

# Lucketts

FALL 2015  
A Joint Publication of the Lucketts Ruritan Club  
& Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board

# NEWS & NOTES



## The 43rd Annual Lucketts Fair builds community

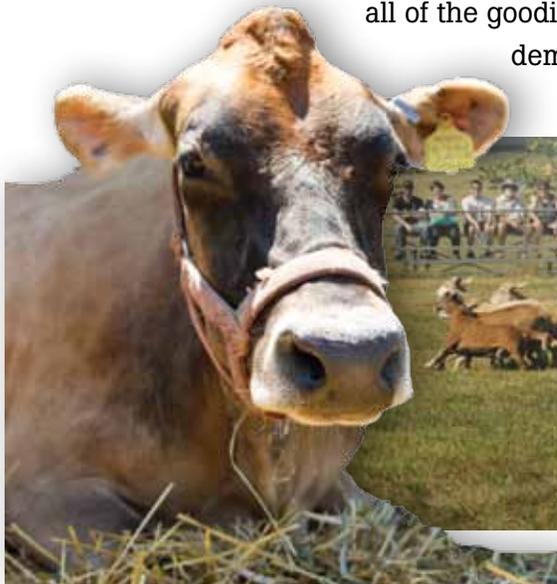
By Hilary Cooley

Where can you find a magician, sheep dog demonstrations, frozen cotton candy, pony rides, yummy Mexican food, and make your own silk scarf?

The 2015 Lucketts Fair. We had great weather, wonderful crafts, lots of entertainment and new and interesting demonstrations. Arbor Artist showed the kids how to really climb a tree and see the world from a different viewpoint, the Department of Economic Development showed how grapes were harvested and squeezed to make juice, the blacksmith from Knoxville, Md. showed us how to make wrought iron and Linda Landreth showed us how to spin wool and make it into all kinds of things!

If you weren't into spinning or rug hooking, you could just enjoy all of the goodies in the bakery where the demonstrations were going on!

*Continued on page 3*



*Indelible Moments Photography*



*Steve Hillebrand*



*Mary Gustafson*



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# The Lucketts Fair



Indefinite Moments Photography



## CONTESTS



The Great Fruit Pie Baking Contest attracted young and older participants. A total of 13 pies graced the gingham walk of fame! Additional contests brought on a sea of humongous zucchinis, several half-ton tomatoes and a couple of best-dressed beets. Thank you to pie judges Ammon Frederick-Harteis of Patowmack Farm, Tyson Cox of Mom's Apple Pie, and Justin Zawoyski of Family Meals. Our vegetables were judged by John Whitmore of Farmer John's. Prizes for vegetable contest winners were donated by Blue Mount Nursery, Faith Like a Mustard Seed Farm, and Loudounberry Farm Garden. Pie contest prizes donated by Daydream Design and Headstrong Learning Center. **And the winners were:**

**Best-dressed Vegetable** Ella Nassauer and Cheyenne Edwards

**Largest Zucchini** Mia Hattaway

**Largest Tomato** Jimmy Goss

**Senior pie** Ann Desrochers

**Junior pie** Peyton Carr



Arbor Artists

## DEMOS

Pie and tomato photos by Mary Gustafson



Fred Nassauer

## VENDORS



Stacy Kelly



Fred Nassauer



Indelible Moments Photography

# LEARNING



Fred Nassauer

Or you could eat your lunch in the back field, watch the cloggers dance and enjoy the antique tractors. The stilt walker was a great photo op and the Jersey cow brought back memories of farm days gone by. Crafters ranged from broom-makers to Raggedy Ann dolls and if you like Antiques, they were everywhere!! Bluegrass music in the background made you tap your feet as you were admiring vendors work.

All of these wonderful activities wove the fabric of another great fair. We are so lucky in this community to have seasoned volunteers who make it all possible.

Hats off to the Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board, Scout troop 1910, the Lucketts Ruritans, and all the many volunteers who make this possible. It is a huge task to take on and it makes so many people smile, it has indeed the stuff that makes a great village event!

# MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT



Fred Nassauer



Fred Nassauer



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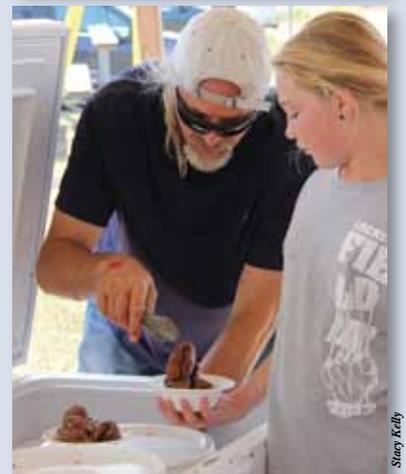
Stacy Kelly

The Lucketts Elementary PTA wishes to thank all of its supporters and ice cream eaters during the Lucketts Fair! We sold over \$9,000 in ice cream and it is a true testament to the power of community. The Lucketts PTA is so grateful to our greater community, the Lucketts Community Advisory Board, and the school population—both present and alumni families—for its support of our long-standing tradition of selling our hand churned ice cream at the Fair.

*Thank you!*



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Stacy Kelly



Stacy Kelly

# The Tomato That Ate Lucketts

By James P. Lucier

For years my ambition had been to grow the perfect tomato--not just one, but lots of them. I consulted the best experts. I chose a sunny place, and amended the red Loudoun clay. I dug in the proper fertilizers, and chose the best quality plants. I tried the cast-iron hybrids, and the more delicate heritage varieties. I lovingly placed them in the ground with little cardboard collars to foil the cutworms. I watered them carefully, not too much, not too little. As they grew, I tied them up to the cages and looked every morning to pluck off the green hornworms. I sprayed them for aphids, I sprayed them for blackspot, I sprayed them for end-blossom rot. And every year by August as the fruit was just setting, doom would set in. The vines would collapse, or the fruit would crack or grow scabby.

In desperation I bought one of those tomato planting tubs, the kind with a reservoir in the bottom that wicks up the water to keep the plants just so. I filled it with an expensive proprietary soil mix and special tomato nutrition. By August, the results were the same: A handful of malformed tomatoes which, by my calculation, cost about \$10 apiece. It was clear that a curse was upon my land. After a couple of years of that game, I surrendered, and stepped across the highway where Farmer John's had wagonloads of perfect tomatoes basking in the sun.

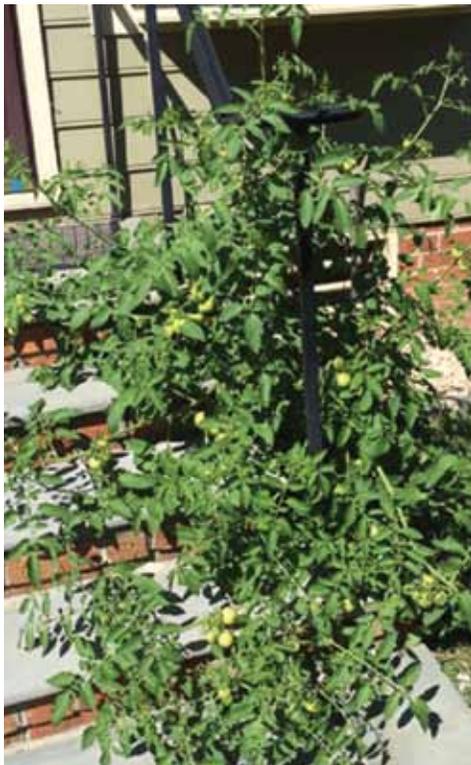
The curse also fell upon another patch in my yard. On the north side of the kitchen steps, where the sun never shone, the grass was supposed to come up to the brick stoop, where it could be neatly trimmed. The grass declined to cooperate. There was a permanent bare spot, which served as a kindergarten for weeds. To trim it up, I laid some broken slates, figuring that it would be easier to deal with only a few weeds in the cracks.

In June, I noticed that there was a bright green weed, vigorously shooting up in the half-inch crack between a piece of slate and the sunless brick wall. As I reached to pull it out, my extensive experience with dying tomato plants clicked in. It was not a weed; it was a tomato plant! It was a tomato plant where no tomato plant had ever been. Ha! I thought. You'll get no help from me! I'm done with tomatoes. But I let it be.

By July, the mystery tomato had shot up to the top of the steps. I dug out an old tomato cage from the garden shed, and tied it up. We went away for three weeks in August because we couldn't bear to be around for the August tomato crop failure. Up in Canada, we heard about the heat wave in Lucketts, and knew that the tomato's goose was cooked, so to speak.

