# H'IUVANNA REVIEW

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## GENERAL

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**Gardening advice for** beginners

Piedmont Master Gardeners will offer practical advice to beginning gardeners on gardening tools and tips. The free workshop will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church in Charlottesville Saturday, Jan. 12 from 2-4 p.m. To register for this workshop, send your name to: info@piedmontmastergardeners.org



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

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A yellow-bellied sapsucker visits for the winter. Photo by Patricia Soule







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## Lawsuit

# Federal judge rules prison in violation

## BY HEATHER MICHON CORRESPONDENT

A federal judge in Charlottesville issued an injunction Wednesday (Jan. 2) against the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women (FCCW) in Troy, laying down a series of improvements the prison's medical staff must make in the coming weeks and months.

The ruling came about six months after a three-day trial in June 2018, as representatives for the inmates argued that the prison was failing to meet requirements laid out in a 2016 settlement agreement between their clients and the facility, and should be held in contempt of court.

Multiple inmates took the stand to detail how FCCW medical staff failed to deliver timely medical care and how this neglect led to serious complications and, ultimately, deaths.

They argued that this failure to provide basic care violates their Eighth Amendment rights against cruel and unusual punishment.

Lawyers for the state argued that FCCW had implemented most of the changes required under the settlement agreement, and laid much of the blame for chronic understaffing and poor nursing care on the bad publicity surrounding the prison.

Judge Norman K. Moon of the Western District of Virginia found that the Virginia Department of Corrections (VDOC) was in violation of eight of the 22 standards laid out in the settlement agreement, although he declined to hold VDOC in contempt.

Instead, he ordered VDOC to rapidly implement changes to protocols and procedures.



File photo.

## "This case has survived because defendants have upheld neither their Eighth Amendment obligations nor the settlement agreement they reached to effectuate those obligations." – Judge Norman K. Moon

The "settlement agreement does not set an olympic bar for defendants," he wrote in a 51-page decision. "It does not require FCCW to be the Mayo Clinic or Johns Hopkins Hospital. Instead, the settlement agreement simply imposes very basic medical standards and tasks that will bring medical care to an adequate level, something that has been and continues to be absent in significant respects."

To remedy the deficiencies brought forth at the trial in June, he ordered that within two weeks, each building at FCCW should have a backboard or stretcher, an oxygen tank and mask, and a suction machine.

Lack of basic equipment in the prison dormitories was noted in the deaths of Deanna Niece and Carolyn Liberto, who died within days of each other in July 2017.

Within 30 days, the prison should submit new protocols for "unimpeded access to medical care" for inmates.

Moon directly cited the case of Andrea Nichols, a 59-year old inmate who waited two years for a colonoscopy. When it was finally performed, Nichols was diagnosed with stage four rectal cancer which had spread to her liver.

In that same period, the prison will have to evaluate and document the sick call process to make sure all medical complaints are treated in a timely manner. They will also have to document how each grievance is handled, "even if the substance of the grievance is ultimately found to be unfounded," the judge ruled.

And within 45 days, Moon ordered the prison to be continually staffed with the equivalent of 78 full-time nurses. Within that same period, nurses are to be trained in dispensing medications, keeping complete medical records on patients, and giving a timely response to emergency calls.

FCCW and Armour Correctional Health-

care, which runs the prison's medical facility, will remain under the supervision of an external compliance officer.

"No reasonable person could read the settlement agreement and think that it was permissible...for Andrea Nichols to wait three years for a colonoscopy while cancer rotted her body and invaded her liver; or for a medical prison to lack ready access to emergency medical equipment; or for nurses to fail to (and even not know how to) reorder medications; or for extreme chest pain, wheezing, and excessive weight changes to go uncharted and unexamined by a doctor," Moon stated.

"Over six years ago, women at FCCW filed this lawsuit, seeking a remedy for pervasive constitutionally deficient medical care. Their quest continues. Some women have died along the way," he wrote in his conclusion. "But this case has survived because defendants have upheld neither their Eighth Amendment obligations nor the settlement agreement they reached to effectuate those obligations."



# **IS WEEK'S PET**



### **MY NAME IS GAGE!** I am approx. 6 Years old & a boxer mix. I would love to be able to have a family that can show me love. I do not like my nails clipped because it is scary to me, so I would recommend that you take me to a specialist to clip my nails. I do have some skin allergies and I am currently getting special medicated baths as well as taking allergy medication, I am told it is due to seasonal changes. I would need to be in a home with no small children, because I am a big boy with a lot of energy.

Note: The second second

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# TAX TIPS

BY RUDY GARCIA, RIVANNA WOODS FINANCIAL / TAX SERVICES

## **Know The Tax Facts About Dependents**

This week I want to talk to you about 4. Joint return test. The dependent, how to determine if someone you are if married, cannot file a joint return caring for gualifies to be claimed as a dependent on your tax return. In the world of the Internal Revenue Service, a dependent is someone who meets a specific set of criteria as shown below. To be claimed as your dependent, an individual must meet five tests:

1. Gross income test. In 2018, the gross income test is met if the potential dependent has gross income of \$4,150 or less. If the dependent is your child, there is no income limit as long as they are under age 19. If the child is a full-time student for at least five months out of the year, there is no income limit until age 24. Tax-exempt income, such as nontaxable social security benefits, is not included as gross income for purposes of this test.

2. Member of household or relationship test. The dependent must either live in your home or be closely related.

3. Citizenship test. The dependent must be a resident of the U.S., Canada, or Mexico, or be a US citizen or national

with his or her spouse, unless a joint return is filed just to get a refund for withheld taxes.

5. Support test. You must pay more than 50% of the dependent's expenses for the year or qualify to claim the dependent under a multiple support agreement. Support generally includes all funds that were actually spent during the year.

Planning will enable you to maximize your dependency deductions. If your status is changing due to marriage, divorce, adoption or new birth you may need a review of your situation.

Please contact me with any questions you may have about preparing for your taxes! We are here to take the complication out of filing your taxes!

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luvanna Business Corner

## **Role of Fluvanna's Economic Development Coordinator** Steve Nichols, County Administrator

ver wonder what an Economic Development Coordinator does every day? In Fluvanna, our coordinator serves as the County's primary liaison for business recruitment, development, and expansion. This key position focuses on increasing the County's business base, expanding employment opportunities, and raising future revenues. Growing the County's business community is essential to diversifying our tax base and helping lessen tax burdens on residential property owners. To do so, the Coordinator needs to build strong relationships with both existing businesses and potential new business prospects. Supporting and growing Fluvanna's existing businesses is a principal priority of our coordinator, while also recruiting new and complimentary industries.

