



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PURCELLVILLE POLICE PARTNER WITH BETTERALIFE FOR HOMEWORK CLUB**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va., April 14, 2022** — The Purcellville Police Department is pleased to announce they are partnering with the BetterALife non-profit food pantry to provide a free weekly Homework Club to local elementary and middle school students. The Homework Club will be held Thursdays from 4:30pm to 5:30pm, while Loudoun County Public Schools are in session, starting Thursday, April 28, 2022. The Club will be hosted by the BetterALife organization at their new food pantry located at 201 N. Maple Ave, Unit F, in Purcellville. Local high school volunteers will assist Purcellville Police Officers with providing free homework assistance to local children. While the Homework Club is geared towards elementary and middle school-aged children, high school students are also welcome. Participants will work on homework in a relaxed, fun environment, while getting to know their local Purcellville Police Officers, as well as enjoy a free meal! The BetterALife non-profit will provide the free meals and snacks for the children during the Club.

The Homework Club was first introduced under Chief Darrell Smith, and due to Department staffing levels was paused with the hope it would one day be restarted. Purcellville Police Chief Cynthia McAlister stated, “We are excited to revitalize the Homework Club, and be able to engage and mentor local youth more consistently through this program. We also honor the legacy of Chief Smith who increased community outreach within the town of Purcellville by starting such programs as the Homework Club. We are fortunate to partner with BetterALife to host this club, and provide the kids a free meal in such a welcoming and convenient location. The Homework Club will give our officers a chance to get to know some new faces, while also building upon already established relationships, hopefully with a little fun, and most importantly, getting some homework completed!”

More information about BetterALife can be found on their website at <https://www.betteralife.org/>.

### **The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

“Purcellville-your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper,” is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 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 13<sup>th</sup> year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is ranked “Safest City” in Virginia in 2020. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the Town 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 antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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