We returned to a parched country, the grass brown, the garden a scene of despair. But the tomato was flourishing in its dark corner. It had overtaken the handrail of the steps and was running across the grass. It was stretching out across the steps themselves, so much so that you had to beat it back with a stick and make a run for it to get to the kitchen door. On August 26, we harvested the first two tomatoes, and how sweet they were! There were fifty more green tomatoes on the vine, promising a bounty yet to come.

So the moral is, if you want tomatoes, don't plant them. Don't fertilize them. Don't spray them. Don't water them. Just go away for a while, and everything will be delivered unto your heart.



Photos by Jim Lucier

# Just Dance!

By Toni Soliday

Just Dance Studios, a youth recreational dance program, is gearing up for another fantastic season of dance fun for students ages 3 and up. Our program focuses on the P3 methodology of Practice, Precision, Performance. We instruct children on learning choreography while interweaving technique and skills into their lessons. We also emphasize team work and precision as a unit. Our polishing and preparing for upcoming performances is the best part. Just Dance dancers have marched in Holiday Parades (Reston Town Center Thanksgiving Day Parade and Leesburg Holiday Parade), performed at the Leesburg Senior Center, Lucketts Elementary Santa Breakfast, Frederick Keys Baseball Game, Village Green 4th of July Block Party and Bike Parade, as well as put on an entire Showcase production – complete with lights and costumes.

Every time I sit in the audience and watch my students perform – my body is covered in chills and I have tears in my eyes. My smile actually hurts watching them make my dream come true, it is honestly the best feeling ever! After starting my family and leaving my classroom teaching career – I knew I still had to do something with children. I have enjoyed the opportunity to be a stay at home Mom while also building my dance program. Each year we have grown – adding new students and locations.

The 2015-2016 season will be kicking off this October at Lucketts Elementary, Lovettsville Elementary, Winwood Children's Center in Brambleton, and our newest location – Little River Elementary in South Riding. Each of these sites will be hosting an 8 Week Fall Session focusing on our fall performances in the holiday parades & other community events. Additionally, Just Dance offers weekend clinics, summer camps, dance parties, as well as our Showcase program (January through June) which ends with our complete production in early June. For more information, visit [justdancestudiosnova.com](http://justdancestudiosnova.com) or follow us on Facebook at [www.fb.com/JustDanceNOVA](http://www.fb.com/JustDanceNOVA).



## 5-6-7-8 Dance!

Just Dance Studios dancers had an exciting 2014–2015 season performing at the Just Dance Showcase, Reston Holiday Parade, the Village Green Summer Block Party and a Frederick Keys baseball game.





Jeff Ertman

## RURAL ENTERPRISE

# Loudounberry Farm Garden

By Doug Fabboli

The businesses along route 15 in Lucketts continue to grow and diversify as much as the communities around us. This season we had a changeover in the produce stands along this corridor as after 18 years in the same location, Albert Heider stepped into retirement from the Heider Farm Stand. Jeff Ertman, already producing tomatoes, strawberries, chicken and quail eggs, and greens, took the opportunity to lease Albert's 3 acre parcel and business to retail his products.

On a bustling Labor Day afternoon, the customers were flowing in to purchase fresh produce along with an array of locally grown meats, fresh seafood, locally produced artisan crafts and even backyard pizza ovens that are brought in to use and resell. "The community has been very supportive of the changeover," says Jeff, as he refers to the eggs that he cannot keep on the shelf and the produce that he both grows and buys to resell. Many local customers are new but many are the same folks that have been buying at this store for the last decade or so.

Jeff is a farmer who does not sit still. Growing up in Michigan, he was part of a large scale farming community that truly produced the foods for the country, both in eggs, meats and produce. In college, his major was horticulture, but he studied a few other things as well. He signed a 5 year deal to work with the government in DC doing information technologies. Fourteen years later he continues to grow his rural entrepreneurial spirit and activities. By doing the day job as he has, it provides the capital to expand all the avenues of the business as he has. "I am always learning," says Jeff and that seems to be a continuing theme of success for him and other entrepreneurs. His wife Vera has been working with Jeff and caring for their three daughters as well.