The coordinator serves as principal liaison to County's Economic Development Authority and to the Fluvanna Chamber of Commerce, two key allies in business retention, growth, and attraction efforts. The coordinator also works closely with other local, regional and state economic development partners including the Central Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, among others. Each of those organizations provide

support for our economic development efforts through advice, expertise, program funding, and grant opportunities.

Another role is to expand tourism marketing and providing tourism assistance and information. Tourism is another economic engine for the County and the coordinator works hand-in-hand with the Parks and Recreation Director and in close collaboration with the County's Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Council. Collectively, they work to support and expand tourism options and activities, along with their traditional business support and growth roles.

To succeed, Fluvanna's Economic Development Coordinator needs a strong understanding of business and industry location strategies, and facility, logistics, finance, labor, and business service needs. The coordinator can help identify resources to support local businesses and connect business owners with training, funding, and market collaboration opportunities.

Fluvanna is currently recruiting to fill our Economic Development Coordinator position. If you are interested in applying for this important and challenging role, check out the "Jobs" page on the Fluvanna County website (www.fluvanncounty.org) or contact the County Administration Office for more information call 434-591-1910.

## **CONTACTS**

**Ruthann Carr** 

**Economic Development coordinator** 434-591-1910

Chamber of Commerce office manager ruthann.carr@fluvannachamber.org

# Author talks about family history

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD CORRESPONDENT

A teacher for 35 years of economics, law and accounting, Warren Groeger always wanted to write. In retirement he finally fulfilled that dream, beginning with researching a family member who became the centerpiece for his first novel, Kati, Cara, and KT: Chronicling a Family's Lives.

"I did not have the good fortune to enjoy the company of all my grandparents, but I did have the presence of my maternal grandmother, Helene Louisa Frederika Barrow Brophy - all 4 feet 10 inches of her," he told the members of the Friends of the Library. He added that his grandmother was not given to storytelling or reminiscing, but as his curiosity about the family developed she allowed him to examine many heirloom documents she assembled throughout her life.

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Warren Groeger and his grandfather. Photo courtesy of Warren Groeger

The documents were a mystery to him since they had been written in an old form of German, known as fraktur. This led him to study German in high school so he could translate them. He discovered a place called Silesia, an eastern province of Imperial Germany that is now a part of Poland.

"That cache of brittle mementos, which I now have framed on my walls, formed the impetus of over 50 years of casual, occasional research into my roots," he said. Once retired, he intensively researched his background and discovered heroes and villains, meek and mighty, quiet and loud ancestors. "I had a Dutch ancestor, who was an embezzling, war-fomenting, cradle-robbing, cheating and fascinating leader of the old New Amsterdam before it became New York."

There was a Revolutionary War soldier and many other male ancestors, but no women stood out until he did more research and found Theresa Schoy. Tessie, as she was known, came to America in 1887 with her lover, Willie Rau.

She became pregnant in the 1890s and he abandoned her in Hell's Kitchen, a poverty-stricken section of New York City. Tessie had no intentions of going

guietly into the night, but rather had Rau arrested and thrown in prison for breach of marriage. She later had the baby and gave it her surname. Groeger explained that this precluded her daughter from becoming a citizen, since women at the time could only become citizens by virtue of their husbands, and Rau was naturalized.

"Tessie went to live with her cousin and worked as a tenement janitor and eventually met my great-grandfather's brother Freddie. I had my hero," Groeger said. "She became the centerpiece of a subsequent volume of family history, someone beyond the usual recordings of mostly men."

He then blended family history and fiction and his first novel was the result. The novel deals with the history of three generations of women: the great-great grandmother, modeled after his great Aunt Tessie, the grandmother and a young, edgy college student.

"Family history can be used for creative writing, but it can also be used to generate greater interest in one's past, simply by recalling moments in the lives of those one knows or knew," he said.

Groeger then read a short piece that



won him first place in the Blue Ridge Writers non-fiction contest for 2018, called *Grandpa Brophy's Embrace*.

His story was rich and vivid in detail, capturing a time that would always remain memorable for Groeger. He brought the audience into his world to view the past, meeting his grandfather and sharing those special moments during their hikes he recalled as "timeless, enchanting expeditions." He beguiled his listeners with the beautiful simplicity of a relationship he would always treasure. He transported the audience back in time with vignettes, including berry picking, nature lessons, an unplanned meeting with a stern-looking cow, a visit to a cider mill and a ride in an old 1938 Chevy coupe that left behind "a stifling plume of exhaust."

"Oh, these moments I hope I retain are true. To revel in forever, as though there might be a guiding spirit within me that knows: You were your grandfather's joy," he read. He then came to end of the story and the end of a life. "Just as love can open one's soul to moments of remembered joy, fear can scar one with jagged remnants of sorrow."

He read his description of the moment



when his family arrived at his grandparents' house at dusk in 1955, a child's bewilderment at seeing the ambulance with its "one red dome light turning slowly in the darkening evening, casting a garish, pulsing glow on the front of the home." He added, "These are images I will always carry."

He later learned his grandfather had died of a massive heart attack. He could not remember what he did on those days after his grandfather's death. He did not attend the wake or the funeral. "Death had taken him quickly, had ambushed him and wrapped its strong, thick arms around his chest and embraced him," Groeger wrote.

He ended his discussion by saying, "What is important is that your words come from the heart – that they are your personal expression, your way of memorializing your dearest family members." He added that anyone interested in learning more about writing their own family stories can join him at the Fluvanna County Library Jan. 11 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Warren Groeger. Photo by Page Gifford

# Advocates seek funding to help Virginians with disabilities

BY GEORGIA GEEN CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Dozens of disability-rights activists urged members of the Virginia General Assembly Thursday (Jan. 3) to approve funding to reduce the nearly 13,000strong waitlist for developmental disability waivers.

Developmental disability waivers, which are granted by Medicaid, include support services for mental and behavioral health, learning and employment.

According to speakers from The Arc of Virginia – which advocates for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities – about 3,000 of those on the waitlist are classified as "priority one," meaning they will need waiver services within a year. However, The Arc members recalled experiencing years-long waits to receive resources such as one-on-one job coaching, monitoring of self-administered medications and in-home care tailored to the patient's needs and independence level.

Cheryl Emory said she had to leave her job years ago to care for her now-youngadult daughter, Virginia, who has a disability.

"At this rate, I'll be 70 or 80 or have died when Virginia gets a waiver," Emory told a legislative panel at a hearing on proposed amendments to the state's 2018-2020 budget. "Today, we're asking you to fund all of the priority one waiting list."

