendly they are. Locally, visit Loudoun, billed as "DC's Wine County" has become quite active in touting the pet-friendly nature of what's available here, too, listing dozens of trails, shopping areas, resorts, and popular destinations such as wineries that welcome dogs, and in some cases ... cats. Yes ... cats.

And, why not? People relate to each other through their animals. And, nothing feels better than having people comment on how gorgeous your dog is ... or how they had the same kind of dog growing up. Dog

and cat love creates good will between a business and its customers, too – especially in a place like Loudoun County, where barns, farms, and wide open spaces meet great places to stay, spend, get active, or just relax.

Visit Loudoun Media Manager Jennifer Buske-Sigal notes that both Salamander Resort and Spa and Lansdowne Resort are dog-friendly. At Salamander, certain rooms are outfitted for a doggie stay, complete with a dog bed, food and water bowls, organic treats, toys and waste bags. The resort also features a Yappy Hour, the profits from which are donated to the Middleburg Humane Foundation. Lansdowne offers

what it calls a Pampered Pups Dog Friendly Package. And hundreds of places welcome dogs for shopping and for visiting.

For example, the Loudoun County Bed & Breakfast Guild profiles dozens of beautiful properties for a weekend stay, a casual brunch, special event, etc. Many of these are also dog friendly (see www.loudounbandb. com); and travel websites identify two dozen or more pet-friendly national chain hotels and motels in Loudoun, as well.

Destinations familiar to visitors and locals alike are also getting on the petfriendly bandwagon. Great Country Farms has a new facility where dogs can run free. The half-acre area includes a doggie wash station and access to a pond – all that is required is a willing dog and the supervision of its owner. Oatlands Plantation has hosted many dog walks in combination with tours of its magnificent grounds.

Wineries are also more and more petfriendly. Several with that distinction include three in Delaplane: Aspen Dale Winery, Barrel Oak Winery, and Three Fox Vineyards. One travel writer notes that miniature horses and goats also roam the Aspen Dale property. Three Fox Vineyards actually allows both dogs and cats, and has a monthly drawing for dog or cat of the month, complete with prizes. Breaux Vineyards (with its Dog Days events) and Northgate Vineyards - both near Purcellville, and Fabbioli Cellars and Stone Tower Winery near Leesburg are all in for the furry ones. too. Northgate promotes greyhound rescue with its Greys and Grapes events.

Another great Loudoun destination, 8 Chains North Winery near Waterford, boasts the first enclosed dog park in the county, and has gone so far as to enlist Fido in service to cats. On September 10 it will hold the 3rd Annual Wine and Walk to benefit the Loudoun Community Cat Coalition – a great day that includes not just wine, but music, trivia, vendors, a food truck, prizes, and more.

And then there is the dog-friendly LoCo



Photo credit: Instagram via @puppynamedcharlie

Ale Trail, providing dog friendly hiking, and opportunities to sample local beers. Lots of local parks and family trails are petfriendly, too, and they go to great lengths to welcome you, and keep both you and your pet safe. Seasoned dog walkers and hikers are told that it's just as important to equip your pet as it is to equip yourself - with water, a leash, waste bags, basic medical supplies, foot pads if needed, etc. The Olde Izaak Walton Park in Leesburg features a spacious dog park, including a special area for small dogs. There are different rules, of course, for national parks, national forests, state parks and recreation areas, town parks, private trails, national battlefields, the C&O Canal, and the like. But information abounds on the websites for all of them. A good place to start is the website of the Appalachian Mountain Club, www.outdoors.com.

And, here's a tip: Dog owners, including myself, are famous for fawning over their pets. When traveling with them, even if you're just going for a walk through a park, take the basics with you, including the water, leash, etc. It's also a really good idea to have a picture of your dog with you – on your phone or tucked in your wallet. This offers great piece of mind should Fido wander off, or you otherwise get separated. And, keep the number for Loudoun County Animal Services handy to report any lost pets – 703 777-0406. They can also direct you to the closest emergency vet, should that need arise. Enjoy!



Remembering Thomas R. Graley

Thomas R. Graley 78, of Purcellville, passed away Tuesday, August 16, in Leesburg. He was born September 24, 1937 in Charleston, West Virginia, son of the late Thomas Dewey Graley and Corene Alice Seymour Graley.

Survivors include his wife Martha L. Maxwell Graley to whom he was married 55 years; a son, Alan Lee Graley of Bull Shoals, AR; three daughters, Julia Graley of Purcellville, Fonda Eigel (Thomas) of Lexington, Kentucky and Virginia Mumaw (Charles) of Waterford; and seven grandchildren, Nigel Preece III (Zuni), Claryce and James Eigel, and Ellie, Emma, Ava, and Garrett Mumaw.

He received his teaching degree from West Virginia Tech, and was an educator for 25 years, retiring from Fairfax County Public Schools, where he taught science, math,



chemistry, physics, and horticulture.

His favorite hobbies included hunting, fishing, model railroading, and family genealogy. He did what he wanted with no regrets.

A time of remembrance and fellowship will be held at the Graley home, September 24, 12-4 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the following: Contributions for water well, sponsored by the Thomas R. Graley family, Purcellville. Contact CBN, 1-757-226-3312.

The Gideons, www2.gideons.org/donate. The Gideons International, Loudoun West Camp, P.O. Box 1558, Leesburg, VA 20177.

Arrangements are being handled by Enders & Shirley Funeral Home, Berryville.

To view the obituary and send condolences online, please visit www.endersandshirley.com.

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Photo by Sarah Huntington

Pictured left to right: Richard Bania, Justin Marcum and Michael Scott

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Privacy On Hiddenhollow Lane

- By Hannah Hager

Just as when a person's name suits their disposition, so does the address of this home perfectly describe its setting. If you're looking for privacy in bustling Loudoun, then you will find it at this farmhouse located on Hiddenhollow Lane in Leesburg.

Walnut Hill is a 146-year-old home that has been lovingly restored and maintained throughout what is surely to be several generations of Loudoun families. The Civil War-era farmhouse has likely seen and heard a lot of tales and secrets during its



heyday and throughout restorations. Not too many homes could pull off a façade of deep, navy blue, but something about it gives the impression that it's used to playing the backdrop to the markings of time.

Alas, the look of the exterior is a false indication of what's to be found inside.

The interior is flooded in light due to the double-hung windows that are generously positioned to drown the home in sunlight that bounces off the heart-pine hardwood floors, which themselves have been immaculately maintained for such an historic home.

Details and finishings are expertly regarded throughout the home – from the crown molding framing the windows and doors, to the light fixtures and updated kitchen, to the custom walnut built-in bookcases in the living room. Simply put, you'll enjoy the old-world feel, but the young ones won't complain of drafts or spooky sightings.

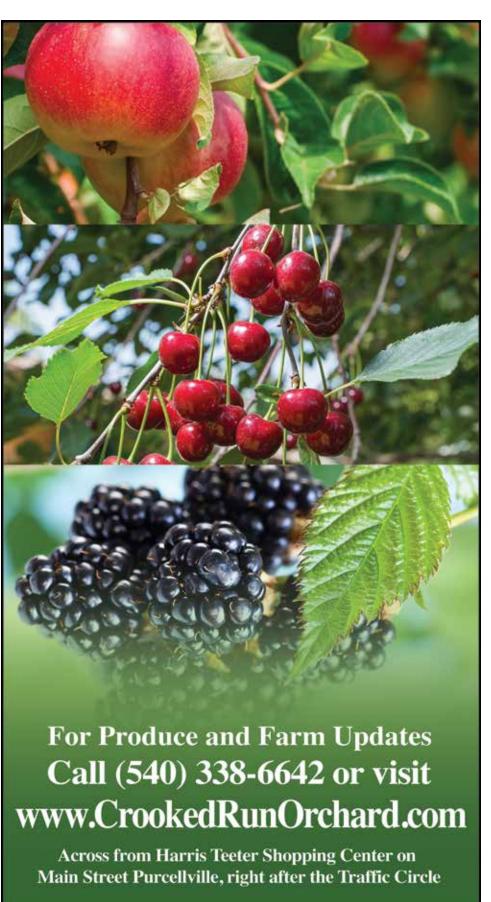
Address: 13722 Hiddenhollow Lane,

Leesburg 20176 List Price: \$639,000 Year Built: 1870 Acreage: 11 acres Bedrooms: Five

Bathrooms: Four full and one half bath Agent: Kathy Shipley, RE/MAX Premier

Phone: 540-822-5123 Visit: www.kathyshipley.com

It'd be silly not remark on the outdoor space of an elderly farmhouse. With 11 acres of green and woodlands, you'll have plenty to enjoy, including a private pond and vegetable garden, with a workshop and chicken coop nearby. Or you could simply sit on the back deck and enjoy the privacy that is yours on Hiddenhollow Lane.





