

Lucketts

FALL 2019
A Joint Publication of the Lucketts Ruritan Club
& Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board

NEWS & NOTES



A Festival is Born!

By Hilary Cooley

September 14th brought the First Annual Bluegrass Festival to Lucketts! The event was a joint project of the Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board and the Lucketts Bluegrass Foundation.

After the Lucketts Fair celebrated its last hurrah in 2017, there was a summertime void in special events and music at the community center. Hilary Cooley, the director of the center suggested a bluegrass event and the Festival was born.

Continued on page 2



All Bluegrass photos by Sheri Knauer

In this issue...

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Bluegrass Festival is Born! | 6 | A Roundabout for Spinks Ferry | 11 | Lucketts Community Center & Bluegrass Calendar |
| 3 | Meet the Candidates | 8 | Summer with Boy Scout Troop 1910 | 12 | Gingerbread House Contest & Tree Lighting |
| 4 | Ruritan Launch Grant Program & Coats for Kids Drive | 10 | Rural Enterprise – A Harvest to Remember | | |





All Bluegrass photos by Sheri Knauer

It was a beautiful day, cool and cloudy, no rain, and about 250 appreciative folks came to enjoy music, good food and camaraderie. There were many familiar faces from the Saturday night concerts and many new faces who together enjoyed the music of Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper, the Grascals, The Hillbilly Gypsies, and Man About a Horse.

The Festival was truly a collaborative effort as the new mobile stage was provided by Parks, Recreation and Community Services, the sound system by Douglass Community Center, and volunteers from Franklin Park, Lucketts Bluegrass, and the Lucketts Advisory Board pitched in. In addition, the Lucketts Ruritan Club provided the parking at no charge.

There also was an array of sponsors who helped make the festival possible. Local sponsors included Roots 657, Arbor Artist, Fabbioni Cellars and Bridle Paths.

One of the exciting exhibits at the festival was the WETA tent. Lucketts Bluegrass was a featured venue of a documentary of Country Music in Washington produced by WETA. The film was playing in the tent during the festival and the Lucketts volunteers were proud of the feature film!

The Festival committee is appreciative of all the support and the reviews of the event have been terrific! We thank everyone for their hard work and loyalty to the bluegrass music community and we hope this event will become a tradition.



Catch a glimpse of a Saturday night Bluegrass performance at the old schoolhouse in Lucketts, Virginia the "Grand Ole Opry of Bluegrass."
Go to <https://watch.weta.org/show/country-music-washington/>

The old schoolhouse is home to the Lucketts Bluegrass Foundation which brings nationally known Bluegrass performers to Lucketts every Saturday night from October to April.
Go to page 11 for the schedule or visit LuckettsBluegrass.org for more details.

Ruritans Organize Candidate Forum for Catoctin Magisterial District Voters

By Pat Logue



Catoctin District voters will select a complete slate of local officials when they go to the polls on November 5th. Every elected position that represents the District is on the ballot with more than 30 individuals vying for 11 elected offices. The Lucketts Ruritan Club organized a series of two evening programs at the Community Center to help voters listen, learn and directly engage these local candidates.

The two evenings were each forums where candidates answered questions prepared by the audience and selected by the evening's moderator. The first Forum on October 1st, featured candidates running for State Senate, Virginia House of Delegates, Chair of the Loudoun Board of Supervisors, Catoctin District Supervisor, and Loudoun County Commissioner of Revenue. The second evening, October 15th featured the Catoctin District School Board Representative, At-Large Representative to the County School Board, County Sheriff, County Treasurer and Commonwealth's Attorney. Priscilla Godfrey from the Loudoun League of Women Voters moderated the first evening and Norman Styer, Publisher and Editor of *Loudoun Now* moderated the second. In addition to these positions, voters will be selecting three Directors for the local Soil and Water District from a slate of six candidates. Individuals running for those positions participated in each evening and staffed information tables to engage voters.



Polls will open at the Lucketts Community Center at 6:00 AM and close at 7:00PM on Tuesday, November 5th. Absentee ballots can be requested through 5PM on Tuesday, October 29th and must be received no later than 5:00 PM on Saturday, November 2nd at the County's Elections Office. That Office will be open from 8:30 AM to 5:00PM on November 2nd to receive Absentee Ballots.