The Arc's executive director, Tonya Milling, said the organization wants the General Assembly to completely fund waivers for those in the "priority one" category, finishing an effort that began last year when waivers were funded for 1,695 of the 3,000 on the waitlist. She estimates \$38 million would be necessary to fully fund the remainder of the list.

"You don't want to waste that big investment, because it's the biggest one that they've made. We don't want to lose that momentum that they made," Milling said. "This is the time, this is the opportunity to bring balance to the system before people are in crisis."

"In-crisis" patients are those with a higher need for services offered by the developmental disability waiver. Many have aging parents with their own health concerns serving as caregivers, putting them at a higher risk of institutionalization, Milling said.



Photo provided by Capital News Service.

Low pay for at-home health care workers also impacts care for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, many speakers said. The shortage of care providers means even those who qualify cannot always get sufficient at-home nursing.

Joyce Barnes is an at-home care worker in Henrico County, and said she has to work 12-15 hours per day. She asked General Assembly members to consider increasing wages for at-home care providers, in addition to a 40-hour work week cap that would allow them to receive overtime pay. Barnes also suggested an additional orientation program for at-home health care workers.

Constance Wilson, an at-home care provider, said she helps her clients with bathing, eating and other day-to-day tasks – but also serves as a companion by spending time with them.

"We save the state money to keep people out of the emergency room and out of nursing rooms," Wilson said.

According to a report by The Commonwealth Fund, a health policy organization, at-home care reduces health care costs by 30 percent and can be more ef-

fective than hospital care.

Members of RISE for Youth, an advocacy group addressing youth incarceration, spoke in favor of Gov. Ralph Northam's budget amendment to fund additional school counselors throughout Virginia. Over two years, Northam's proposed \$36 million for additional school counselors would bring Virginia's caseload-to-counselor ratio from 425-to-1 to 250-to-1, the nationally recommended level.

Rebecca Keel, a member of RISE for

Youth, said some students come to school in "flight-or-fight mode."

"Their behaviors are criminalized instead of recognized as a cry for help," Keel said. "Please keep investing in support staff rather than law enforcement."

The public hearing at the Science Museum of Virginia was one of four held across Virginia on Thursday. The other hearings were in Fairfax, Roanoke and Newport News.



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# Fluvanna Faces: Tracey Justus

BY MADELINE OTTEN CORRESPONDENT

#### How long have you lived in Fluvanna? What brought you here?

I moved here in 2006 due to a job relocation. I began working in the neuro intensive care unit at University of Virginia Medical Center.

#### Where do you live?

#### Sycamore Square in Palmyra

#### Tell us about your family.

I have two wonderful boys. One is 20 years old and graduated in 2016. My second son is a senior who wrestles. They are both unique and wonderful in their own ways.

What was your first job? What lessons from that job helped you later in life?

My very first job was probably babysitting. It certainly helped prepare me for being a caregiver to my own children.

## Where did you go to school? What did you study?

My undergraduate degree is from Queens University in Charlotte, N.C. I received a Bachelor's of Science in nursing. I then went on to get my Master's of Nursing degree from Walden University with a concentration in nursing informatics.

## What is your title at your current career?

Electronical medical record manager, nurse informaticist.

#### What are your responsibilities?

I manage a team of 26 application systems analyst-programmers and maintain the software for the core clinical applications. Additionally, I am the project lead for an assessment for installing the same software at a community hospital. I am responsible for new functionality for the same areas along with maintenance. I participate in organizational initiatives related to software needs, consulted for IT projects, and participate on policy and procedure committees as needed. Workflow analysis is also part of my daily responsibilities.

## How long have you been with you current employer?

#### Since 2006.

What challenges do you face on a regular basis?

One of the biggest challenges that I face on a daily basis is having enough time is to complete all the work that comes in.

What changes have you seen within your career throughout the past couple of years?

The changes that I have seen involve using technology to leverage better outcomes for patients in their care. The data we retrieve is only as good as the data that we input. Our customer base has become much savvier with what they want to enter into the electronical medical record, therefore making the data we extract more meaningful. This has allowed for more lean processes to be implemented. This allows for more time at the bedside with patients. Additionally, the tools we are implementing are more sophisticated and precursors to certain disease processes are recognized earlier to allow for better patient outcomes.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

One of the things that I love about what I do is working directly with my team members. At times the needs of the organization take me away from that part of the job. When I do find time to connect with my team, that's when I get the most joy out of what I do. Additionally, when my teams are able to make changes in the software system that make it easier for our staff and then makes a positive change for patient outcomes, it is very rewarding.

#### What is one of your pet peeves?

That there is not enough time to work on all the great initiatives that could make positive outcomes for all of our patient populations.

## What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to run and work out at the gym, spend time at the beach, and given that it's wrestling season, attend Fluvanna County's wrestling matches!

#### Do you prefer books or movies?

I prefer books. This way I get to imagine the characters the way that I see them. I also enjoy the movies, specifically Marvel or DC movies.

## What is your favorite book or series?

The Harry Potter series. It was wellwritten, clean and humorous. It's an easy read that takes you away from the reality of the day for a fun and fantastical story.

## What pivotal decision helped to shape your life?

The birth of my firstborn son is what catapulted me into a nursing career. He was born 11 weeks prematurely with a lot of comorbidities and I felt it was critical that I be familiar with the healthcare system and prepare myself for his future needs. I made a decision to become a



Courtesy photo of Tracey Justus.

nurse and literally fell in love with a career. Tell us about a way you have changed over the years.

I have learned to appreciate that time with family and work-life balance is critical to success. Having a good work-life balance makes a person more productive at work and an all-around happier and productive person.

## What has surprised you about your life?

I actually had no idea that I would be a nurse. Originally my goal was to work in computing science. As I stated above, life changes occurred and I became a nurse and love it! An opportunity occurred that allowed me to merge my nursing experience with information technology for what has to be the most satisfying career I've experienced thus far. I'm frequently asked if I miss bedside nursing, and on occasion I do. My standard response is instead of taking care of two patients now I get to take care of a whole hospital full of patients. I truly love what I do.

#### What's one thing you hope to accomplish before you die?

I would like to be able to be an advocate for parents of special needs children in the school system. Having children is a challenge within itself but then adding unique needs of individual children with a variety of different disabilities is a difficult situation to navigate. Parents need support and they need to know that others have been through what they're going through and can empathize with them. Just knowing that you are not alone makes a huge difference when trying to do what's best for your children and overcoming barriers that make it exceptionally difficult.

#### Tell us about one of your regrets.

I would have liked to have started my nursing career earlier.