Stacy Kelly

Stacy Kelly



Stacy Kelly



Stacy Kelly



Stacy Kelly

Between the chicken coops for sale, the tower styled hydroponic lettuce, tomatoes, and strawberries, and all the quail and chickens laying eggs every day, this operation is a non stop whirlwind. Some products are grown by the farm, some are grown by others, some are made locally and others like the pizza oven are a cool product that Jeff knows his customers will be very interested in bringing home. The small acreage around their house has been filling up regularly with productive farm operations. Four acres of product come off this 1/4 acre farm operation by using the innovative vertical farming techniques. They also sell the planters and hardware for homeowners to use this growing method at their house.

The continuing traffic issues on route 15 has certainly made a difference in this business. Jeff sees the daily difference as sometimes it takes 15 minutes to cross the street going from the home farm to the store. Many commuters are anxious to get home after sitting in heavy traffic and will avoid making the stop to make a purchase. But as with most entrepreneurs, his optimism and creativity overcomes any challenges. The rural enterprises in our region continue to flourish and Loudounberry Farm will continue to enhance the community and those that work and purchase from it. For more information, stop out to the store on route 15 south of New Valley Church Road, or check the website at [loudounberryfarm.com](http://loudounberryfarm.com).



Jeff Erman



Jeff Erman



Jeff Erman



## Ruritans serving Lucketts

By Doug Kemp



In May the Lucketts Ruritan Club and the Lucketts Elementary School PTA partnered to park cars for visitors to the Spring Antique Fair at the Lucketts Store. This tremendously popular event earned over \$4000 to split between the two groups. **Pictured above top** Naomi Hattaway, PTA President receives a check from Ruritan President Jim McKenzie; **bottom** Jim congratulates LES Principal Carolyn Clement on the successful joint project.

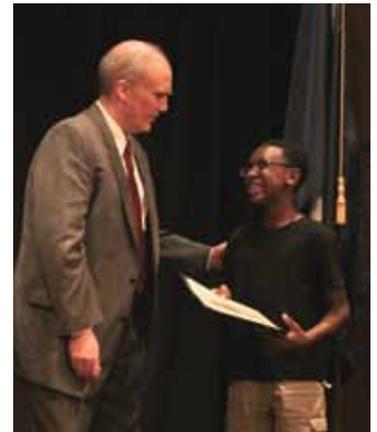
The slogan that is an integral part of the Lucketts Ruritan Club “community people supporting community needs” is appropos of the meaning of the club. Many of their projects fall under the radar of most people but when the community asks for help the Ruritan Club rises to the top.

In the Spring, Ruritans coordinated with the Lucketts Elementary School PTA members and school staff to raise funds by parking cars for the Lucketts Store Spring Antique Fair. Proceeds from this would be split between the two entities to be used toward class and student needs and the PTA’s education programs. This is the first time the Ruritans have partnered directly with the school and its PTA. It was a resounding success and very well supported by PTA members and school staff.

In June, Lucketts Ruritan Club awarded scholarships to deserving Lucketts scholars. Applications are reviewed from those in the public school system as well as home-schooled students in the Lucketts community. Lucketts Ruritan Club partners with the Point of Rocks Ruritan Club who serve as an unbiased review body to select the worthiest students. High school scholarship recipients this year were Mason Cox, \$2K, NOVA; Alexis Bailey, \$3K, Morehead State University; Tyler Entner, \$4K, Virginia Tech; and Maxwell Tagg, \$4K, Brigham Young University. Club President, Jim McKenzie also presented Citizen of the Year awards to Sean McDermott of Tuscarora High School, \$500; Andrew Otchere of Smarts Mill Middle School, \$300; and Ben Ellis of Lucketts Elementary School, \$100.



Jim McKenzie and Sean McDermott



Jim McKenzie and Andrew Otchere



**At right** High school scholarship recipients Mason Cox, Alexis Bailey, Tyler Entner and Maxwell Tagg.



Ben Ellis and Jim McKenzie

Photos on this page by Steve Hillbrand



The Lucketts Ruritan Club, a nonprofit [501(c)(3)] community service organization, gathers for monthly dinner meetings at the Lucketts Community Center on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Members volunteer their time in support of area schools, scouting, shelters, churches, emergency response, food relief, youth activities, adult day care, college scholarships and citizenship awards.

[www.luckettsruritan.org](http://www.luckettsruritan.org)

## Safety Reminders from Fire Co. #10

As the colder weather draws near please keep these safety tips in mind to prevent a fire in your home.

