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VOTED BEST OF LOUDOUN

Purcellville PC to hold special meeting Sept. 9

As of press time, the Purcellville Planning Commission has scheduled a special meeting on Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7pm. in Council Chambers at Town Hall, 221 S. Nursery Ave. to discuss the Zoning Code Text Amendment 2021-05 – Inclusion of Certain Historic Properties in a New Historic Overlay District. This meeting is to fulfill a promise to the citizens to hold a follow-up public meeting to the public hearing held in July.

This District is meant to protect the Town's architectural and historical character, protect and preserve buildings, and ensure that new development is in keeping with Purcellville's small-town

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White's Ferry and Philomont Fire Station —

Muddy Waters at the River, Fire on the Mountain

BY LAURA LONGLEY

Beginning in September, Western Loudoun—from the shores of the Potomac River to the Blue Ridge Mountains—will be the focus of two controversial projects: White's Ferry and the Philomont Fire Station.

Unless you've had an hour added to your commute to Maryland, you may

not have noticed the dark, choppy waters at White's Ferry. But down the road, the ferry—and the bridge that might follow—is likely to change the way you live in Loudoun.

Muddy Waters: Are they clearing?

The battle over "Historic White's Ferry"—formerly named for Confederate

Gen. Jubal A. Early—may be coming to some kind of resolution in the next few months.

At this time, however, County transportation staff sound encouraged that there's movement to meet their mission: to provide for the community.

According to Joe Kroboth, director

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The Golden Bear gives back big time

BY LAURA LONGLEY

On August 23, wearing his signature yellow shirt, the man who has won more green jackets at the Masters Tournament than any other golfer rolled up by cart to a Creighton Farms Invitational press gathering. He was there not to reminisce about winning rounds but about raising money for children's health—although,



Nicklaus with his wife Barbara.

Few are aware of the work he and his wife, Barbara have accomplished through the 7-year-old foundation, the Nicklaus Children's Hospital System with 20 outpatient facilities, and the 400-bed Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami, which, he said proudly, "has seen kids from every state in the union and 199 different countries.

Jack and Barbara Nicklaus's commitment to children's health can be traced back to the time their 11-month old daughter, Nan, kept choking. "A crayon dropped into her lung. She had pneumonia, was in intensive care for six days," he explained. "Barbara and I were sitting in the waiting room and we said, 'Well if we're ever in the position to help others, we want it to be children.'"

It took a while for Jack and Barbara Nicklaus to be in a position to help others. "There were a lot of years," he says, "when we were traveling from tournament to tournament in a stationwagon with a diaper pail and port-a-crib in the back seat. The car really smelled great," he grinned.

Nicklaus Companies had been on lucrative growth spurt for a several years until Covid put a halt to golf course design projects around the globe.

"I was just getting started in Saudi Arabia," Nicklaus said. "I've got two

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with a little cajoling, he did share a few war stories.

Nicklaus, nicknamed The Golden Bear, has hosted this invitational for nine years, and to date it has raised close to \$10 million to support local children's health organizations and the Nicklaus Children Hospital Foundation.

End of Summer Block Party Sept. 12 on 21st Street – Save the date

Discover Purcellville Presents "End of Summer Block Party," Sunday, Sept. 12, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on 21st Street downtown Purcellville.

The street will be closed to vehicular traffic, so bring your picnic blankets and chairs and enjoy the "FREE" entertainment.

The concert kicks off at 2 p.m. on the main stage with "Grindstone," timeless classic rock.

Be prepared to laugh until it hurts starting at 3:30 p.m. with "Last Ham Standing," improve comedy at its funniest.

Headlining the Block Party will be "The Bridge" the world's best Led Zepelin tribute band. That's according to Michael Oaks of Discover Purcellville. "The first time I saw The Bridge in concert, I was in awe of how unbelievably great they sounded," he said.

"We'll also have available on the street, food by Chef Erik "The Polished Foxx," and an outdoor Beer Garden & food at the American Legion," said Oaks.

The Hardware Café will be serving sandwiches and various coffee drinks. Bilstad's Beignets will delight you with they're true New Orleans treats.

"To keep the Kids busy we'll have art projects, sidewalk chalk drawing, face painting, games, giant bubble blowing and more," said Oaks. For your shopping indulgence Re-Love It, It's Bazaar, Dominion Tea, Nichols Hardware and Sweet Rose Bakery will be open.

For information, email Michael at dpurcellville@gmail.com. Discover Purcellville is a 501 (c)(4) community non-profit.

Oh, and don't forget to save the date Oct. 30, for the 10th Annual Purcellville Halloween Block Party.

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Just Like Nothing (else) on Earth: Tankerville Road

BY TIM JON

A remote place with general seclusion, abundant wildlife, mature trees grown into twisted silhouettes, a memorable, historic place of worship, and distinctive private residences: of course I recall all these particulars, but most of all, it was that tunnel-like passage I traveled down to see the whole thing. Tankerville Road in Northern Loudoun offers much for the spectator (if you're anything like me, anyway); keep in mind, though – the primitive, gravel roadway shoots through a corridor so thin in some places that oncoming traffic (say, anything larger than a good-sized grasshopper) will present your main concern.



I'd had my curiosity sparked about this little, out-of-the-way segment of transportation on an earlier excursion along Lovettsville Road (Route 672), which connects the growing "German Settlement" to James Monroe Highway to the east, near Point of Rocks; I made a mental note at the time to get back up here and explore this beckoning, rural-looking, narrow dirt road.

So; here I was, at about the break of dawn, once again in virtually unknown

territory, watching out for deer and other critters, fallen limbs from the overhead branches' effects due to recent storms, the odd boulder strewn along the way, and fervently hoping I'd be the only one crazy enough to be out there at that time of day – just to take a look around at things.

And I was (alone, that is): the rewards of this early-morning drive included the aforementioned four-footed beasts – not quite tame enough for impressive photography, that hushed, nestled feeling I get when traveling under the cover of ancient greenery, a peek at some of the local residences that must date back over a century, and a chance to get out and stretch the legs at the small turn-off area leading to the parking lot for the Bethel Lutheran Church.

I took a few moments to appreciate the steeple, bell-tower, iron gates and overall sense of peace and isolation (except for a friendly squirrel, who may have been there for the same reasons). Moving on in a southeasterly direction, much of the leisurely sightseeing took a quick backseat to merely navigating the ever-narrower

roadway – the trip now becoming a dark journey down a shrinking green tunnel.

I wondered about my alternatives should I meet, say, an early-rising horse-owner right about now – pulling a long trailer behind a monster pick-up. I tried to fathom all my so-called rural ex-



perience in such driving conditions, and I'd have to say – no – I didn't come up with any real quick solutions to that one; I assumed I'd quite possibly be backing up a considerable distance, should the situation arise.

Well, I was fortunate: I'd beaten all the daybreak traffic to the punch (or maybe they'd already beaten me.); I made it all the way to the end of the line, where Tankerville Road meets up with another

little, local corridor – Taylorstown Road – Route 668 – (just think, "Middle of nowhere," if you're not sure – the area residents would probably be just fine with that), got my vehicle pivoted and headed back into the fray of green on three sides and brown on one.

At least on the way back, I had a sense of where the 'land mines' were, as well as the main attractions I noted in the mind's eye for some quick images on the camera. My car and I squeezed through the one-lane portion of the road – just about like the proverbial 'greased pig' – and noted a greater sense of relaxation after we attained a more 'comfortable' width in the roadway.

Definitely not something I'd recommend for the idly curious; this may be my one and only trip down Tankerville Road (barring a nostalgic return in a decade or two, of course), and I have no wish to – literally – run into any of my favorite readers in the middle of the path (remember: it's ALL the middle). But I am glad I saw those trees, and that Church, and those deer, and felt the sense of 'oneness' with the universe most easily achieved in places like a hair-raising primitive road in a remote section of Loudoun County, Virginia. Well, that, and my home computer desk ...

My book, one year later

BY SAMUEL MOORE-SOBEL

One year ago, I published my book, *Can You See My Scars?*

The timing wasn't great. My book launch coincided with a global pandemic, rendering null and void most of the plans I had made for the launch of my long-awaited book.



MOORE-SOBEL

Despite the obstacles, I remained undeterred. After all, the greatest obstacle of my life was written in the book I was about to release. One of the great gifts of experience is knowing that adversity is not the end. In many cases, adversity is the beginning.

I could look back at the accident that left me with second- and third-degree burns, and draw strength

from the fact that I had survived that challenging experience, when now I faced another challenge: releasing a book with no marketing budget, a mailing list of just a few hundred people, and a book launch date in the midst of a pandemic.

The launch got off to a rocky start. The purchase link for my book on my publisher's website was giving customers an error. My first customers (finally, someone was going to buy my book) were rejected due to a website error.

My wife and I thought on our feet and came up with a quick fix. We setup a Square site, allowing people to purchase books directly from me. This gave me a chance to autograph copies and ship them to customers throughout the country. It wasn't the original plan – but it worked and netted more sales than I expected.

Next, I contacted newspapers, magazines, podcast hosts, and anyone else I could think of to try to get the word out about my book. So far, my book has been featured in six newspapers and magazines, and I've been interviewed on more than a dozen podcasts. I've enjoyed every interview and have been amazed at how each one dissects and reveals another aspect of my story. No two interviews are alike.

Launching the book from my home was also not in the original plan, but it worked out. It meant that I could speak with groups across the country via Zoom about my book. I have met amazing people by talking with rotary clubs, faith groups, burn survivors, students, and business leaders. I have been encouraged and inspired by hearing the stories of others along the way.

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Fink's art fosters visual diplomacy in Jordan

Three paintings from Leanne Fink's 'Cradle of Life: The Treasures of Jordan' Collection, will be installed in the Ambassador's Residence at the US Embassy in Amman, Jordan in early September as part of a new exhibition.

Leanne Fink is a fine artist from Hamilton, who paints vibrant contemporary landscapes in oil and cold wax. Her work can be found in galleries, corporate offices, and private collections in the U.S. and Europe. She is a recipient of awards and honors for excellence in the arts.

Art in Embassies is run by the US Department of State, and has played a leading role in U.S. public diplomacy for over 50 years.

Fink was contacted by one of the curators for the Art in Embassies Program and invited to participate. "Art in Embassies strives to make connections worldwide by using art as a diplomatic tool,"



said Imtiaz Hafiz, AIE curator. "Leanne's paintings of Jordan fit perfectly into our mission. An American artist recounting her experience in Jordan, allows the viewers to see how their country inspires others."

Designed to foster cross-cultural dialogue through the visual arts, AIE develops and presents approximately 60 annual exhibitions and over 70 permanent installations in more than 200 US diplo-

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Franklin Park Arts Center dedicates Sculpture Garden to launch season 14

BY ANDREA GAINES

The Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center kicked off its 14th season with a private dedication ceremony for a new sculpture garden.

The Aug. 31 event, included remarks from representatives of the Arts Center, and well-known Loudoun sculptor Robert Sanabria. One of Sanabria's sculptures is featured in the sculpture garden.

In all, 12 sculptures have been installed in the space, including works by Bill Heston, Diana Reuter-Twining, Brian Kirk, and Sanabria.

"This is a celebration of public art, adding beauty and drama within the natural setting of Franklin Park," said Elizabeth Bracey, Franklin Park Arts Center managing director. "The vision of our Friends Board has helped to re-imag-

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The crew at Franklin Park shortly after installing this large sculpture, titled "Oracle" that was created and gifted by Robert Sanabria.

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— View from the Ridge —

Small-Town Purcellville fighting for its life; Special Election Nov. 2

Just when you thought the fight to retain Purcellville's small-town character couldn't get more urgent, it does.

In a special election on Nov. 2 voters will decide whether to protect Mayor Kwasi Fraser's agenda of lower taxes, slow growth, innovative solutions, and infrastructure improvements. Or to grow, grow, grow, which we know doesn't pay for itself, but results in higher taxes, and Miami-style condo complexes like Vineyard Square.

Currently the Town Council is split three against three. And the Nov. 2 election will flip the majority either way.