#### Tell us about your proudest moment.

One of my proudest moments that I will reference is developing a healthy lifestyle. Learning how to exercise and eat healthfully can have a positive effect on not only my health but also those around me.

## What is the craziest thing you have ever done?

One of the craziest things that I did was join the Army. I was in a transition period, trying to determine what I was going to be when I grew up. I learned discipline, chain of command, standardization of work, and how to work with a team. A lot of valuable lessons learned during my short time in the military helped shape the way I conduct business today. Such valuable lessons that I will carry with me always.

## What quote or saying do you connect with most?

"However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at." – Stephen Hawking

This speaks to the fact that success is a state of mind. Everyone can have successes in life whether they are personal or on a global level.



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 Tickets \$10 - 20

 ★ Friday, Feb 15 at 7:30 PM

 Image: State State

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Photos, online reservations and details at our website www.BoxleyPlaceInn.com

# Girls fall in competition for first in District

BY DUNCAN NIXON CORRESPONDENT

It was a contest between the two top girls' basketball teams in the Jefferson District. The Flucos came into the Jan. 4 game at 3-1 in the District and Western came at 4-1.

Unfortunately, the Fluco girls' team could not find the basket against the Warriors from Western Albemarle. The Fluco girls made only five baskets in the entire game and fell to the very defensiveminded league-leading Warriors 17-38.

The Fluco girls' offense is usually centered on drives to the basket, resulting in lay-ups, or free throws. League-leading Western Albemarle was not deterred by the Flucos' driving offense. Their defense was highly effective. The Flucos were unable to convert a single driving lay-up all game.

The first quarter was a balanced defensive struggle. Fluco freshman post player Khamare Steppe converted on two inside baskets and junior shooting guard Nevaeh Ivory hit a three point shot, and the Flucos trailed at the end of the quarter 7-8.

In the second and third quarters the Flucos got killed. In the second quarter, the Warrior defense basically won the game. The Flucos simply could not get any good shots, and the shots they got did not convert. The Warriors scored 10 points in the quarter – not an overwhelming total, but the Flucos were completely shut out, losing the quarter 0-10.The halftime score was 7-18. The game was effectively over.

In the third quarter, the Flucos continued to have problems dealing with the Warriors' intense defense. Steppe managed an inside basket and junior point guard Jules Shepherd converted a free throw for a total of three points in the quarter. The Warriors put up 12 points, so the Flucos were outscored in the second and third quarters by an overwhelming 3-22.

In the fourth quarter, the Flucos got a three point shot and two free throws from Ivory and two free throws from sophomore guard Kelise Thomas. The Flucos were outscored in the fourth quarter by the same 7-8 score as they were outscored in the first quarter. The Flucos were not really overwhelmed by the Warriors, but they just were unable to find the basket. The teams appeared to be more evenly matched than the score indicated.

After the game, Coach Chad White noted that the Warrior defense was intense, but he commented that the Flucos just could not seem to get any of their shots to fall. The Flucos had a number



of put back opportunities on the offensive boards that rolled around the rim and failed to go down.

With only 17 points, it is not surprising that the Flucos had no one scoring in double figures. Ivory had eight points and Steppe had six.

The Fluco girls are now 5-5 overall and 3-2 in the district. They played a make-up game at Albemarle High School Monday (Jan. 7). They hosted Monticello High on Wednesday (Jan. 9) and they will then host William Monroe on Friday (Jan. 11). On Jan. 14 they will host Madison County and on Jan. 18 they will travel to Orange County. The girls will then return home Jan. 22 to host the Black Knights of Charlottesville High.



Photos by Fluvanna Sports Photography.





To advertise email: sales@fluvannareview.com







2018-2019 Season at Carysbrook Performing Arts Center



## The Barter Players Present The Princess

And the Pea

Sunday, January 13, 3:00 PM

Bandits have come to rob the kingdom. The only hope lies with Prince Harold, who must wed before he can be crowned king. But Harold is more interested in wrestling than girls even when a beautiful maiden

claiming to be Princess Marigold appears at the castle. Determined to stay single, Harold devises a way to test Marigold's qualifications using a garden pea and a stack of mattresses. Can Marigold pass the test? Will the kingdom be saved? A fun twist on a classic fairy tale. The Players will hold a Workshop for the audience following their production. A great way to spend a Sunday Afternoon!!!

**TICKETS:** •\$12 Advance • \$15 day of performance • \$10 Students/Military/Veterans •Family Package Available \$5 per person (2 adults & 3 or more children)

## **Next Performance:**

## Od Satu A De

## **Odyssey of Soul**

## Saturday, February 16 at 7:30 pm

A View from a Train: Decoding the Stories and Music of the Underground Railroad

Following up on his past concerts that traced the music of soul, gospel, and the civil rights era, Horace Scruggs and his musical group return with another "learning and listening" concert to uncover the history behind the music of the Underground Railroad.

With stories of the courageous leaders in the movement and authentic renditions of "signal songs" and "map songs," this illuminating musical program brings to light the struggles, hopes, and the path toward salvation of those who took part in one of the greatest acts of mass resistance in American history.

TICKETS: •\$12 Advance • \$15 day of performance • \$10 Students/Military/Veterans •Family Package Available \$5 per person (2 adults & 3 or more children)

Carysbrook Performing Arts Center 8880 James Madison Highway (Hwy 15) Fork Union,VA 23055 NO RESERVE SEATS! Purchase your tickets online: www.Carysbrook.org or call 434-842-1333

To advertise call: 434.207.0223

# Virginia receives \$9.9 million grant to strengthen early childhood education

PRESS RELEASE

Virginia's first lady, Pamela Northam, announced Jan. 3 that the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), in partnership with the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) and the University of Virginia (U.Va.), received a one-year \$9.9 million competitive federal preschool development grant for ages birth through five from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families.

These federal funds will be used by VDOE and its partners to support statewide initiatives that bolster Virginia's early childhood system. These initiatives include producing a statewide needs assessment and strategic plan, aligning early learning standards, and developing kindergarten-readiness tools for teachers and families.

"Every child in Virginia is capable of entering kindergarten ready with the skills they need to succeed in school, regardless of who they are or where they live," said Northam. "This grant will enable our innovative local leaders and teachers to build skills, engage families in their children's learning and development, and measure progress all while being financially rewarded for their efforts."

Nearly \$4 million of this funding will directly support early childhood educators across the Commonwealth. The funds will support initiatives in 10 innovative communities to unify child care, Head Start, and pre-K at the local level. To accelerate the implementation of higher standards and reduce turnover, leaders and teachers in these communities who agree to strengthen standards, participate in trainings, and improve quality will receive financial incentives at the end of the grant.