For additional information about voting in this election please contact:

**Loudoun County Office of Elections, 750 Miller Drive SE, Suite C, Leesburg
or call: 703-777-0380.**





Ruritans in the Lucketts community

By Pat Logue



Visit luckettsruritan.org to learn more about the Youth Development Grant Program and the Ruritan Club.

Ruritans Launch Youth Development Grant Program

The experts all agree that the earlier a child's skill or talent is nurtured, the higher the child's lifetime achievement in that area. With this in mind, the Lucketts Ruritan Club launched the Youth Development Grant Program in September to invest in learning and development opportunities for children of all ages who live in Lucketts. The grant making priorities established by the Club are as follows.

- Focus on youth education, pre-school and after-school enrichment, tutoring, and/or vocational training;
- Educational programs, art, and cultural experience;
- Sports and physical education activities;
- Self-help, local initiatives, fresh and creative new areas;
- Projects that leverage additional resources such as volunteer time, and in-kind gifts of materials and supplies;
- High-impact ideas with a small grant;
- Projects that include collaboration with other groups;
- Proposals written by youth and for youth;
- Activities that are by their nature "entertainment" are not eligible.

Eligibility

Grant programs must benefit Lucketts area youth. Applicants must be a group, an individual or an organization that promotes youth development as part of their mission. Youth may apply directly but must have an adult co-sign the Grant Application.

Who Should Apply

Teachers; coaches; PTA, church, and youth organizations; individuals; and non-profits working with Lucketts families and children should consider applying.



Grant Cycles

There are two grant cycles in every calendar year. The first cycle begins accepting applications on the last Friday in September through the last Friday in November with awards announced the second week of the following January. This coincides with the beginning of the traditional school year. The second grant cycle begins accepting Applications on the second Friday of January through the last Friday of March with awards announced the second week in May. This cycle is intended to focus on spring and summer enrichment opportunities for children.

The Grant Application and additional information about the program can be found on the Club's website at www.luckettsruritan.org



Lucketts Elementary Rudy Club Organizes 6th Annual Coat Drive

The need is greater than ever this year for gently used warm winter coats for Lucketts kids. Please consider donating as you dig through your closets on these colder days! Coats are being collected through Election Day at the Lucketts Community Center and Lucketts Elementary School as well as on Saturday's at the weekly Trash and Recycling Service at the school parking lot.

Cash donations are also needed and can be made during Saturday morning's Trash and Recycling service. Thank you for helping to make this a successful drive!

Calendar

November 2019 – January 2020

November 12 at Lucketts Community Center 7:30-9pm. Dinner and meeting. **Speaker:** Chris Doherty, CFO, TRI, Inc. Will talk about turning waste into energy. **All are welcome!**

December 7 Annual Awards Banquet, Invitation event

January 14, 2020 at Lucketts Community Center 7:00-9pm. Dinner and meeting. **Speaker** Richard Weaver, Author, will discuss his book "That's One Small Stamp for a Man: The Philatelic Journey of Apollo 11". **All are welcome!**

Every Saturday at Lucketts Elementary School Trash and recycling 8-noon. \$6 suggested donation for average household. Recycling is co-mingled. Please flatten boxes. Do not use plastic bags for recycling.



Non members wishing to attend meetings please RSVP to luckettsruritan@gmail.com.

Join our Lucketts Ruritan Club and experience the fellowship and goodwill that comes from meeting the needs of your community. Men and women, young, old and in between contact Pat Logue, Membership Chairman, for how to join, **call (973) 214-9345.**

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 7:30p.m. Members volunteer their time in support of area schools, scouting, shelters, churches, emergency response, food relief, youth activities, adult day care, college scholarships, citizenship awards and grant program.