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Bucolic retreat less than an hour from DC in the Loudoun County countryside. Private, 11 wooded and open acres with pond. Almost 3000 sq. ft. of finished space. New kitchen with eat-in room overlooking pond. Stainless steel appliances, gas cooking, quartz counters, cherry cabinetry. Custom walnut built-in bookcases (harvested from property) in living room. Updated baths (2.5), five bedrooms, including master with sitting room and main level guest bedroom. Original heart pine floors, pinched seam metal roof, expansive deck and stone walls. Vegetable garden, chicken coop, mature plantings and perennial beds. Near the lovely villages of Taylorstown and Waterford; Minutes to the MARC commuter train.



\$235,000 Clarke County Taxes

Fantastic rambler on almost 1 acre, less than 4 miles from Loudoun county line. Great for commuters. Hardwood floors in bedrooms and living room. Brand new master bath Perfect, large country kitchen w/tons of cabinets and bay window. New sliding glass door leads to deck on private lot. Newer items include; refrigerator, dishwasher, furnace, washer, dryer, water heater & roof.



\$259,900

This home shows immaculate. Old home lovers delight. Home dates back to 1790 w/some exposed interior logs but offers completely updated kit w/granite & large pantry. Newer windows, main, lvl laundry room, french doors leading to dr. Original hardwood floors under carpet. One car garage & shed. Great corner lot with delightful side porch. Walk to new shopping center & local restaurants.



\$775,000 Great Falls

This extra lg colonial w/over 3k sq ft on 2 lvls & partially finished basement. This unique home offers 5 bdrms. 2nd master on mn lvl offers walk in closet & full bath. Upper master has lg sitting room. Dr w/built in shelves, 2fps, light filled kitchen eat in space over looking treed lot, in ground pool & patio fresh exterior & interior paint & all new carpet.



\$345,000

Immaculate colonial w/3 finished levels. One of the few models w/walk out basement with attached 2 car garage. Fantastic lot w/ common and walking trail behind, vinyl fenced back yard. Delightful country kitchen w/corian and maple cabinets. Fr off kitchen offers gas fp. Mn lvl laundry. Deluxe master bath w/soaking tub, sep shower & double sinks. Large rec room in basement. Custom blinds thru out.

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A Man On The Move: Supervisor Ralph Buona, Vice Chairman Board Of Supervisors

- By Samuel Moore-Sobel

I first met Ralph Buona when I was a senior in high school. A "Youth in Government" day event allowed us to meet with our local supervisors. Chosen to sit next to the supervisor for my district, I got the sense



that he was a kind and thoughtful man, someone who possessed a strong intellect and a powerful sense of right and wrong. As we sat on the dais, he quietly motioned towards the cameras positioned in the back. He told me to tell my "relatives" that I was "on television," informing me that the meeting could be viewed on the local county channel. It was said with a sense of excitement mixed with idealism. The honeymoon period after his election had yet to wear off.

Years later he appears nearly the same. He finishes up with his phone, commenting on the many events he receives invitations to at the last minute. I was reminded of the phrase repeated over and over by Willie Wonka in that iconic movie Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, "So little to do and so much time... strike, reverse that, thank you."

We talk about first jobs out of college. His first job was pre-determined, having attended the Air Force Academy. Assignments were determined by class placement. Finishing in the top third of his



Buona at work.

class, he became a pilot. In fact, he later reveals that serving as an officer in the Air Force was his favorite job. He cites the opportunity to travel the world at such a young age and the many lessons learned, as reasons for such favoritism. "What I learned at time management has done me well the rest of the way."

His desire to run for office was instilled in him as a young child. His father was a chairman of the school board, and Buona was a regular volunteer on the campaign trail. "I saw the good and bad of it at a very young age," he said knowingly, as if the life he has carried out was part of a grand narrative planned out long ago. Yet the path to public life was not simple or easy. "It's a matter of timing, and where you are in life."

His opportunity to run came decades after observing his father. As the November 2011 election neared, he determined it was time to run. He thought to himself, "The timing is right, your resume is right, your career is established, kids are older." Yet convincing his wife was no easy task. She agreed on one condition. "Take me with you," she said. True to her word, she went to debates and other campaign events, and even knocked on doors with him.

He speaks affectionately about his wife of more than 20 years. The mere mention of her appears to soften him. He tells me that holding public office is hard on one's family. To illustrate the point, he offers a story about his wife. One morning while reading local blogs, she came upon a story that painted her husband in an unflattering light. She knew what had been published misrepresented her husband, since she was present at the event referenced by the blog. Ralph accepts this as part of the game. With thick skin ingrained in him from an early age, he ignores the criticism. His wife struggles. As a solution, his campaign manager ordered her away from the blogs. "I'll look out for Ralph," he said. It is easy to ignore the burden carried by the loved ones of public officials.

Buona currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. His committee assignments include being a member of the Board's Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee. In addition, he serves as a member of the Joint Board of Supervisors/School Board Committee. He spends the day working as Telos Corporation's senior vice president of corporate business development, where according to his website "he is responsible

for overseeing the expansion of each Telos business unit through the acquisition of new opportunities." He holds a B.S. in Management from the Air Force Academy and an M.S. in Systems Management from the University of Southern California.

When asked what the number one issue he hears about from constituents, he answers unequivocally -- transportation. "People don't want to sit in traffic, and I don't blame them..." This explains why he is focused on "fixing our roads" because "all I do is look around at people in gridlock all the time."

An additional focus is establishing the commercial tax base. His eyes light up as he carefully outlines the revenue garnered from commercial versus individual taxpayers. For every dollar spent in taxes, a commercial entity uses about \$0.33 in services. For individuals, every dollar spent in taxes generally results in \$1.63 used in services. To keep taxes low, expanding the commercial tax base is required. "People aren't getting hammered on residential taxes if we have a strong commercial base," he says.

Buona is a planner, a thinker who deals in long-term goals, rather than intently focusing on short-term gain. In the upcoming term, he is most excited about the prospect of creating a "vision" for Loudoun County over the "next 20 years." He emphasizes that it will likely take two years to construct the comprehensive plan, with several additional years before

Continued on page 13





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Moore-Sobel, continued from page 12

reaching full implementation. His first term was largely consumed by "putting forward plans that would put our fiscal house in order." With that goal accomplished, it is time to think bigger. "It's been a long time since the last one has been done," he says.

Buona is most comfortable talking about the numbers. When the interview turns towards a more personal note, he become slightly uncomfortable. I ask him to offer a few words to describe himself. "I'll let my wife describe me...I hate these types of questions." Yet he acquiesces, simply stating that he "likes to have fun."

Yet the more telling comment was uttered just a few seconds later. "I'm very pragmatic. I try to intelligently reason things through." Logic and data trump emotion. He then turns the conversation towards campaigning, and the vast sums you have to raise to run for office. He puts the price of a seat on the Board of Supervisors at \$100,000, a startling figure that probably discourages many from running.

The campaign trail is no picnic, either. He personally knocked on more than 12,000 doors in his re-election campaign. I ask if he has any humorous stories from those days. "You see everything," he says with a broad smile. He remembers being chased by dogs, and the fear of violence after making the mistake of knocking on doors during a football game. "People have pulled a gun," he says chillingly, yet in an empathetic

tone. "Maybe rightfully so. There had just been a home invasion recently."

This is the essence of Buona. Empathetic, able to see others' point of view. At the same time, a feeling of restlessness is always present. While he admits it isn't always easy juggling two full-time jobs along with other commitments, he is a man more than up for the job. "I don't sit very well, I gotta be doing something," he says. "You have to sacrifice things," he says wistfully, as he looks out the window of the restaurant. "I don't get to see my grandchildren as much as I would like to."