On the one side there is candidate Erin Rayner who ran for Town Council in 2020. The fact that she is endorsed by former Mayor Bob Lazaro speaks volumes, as he is the one who had put the Town of Purcellville over \$60 million in debt. His grow-the-Town policies are what has saddled the residents with that debt, traffic, and an ever-increasing need for services.

In a June 11 interview to fill the vacated seat on Town Council, Rayner said, when asked about Vineyard Square, "I have looked at the plans and I like what I see. It's a nice plan ..."

Fraser's supported candidate, Sean MacDonald has pledged to support his agenda. He says he is "running on a platform of slow growth, low taxes, infrastructure improvements, and innovative solutions." He has the strength to stand up to the daily development

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NIMBY

BY CHARLES HOUSTON

"You're home early," Byne Rood said to her husband as she walked into their sunroom.

"She brought a friend ... a woman named Alice Broygaal. Give me your opinion on something."

"Sure."

"Alice Broygaal isn't on my short-list for new friends. She lives in McLean and paints; she kept pulling out her phone and showing me photos of her art. Wasn't bad, but not our taste. I finally got a chance to get a word in, so I talked about what it was like to live out here. [The Roods live on a small horse farm south of Purcellville.] Then I started talking about sprawl, traffic, conservation ..."

"You unloaded on her, I bet," Robert chuckled.

"Probably," answered a chagrined Byne, "but then she interrupted me ... almost got in my face, and said to me, 'That's so NIMBY.' It caught me off guard and I didn't know how to re-

spond. How would you have answered her?"

Not In My Back Yard

Robert thought a minute and answered, "NIMBY is a pejorative term someone uses when you're talking about growth, and the problems it creates. It implies that you are being selfish. Instead of being defensive - which is probably the reaction most people would have - I'd go on the offense: 'Absolutely. Of course, I'm NIMBY. Who doesn't want to protect their back yard?' That'd probably shut them up. If they kept pestering you, there's more you can say."

"Such as?" Byne prompted.

"Well, for one thing being against sprawl is an opinion. Saying that's NIMBY is also an opinion. You won't reconcile the conflicting opinions but

you can defend NIMBY. Use examples. Let's say a neighbor spends weekends riding his dirt bike around his pasture. I don't like it. Can I stop him? Probably not. While there could be some County noise regulations, it's his land, and he can use it pretty much as he sees fit ... within reason. He can't put up a factory, set up a car lot, or develop a big office building, at least in a rural area. That's because of zoning."

"And zoning is a contract between citizens, that governs how land is used," Byne interjected to the nod of her husband. "I guess that it starts as a social contract based on reasonableness, and then gets codified into zoning law."

Robert said, "Let's say that another neighbor demands that I let him pitch his tent in my backyard. I would be perfectly within my rights in preventing

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Blue Ridge LEADER & LOUDOUN Today

Publisher & Editor
Valerie Cury

Creative Department
Pam Owens, Layout/Design

Advertising
Sabine Bibb Tonya Harding
SabineBibb@gmail.com THarding455@gmail.com
571-437-9953 703-314-5200

Here's How to Reach Us

Advertising:
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or call 540-338-6200

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

Special Editorial:
Andrea Gaines - andrea@andreagaines.com

Hot News Tips:
Valerie Cury, 703-943-8806
tipline@BlueRidgeLeader.com

Webmaster:
webmaster@BlueRidgeLeader.com

Mailing Address:
PO Box 325, Purcellville, VA 20134-0325

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This piece is the opinion of the author.

— It seems to me —

The Ashli Babbitt killing cover-up

BY JOE LAFIANDRA

We are in the midst of a massive government sponsored cover-up over the killing of Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt. As most of you know, she was shot and killed by a Capital Police lieutenant (identified as Michael Byrd) as she tried to pass through a broken window into the House Chambers on January 6, 2021.

As of this date the government has not released any video or audio of the incident, even though the halls of Congress are saturated with cameras.

She who was 5'2," 125 lbs., and unarmed, did not pose any immediate threat to the lieutenant or anybody else. Amateur video shows that the Capital Police officer gave no warning before he shot her. He was the same officer that had previously left his loaded hand gun without a safety on it, in a congressional bathroom.

Documents show that the cover-up started immediately when the Government took possession of her body and cremated it two days later without approval from her family.

Two investigations were done - the first by the Department of Justice and

the second by the Capital Police. Both concluded that there was no evidence that the officer acted inappropriately.

The Department of Justice investigation concluded that "Based on that investigation, officials determined that there is insufficient evidence to support a criminal prosecution".

For us to understand how the DOJ came to this conclusion we need to "get into the weeds" of the statement of why the investigation was closed. I am reproducing it below so you can draw your own conclusions. See my underlines;

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A Ferry for Our Economy and Community

Dear Editor:

I recently spoke at the Fair Access public symposium where I was invited to speak about White's Ferry's future and wanted to further underscore the importance of opening the ferry to local citizens.

My wife and I bought White's Ferry in early 2021 after it closed down following a long legal dispute with the owners of the 700-acre Rockland Farms based in Loudoun—which neighbors the landing site.

Our goal was to purchase the Virginia land site or negotiate a permanent easement so that the ferry never ceases operating again. Like the previous owners, we have been unable to come to reasonable terms at a fair price so that the ferry remains an affordable way to cross the river.

By way of background, the owner of Rockland Farms sued the previous ferry operator—who owned White's Ferry for approximately 70 years—for "trespass." This followed a storm which re-

quired rebuilding a retaining wall. The trespass was a very minor incursion beyond an unmarked flood plain border at the edge of the easement. The ensuing debate over a few feet of land directly resulted in the permanent closure of the ferry.

The public interest of keeping this 300+ year-old crossing operational should outweigh Rockland's Farm's ongoing and lengthy legal dispute over a few feet of otherwise unusable land.

Disrupting commuters in two states who use an established road that does not materially encroach on their property and in fact has enhanced its value for centuries is not right for our communities on both sides of the Potomac.

White's Ferry should have a reasonable expectation to access the crossing as it has since the Revolutionary War and the owners of Rockland Farms are entitled to reasonable compensation. Yet, most importantly, the public is entitled to get this important first

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Maximum Benefit from ARPA Funding for Purcellville

Dear Editor:

Regarding the \$10.5 million American Rescue Plan Act funding that the Town of Purcellville will be getting to help us recover from the COVID-19 pandemic – I view it as our tax dollars returning to our community, and we need to be good stewards of these funds.

I commend the Mayor and Town Council for practicing responsible fiscal stewardship with the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act funds in 2020.

They saw the needs of our business community last year, and allocated over \$900,000 to our businesses and nonprofits.

I agree with the feedback from the

sample citizen survey led by Council Member Stan Milan that asked citizens how ARPA funds should be used. The survey's results recommended that most of the ARPA funds should go towards infrastructure improvements, which is one of my campaign goals.

We will also need to allocate a portion of these funds to broadband, the business community, and residents in need to take us through economic recovery, then expansion.

Like with the CARES funds, the ARPA funds should be supported by a fully transparent and fair process.

— Sean MacDonald
Candidate for Purcellville
Town Council

St. Louis needs fiber

Dear Editor:

I am a member of the St. Louis community in Loudoun County. St. Louis, a predominately African American community, was one of the last communities in Loudoun County to receive indoor plumbing.

This email is to request another type of utility to our homes for which COVID-19 has showed us is vitally important.

With the \$80 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds allocated by our federal government to Loudoun County, St.

Louis should not be the last community to receive fiber to each home.

With fiber already in place at the Banneker Elementary School, and with the majority of the homes in St. Louis being a stone throw away from Banneker Elementary School, our community should not have to wait for your strategy with All Points Broadband and Novec to deliver broadband to our homes.

Please let us know how you intend to assist our community.

— Sherrese Johnson
St. Louis

Four things to know about risk

Whether you're already investing or are just thinking about it, you should understand risk and the role it can play in a portfolio. And although it may seem simple enough on the surface, risk can be one of the most difficult concepts to grasp – especially for new investors. To help clear things up, here are four things you should know:



RICHARD RICCI

1. Risk has many faces.

Usually when people talk about risk, they're referring to investment risk: You purchase a stock at \$50 a share, for example, and a year later it's worth only \$25. Investment risk is relatively easy to understand, and it's measurable based on the ups and downs in an investment's price. The more volatile it's been, the more risky the investment is considered to be.

Unfortunately, investment risk is only one risk that investors face. There are plenty of others that may not be as easy to understand or measure. For example, there's:

Market risk: While investment risk has to do with a specific investment, there's also the possibility that the entire market will decline – remember what happened to stocks at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic – and pull your investment down with it. That's market risk.

Inflation risk: Inflation is the overall increase in prices in an economy. It creates the risk that an investment's return won't be enough to overcome its impact. For example, if inflation runs 2 percent a year and your investment returns only 1 percent. That means you have lost "purchasing power." As a result, even with your returns, it would buy less at the end of the year than at the beginning.

Opportunity risk: Some investors believe you can avoid risk by investing conservatively. However, there's opportunity risk, which is the possibility of missing out on the chance to earn better returns by being more aggressive.

This is just a small sampling. There are other risks, including some specific to certain types of investments. For example, bond investors face default risk – the risk the issuer will fail to make interest payments or repay the bond's par value at maturity.

2. It's usually linked with return.

Possibly the most important thing to understand about risk is its relationship with return. The two generally go hand-

in-hand:

- If you put money into a low-risk investment, you should probably expect lower returns.
- If you choose a higher-risk investment, you possibly could anticipate better returns.

Of course, things don't always work out that way. When you put money into a high-risk investment, you may not get better returns. In fact, you could end up losing your entire investment. But many investors continue to include riskier investments in their portfolios, often for higher return potential.

3. You should determine your tolerance.

Your risk tolerance is simply how much risk you can comfortably live with in your portfolio. It sounds simple enough, but determining your risk tolerance can be challenging. There are tools, like questionnaires, available to assist you. In addition, one indicator that you've exceeded your risk tolerance is when you find your investments' performance is keeping you awake at night – especially when there's market volatility.

You may have a relatively low risk tolerance, and that's OK. However, staying within it and having a reasonable chance of reaching your goals may mean you need to adjust your objectives (having, say, \$750,000 at retirement instead of \$1 million). You may also need to lengthen your time horizon, which is how long you have until you need to tap into your investments. For example, you may decide you need to work until 68 instead of 65 so you have longer to invest.

4. Help is available.

Because risk is complicated, and it's only one aspect of investing, you may need a professional financial advisor to help with building your portfolio. Look for one who will take the time to get to know you, including your risk tolerance, before recommending an investment plan.

This article was written by Wells Fargo Advisors and provided courtesy of Richard Ricci in Washington, D.C. at (202) 364-1605.

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— Ask Dr. Mike —

By Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D.

Dear Dr. Mike,

I have been divorced for 18-months. It wasn't an ugly split, and my ex-husband and I share custody of the children. He gets them three consecutive days, and I get them four consecutive days.

The kids, ages 5 and 8, at first thought it was fun to have two houses. Now, when they get mad at me, they retaliate with 'I want to go to Dad's house,' or 'Dad would never do that.'



DR. MIKE

Would individual or family therapy help us? Or perhaps a different custody arrangement, so they don't feel as if they have the option to go somewhere else when they don't like what I have to say?

— *Concerned parent*

Dear Concerned Parent,

It would be easy if there were a one-size-fits-all formula to situations like yours, but there is not. Each divorcing or divorced family is unique, and several factors need to be considered in establishing the best possible visitation or custody arrangement — the children's ages, their personalities, their histories with each

parent, etc.

Research has shown that shared custody is typically best for children; the active presence of a child's mother and father in a child's life can facilitate bonding and identity formation, as well as social, emotional, and intellectual growth.

Your visitation arrangement is not unusual given your children's ages, and the court usually supports equal time for both parents. However, the frequent back and forth between the two parental homes may be creating problems for your children.

If your co-parenting relationship with your ex-husband is a strong one, I recommend expressing your concerns to him. Perhaps the two of you can work together to create a more unified approach to identified problem moments with your children.

Even if you and your ex-husband do not see eye-to-eye when it comes to your children or if you have different parenting styles, things may begin to improve if you are more consistent in how you engage, reward, and consequence your children in both homes.