www.luckettsruritan.org



Renss Greene/Loudoun Now

Citizens Help Accelerate Safety Plans for Spinks Ferry/Route 15 Intersection

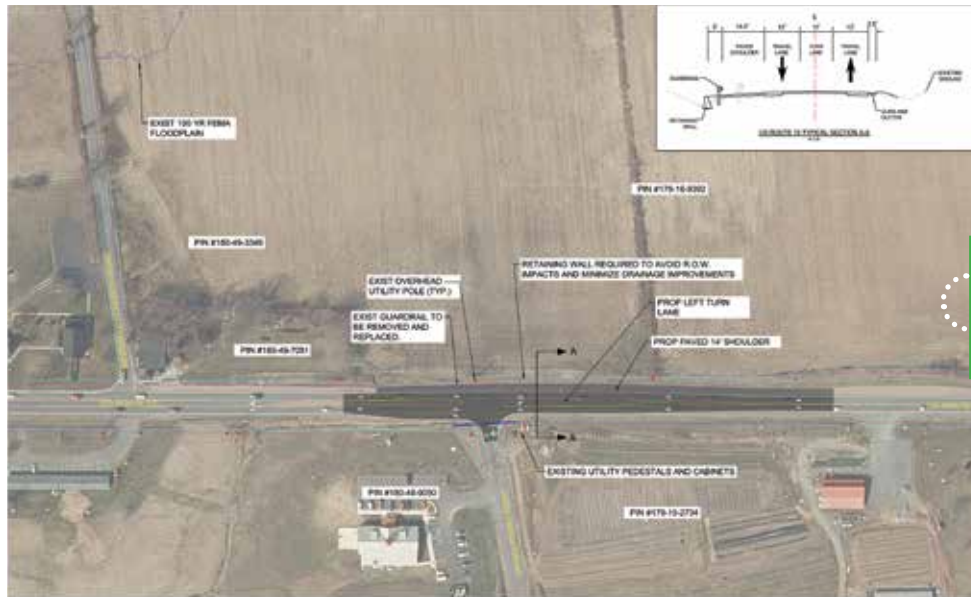
By Pat Logue

Muriel Sarmadi, one of the owners and founders of Roots 657, became very concerned about the Spinks Ferry intersection after witnessing numerous serious accidents at the location. She approached Supervisor Higgins for a meeting tlast year and engaged a small group of Spinks Ferry residents and other Lucketts citizens in the process. Could anything improve safety at this intersection in advance of the larger Route 15 widening project? What could the County do short term to improve safety immediately was the group's goal.

Meetings began late last year, and continued through the spring and summer thanks to the coordination of Supervisor Higgins and his staff. VDOT and County staff worked together with this group to consider three options. The first option was installing a turn lane so cars traveling south on Route 15 would have a place to move out of the flow of traffic when turning onto Spinks Ferry Road. Since the County has already proposed a realignment of Spinks Ferry Road and New Valley Church Road with a roundabout as part of the larger Route 15 project, the turn lane option would be a short-term solution. For this reason, two additional options were recommended. The first would be to install a roundabout at the intersection; the second would be to install a roundabout plus re-alignment of New Valley Church Road.

The County engaged Kimley-Horn to look at the time and cost associated with each of the three options and presented the resulting data to the public at the Lucketts Community Center on Wednesday, September 25th. Attendees, by show of hands demonstrated more support for either roundabout option than for the simple turn lane. Supervisor Higgins shared at the end of the meeting that he would be seeking support for funding this accelerated work from the Board of Supervisors in October. Keeping the project with the County rather than funding it through VDOT allows the County to move faster by utilizing a design-build award. In addition, Supervisor Higgins' office is planning a larger communication with the community to keep citizens informed of the progress of this project.

Thanks go to Muriel Sarmadi – not only for bringing her great business to Lucketts, but also for initiating this process which promises to show improved safety at the Spinks Ferry intersection sooner than later! Supervisor Higgins, County Staff and VDOT and citizen volunteers are to be commended for their consistent attention to this issue and for the action they have taken to help make Lucketts a safer place for all who live and travel here.