Yet, what keeps him going is the difference he makes in the community. He can drive around and see the road that was built, the firehouse that was constructed, the other improvements made to his community, all done on his watch. It is the tangibles that keep him going, the visible landmarks that are the products of his nearly two terms in office.

I ask him if there are any votes he regrets. He seems surprised by the question, and takes a moment to ponder. "I don't really regret any of my votes," he responds, unable to summon any from memory. Part of the reason for that may lie in his willingness to vote his conscience. "I don't predicate my votes on what my future may or may not be in politics," he said. "I've always voted my principles."

As our conversation comes to a close, I wonder if there is a vote that he is most proud of during his time as a member of the Board. He immediately draws attention to the vote on

expanding the Metro rail to Loudoun County. "Metro was a vote that was a once-in-a-50-year-vote..." It was a controversial vote, extremely close with plenty of drama over which way it would all unfold. His reason for supporting the measure? Pure and simple, it was an "economic development issue" going "hand in hand with expanding the commercial tax base."

In the end, the measure passed 5-4, yet not without consequence for Buona. His yes vote invited a primary challenge, one he easily overcame in his re-election bid. Despite the extra challenge he faced, he has no regrets. He believes that had the Board voted down the measure, "It would have been another 100 years before it would

have come up again." To hammer home the importance of what he views as his most consequential vote on the Board, he offers one last detail. "I can tell you the day we took that vote: July 3, 2012," he says proudly, as if reliving the events of that day all over again. "Then we had a nice Fourth of July," he said with a slight chuckle. "A lot of fireworks."

As far as his future in politics, Buona was muted. "I don't know, I really don't," he said with a twinkle in his eye, betraying the feeling that he is keeping his eye on infinite possibilities.

Samuel Moore-Sobel is a long-time resident of Loudoun County. He currently works as a consultant with CGI Federal.



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Randall, continued from page 1

On the subject of the people she works with on the board, "When this board came together for the first time," said Randall, "We had to learn how to work together as 6 Republicans and 3 Democrats. But, it's a really good group of people. Even when we don't agree, we're not divisive. I'm very proud of the tone we've set and been able to maintain."

Comp Plan Review – "No Appetite" For Heavy Development In The Transition Area

Loudoun County released a new Comprehensive Plan Charter in May and presented a Comprehensive Plan review update in July. The July presentation included announcements related to a 26-member stakeholder committee, a staff technical advisory committee, consultant procurement, public outreach and engagement, and anticipated activities for the first quarter of 2017.

The Comp Plan review will take up a great deal of this board's agenda going forward. And, for her part, Randall is intensely focused on the public outreach efforts this will demand, describing this as the board's effort to "take the show on the road." Says Randall, "We want as much input as possible."

In past interviews Randall has been very consistent in her support of Loudoun's rural west, seeing the people of that area as having moved there for a specific reason – including a rural lifestyle – and the

economy of the area as more dependent on farms, wineries, tourism, and natural areas than the convenience features that dominate the more developed east.

Loudoun's Comp Plan acknowledges this reality with three distinct land areas – the Suburban Policy Area (in the east), the Rural Policy Area (in the west), and the Transition Policy Area (in the middle).

Per development in the Transition Policy Area – designed to "provide a visual and spatial transition between the suburban development in the eastern part of the County and rural development in the west" – Randall was very clear. "I don't see any appetite on the board for heavy development in this area. I also don't see us approving dense development right up to this area's borders." That would frustrate the idea of this being a transition area, said Randall.

While acknowledging the development pressures faced by the Braddock Road corridor – which runs through a good part of the Transition Policy Area – and other locales, Randall still favors keeping the number of houses in the transition area down, and supports retaining the kinds of passive development patterns that have been established, via open space and other requirements.

Revitalization As Development

Going beyond the Suburban, Transition and Rural Policy Areas themselves, Randall also had some interesting things to say about development in general.

"My focus for development," said

Randall, "will be the Metro corridor," referring to the new Metro stations coming to Loudoun County. "It just makes sense that this is where development should go."

This is not an unusual point of view for professionals with a long-term interest in both transportation and efficient development patterns, and the very real infrastructure costs associated with development.

But, Randall takes this a little further, looking for win/win opportunities.

For example, Randall describes how Loudoun County can develop, while at the same time revitalizing Sterling and some parts of the suburban east. We often limit the idea of development to new development, Randall explained. But, revitalization of already heavily developed areas, such as Sterling, should be part of the dialogue, too.

Randall On The AT&T Short Hill Episode

The AT&T Short Hill Mountain development project played itself out quietly last year and came roaring on the scene this spring, awakening and in some cases catching off guard both citizen groups and the Board of After much very public Supervisors. debate, in June, AT&T suspended plans to construct a 160,000 sq. ft. expansion of its current transmission utility substation on the mountain. And, while AT&T activity on the mountain continues, and many believe the project will be on its way back in some form, virtually all - including Randall - see the episode as a virtual miracle in terms of what the opposition to the project was able to achieve.

Said Randall, "Those citizens took charge to protect what they saw as 'their mountain'." Just about everyone thought that what AT&T wanted to do was a "done deal," she continued. But, this kind of public input showed "what they – the people – can do" when they make their voices heard.

This seems to be the kind of thing that excites Randall about the possibility of "taking the show on the road" when it comes to the Comp Plan review process.

To follow up on that idea I suggested that more debates were surely on the horizon due to the public's demand for more modern telecommunications services. And, I asked: "How do you see the AT&T project as relating to the demand for more telecommunications services out west?"

"Well," said Randall, "Broadband follows the people." The AT&T project showed how engaged the public could be, she reasoned. Public input also "shows the importance of looking at new and different ways" to get the same thing done. She is clearly looking at public input as a way to solve seemingly intractable problems.

Growth Isn't Just About Zoning

Phyllis Randall has a very interesting public service biography.

She was elected Chair of the Board of Supervisors in 2015, and serves on board committees responsible for crafting county policies on education, transportation and land use, government operations and more. As noted, she also serves on and/or chairs multiple local, state and regional bodies

 including The Blue Ridge Speech and Hearing Advisory Board and Friends of Loudoun Mental Health.

Randall is a mental health therapist by profession, having worked with individuals suffering from substance abuse and other mental health issues. With nearly 25 years of experience in the field, Randall has seen the consequences of untreated mental illness – including increasing rates of teen suicide. She understands how problems like this can express themselves in communities and has convinced the Board of Supervisors to, for the first time, develop a strategic plan outlining how best to administer the county's mental health services.

As the county grows, notes Randall, the mental health services that have been there all along will come under increased pressure to provide assistance to individuals and families. "You can't pretend this is not happening," she said.

Increased demand for services, in turn, puts pressure on budgets, and that – according to Randall – makes it more important than ever that local government know what resources it has, and how to operate wisely and spend efficiently.

Her goal is to work with the board to develop a strategic plan on the issue of mental health that will be ready before the body completes its term in 2019. She hopes the planning process will start in mid-September.

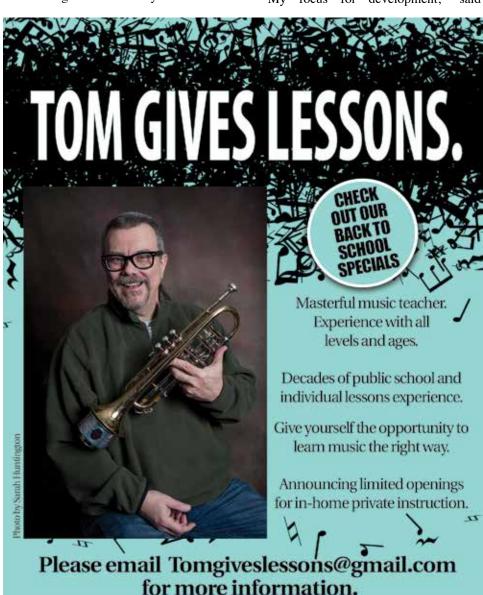
"In many ways," says Randall, "the board has been playing catchup on the things showing the first signs of pressure as the county grew, things such as economic development, roads, schools, public infrastructure and zoning policies." As chair, Randall is taking the lead to make sure the county pays attention to mental health and other social services, too.

