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NOVEMBER 2022

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“I hope you love Adam’s bike park as much as he would.”

New Purcellville bike park dedicated to teen’s memory on Oct. 22

BY VALERIE CURY

On Saturday, Oct. 22, the Caudill family and the Town of Purcellville held a ribbon cutting ceremony for Adam’s Bike Park across from Loudoun Valley High School.

The ceremony started at 2 p.m. at the new bike park near the water tower at 311 N. Maple Avenue. Many attendees wore red, Adam’s favorite color.

The bike park is named in memory of Adam Caudill, a 15-year-old boy who tragically lost his life in 2021. Adam loved to ride his red bike around Purcellville.

The ribbon cutting ceremony included dedications, the inaugural ride by friends and family, and bike and helmet safety checks. Adam’s brother Zach along with his best friends, Charlie and Gabe, took a ride around the park.

Adam’s Bike Park is accessible from



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VOTED BEST OF LOUDOUN

North Maple Avenue and will soon be available from the W&OD Trail. The park includes ramps and pathways for non-motorized, two-wheeled bicycles.

The bike park will honor the memory of this young man and provide a new park for Purcellville residents that will encourage young people to get outside and enjoy cycling.

Adam’s mom, Michelle Caudill, said it was so meaningful to have the park in her

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Wetlands are for more than weird frogs

BY LAURA LONGLEY

If you’re heading from Hillsboro to Purcellville, where the County road enters the Town, on your right you’ll see a residence on a little over a half an acre, nestled within 14.2 acres of mature forest and wetlands. Those wetlands—rich with frogs and salamanders, turtles and fish, snakes and beavers and long-eared bats and all manner of plants and bugs and dragonflies—belong to the owner of the home and its 73 neighbors in

the Catoctin Meadows Subdivision. All these properties are bound together by a Declaration of Covenants that runs with the land.

Just north of the community is South Fork Catoctin Creek, which flows eastward to the Suzanne R. Kane Nature Preserve and the Chapman DeMary Trail.

Why do these 0.6 acres matter—to the property owner, the residents of Catoctin Meadows, the historic north

end of Purcellville, the state of Virginia, the federal government, Loudoun County, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Virginia Department of Transportation?

This site—601 N. 21 St., Purcellville—is essential for construction of the 7/690 interchange, which the key parties agree would alleviate connectivity issues in the roadway network around Purcellville, reduce traffic in downtown Purcellville and on Rt. 287, and provide

a more direct route to destinations north and northeast of Rt. 7, including Woodgrove High School and Mountain View Elementary.

Because the project will be built with the use of federal funds, it must adhere to the National Environmental Policy Act process, which evaluates wetlands and their level of protection. However, in rapidly urbanizing areas, wetlands may be in danger from habitat

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

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



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Paid for and Authorized by Milan for Mayor and Ron Rise, Jr., Carol Luke, and Mary F. "Boo" Bennett for Town Council



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MV Elementary holds ribbon cutting for expanded play area

BY VALERIE CURY

In mid-October, Mountain View Elementary Principal Jill Broaddus held a ribbon cutting for the school's newly expanded play area and courtyard pathway.

Bob Butler is the owner of Western Maryland Concrete in Smithsburg, MD. He recently donated the supplies, labor, and construction of a large pathway and patio for the Mountain View Elementary courtyard – at no cost.

Shawn Beachley reached out to Bob



L to R: Purcellville Vice-Mayor Chris Bertaut, Jill Broaddus, and Mayor Kwasi Fraser.

Butler hoping for a fair deal for a large project on behalf of his son's preschool program at Mountain View Elementary School in Purcellville. The area where twenty or so children were able to play at the school was muddy, rocky, and not conducive to learning and playing.

Not only did Butler answer the call, but he also went above and beyond, coming to several meetings, on-location planning, and delivering on the project at no cost to the school.

Now the area has a large pathway and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30 »

Viking Theater presents *Almost, Maine*

Somewhere in the deep Maine winter, an entire town falls into, out of, and around love. Or, they just fall in general.

Almost, Maine, written by John Cariani, illustrates a series of happenings in one sleepy town. In nine short scenes, Cariani reminds us of the highs and lows of romance— be it in a lively tavern or on a screened-in porch.

With the holiday season right around the corner, the show is meant to highlight the warmth in all people. Performances are at LVHS on Nov. 4 and 5 at 7 p.m. and on November 5 and 6 at 2 p.m.

Director Diego De La Espriella picked the show for its heartwarming scenes, emotional depth and, at times, hilarity.

"There are some very touching moments in this show, as well as some goofy ones, and I'm just proud to say



Rehearsing for the Loudoun Valley High School's Viking Theatre production of Almost, Maine are from l to r, Elliana Cruise and Ben Demase.

that the kids are tackling all of it with a great attitude." De La Espriella said.

For more information: contact valleyvikingtheatre@gmail.com or go to loudounvhs.booktix.com.

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Just Like Nothing (else) on Earth: Brambleton Community Park

BY TIM JON

No – I didn't play any ball, soccer, softball or otherwise. The morning I stopped in at Brambleton Community Park in eastern Loudoun, I was more concerned about blinking my eyes often enough so they wouldn't freeze – either open or closed. Yes, it was that cold – even for a guy who grew up in Minnesota. Within just a few steps after leaving my car I quickly decided to attempt a rapid trip around the small, ice-covered pond behind the impressive headquarters building. And I kept moving as I did my thinking. About half-way 'round the body of water (and ice) I began to question my very sanity in seeking anything like a



TIM JON

pleasurable experience anywhere in the out-of-doors on such a remarkably frigid morning; by the time I circled the humble, little pond, I was no longer questioning – I had my answer. No one in their right mind would voluntarily expose any part of their anatomy to these conditions; for proof, I encountered a young man dressed only in slacks and a tee shirt seemingly full of glee as he walked his dog in the opposite direction. I had no doubt the canine possessed more intelligence than either his master or the frost-crazed photographer they had just encountered. Our exchange of greetings was understandably remarkably brief. But (and here comes the confession) as I've been known to at



least stretch the truth on at least more than one occasion – I have to admit to taking my, admittedly, small share of pleasure from the overall experience: I witnessed a brilliant (if chilly) sunrise, reflected on the pond's frozen surface, I

enjoyed the solitude of the quiet, wooded (wind-screened) portion of the walk, and I got to share a few moments with a solitary Canada goose (perhaps left here by his southbound brethren) – sitting quite close to shore in an open bit of water. We made quite a pair: I was so cold I couldn't stop moving; perhaps this distinctive waterfowl was just trying to conserve energy – or had given up trying. Now, besides the aforementioned dog-walker and his four-legged friend and the feathered creature in the water, I had, that morning, as far as I knew, the entire 60-acre Park to myself. During the working week this would cause no surprise at most of

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— Ask Dr. Mike —

By Michael Oberschneider, Psy.D.

9 Tips to loving (and liking) your spouse again

BY MICHAEL OBERSCHNEIDER, PSY.D.

Do you find yourself in a marriage where you love your spouse, but privately and deep down inside, you don't necessarily like him or her very much anymore?



Dr. Mike

If you answered "yes" know that you are not alone. Research studies have shown that as many as 6 out of 10 married couples are unhappy, and those studies cite several factors contributing to marital unhappiness including: a sex life with diminishing returns, financial stress, preoccupation with technology, dishonesty, a lack of communication, adultery and men taking their partners for granted when it comes to domestic responsibilities.

With about 50 percent of folks getting

divorced these days overall, and 41 percent for those from first marriages, being in an unhappy marriage is no laughing matter. Here are 9 tips you can use to help you to like your spouse again.

Share home and family responsibilities: Regardless of who the bread winner is, or whether or not one or both of you work outside of the home, divvying up household responsibilities will go a long way for both you and your spouse to feel appreciated, cared for and respected as a partner.

Don't over focus your time on your children: I suppose if your child and spouse were hanging from a cliff by their finger tips and you could only pull up and save one of them, of course you would save your child, but how many cliff moments are there in life? So, stop doing things for your kids all of the time

and do some kind deeds for your spouse and spend more quality time together as a couple. As parents, our children mean a lot to us, but they shouldn't always come first.

Don't let yourself go: Taking care of yourself and taking pride in your appearance is a respectful thing to do for yourself and your partner. It's one thing to have a drink or two or a sweet treat from time to time, but it's entirely another thing to overindulge in alcohol or food.

Remember that your career represents only a part of your life: If you find yourself feeling more comfortable at the office than at home, it's time to rethink your work-life balance and priorities – your family time, health, leisure time, spiritual development and personal wellbeing should be just as important to you as your work.

Prioritize time together: While it's healthy to have some alone time in a marriage, doing things separately too often can become problematic. Plan a regular "date night" and make time together a priority to help foster closeness and intimacy with your spouse. I also recommend bonding around the less meaningful moments in life – hitting Costco or running other sorts of errands together isn't necessarily romantic, but it can be positive time as a couple.

Share a hobby or goal. Finding a common activity or goal you can do together can also increase your bond as a couple. Golfing together, losing weight together, training for a 5K together, setting a savings goal, are just a few ideas to consider to increase the enjoyment in your shared time and the satisfaction in

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Loudounia, Quo Plus Minus Est

BY CHARLES HOUSTON

That translates to “Loudoun, where more is less,” and refers to its government. I’m interested in the bureaucratic nature of entities as they get larger and attempt to do more and more things. This is a fantasy about an alternative way of doing things, using Loudoun as a template.

My thoughts are grounded in the seminal and humorous “Up the Organization,” written by the late Robert Townsend, the former

OPINION

Avis CEO.

Townsend (1920 – 1998) was a corporate anarchist – cut staff, listen to customers, be guided by ideas that percolate from below as opposed to dictats from above, get rid of HR departments, eliminate executive perks. Following these ideas and coining the slogan, “Avis. We try harder,” he pulled the company up to a strong position in the car rental world.

What if Townsend were reincarnated and ran Loudoun County?

Townsend Returns

“Robert, thanks for coming back,” said Governor Spotswood with much bonhomie. “I need you to try something.”

“Good to be back, Alex. There’s a lot I don’t recognize!”

“You wouldn’t recognize Loudoun County, for sure,” said the governor.

“I assume it’s grown a lot; probably still wealthy,” Townsend replied.

The governor said, “Yeah, but it has problems. Have you followed the news lately?”

“No,” replied Townsend, “there weren’t any newspapers where I was.”

“There’re no newspapers here anymore, Robert,” explained Spotswood, “Check the Internet.”

“What’s an Internet?” asked Townsend.

The governor chuckled, “Let me explain.”

Loudoun Afire

Spotswood tapped on a keyboard, then turned the monitor toward Townsend. “This is the internet web page of The Blue Ridge Leader, it’s Loudoun’s dominant news source. Check these articles: A SWAT squad had to go to a School Board meeting; three Board members were arrested for disorderly conduct. Two days later, three of the constitutional officers started scuffling in the courthouse lobby. Security guards broke that up. At its last meeting, some Supervisors went ape. There was a brawl, and one Supervisor left by giving one-finger to the others.”