Southbound left turn lane



Roundabout with 4th leg for eventual realignment of New Valley Church Road



Roundabout with realignment of New Valley Church Road



Four badges and a blast! *By Sterett Prevost*



This past summer, Boy Scout Troop 1910 of Lucketts, Virginia, attended Henson Scout Reservation for summer camp located in Rhodesdale, Maryland. The Troop looks forward to a good time at this camp every year to take merit badge classes for the week. Each year we pack up bins of gear, chairs and assorted items in the Troop trailer and begin the four-hour journey to Henson.

When we first arrived, we were briefed on the rules of the dining hall and how to be a waiter for our table. They showed us the tables that our troop would be using, then we sorted our first-aid kits. Our guide showed us to our camp space where we unloaded our trailer. We chose a tent partner and a tent, if we hadn't done so already. We chilled out at the camp 'til dinner.

The dinner attire was our class "A" uniform and we line up outside the dining hall for camp announcements and the flag ceremony. The color guard retired the flag and then, troop by troop, we filed into the dining hall for dinner. The first day, it was buffet style. We sat, ate, talked then sang songs. After dinner, was free/relaxation time. Merit badge classes started the following day.

We woke up, had breakfast, got our blue cards and started our amazing week at summer camp. There were many merit badges offered at the camp and I took home four this year – Citizenship in the World, Wilderness Survival, Pioneering, and the Canoeing Merit badges. Our Troop earned a total of 130 Merit Badges at camp!

I had a blast and can't wait for next year!

Meet Bryce Triechel, Eagle Scout



Troop 1910 celebrates Eagle Scout achievement. Bryce Triechel was honored by his Troop and family at his Eagle Court-of-Honor on August 4, 2019 at the Lucketts Community Center.

In obtaining his goal of becoming an Eagle Scout, Bryce earned 41 merit badges, biked 252 miles, camped for 92 nights, canoed 98 miles, hiked 142 miles, rafted 18 miles, held 9 leadership positions in the Troop and is a member of the Order of the Arrow.

The beneficiary of his Eagle project was a Lucketts based non-profit organization called Bridle Paths. Bridle Paths provides, among other therapies, equine-assisted psychotherapy services, many times focusing on our military Veterans. Bridle Paths was in need of a sturdy ramp for their clients to access the horses. Bryce was able to secure the plans, materials and guide the labor in the completion of this project.

The recipient, the clients, and the horses are very appreciative of the dedication of this Eagle Scout to the community and to Scouting. **Congratulations Bryce!**

Boundary Waters

By Andrew Morrison

From July 5th to the 14th our Troop 1910 journeyed to the Boundary Waters which is a high adventure area with multiple lakes traversing the Minnesota and Canadian border. Thirteen Scouts and twelve adults made up three crews for the trip. All chose similar routes. The first day was spent on the water, paddling along, seeing extraordinary bits of nature. That day alone we saw three bald eagles. Together, paddling for half the day we took a small detour north to see the border of Canada and its welcome sign, then reached our first portage. A portage involves taking everything out of the canoe, then carrying the canoe and the gear into the next lake. The next morning, back on the water noticing a key difference, the isolation. For several days we enjoyed the unspoiled, pristine nature around us. Then we headed out to see some Native American paintings. It wasn't easy getting there, but being able to see something so old and to think that the people who made those paintings were standing where we now stood, was extraordinary. Another long day brought navigating down a small river and seeing all sorts of animals from loons, to geese, and even more eagles.

Sadly all good things must come to an end and so did our trip as we set out to the pickup sight. We dried out our gear then got picked up by the outfitter who took us back to where we started. Once there, we got some souvenirs from the gift shop and mapped out our final route before signing each other's maps.

And, so ended a memorable week on the Boundary Waters.





The sweet smell of grapes mixes with the scent of the fresh morning dew. The buzzing of the bees echoes on top of the soft voice of Luis Miguel who resonates from the speakers across the vineyard. Harvest season is here! And it is probably one of the best that Lucketts has had in years.

Rosa agilely clips the grape clusters with her pruners and throws them into the bin. The crew has been at it since 7 in the morning. Chambourcin, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc... all the grape varieties in the vineyard at Fabbioli Cellars look great. This year, the crew is going much faster than last year, when they had to clip a lot of damaged grapes from the clusters ruined by the rainy season. It is quite impressive to see them work and how fast they can “shave” an entire row.