In these 10 early adopter communities, this funding will allow Virginia to evaluate 1,000 publicly funded infant, toddler and pre-K classrooms, to better understand the quality landscape. This effort will be unique in that it will work to involve all infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms in publicly funded early childhood programs, including family day homes, child care, Head Start and schools. Furthermore, the communities will conduct focus groups and surveys to gather insights from the families of Virginia's youngest learners.

These evaluations will help determine which improvement supports are most helpful and how to best inform families about early childhood options. Best practices and models can then be scaled statewide and sustained using existing funds more effectively. Local communities will serve as leaders for the state, helping to identify what steps and practices are needed to unify and strengthen the birth-to-five early childhood system.

"Working closely with partners and local communities, Virginia can strength-

en teaching, more deeply engage families and increase the number of children who enter kindergarten with the skills needed to be successful," said State Superintendent of Instruction Dr. James Lane.

VDOE will serve as the lead agency in collaboration with VECF and U.Va. to implement the efforts made possible by the preschool development grant. VECF will be a partner focused on managing the needs assessment, strategic plans and community pilots. Partners at U.Va. will utilize their expertise by supporting community efforts to evaluate classrooms, improve quality, engage families and educators and assess the impact of this work. This partnership will seek input from a diverse group of stakeholders in roundtable discussions across the state and will receive advice from the School Readiness Committee.



# Jane Feild joins Long & Foster's Lake Monticello Office

PRESS RELEASE

Long & Foster Real Estate welcomes Jane Feild to its Lake Monticello office in Palmyra. Feild is an experienced Realtor with two years of experience in the real estate field.

"We are very excited and fortunate to have Jane join our team of highly trained professionals," said Tom Morace, manager of the Lake Monticello office. "The combination of Long & Foster and Jane's unique skills, knowledge and experience will no doubt provide the highest level of service to local buyers and sellers."

"I found the office to be very supportive of each other and look forward to having access to the managing broker and office administrator to help me utilize the tools and technology Long & Foster has to offer," Feild said.

"We're so pleased to announce Jane Feild has joined the Long & Foster family," said Boomer Foster, president of Long & Foster Real Estate. "As the number one



Jane Feild.

brokerage in the mid-Atlantic region, we operate with an agent-first mentality. We look forward to the energetic partnership Jane has created by deciding to join the industry-leading Lake Monticello office and our company."

Jane has lived and operated several businesses in the Fluvanna community for 21 years and believes in giving back to the local community.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY



## THIRD THURSDAY at The Lodge at Old Trail

## JANUARY

Doors open at 5:30 pm. Program begins at 5:45 pm.



You're invited to join us for another year of Third Thursday's at The Lodge. This year we kick-off with, **Discovering Monticello's Buried Past**. Presenters include Beatrix Arendt, Curator of Archaeological Collections at Monticello and Crystal Ptacek, Field Research Manager at Monticello. They will be discussing the past forty years of excavations, recent field and lab work and the current goals and objectives of the Monticello's archaeological department. In addition, they will present an in-depth view of two recently excavated sites—the South Pavilion Kitchen and an early 19th-century slave quarter. Start off the new year by making plans to come to The Lodge for this fascinating and important look into the past. *You'll be glad you did!* 

Make your reservation early. RSVP to 434.823.9100 or rsvp@ lodgeatoldtrail.com



## **CVEC returns** \$1.05 million to member-owners

## PRESS RELEASE

The Board of Directors of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (CVEC) authorized \$1.05 million in capital credit refunds to cooperative member-owners.

Refunds were issued in December, making 2018 the ninth consecutive year that CVEC has issued capital credit refunds. To date, CVEC has returned nearly \$18 million to members.

CVEC is a not-for-profit cooperative that allocates any revenues above expenses to its member-owners in the form of patronage capital. Patronage capital represents the members' ownership and investment in the cooperative for each year the member received electric service. This patronage capital is eventually returned to members in the form of capital credit payments.

"One of the many benefits of belonging to a cooperative is that all profits are allocated to its members each year," said Tina Mallia, vice president and CFO of CVEC. "These profits are invested in cooperative plant and eventually refunded to members in the form of cash or a bill credit."

The refunds this year will be used to retire 50 percent of the 1991 patronage capital allocations and 10 percent of the allocations from 2017. The money will be distributed to members by mailed check if the refund is \$100 or above, or as a bill credit for refunds below \$100.

Members may learn more about this feature of the cooperative business model at https://www.mycvec.com/myaccount/capital-credits-estate-refunds. The site also includes a list of unclaimed capital credit refunds, the result of previously mailed checks that were not cashed or were returned to the cooperative due to an outdated mailing address.

CVEC is a member-owned, not-forprofit, electric utility serving 37,000 homes, farms and businesses in the rural portions of 14 Virginia counties.



Register now at www.pvcc.edu

# The Arc.

of the Piedmont

Are you passionate about applying your skills to ensure the greatest quality of life possible for our fellow community members in need? If so The Arc urges you to consider opportunities within our organization. Our mission is to ensure full community inclusion and participation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the provision of high quality services and advocacy. Our vision is to remain the leading provider of services and advocacy for this deserving population. If you share these values we urge you to consider the following career opportunities:

Direct Support Professionals – Residential, Day Support and In-Home Services (FT and PT)

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We are eager to hear from qualified candidates interested in working in Charlottesville, Crozet, Nelson and Louisa. Additional detail for each vacancy (including schedules) may be viewed on the Employment page of our web site.

To see a full listing of all of our positions, to apply and to learn more about what The Arc is doing to support our community, please visit our web site at http://thearcofthepiedmont.org/

In addition to offering a challenging and rewarding experience The Arc also offers competitive compensation, paid training, and- for full time staff- an attractive benefits package which includes paid leave, health, dental and vision insurance, as well as life and long-term disability insurance, among other offerings. The Arc of the Piedmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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## **EVENTS**

BINGO: at Lake Monticello Fire & Rescue, 10 Slice Road, Palmyra (off of Rte 600, turn at traffic light). Closing for Holidays and look forward to seeing you all again January 10th., 2019. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Questions? Call (434) 591-1018.

## FOR SALE

TONNEAU COVER FOR PICK-UP: The Soft Tonneau cover fits pick- up truck box 6 ft. 6 inches long by 5 ft. 3 inches wide. \$125.00. Call Andy at (434) 960-8003.

CEMETERY SITES: Holly Memorial Gardens and Monticello Memory Gardens. Significant savings! Call (434) 295-1750

DRIVEWAY STONE: Slate: 9-Ton Crush Run @ \$150., 9-Ton #57 @ \$270., 14-Ton #57 @ \$355., 14-Ton Crush @ \$200. GRANITE also available. Pricing includes delivery and \*tailgate spread. Call (434) 420-2002.

## HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Antioch Baptist Church, Fluvanna County, is a growing church on a mission to reach our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The position of administrator is part time, 30 hours per week, 5 days per week. The ideal candidate must be a Christian, have experience in accounting and general office duties, multitasking and confidentiality. Pay starts at \$14 hourly. Please email resume and cover letter to: AntiochHR@yahoo.com

OPHTHALMIC TECH F/T: Energetic team player for busy Optometric Office. Strong computer experience needed. EHR and/ or eyecare, medical office experience a significant plus. Preference given to qualified applicants who live in Fluvanna or near Lake Monticello. EOE. Fax resume: For \$10 your ad will appear in the next two issues of the Fluvanna Review. Deadline for print ads is MONDAY BY NOON.

(434) 591-0111, or email: reception@ weisseyes.com, or call office (434) 591-0262.

OPTOMETRIC OFFICE OPTICAL SALES/ OPTICIAN F/T or P/T: Energetic team player for busy Optometric Office. Strong computer experience needed. EHR and Eyecare and Optical experience needed. Preference given to qualified applicants who live in Fluvanna or near Lake Monticello. EOE. Fax resume (434) 591-0111 or email: reception@weisseyes.com , or call (434) 591-0262.

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## **SPECIAL NOTICES**

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SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS: Monticello Country Realtors supports local businesses. www.monticellorealtors.com (434) 589-3539

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## SHERIFF'S REPORT DEC. 26-JAN. 3

## NATURE OF INCIDENT / TOTAL | CRASHES

911 HANG UP	15	MVC ENTRAP/BLD 21:22:18 12/26
911 MISDIAL	6	3587 JAMES MADISON HWY
911 OPEN LINE ANIMAL CONTROL CALLBACK	1 8	MVC NO INJURY 22:30:55 12/26 970 RURITAN LAKE RD
ANIMAL CONTROL FOLLOW UP	4	MVC W/ ANIMAL 23:15:01 12/26
ADDRESS SIGN REQUEST	1	WEST RIVER RD & BASS LN
ADULT WELFARE/PUB SAFETY CHK	3	MVC NO INJURY 13:04:29 12/27
AGGRESSIVE ANIMAL	2	RIDGE RD & RISING SUN RD
	4	MVC NO INJURY 14:31:18 12/27
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY ASSAULT W/ NO INJURY	2 1	ANTIOCH RD & KIDDS DAIRY RD
ASSAULT WITH INJURY	1	MVC ENTRAP/BLD 00:07:39 12/30
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE RECEIVED	3	12272 JAMES MADISON HWY
BE ON LOOKOUT	11	MVC NO INJURY 16:04:28 12/30
BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	1	160 COMMONS BLVD; SHERIFFS OFFICE
BURGLARY PAST OCCURRANCE	2	MVC INJURY/UNK 19:12:41 12/30
CHILD WELFARE/ABUSE/ENDNGMNT	1	SOUTH BOSTON RD & RIVER RIDGE DR
CIVIL INFORMATION REQUEST	3 5	MVC W/ ANIMAL 05:05:46 01/01
CIVIL PAPER NECEVED	45	CEDAR LANE RD & COMMUNITY HOUSE RE
COMMERCIAL BURG ALARM	7	MVC W/ ANIMAL 17:36:00 01/01
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY	2	JAMES MADISON HWY & FRIENDSHIP RD
DISABLED VEHICLE	6	MVC W/ ANIMAL 18:31:57 01/01
DISTURBANCE	9	100 COURTHOUSE RD
DRUG TAKE BACK	1	MVC INJURY/UNK 19:31:45 01/02 9020 WEST RIVER RD
FINGERPRINTS FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION	3 9	MVC INJURY/UNK 15:25:13 01/03
FOLLOW OF INVESTIGATION	3	RICHMOND RD & TROY RD
GUN PERMIT RECEIVED	2	
HARASSMENT PHONE/OTHER	1	TOTAL CRASHES 13
HOLD-UP ALARM	1	
VCIN CHECK	3	ARRESTS
	5	
PHONE CALL RETURN LIVESTOCK CALL	50 1	Dec. 28 at 8:03 p.m. Home address: Bremo Bluff
MAGISTRATE WALK IN	4	Enter/set vehicle in motion without
MISSING ADULT	1	consent
MVC W/ENTRAPMENT OR INTO STRUC	2	Dec. 29 at 9:43 a.m.
MVC WITH INJ OR UNKNOWN INJ	3	Home address: Palmyra
MVC WITH NO INJURY	4	Traffic offense
MVC W/ ANIMAL DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS	4 1	Dec. 30 at 12:27 a.m. Home address: Barboursville
NUISANCE DOMESTIC ANIMAL	1	DUI/DUID
OPEN DOOR	1	Dec. 30 at 3:51 a.m.
OTHER LAW CALL	18	Home address: Palmyra
OVERDOSE	1	Possession of marijuana
GENERAL PAIN	1	Jan. 2 at 5:36 p.m.
PEDESTRIAN IN ROAD/INTOX PEDES	1 2	Home address: Kents Store Two counts of unlawful dissemination o
PRISONER TRANSPORT PROJECT LIFESAVER RELATED CALL	2	image, profane swearing public intoxica
REPOSSESSION	4	tion
RESIDENTAL BURGLAR ALARM	2	Dec. 3 at 4:24 p.m.
SELECT PATROL	54	Home address: Palmyra
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY	1	Obstructing justice
SHOTS HEARD	2	TOTAL ARRESTS 6
SICK CALL STRAY DOG	3 6	
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY/PERSON	26	FREDERICKSBURG
TIPS/INFORMATION RECEIVED	4	
DIRECT TRAFFIC/FUNERAL TRAFFIC	2	
TRAFFIC HAZARD	3	STANK
TRAFFIC STOP	63	
TRESPASSING/HUNTING TRESPASS UNRESPONSIVE	3 1	
VCIN HITS RECEIVED	1	JANUARY 18-19-20, 2019
VCIN QUERY RUN	1	Fredericksburg Expo Center
WARRANT RECEIVED	7	www.FredericksburgBoatShow.com
OUT SERVING WARRANT	24	
TOTAL INCIDENTS	345	Check out all the newest models!