“Gads!” Townsend exclaimed. “So, problems.”

“Exactly,” Spotswood said. “Taxes are through the roof. County staff has grown metastatically and become a power unto itself. Recent Boards have let Loudoun’s government get too big, do too many

things. They’re focused on process, not results.” Spotswood concluded.

“That’s what happens to most bureaucracies and most governments. Taxpayers deserve an efficient government,” said Townsend. “I’ve got an idea, Alex. Appoint me Administrator with executive power over the county, the constitutional officers, and so on.”

The governor agreed, “That’s what I hoped you’d say.”

“I’ll make radical changes, then we’ll start operating efficiently,” Townsend promised.

“Let’s do it,” concurred Spotswood.

A Hostile Takeover

Townsend introduced himself to the group around the table: Department heads, county attorneys, school board members and the superintendent, the fire chief and sheriff, other constitutional officers, and Supervisor’s aides.

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We reserve the right to edit submissions as necessary.
Deadline for print edition is the third week
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‘Our first task must be to do no harm’

BY ADAM STEVENSON

In Purcellville one is surrounded by a certain spatial gravity system—pulls from places to the east: toward the suburbs of Leesburg, Ashburn, Sterling; to the west and the Blue Ridge, Shenandoah River, and on to the Alleghenies; north past Lovettsville and up to Frederick, Maryland, and south, more ambiguously, to Marshall, Manassas, and Culpeper.

The constellations of settlement encircling Purcellville are connected by the pull of place as well as by history and culture. There are the old W&OD railroad towns of Hamilton, Round Hill, and Bluemont; Middleburg and Aldie on

the Gap Turnpike; the African American villages of St. Louis and Arcola, and the Quaker villages of Waterford, Lincoln, and Hillsboro.

An important dimension here is the issue of measuring spatial gravity. Is the gravity to be measured by the affection one has for the place, or the use one has for place? There are times when usefulness gives way to crude convenience. Often those who hold such beliefs hold them mostly subconsciously—a natural result of a common paradigm in which everything happens in the marketplace.

The issue here is that the marketplace has consumed all of our other places, inhibiting our ability to consider the idea of place deeply. Every place offers itself

anew to our imagination. But in return for this favor, we must take upon ourselves certain obligations toward the place.

If we allow our places to be eaten up by careless development and if we construct too many roads to nowhere—in the sense that our roads become linkages to the same sorts of places we fled—it is because we expended too little collective energy to think in and through our place.

To translate these theoretical concerns into something more concrete, let’s consider the proposed interchange at the intersection of Hillsboro Road and Rt. 7 at the northern boundary of the Town of Purcellville.

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See through the Falsehoods

Dear Editor:

In the last few weeks in the Town of Purcellville elections, the Grewe team who is running a campaign based on statements like “good people, “good governance,” and the sky’s falling in with a claim of 110,000 empty square feet of store fronts in the town – it’s no

wonder their campaign is throwing lies and distortions at the Milan team in hopes of something sticking. These tactics are campaigning 101 for dummies.

Purcellville is thriving. Last year there were 98 new business in town and

so far this year there have been 83 new businesses. In the past few weeks there have been approximately 10 ribbon cuttings for new businesses. Ace Hardware just opened, and IHOP is planning on opening in the Catoctin Corner shopping center.

The White Palace building at the corner of Main and 21st Street in Historic Downtown, has recently sold to a local family. New restaurants are getting ready to open their doors, along with new companies. It’s exciting.

One of the largest vacancies in town is owned by the developers of Vineyard

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Why I cannot support a fellow Naval Academy Alumnus

Dear Editor:

I am a 1969 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. Like Hung Cao, I made a career of the Navy, although

I never served in combat. CAPT (Ret.) Hung Cao has an impressive resume and is owed the gratitude of the nation for the service, sacrifice, and risk he undertook to serve

LETTER

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26 »



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It's time for Captain Hung Cao

Dear Editor:

What did we learn about Jennifer Wexton following the debates?

We learned the following:

Jennifer Wexton has no idea on how to address the massive economic problems facing our country. Says Wexton, "It's gonna be tough sledding for a while. I'm sorry about that."

LETTER

Wexton lacks content on issues and reverts to hurling slurs, calling Hung Cao, an extremist.

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Let's vote for Hung Cao our next representative in Congress

Dear Editor:

If you like the fun of bowling, you're really going to love what can happen if you vote for Hung Cao to represent Loudoun County in the US Congress.

In bowling, you know you can roll a strike by knocking down all ten pins, but first you must knock down the headpin to start a chain reaction to cause the other pins to fall.

LETTER

In this year's election, you can roll a strike, per se, by first voting for Republican Hung Cao to knock down (figuratively speaking) the Democrat Party's 10th

Congressional District headpin, Jennifer Wexton. When Wexton falls, the Republican Party can potentially take control of the US House of Representatives, and then the fun begins.

The second pin to drop can be Nancy Pelosi, who can lose her job as Speaker of the House. After Pelosi bites the dust, the third pin to crumple can be Pelosi's "January 6th" kangaroo committee, which can be replaced by honest representatives who can publicly expose Pelosi's role in setting up that January 6 event.

The fourth pin to collapse can be the
CONTINUED ON PAGE 24 »

Don't be fooled

My opponent continues to peddle lies and false narratives. His latest claim is that there was a vote to defund the Purcellville Police, or cut funding for our Fire Fighters.

There was never such a vote in Purcellville. Purcellville voters will not be fooled by Grewe and his team's deceptions.

LETTER

The lies that my opponent continues to dispense to win an election are disgraceful and shameful. I have worked as a police officer. I proudly support our police officers, our firefighters,

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Follow the money

Dear Editor:

Team Grewe's donations come mostly from the development community to the tune of over \$25,000.

LETTER

The majority of the donations, this go around, are being donated to Erin Rayner's campaign. Her largest donors are from the developers of Vineyard Square on 21st Street, and employees of their relatives.

To date the amount of money Rayner has raised since 2020 is \$52,481. That's a lot of money for our small town.

This race is all about keeping Purcellville the small town most of us moved here for and so enjoy.

The Planning Commission is undertaking the rewrite of the town's zoning ordinance which should reflect the vision of the residents manifested in the

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It's time to get out and vote

Dear Editor:

Just two years ago, we were at 2 percent inflation with stable prices. Inflation and prices are now way up and real wages are down.

LETTER

Two years ago, we were the world's largest exporter of oil and gas. Even more than OPEC. Why do we now have to ask OPEC and other countries for oil when we have our own? We need to get our energy

independence back by using our own resources and technology. This will help our economy and bring down gas prices.

We should incorporate wind, solar, nuclear and other technologies into our current energy portfolio to save the economy and protect our environment and climate. That's what Gov. Youngkin wants to do. Instead, we're draining our strategic oil reserves for political

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Finally! A local Doctor is helping cancer survivors live lives free from the constant pain and suffering associated with **Peripheral Neuropathy!**

Irreversible is not a word you want to hear from your Doctor but it's a common one if you've been diagnosed with Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy or CIPN.

Tom S. of Leesburg survived testicular cancer only to be living life in constant pain. He felt as though he were walking on pins and needles, becoming weaker and weaker every day. "I was beginning to be worried that one day I would be wheelchair-bound."

Nearly half of patients who undergo chemotherapy will develop Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy or CIPN.

Chemotherapy meds travel throughout the body and attack cancer cells; sadly they can also cause severe damage to healthy nerves. CIPN can begin within weeks of starting treatment and can worsen as treatment continues. A high number of really unfortunate people will be forced to endure the symptoms associated with CIPN for months, or even years after they've completed chemo.

When asked how CIPN was affecting his quality of life, he responded,

"It was difficult to even walk up and down stairs and do other things we usually take for granted."

The most common symptoms include:

- **pain, tingling, burning, weakness, or numbness in arms, hands, legs or feet**
- **sudden, sharp, stabbing or shocking pain sensations**
- **loss of touch sensation**
- **clumsiness and trouble using hands to pick up objects or fasten clothing**
- **loss of balance and falling**

For some, their nerves will recover over time. For most, the nerve damage is 'irreversible.' Tom had been told just that by a series of Doctors and specialists. Essentially they could cure his cancer but couldn't fix the damage done by the drugs used to cure his cancer.

Then Tom made a call to Rachal Lohr of FIREFLY|Acupuncture & Wellness right here in Ashburn. Rachal and her team are using the time tested science of Acupuncture and a technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

After a series of treatments Tom was taking stairs with stride!

"We have a beach house and it's up stairs. This morning I walked right down the stairs and got in the car," Tom shared.

"I remember thinking 'that's become mighty easy for me', I didn't have to hold on to the hand rail or anything! It's life changing to have this mobility back!"

Again and again, we meet with patients who were once diagnosed as "untreatable" or "incurable" but after receiving Rachal Lohr's treatments are now living lives free from pain and suffering.

For over 15 years she has been reversing the effects of CIPN and other varieties of Peripheral Neuropathy, including that caused by diabetes without invasive surgeries and medications that come with uncomfortable side effects.

If you've recently beat cancer only to find that you're living a life in constant pain and discomfort or you're struggling with the same symptoms as a result of either Idiopathic Neuropathy or Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy, Rachal and the incredible team at FIREFLY can help!

Rachal Lohr is now accepting new patients but only for a limited time. In an effort to protect her patients, she has made the difficult decision to limit the number of patients seen in her clinic.

Only 10 new neuropathy patients will be accepted monthly so call (703)263-2142 now to schedule a consultation.

Visit FIREFLYAcuAndWellness.com to learn more and to take advantage of their New Patient Offer!

Who is donating to whom? What you should know before the Nov. 8 election

BY VALERIE CURY

With the Town of Purcellville election coming up on Nov. 8, here's a look at who is donating to each of the two teams.

Donations for the Grewe team are mostly coming in through Erin Rayner, who is running for Town Council.

GOVERNMENT

Most of her donations are from the development community, including the developer of Vineyard Square on 21st Street in downtown Purcellville.

Her campaign received \$3,750 from CaseCo LLC, which is a division of the Chapman family company. Calvin Chapman donated \$2,000 to her campaign while Merit Restorations donated \$1,750.

Rayner received a \$10,000 donation from Natalie Hornbaker, who works for one of the Chapman brothers' development companies located in Purcellville. David Hornbaker, who is also with the company, donated \$1,500. Her campaign also received various smaller sums of money donated by the Chapman group, along with \$750 from Rainbud LLC and \$1,900 from the

Purcellville Health Club Inc.

Candidate for Mayor Joel Grewe received \$4,000 from CaseCo LLC to his Town Council account last year.

The Stan Milan team has received a total of \$13,500 from Uta Brown of Crooked Run Orchard in Purcellville. Sam and Uta Brown's 250-year-old 90-acre farm is located on Main Street near the traffic circle, and along the Southern Collector Road. Their farm is in permanent conservation easement, and both Sam and Uta Brown are strong advocates for preserving Purcellville.

Milan has also received donations from citizens of the Town of Purcellville.

At the Oct. 25 Purcellville Town Council Meeting, developer Casey Chapman spoke in the citizen comments portion of the meeting, saying that he wanted to clear some issues "that are out there."