Around the house:

- **Check and clean smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. We recommend testing smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors monthly and changing batteries regularly.**
- **Make sure all exits and escape routes are clear from debris and are easily accessible.**
- **Reduce clutter in and around your home. Clear at least a three foot space around your electrical panel, furnace, hot water heater, fireplace, space heaters and dryer.**
- **Have furnaces, chimneys and air conditioning units inspected by a licensed professional.**
- **Check electrical outlets, extension cords and power strips to ensure they're not overloaded.**
- **Be sure all cleaning products, household chemicals, paints, and poisons are properly marked and safely stored out of children's reach**

Captain Jasen Dodson serves Lucketts as the station commander at fire station 10 located at 42367 Lucketts Road, (703) 777-9344. Feel free to call or stop in with inquiries regarding fire safety, open burning regulations, to take a station tour or ask questions about general public safety matters. Captain Dodson along with the firefighters on each shift are eager to support Lucketts residents.



## Loudoun County Open Burning Guidelines

Open burn regulations for Loudoun County vary based upon the time of year. Per the Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office:

**May 1–September 30**

Open Burning is prohibited.

**October 1–February 14**

Open Burning is permitted.

**February 15–April 30**

Open Burning is allowed only between 4pm and 12am.

To learn more about the open burning calendar visit our website at [www.loudoun.gov/openburning](http://www.loudoun.gov/openburning). Questions can be directed to the Fire Marshal's Office at 703-737-8600 during normal business hours.

## Save the date!

for the Catocin District/County Elections Forum "Meet & Greet the Candidates" hosted by the Lucketts Ruritan Club. Wednesday, October 28 from 7:30 to 9:00 pm.

The event will be in the auditorium of the Lucketts Community Center. The candidates for Supervisor and for School Board will each be given the opportunity to present their platform and goals. Following their presentations, individuals will have the chance to speak face to face with the candidates.



# A Boy Scout's Summer

By Daniel Martin,  
Boy Scout Troop #1910



## Summer Camp

This year's week of Scout summer camp at Camp Henson was filled with fun. It was very hot the first few days, but then it rained and cooled off significantly for the rest of the week. The food was, as always, tasty, and the water had improved from last year.

A number of scouts brought hammocks again this year and strung them up to sleep and relax in. There was the usual early morning swim called "Frigid Frog" and ending the week, the Scoutmaster Splash. Troop 1910 Scoutmaster, Mr. Elarde, won again for the Troop and carried on the tradition. 115 merit badges were earned this year and will be awarded at the Troop Court of Honor in September.

The opening and closing campfires included great skits and songs. Troop 1910's skit "highlighted" airport security.

## High Adventure on the Boundary Waters of Minnesota

Three crews went to Minnesota to cross water that was truly brilliant and exhilarating. Spending six nights in Boundary waters wilderness area was one of the best adventures experienced by the scouts of Troop 1910. The views were amazing and we saw "picture rocks" made by Indians long ago.

The canoe trip was about 50 miles long and we stayed in different designated campsites along the lakes each night. One particular campsite we stayed 2 nights in order to take a small excursion to the Indian picture rocks, rapids and Jumping Rock. There are many lakes at different elevations which require hiking between the lakes with canoe and packs. The canoes were carried over our heads by just one person while the other crew members carried the packs. This type of hiking is called portaging. Paddling was hard and your muscles became sore at the end of the day.

The crews were able to catch fish, Northern Pike, Walleye, Bass and others. Our menu also included freeze dried meats, rice, lemon and chocolate pudding (freeze dried).

By the end of the trip we were tired and ready to get home, but we knew we would miss it.



## Lucketts CHURCHES



**Furnace Mountain Presbyterian Church**

Worship Service on Sundays at 9:30 am.



**Faith Chapel Presbyterian Church**

Worship Service on Sundays at 11 am. 703-777-7836



**Christ Episcopal Church**

Bible study on the last Wednesday of each month at 10am. Sunday service starts at 9:30 am. Godly play for children through 5th grade during service. All are welcome. 703-771-2196 or visit us at christchurchlucketts.com



**Bethel United Methodist Church**

Sunday morning service starts at 11 am. All are welcome. 41799 Stumptown Road, Lucketts, VA. Call us at 703-779-7745 or visit us at cometobethel.org.