A Woman At Home With Herself

As we wrapped up our interview, Randall announced she was adding the final ingredient to her chicken salad – croutons. Perfect timing. Maybe she'll post the recipe on her very active Facebook page. A great way to close out the summer and move into fall.

Randall's Facebook page, in fact shows you a lot about who this woman is. She uses Facebook and social media in a very artful way - announcing and keeping up to date on community events, sharing stories about interactions with constituents and recognizing students, neighborhood leaders and others singled out for special But, whether she is achievements. announcing a road closure, congratulating the Douglass Alumni Association for its 75 years of service, attending a ribbon cutting for a new business, taking a "selfie" with kids at a local elementary school, reporting on a recent Far East economic development trip, or sharing a recent news article about the rural beauty that still exists in Loudoun County, Randall is, as always, herself.

Thanks, Phyllis, for your time, your graciousness – and that chicken salad recipe?



Integrated Scientific Discovery

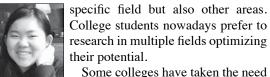
– By Mary Rose Lunde

Many suggest that science is the gateway to the future. The rise in scientific discovery has driven more and more funding for research. The fact of the matter is, however, that science is

far more complex than people used to expect. Years ago, it was enough for a chemist to study just chemistry, a biologist just biology, a physicist just physics. Aside from singular, required introductory classes that house the basis of each subject, few scientists branched out of their respective areas. Nowadays, this is a rarity. In the last few years, scientists study multiple disciplines.

It was thought that scientists discover the mysteries of life. Why does time move faster for one person than another? Does this drug work better than that one? Each of these questions had one specific answer. That's how scientists in the past viewed everything: there was only one answer. Their job was to find it. Now, however, everything is connected. Experiments have become more and more complicated, involving more and more variables of study. Instead of simply asking if this one change will work, scientists focus on combinations, studying multiple variations of analyzed study and securing multiple layers of answers as a result.

Due to the complexity of recent research, scientists have to adapt and learn more about subjects that they normally wouldn't have delved into. Now, schools are pushing for science students to learn not just their



Some colleges have taken the need for a diverse group to the next level, and are creating college programs

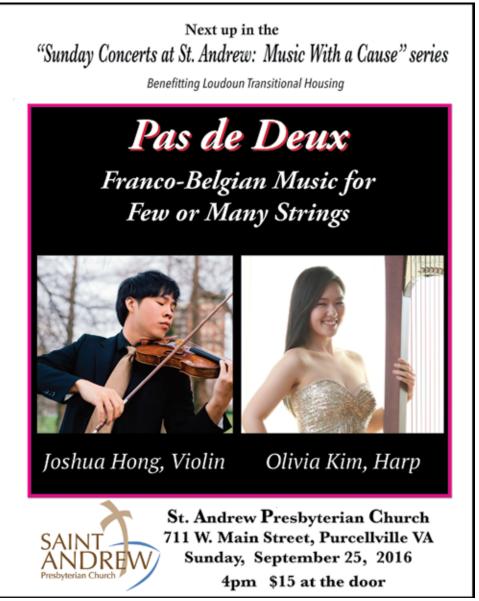
to suit the demand. Virginia Tech, for example, is second to Harvard in creating an interdisciplinary competitive program highlighting all the realms of STEM classes. These include: biology, chemistry, physics, and various levels of math. These programs are designed to focus on students progressing to learn all realms of science and how they interact in various ways. Their labs are focused on relating science to figure out those interactions.

At Virginia Tech, the program is designed for freshmen and sophomores who take all of their general sciences together, merging each of the disciplines to relate to each other. These classes are vital to science because they teach the next generation how to look at problems in unique ways. Instead of solving one problem with one solution, they solve one problem with multiply layered solutions that optimize the best option.

Scientifically speaking, these classes provide a better potential for the future, and will create scientists who, as Virginia Tech's motto says, will "Invent the Future."

Mary Rose Lunde is a Junior at Virginia Tech who has recently graduated from the Integrated Science Curriculum program.







SHEOR

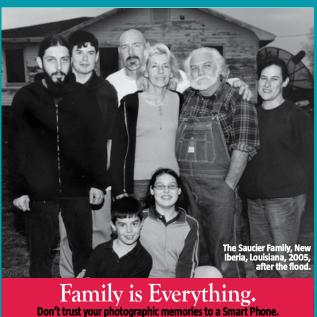












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New this year is an interactive Indian village (\$3 donation suggested) celebrating our area's Native American heritage with painted ponies, dancing, exhibits and a veteran's tribute. Craft demonstrations will include papermaking, pottery, beekeeping, wood carving, spinning, weaving and more. There will be

railroad history exhibits and activities at the old train station, a pickles and pie contest, juried crafts, great food and live music, farm animals and quilt displays – everything your nostalgic, country heart might desire.

The fair takes place in the historic village of Bluemont on Route 234 Snickersville Turnpike, just off Route 7. Admission is \$5 for adults, and children under 10 are admitted for free. Saturday and Sunday September 17 and 18, 10 am to 5 pm.

P.S. The Village of Bluemont has some interesting historical connections to president George Washington. Washington's half-brother John Augustine Washington once owned some of the land upon which the village now sits ... enjoy the fair.





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- Amy and Dan Smith

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Joint tenancy. If you hold property jointly with another person "with

survivorship," it is presumed that the survivor is entitled to all the property upon the death of the first to die. Typically, a deed or investment account will indicate "joint tenants with right of survivorship." Joint ownership by a husband and wife with survivorship rights is called a "tenancy by the entireties." Property owned by two or more people without survivorship is called a tenancy in common. This intention should be clearly stated in the title to avoid conflict upon the death of the first tenant.

A bank account in two or more names is presumed to be the property of the survivor(s) even if "right of survivorship" is not set forth.

TOD or **POD**. A "Pay on Death" or "Transfer on Death" designation may be added to an account; in which case the designated payee will be entitled to the account balance upon the death of the account holder.

Beneficiary Designations. Many assets routinely have named beneficiaries who will take the balance upon the death of the asset owner. Common examples are life insurance policies, annuities, and retirement plan accounts. If no beneficiary is named, the account will be paid to the estate of the decedent.

If an asset is jointly titled with survivorship or has POD, TOD or a beneficiary designation, a contrary provision in a will or trust will not control.

Trust. If the decedent created a trust during his/her lifetime and transferred assets to the trust during lifetime or at death, then the assets will pass to the beneficiaries named in the trust. (See this column on *Trusts*, November 4, 2015)

Will. Assets which do not pass by any of the foregoing methods are disposed of in a properly executed will. (See this column Explaining Process of Probate, December 10, 2014)

Intestacy. If none of the foregoing methods of transfer exist, then the



decedent's assets will pass according to a list of beneficiaries set forth in the Virginia Code for persons dying "intestate" (ie, without a will). The surviving spouse of the decedent is entitled to all

of the assets unless the decedent is survived by descendants at least one of whom is not descended from the surviving spouse. In that case, the surviving spouse is entitled to one-third of the estate and the decedent's descendants two-thirds. If there is no surviving spouse, the entire estate is distributed to the decedent's descendants. If there is no surviving spouse nor descendants of the decedent, then the estate passes to the parents (or surviving parent) of the decedent. If none of the above is surviving, then the estate passes to the brothers and sisters of the decedent or their descendants. If no one in the above categories is surviving, then half to the decedent's paternal kindred and half to the maternal kindred; if none, then to the kindred of the decedent's most recent spouse (who predeceased the decedent), provided that the decedent was married to him/her at the time of that spouse's death. Only if no one in any of the foregoing categories is surviving, does the estate go to the state.

Transporting the Estate. Indications are that you can't take your estate with you.

The foregoing article contains general legal information only and is not intended to convey legal advice. For legal advice regarding estate planning, the reader should contact his/her lawyer. The foregoing contains general information only and is not intended to convey investment advice. Legal advice and services are not offered through Raymond James. Amy V. Smith CFP ® CIMA. Amy Smith Wealth Management, LLC, is an independent firm offering 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.