"Regarding the downtown Vineyard Square project, as many of you know, I've spoke [sic] to many of you individually," Chapman said. "No member of this board said they supported this project. I'm okay with that."

His comment follows on the heels of his recent

remark before the Town Council that he does not need O Street for Vineyard Square. This is a reversal from earlier statements Chapman made that he does need the Town of Purcellville to extend O Street to Hatcher Avenue – at the taxpayers' expense of millions of dollars.

Chapman also said, "Vineyard Square has not made one political contribution, so once again, Vineyard Square does not need to make a political contribution because it's a vested by right project."

What Chapman left out is that one of his numerous companies, CaseCo LLC, has contributed heavily to both Joel Grewe's campaign account last year and Erin Rayner's campaign this year.

When asked what she thought of the Vineyard Square project in an interview to fill a vacant seat on Town Council on June 11, 2021, Erin Rayner said, "I have looked at the plans, I'm not pro a super tall building, but I do like what I see. I think it's a nice plan."

It is rumored that the Chapman group and others are purchasing Valley Business Park on 21st Street. When we emailed Casey Chapman to see if there was any truth to this, he responded, "Once again you seem to have bad information. I would recommend getting your facts straight before writing anything."

We emailed him again and asked if he purchased or will be purchasing Valley Business Park. Chapman did not respond to requests for comments.

Galindo is new County Director of Planning and Zoning

Daniel Galindo is Loudoun County's new director of the Department of Planning and Zoning. Galindo was promoted to director after serving as assistant director of the department since February 2021. Galindo's appointment has been effective as of Oct. 13.

"Mr. Galindo has showed exceptional leadership since joining Loudoun in 2017, demonstrated by his continual promotions within the department based on his excellent performance," said Tim Hemstreet.

"He played key roles in the adoption of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan and other important countywide initiatives; I am confident his experience in Loudoun will serve him and the

county well as he takes on his new role leading the department, particularly right now since we are in the middle of the Zoning Ordinance rewrite project."

Galindo served as both principal planner and a planning manager in Loudoun before being promoted to assistant director last year. Prior to joining Loudoun County, Galindo served as the Town of Hamilton's Zoning Administrator, a senior planner for the

Town of Purcellville, a community development coordinator in Winchester, Tennessee, and a community planner for the state of Tennessee.

As director of the Department of Planning and Zoning, Galindo will oversee an agency that works closely with the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission and the public in the development of policies and plans that guide the use of land in the county.

The department manages land development applications for rezonings and special exceptions to determine consistency with county plans and ordinances. The department also administers and enforces the provisions and regulations of the Loudoun County Zoning Ordinances.

Galindo earned a master's degree in urban planning from Texas A&M University and a bachelor's degree in urban studies from Trinity University. He holds a certified planner credential through the American Institute of Certified Planners.

More information about the Loudoun County Department of Planning and Zoning is online at loudoun.gov/planningandzoning.



Leesburg Chief of Police Gregory C. Brown to retire

Leesburg Chief of Police Gregory C. Brown has announced that he will officially retire on Dec. 1, after 26 years of law enforcement service to the Leesburg and Loudoun community.

Chief Brown has led the department since Oct. 3, 2016. He has been successful in implementing innovative leadership

and management techniques which have led to improved policing services to the community.

During his tenure, the Chief expanded the department to an authorized staff of 90 sworn officers and 18 civilians. This included the addition of new positions, to include but not limited to, Public Information Officer, Crime and Traffic Analyst, and Domestic Violence Detective.

The Chief has also overseen such projects as the implementation of a new dispatch telephone system and Computer Aided Dispatch system, the Headquarters Building Expansion project, the creation of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems program, and equipping the police department with Body Worn and In Car Cameras, as well as numerous other technology enhancements.

Additionally, under Chief Brown, the



Leesburg Police Department was re-accredited by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services in 2018 and is scheduled to be re-accredited in 2022. The Chief has consistently utilized Community Policing philosophies and strongly believes that "the needs of the community should be at the

heart of everything we do." This has assisted him in building trusting and meaningful partnerships with the communities he and his team serve.

Chief Brown has served the public for over 30 years and proudly embraces the concept of "Servant Leadership." He began his law enforcement career with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Police Department in 1996 and joined the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office in 1997, where he served for almost 20 years, attaining the rank of Captain before being appointed Leesburg Chief of Police.

Chief Brown will remain in the area and will continue to serve the public safety community as the Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy, where he will oversee the training of members of the Town of Leesburg Police

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

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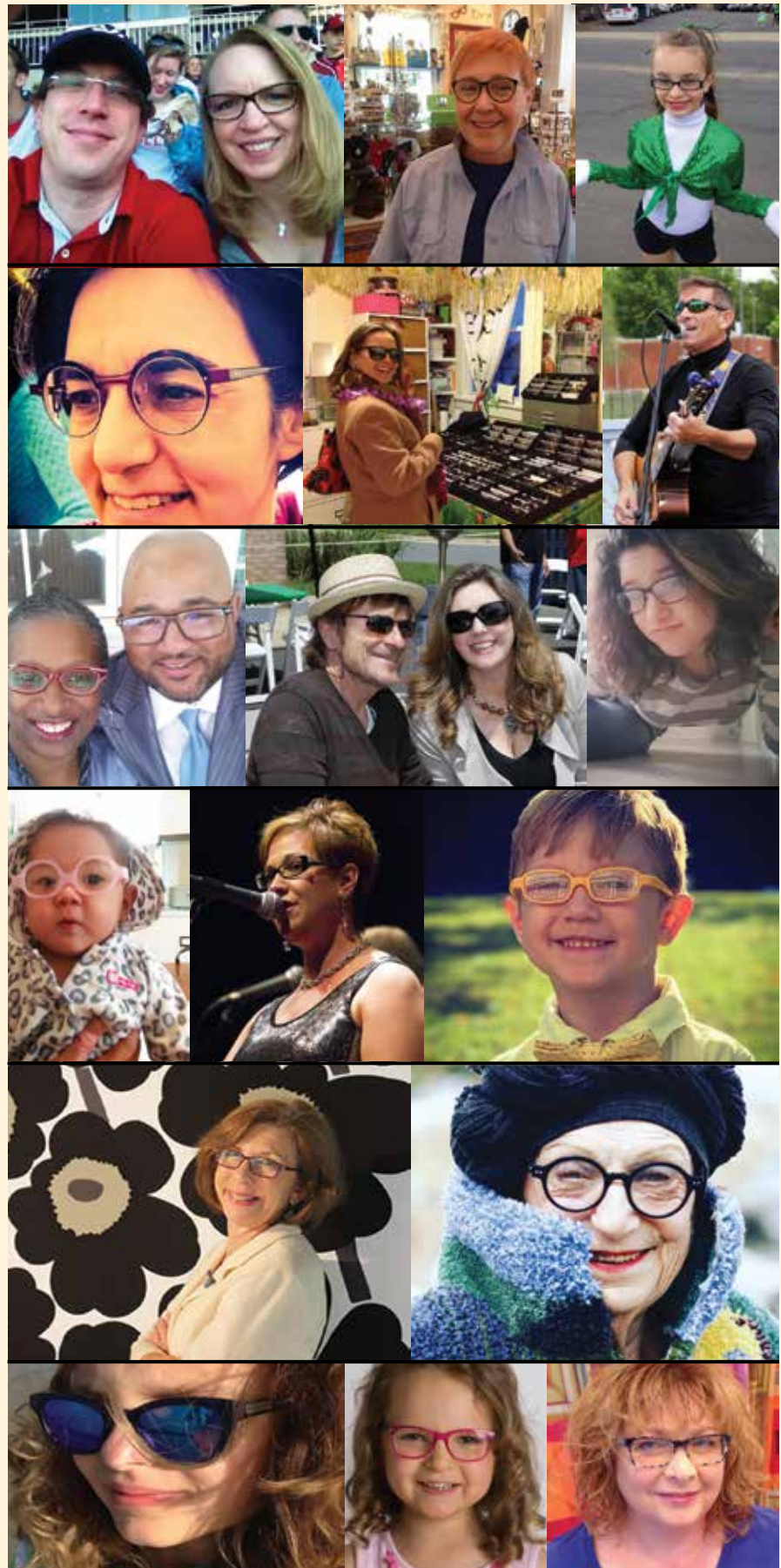


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BOS to consider amendments to Airport Impact Overlay District

On Nov. 9, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors will consider proposed changes to the County's Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance and zoning map, at its public hearing, that would amend the County's policies and zoning regulations pertaining to land development in areas where airport noise impacts are known to occur.

Loudoun County is mailing more than 47,000 letters and informational flyers to potentially impacted property owners to inform them of the upcoming

public hearing. Residents who live in the vicinity of Dulles International Airport can expect to begin receiving the notices in their mailboxes in the coming days.

The Airport Impact Overlay District is a zoning designation that includes properties where airport noise at specified levels is anticipated. Properties within the AIOD are subject to certain land use regulations. The current overlay district was implemented by the Board of Supervisors in the early 1990s to prevent residential development in areas

that would be affected by aircraft noise and to mitigate impacts to prospective homebuyers.

Why is the County Considering These Changes Now?

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority updated the noise exposure maps for Dulles International Airport in 2019. The update reflects changes in the aviation environment over the last 30 years and prepares for future changes in airport usage. As a result, the current Loudoun County AIOD is outdated.

Based on the airport's updated noise contours, Loudoun County is working to update the boundaries of the overlay district as well as updating the County's related policies and zoning regulations related to the AIOD.

Changes the County is Considering

Comprehensive Plan: The proposed changes to the County's Comprehensive Plan consist of changes to maps within the plan that show noise contours and policy changes that would require disclosure statements as part of all future sales of properties within the AIOD. The policy changes also would allow previously approved residential rezonings to develop in accordance with their earlier approvals.

Zoning Ordinance: The zoning ordinance changes involve updated maps to display the new boundaries and text changes to amend the existing zoning regulations to reflect the policy changes.

Who is Impacted?

The proposed amendments to the AIOD potentially affect more than 47,000 Loudoun property owners around and near Dulles Airport. As required by law, those property owners are receiving a letter from the Loudoun County Department of Planning and Zoning notifying them that a new zoning designation is being proposed that could affect their property and notifying them of the upcoming Board of Supervisors public hearing concerning the proposed amendments. A similar letter was sent to property owners earlier this year prior to the Planning Commission's June 28, 2022, public hearing on the proposed amendments.

Board of Supervisors Public Hearing Nov. 9

The Planning Commission's recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning the proposed changes to the AIOD will be included in the staff report prepared for the Board's public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m. The staff report will be posted

at loudoun.gov/meetings at least three days prior to the public hearing.

The public hearing will be held in the Board Room of the Government Center, 1 Harrison St. SE, in Leesburg. The meeting can be viewed in person, on Comcast Government Channel 23, Verizon FiOS Channel 40 and via livestream at loudoun.gov/meetings.

Members of the public may provide their comments to the Board of Supervisors by mail, email, in person or virtually during the meeting. Instructions for providing input to the Board, including how to sign up to speak in advance, are posted at loudoun.gov/signuptospeak.