If your co-parenting relationship is not

strong, it may be helpful to address your concerns with a mental health professional. A parenting coordinator is advised for situations like yours.

Beyond your current visitation schedule, keep in mind that it has only been a year and a half since your divorce, and your children may still be adjusting to life as a divorced family.

Your children may need to address any struggles they may be having with you or their father more openly, or they may ultimately benefit from speaking to a child psychologist.

Making formal changes to a custody agreement can be very difficult to do unless there is a significant change in circumstances, or you and your husband are in agreement that changes are needed.

If you feel that you have tried everything and things have not improved, I recommend that you contact your attorney.

Dear Dr. Mike,

We have a 5-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter who can be very sweet with each other. Other times our son acts very aggressively towards her, squeezing or pushing her and yelling.

When questioned, he'll say, 'I feel like

you love her more than you love me.' Having been extremely jealous of my own sister, I can relate.

How can I help him treat her with more kindness, feel loved, and not create the long-lasting jealousy that I felt?

Also, should we consult a counselor, and are there other books or resources you would recommend for families going through similar sibling rivalry situations?

— *Concerned parent*

Dear Concerned Parent,

There are benefits to having a three-year spread between siblings — while your son is at preschool you can bond with your daughter. For the first three years of his life your son has had ample exclusive time in developing his sense of self in the world. Your 2-year-old daughter has a model and mentor to learn from in her older brother.

Your 5-year-old son has been used to having you to himself, and he may feel that he is being forced to share your time, care, love, and attention with his sister, and in doing so, it appears that he is feeling less important to you.

While he is sweet sometimes, his emo-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34 »

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Fraser appointed to EPA subcommittee

Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser is among 16 new members from across the country to be appointed to the Environmental Protection Agency's Small Communities Advisory Subcommittee, EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan announced Aug. 25.

Said Fraser, "I thank Michael Regan, the United States EPA administrator, for appointing me to the Small Community Advisory Subcommittee. I look forward to adding voice and volume, with a bias for action, to the environmental and public health needs of small communities across the United States."

The objectives of SCAS are to change how the EPA and state agencies develop environmental regulations that in turn impact small communities. The subcommittee also focuses on the costs of environmental protections and services to small communities appropriating and allocating adequate resources.

The SCAS goal is for "every small community in America to have clean air, drinking water, waste disposal, and related services that safeguard their health..." This subcommittee focuses on improving and protecting the health of residents "and the environment in which they live," according to SCAS statements.

SCAS encourages a range of professional and technical assistance to small communities through the EPA.

"The EPA is committed to hearing the voices of communities whether they are large or small," said Diana Esher, EPA Mid-Atlantic Acting Regional Administrator. "Mayor Fraser has proven he is committed to the residents in Purcellville. His appointment to the Small Communities Advisory Subcommittee ensures that the residents have a seat at the table and that environmental issues that are of concern to them are not only heard but addressed."

Regan also announced the appointment of 34 members to the Local Government Advisory Committee, the committee of which the SCAS is a part.

The 39-member LGAC will include representation from 30 states, Tribal nations, and U.S. territories, representing a cross-section of cities, counties, towns, and communities.

"I'm honored to welcome this diverse, highly qualified group of local

leaders who will bring valuable insight and experience to the Agency," said Regan. "EPA is counting on their input and collaboration to help achieve our mission to protect public health and the environment in every zip code. From tackling climate change to advancing environmental justice, we need local partners at the table to address our most pressing environmental challenges."

Regan appointed Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird of Lincoln, Nebraska as the LGAC's new chair, and town manager Lisa Wong of Winchester, Massachusetts as the LGAC's vice chair.

He also appointed Commissioner Christine Lowery of Cibola County,



New Mexico as the SCAS's new chair, and Mayor Julian McTizic of Bolivar, Tennessee as the SCAS's new vice chair.

"Through service on the EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee, I look forward to advancing climate security, infrastructure development, economic opportunity, environmental justice, and quality of life for people here in Lincoln and across our country," said Mayor Baird.

"The Small Communities Advisory Subcommittee focuses on the grounded experience of environmental impacts and EPA response to local communities and counties," said Commissioner Lowery. "As a Pueblo woman, I recognize the art of storytelling as an effective form of communication. These stories can strengthen the EPA stakeholder process, depending on who the storytellers are, who hears them, and how the stories are carried."

Both groups plan to hold their first meeting this fall.

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Rayner announces run for Purcellville's special election

"I am excited to announce that I am running for the open seat on Purcellville Town Council in the upcoming November special election. I love Purcellville and my hope is to serve our great town," said Erin Rayner in a press release.

GOVERNMENT

Rayner worked for former Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, and she was also the former campaign manager of Nicole Wittmann, who ran for Loudoun County Commonwealth's Attorney.

Rayner ran for town council in the Town of Purcellville's election last year. She ran on a slate with Beverly MacDonald Chiasson (no relation to Sean MacDonald who is currently running) who

ran for mayor, along with Mary Lynn Hickey for town council. They ran on a pro growth slate.

"The past two years created unique challenges for our town and the local businesses we all know and love. Those challenges affect the quality of life we all love here in town. From the perennial issues of traffic, walkability, and affordability to the new challenges of empty storefronts and struggling businesses, I



CONTINUED ON PAGE 30 »

Sean MacDonald announces run for Purcellville Town Council seat

Purcellville resident Sean MacDonald is on the ballot for the Purcellville Town Council in the Nov. 2 special election on a platform of slow growth, and low taxes. He has the support of Mayor Kwasi Fraser, and Council Members Stan Milan, and Chris Bertaut.

GOVERNMENT

"Currently the balance of power is on the line," he said, in reference to the council evenly split between those who favor slow-growth, and those who lend support with their words and actions, to policies of more rapid growth and annexation.

"I am running on a platform of slow growth, low taxes, infrastructure improvements, and innovative solutions. I stand with Mayor Kwasi Fraser, and

pledge to protect our residents from the daily growth and development pressures, and the problems that come along with them," said MacDonald.

He graduated from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a major in aerospace studies, and a minor in air traffic control. MacDonald is a licensed pilot, and this fulfilled his childhood dream of flying.

He works in homeland security, and



CONTINUED ON PAGE 30 »

Early voting for Nov. 2 elections starts Sept. 17

On the ballot for the Nov. 2 elections will be candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General as well as a vote on three local bond referendums – School Projects, Public Safety Projects and Transportation Projects.

The Towns of Middleburg and Round Hill will be holding elections for Mayor and Town Council members.

A Special Election will be held in the Town of Purcellville to elect a member to the Town Council.

Deadline to register to vote is Tuesday, Oct. 12, in person by 5 p.m., by mail must be postmarked by Oct. 12, and online by 11:59 p.m.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

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Wexton visits businesses in Purcellville



L to R: Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton, Becky Harris and Mayor Kwasi Fraser at Catoctin Creek Distilling Company.



Fraser and Wexton hear about the recent renovation of Nichols Hardware.

On Friday, Aug. 27, accompanied by Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser, Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton paid a visit to businesses in the Town of Purcellville.

Their first stop was Catoctin Creek Distilling Company located at 120 West Main Street. **GOVERNMENT** Co-founder and chief distiller Becky Harris was excited to show them the company's \$1 million distillery equipment upgrade, which will allow them to triple their capacity. The new equipment will add significant efficiencies with lower water and energy consumption. Production should start early September, with an official ribbon cutting.

Next on the list was Nichols Hardware, located at 131 North 21st Street. It was founded in 1914. The store was crowded with customers, and this is the place where you can find almost anything. They even repair window panes, screens, and lamps, services you would not find at the chain hardware stores. Mayor Fraser describes the establishment as a working museum. The

tour of Nichols Hardware ended with a snack at Hardware Café, next door.

Mayor Fraser and Congresswoman Wexton then visited the Blue Ridge Veterinary Associates at 120 East Cornwall Lane. Fraser and Wexton were given a complete tour and learned about BRVA's blood bank, which is the largest all-canine donor blood bank in the nation. They offer 24-hour emergency care and also get future pets ready for adoption. Currently, the universities are accepting fewer students into their programs due to COVID, and there is a shortage of vets, which makes the practice extremely busy.

Wexton's visit ended with a stop at Petite Loulou at 713 Main Street. The manager at Petite Loulou discussed the resiliency of the business and how things are picking up. However, challenges with shortage of staffing and certain materials such as plastic cups were also discussed.

Petite Loulou is a casual, counter-service crêperie that exists to transport guests to Paris and celebrate the French joie de vivre.



Wexton and Fraser stop by the Hardware Café next to Nichols for a snack.



A tour of Blue Ridge Veterinary Associates.

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I have been a Listing and Buyer's Agent since 2003 in Loudoun County, and I will continue to be one until I retire. With a team of Contractors, I personally Stage, and I follow my Code of Ethics saturating the market so "all Buyers" have a chance to purchase my listings. All of this is done in the best interests of both my Seller and Buyer clients.



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Represented Purchaser

SOLD
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What's up with the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite?

BY LAURA LONGLEY

After a year when Covid has limited public participation in the rewrite of Loudoun County's zoning laws, the Zoning Ordinance Committee, which is tasked with moving this onerous project forward, is now meeting regularly and taking on some of the more controversial topics. Already, as James David, County liaison to the committee, put it, staff is receiving "copious input," and that's sure to mushroom in the many months ahead of us.

GOVERNMENT

Here's what happening now: At this point, input is focused on two of the broad areas of zoning: residential and commercial mixed use. Later the Zoning Ordinance Committee will move on to agricultural and public, civic, and institutional uses.

In the past few weeks, it's been the voices of citizens interested in short-term residential rentals, clus-

ter subdivisions, and rural businesses that have become the loudest.

Rural businesses: One committee member who recently attended a gathering of rural business groups—the Loudoun County Bed and Breakfast Guild, a rural brewers' guild, and a group representing wineries—reported that owners of these businesses felt they were not considered stakeholder groups or being consulted before regulations were written.

The County's James David assured them there are plenty of ways to engage—through the Rural Economic Development Council and Visit Loudoun, for example—and there will be plenty of opportunities to weigh in on the draft ordinances.

However, adding more groups to the established committee structure raised concerns. It also is clear that when it comes to ordinances that address the impact of rural businesses, there are bound to be fireworks over parcel versus proximity. In other words, will regulations ap-

ply to a business on single parcel or the business's impact on the area?

Cluster subdivisions: This topic is also moving up on the agenda. Directed by the County Transportation and Land Use Committee, the staff has done additional outreach to appraisers, attorneys, and owners of large properties. The appraisers believe that the zoning regulations now in place for clusters are basically working and fulfilling their primary purpose—to protect prime agricultural soils. At the same time, they want to make sure that any amendment does not impact the development potential of cluster subdivisions.

According to James David, the County staff has started to draft some concepts on clusters; once they have draft text, they'll begin outreach.

Short-term residential rentals: The devil will be in the details for this rewrite. Sit in on any Zoom meeting of the referral group addressing these rentals, and you'll

soon find yourself immersed in debate over how quickly a property owner or manager must respond in person to a renter's call, how many beds or how many people should be used to measure capacity, or the number of days per year any one renter may legally occupy the facility as "short-term."

The next round of outreach will include groups such as the Bed and Breakfast Guild and property owners who want to do short-term rentals.

Stay tuned: Look for zoning ordinance rewrite updates here in the months to come as the process proceeds. If you live or conduct business in one of the County's seven incorporated towns, this rewrite process is unlikely to impact you.

Nonetheless, if you've enjoyed binging on 10-season series during this pandemic, rest assured that the zoning ordinance rewrite process promises to be a long-running show. It's already been renewed for another season—until late 2022.

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Mary A Coussoulos

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Health officials recommend booster shots against COVID-19

Federal health officials have announced a plan to provide booster shots to those people who have received two doses of either the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. The announcement comes as the Delta variant continues to spread and scientific data indicates that the vaccines' effectiveness against the virus decreases over time.

"The need for a booster COVID-19 vaccine for everyone is not unusual," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. "Boosters are needed with many types of vaccines; it's not any different than getting a tetanus booster every 10 years."

