

# Fluvanna

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## REVIEW



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Crofton Plaza Building 106, Suite 1  
434-591-1000

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**Cover:** Old Glory and blue sky - Flag flying outside Fluvanna Middle School for Mike Brent's retirement ceremony. Flag photo by Tricia Johnson. Mike Brent photo courtesy of April Walker. Cover design by Amelia McConnell.

#### GENERAL

The *Fluvanna Review* is published weekly by Valley Publishing Corp. and covers Fluvanna exclusively. It is printed on Tuesday afternoons. One copy is free. Additional copies are \$1 each payable in advance to the publisher.

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Copies will be mailed for the subscription price of \$140 per year or \$75 per six months. Please mail a check and a note with your name and address to: Subscriptions Dept., P.O. Box 59, Palmyra, VA 22963. For more information email Edee Povol at edee@fluvannareview.com.

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK

A flock of cardinals. Photo by Sandra Parrish.

# Dahl proposes one-cent increase on real estate tax

BY HEATHER MICHON  
CORRESPONDENT

County Administrator Eric Dahl unveiled a \$84.5 million budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21).

Dahl told the Board of Supervisors on Wednesday night (Feb. 5) that overall expenditures were projected to be \$1.78 million higher than FY20, for a total increase of 2%.

To fund the increase, he proposed a one-cent increase on the real estate tax, while keeping personal property, business, and other local taxes at their current rates.

If supervisors were to approve the rate, the average household would see a 1.08% increase in their tax bill.





Dahl said there were "difficult decisions" to be made as

the county moves ahead. Key stressors include the rising costs of goods and services, possible major increases in health insurance for county employees, and potential major expenditures for county fire and rescue services.

With the proposed budget as a starting point, supervisors will spend the next several weeks in work sessions and hearings to come up with a finalized budget by mid-April.

## County line

During their regular meeting, supervisors heard a presentation on resolving a boundary mapping issue along the county line between Fluvanna and Louisa counties.

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- Starbucks Coffee 12 oz. ....\$6.99
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- Motts Applesauce 6 pack ..... \$1.99
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Localities use mapping software, called GIS, to draw their official maps. But when it comes to defining the border between different localities, there can be discrepancies.

Dahl presented a map showing where Louisa County's GIS puts the county line and where Fluvanna's GIS places it. The two lines do not always overlap.

The gap is small, in most places differing by only a hundred yards or less. However, because these maps are used to define where a property-owner votes, pays taxes, goes to school, and files lawsuits, it is important for localities to define the line as clearly as possible.

Rather than undertake a costly and time-consuming ground survey, the counties are looking at simply coming to an agreement on the exact location of the border. Dahl said they would focus on making a minimal impact on the 120 or so properties that lay along the disputed line.

Assistant County Administrator Kelly Belanger Harris said that after the counties come to an agreement, each would have to publish ads announcing the change, hold public meetings, officially notify affected property-holders, adopt resolutions, and have it finalized by the circuit courts.

### In other matters:

- Everett Hannah of the Board of Equalization (BOE) made a brief presentation on the board's work over the past

year. The BOE is responsible for handling disputes over real estate tax assessments to assure that the tax is equally applied to all property-owners. In 2019, they looked at 39 cases, reducing the tax in three of those cases, and raising it in one case. Hannah said they could expect a busy year ahead, as a new assessment is underway and "when assessments go up, people always have questions."

- Human Resources Director Jessica Rice said the county is already seeing savings on HVAC labor costs since a staff technician came on board in November. Previously, the county had contracted for labor on all HVAC systems.
- Economic Development Coordinator Bryan Rothamel gave a presentation on a \$25,000 grant package offered by a North Carolina-based consulting firm. Rothamel said it would be an opportunity to tackle a project the county normally wouldn't have the money to develop. He was looking at submitting multiple proposals, including "Project Fluvanna," a program to create a pipeline between Fluvanna County High School and Fluvanna-based businesses, and "Fork Union 2030," a revitalization program for the village of Fork Union.

## Correction

Last week's story titled *Fluvanna singer tours the world* stated incorrectly that Charles Payne died in 1821. The correct date is 1921.

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## Rudy talks Taxes

BY RUDY GARCIA, OWNER, RIVANNA WOODS FINANCIAL / TAX SERVICES

### Valentine's Day - Did you know that Saints, dogs and cash all play a role



Cupid, candy hearts, flowers and chocolates are common items associated with Valentine's Day. According to the National Retail Federation, Americans now spend more than \$20 billion lavishing gifts on their kids, friends and significant others. But why?