About the Airport Impact Overlay District

Loudoun County government cannot regulate airport noise or control flight paths; however, the county can update its policies that regulate the use of land around the airport. The AIOD is a zoning tool to plan appropriate land uses in the areas where airport noise is known to occur.

There are three Aircraft Noise Impact Area designations within the AIOD that the county uses to indicate the level of impact. The designations indicate an approximate level of noise residents may hear from airport traffic. The AIOD regulations stipulate specific land use rules for each designation, which are intended to mitigate the impact of noise. The county refers to these levels using the symbol "Ldn," which stands for "yearly day-night average sound level." The Ldn is calculated using a specific formula specified in the county's zoning ordinance. The designations are:

Ldn 65 or Higher: Properties located within this area are closest to the airport. New residential development is not permitted in this area.

Ldn 60-65: Properties located within this area are closer to the airport. Any residential development in this area requires disclosures at the time of sale; acoustical treatments for new residential construction and new additions to existing residences; and an easement established prior to construction of a new residence granting the right of overflight in the airspace above the property.

One-Mile Buffer: Properties located within this area are farthest from the airport while still being located within the AIOD. This designation requires a disclosure notice to be included with each sale of residential property.

Next Steps

Following the Board of Supervisors' public hearing, the Board will consider any action it may take to update the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22 »





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Misinformation jeopardizing Fields Farm project

BY VALERIE CURY

The Purcellville Town Council and the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors face an opportunity to meet and negotiate the Fields Farm project proposal.

Loudoun County is requesting a zoning change to part of the 225-acre Fields Farm complex, which is home to Woodgrove High School and Mountain View Elementary School. They are proposing a park and ride along with roads and eight sports fields.

At the Purcellville Town Council Meeting on Oct. 11, Council Member Joel Grewe mentioned the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors' finance meeting was taking place that night.

"I had outreach from one of the members of the Board of Supervisors asking about the decision of the Planning Commission last week relative to Fields Farm [Park]," Grewe said.

"One of the other Supervisors is apparently leading a coalition to suggest that Loudoun County remove their funding from Purcellville for transportation dollars as a result of that decision," Grewe told the Council. "I don't have more context on that, I am getting this from someone who is there right now."

"That can affect the 690 Interchange, our road dollars, our maintenance and upkeep, our sidewalk requests, our emerald trail projects," Grewe added.

Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser then asked who the supervisor in question was. Grewe replied it was Supervisor Matt Letourneau.

When asked in an email if his statement was true,

Supervisor Matt Letourneau (R-Dulles) replied, "I wouldn't say that all of that is entirely accurate. I'm not 'leading a coalition' and I've never commented on anything related to Purcellville projects until last night." He referred us to the video portion of the meeting.

Letourneau's comment was in the context of the Town of Purcellville's Planning Commission recommending denial for the Fields Farm Park proposal, as well as the park and ride.

The commission heard months of comments from Mayfair residents, as this project would border their community. Residents were primarily concerned about the buffer, lighted fields, traffic, the number of fields, and who exactly the park and ride would be servicing.

Members of the County staff were in attendance at numerous meetings, but remained silent on any give and take regarding citizens' concerns.

Not related to the applications but relevant to the project was also the concern from residents that they did not want Mayfair Crown Drive, a cul-de-sac, extended to the proposed project.

At the Oct. 11 Board of Supervisors Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee meeting, Erin McLellan, the County's Assistant County Administrator, updated the committee supervisors on the Fields Farm Park project and the park and ride lot.

She said the project will go to a public hearing at the Town Council level "probably in November and take up applications in December."

McLellan said the "denial [from the Purcellville

Planning Commission] was a little unexpected, from a staff perspective." She said the Purcellville "area will become more urbanized" and that there is a "need for this location for a transit hub."

Smart Scale funds are linked to two projects in Purcellville — the park and ride lot and the Rt. 690 Interchange. "We need to make progress for the County to receive funding in the future," McLellan said, adding that the County was "put on notice by VDOT last week ... They have noticed we have not been making progress on a lot of our Smart Scale projects."

She also said that the County "will not let it get to the point where we will let it jeopardize our program. We would simply return the funds."

"If we return the Smart Scale funds, then in that situation we would probably be back to a little bit better standing," McLellan said.

Supervisor Koran Saines (D-Sterling) said, "If they voted down these projects and knowing we have this Smart Scale money tied up in two of these projects, let's remove that money from these projects and shift them to other projects."

He asked staff why the project was voted down. Nancy Boyd, Acting Director of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure, said that the County has not received an official transmittal of the results. She said the Planning Commission was not using the County staff's information, but rather their own.

"They seemed to be doing quite a bit of work on their own ... They were doing a lot of analysis on their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25 »



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Plans turned in for The Woodlands Commercial Park on Hirst Road

Casey Chapman has turned in his plans to build a mixed-use development called The Woodlands Commercial Park on Hirst Road. The vacant property is currently zoned C-1, Office Commercial with the total acreage of the parcel at 12.04 acres, and the acreage to be developed at 4.40 acres. The applicant is operating under the name of CB Hirst, LLC.

The uses proposed on this property are by-right uses, and require no public input.

The estimated trips per day come in at 2,778, and that is based on the published rates from the ITE Generation Manual for a

daycare, office, and a quality restaurant.

The first building on the left as you are facing the

property calls for a total of 38,850 square feet and three stories. The first floor would contain 12,950 square feet and is proposed for a daycare or office.

The middle/center building number 2 will have a total of 10,000 square feet and will be two stories. There is room for a 5,000 square foot restaurant on the first floor.

The third three story building on the far right will be a total of 30,000 square feet – with 10,000 square feet on each floor. At present this building is proposed for a church or office.



Joint statement by Sens. Warner and Kaine on Silver Line opening

U.S. Senators Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine released the following statement after the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority announced on Oct. 31, that the Silver Line expansion to Washington Dulles International Airport will open on Tuesday, Nov. 15, ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday:

GOVERNMENT

“We are pleased to see WMATA move forward on its promise to safely open the Silver Line’s service to Dulles—just in time to provide Virginians with a more convenient and sustainable way

to get to the airport to visit loved ones this holiday season. We will continue to work with WMATA and the Metro Safety Commission to ensure Metro riders can safely and easily access the economic, entertainment, and travel opportunities the region has to offer.”

Senators Warner and Kaine have consistently urged WMATA and the Metro Safety Commission to safely and quickly open the Silver Line extension. While Senator Kaine was Governor, he helped broker the deal between Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, WMATA, the Commonwealth,

and local governments to construct the Silver Line. He also led efforts to secure \$900 million in federal funds for Phase I of the project.

“Metro leaders welcomed the concurrence on Oct. 25, of the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission to gradually return all 7000-series railcars to passenger service,” said Metro Board Chair Paul C. Smedberg. “This is a win for customers, and we are grateful to Senators Warner and Kaine for their leadership to reach an agreement that will safely return more 7Ks to service.”

Also on Oct. 25, General Manager and

Chief Executive Officer Randy Clarke said, “I want to thank the Safety Commission for their collaboration on reaching this important safety milestone, so we have a clear path forward.”

The revised railcar return to service plan allows Metro to place more 7Ks into passenger service. The increased availability of 7Ks will support opening the Silver Line extension before Thanksgiving and reduce crowding on the Red Line. The plan identifies specific timeframes and well-defined steps for Metro to return all trains for safe, reliable passenger service.



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Youngkin unveils Operation Bold Blue Line

Gov. Glenn Youngkin stood with Attorney General Jason Miyares, Lt. Governor Winsome Earle-Sears, mayors, police chiefs, and sheriffs from across Virginia to announce Operation Bold Blue Line, a series of concrete actions to reduce violent crime.

“Across Virginia, people wake up and turn on the morning news to hear story after story of violence in their communities: homicides, shootings, and aggravated assaults,” said Youngkin. “With a nearly 40 per-

GOVERNMENT

cent law enforcement vacancy rate in some cities in Virginia, with too few prosecutors actually prosecuting, and with diminished community engagement and witnesses less willing to come forward, Virginia’s blue line is getting far too thin.

“Today, I am announcing Operation Bold Blue Line, a sustained effort to comprehensively address the challenge we see happening across all our communities. Building on the common themes from the 14 meetings of our Violent Crimes Task Force across Virginia, together, we are taking clear, actionable steps to make our communities safer.”

Operation Bold Blue Line:

1. Supporting existing law enforcement by finally fixing pay and wage compression.
2. Supporting new law enforcement with a comprehensive recruiting effort to attract law enforcement from other states and develop home-grown talent.
3. Providing more support for all law enforcement, including more training and equipment.

4. Ensuring law enforcement is backed up by prosecutors that can and will put and keep violent offenders behind bars.

5. Providing additional resources to victims and witnesses, and funding community partnerships to help stop violent crime before it happens.

Virginia is leading the way by adopting innovative strategies to fight violent crime. A major investment of \$13 million over the next two years in new group violence intervention efforts is underway with the combination of comprehensive law enforcement, prosecutorial, and community-based initiatives.

Virginia will make additional investments to recruit, train, and support more LEOs in key departments.

With some cities facing vacancy rates approaching 40 percent, the Virginia State Police still have more than 250 unfilled positions, and the Virginia Sheriff’s Association estimates vacancy rates nearing 20 percent in their departments.

To combat this, Youngkin announced a comprehensive plan to fix wage compression issues and increase funding for partnering community police. Working with the General Assembly to increase funding to cities and counties with community policing and violence reduction tactics, this plan includes provisions to prohibit partnering localities from “defunding” their police departments.

Operation Bold Blue Line will work to recruit the finest officers from Virginia and across the Nation. A \$30 million nationwide and homegrown recruitment effort will be launched in tandem with a new 8-week

fast-tracked lateral training academy to expeditiously certify law enforcement in Virginia.

Operation Bold Blue Line will increase dual-enrollment and create “Badge and Degree” programs to broaden the pipeline of students who want to join the Virginia law enforcement. Secretary of Education Aimee Guidera will work with SCHEV and the Virginia Community College System to increase dual enrollment opportunities for high school students and target existing taxpayer funded “G3” public safety spending.

Operation Bold Blue Line will accelerate the disbursement of \$75 million for equipment and training to state and local agencies, work with the Virginia Retirement System to ensure retired LEOs can collect benefits while working in new support roles, and collaborate with non-profits to connect LEOs with resources to improve their mental and physical wellbeing.

Under the joint leadership of the Office of the Attorney General, the Department of Criminal Justice Services, and the Department of Juvenile Justice, Operation Bold Blue Line will support community partners who support at-risk youth and focus on gang prevention and group violence intervention.

Operation Bold Blue Line will work with the General Assembly to fund a Victim/Witness Assistance Program to help police and prosecutors put violent criminals behind bars. The program would provide funds for reasonable lodging and relocation expenses, transportation, and the installation of systems necessary to fulfill protective services.