The proposed plan calls for people to get their third dose eight months after receiving their second shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

Details about the rollout of the booster shots are still to come, and may change pending a formal recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; however, officials say the doses could begin the week of Sept. 20. Officials say they also expect to recommend

a booster for those who received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine after they analyze more data.

COVID-19 vaccine booster shots are expected to be exactly the same as the initial vaccine doses a person received, and so will be available from many providers throughout the community currently providing COVID-19 vaccine, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans.

It's expected that the first people to receive the boosters will be those in high-priority groups such as nursing home residents, health workers, and those with underlying health conditions as they were the first groups eligible to receive vaccination last winter.

The announcement of a recommended booster dose for the general population follows last week's recommendation from the CDC of an additional dose of vaccine for people who received two doses of either the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and who are moderately and severely immunocompromised.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

Sale of Town of Purcellville real estate –

Pullen House, 301 S. 20TH Street
IFB # TC-2021-03

The Town of Purcellville is accepting sealed bids from potential purchasers of 301 S. 20th Street in the Town of Purcellville. Sealed Bids will be accepted until 10 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 13. Bids received after the specified time will not be considered. Bids must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: Attention: Procurement Officer, Purcellville Department of Finance, Title: Pullen House – Sale of Real Estate, Reference: IFB# TC-2021-03, 221 S. Nursery Avenue, Purcellville, VA 20132.

GOVERNMENT

Bids shall be submitted by one of the following methods: either US Mail: 221 South Nursery Avenue, Purcellville, VA 20132, or secure 24-Hour Drop Box: A drop box (labeled Payment Drop Box) is located on the



south side of Town Hall adjacent to the J Street side parking lot. Bids must be received by the bid due date and time.

Additional details are available in IFB#TC-2021-03, which is available for download from the Town’s Bid Board, <https://www.purcellvilleva.gov/bids>.

Site visits to show potential purchasers the property will be held at 9 a.m. on Aug. 23, 2021 and at 9 a.m. on Sept. 6, 2021. Contact Kathy Elgin at kelgin@purcellvilleva.gov if you are planning to attend.

All addenda issued for this project will only be posted on the Town’s Bid Board. Those registered to the Town’s Bid Board will receive notification of the addenda, but it is the bidder’s responsibility to check the bid board for addenda.

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Boyd Joins Fairfax Radiological Consultants, PLLC as CEO

Lance Boyd has joined Fairfax Radiological Consultants, PLLC as Chief Executive Officer.

A seasoned healthcare executive, Boyd's expertise and experience has been focused on helping organizations improve their operations, and better serve their communities for more than two decades.

MEDICAL

"We are pleased to have someone of Lance's caliber on our team," said David Spinosa, M.D., Interventional Radiologist and President of Fairfax Radiological Consultants, PLLC. "His solid background in operations and knowledge in multiple healthcare settings provide strength and insight as our organization continues to grow."

"I am happy to be part of this thriving and collegial team," Boyd said. "Their collective medical expertise is unparalleled, and it is exciting to help shape the organization's future."

Prior to FRC, Boyd served as a hospital CEO for Community Health Systems

in Natchez, MS where he helped lead his teams to rapid financial growth, and substantial quality improvement.

In addition to hospital leadership in East Tennessee, Boyd also has extensive experience in leading large, independent medical groups and is a licensed Nursing Home Administrator.

Boyd holds a master's degree in Healthcare Management from Champlain College in Burlington, VT and his bachelor's degree from Harding University in Searcy, AR.

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Financing opportunities for first-time homebuyers

Loudoun County announces the availability of \$10 million provided by Virginia Housing to help first-time homebuyers. The allocation of funding through VH's Sponsoring Partnerships and Revitalizing Communities program will provide lower interest rates on home loans in Loudoun County for qualifying buyers.

GOVERNMENT

To qualify for SPARC, the prospective homebuyer must meet the following criteria:

- Have an annual household income between 70-100 percent of the Area Median Income for a household size of four (currently between \$90,300 and \$129,000);

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26 »



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LWRC offers career assistance during Workforce Development Month

During September – Workforce Development Month – the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center will feature special virtual and in-person events at no cost for job seekers, and people who are considering changing careers.

“As we all continue to navigate the coronavirus pandemic, our annual celebration of September as Workforce Development Month will be a hybrid of virtual and in-person seminars for anyone looking for new employment,” said Loudoun County Workforce Team Leader Shelly Rodriguez. “The webinars cover a variety of com-

GOVERNMENT

munity interests and needs, including topics such as telework and transitioning back to work.”

Visit loudoun.gov/workforcemonth for detailed information about each event and how to register. Events will include:

- Ride Confidently: Tapping into TransitApp and SmarTrip® on Loudoun County Transit (Two sessions): Wednesday, Sept. 1, 6 - 7 p.m.; Friday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Community Connections: Drop In & Discover: Tuesday, Sept. 7, 9 – 11:30 a.m.
- Childcare Options for Working Families: Wednesday, Sept. 8, 6 - 7 p.m.

lies: Wednesday, Sept. 8, 6 - 7 p.m.

- Remote Work in the New Normal: Thursday, September 9, 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
- Making Work, Work for You - An Introduction to Social Security Disability Work Incentives: Thursday, Sept. 9, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Youth WIOA (Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act) Information Session: Monday, Sept. 13, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Is WIOA (Workforce Innovation &

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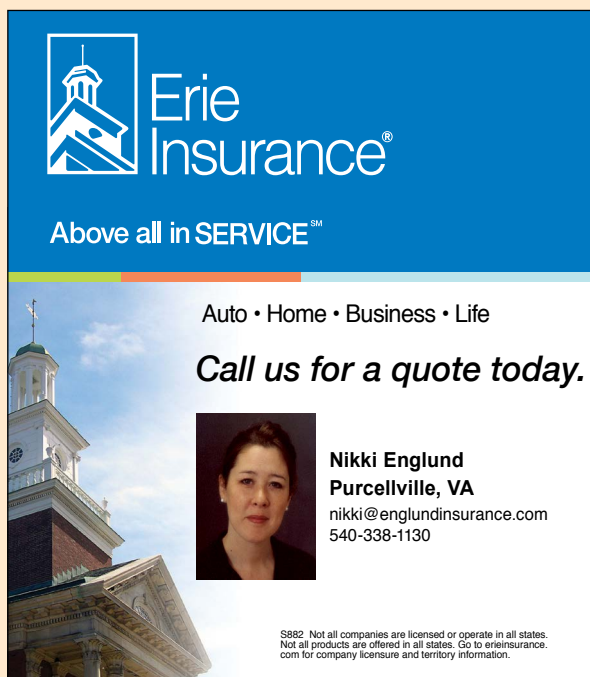


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Panebianco Named President of VACP

At the Annual Conference of the Virginia Association of the Chiefs of Police, Middleburg Police Chief Anthony "A.J." Panebianco was named president of VACP for 2021-2022.

Chief Panebianco has served on the VACP Executive Committee for seven years, most recently as first vice president, and is the 95th President of VACP. His term as president is the first time a jurisdiction as small as Middleburg has been represented in this official capacity.

"I am honored to represent the Town of Middleburg, the more than 600 members of VACP, and all police officers serving in law enforcement across the Commonwealth," said Chief Panebianco. "We are at a crucial time of very im-



Front, L to R: Immediate Past President, Chief Maggie DeBoard, Herndon Police Department; Second VP Chesterfield County Police Chief, Col. Jeffrey S. Katz; President Chief A.J. Panebianco, Middleburg Police Department; First VP Chief Keith Hartman, Buena Vista Police Department; Third VP Chief Craig Branch, Germanna Community College Police.

Back, L to R: At-Large Board Members -- Chief Angela Greene, Lexington VA Police Department; Chief Travis Christian, Petersburg Bureau of Police; Chief Kamran Afzal, Hopewell Police Department; Chief John Clair, Marion Police Department; Chief Scott Booth, Danville Police Department.

portant reforms in policing, to include additional emphasis on high-standards of conduct for officers and investment in training for crisis intervention."

Over the coming year, it is expected that police reforms will continue to be a key topic of discussion with the Governor, the General Assembly, and communities across Virginia.

Mayor Bridge Littleton said, "The Town is appreciative of Chief A.J.'s continued commitment to the tenets of law enforcement that encourage partnerships with communities and ensure public safety. I commend Chief A.J. for this leadership role and am grateful that Middleburg's history of effective community policing can support law enforcement across the Commonwealth."

More information about VACP can be found at: www.vachiefs.org.

Photo Courtesy of VACP

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Loudoun County Census data released

The U.S. Census Bureau's recent release of data from the 2020 census marks an important milestone as Loudoun County moves forward with its local redistricting process.

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of districts that elect representatives who serve specific geographic areas. This process occurs every 10 years following the United States decennial census. Loudoun County underwent its last local redistricting process in 2011.

The data released by the U.S. Census Bureau on Aug. 12 provides the first look at the most recent demographic characteristics of the nation by state, county and city. Based on the initial data release, the census data indicates that Loudoun County has continued to grow. The county's total population was 420,959 in 2020, an increase of nearly 110,000 residents, or 35 percent, since 2010.

This data will allow the County to prepare a detailed analysis, including the population growth in election dis-

tricts and precincts from 2010 to 2020. County staff can now begin to develop possible local redistricting scenarios, which will be brought to the board for consideration at its Oct. 19, business meeting.

A public submission period is scheduled to take place in November 2021. Members of the public will have the opportunity to comment on scenarios developed by County staff, or use them as a starting point to develop and submit their own plans for consideration. The County will provide an online tool through which individuals can view information and propose local redistricting plans.

The Board of Supervisors is expected to adopt the final plan in May 2022, and the map of updated boundaries is slated to be completed by August 2022.

For more information about local redistricting, and to sign up for project updates, visit loudoun.gov/redistricting.

To learn more about the county's 2020 census data, visit loudoun.gov/censusdata.

Volunteers needed for Lyme Disease Commission

The Loudoun County Lyme Disease Commission has a critical need for volunteer members, so that it can resume its work to help mitigate Lyme disease in the county. Anyone interested in serving on the Lyme Commission is encouraged to visit loudoun.gov/advisory for information on how to apply.

GOVERNMENT

The commission is preparing to hold meetings again after not meeting for the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At full capacity, the commission has nine members who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and needs a majority of those members for a quorum. There are currently openings for four members.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »



Prego!

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COVID-19 vaccination site in Sterling open on Sept. 4

The Loudoun County Health Department will begin operating a COVID-19 vaccination site at Sterling Elementary School on Saturday, Sept. 4. The new vaccination site is located at 200 West Church Road in Sterling.

GOVERNMENT

The County's COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Sterling Elementary School will be open every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only until further notice. Vaccinations at this location are free, and open to everyone age 12 years and over. The new location replaces the vaccination site at the Dulles Town Center, which will close permanently on Friday, Sept. 3.

"We are committed to being a COVID-19 vaccine provider for those unable to obtain vaccine through their medical provider or neighborhood pharmacy and we appreciate the partnership with Loudoun County Public Schools that makes that possible," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend.

COVID-19 vaccine is now widely available throughout Loudoun County from many providers, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans.

The Health Department encourages everyone 12 and older who has not yet been vaccinated to visit vaccines.gov to

find the vaccination site nearest to you, particularly if getting vaccine on a weekday is more convenient.

For the County's complete COVID-19 vaccination schedule, to make an appointment and for links to vaccine providers, visit loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine.

In addition to vaccination, to help curb the increase in COVID-19 cases that Loudoun County has been experiencing, the Health Department recommends everyone:

- Wear a mask in indoor public settings
- Stay 6 feet away from people who do not live in your household
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Wash your hands frequently
- Stay home when sick
- Avoid contact with sick people

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and get tested if you're symptomatic, or if potentially exposed to COVID-19, regardless of your vaccination status.

Learn more about protecting yourself and your family on the Virginia Department of Health website.

For additional information about COVID-19, visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus, call the Health Department's information line at 703-737-8300, or send an email to health@loudoun.gov.

Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park on track for 2022 opening

Crews are making progress constructing the various structures and features throughout the 257-acre Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park, currently under construction along Evergreen Mills Road near Brambleton, Willowsford, Loudoun Valley Estates, and many other local communities.

GOVERNMENT

Athletic fields with turf and lighting, buildings, paths and other features are under construction throughout the park.