Who decided a day in the middle of February is a time to celebrate love and spend a bunch of money on gifts? The actual story of how Valentine's Day (and its symbols) got its wings, and how much Americans spend on gifts for Valentine's Day, might surprise you.

#### It's named after a Catholic saint (We think)

There are stories of three different Catholic saints named Valentine who were involved in various romantic shenanigans. The tales involve conducting outlawed marriages, a secret relationship with a jailor's daughter and a love letter ending in "from your Valentine." Unfortunately, all three saints met a similar fate by being put to death by Caesar. How romantic! While it's pretty clear Valentine's Day derives from one of these three saints, we just don't know which one for sure.

#### It may have started as a Pagan celebration

Ancient Pagan festivals were often very unusual, and this one is no exception. Historians believe it involved goat and dog sacrifices, using their blood-stained animal

hides, and having a drawing for a companion for the next year. It's safe to say that everyone, especially your dog, is relieved this tradition fizzled out at some point.

#### Its primary color, red, has scientific backing

Giving flowers, especially red roses, has been a popular romantic gesture all the way back to the Saint Valentine era. Why red? It represents passion and desire. According to a study by the University of Rochester, science ties color to behavior. The study demonstrates that men find women wearing red attire more attractive.

#### Americans spend an average of \$162 on gifts

While the percentage of Americans who celebrate Valentine's Day has declined over the past decade (63% of Americans celebrated the holiday in 2009 compared to 51% in 2019), those who do celebrate Valentine's Day spent an average of \$162 on gifts in 2019 compared to \$103 in 2009.

Knowing the history of Valentine's Day and how the U.S. spends money on gifts for the special day certainly adds some intrigue to the holiday, but recreating the actual events is probably not a great idea. Instead, give your loved ones a hug, a simple treat and have a wonderful Valentine's Day!

PS: Right after you take care of the gift giving, call us to make an appointment!

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# House passes quarantine bill 99-0

PRESS RELEASE

The House of Delegates unanimously endorsed a bill patroned by Delegate Rob Bell, R-Albemarle, to enforce proper quarantines of rabid dogs and cats.

House Bill 1573 would require an owner to quarantine his dog or cat after receiving a confinement order or agreeing to an animal confinement agreement. If the animal thereafter strayed from the premises, the owner could be fined. If the animal strayed from the premises and attacked a person or another companion animal, the owner could face misdemeanor criminal charges. The House passed the bill on Feb. 7.

"This bill was brought to me after a dog in Fluvanna attacked a high school freshman who lived next door. Authorities had ordered the owner to quarantine the dog, but he let it run loose. After the attack, the dog tested positive for rabies," said Bell. "A rabid dog is more likely to attack, and when it does the injuries are more dangerous. To prevent these risks, we

need to make sure that rabid dogs are properly restrained so they don't hurt someone."

When the bill was presented in Richmond, the subcommittee heard testimony from the student's father, Richard Schmack, who described the attack and his daughter's substantial injuries. Additional testimony was provided by Fluvanna Commonwealth's Attorney Jeff Haislip and Captain David Wells from the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office.

The bill passed 99-0. It will next be transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

"I am hopeful the bill will pass the Senate and be signed into law by Governor Northam," Bell said.

# THIRD THURSDAY

at The Lodge at Old Trail

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Program begins at 2:00 pm\*.

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**FEBRUARY 20**

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Abel, Emma Grace  
 Aljiji, Artela  
 Altherr, Vaile Kayla  
 Barksdale-White, Chazz Khalid  
 Barnett, Allyson JoAnn  
 Betancourt, Angie Alexandra  
 Blackburn, Avery Lee  
 Botkin, Karsyn Belle  
 Brown, Chloe Elizabeth  
 Brown, Elaina Marie  
 Brown, Timothy Riley  
 Butler, Zachary William  
 Cannady, Ciara Dawn  
 Chipperfield, Sydney Jane  
 Dahl, Ethan Zachary  
 Daidone, Madison Riley  
 Etchison, Gabrielle Tyler  
 Farist, Emily Abell  
 Feith, Austin Tyler  
 Ford, Abigail Rivers  
 Frashure, Justin Dean  
 Harris, Zachary David  
 Hartling, Melia Mishel  
 Haseltine, Keira Lee  
 Helverson, Gabriel John  
 Hoffman, Ian James  
 Kirchner, Luke William  
 Landes, Kyle Austin  
 Long, Cullen Parker  
 Mackenzie, Rachael Dawn  
 Matula, Reece Katherine  
 Monfalcone, Allison Renee  
 Nelson, Tyler William  
 Nolte, Ariana Beattie  
 Oliphant, Jack Davis  
 Ondek, Jalyn Elizabeth  
 Opie, Serenity Noel  
 Owen, Madison Love  
 Park, Kyle Benjamin  
 Perry, Alexis Denise  
 Potter, Kessler Amelia  
 Reardon, Olivia Inez  
 Ritenour, Thomas Koty-Lee  
 Robinson, Sarah Elizabeth  
 Schmidt, Madeline Carter  
 Sheridan, Macon Grant  
 Shifflett, Anna Kathleen  
 Smith, Brooke Ann-Nichole  
 Steger, Jaden Michael  
 Stewart, Kaylie Elizabeth  
 Straus, Lionel Alexander L  
 Tomaras, Julia Lynn  
 Watkins, Brandon Zachary  
 Webber, Taylor Nicole  
 Wiese, Michael Alexander