Just Like Nothing (Else) On Earth: Dulles Air And Space Museum

- By Tim Jon

You ever have those dreams, that (back – probably when you were a kid) you could fly? Not in any kind of man-made craft, mind you – I mean



possessing the ability to levitate and travel the skies at will. It's an exhilarating, empowering feeling. I guess about the closest I've come to enjoying that sensation during waking hours is whenever I visit the Air and Space Museum at Dulles – the Smithsonian's Steven F Udvar-Hazy Center.

Walking around in the presence of so much aviation technology – soaking up all

the energies of various air and space craft in those massive hangars – I've almost felt my feet lift off the floor and let my arms do the walking. And even if it's all just my imagination (not too hard to believe, I know), it's still pretty cool.

Little wonder that I'd engender the place with so much magical capacity: I watched this behemoth grow up – from a bare patch of ground (after clearing the landscape of trees), to a skeleton of metal spires, to a series of finished buildings – outfitted with all the accoutrements of a 21st Century Smithsonian attraction. As a local media representative (from the good, old Wage Radio Newsroom in Leesburg), I had the enjoyment of covering the story of its development from the planning stages up through its construction and opening- as well as following any major events connected to this shrine to human endeavor.

I loved talking to the Smithsonian folks on hand, too – including Museum Director (and Four-Star General) 'Jack'



Dailey, and the late World War II fighter ace Don Lopez (one of the original Flying Tigers); I also enjoyed chatting with some of the characters to whom I was introduced: Astronaut and Senator John Glenn (who told me what it was like to orbit the Earth), as well as some famous actorguy who came in to narrate the Grand Opening - John Travolta (all pumped up for movie roles at the time – he looked 'as big as a refrigerator'); I talked with all these people about essentially the same thing: the passion for flight which convened us in this common time and place. I also fondly recall touring this facility with my family (during the extended Opening Ceremonies in December, 2003) - to commemorate the Smithsonian's Salute to Military Aviation Veterans - since my Dad had served in World War II, as an aerial gunner and bombardier for the US Naval Air Force.

Time and space collapse back to 2003, then to 2016, and we're back to a keyboard, a screen, and images from history.

continued on page 34

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Are You A Candidate For A Home Generator?

- By Andrea Gaines

We all know what a home generator is: the machine that "keeps the lights on" when the power goes out. Most home generators are of the standby variety - powered by an external power source such as a natural gas line, and taking over when our main home power source fails us. Set on automatic, standby systems restore your power within 10 to 30 seconds. Others are portable, filled and then refilled with their respective fuels, and used for a wide range of tasks, from powering the household, to running lawn equipment, to helping with home repair jobs. Some are actually solar powered or wind powered. A standby generator can cost \$4,000 or more, while a portable generator can be bought for just \$400. There are also trailer-mounted generators, RV generators, and more.

But, how do you decide whether a generator, particularly of the large, powerful standby

variety - is a good investment for you?

First, understand that buying and/or installing a generator is a pretty big decision with lots of variables – from cost to safety, property investment value, maintenance, and proper long-term operation. For that reason, take care to talk to professionals – as well as neighbors, friends, or family – who are familiar with a generator's costs, useable life, and operation.

Americans devote 13 percent of their energy use to cooling, 11 percent to lighting, and 9 percent respectively to water heating and space heating. Other uses such as refrigerators, TVs, dryers, computers, and other things take up not insignificant amounts, and approximately 28 percent goes to miscellaneous uses.

These are critical household needs. And grid-disabling natural disasters are on the

Continued on page 22



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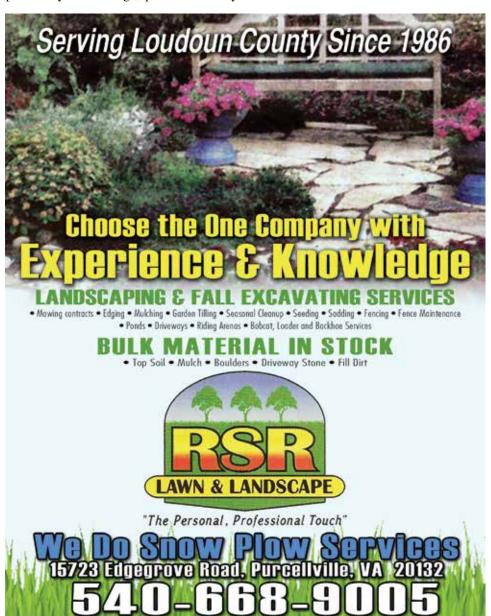


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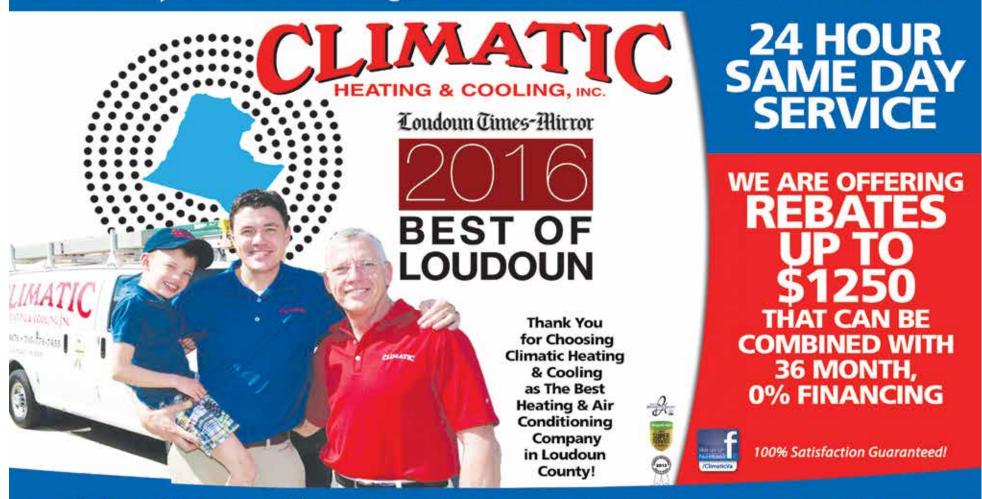
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Generator, continued from page 20 rise, say experts.

utility But, specialists caution that generators "are not for rookies." So, if you are thinking that you do want to have or might need a source of emergency or remote power you lose electricity fairly often, you're quite the do-it-yourselfer and need a portable energy source, etc. - experts say that your main considerations in choosing the generator include:

Your power-run times: permanently connected standby systems offer virtually unlimited run-times; portable ones have limited run-times and/or need to be refueled on a specific schedule.

The power level or wattage you need. An average house with 5-ton central air conditioning system, for example, requires a 15-17 kilowatt generator or better.

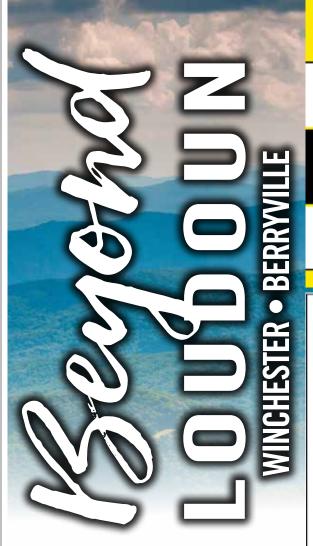
The fuels available in your area. Most standby units run on both natural gas and propane. Certain fuels, such as propane, are normally readily available during power outages, while diesel might be a little more scarce.

utility company's Your requirements. Depending on the kind of generator you use, you may need to check your fuel line's pressure levels, your meter's ability to meet the load,

All of these decision points emphasize, again, the need to consult a trusted professional or someone who knows the ropes when it comes to generators. In the end, once cost, servicing, fuel variables, etc. are considered, you want your generator to both meet your needs, and be easy and convenient to use and maintain.

A standby generator may require a basic service after 24-48 hours of continuous use. Portable generators need to be stored and protected while not in use. Installed systems need to be sited and maintained with care.

Standby systems, example, are normally sited on a large cement pad a certain (required) distance from a structure. Some systems generate noise and air pollution, and may require permits. The more information you have about the issues that could potentially come up, the better.