Crews have begun the installation of retaining walls at the baseball fields, and continue to install sod and sports netting posts at the rectangular athletic fields.

Current work on park features also

includes the continued construction of boardwalks/piers, asphalt paving the basketball court, underground plumbing rough-in and the installation of foundations at the splashpad.

At Hanson House, crews have begun utility rough-in and are installing exterior siding, exterior doors, and the metal roof. Construction on the various structures throughout the park currently includes the installation of masonry walls, stonework, timber, siding and trim, windows, roofing, insulation, fire protection, interior painting, placing mechanical units, utility rough-in and ductwork.

Ongoing work throughout the park includes the installation of underground

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

SADIE'S RACE

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It's the real thing: the Waterford Fair is back!

BY LAURA LONGLEY

Pick a day—October 1, 2, or 3—and be there. After a year's sad hiatus due to the pandemic, the Waterford Foundation's premier event and fundraiser is back with the real thing. No need to zoom the juried art show, or catch craft demonstrations on your phone. And you can feel safe.

"We've limited the Fair's footprint to the northern edge of the village and made changes to the tours," Waterford Foundation's executive director Stephanie Thompson pointed out. "Even if they can't enter the homes this year, visitors can enjoy the village gardens." Also, docents will be on hand to share stories of Janney's Mill—the original name of the village—and the houses and their early owners, most of them Quakers who arrived from Bucks County, PA, in the 1730s.

Several historic buildings will be open as usual—the Waterford Mill, John Wesley Church, the Old School, and the Corner Store, which will display and sell fine art, crafts, and dried flowers.

The Fair's offerings may be fewer than in years past, when buildings, streets, and demonstrations were packed with visitors, reenactors, and vendors. But it's likely many folks who remember the old days—as far back as the Fair's first year in 1944—will enjoy it more this way.

"This year we expect the turnout to be half our normal attendance," Thompson explained. "We also will have fewer demonstrations this year. In the past we've accom-

modated as many as 120; this year it will be approximately 60."

Lower attendance will impact the Foundation's bottom line, although not as severely as last year's complete closure or 2015 when the Fair was washed out with the County's abundance of caution over a possible hurricane. But, as Thompson noted, the Foundation has developed other programs and income sources to support the its mission—to increase the public's knowledge of life and work in an early American rural community.

Parking in Waterford

The best way to reach the Fair's parking lots is via Old Wheatland Road from Rt. 9, and Milltown Road from Lovettsville. Other visitors—traveling via Clarke's Gap or Loyalty roads—should look for flaggers who will point the way to the Phillips Farm or Water Street Meadow. Shuttle service is available for those with disabilities. Foot traffic in the Fair area will be one way.

Visit the Fair website at WaterfordFair.org for information on tickets and schedules for garden tours, house interpretations, crafts demonstrations, and hands-on ac-

tivities for kids of all ages.

Running for Waterford

Strolling the village streets as a Fair ticketholder is one way to advance that mission. Another is to put on your running shoes and join the 2021 Historic Waterford 5K/10K Trail/Walk Run set for Saturday, Sept. 11. You'll run along scenic trails, nearby vineyards, and the historic streets of Waterford (and pray you don't have to run up Main Street!).

If you're new to Loudoun and its historic villages, take a moment to learn a bit about this village before heading to the Fair. It was founded about 1733 by Amos Janney, a Quaker from Bucks County, PA. During the Civil War, its residents, mostly Quakers, helped enslaved people escape to the North. The town fell into disrepair in the 20th century.

In 1974, the Waterford Foundation helped create an innovative land preservation program in which the historic properties of Waterford are protected through open space and façade easements. More than 60 easements have been granted. Today the entire village and surrounding countryside is a National Historic Landmark District.

To learn more, visit waterfordfoundation.org.



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Don't forget the Bluemont Fair Sept. 18-19

The 51st Annual Bluemont Fair, is on Sept. 18-19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Bluemont Fair is a family-friendly old fashioned "Green" Country Fair featuring traditional crafts (juried), local art and authors, craft and farming demonstrations.

COMMUNITY

There will be colonial re-enactors with special activities for kids of all ages, music – traditional, blues and country – free children's fair, farm animals, llamas and alpacas, quilt display, gardener's shed, blacksmithing demonstration, homemade food, pie-baking/pickle-making contest, antiques and collectables.

Local wine-tasting will be available, and

there will be breweries and gourmet treats. The fair also offers a Historic Slide Show.

Other offerings include Snickersville Academy – an 1825 log schoolhouse, beekeepers and hives, an antique caboose, a pre-Civil War Country Store, Farmers Market, Indian Village, model trains, and other special features to celebrate Bluemont's triumph over a year of exceptional challenges.

The Fair is set throughout the historic village of Bluemont in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in western Loudoun. No pets are allowed. General admission is \$10, and ages 9 and under are free. For more information go to www.BluemontFair.org.

It's time – nominations sought for history awards

The Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission is seeking nominations for the twenty-ninth annual Loudoun History Awards. The word is just going out. So, get your nominations in. You have about a month to apply.

COMMUNITY

This year's awards will be presented on Sunday, Nov. 7. The nominations process closes on Monday, Oct. 4.

As the Balch Library said in a release: "The event honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to preserving Loudoun's past through collection of County documents and memorabilia, preservation of historic landmarks, visual arts, writing and long-term involvement in local history organizations. Recipients in 2019 were Mildred Ann Clark Daye and Lee D. Stone." The 2020 awards were suspended due to COVID.

Balch representatives noted that letters of nomination should include a

statement elaborating the nominees' accomplishments. Newspaper articles, program announcements, publications, or other supporting information that provides evidence of the nominees' accomplishments may be included.

Contact information for the nominees and nominators must accompany the nominations and be directed to: Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director, Thomas Balch Library, 208 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA 20176. For details go to <https://www.leesburgva.gov>.

The awards ceremony will be held at Thomas Balch Library on Sunday, Nov. 7, at 2 p.m.

Said Gressitt, Library Director at the Thomas Balch Library in Leesburg: "Preserving history is not just writing books. There are many diverse avenues to preserving history – preservation of stone fences, barns, houses, graveyards, documenting events and cultures; establishing historic districts, etc."



Missler completes Eagle Scout project

The American Legion of Purcellville regularly partners with Boy Scout members who are seeking their Eagle Scout badge. This involves coming up with a concept and constructing an object that will benefit the local community.

COMMUNITY

In this case Jarod Missler from Boy Scout

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34 »

For the love of vintage cars ... and life

BY ANDREA GAINES

I grew up with a father who adored old cars.

He didn't seem to mind that they broke down all the time.

My mom sure did, but dad was a tinkerer. And, he could fix anything. He had a passion for old sports cars, but, as I also came to understand, he loved the mechanics of things – including, to the delight of my mom, household plumbing.

COMMUNITY

Another man who loves the mechanics of things is a guy named Ken Walsh, who owns Walsh VIP Auto Service in Purcellville. His dad, Jerry Walsh, owns Purcellville Shell.

Over the summer Walsh (as the driver) and his “navigator,” Donnie Nesselrodtte, who owns Purcellville Tire and Auto, competed in something called the Great Race ... and won 3rd place in what's known as the Rookie Class.

One source describes the very unusual event as something that “turns average car guys into local celebrities ...”

So, here is the story of these two local celebrities.

What is a precision race, or rally?

The Great Race (formerly known as the Great American Race) is described as a “time, speed, and endurance car rally.”

The 2021 race ran from June 19 to June

27, as 150 old cars (built before 1973) and their drivers and navigators drove some 2,600 miles from San Antonio, TX to Greenville, SC.

The many fascinating stops along the way included the Horton Classic Car Mu-

seum in Nocona, TX, the Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum in Sapulpa, OK, the Elizabethtown Sports Park in Elizabethtown, KY, and Galax, VA.

You might remember a movie by the same name, starring Natalie Wood, Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, and Peter Falk. That great race took the characters from New York to Paris ... by land or by sea or both, I do not know. This is a precision pace race.

Each morning, drivers and their navigators are given specific instructions on how to move over each mile – go 17 MPH for ten miles, take a left, and go 25 for the next ten miles ... arriving at a specific location at a precise time.

If, as Walsh told me, a driver loses a few minutes at a railroad crossing, his or her navigator must tell him what speed to maintain for the next several miles to make that time up. The navigator needs to be really good at math.

The car

Walsh was on a wait list for some four years before he got in. Even with 150 spots, far more drivers want in than get in.



Mr. 409 poses with Superman on a pitstop along the way in the Great Race 2021.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

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GOLDEN BEAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ready to go this fall in Turkmenistan, four in Qatar, and others in Manila Bay, Athens, Crete, and Portugal. One is under construction in Aberdeen, Scotland, and I'm going next week to Toronto. We have them in Naples, Palm Beach, Tampa, and Cabo. So we are potentially busy. I want Covid to go away real quick so I can get back to work!"

His most significant project right now may be the renovation of the 1901 Normandie Golf Course in Ferguson, Missouri, where Nicklaus Design will partner with the community development organization Beyond Housing.

"The appeal of this project to me was to be involved in an effort that could serve as a catalyst to the change needed in our country today, beginning with parts of St. Louis County," he said in April. "Restoring Normandie for a community in need will have a long-lasting, positive impact on the lives of youth in St. Louis."

Nicklaus continues to have an impact on the lives of other golfers. "Our young guys today on tour.... Every event we've had they've supported. Look at these

guys here today. They get it. They understand that giving back is part of life."

Is golf's greatest champion concerned about his legacy?

"I don't really care about my legacy. You know, golf is a game, and I wouldn't be doing any of this"—his work for children and communities in need—"if it wasn't for the game of golf. I often say, 'This is far more than any 4-foot putt I ever made.' But I had to make a few 4-foot-putts before I got myself in this position. So that's part of it. Golf's been a tremendous part of it."

On April 14, 1986, when 46-year-old Jack Nicklaus won the 1986 Masters Tournament, Washington Post columnist Thomas Boswell wrote:

"This afternoon was special because Nicklaus called on reserves of poise, of strength, of judgment under enormous pressure, which go to the heart of human dignity."

If you missed the 1986 Masters, take 28 minutes to cheer for the champion of golf who one day would become a champion of children everywhere: <https://youtu.be/TOqHgfwPtF0>.

FINK'S ART, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

matic venues worldwide. With 20,000 participating American artists globally, AIE is considered the largest curator of art in the world.

Fink visited Jordan in September of 2019. The country inspired her to create a new art collection over the course of a year. "Jordan's exotic sights and sounds permeated my senses," said Fink. "I wanted this collection to reflect the beauty I perceived in its rugged and sun-bleached landscapes."

"The hospitality of the Jordanian people is wonderful and the country has an abundance of timeless antiqui-

ties. One of my goals for the Cradle of Life Collection has been to exhibit part or all of it at the US Embassy in Amman. I am truly honored to have my art chosen in this internationally recognized program as a way to foster visual diplomacy."

Fink's work will be on loan for a period of two years. The three oil and cold wax paintings chosen for the Amman exhibition are 'Jerash Temple Trek', 'Pilgrims of Petra', and 'Amman'. Visit <https://www.leannefinkart.com> or Leanne Fink Art on Youtube to view the entire 'Cradle of Life: The Treasures of Jordan' Collection.

FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

- Be a first-time homebuyer, which is defined as someone having had no ownership interest in real property in the past three years;
- Currently live and/or work in Loudoun County for a minimum of six months immediately prior to submission of the application;
- Purchase a new or existing home located in Loudoun County for \$525,000 or less; and
- Receive a mortgage loan from a VH-approved lender participating in VH mortgage loan program.

In addition, Loudoun County offers two other homeownership loan programs to help moderate-income, first-time homebuyers purchase a home in

the county:

- **Down Payment/Closing Costs Assistance Program:** Loans are used for down payment and closing costs.
- **Public Employee Homeownership Grant Program:** Forgivable loans of \$10,000 are used for a purchase of a home located within Loudoun County.

Information on all three homeownership loan programs, including eligibility criteria and how to apply, may be found online at loudoun.gov/HomeLoanPrograms, or by contacting Hannah Choi at hannah.choi@loudoun.gov or 571-258-3814. Program participation is subject to availability and approval.