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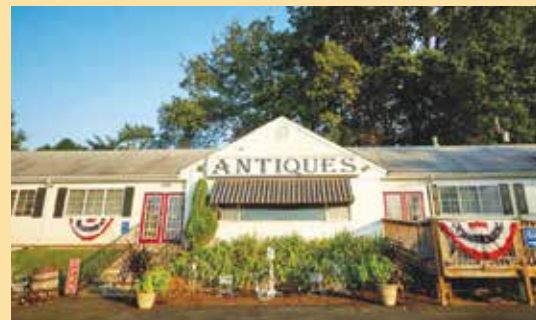
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\$1.53 billion headed to Virginia to strengthen roads, bridges

Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton (D-VA) announced that Virginia will receive \$1,534,295,136 from the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to strengthen roads, bridges, and tunnels across the state.

“For too long, our roads and bridges have been crumbling from lack of adequate investment. That’s changing with federal funding from our Bipartisan Infrastructure Law now on its way to Virginia to repair and rebuild our transportation infrastructure, cut commute times for families, make our roads safer and more accessible for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians, and create good-paying jobs here in our communities,” said Wexton.

GOVERNMENT

“I’m proud to have helped pass this once-in-a-generation law, and look forward to working closely with our local leaders to help this federal investment meet the transportation needs of everyone in our region, she said.”

To highlight ways the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law can



have an impact in Virginia’s 10th District, Wexton visited a Rt. 7 corridor improvement project at Colvin Run Road in Herndon, Oct. 18. Said Wexton, “Thanks to our Infrastructure Law, millions of dollars are coming to Virginia to rebuild our roads, bridges, and transit. I enjoyed visiting

Luck Stone quarry and a Rt. 7 improvement project to see firsthand ways this transformational funding can restore VA-10’s transportation infrastructure.

Decades of underinvestment has left Virginia’s roads, bridges and tunnels in poor condition: causing longer commute times, higher car maintenance costs, and more pollution in neighborhoods. Nationwide, the United States ranks 13th globally in terms of the quality of its infrastructure, and the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the condition of Virginia’s infrastructure a C-.

The new funding for Virginia comes from twelve initiatives under the Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration for the upcoming fiscal year. Virginia’s allocation is part of a nearly \$60 billion tranche from the Department of Transportation to support critical infrastructure in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.



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Buddy Rizer named to the Washington Business Journal Power 100 List

The Washington Business Journal released its Power 100 Class of 2022 on Monday, Oct. 17, and Buddy Rizer, Executive Director of the Loudoun County Department of Economic Development, was named to the exclusive list for the second time in the last 3 years.

Rizer leads the economic development activity in Loudoun County, one of the region's fastest-growing counties, focused on attracting and retaining key businesses with a focus on economic diversity. Over the course of a 15-year career at Loudoun Economic Development, Rizer and his team have been integral in attracting \$42 billion in commercial investment to the county, which has had a direct impact on significant tax rate reductions for residents.

"I'm so humbled to be included on this prestigious list, among such an impressive lineup of thought leaders",

stated Rizer. "Every person who made the cut this year is inspiring incredible work in the DC region and beyond, and I'm honored to be recognized among them."

The Washington Business Journal chose the current class of Power 100 honorees for how they reshape full communities, how they bridge gaps, and how they make the lives of others better, enabling them to reach their top potential.

To the latter metric, Rizer acknowledges that, while his name appears on the list, the honor is a team effort. Rizer said, "Each team member within the Loudoun County Economic Development Department has had an influential hand in the successes that led to this award. Recognition in the Power 100 shows what we've accomplished collectively as a department to increase and diversify the economic environment in Loudoun County."

County website offers environment and energy news

As the Board of Supervisors continues efforts to increase environmental sustainability and resilience for Loudoun residents and businesses, Loudoun County is making it easier for members of the public to stay up to date by expanding its subscription news channels to include environmental- and energy-specific updates.

Anyone interested in environmental- and energy-related news from the Loudoun County government may subscribe to the new Environment and Energy category available from the Notify Me/New Flash section of the Loudoun County website.

Subscribers can choose to receive email and/or

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22 »



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Mental health education and substance abuse Prevention Programs

Loudoun County offers ongoing mental health education and substance abuse prevention programs. All programs are free, but registration is required, and seats are limited. The schedule of upcoming classes for November and December 2022 is as follows:

GOVERNMENT **Adverse Childhood Experiences Training**

The Adverse Childhood Experiences training is a one-hour educational program that aims to raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs. ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood. ACEs are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness and substance use problems in adulthood. The training teaches that ACE prevention is a key to improving a community's well-being. The virtual training presentation lasts about one hour. Discussion and a question-and-answer session will follow the presentation.

The next classes will be held:

- Nov. 2, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/childhoodadversitytraining.

Mental Health First Aid

Mental Health First Aid offers training that teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The training also teaches the skills that someone needs to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis. There are two versions of the program, a general adult program and a program for adults who interact with youth. The trainings are usually held over a two-day period, with the class lasting for about three hours each day.

The next trainings of Adult Mental Health First Aid will be held:

- Nov. 14 and 15, 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. each day. The in-person training will be at the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services office at 21641 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling,

Lucketts Room.

- Dec. 15 and 16, 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. each day. The in-person training will be at the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services office at 906 Trailview Boulevard SE, Leesburg, Aspen Room.

The next training of Youth Mental Health First Aid will be held:

- Dec. 8 and 9, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. each day. The in-person training will be at the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services office at 21641 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, Lucketts Room.

For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/mhfirstaid.

Opioid Overdose Reversal

REVIVE! is the opioid overdose and naloxone education program for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The training is free and anyone who uses opioids or knows someone who is using opioids is encouraged to attend a training. Loudoun County offers two versions of

the program - Rapid REVIVE! and Virtual REVIVE!

Rapid REVIVE! is a shortened format that allows individuals to complete the training in six minutes. After watching a short video and then providing their contact information, participants receive free naloxone nasal spray. They may choose to receive naloxone by mail or arrange pickup. Rapid REVIVE! is available anytime. No registration is required. Visit loudoun.gov/rapidrevive to start the training.

Virtual REVIVE! is a one-hour, scheduled training session that requires registration. Participants who complete the training are also eligible to receive free naloxone nasal spray. They may choose to receive naloxone by mail or arrange pickup.

The next scheduled trainings will be held:


- Nov. 18, 12 – 1p.m.
- Dec. 12, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

REVIVE! trainings can also be scheduled upon request. For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/revive.

Suicide Prevention Training

The Question Persuade Refer program offers training to help people recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to refer someone for professional help. The suicide prevention training

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25 »



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Angie's list



Students hold Pink Out Fundraiser for Loudoun Breast Health Network

Over 500 LCPS Academies of Loudoun students and staff participated in the school's first-ever school-wide pink out event on Oct. 20 and 21 in an effort to raise awareness, and financial donations for Loudoun Breast Health Network.

COMMUNITY

LBHN is a nonprofit organization that provides support, resources, and comfort to breast cancer patients and their families in Loudoun County. LBHN representative Pam Smith was present for

both days' events.

Over \$2,000 was raised through the sale of 300 pink shirts and generous donations. Students and staff were encouraged to wear pink on the school-wide pink out days and meet outside the school to form a human pink ribbon on the lawn.

"This first ever pink out event was a success because of the passion for serving others that our ACL students and staff exhibit regularly. It was truly inspiring to see so many involved in this



fundraising effort," said Sandra Tucker, AET Entrepreneurship Instructor. For

more information about the Academies of Loudoun visit <https://www.lcps.org/a>.

18th Annual 5K Turkey Trot and Fun Run Nov. 13

COMMUNITY



Prepare yourselves for the 18th Annual 5K Turkey Trot and Fun Run in Purcellville. This year the event will take place on Sunday Nov. 13, from 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and both start and finish are located at the Loudoun Valley Community Center, 320 W School Street, Purcellville.

The Fun Run for children under 10 will follow the 5k. Proceeds from the event will

benefit the Loudoun Valley Community Center's Advisory Board who provides tuition financial assistance to families in need.

Online registration is open until Nov. 11 at 8 p.m. and email questions to lvccadvisoryboard@gmail.com. Early sign up is \$30. Day of the race registration is \$35. with space limited to 400 runners.

Worship in the Woods at historic

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Loudoun County Firefighters participate in 2022 Toys for Tots

The Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System and the Loudoun Career Firefighters Association are participating in the 75th Annual Toys for Tots Campaign.

"We are thrilled to once again participate in this wonderful program and have opened all of our fire and rescue stations across the County as collection points," states System Chief Keith H. Johnson.

COMMUNITY

"The generosity of Loudoun's residents will help put smiles on the faces of many, many children this holiday season."

Donations can be dropped off at any of our LC-CFRS stations, through Dec. 8, to include our fire and rescue headquarters at 801 Sycolin Road in Leesburg. If you would prefer to donate online, visit the local Loudoun County Toys for Tots webpage, <https://loudoun-va.toysfortots.com>.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25 »

Village at Leesburg celebrates the holidays

Village at Leesburg celebrates the holidays with a large line up of fun activities and entertainment for all including lighting of the interactive Wish Tree (the only tree of its kind on the East Coast,) wish donations will go to Mobile Hope, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, empowers at-risk, homeless and at-risk youth to become self-sufficient

COMMUNITY

and improve well-being. Festivities include cookie decorating at The Conche (1605 Village Market Blvd., SE,) carolers and other family entertainment, ice skating, Santa and Mrs. Claus and more. For a full list of all activities, times and locations, visit www.villageatleesburg.com/events/wish-tree/.

wish-tree/.

Village at Leesburg is located just off Rt. 7 east of Leesburg at 1602 Village Market Blvd., Leesburg.

Tree lighting and other activities will be on Saturday, Nov. 19, 4 to 7 p.m.

Other special activities include Wish, a pop-up musical by A Place to Be on

Friday, Dec. 2 and 9, 5:30-6 p.m. Kids can visit Santa on Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 and 24 from 4-6 p.m. Storytime with Mrs. Claus on Sunday, Dec. 4 and 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. Tuba Christmas takes place on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 2-3 p.m. And Chanukah at Village at Leesburg is on Sunday, Dec. 18 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Christmas in Middleburg, Dec. 3

Middleburg Trots Out Their Finest for Holiday Festivities

The historic Town of Middleburg, located in the heart of Virginia's horse country, is well known for its bucolic countryside, unique shopping, fine dining and luxurious accommodations. Each year on the first Saturday in December the Town hosts its annual holiday celebration, Christmas in Middleburg.

The traditional Christmas festivities, with the backdrop of a classic hunt country village have become a family tradition and essential part of the spirit of Christmas for small children, world travelers, and visitors from far and wide.

Christmas in Middleburg is a wonderful community event. Festivities begin at 8 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 3 with Breakfast with Santa and a silent auction at the Middleburg Community Charter School. The event features a delicious breakfast, silent auction, and pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus. Visit <https://www.mccspto.org/> for additional information.

Starting at 11 a.m. the Middleburg Hunt Review takes to the streets creating a spectacular sight as approximately



Photo: Jay Hubbard

150 horses, riders in hunting attire and dozens of hounds come through the town. Throughout the day there are choir performances, hayrides, as well as shopping and dining in the town's shops and restaurants. In addition to the town's restaurants, food trucks will be located on N. Pickering St., behind the Truist Bank during the event.