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Organize Your Clutter And Help Loudoun Families Salvation Army Opens New Boutique

Are fabulous "wear-it-once-ies", and things that don't fit cluttering up your clothes closet? The Salvation Army Family Thrift Store at 10 Cardinal Park Drive in Leesburg recently found the perfect solution to help ladies organize by opening up a new "Dress of Success" boutique stocked full of designer apparel to help achieve a professional look for that next job interview or special event. Every Thursday from 3-5 p.m. women get an extra 20 per cent off all pant suits, blazers and sports jackets on purchases in the boutique. Proceeds stay in Loudoun and help pay rent and utilities for families on the verge of being evicted or having their utilities turned off and also help pay the operating costs of their mobile canteen kitchen which serves meals every Saturday with the help of volunteers from area churches. For more info, please call 703 771-1060.



Loudoun Cares Offering Volunteer Management Training

Loudoun Cares is offering three-day workshop training for anyone supervising or managing volunteers. The training program will be offered in Ashbury on September 12, 19 and 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$175 per participant.

The training will cover how to plan and evaluate a volunteer program, as well as how to recruit, place, train and supervise volunteers. Registration closes on September 2. To register, please e-mail julie@loudouncares.org.

Hunter's First Professional Race



Photo by George Slook

Drew Hunter and Loudoun Valley classmates at his first professional race, Sir Walter Miler in Raleigh, NC in early August, 1 to r: Marcos Pierce, Matt Slook, Drew Hunter, Max McNerney. Hunter finished with a time of 3:57.15. Hunter turned professional and signed with Adidas.







Franklin Park Arts Center's Celebrates 9th Season



Chair of the Board of Supervisors Phyllis Randall with members of the Old Dominion Chorus at Franklin Park Arts Center in late August. The Franklin Park Arts Center and the Friends of Franklin Park Arts Center opened its 9th season and features a diverse choice of events from music performances, theater companies, comedy programs, dance performances, children's programs and puppet shows to name a few



Blue Ridge Wildlife Center Annual Fundraiser September 17

The Blue Ridge Wildlife Center is the region's only wildlife hospital, rehabilitation, and education center serving the Northern Shenandoah Valley, the Piedmont, and beyond, and this annual fundraiser event, September 17, provides funds for wildlife rehabilitation, educational programs, and the operation of its new state-of-the-art facility.

Guests will be greeted at 6 p.m. September 17 by a pair of the beloved Budweiser Clydesdales and can enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres until dinner is served at 7 p.m. Local band Ver Azul will provide upbeat and relaxing tunes and a live auction will follow dinner with items including a trip to historic Grant's Farm in St. Louis, MO, a birding exploration and picnic at Oxbow farm, and a wildlife painting from Middleburg painter Anthony Barham.

For more information, e-mail Jennifer Lee at jennifer@2leeword.com.



Clarke County Studio Tour Saturday And Sunday October 1 & 2

This self-guided family friendly tour will take visitors through the Clarke County countryside and the towns of Berryville, Bluemont, Boyce, Millwood, and White Post. The tour offers a diverse group of 30 artists and 22 different locations. The artist studios will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Most artists will be doing demonstrations, offering refreshments, and have items for sale. For more info go to clarkecountystudiotour.com.



Military Members Invited To Native American Ceremony



Photo by Peter Thornton

Sanctuary on the Trail, host for the Indian Village, invites all military veterans and uniformed services personnel to participate in a powerful, traditional Native American ceremony. An all-Native American Indian honor guard will escort military veterans and service members into the arena tent for community celebration of thanks for their service and dedication. The Indian Village is part of the 47th annual Bluemont Fair and opens September 17-18. The ceremony will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Stone's Field 33834 Snickers ville Tpke, Bluemont, VA 20135. Entrance is free to uniformed service members and veterans.

CARVER CENTER EVENTS – SEPTEMBER 2016

Monthly Lunch & a Movie: The Lady in the Van

Friday, September 2, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Call 571-258-3459 to register.

O Lyme Support Group

Tuesday, September 6, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Body Sculpting (Ages 15 and up)

Mondays and Wednesdays beginning September 7, 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. 12 Sessions for \$100

New! Mindfulness (Ages 16 and up)

Thursdays beginning September 8, 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. 6 sessions for \$60.

© Voter Registration Outreach (Ages 18 and up)

Thursday, September 8, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

© Jerry's Jukebox (Ages 14 and up; under 14 if accompanied by adult)

Tuesday, September 13 and Tuesday, September 27, 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Get More Out Of Word

Tuesdays beginning September 20, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 6 sessions for \$48.

Label Reading for Health Seminar

Wednesday, September 21, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Alzheimer's Support Group

Thursday, September 22, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

© September Lunch Bunch: Lowry's Crab Shack, Hamilton

Friday, September 23, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration closes on September 16.

Scams and Fraud Seminar

Wednesday, September 28, I p.m. to 2 p.m.

© Pickleball

Most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, on-going, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

New! Basic Ukulele

Wednesdays, on-going, 12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Monday Morning Moves

Mondays, on-going, 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. \$4 per class.

© Fitness for 55 & Up

Mondays, II a.m. to II:45 a.m., and/or Wednesdays, I p.m. to I:45 p.m., ongoing

© Kickboxing (Ages 12 and up)

Saturdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., on-going. \$100 punch card for 12 classes valid for six months.

Save The Date

September 8, Thursday 7 p.m., Planning Commission and Town Council joint meeting to discuss the status of the Purcellville Comprehensive Plan Review and the next steps.

September 9, Friday 12:30-10 p.m. Purcellville Town Council Strategic Planning Meeting at the Train Station and also Saturday September 10, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

September 24, Saturday Carver Center 10- Noon and 2-4 p.m. Purcellville Comprehensive Plan Review Status Report and Public Input Opportunity.

Purcellville Arts Council Hosts Exhibit By Lillian Miller

The third in a series of art exhibits in Purcellville's Town Hall (221 S. Nursery Avenue) features the works of local artist Lillian Miller. The show runs through September 30.

Miller went from the Chicago Art Institute on to the University of Wisconsin where she majored in Art and Languages. In 1960, Miller returned to Brazil where she broadened her painting technique by studying with an international array of artists. She participated in numerous exhibitions in Brazil and in Italy. Miller returned to the United States in 2005. She is a member of the Loudoun County Sketch Club, an organization that arranges weekly outdoor painting sessions for its members at historic or otherwise attractive sites.

Miller says, "I think I have gained a lot by painting in different environments...the landscapes in Brazil have more vivid colors than the blue lakes and soaring mountains of Northern Italy and they are both different from the more subdued, subtle shades of a Virginia landscape." Miller believes an artist cannot help but be inspired by the beauty of Loudoun County. "Since moving here six years ago, I find myself constantly surrounded by attractive wooded areas, lovely green and gold hills, and stretches of both wild and tilled fields that contain picturesque houses, quaint cottages and farm buildings - a virtual bonanza of pastoral scenes that just beg to be painted."

A Meet-The-Artist reception will take place at the Town Hall on Wednesday, September 14 from $5:30~\rm p.m.$ to $7:30~\rm p.m.$

Fall Gardening

Create a Pollinator-Friendly Garden

We are approaching the fall months when pollinators are looking to load up on nectar to prepare for long migrations or to hibernate over the Winter. You can help these important creatures by making sure your garden has the kinds of plants that bees, butterflies, and other pollinators need. Here are some to consider: aster, cardinal flower, coneflower, coreopsis, false sunflower (heliopsis), gaillardia, garden phlox, goldenrod, great blue lobelia, ironweed, jewelweed, joe pye weed, sedum, and sunflower.

A greater variety of flowers will serve as host plants for caterpillars, as well as nectar plants for butterflies and other creatures. It is also important that your garden has flowers with bloom times throughout the season so there are continuous blooms from Spring through Fall. Not only is that necessary for pollinators, but it is also beautiful! Talk to your local nursery to get more recommendations, there are many in our area that have fantastic selections of native plants for pollinators.



It's not too early to start thinking about your Spring garden, too! Now is a great time to see what you have in bloom, and plan where you could plant bulbs that will bloom next Spring. Purchase Fall bulbs through the nonprofit The Nature Generation to create a beautiful



Kids plant plants to attract birds and bees at the pollinator garden on the Chapman DeMary Trail. Plant daffodils and other bulbs now for a colorful spring garden.

garden for your home, and to support local community and school environmental education efforts. Order tulips, crocuses, daffodils, alliums, irises, hyacinths, buttercups, and more by October 15 at www.natgen.org/buybulbs/. Questions? Contact aware@NatGen.org. The Nature Generation is an environmental education nonprofit that maintains the Chapman DeMary Nature Trail in Purcellville.