St Peter's in Purcellville to celebrate 150 years

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, located at 37018 Glendale Street in Purcellville, is holding a big sesquicentennial celebration – 150 years in the Loudoun Valley. The event will be held Sunday, Sept. 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 1p.m. Special confirmation service, Victorian picnic on the lawn, ministry fair, Beacon Awards, period costumed folks playing croquet, boche ball, and other events will

COMMUNITY

be offered. The Rt. Reverend Porter Taylor, friends of St. Pete's, and all members past and present are invited to join in this celebration. Anyone with ties to St. Peter's are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP by calling 540 338-7307. Leave your name and how many in your party will be attending, so there will be enough boxed lunches. Go to StPetes.net for more information.

Purcellville Tag Sale – Saturday Oct. 9 rain or shine

Save the date – it's that time of year again for the Purcellville Tag Sale. On Saturday, Oct. 9 join the community for a day of fun, shopping, and deals. Oh, and treasures, too. Sign-up will end Sunday, Oct. 3.

COMMUNITY

The Purcellville Tag sale is perfect for the hunter, collector, picker, and hoarder in us all. The event starts bright and early at 8 a.m. and goes to 6 p.m. – rain or shine. All vendors wanted. Go to Purcellville-VaTagSale.com to sign up. The Purcellville Tag Sale is organized by Silas Redd, owner of Nostalgia Boutique located at 142 E. Main Street in Purcellville. Said Redd, "I am happy to carry on Purcellville's tradition of the Town wide tag

sale. It's always exciting to find fabulous treasures from vendors and local businesses." Sign up today at PurcellvilleVaTagSale.com. The first 40 to sign up will be listed on the printed map. But no worries – everyone who signs up will be listed on the website. Redd said, "After the huge turnout from last year, I knew we had to keep the tradition going. I also want to sincerely thank our sponsors, Abernethy and Spencer Greenhouses, and Bank of Clarke County – two amazing pillars in our community." Text Silas at 540 751-8252 with questions or email him at ShopAtNostalgia@gmail.com. It's time to get your "stuff" ready to sell at Purcellville Tag Sale, Saturday, Oct. 9 – rain or shine.

Roszell Chapel to hold Yard Sale Saturday, Sept. 25

Roszell Chapel United Methodist Church located at 37141 Snickersville in Philomont, is having a yard sale Saturday, Sept. 25, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The funds that the church receives from events such as dinners, ice cream socials, and yard sales help the small congregation's efforts to help as people many as possible. The pandemic caused the end of fund raising. This is congregation's first yard sale since June 2019. Funds received will be used to support local, national, and international missions. Examples of local missions are Tree of Life in Purcellville, Loudoun Hunger Relief, Loudoun Abused Wom-

COMMUNITY

en's Shelter, and Dominion Energy Share that helps people who can't pay their fuel bill. Sometimes, after verifying a need, the church donates directly to a family or for their benefit. Examples of international missions are Heifer International through which funds are sent to purchase an animal for a village or group or family. Another example is UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) where the congregation knows that 100 per cent of the funds go where it designates. If readers have items they would like to donate, please call 540-338-7833. Pick-ups might be arranged.

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EARLY VOTING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Early Voting

Effective as of July 1, 2020, all registered voters in Virginia are eligible to vote early in-person, no excuse required.

Leesburg

Early voting will be held at 750 Miller Drive, SE, Suite C, Leesburg, 20175, and early voting starts on Friday, Sept. 17. Early voting hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Extended hours start on Monday, Oct. 18. The times are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m.

to 7 p.m., Saturdays, Oct. 23 and Oct. 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 24 from 12 noon until 5 p.m.

Sterling and Chantilly

The Loudoun County Government Office at Ridgetop, located at 21641 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, and the Dulles South Multipurpose Center, located at 24950 Riding Center Drive, Chantilly, will also have early voting hours. Early voting at these two locations starts on Monday, Oct. 18, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 noon to 7 p.m., and on Saturdays, Oct. 23 and Oct.

30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Carver Center, Purcellville

Early voting at the Carver Senior Center, located at 200 E. Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville starts on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday Oct. 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Absentee

Saturday, October 30, at 5 p.m. is the last day to vote by absentee ballot in person for the upcoming election.

Anyone needing to vote by mail must submit their completed Absentee Ballot Application by close of business on

Friday, Oct. 22, at 5 p.m. Completed applications can be submitted by mail, fax, e-mail or online at www.elections.virginia.gov.

Voters are encouraged to mark and return their ballots early to ensure they arrive in time to be counted.

Voters can hand deliver their ballot up until 7 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots arriving by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day, and be received no later than noon on the Friday following the election (Nov. 5) to be counted.

Please call 703 777-0380 if you have any questions about absentee voting.

HANSON PARK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

utilities, electrical transformers, athletic field irrigation systems, and curb and gutter. Crews will also continue earthwork, asphalt paving, and the spreading of topsoil, mulch and seeding throughout the project.

The park will be operated by the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, and is expected to open in the spring of 2022.

When completed, the park will feature:

- 17 lighted athletic fields, including two artificial turf fields and one cricket field;
- five ponds;
- the historic Hanson House;
- an event lodge and nature center;
- a skate plaza and disc golf course;
- a splash pad and playground with inclusive features; and
- over 75 acres of passive recreational space.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

The commission was established by the Board of Supervisors in 2012 to work with county staff to implement the Board’s 10-point action plan to mitigate Lyme disease in Loudoun County. Lyme disease is caused by bacteria that some people get after being bitten by ticks infected with an organism named *Borrelia burgdorferi*.

The organism that causes Lyme disease is maintained in wild rodents, deer, other mammals and certain ticks, most commonly the black-legged (deer)

tick. It is transferred to people by the bite of an infected tick. Infections occur throughout the year, but are more common during the late spring and summer and in people who work or play outdoors.

“Lyme Disease Commission members have played an important role in helping to raise awareness about Lyme disease and how to prevent it through a variety of outreach efforts, including the distribution of educational materials in the community and participating in community events,” said Loudoun County Health Department Director Dr. David Goodfriend. “Lyme

disease continues to affect people in Loudoun and the commission’s activities are a key part of our prevention efforts.”

Loudoun County encourages residents to become actively involved in their county government by serving on the advisory boards, commissions, and committees that advise the Board of Supervisors on a variety of topics. A comprehensive listing of advisory boards, commissions, and committees and current opportunities to serve may be found on the county website at loudoun.gov/advisory.

CAREER ASSISTANCE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Opportunity Act) Right for You? (Two sessions): Thursday, Sept. 16, 10 – 11 a.m.; Thursday, Sept. 23, 10 – 11 a.m.

- Transition to Work: Re-engaging

with Co-workers and Customers: Friday, Sept. 17, 1 – 2 p.m.

- Career Conversations: A Panel Discussion & Networking Reception: Monday, Sept. 27, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Managing Your Money – Budgeting & Savings Strategies (Two sessions): Tuesday, Sept. 28, 12 – 1:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 29, 12 – 1:15 p.m.

The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center provides no-cost resources and equipment to job seekers and businesses to help them achieve their employment goals. More information about the center can be found at loudoun.gov/wrc.

VINTAGE CARS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Walsh and Nesselrodte’s chosen weapon for the competition was a classically elegant 1962 Chevy Impala SS, the same one his dad purchased in 1967. Vehicles must use original factory parts, and modern navigational aids like GPS are prohibited. This one is named “Mr. 409,” after Walsh’s dad. The elder Walsh drove this little beauty of an Impala for many years.

This is the fascinating world of vintage, classic, and antique cars. And, people are happily obsessed with them.

Other treasurers in the 2021 Great Race included a 1916 Hudson Hill Climber, driven by Howard Sharp, a 1966 Ford Mustang driven by Ahna/

Curt Holder, a 1965 Chevy Corvette driven by James Goode, a 1937 Ford Tudor driven by Craig Rubright, a 1966 Aston Martin driven by Jlo Lomas, and the 1963 Mercedes 190SL driven by Bill Sandefer.

Walsh wanted to give a shout out, not just to his navigator, but to Evan Myrick, and Billy Coburn, who “worked his [rear] off” getting the car ready.

He also wanted to recognize his “social media guy.” He can’t release his name, but he does “wear a silly hat,” said Walsh.

“Every aspect of this car has been rebuilt,” said Walsh, “Front to back, top to bottom. Everything.”

The work paid off in Great Race 2021.

BOOSTER SHOTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

The Loudoun County Health Department urges anyone 12 and older who has not yet been vaccinated to get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. “People who have not been fully vaccinated remain at risk from severe outcomes from this disease,” said Dr. Goodfriend. “Virtually all current COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths are among those who are unvaccinated.”

Visit loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine to find a vaccine provider near you.

In addition to vaccination, to help curb the increase in COVID-19 cases that Loudoun County has been experiencing, the Health Department recommends that everyone:

- Wear a mask in indoor public settings
- Stay 6 feet away from people who do not live in your household
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Wash your hands frequently
- Stay home when sick;
- Avoid contact with sick people;
- Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19; and
- Get tested if you’re symptomatic, or if potentially exposed to COVID-19, regardless of your vaccination status.

Comprehensive information about COVID-19 is online at loudoun.gov/coronavirus.

FRANKLIN ART CENTER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

ine this space into an art destination.”

Said a Loudoun resident with a long-time involvement in promoting the Franklin Park Arts Center, the vision of the sculpture garden is finally coming “to fruition.”

Members of the public were invited to tour the sculpture garden after a ribbon cutting. What a great moment for everyone here who loves the wonderful musical and other performances at the Franklin Park Arts Center, and enjoys the outdoors, acres of open space, and recreational opportunities that Franklin Park provides.

The Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center is located at 36441 Blue Ridge View Lane in Purcellville.

For more information on Franklin Park’s new sculpture garden, contact Elizabeth Bracey: 540.338.7973, elizabeth.bracey@loudoun.gov.

9th Annual Sadie’s Race – Sept. 12

Sadie Ablard was inspired to give others the chance to smile after walking through a shopping center and seeing banners for Smile Train, the world’s largest cleft charity that empowers local medical professionals with training, funding, and resources to provide free cleft surgery and comprehensive care to children globally.

Ablard was curious about the images she saw of children with cleft lip and palate and was eager to learn more. Instead of asking for Christmas gifts that year, she and her mom raised \$500 to fund two cleft surgeries. Unfortunately, Sadie passed away in 2011 at five years old, after sustaining a head injury while roller-skating. Now, her mom Sara Parella is on a mission to continue her daughter’s goal of fundraising for Smile Train.

Parella set a goal to raise enough money in her lifetime to fund one child’s smile for every day that her daughter Sadie lived. For a total of 1,913 days and at \$250 a surgery, her fundraising goal is \$478,250.

To achieve this, the 9th annual Sadie’s Race, a 5K combining Sadie’s passions of running and raising awareness for cleft lip and palate, will take place on Sept. 12, in Purcellville, at the Purcellville Train Station. Sara has so far raised almost \$330,000 and hopes to continue to raise awareness in memory of Sadie.

To donate to Smile Train go to, <https://my.smiletrain.org/fundraiser/sadiesrace>, or mail to Sadie Smile Foundation, PO Box 437, Philomont, VA 20131. For more information go to www.sadie-smilefoundation.org.

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PURCELLVILLE PC, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

character.

The commission is expected to discuss including only main structures in the proposed ordinance. There is also a proposed portion of the ordinance that would prevent an owner from allowing a main structure from deteriorating due to total willful neglect – which is called demolition by neglect.

There is currently no protection against unfettered demolition, but in the HCOD, no one would be able to destroy a structure for a year, and either the Town or anyone else would have the opportunity to buy the property at market value. If nobody buys the prop-

erty, then it could be torn down.

This would bring attention to a property owner who might want to build multiple houses on a lot or tear down a property to put up a large building in a neighborhood of single-family homes.

The same rules that currently apply would not change. There would be no restrictions on additions, painting, changing windows, or roof replacement, for example.

The Town of Purcellville will recommend all persons attending the meeting, regardless of vaccination status, to wear face masks while inside Town Hall, in a renewed effort to reduce levels of community transmission of

COVID-19.

