



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Colonel Cynthia McAlister
cmcalister@purcellvilleva.gov

SAFEGUARDING OUR SUMMER FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING

PURCELLVILLE, Va. May 31, 2019 - The Purcellville Police Department in partnership with the Purcellville Library, invites citizens to a seminar on human trafficking and summer travel safety on June 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The Purcellville Library will be hosting the seminar, located at 220 East Main Street, Purcellville.

Mr. Bill Woolf, Assistant Director of Just Ask Prevention will be our guest speaker. Mr. Woolf has 18 years of law enforcement experience and was previously the co-director of the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force. Mr. Woolf is the recipient of the “2018 Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons.” He is a much sought after speaker and trainer on the topic, and travels the globe to educate others. To learn more, visit their website at <https://justaskprevention.org>

Human trafficking is modern day slavery and has reached epidemic levels in the United States. Trafficker’s techniques are becoming savvier with the use of technology and social media, with the victims becoming younger and younger. This crime is not specific to any socioeconomic group.

The goal of this informational seminar is to raise awareness of the crime of human trafficking. Attendees will also learn how to prevent human trafficking in their community by learning what signs to look for and what to do if human trafficking is suspected.

Please join us before summer vacation season to learn more about this epidemic occurring in our county, our state, our country, and worldwide.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

Purcellville is an award-winning town of over 9,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 10th year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is recognized as one of the safest towns in Virginia. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiques, entertainment, farmer’s markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.