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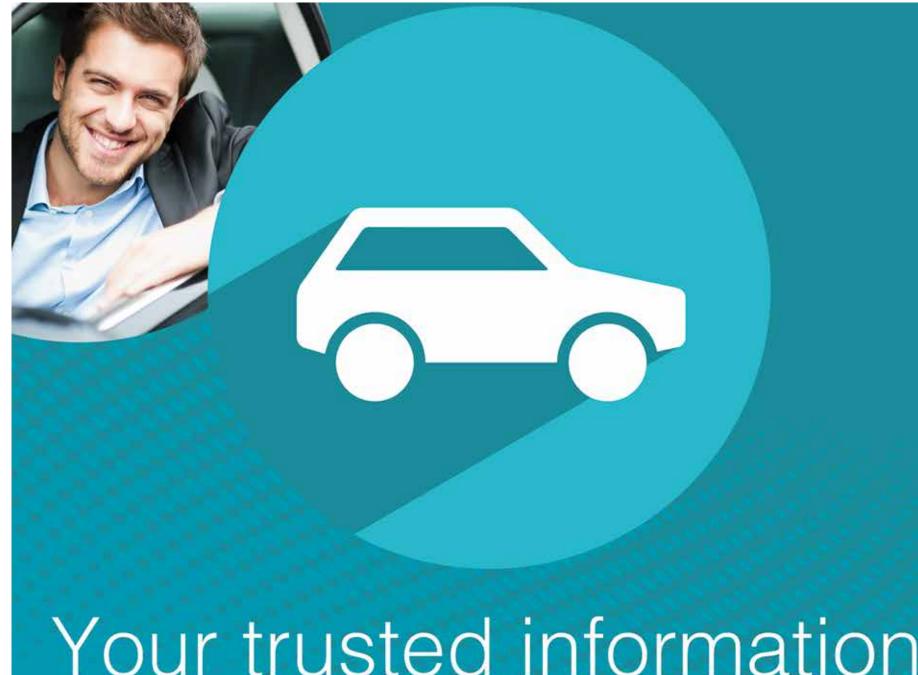
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OUT & ABOUT LOUDOUN & BEYOND

History's Holy Places Four Local Sites Worth Exploring This Fall

- By Andrea Gaines

The Journey through Hallowed Ground is a 180-mile long, 75-mile wide trek from Gettysburg to Monticello, encompassing nine presidential homes and places, 18 national and state parks, and thousands of small and large historical sites.

Dozens and dozens of these sites and related museums are short ride from just about everywhere in Loudoun County. And, four of them – Dodona Manor, Rokeby, The National Sporting Library & Museum, and the Manassas National Battlefield Park -- can be visited in one busy day or a more leisurely weekend. Maybe one will catch the eye of family or friends you might be entertaining as you enjoy the last bits of summer and the start of fall.

- Have Coffee With George Marshall: This property, known as Dodona Manor, was the home of Gen. George C. Marshall, who lived here while serving as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army during WWII. Marshall was the architect of the Marshall Plan, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. Beautiful old oak trees and more grace the property. In fact, Marshall and his wife Elizabeth named the property Dodona after the Greek oracle Dodona, who was said to speak from the top of the same kind of oak trees. (www.georgecmarshall.org, 703.777.1301)
- Enjoy Lunch At Rokeby: Grab a sandwich or pack up



Photo of National Battlefield Park courtesy of the National Park Service.

a homemade lunch for your family, and head to Rokeby. Rokeby is a grand mansion house just south of Leesburg that historians identify as the best example of Georgian architecture in all of Loudoun County. Built is 1765, this wonderful property was put on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The house was used as a

secret depository for some of our nation's most precious documents during the War of 1812. While Washington burned, Rokeby's cellar protected the Declaration of independence and other irreplaceable bits of our early history. (Visitor information on Facebook.)

- Soak Up The Beauty And Books At The National Sporting Library & Museum: NSLM was founded by George L. Ohrstrom, Sr. and Alexander MacKay-Smith in 1954 to share the literature and associated culture of equestrian, angling, and field sports. Today it is a full-fledged library, museum, and art showcase serving scholars, visitors, and all of those who cherish and support these unique ways of life. With a rich stable of rotating exhibits, the museum is worth visiting again and again. Snacking, shopping, and walking opportunities are also within reach in Middleburg, where the library and museum are located. (www.nationalsporting.org, 540.687.6542)
- Take In The Sunset At Manassas National Battlefield Park: The Civil War was launched on these sacred grounds. And, although subdivisions bump up against its borders, and nearby highways buzz with traffic, this place holds a special serenity, a humble sense of calm. Special anniversary programs include a series of sunset tours at the park's Chinn Ridge, Matthews Hill, Brawner Farm Interpretive Center, and Henry Hill Visitor Center areas. (www.nps.gov, 703.361.1339)

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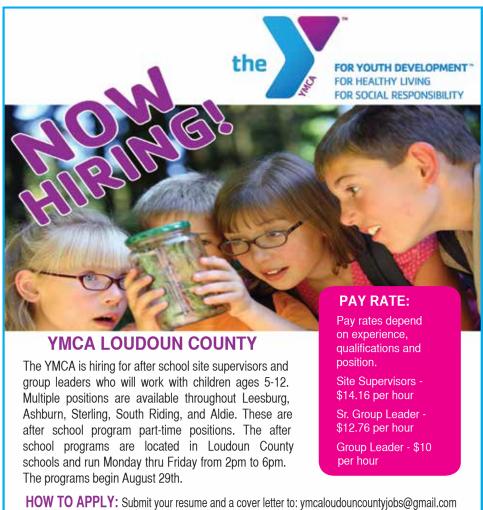
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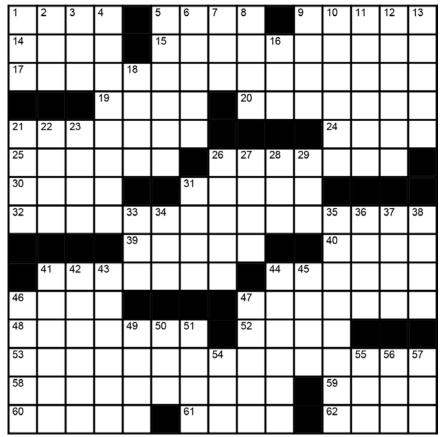


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- 5. Barker
- 9. Abalone
- 14. Erode
- 15. Banish
- 17. Sources of learning
- 19. Guitar accessory
- 20. ___ wine
- 21. City districts
- 24. Haliatus albicillas
- 25. Verb tense, in Classical Greek
- 26. Adroitness
- 30. Shadow
- 31. Ranee's garment
- 32. Source of learning
- 39. Vouchsafe
- 40. Bazaar
- 41. Makes blue
- 44. Eire's capital
- 46. Apple's apple, e.g.
- 47. Cranelike bird
- 48. Defenseless, in a way
- 52. Furtive summons
- 53. Source of learning
- 58. Easier to use
- 59. Della's creator
- 60. Wedge-shaped bones
- 61. Go around in circles
- 62. Singer Lou

DOWN

- 1. Piercer
- 2. "Fantasy Island" prop
- 3. Dolt
- 4. Upright
- 5. Bombshell, so to speak
- 6. Fairs

- 7. Way to go?
- 8. Enrich
- 9. Assayers' stuff
- 10. Mouthwashes
- 11. Functionaries
- 12. Forever, poetically
- 13. Lies
- 16. Backgammon impossibility
- 18. Vittles
- 21. U.N. agency
- 22. Icy coating
- 23. Keystone State port
- 26. Large canines
- 27. Unyielding
- 28. Without precedent
- 29. Unagi, at a sushi bar
- 31. Excoriate
- 33. Unpaired
- 34. simple
- 35. Acerbate
- 36. Hill's partner
- 37. Unrelenting
- 38. Valle del Bove locale
- 41. State bordering Arizona
- 42. Mushroom adjective
- 43. House feature
- 44. Catch sight of
- 45. Comic villainess
- 46. Steers into the wind
- 47. Spat, var.
- 49. Authority
- 50. Age
- 51. Strike
- 54. Completed
- 55. Hackles
- 56. Motivation for Manolete
- 57. Dime novelist Buntline