The Middleburg Christmas Parade begins at 2 p.m. as spectators line the

sidewalks along Washington Street (Rt. 50) to watch as a unique assortment of floats, troops, and musical groups march by. In keeping with the animal friendliness of the town, the parade includes horses, ponies, llamas, alpacas and a variety of dog breeds. Not to be missed are the antique fire trucks and of course, Santa brings up the rear riding on a beautiful horse drawn coach.

From 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. adults can relax

and enjoy the Spirit of Middleburg. The progressive hospitality of food and wine tasting will allow adults to wind down and relax at Middleburg establishments of their choice while sampling foods, wines, and spirits from throughout the area at local restaurants. Visit <https://christmasinmiddleburg.org> for a full list of Spirit of Middleburg stops.

The Middleburg Museum will host a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on Friday, Dec. 2. Caroling begins at 5 p.m., behind the Pink Box Visitor Center at 12 North Madison St. Refreshments will also be served. Mayor Bridge Littleton will lead the countdown to the tree lighting. The town's Christmas tree features over 1,000 lights. Call the Middleburg Museum at the Pink Box Visitor Center at 540-687-8888 for additional information.

Parking for Christmas in Middleburg is available for \$50 per vehicle. Shuttle service will be provided. Visit <https://christmasinmiddleburg.org/purchase-parking/> to purchase parking passes. Please note: Advanced purchase of parking passes is required (no day-of sales). Free handicap accessible parking will be available behind Middleburg United Methodist Church (15 West Washington Street). A valid DMV-issued disabled parking placard or license plate is required.

For more information, please contact

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

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Hello, Neighbors!

This month we would like to express our thanks to our amazing team – Brittney, Michael, Nichole, Jacob, Marcus, Emily, Sydney, Belle, Peyton, Nathan, Josh and Angel! We also want to thank YOU, our neighbors, for your support throughout the year.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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ADAM'S BIKE PARK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
son's honor, and she thanked all the volunteers, friends, supporters, Purcellville Town Council, and Town staff. "Saying thank you may not seem like enough," she said, "but it comes from the very bottom of my broken heart."

"There are not enough words to describe my gratitude to you in all you have done for me, for my family, for Adam, and Adam's bike park," Michelle continued. "We've cried together and laughed together. Thank

you all for being here to celebrate this park in memory of our Adam."

"Adam would have loved it. I know he is smiling down on all of us today. Adam would have been so excited to be the first to ride. So let's all ride for him – most importantly remember Adam and keep saying his name. I hope you love Adam's bike park as much as he would. I love you, Adam."

Angie Fraser said that she taught Adam in her class in Blue Ridge Middle School



Michelle Caudill thanking everyone.

had to share, how he presented his truth actually mattered."

"Our truth was that we had lost Adam. But the family had taken that truth and was presenting it in such a beautiful way. This will benefit members this community and even others who do not live in this community," Angie said. "I thank you and I know there have been ups and downs. I thank you for presenting your truth in such a beautiful way."

She then read a message from her husband, Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser, who could not attend the event due to being ill.



Angie Fraser

"There's a Greek proverb that says, 'A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they know they shall not sit.' Purcellville you have done a great thing in making this park possible not just for today but for generations to come. Thank you for sharing your truth in such a glorious and heartwarming place," Mayor Fraser's statement read.

As I was leaving and walking to my car in the Loudoun Valley High School parking lot, I saw someone leaning against a tree listening to the end of the ceremony. Although he wore a mask and sunglasses, I realized that Mayor Kwasi Fraser left his sick bed to privately listen to the dedication at Adam's Bike Park.

and as an educator, there are some students that you remember for a variety of reasons.

"Adam was one of those students. Adam was honest – whether he was angry or excited, you knew where he stood. There were a few times when I had to remind Adam that regardless of what he

BOS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

County's comprehensive plan policies and zoning regulations. The Board may choose to adopt or decline to adopt the proposed updates. The Board may also choose to forward the discussion on the proposed updates to a future meeting for additional work and discussion.

Questions

Members of the public who have questions about the letters they received

or any part of the county's current efforts should contact the Department of Planning and Zoning by email at dpz@loudoun.gov or by phone at 703-777-0246.

More Information

To learn more about the proposed changes to the Airport Impact Overlay District, including how to sign up for email and text updates on the project, visit loudoun.gov/airportdistrict.

COUNTY WEBSITE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18


text updates, news releases and other information of interest to residents and businesses regarding environmental topics, such as the ongoing work of the Environmental Commission and the Environmental and Energy Work Plan approved by the Board of Supervisors at its Environmental Summit earlier this year.

Building a concrete, sustainable environmental planning strategy for the health, safety and welfare of Loudoun residents and businesses is a strategic initiative of the Board of

Supervisors.

More information, including a link to sign up for Environmental & Energy updates, is online at loudoun.gov/environment.


The Loudoun County website offers many convenient ways for the public to stay informed on a variety of subjects and projects through a variety of platforms, including emails and text updates through the county website and Alert Loudoun as well as the county's social media accounts. Find at more at loudoun.gov/stayinformed.




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Purcellville arts council welcomes artisan tour

Local artisans will put out the welcome mat on Saturday, Nov. 5 and Sunday, Nov. 6 for the annual Purcellville Artisans Tour, sponsored by the Purcellville Arts Council. Artisans who are located in Purcellville will open their studios, art-related venues, agri-artisan businesses as well as points of interest spots from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. for demonstrations, tours, and pre-holiday sales.

Visitors on the tour will find art exhibitions, art demonstrations, and artwork for

sale. The Purcellville Train Station will also be open, hosting two guest artists.

Purcellville Artisan Tour maps and brochures will be available at Town Hall, Franklin Park Arts Center, 868 Estate Vineyards, Hunt Country Jewelry, Otium Cellars, and Blooming Hill Lavender Farm. There are nine artisan sites on the tour including eight artists and four agri-artisans.

For more information, visit <https://purcellvilleartisanatour.com/> and the Purcellville Artisan Tour on Facebook.



Re-Love It holds ribbon cutting

In late October, the Town of Purcellville held a ribbon cutting for Re-Love It to celebrate their move to their new location at 701-D West Main Street in Purcellville. Re-Love It is a consignment shoppe selling clothing, furniture, household and so much more.

Officer Ritter receives Madd Award

The Purcellville Police Department has announced that Officer Lauren Ritter received the MADD Law Enforcement Officer Award for the highest number of DUI arrests for 2021 for the Department. Officer Ritter was presented her award today at the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers award ceremony in Richmond, Virginia. Each year, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers recognizes the top local law enforcement officers helping to prevent drunk and



drugged driving.

Officer Ritter is known for her proactive policing, as well as her continuous engagement with both residents and businesses alike. After studying at George Mason University with a double major in Criminal Justice and Forensic Science, Officer Ritter was hired by the Purcellville Police Department.

Officer Ritter then graduated from the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training

Academy in June 2019 and became a solo patrol officer in October 2019. Despite her short tenure, Officer Ritter has proven herself as a dedicated member of the Department and to the Town of Purcellville.

She recently completed the Field Training Officer certification program, enabling her to train and mentor the Department's new recruits upon

graduation from the NVCJTA. In addition, Officer Ritter was selected by her peers for the coveted "Officer of the Year" award for 2021, and is the officer with the shortest tenure with the Department to have been selected for this award. She was also awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars Law Enforcement Public Servant Citation in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 »

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LETTER: DON'T BE FOOLED, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

and all our first responders. I supported over \$1.5 million in funding to renovate our police station.

I voted against this year's budget because there was not enough in the budget to reduce the town's debt. My opponent continues to claim we are headed for a fiscal cliff, but has no initiatives on record to control debt or reduce spending.

My vote against immediate approval for Verizon to swap equipment on the town's water tower was made because Verizon had not communicated a plan to notify

customers of the outage and its duration.

After corrections to the motion, I voted to permit Verizon to swap out their equipment. After the vote, Verizon told the town that they don't plan to swap out their equipment until January, 2023, leaving plenty of time to work out notification details before a vote by the town council.

My opponent is taking credit for business growth in the Town of Purcellville and fails to give credit to the policies of the past eight years creating an environment for continued business growth. The over 10,000

square feet storage business that recently opened was due to work by Mayor Fraser done prior to Grewe, Rayner, or Stinnette being on Town Council. You cannot have it both ways.

Please vote for me, Stan Milan for Mayor, Boo Bennett, Ron Rise Jr., and Carol Luke to represent (not misrepresent) the citizens of Purcellville. Vote for us to stamp out crony capitalism in our town – which means privatizing profits for the few and socializing costs to everyone.

*Stan Milan, Candidate for Mayor
Purcellville*

LETTER: LET'S VOTE FOR HUNG CAO, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Jerry Nadler, who can be replaced by an honest representative who can begin to hold hearings to uncover the dealings of the Biden Family with China, Russia, and Ukraine.

When the 5-pin (Adam Smith, Chairman, House Armed Services Committee) tumbles down, he can be replaced with an honest representative who can expose the Democrat officials responsible for Biden's embarrassing and disastrous exit from Afghanistan.

The 6- through 10-pins to be toppled over can be any of the other Democrat Party representatives (take your pick) who

have collaborated with Jennifer Wexton, with the Democrats in the Biden Administration, and with the Fake News journalists to basically throw a gutter ball while dealing with the important issues facing our society today.

As you go to vote, you may even want to increase your fun by pretending that you really are going bowling. Just wear a pair of colorful shoes, a colorful bowling-type shirt that says something clever like "Let's Go Brandon," and then attempt to roll a strike by voting for a great American hero, Hung Cao, to be our next representative in Congress.

*Mike Panchura
Sterling*

LETTER: FOLLOW THE MONEY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Comprehensive Plan.

That is why members of the Grewe team have criticized the current planning commission with flat out made up allegations – knowing the residents of this town do not have the time to view all the meetings online to check the veracity of these falsehoods.

Whether you are driving down Hirst Road, 287 and Rt. 7 right out of the town limits, or on developer's properties who are hoping to elect a mayor and Town Council more friendly to their interests – you will see their teams ever changing signs.

Candidate for Mayor Joel Grewe has a four-year record.

He voted against denying the Warner Brook annexation request – meaning he voted for an annexation request that the citizens of Purcellville did not support. This request would have grown the town by 120-acres, and would have forever changed our small town with unwanted growth. Luckily, he was the only yes vote.

He also did not support the town's own Comprehensive Plan – a plan that reflects the vision of the citizens of this town.

He supports hiring more staff, even though a recent organizational study said the town should improve their work processes before they hire more people.

Grewe incorrectly says the

town's budget, which he voted for, has a deficit of \$600,000. When the Mayfair Community was annexed by a previous mayor, their utility connection fees of \$12 million were put in reserves (which has a current balance of over \$12 million) – to be spent for increased town services accordingly.