<b>NTRAP/BLD</b> AMES MADISON HW		
	22:30:55 12/26/18	
JRITAN LAKE RD		
V/ ANIMAL RIVER RD & BASS LN	23:15:01 12/26/18	
	13:04:29 12/27/18	4
RD & RISING SUN RE		
<mark>io injury</mark> Ch RD & Kidds Daif		ŀ
NTRAP/BLD		_
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## Edited by Margie E. Burke

## **HOW TO SOLVE:**

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

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## PROPERTY TRANSFERS

PROPERTY TRANSFER DEEDS ARE PRO-VIDED BY THE FLUVANNA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT. THE *FLUVANNA REVIEW* IS NOT RE-SPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS.

#### 12/04/18

Deutsche Bank Trust Co to Hepp, David J 25 Fish Pond Rd Howardsville VA 24562. Fork Union distr 2.00 AC \$61,988.00

Loft Realty & Investments, LLC to Jones, Stevenson V, Jr. 219 Hardware Hills Cir Scottsville VA 24590. 1.00 AC \$159,900.

Haney, Brian & ET AL to Peteres, Stephen Wesley 15 Avalon PI Palmyra VA 22963. Cunningham Magis Distr 13.037 AC \$200,000.00

Professional Foreclosure Corp to Walker, Chris 986 Holly Ridge Rd Keswick VA 22947. 10 AC \$81,200.00.

Vann, Larry W & Susan to Conner, Cynthia D 1 Inlet Cir Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 92 Phase One Ashlawn LM \$135,000.00

#### 12/05/18

Franklin, Elizabeth I, TR to Puccio, Christopher & Samantha 1779 Dogwood Dr Kents Store VA 23084. 3.611 AC \$335,000.00

#### 12/06/18

Valentine, M Pratt to Taylor, Jeffrey A & Cynthia 1349 Georges Mills Road Palmyra VA 22963. Palmyra Magis Distr 12.893 AC \$370,000.00

#### 12/07/18

Pardee Virginia Timber 2, LLC to Hudson, Edward & Brenda 7 Pinelawn Road South Beach NY 22789. 15.01AC \$57,500.00

Loft Realty & Investments, LLC to Dampier, Nicholas E 23 Smokewood Drive Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 334 Phase Twelve Edgewood LM \$182,000.00

#### 12/11/18

Northcutt, Mary P to Fisher, Zachary 18 Hatchecubee Rd Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 141 Phase Ten Cherokee Section LM \$182,500.00

Meade Construction, LLC to Holsapple, Thomas Allen & Vi 91 Rosewood Court Scottsville VA 24590. 0.706 AC \$240,000.00

#### 12/12/18

Johnson, Virgelee B to Haislip Lane Farms, LLC 4545 Kidds Dairy Road Scottsville VA 24590. Cunningham Magisterial Distr. 126.988 AC \$420,000.00

Belwe Davis, Kelly Diane to Armstrong, Montel & Robin 6167 Rolling Rd Scottsville VA 24590. Cunningham Magis Distr 2.044 AC \$207,000.00

Terra Abstract Virginia Inc to Secretary of Veterans Affairs 210 Franklin Road, S.W. Roanoke VA 24011. Palmyra Magis Distr. 2.207 AC \$147,087.50

Mawyer, Betty Lauren to Lapuma, Nathan & Mackie 88 Sydney Way Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 48 Phase 3 Sycamore Square \$235,000.00

Hunt, Carloton R III & Cristal to Mawyer, Kenneth & Betty Lauren 2994 West River Rd Scottsville VA 24590. 5.727 AC \$310,253.00 12/14/18

Samuel I White, Sub TR to Branch Banking &

Trust Company 111 Millport Circle Greenville SC 29607. 2 AC \$112,751.00

#### 12/17/18

Westmoreland, Michael & Sandy to Blankenship, Bruce A & Cherry 279 Jefferson Dr Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 477 Phase Four Fairway Addition One LM \$220,000.00

Kathryn Penn Vineyard to Saidi, Driss Ben 910 Locust Lane Charlottesville VA 22901 Lot 310 Phase Two Shadwell LM \$15,000.00

D & D Rental Investments, LLC to Medina Rios, Alfonso & Alma 386 Jefferson Drive Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 344 Phase Eight Nahor LM \$155,000.00

12/18/18

Martin, Christopher Michael to LeJeune, David L & Virginia 28 Nahor Dr Palmyra VA 263. Lot 189 Phase Eight Nahor Dr Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 189 Phase Eight Nahor LM \$269,900.00

DeMorro, John P III & Tina M to Colley, Sarah Kathleen 572 Jefferson Dr Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 191 Phase Five Tufton LM \$207,000.00

Lenhart Pettit, Sub TR to Canis Major Farm Holdings, LLC 6474 Apple Green LN Crozet VA 22932. See Document for full description \$400,000.00.

Dansey, George W & Douglas W to Via, Ryan 2656 Georges Mill Rd Palmyra VA 22963. Palmyra Magis Distr. 2.5 AC \$150,000.00.

12/19/18

Prindle, William Rodman to Day, Phillip P & Jennifer L 846 Troy Rd Troy VA 22974. 8.574 AC \$545,000.

Noell, John Richard Sr & Judy to Knight, Adam C & Dorothy S 1738 Ruritan Lake Rd Scottsville VA 24590. See Document for full description \$130,000.00

CR 2018, LLC to Ownby, John 2259 Rolling Road South Scottsville VA 24590. 0.499 AC \$14,900.00.

Hannah, Everett M & Martha to Rambo, Zina M & Joseph D 5570 Union Mills Rd Troy VA 22974. Lot 24 Deer Run \$355,000.00.

Professional Foreclosure Corp to Cedar Homes Investments, LLC N/A, N/A XX Columbia Distr 1.557 AC \$97,601.00.

12/20/18

Higginbotham, James R, Jr & S to Henry, Dan C & Sally A Montg 196 Kent Lane Kents Store VA 23084. 10.000 AC \$443,900.00.

Kossack, Ryan A & Mollyann to Finley, Elaine M & ET AL 20 Acre Lane Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 28 Phase Eleven A The Acres LM \$399,900.00.

Costello, Natalie J Rector & to Carter, Lisa K P.O. Box 1052 Scottsville VA 24590. See Document for full description \$230,000.00.

12/21/18

Barnwell, Lawrence R & Doren to Plumb, Joseph Michael & Cath 4706 Rolling Road S Scootsville VA 24590. 2.000 AC \$210,000.00.

Davis, Kenneth L to Smith, Mary L P.O. Box 6543 Kaneohe HI 96744. 1.590 AC \$90,980.00.

Davis, Kenneth L to Smith, Mary L P.O. Box 6543 Kaneohe HI 96744. 1.049 AC \$71,791.00.



Paymar, Daniel J & Sandra to Eagle, Nancy R 648 Jefferson Dr Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 325 Phase Two Shadwell LM \$177,500.00.