**Elijah Gate Christian Center at Freedom Center**

Sunday mornings at 10 am. Pastors Lyman and Jennifer Eddy. 13850 Freedom Center Lane. Call us at 703-777-8800 or visit us at elijahgate.com



General Information about the Lucketts Bluegrass Concerts

- October 3** Danny Paisley and the Southern Grass
- October 10** Mark Templeton and Pocket Change
- October 17** Eddie & Martha Adcock with Tom Gray
- October 24** Charles Frazier and the Virginia Ramblers
- October 31** Halloween Special with the Travelers
- November 7** The Hillbilly Gypsies
- November 14** Scott Brannon Band
- November 21** Nothin' Fancy
- December 5** Ralph Stanley II
- December 12** Wendy Miller and Country Grass
- December 19** Lucketts Bluegrass Christmas Jamboree with Santa Claus \*
- January 9** Patent Pending
- January 16** Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper
- January 23** Valerie Smith and Liberty Pike
- January 30** Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers
- February 6** Springfield Exit (Linda & David Lay, David McLaughlin, Tom Adams and Marshall Wilborn)
- February 13** Dry Branch Fire Squad (40th Anniversary Show)
- February 20** Larry Stephenson Band
- February 27** Larry Gillis Band
- March 5** The Spinney Brothers
- March 12** The Country Gentlemen Tribute Band
- March 19** The Boxcars
- March 26** Darren Beachley and Potomac
- April 2** Audie Blaylock and Redline
- April 9** Special Consensus
- April 16** The Little Roy and Lizzy Show
- April 23** Reno and Harrell
- April 30** The Patuxent Partners

- 🔑 All Shows \$15 at the door
- 🔑 Doors of the Lucketts Community Center open at 6pm. Show time is 7pm.
- 🔑 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services is committed to complying with the ADA. If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate, please call Adaptive Recreation 10 days prior to the start of the activity. 703-777-0343  
TTY# 703-771-5352
- 🔑 A smoke and alcohol free environment. No coolers, no audio or video recording. Visit our website [www.luckettsbluegrass.org](http://www.luckettsbluegrass.org) for links to band websites. Call 703-771-5281 for more information.
- 🔑 The Lucketts Community Center is located on James Monroe Highway (US Route 15), 8 miles north of Leesburg, VA and 4 miles south of Point of Rocks, MD.
- 🔑 "Like" Lucketts Bluegrass on Facebook

🌟 **On December 19, many of Lucketts' popular performers will mix and match their talents to perform the Bluegrass favorites that you know and love.**

# Lucketts NEWS & NOTES

**Correspondence should be addressed to** Lucketts News & Notes  
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**703 771-5281**

**President** Joyce Webb  
**Vice President** Ross Mink  
**Treasurer** Matt Quitter  
**Secretary** Hilary Cooley

## Stuck on Rt 15

Another group of Lucketts-area citizens, coordinated by Jennifer Morabito, has formed to explore and forward good solutions for alleviating congestion on Route 15 north of the Leesburg bypass, to maximize flow, access, and safety on this rural arterial road. If you want to join the conversation, contact Jennifer at [jenmorabito@gmail.com](mailto:jenmorabito@gmail.com), visit [StuckOn15.com](http://StuckOn15.com), or contact Martha Polkey at [mp@budiansky.com](mailto:mp@budiansky.com).

# Fall Events



at the Lucketts Community Center

- Oct. 3/15-Apr. 30/16** Lucketts Bluegrass, (see schedule on page 11) Saturdays 7pm-10:30pm
- October 13** Lucketts Ruritan 7:30-9pm. Dinner, speaker and meeting
- October 21** Senior Potluck Luncheon, 11am-1pm
- October 26-30** Scholastic Book Fair, ALL DAY
- October 28** Meet & Greet Supervisor and School Board candidates, (see details on page 9) 7:30pm
- October 30** Mrs. Lucketts Haunted Garden, 7pm-9pm
- November 18** Senior Potluck Luncheon, 11am-1pm
- November 10** Lucketts Ruritan 7:30-9pm. Dinner, speaker and meeting
- December 5** Drop and Shop, 9am-2pm



Indelible Moments Photography

For more information about these programs and more at the Lucketts Community Center please call 703-771-5281.

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