The meeting will also be livestreamed, however the Town is offering GoTo Meeting for anyone wishing to participate remotely.

The login information for the special meeting is as follows: join My Meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone, <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/637694685>, you can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (872) 240-3212, one-touch: tel:+18722403212, 637694685#,

Access Code: 637-694-685. The email for the Planning Commission is PlanningCommission@purcellvilleva.gov.

RAYNER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

want to help our town come through this stronger than we started,” said Rayner.

Rayner served as the President of the Purcellville Business Association, and is currently Vice President. She is President of Mountain View Elementary School PTA, and is on the board as Treasurer for the Virginia Regional Transportation.

For more information go to ErinRayner.com.

MACDONALD, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

lives in Village Case.

MacDonald said he is committed to investing in the town’s aging infrastructure and broadband. He supports thinking outside the box on solutions, knowing that taxing the town’s residents is not the only way to raise revenue. “This is what Mayor Fraser has been doing, and I support this effort,”

said MacDonald.

“Growing up my maternal grandmother, who was a first generation American from Italy, had a profound influence on me. She instilled in me the value of being loyal, and that the most important thing is your word. She sadly passed away last year, at the grand age of 108.”

“As a father and a husband, nothing is more important to my wife Lisa and me,

than to protect the friendly atmosphere and character of the small town we all love. The residents of Purcellville have welcomed me and my family to this great community, and I feel called to serve in protecting it from the growth and development pressures, that will compromise this town.”

MacDonald can be reached at SeanForPurcellville@gmail.com.

FERRY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

crossing of the Potomac River safely operational and open.

We stand ready and willing. We had hoped to find a resolution that worked for all parties, however now it will be up to the local and state governments as they explore acquiring the land through eminent domain. We support whatever makes it possible to ensure this ferry remains a source of economic prosperity for our region and its citizens.

—**Chuck Kuhn**,

Owner White’s Ferry
CEO, JK Moving

VIEW FROM THE RIDGE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

pressures and the problems that come with them.

Fraser and his slim Town Council majority have steadily paid down the debt, and stopped tax-sucking residential developments.

The choice is up to you

MacDonald and Rayner qualified for the Nov. ballot last month.

They were also among five candidates interviewed by the Purcellville Town Council to complete the unexpired term of Ted Greenly. The Mayor and Town Council voted to put the choice to the voters in the special election Nov. 2.

MacDonald says: “I am running on a platform of slow growth, low taxes, infrastructure improvements, and inno-

vative solutions.

Preserving Purcellville’s small-town momentum

It’s not a pipe-dream, preserving Purcellville as a growing but well-managed small Town.

Mayor Kwasi Fraser has been relentless in this; reducing the Town’s burdensome debt, stopping wasteful, tax-sucking developments, and perusing innovative uses of Town-owned properties.

But, he is only as successful as the votes he has on the Town Council.

Citizens and voters can protect Purcellville’s unique, small-Town features while ensuring good public services.

They can also preserve an iconic old grain mill as a restaurant hotspot (Magnolia’s at the Mill), recreate on a popular

bike trail (the WO&D), and be surrounded by working farms and a farm markets.

But, in the ongoing saga about how big Purcellville should get, and what residents old and new want to preserve or tear down, there is a power struggle bubbling up again.

The bottom line: 3 to 4 or 4 to 3

Mayor Kwasi Fraser, who enjoys overwhelming citizen support, has for years methodically reined in growth, and lowered the Town’s debt.

The old days of growing your way out of debt are gone. Innovation and persistence are key.

Should a mini-Tyson’s Corner development of tens of thousands of square feet of residential, parking, and commercial development be allowed to overwhelm historic downtown Purcellville?

Voters have said, no.

Fraser has led the charge to enforce the voters’ will – with the help of the slimmest majority on the Town Council – reduced the enormous \$60 million-plus debt he inherited, and enforced the voters’ will to adopt a more fiscally sustainable economy and tax-model.

Fraser is also an innovator, turning Town assets into cash for taxpayers.

But, the political winds in Purcellville have lashed out repeatedly at Fraser’s managed growth, fiscal responsibility, and creative-solutions agenda since the day he took office. There are millions and millions of development dollars to be made here.

The Town is always just one election – or Town Council vote away – from backtracking.

HOUSTON, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

his intrusion. That’s literally NIMBY.”

“Very narrowly focused,” Byne commented.

“Yeah. But it gets broader. Look at Loudoun’s zoning. Most everything in the western part is zoned agricultural. You can build houses there but not apartments or shopping centers. So, NIMBY can extend ‘backyard’ to include tens of thousands of acres, as part of zoning.

Is that selfish? Perhaps in a way, but that would be a collective self-interest legislated into existence by a Board of Supervisors with county-wide authority. Maybe ‘protectiveness’ is a better

word to use.”

Byne agrees, “I think I married a philosopher ... NIMBY really kicks in when some developer wants to rezone something so he can build more than current zoning allows. People get wind of it; they gripe and hopefully email Supervisors. I think that conflict – protesting a rezoning some developer wants – that can spark a backlash based on NIMBY.”

Backlash

“Take it a step further, Byne. From whom would the backlash come?”

Byne needled her husband, “Maybe a grammarian, not a philosopher. Any-

way, I’ll have to speculate. Maybe real estate people. Or people who own similar land and want theirs rezoned so they can cash in, too. Probably people elsewhere in the county who see us as elitists, or as a group asking for special favors. They all would say ‘NIMBY.’”

Robert replied, “I think you’re right, but in that instance the favor we want is just to keep the present zoning. Maybe it’s not selfishness on our part, but envy by the people who chant ‘NIMBY.’ You know, in any conflict, like the one you had at lunch, the best thing to do is to keep quiet. Maybe you just say that there’s simply a difference of opinion, and you agree to disagree.”

“But to conservation people ...” Byne started.

“... like us,” Robert finished.

“We embrace NIMBY. It’s the idea of protecting what we have; maybe by improving the zoning that’s the opposite of NIMBY is a free-for-all that would turn into a feeding frenzy. And western Loudoun would be lost,” Byne concluded. “We act politely, we don’t argue, but we always find a way to keep fighting.”

Charles Houston developed office buildings for an Atlanta-based firm. He lives in Paeonian Springs.

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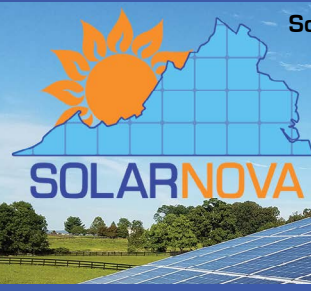


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WHITE'S FERRY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure, a study designed in part to inform the staff and Board of Supervisors on various kinds of ferry operations, vessel types, site requirements, and safety measures is moving toward release in October. "We are learning about the applicable regulations around ferry operations and what we'd need to put into an agreement with the operator, which may be Mr.[Chuck] Kuhn," the ferry's new owner.

The study is also looking at ferry traffic projections, but, said Kroboth, "Our goal right now is to restore service between Virginia and Maryland" and get the word out about the service. "For so long—some 200 years—it's been word of mouth, which may partly explain traffic of only 600 to 800 cars a day."

At the moment, to prepare for any steps by the County toward an eminent domain taking of land for the Virginia dock, he explained, "We do have surveyors on the ground and will determine the amount of land that would be needed to make a safe ferry landing," he said. Later, they would obtain appraisals over negotiations.

Kroboth added, "Once we complete the process of acquiring the land necessary to restore operations, we would make an agreement with whomever the ferry owner is to ensure they operate according to the applicable regulations."

As for who ultimately owns the land after an eminent domain action, Kroboth confirmed it would be either the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors or VDOT.

How did we get here ?

From a small ferry with a shaky agreement with the owner of the land where he was docking, how did we get to this major disruption in interstate commerce and commuting?

It's complicated. Let's look at it in terms of chess moves.

White's Ferry: The boat with landings on the Virginia and Maryland sides of the Potomac has been in operation since 1786, starting out as Conrad's Ferry.

When Conrad's Ferry stopped operating before 1947, a ferry operator named Elijah White expressed interest in reopening the service. In 1952, the Rockland owners entered into a licensing agreement with White's Ferry for \$5 per year for the use of the landing at Rockland Farm so long as the ferry landing was never changed or enlarged under its current operation. When the ferry owner stopped paying his \$5 a year lease fee, the owners of Rockland said enough and went to court.

More than 16 years ago, the ferry own-

er enlarged the ferry landing and built structures on Rockland, violating the half century-old agreement. According to the Rockland statement, "Finally, after being stonewalled time and again by White's Ferry, Rockland had no choice but to file suit on December 2, 2020." After many attempts to settle the case out of court, the suit was decided in Loudoun County Circuit Court in Rockland's favor ... The court ruled that the owner of White's Ferry had been trespassing and

"Quite frankly, I would be remiss if I did not mention that at some point we'd be looking at the need for a bridge between Maryland and Virginia."

— Loudoun County Catoclin District Supervisor Caleb Kershner

was no longer able to make use of Rockland without permission.

The ferry owner closed this important link to Maryland on Dec. 28, 2020.

Enter Chuck Kuhn: Owner and CEO of J.K. Moving, Chuck Kuhn and his wife, Stacy Kuhn, bought the ferry and the landing rights on the Maryland side from Herb Brown. They bought the ferry, he says, for its historic importance and out of concern for all the people and businesses left adrift.

But Kuhn has not been able to reach agreement on the Rockland land with its majority owner, Peter Brown.

Peter Brown is the eldest child of Henry (Harry) Brown and Elizabeth Rust (Betsey) Brown. The Browns' parents were deeply involved in the preservation and conservation of Loudoun County's history and open land.

Betsey Brown served as Catoclin District Supervisor, the post now held by Caleb Kershner. Harry Brown, before retiring to Rockland in 1969, co-founded America's first Money Market Mutual Fund (The Reserve Fund). He and Betsey placed the house on the National Register of Historic Places and maintained the 500-acre property in agricultural use.

Peter Brown, CEO of Renaissance Technologies, shares ownership of Rockland with his sisters, Libby Devlin and Harriet Dickerson.

Negotiations

Kuhn and Brown negotiations over the Rockland-owned ferry docking site needed by Kuhn to restore the ferry operations, began shortly after Kuhn closed on the purchase of the ferry boat, a store, and the dock on the Maryland shoreline. Both parties have indicated they proposed several solutions to reach agreement.

Kuhn began enlisting other players

to move negotiations forward. He says he has made and taken many calls and meetings with Loudoun County Attorney Leo Rogers, Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis J. Randall, and several other Supervisors, including Blue Ridge Supervisor Tony Buffington and Catoclin District Supervisor Kershner, along with Poolesville, Montgomery County, and State of Maryland officials. Together they are working on a strategy to take the necessary Rockland Farm property through eminent domain.

In Poolesville, talk of a bridge

On Aug. 18, speaking at a Poolesville "Fair Access" gathering, Kuhn and Kershner gained enthusiastic buy-in from local, county, and state officials present. Kuhn opened the meeting by reviewing what he called "a dispute between two private parties in two separate states. But," he added, "I think we have a very good road map now."

Supervisor Kershner offered a longer view of what's down the road:

"Rt. 15 carries 26,000 – 27,000 cars per day," he began. "The road was engineered for 12,000. We're in the process of widening it, but even with widening, it will be full by 2040.

"Quite frankly, I would be remiss if I did not mention that at some point, we'd be looking at the need for a bridge between Maryland and Virginia.

"If our jurisdictions are truly serious about mitigating congestion and providing solid solutions for our residents, we must start discussions between our political entities in this vein. We owe it to

may or may not occur."

Kuhn put a time stamp on the White's Ferry reopening as he brought discussion to a close.

"I spoke to [Loudoun County Attorney] Leo Rogers, and, from what he's told me, the study will be wrapping up in September. This should be in front of the Board of Supervisors for a vote at their December meeting."

Fire on the Mountain?

After a year out of the headlines, the Philomont Fire Station is back and ready to spark if residents' voices on the renovation of the existing facility have not been taken into serious account by Loudoun County Fire & Rescue and County Transportation and Capital Infrastructure.