Southern Property, LLC to James Higginbotham Living Trust 138 Crape Myrtle Drive Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 70 Nahor Village Sub \$345,429.00.

Beller, Jennifer P to Washburn, Robert Hugh 772 Jefferson Dr Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 152 Phase Two Shadwell LM \$208,000.00.

12/27/18

Collins, Debra L & Wilson D to Peterson, Sean L & Danielle 677 Justin Dr Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 86 Phase 3 Sycamore Square \$340,000.00.

Brown, David C & Joann F to Brice, Shanta N 1520 Hunters Lodge Rd Troy VA 22974. 2.0124 AC \$145.000.00.

Newton, Mary P & Arthur M to Shifflett, Lawrence Jr & Bet 532 Deep Creek Road Palmyra VA 22963. Palmyra Magis Distr 7.90 AC \$202,975.00.

Goldwein, Neil K & Bonnie to Wimberly, Charles S, Sr & Ela 6506 Haycock Road Alexandra VA 22310. Lot 111 Phase Two Sycamore Square Sub \$325,000.00.

Meade Construction, LLC to White, Paul Michael & Louise 828 Fiddlers Point Lane Mount Pleasant VA 29464. Lot 47 Rosewood Manor Sub \$264,400.00.

Payne, Gary Burton to Merrick, James R 1217 Homes Ave Charlottesville VA 22901. Palmyra Magis Distr. 2.00 AC \$42,500.00. 12/28/18

Bernardeau, Francois G & Chr to Liberty Homes, Inc. 8249 Crown Colony Parkway Mechanicsville VA 23116. Lot 310 Phase Five Tufton LM \$15,000.00.

Tuchyner, Leonard to Felton, Fred Sr 1129 Bybees Church Road Palmyra VA 22963. Palmyra Magis Distr. 0.528 AC \$129,900.00.

Dillard, Michael L to Mentor, Brittany M 629 Deerfield Louisa VA 23093. 2.00 AC \$128,000.00.



Alpha Omega Inc. Aqua Virginia ASSEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM A.T. BESECKER CONSTRUCTION AETNA AKARION REALTY-George and Melissa Rosario AKARION REALTY- MIKE SPESSARD ARC of the Piedmont ASBESTCO BARBER'S LAWN CARE BEAUTIFUL GATE MINISTRY Beltone Audiology & Hearing AID CENTERS Bev Gibbons BLAIR CARTER, PC BOXLEY PLACE INN BRIGHT STAR CARE BRUISER WRESTLING FEDERATION BUCKINGHAM CORRECTIONAL CENTER CP MUSIK STUDIO CALVARY CHAPEL FLUVANNA CAPITOL SHEDS CARWILE AUCTION CENTRAL VIRGINIA EXTERMINATING CENTRAL VIRGINIA HEALTHY SERVICE CENTURY LINK CHARLES ALLBAUGH CPA CHILD CONNECTIONS DEVELOPMENT CENTER CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLASSICAL CONVERSATIONS CLEATS FOR KIDS COBB CONSTRUCTION COLDWELL BANKER ELITE COLONIAL BAPTIST CHURCH COLUMBIA GAS Commonwealth Dentistry Consulate Health Care COUNTRY ROSE FLORIST Countryside Upholstery Courtlyn and her Cats CROSSROADS ANIMAL HOSPITAL CRITISES INC. CUNNINGHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH D & L REMODELING DEBRA KURRE CPA DETAIL ME NOW Dodson Brothers Exterminating Dogwood Restaurant DOGWOOD VILLAGE OF ORANGE DOLLAR GENERAL Dolley Madison garden Club DOMINION ELECTRIC DRS WEISS OPTOMETRY DYGERT, WRIGHT, HOBBS & HEILBERG, PLC E.W. THOMAS GROCERY East Coast Hardscapes & Design Edward Jones Investments EFFORT CHURCH ELEPHANTZ TRUNK ELMORE AUCTIONEERS/RED HORSE ESTATE SALES ENVOY AT THE VILLAGE ENVY SALON EVELYN'S CONFECTIONS EXPRESS PLUMBING FAST SWIMMING FIRST VIRGINIA HOMES RENTALS FLUVANNA ACE HARDWARE



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DEVELOPMENT

WOMEN

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FLUVANNA ART ASSOCIATION

# Northam touts bills on voting rights and campaign financing

## BY OWEN FITZGERALD CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Governor Ralph Northam introduced two legislative proposals at a press conference Monday (Jan. 7) aimed at improving voting access and transparency in the campaign finance system.

One proposal would allow Virginians to vote absentee without having to provide an excuse – legislation the governor said would reduce crowds at the polls on Election Day. The current law, which Northam called "arbitrary," requires citizens to give one of 20 reasons to vote absentee.

Northam said that voting in the days before an election is "just as American" as waiting in line at the polls and that similar proposals have been made since the 1990s. Sen. Mamie Locke (D-Hampton) is sponsoring the legislation in the Senate (SB 1035) and Delegate Charniele Herring (D-Alexandria) is sponsoring it in the House (HB 1641).

The Democratic governor also en-

dorsed legislation to repeal the Virginia law requiring voters to present a photo ID to be able to cast their vote.

"While photo ID laws are intended to reduce voter fraud, very little such voter fraud actually exists," Northam said. "Instead of fixing the problem, the photo ID law just makes it harder for people, especially minority voters or low-income voters, to lawfully vote."

This proposal will be sponsored by Locke and Delegate Kaye Kory (D-Fairfax).

The Democrats also want legislation that limits campaign donations and restricts how candidates can spend political contributions.

Sen. Chap Petersen (D-Fairfax) is sponsoring legislation (SB 1146) that would limit individual donations to \$10,000 per candidate during a given election cycle. Virginia is one of only 11 remaining states that have no limits on campaign contributions.

"There's too much big money in politics," Petersen said. "We need some reasonable limits on what people can contribute in order to keep the process honest."

A second proposal to be sponsored by Delegate Elizabeth Guzman would ban corporate and business campaign donations. It also would ban corporations or businesses from making direct contributions to their own political action committees.

"Our commonwealth has an opportunity to reform campaign finance laws by banning direct corporate and business donations," Guzman said. "Virginians want legislators who represent their interests, and this reform will foster more trust in the legislative process."

Delegate Marcus Simon (D-Fairfax) is the sponsor of a bill (HB 1699) to ban can-

didates from using campaign money for personal expenses.

A spokesperson for the Republican Party said GOP officials would not comment on the legislation until they had read over the proposals in full.



Photo provided by Capital News Service.





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