“2018 was a really bad year, the heavy rain, the storms, the hurricanes did not spare us and we had a meager season. The struggle was real. We tried to save as much as we could. But we do not compromise on quality, so there was a lot that we left behind. I can say we lost our shirt last year. But this year is a great harvest, one of the best we have had. The grapes look good and we had a fast harvest”, says Doug Fabbioli, the vintner at Fabbioli Cellars.

The production crew is also working hard day and night, juggling between the grape crushing, the fermentation process and putting the wine into barrels. It seems like this year, Zeus has decided to shower his favors on Dionysus, the Greek god of grape harvest, winemaking and wine. Jordan Harris, Winemaker and General Manager for Tarara winery, one of the oldest in Virginia, cannot agree more. He contends that 2019 is his 13th vintage year and the best that he has seen.

“This is the best year in my 13 years of vintage. The quality and the quantity are there. We finished harvest 20 days earlier. The weather was very favorable. It was warm and hot. All the ingredients reunited for a great season. We harvested 120 tons. It was a very fast and productive harvest. Last year, we went more with rosés because of the circumstances. This year we are definitely going to make a lot of reds and a bunch more rosés”, shares a very enthusiastic Jordan Harris.

Every cloud has a silver lining. 2019 will surely be a harvest to remember in Lucketts. We can definitely look forward to some great wine from this year.



Fall

at the Lucketts Community Center

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

- November 5** **Election Day!** Be sure to vote.
November 7 **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5) 10:00am
November 8 **Parents Night Out** Pizza Palooza | 6:00pm
November 13 **Senior Potluck Luncheon** Noon
November 14 **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5) 10:00am
November 20 **Senior Book Club** 11:00am
November 21 **Family Story Time** 10:00am
November 22 **DMV-to-Go** 9:00am - 3:00pm
November 23 **Music for Kids** 10:00am - 11:00am
November 28 **Thansksgiving Break**

December 5 **Family Story Time** 10:00am
December 6 **Parents Night Out** Holiday Elf | 6:00pm
December 11 **Cooking Club** 2:45pm
December 12 **Family Story Time** 10:00am
December 13 **Community Tree Lighting & Gingerbread House Contest** 6:00pm
December 18 **Senior Book Club & Luncheon** Noon
December 19 **Family Story Time** 10:00am

January 9 **Family Story Time** 10:00am
January 11 **Music for Kids** 10:00am
January 15 **Senior Potluck Luncheon** Noon
January 15 **Cooking Club** 2:45pm
January 16 **Family Story Time** 10:00am
January 22 **Senior Book Club** 11:00am
January 23 **Family Story Time** 10:00am
January 24 **Family Movie Night** 6:00pm
January 30 **Family Story Time** 10:00am

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Lucketts Bluegrass Concert Series

at the Lucketts Community Center

The 46th season runs
 October 2019 to April
 2020. Doors open at 6pm.
 All shows begin at 7pm.
 Admission is \$17.
 Food available.

Brought to you by the
 Lucketts Bluegrass
 Foundation and the
 Loudoun County Parks,
 Recreation and
 Community Services.

For more information visit
luckettsbluegrass.org

- October 26** Carolina Blue with the Mosley Brothers
November 2 Nu Blue
November 9 Blue Train & Patent Pending
November 16 Nothin' Fancy
November 23 Big Country Bluegrass
December 7 Ralph Stanley II & the Clinch Mt. Boys
December 14 Springfield Exit with Tom Mindte, Mason Via & Ben Somerville
January 4 Kristy Cox Band
January 11 Larry Stephenson Band
January 18 Country Gentleman Tribute
January 25 High Fidelity with Shannon Bielski & Moonlight Drive

See next issue of Lucketts News & Notes for the second half of the Lucketts Bluegrass season.

Gingerbread House Contest & Community Tree Lighting!

December 13 at 6pm. Tree lighting, carol singing, yummy food eating and contest for Best Gingerbread House. All this at the Lucketts Community Center!

Don't miss this Lucketts tradition and family-fun way to begin the Holiday Season!

