



News and Notes

Volume I, Number 4
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REMARKS - Lucketts Ruritan Club invites your comments and suggestions on this occasional newsletter. We hope to keep you informed of matters of interest to the Lucketts Community. You may contact us at P. O. Box 1291, Leesburg, VA 20177, by FAX at 703-777-5529, or by e-mail at LuckRur@aol.com. We would particularly like to contact and cooperate with other community associations and organizations.

LUCKETTS COMMUNITY DEFINED - The area of concern is that part of Loudoun County north of Leesburg and east of the Catoctin Ridge, including the Catoctin Rural Historic District.

ABOUT RURITAN - Ruritan is a leading community service organization in the U.S. The Lucketts club was chartered in 1979 and registered as a non-stock 501(c)4 corporation in the Commonwealth of Virginia in October 1979. Business meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm at Faith Chapel hall on Lucketts Road (Route 662).

LUCKETTS COMMUNITY CENTER - A new **Daycare service** is among many programs available at the Community Center. Weekly **Bluegrass** concerts resume October 7th, and a **Health Fair** will be held between 10am and 2pm on October 14th. **Advisory Board Elections** will be held October 20th, beginning with a potluck dinner for all Lucketts citizens at 6:30pm, an **entertainment** program and a **Fair report** by outgoing Fair Director **Brenda Beales**. Brenda has given yeoman service in this post for fourteen years, and she will be sorely missed. For information about the Center, its operation and its schedules contact **Don Obert** at 703-771-5281, or **Sally Wrenn** at 703-771-8401

COMMUNITY GROWTH - In addition to the new homes at Big Springs, Lee's Crossing and Raspberry Plains along Route 15, new homes are coming at Rural Hamlets proposed for Elysian Heights on Saint Clair Lane and (possibly) at Churchill Downs on Evans Pond Road. The County has rejected the latter proposal pending resolution of some fifty-four issues

and substantial redesign; dozens of letters of concern have been submitted to the County Department of Building and Development. For further information contact **J. J. O'Connell** at 703-777-2430.

LUCKETTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - We can all be proud that the school passed the Virginia Standards of Learning tests given to third and fifth grades last year, and is fully accredited by the Virginia Board of Education. A six-room addition is being constructed to accommodate the growing population in the community. If you are interested in volunteer help at the school please call 703-771-6990

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION - The PTO of Lucketts Elementary School thanks the many people who turned out to help make the hand-churned ice cream that was its usual big hit at the Lucketts Fair - this is the PTO's largest fundraiser each year. Several special events and enhancement activities are scheduled throughout the 2000-2001 school year, and everyone is invited to help in these activities or as teacher helpers in the classrooms. For information contact PTO President **Joanne Hart** at 703-777-5080.

CITRUS SALE - Fresh picked Florida citrus is being offered now for delivery on 18 November, in time to grace your tables at Thanksgiving. All proceeds support Community Service activities of our Ruritan Club. You will find a form in this issue for your order.

STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS - We have recognized outstanding Lucketts students selected at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools last June. Belated congratulations to: **Carlene Helble** (Lucketts Elementary) who received a \$100 Series I US Savings Bond, and whose name will be engraved on a brass plaque at the school; **Mindy Chi-Ming Hsiao** (Simpson Middle), who received a \$100 Series I US Savings Bond; and to **Jennifer Strand** (Loudoun County High), who received a \$200 Series I US Savings Bond.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS - Ruritan will be awarding scholarships again this year. A graduating high

school senior whose home (not school) is in the Lucketts area is eligible to apply. Availability is given notice at area high schools, and applications may be obtained from our Scholarship Committee. Contact **Don Morrell** at 703-771-4111, or e-mail to don@morrellcpa.com for further information.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 1910 - Lucketts Ruritan accepted the Charter for Troop 1910 with 5 boys and 7 adult advisors in 1998, and the Troop now includes 14 boys and 22 adult advisors! In these initial two years the Troop has camped 395 nights, hiked 695 miles and performed over 116 hours community service earning over 80 rank advancements or Merit Badges. Recently, the scouts spent one day touring the US Capitol including educational briefings with Representative Frank Wolf. The calendar from now to July 2001 includes an outing or activity every month, plus a regular weekly meeting at 7:00pm each Thursday at the Community Center. If you would like to learn more about scouting, actively support or participate in Troop 1910 you are welcome to attend any meeting, or you can contact Scoutmaster **Lee Herlocker** at 703-777-4708.

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY - Scout troop 1910 will be collecting food donations the first and second Saturday mornings in November at the Lucketts Elementary School. Ruritan collects food and supplies for **Interfaith Relief** the first Saturday of every month in conjunction with our trash/recycling project from 8AM to Noon at Lucketts School.

ROUTE 15 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS - Work at Tutts Lane and Lucketts Road is on schedule, and fund availability has been assured for continuing work without interruption. Section 2 (White's Ferry to Lucketts) plan details should be completed in March 2001 and **Public Hearings** held in the May-June time frame. A consultant has been selected for Section 3 (Lucketts to the Maryland State Line) planning and should be aboard by 1 January 2001

ROUTE 15 ENFORCEMENT - State Highway Patrol has resumed increased enforcement efforts with resumption of the school year, and expects funds will permit continuing to the end of the calendar year. There have been **no fatalities** in this part of Route 15

for the two years of accelerated truck inspections and increased enforcement of the lowered speed limit.

ROUTE 15 ALTERNATIVES - Traffic overflow from the jammed capital beltway is necessarily diverted westward to Route 15 (old Carolina Road) through the Catocin Rural Historic District, which cannot handle the load and cannot be modernized to that end. The need for new river crossings and interstate traffic corridors is real and becoming critical. Decades of research culminated in a Major Investment Study of many potential corridors and identified an optimum alignment based on voluminous data and broad public input (see the Report at www.vdot.state.va.us/). A survey of Maryland residents overwhelmingly supports this need (www.mdsecondcrossing.org). Loudoun's Planning Commission has proposed removing this optimum – and any other – alignment from County planning maps. This seems a major step backward, and Senator Mims and Delegate Black have urged the Board of Supervisors to disapprove the removal of this corridor from plans. If this issue concerns you, contact the Ruritan Club's Transportation Committee Chairman **Andy Pitas** at 703-777-4838.

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCED PROGRAM - A Federal/State/County program for foresting river and stream banks to control erosion and habitats. Landowners rent a 300-foot wide strip of land along the bank to the County at \$135/acre for a term of 10 to 15 years. At end of lease trees belong to landowner. For details contact Loudoun County Agent **Gary Hornbaker** at 703-777-0373.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT - This state program promotes conservation & economic viability of land kept in agricultural, forest and undeveloped use. The Ruritan Club will sponsor an information program on the Lucketts Agriculture & Forestal District which comes up for renewal in 2001.

Present and prospective participants in the District are urged to attend this briefing. A representative of the Loudoun County Department of Planning and a local member of the A & F Districts Advisory Committee will be present to answer questions about the purpose and terms of such Districts, and to provide maps of the current District. For further information, please contact **John Adams** at 703-777-7814.