This election like every election every two years is not about party, not about "good people" but about electing a team who has the Town of Purcellville's best interest at heart. I support Milan for Mayor, Ron Rise, Carol Luke, and Boo Bennett for Town Council. They answer to the citizens and not developers.

*Michael T. Jarvis
Purcellville*

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MISINFORMATION, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

own,” Boyd said. “They were trying to do their due diligence and compare the 13 criteria that they needed to evaluate our applications.”

“The main thrust of their concerns revolves around the ability of the park itself to reflect the small-town character that Purcellville is,” Boyd explained. “They think it’s not consistent with their Comprehensive Plan.”

Citizens speaking before the Planning Commission overwhelmingly expressed a desire for adjustments to the County’s proposed plans — like the design of roads, greater buffers, lighting hours or no lights, the park and ride. Many wanted a kids’ playground, and a park.

Boyd added, “Some of the information we provided primarily, it seemed like it wasn’t consistent with what they thought the community needed.” She also said there was “concern about the ability of both the park and the park and ride lot to meet the needs of Purcellville itself, as opposed to the greater County.”

During this process, the Planning Commission asked multiple questions about impacts the project would generate — questions which either went unanswered or were answered with responses lacking sufficient detail.

For example, Commissioner Ned-im Ogelman asked in August about the long-term higher order impacts on the Town from these County projects and how the County proposed to mitigate any long-term harmful impacts. After a second request in late September, the County failed to provide a direct detailed response to the question.

Letourneau asked how much money the County had spent on these projects. He was told for the park, not much, but for the park and ride, “We have probably invested a couple hundred thousand,” said Boyd.

“These could be reprogrammed in the CIP [Capital Improvement Program] into other projects, correct?” asked Letourneau. “Yes,” replied Erin McLellan.

Letourneau continued, “Purcellville residents are County residents ... The County was attempting to meet the needs of our residents, some of which are also Purcellville residents ... We have a lot of projects all over the County and residents that are eager for them, and we have a very constrained Capital Improvement Program getting worse by the year.

“So quite frankly I am only too happy to reprogram these funds into other projects, especially ... if that’s the desire of the Town of Purcellville,” Letourneau said. “I’m more than happy

to reprogram them in our budget process, and I want them to clearly understand that.”

“I would suggest that we may want to consider holding on all the Purcellville requests until we have resolution of the issues that we uncovered earlier this evening,” Letourneau recommended.

Committee Chair Kristen Umstaddt (D-Leesburg) said that the committee should “reach out to the Town Council and Mayor.” This was echoed by BOS Chair Phyllis Randall (D-At Large), who said, “I am happy to call Mayor Fraser or send an email.”

Umstaddt said she spoke with Supervisor Tony Buffington (R-Blue Ridge), who “reached out for a meeting with the Mayor and Council Members. It had been scheduled, but then it was cancelled,” she said.

In a phone call to Purcellville Mayor Kwasi Fraser asking him if he was ever contacted by Buffington or his office for a meeting. He replied “No, I was not contacted by Buffington nor his office and there was not any meeting scheduled.” Fraser said that he would welcome a joint meeting to discuss the concerns, “but the focus must be on the health, safety, and welfare of our citizens.”

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MENTAL HEALTH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

teaches three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide; question, persuade and refer. The virtual training presentation lasts about one hour. Discussion and practice opportunities will follow the presentation.

The next classes will be held:

- Nov. 17, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
- Dec. 13, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/suicidepreventiontraining.

Information on the prevention and intervention services offered by the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services, visit loudoun.gov/mhsadsprevention or send an email to prevention@loudoun.gov.

TOYS FOR TOTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

org and click on the “Donate Local” red button on the top right of the page.

For additional information, please contact the LC-CFRS Toys for Tots Coordinator, Technician Rob Boyer at 571-258-3723 or via email at rob.boyer@loudoun.gov.

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LETTER: WHY I CANNOT SUPPORT, CONT. FROM PAGE 6
our country.

Were those the only criteria, I could easily support his candidacy for Congress. But they are not.

As Naval officers, Hung Cao and I both took the same oath to "... support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic ..."

If elected to Congress, he will take that oath again. However, as I listened to his statements on the campaign, I believe that he is placing party loyalty above the oath he once took. As former Naval officers we don't, or should not, set aside our oath simply because we no longer serve on active duty.

During his October 2 debate with Congresswoman Wexton, when asked whether he believes Joe Biden is the elected President of the United States, he equivocated: "Joe Biden is the President of the United States; if you don't believe me, go to your gas pumps ..."

This was an attempt to have it both ways – neither an election denier, nor a clear statement that Joe Biden is the legitimately elected President of the United States. In our constitutional

democracy, it is essential that our elected leaders clearly and unequivocally support the will of the people in elections. Absent such leadership, politicians are free to override the people's will.

Hung Cao has also supported those who attacked the Capitol and the Constitution on January 6, 2021. It is beyond belief, that a man who spent the greater part of his adult life in service to the country and the Constitution would not see such an attack by American citizens as a grave threat to the Constitution.

History teaches that when great nations fall, most often they crumble from within. Had the January 6 insurrection succeeded, there would be only a shredded Constitution and no democracy.

If elected, Hung Cao should be a Congressman who would use his considerable leadership skills to bring other members of the Republican Party, who conveniently follow the party line rather than their duty, back around to the oath that each took upon assuming office. Unfortunately, I do not see Hung Cao being that kind of leader and a man that I can trust to keep his oath of office. I will cast my vote for Congresswoman Wexton.

*Oscar N. McNeil, Jr.
Waterford*

LETTER: IT'S TIME FOR CAPTAIN HUNG,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Hung Cao, a former refugee from Vietnam who went to the Naval Academy, has a Masters in Physics, attended Harvard and MIT, and served 25 years in Navy Special Operations saving lives of men, women, and children on dangerous missions around the world.

Wexton waffled on parental involvement in all decisions with regards to their children in school, saying "[yes], but..." she also favors compelled speech by teachers even when it violates their beliefs.

Wexton has ignored months of pleas for help from a Muslim constituent whose wife was left behind as part of the Afghanistan debacle. She

won't even return the call.

Wexton believes it okay to abort a baby at any time, for any reason, up until the moment of birth. Even after the baby has a heartbeat and even after the baby can feel pain. Even after the baby survives a botched abortion. Now, that's actually extreme.

Wexton believes our police have bazookas and tanks!

Wexton believes it's okay for those born male to play on high school girl's teams.

Bottomline: We learned that Wexton doesn't represent us. She's done poorly in her position. It's time for a new representative.

It's time for Captain Hung Cao.

*John Smith
Sterling*



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WETLANDS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fragmentation, polluted runoff, and other loss of tree and plant roots.

How does the NEPA process for the interchange impact the Catoctin Meadows wetlands and woodlands? Because plans for the interchange were altered to accommodate the addition of roundabouts. And the roundabouts require more land to build them.

Where could they find that extra land? Lot 74 at 601 N. 21st St in Catoctin Meadows, which backs up to the wetlands and will require removal of the stand of old growth trees for a parking area for heavy equipment.

But how does a project partner acquire that critical parcel without the legal and political ramifications of declaring eminent domain? The partner—Loudoun County—buys Lot 74 in 2018, when it was not for sale. It is zoned R-2 by the Town of Purcellville and is shown on the Town's Zoning Map as part of its Historic Overlay District.

It appears, at the "request" of Loudoun County, that became the owner of the

residence, and also a member of the HOA, the Town has without public notice or letter to the community "extinguished" from the Catoctin Meadows Community, and the Town of Purcellville – the home at 601 N 21st Street. The property is now rezoned as a Public Street Right of Way without any regard or rule of law for any County recorded land deeds, or declaration covenants that are bound by all owners of this small community and that that run with the land.

Town officials have claimed they have no knowledge of this new transaction, even though their signatures are on the document.

So, Loudoun County bought the property—house, land, and access to the common area of wetlands by becoming an HOA member – and then Loudoun County gifted it to VDOT.

The 7/690 interchange project will target up to 15.5 acres of trees to be removed and of that the Catoctin Meadows Common Open Space is targeted to sacrifice as much as 40 percent of that

forest, wetlands, and the South Fork Catoctin Creek bed.

Why do these wetlands matter? We know that nature sanctuaries protect vulnerable species and environment. They also protect you. Wetlands are a natural filtering system.

Once the 7/690 interchange construction phase begins, it will need a lot of heavy equipment. When that's not in use, it must be parked somewhere. A convenient place would be the area south of 21st Street/Hillsboro Road where

old growth trees would be cut down and their roots pulled out. Then the run-off from the road and bare hillside begins. Where does all the gas, oil, and silt go? Into the wetlands, of course.

To see what we'll lose as we gain an interchange that brings more traffic into and out of the Town of Purcellville, to view an aerial video of the Catoctin Meadows wetlands, go to <https://www.aryeo.com/v2/720f63a4-17c0-41c1-aba4-b261a15dae7a/videos/79806>.

LETTER: SEE THROUGH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Square on 21st Street – a project the Grewe team supports.

In fact, one of their largest donors is from the developer of this project, who has donated thousands and thousands of dollars. His large donations help pay for his team's big fancy expensive lighted signs, which are all over developers' properties, both in and outside of the town limits.

Follow the money as Milan team member Ron Rise Jr. said in a candidate forum in early October. The Milan team has not received any developer donations, needless to say.

Let's remember that Grewe voted for the largest annexation in recent memory. His vote was the lone vote for the Warner Brook Annexation which was 120-acres,

chock full of all the juicy uses that add to traffic, diminished quality of life in our small town, and increased town costs.

Grewe voted against the Town's Comprehensive Plan, yet he is running for mayor to represent the citizens of this town.

I support Stan Milan and his team. They have voting records of listening to the residents of this town – who really want to keep Purcellville the small town we all enjoy. They support the Town's Comprehensive Plan, and are following it in their review of the zoning ordinance.

Yes, I am supporting the Milan team, Ron Rise Jr., Carol Luke and Boo Bennett, who are running on citizens' issues and not vacuous words, and distortions of their voting records.

*David L. Eno
Purcellville*

LEESBURG POLICE CHIEF, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Department and 16 other regional law enforcement agencies. Chief Brown previously served as a Deputy Director of Basic Training at the NVCJTA from 2013 to 2015.

Deputy Chief Vanessa Grigsby will serve as acting police chief until Chief Brown's replacement is selected. A nationwide search for Leesburg's next police chief is underway.

MIDDLEBURG CHRISTMAS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

the Middleburg Town Office at 540-687-5152 or email Organizer@Christmasin-Middleburg.org. Visit www.Christmasin-Middleburg.org to view an event schedule, list of activities, shop specials and more. Follow Christmas in Middleburg on Facebook for event updates.

Visit <https://visitmiddleburgva.com/calendar/> for a complete schedule of events taking place in Middleburg this holiday season.

OFFICER RITTER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

April of 2022.

Even though the Town of Purcellville covers only 3.5 square miles, Officer Ritter's proactive efforts have reduced the risk of impaired driver injuries and

fatalities both within our jurisdiction and beyond the town limits.

Congratulations to Officer Ritter and the rest of the local law enforcement officers for helping to keep drunk and drugged drivers off the road.