Answers on page 34

Back to school, continued from page 1

Safety First

Over the next few weeks Sheriff's deputies will be strictly enforcing speed and other traffic regulations around local schools. Sheriff Chapman also offers these safety tips for students, parents and drivers:

- In walk-to-school neighborhoods with higher levels of traffic, consider a "walking school bus," in which an adult accompanies a group of kids to school. Make sure children know the route, and wear bright colored clothing. Pay attention and always use crosswalks.
- If riding your bicycle, always wear a helmet, ride on the right (same direction as traffic), use appropriate hand signals, respect traffic lights/stop signs, wear bright colored clothing, and ditch the headphones/cell phones while riding.
- For motorists Make sure every passenger wears a seat belt and/or an age- and size-appropriate car safety seat, ditch the headphones/cell phones while driving, slow down and obey all traffic laws, and be alert for school zones. Watch for school buses, and stop when state law requires you to do so.

Students:

- ✓ Always buckle up when riding in a car, remove your backpack, and take the back seat it's the safest place for young people. ✓ If you ride a school bus learn and practice.
- ✓ If you ride a school bus, learn and practice the safety rules for waiting at the stop, getting on and off, and riding the bus. Never wait for the school bus in the roadway.
- ✓ If you walk to school, use a sidewalk when available, look left-right-left when crossing the road, always walk facing traffic, and always obey traffic signs/lights and crossing guard instructions. ✓ If you drive to school, avoid speeding and distractions such as texting, cell phones, eating, and adjusting the radio. Don't overload your vehicle (everyone

in a vehicle must use a safety belt). Be a

good role model for your younger brothers, sisters, and friends by helping them learn and follow vehicle safety rules.

Locally - Woodgrove

Woodgrove is a good example of how high schools get started on the 2016–2017 school year. Over the summer, several dozen students and others took a break in their vacation to vote on a student theme for the year ("Cherish Today, Challenge Tomorrow"), hang up "Welcome Back!" signs, update bulletin boards, and paint hall directional signs. The Homecoming theme was set for 2016: "Vacations of a Lifetime," with the four classes zeroing in on their own take on that: Seniors – Camping Adventure, Juniors – Beach Break, Sophomores – Island Getaway, and Freshmen – Cruise Excursion. Homecoming at Woodgrove is Oct. 2-8.

Education And Growth Outside Of School

Financial literacy is a big buzz word these days. The State of Virginia requires high school students to complete a financial and economic literacy course to get a Standard or Advanced Studies diploma. And, other organizations are getting into the act, too, combining financial literacy with the technological tools students and parents need to spark entrepreneurship, instill the values of saving and investing, and earn a little money in the neighborhood.

One such business is something called Leap Street of Loudoun County. With the tagline "Start earning money helping neighbors doing what you love," the group is new, but like the students and teachers entering the new school year ... it comes on the scene with lots of enthusiasm. Leap Street has 30 students signed up now – connected to and providing various services to 50 neighbors, and learning a little financial literacy along the way. Says Robin Greene, founder and managing director of Leap Street, "Success stories are already starting to come in." For more information about Leap Street, go to www.leapstreet.org.

Ask Dr. Mike, continued from page 2

tablets or smartphones, and this number is up from 10 percent in 2011."

Oberschneider knows that managing screen- and media-time is not always an easy task. He works with many children and teens who have experienced negative impacts due to screen-time overuse. "The research in this area has shown that children who engage in too much technology use experience higher rates of emotional problems, social problems, intellectual and learning problems, behavioral problems, ADHD, and obesity," he says.

Oberschneider wrote *Ollie Outside* to get ahead of the problem, and to help children learn good habits with technology at a young age. He says that when it comes to screen-time and media use, moderation is the key to success. He urges parents to monitor the content of their child's screen-

time, and to ask themselves if there is balance with media, if games and content are appropriate, and if the child is having fun/learning.

He got the idea for the book because one-fifth of the children he sees in his practice have been negatively impacted by some type of technology overuse. Writing the book allowed him to address the problem head on. "My book is written for children ages of 3-8, and this is a fertile period in development for learning how to be with technology in healthy ways. I am hopeful that my fun and engaging story, and my message of limiting screen-time, and encouraging more social engagement and active time outdoors will help many children who hear or read the story," says Oberschneider.

To purchase the book, visit www. freespirit.com/early-childhood/ollie-outside-michael-oberschneider-guy-wolek.

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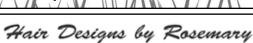
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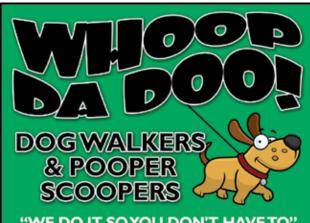


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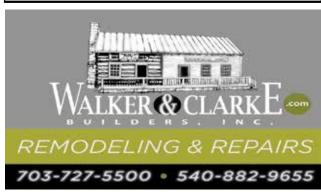
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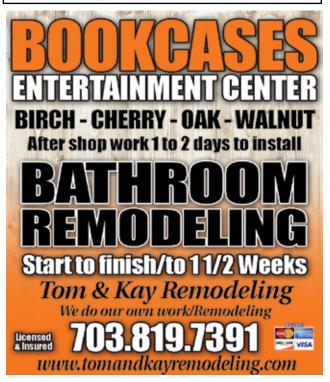
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Comp Plan Debate, continued from page 7

Town of Purcellville CPAM 2012-0002 to include retaining the Purcellville JLMA as a planning area by the County that will develop in accord with the underlying County zoning designations ascribed to the area.' Grim has pointed out several times to the commission that citizens don't

want annexations, period. "There is a lot of prime property in town to be developed, and we need developers to respect our Comp Plan," said Grim.

When objections were raised by commissioners to leaving the door wide open to growing the town, Galindo pushed back by objecting to not mentioning annexation. Commissioner Stein agreed,

saying, "We shouldn't say we don't want to expand our boundaries."

Grim argued, "The citizens have said they don't want us to grow outside our boundaries. We still have a lot of vacant parcels and redevelopment opportunities."

Commissioner Stinnette said, "The town has told us not to grow [and] by that I mean annexation." Stinnette continued, "We

should not be talking about growth ... We are not Vienna."

Galindo reminded the commissioners not to forget that the previous Town Council majority asked the County to look into one annexation (The Kline Annexation Request – Purcellville Crossroads). To which Grim replied, "But we have a new Town Council now."

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Tim Jon, continued from page 19

Funny how this cavernous building filled with flying machines stir up all these memories of fathers and sons – and moms and daughters – sweeping shapes and heroic acts – as well as tragic loss; it's a place – for me – where, somehow our combined energies seem in union. The industry's greatest pioneers, after all, touch the limits of relativity.

This walk through the Valhalla of flight is also just plain cool and fun: Speaking of which – what's Travolta's favorite plane in the Museum? Mr. Saturday Night Fever told me that he was enchanted by the sheer class of a mid-sized piece of commercial aviation from the late 1930's: the restored Boeing 307 'Stratoliner'- the first pressurized airliner.

And – you remember that Curtiss P-40 'Flying Tiger' posed in a mock dog-fight with a blue, tilted-wing Corsair – guarding the entrance? The former is named for the craft flown by our late friend Don Lopez, while the latter represents the plane flown by Jack Dailey's father in World War II.

And, my favorite 'toy' in the place has to be the 'Blackbird' – perched ominously at the foot of the stairs as we walked in; Lockheed's SR-71 still holds the record for the fastest 'conventional' airplane (despite its extreme unconventionality); I was there when the Smithsonian folks (very slowly) wheeled it in; I interviewed its former pilots, and I've been haunted by images of this big, black, ice-pick shaped aircraft – now sitting peacefully on the floor of the Steven F Udvar-Hazy Center at Dulles.

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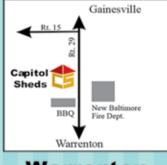
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