On Thursday, Sept. 9, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Woodgrove High School, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue officials, County staff, current Philomont volunteer firefighters, and local residents will gather to learn the outcome of a study to renovate the village's existing fire station or go all in for a brand new facility.

Last year the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Department called a last-minute meeting to present their plans for a 25,000-square-foot Philomont fire station on the historic Horse Show Grounds on busy Snickersville Turnpike.

At that meeting, several residents promoted the idea of renovating the existing firehouse, pointing to the award-winning upgrade of the Middleburg Fire Station.

Since then, the study has proceeded



our residents on both sides of the river ... And, obviously, this White's Ferry passage over this river, which has been going on for well over 200 years, is just a small part, but a very, very important part."

A Poolesville business owner asked, "How long will it be until the ferry is running again?"

Kershner replied, "That would be a question better posed to our County Attorney. Obviously, it depends on all parties involved and what legal wrangling

with input by Reston-based LeMay Erickson Willcox, a firm that renovated the Middleburg Fire Station and has designed several other Loudoun stations.

According to Transportation and Capital Infrastructure Director Joe Kroboth, the architects will present two renovation options at the Sept. 9 meeting.

Recommendations from that meeting will be put forward to the Board of Supervisors in an October business meeting.

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MISSLER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Troop 961, decided to construct a podium for the legion to use at meetings and events in town, and at the post in Purcellville.

The final product pictured here, features all six military branch logos. This was Missler's Eagle Scout project, as the Legion did not have a proper podium.

MOORE-SOBEL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

My experience over the last year has only confirmed what I learned through the accident – that we all have scars, both visible and invisible, and that we can use our scars to change the world, one story at a time.

People often ask me what I've learned about book publishing. Knowing what I know now, I would have done some things differently. I would have self-published my memoir, rather than securing a publisher. I would have invested less money in this project up front, so that I didn't feel as much pressure to make back my initial investment through book sales. I'd also have invested more time in building a platform and

collecting more followers in advance of my book's publication.

In the end, I'm grateful for how everything has turned out, and for all the support I have received. This project was never about earning money or building a "name" for myself – it is about making a difference. It is about redeeming my story and transforming it from an accident that never should have happened, into a tool for others as they face adversity in their own lives. I feel that I've done that, at least on a small scale. In large part, this is due to a supportive readership like you, and people who are willing to take a chance on reading my book. For that, I thank you.

To any one of you who may be think-

ing about taking a chance, I hope my story encourages you. Whether it's launching a book, changing careers, or just making a change, you don't have to have everything figured out.

Much of life is experimentation to find out what does and doesn't work. Success requires adjusting course when necessary, and learning hard but important lessons through failure. Success is never assured, but neither is failure. Sometimes it's worth taking a risk, even if the stars aren't completely aligned.

Samuel Moore-Sobel is the author of Can You See My Scars? His book is available on Amazon. To read more of his work, visit www.samuelmoore-sobel.com.

LAFIANDRA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

"The focus of the criminal investigation was to determine whether federal prosecutors could prove that the officer violated any federal laws, concentrating on the possible application of 18 U.S.C. § 242, a federal criminal civil rights statute.

"In order to establish a violation of this statute, prosecutors must prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the officer acted willfully to deprive Ms. Babbitt of a right protected by the Constitution or other law, here the Fourth Amendment right not to be subjected to an unreasonable seizure.

"Prosecutors would have to prove not only that the officer used force that was constitutionally unreasonable, but that the officer did so "willfully," which the Supreme Court has interpreted to mean that the officer acted with a bad purpose to disregard the law.

"As this requirement has been interpreted by the courts, evidence that an officer acted out of fear, mistake, panic, misperception, negligence, or even poor judgment cannot establish the high level of intent required under Section 242.

"The investigation revealed no evidence to establish beyond a reasonable doubt that the officer willfully committed a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 242. Specifically, the

investigation revealed no evidence to establish that, at the time the officer fired a single shot at Ms. Babbitt, the officer did not reasonably believe that it was necessary to do so in self-defense or in defense of the Members of Congress and others evacuating the House Chamber."

Using the DOJ's logic, a Capital Police officer can shoot you because of a mistake, panic, negligence or poor judgment because it doesn't prove intent according to some unknown Supreme Court ruling.

The video clearly shows the officer with gun drawn waiting for Ms. Babbitt to go through the window and then pulling the trigger. If that isn't "willful" intent, I'm dreaming.

The cover-up continued with the conclusion of a separate internal investigation on Aug. 23, 2021 by the Capital Police that said:

"USCP's Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) determined the officer's conduct was lawful and within Department policy, which says an officer may use deadly force only when the officer reasonably believes that action is in the defense of human life, including the officer's own life, or in the defense of any person in immediate danger of serious physical injury."

Notice that a different standard that applies to the use of deadly force, "out

of fear, mistake, panic, misperception, negligence, or even poor judgment" doesn't apply. The report then uses the following justification in direct contradiction to the above stated Department Policy:

"The actions of the officer in this case potentially saved Members and staff from serious injury and possible death from a large crowd of rioters who forced their way into the U.S. Capitol and to the House Chamber where Members and staff were steps away.

"USCP Officers had barricaded the Speaker's Lobby with furniture before a rioter shattered the glass door. If the doors were breached, the rioters would have immediate access to the House Chambers. The officer's actions were consistent with the officer's training and USCP policies and procedures."

The contradiction is obvious, the officer or anybody else in the area was not in immediate danger of their life or serious physical injury from Ashli Babbitt. His action was by definition, unjustified, since he was not defending human life. She was unarmed and physically didn't pose a threat to anybody.

Both of these investigations were flawed and are a cover-up attempt to justify a killing for essentially trespassing on government property.

DR. MIKE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

tional conflict likely occurs when he perceives that you do not have time for him, and frustration turns to anger and anger to aggression as a solution.

I recommend you try the following steps:

Step 1: You will want to correct your son's behavior when he acts out with anger and aggression. Do it in a way that will increase his involvement and appreciation for his sister. Saying "no" or "go to time out" or reacting negatively to his behavior will likely validate his distorted feelings that you love his sister more than you love him, and that may worsen things.

The next time he crosses the line, separate him from everyone and sit with him for 5-10 minutes. The timeout is a consequence, but it is also an opportunity for the two of you to connect; to discuss what happened on a feeling

level for your son, and to come up with ideas for how to manage those feelings better the next time.

Step 2: Speak about your son and your daughter positively in their shared presence. Your 2-year-old daughter's vocabulary is limited, so you can be her voice with affirmative statements for your son to hear.

When your son is encouraged to share something with your daughter or when he does something nice for her on his own, you can thank him and tell him he is an awesome big brother. You will want to repeat this often, so that the two of them experience each other in a positive way.

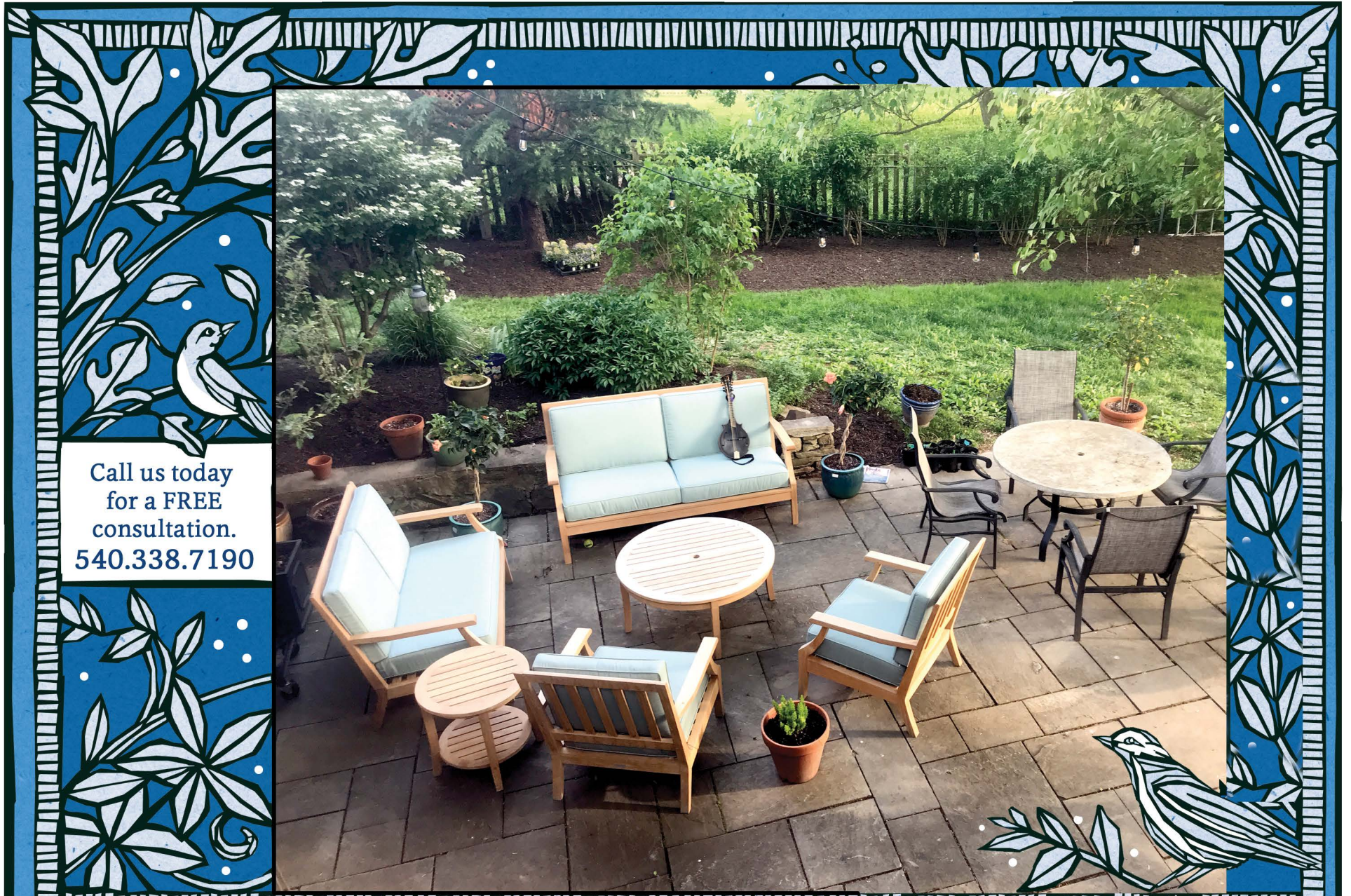
Step 3: I also recommend actively enlisting your son as the "big boy" who helps you with his sister – singing songs to soothe her when she is upset, handing a towel to mommy after his sister's bath, or fetching a diaper quickly for mommy when there is an urgent need. Praise

him for being such a great big brother and babysitter to his sister.

A few books for you to consider for your situation are: *Siblings Without Rivalry: How to Help Your Children Live Together So You Can Live Too*, and *Beyond Sibling Rivalry: How to Help Your Children Become Cooperative, Caring and Compassionate*.

With structure and attention to your children's needs, I am hopeful that your sibling rivalry problems will improve. Should your son's problem with his sister persist, I would recommend seeing a pediatric/child psychologist for guidance and support.

Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D. "Dr. Mike" is a clinical psychologist in private practice. He can be reached at 703 723-2999, and is located at 44095 Pipeline Plaza, Suite 240, Ashburn.



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Pictured Left: Sam & "The Toddler" (2021)



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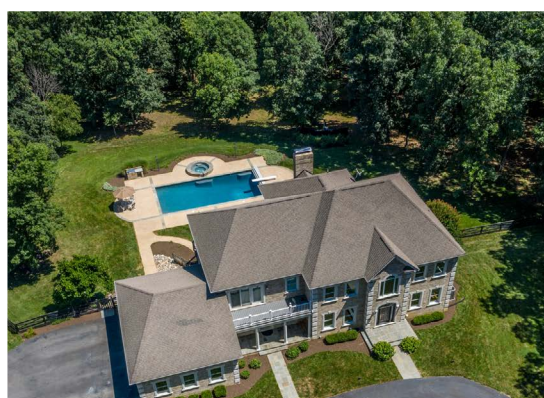


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