TIM JON, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

our public recreational facilities across Loudoun County, but Brambleton – as any frequent visitor can attest – can be jaw-droppingly busy; the western section contains a half-dozen baseball or softball diamonds and the eastern portion features three fields for football, soccer or lacrosse. Even the uninitiated can start to imagine the activity level during the playing seasons.

And did I mention the 18-hole golf course bearing the Brambleton name, just to the south of all the aforementioned? (I guess I should do that at some point.) And, I'll insert my promise to exercise mercy on all Park visitors – golfers and otherwise – and hereby solemnly swear to refrain from touching or even approaching the vicinity of any implement bearing the least resemblance to a golf club. I doubt that the 20th Century comedian Jerry Lewis in his irrepressible prime, could have competed with my manual 'inexterity' in this high-skill-level sport. Yes, for the benefit of all mankind, I'll stick to the walking trails. Now, returning to our narrative with as much seriousness as I can muster, I'd made a mental note months before my frigid walk on a

bumper-to-bumper weekend morning at Brambleton – to revisit the facility, "When it isn't so crowded." Well, I got what I wished for, and then some; if it had been any colder, my camera battery would've gone belly up. And I may have joined it. No, the morning of my visit, it was me, the goose and a half-naked dog-walker. Maybe it's a good thing it wasn't any warmer, after all ... And speaking of temperatures inclement and otherwise I foresee a day perhaps far in our future, when I again, return to Brambleton Community Park and, yes, it will be early in the morning (excruciatingly so, for some) but this time the sun's rays will be palpably kissing all visible surfaces, and I will be greeted by a host of friendly animals and birds as I step from my vehicle, and all will be well. My exploratory perambulation will be encouraged at various points in the adventure, and I'll tally up an impressive list of pleasant memories with my handy camera. The trip will be seamless and complete, leaving nothing unattained, unexplored, or unsatisfied. And I may just refuse, on that day, to step back out of the story ... and there you may find me.

DR. MIKE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

achieving a shared objective.

Put your phone down: Technology is a wonderful thing, but it can interfere in your important relationships if you're not careful. Research has shown that fifty percent of spouses have reported fighting on vacation because their spouse can't disconnect from their technology. Facebook isn't going anywhere, so put your phones and devices down and be in the moment with your partner.

Don't forget your sex life: Researchers at the University of Toronto have found that the happiest married couples have sex once a week. It's important to remember though that, while sex is an important ingredient for intimacy, it's not everything. Showing genuine interest in your spouse and being loving to


one another will serve to deepen the emotional intimacy in your marriage.

Communicate: It takes two to make a marriage work, so if you feel that your needs aren't being met, communicate your feelings. If that doesn't work, consider getting some professional help. A good couple's therapist can help you work out your communication problems and guide you back to happiness.

So, if you feel your marriage isn't what it once was and you find yourself disliking things about your spouse, be proactive and take steps to fix it.

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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HOUSTON, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

“You have the Governor’s Executive Order, giving me full authority over Loudoun as its Administrator. Each of you will report to me, starting now.” Townsend waiting for the expected mumbling and groaning. One attendee protested, “You can’t do that!”

OPINION

Not one to fuss around, Townsend answered, “I can and I will. I won’t abide a negative attitude, so you’re fired as of this minute.” The other bureaucrats were shocked, then fearful.

Townsend spoke. “We will rethink the county’s mission. We work for the citizens and keep them safe. That’s foundational. We will maintain the community’s health and prosperity. We’ll efficiently tend to necessities like roads and bridges. We will not engage in social matters or divisive political issues. Understood?”

All heads but one nodded – the school superintendent smirked, figuring his position was safe.

The Chopping Block

Townsend noticed that expression. He faced the cocky superintendent. “The schools’ mission is to teach basics – science, reading and writing, history and so forth. You will not get into social issues. You will always cede authority to parents. Your construction projects will be designed and managed by county staff, not by you – the schools you build cost twice as much as they should. Your LCPS

headquarters staff will be reduced by 50 percent. No new schools will even be proposed without my approval, especially since we’ll be in a no-growth mode. Do you understand?”

“No, I don’t understand,” challenged the school chief, comfortable with his sinecure.

“I warned about negativity. You’re fired.”

The remaining attendees shuddered as the superintendent slunk away.

A New Vision

Townsend expounded on his ideas, “Pro-growth folks present the idea that we must accommodate everybody who wants to move here. They try to dress up that claim by calling this ‘Unmet housing needs.’ That’s a crock. In fact, we will stop residential growth. Over 440,000 people live here now – that’s more than enough.”

A few attendees nodded.

Townsend went on, “The economy is prospering and I don’t see any value in expanding it. We won’t give money to organizations that promote growth or more tourism. There’s also the problem of breweries and event centers. We have more than enough and I won’t allow any more.”

Those at the table looked glum as Townsend continued, “So, I’m essentially saying that Loudoun is doing well and more growth should not be allowed. As they say,” concluded Townsend, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.”

“Now, let’s talk about the government,” he said. “Some politicians say they lack

staff and that staff is underpaid. Nope. Efficiency is the new byword. So, by the end of this month every department will reduce its staff by 20 percent. No exceptions. The way to make that less painful is to end non-critical programs.”

Townsend expected the grumbles so he closed with a promise. “Do all this, make sure your departments are run this way and for the benefit of the citizens and you will be rewarded.”

Epilogue

Within six months Loudoun was lean, efficient and humming. Some thirty proposed subdivisions had been prevented and thousands of acres saved. School test scores were on the rise. Crime was down. County employees had a bounce to their steps and smiled. Taxes were reduced by 25 percent. The fire chief could not adapt and left for Boston. A trickle of others also left.

Townsend was grooming his successor, a young woman in the finance department who was fanatical about cutting costs. Loudoun’s future looked bright.

The spirit and ideas of Robert Townsend had become pervasive and counties elsewhere were studying the new Loudoun model. As for Townsend, he was celebrated by Governor Spotswood.

Mission accomplished; Townsend then slowly faded into the ether.

Charles Houston developed more than six million square feet of office buildings through out the south for an Atlanta-based firm. He lives in Paeonian Springs.

MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

patio of concrete where the kids will be able to learn to ride bikes, push their toys, sit and eat, or learn or play without getting dirty.

The Town of Purcellville and all the families at the school are honored to receive the contributions Butler provided to Mountain View Elementary and the students. They will surely make great strides in their ability to learn, with the addition to their newly renovated learning environment.

“Our preschool teachers, Mrs. Val Swan and Mrs. Jenny Kwon took an idea they formulated together and made it happen. The two worked with their students’ parents, our PTA and members from the community to create a courtyard for their students that is inviting, fun, and safe for them enjoy,” said Principal Broaddus during the ribbon cutting.

“Val and Jenny researched various playgrounds and courtyards around the county and on-line. They created drawings and outlines, managed budgets and timetables, and put their own sweat into digging holes and putting toys and sheds together. The results are beautiful, and I am so proud of their work! Our preschool students can now enjoy their time outside as they learn social skills and just have fun,” Principal Broaddus added.

STEVENSON, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

The construction of such an interchange at this site would lead to the clear-cutting of roughly 5-7 acres of woodland, and the interchange would not

OPINION

only level this wooded area, but also increase development pressure along the interchange area as the space around the interchange becomes more valuable to commercial interests and induced demand boosts use of both the highway and Hillsboro Road.

In effect, the lost woods here would be only a down payment on future woods and fields to be laid waste and offered as offering to the deity of “development.” Though it’s true that we can’t preserve every single tree and blade of sedge in western Loudoun, we should only be willing to settle for good and honest trades.

A good and honest trade means that in restitution for

the violent act of transmuting the “natural preconditions” to something fashioned to our own needs, we try to create something we can be proud of, something ethically defensible.

The rationalizations of such an interchange are standard fare and often resort to bureaucratic language in order to emotionally distance the government from the acts of violence they propose while lending an air of legitimacy to the project.

The common method of such an argument is to assert that such infrastructure is economically predetermined and the opaque language seems calculated to neutralize potential resistance.

Our first step must be to withdraw from systems of destruction. Our first task must be to do no harm, to examine our lives and refrain from activities that, when multiplied by millions or more, accrue to unimaginable harm.

Some may see such individual action as futile, but I believe the real problem is a socialization in which individual action is dismissed as irrelevant. The task of building an environmentally and economically sustainable community is, of course, not only a question of opting out of the destruction but of opting into the consecration of place and settling down for a life of responsibility and obligation toward it.

We must own up to the priority of the immediate. Part of this obligation to love our immediate surroundings moves me to oppose the proposed interchange, and I would encourage all readers to examine your own obligations toward place as well and see where those obligations take you.

Adam Stevenson grew up in Purcellville and is interested in sustainable urban planning, local history, and Loudoun’s flora and fauna.

LETTER: IT’S TIME TO GET OUT AND VOTE,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

reasons, not for an unexpected national crisis.

Here in Loudoun County our public schools should continue to challenge our students with merit-based core subjects and critical thinking. We need to get rid of politics and gender ideology in the classroom that’s causing confusion and impacts our children’s mental health. We need to stop teaching our children to view people through racial boxes instead of their character.

We need national leaders who want to stop the drug and human trafficking crisis at our southwestern border. How safe are we because of this?

In the last year, more Americans have died from fentanyl overdoses, trafficked from the southwestern border, than during the entire Vietnam War. In addition, vulnerable families are at great risk and dying in large numbers. Children are being raped. That’s not compassionate.

We have high crime rates across

the country and an unsecure southwestern border. Meanwhile, the Biden administration wants to hire 87,000 more IRS agents.

Let’s support our sheriffs, police officers and border agents instead. In the midst of geopolitical hotspots, our defense department and public safety organizations are suffering from woke policies and are not meeting recruitment quotas. We’re paying the price with our safety and security.

The student loan bailout adds to the national debt currently at \$31 trillion and doesn’t solve the increasing costs of college tuition. It’s another tax that’s unfair to those of us who paid our college debt, and also unfair to people who didn’t go to college.

Vote Republican to end failed divisive and demeaning policies of the Democrats. Vote Republican for a better economy that helps our families, and for education policies that value the role of parents.

Make your voice heard and your values count. Learn about our candidates and go vote.

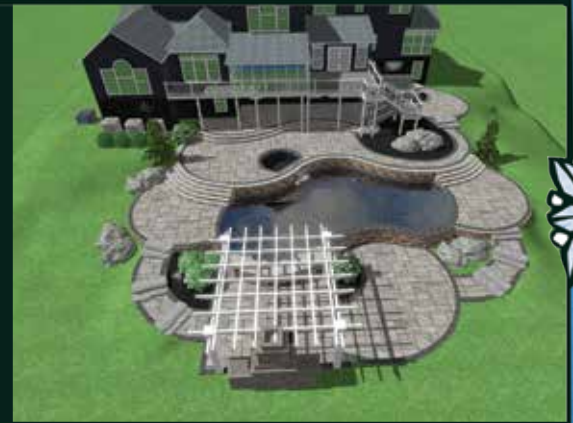
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