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, A and B

Addison, Derek Thomas  
 Armstrong, Janyah Inez  
 Ball, Lilla Nicole  
 Becerra, Ivan Efrain  
 Birkhead, Camryn Haley  
 Black, Lucas William  
 Blanchard, Vivian Nicole  
 Bowler, Jaden Nathaniel  
 Bradley, Isaiah Andrew  
 Brandon, Chloe Blossom Jane  
 Chapman, Kirsten Rilee  
 Clements, Michaela Nicole  
 Collins, Madison Elizabeth  
 Conley, Dylan Wade  
 Cortez, Kaity  
 Cracchiolo, Rachele  
 Creamer, Landon James  
 Currier, Alyssa Marie  
 Davis, George Divers  
 Davis, Logan Anne  
 Donahue, Krista Katherine  
 Drumheller, Morgan Emilie  
 Farley, Jackson Linus  
 Gibson, Sage Coren  
 Gibson, Sydney Renee  
 Gonzalez-Rollins, Javier D  
 Gresham, Matthew Covington  
 Guseman, Anthony Gabriel  
 Hall, Bailey Edward  
 Hamilton, Noah Michael  
 Heckman, Elena Grace  
 Henson, Ciara Nicole  
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 Igo, Nicole Reade  
 Jackson, Taneya Sharice  
 Jackson, Tasya Love  
 Johnston-Jure, Emma Suzanne  
 Jordan, Matthew James  
 Kraft, Rebekah Kathryn  
 Lambert, Christian Parker  
 Lewis, Madison Lee  
 Marshall, Bailey Michelle  
 Mawyer, Kimberlyn Alivia  
 McDaniel, Mandy Jean  
 Melton, Camden Riley  
 Morales, Kristen  
 Oliver, Reagan Leigh  
 Osteen, Megan Sue

Perkins IV, Linwood Anderson  
 Petrylak, Ryder Andrew  
 Pieron, Jaydn Tyler  
 Plourde, Martin Timothy  
 Ramirez, Oscar Rene  
 Ray, Aiden Michael  
 Ray, Genesis Symone  
 Rea, Brenna Ann  
 Reece, Kai L.  
 Rodriguez, Jamie Angelina  
 Runnett, Rianon Nora  
 Scopelliti, Ryan Nicholas  
 Smith, Noah  
 Sweitzer, Somer Hope  
 Turner, Paris Kayonna  
 Vest Jr, Jerry David  
 Vogt, Madison  
 Wagner, Tyler Reece  
 Wallis, Gabriella Ruth  
 Weisenburger, Cole Allen  
 Wheaton, Breanna Nicole  
 White, Abby Nicole  
 Wise, Allison Brooke  
 Wright, Christina Katherine

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, All A's

Adams, Abigail Louise  
 Butler, Christiane Marie  
 Cavanaugh, Andrew Lawrence  
 Clifton, Gracie Annette  
 Cooper, Ila Mae  
 Creasy, Madeline Frances  
 Crothers, Matthew Wayne  
 Cumiskey, Paul Dolph  
 Hamill, Anthony Christopher  
 Hamilton, Lauren Catherine  
 Herrick, Elizabeth Anne  
 Johnson, Alyssa Kay  
 Kearney, Ella Marie  
 Kinsella, Jackson Keith  
 Lyons, Paul Jay  
 Melton, Aden Josiah  
 Messier, Mitchell Joseph  
 Newton, Elizabeth Colleen  
 Opaleye, Oluwadare J.  
 Peck, Taylor Brooke  
 Plasencia-Villa, Jennifer  
 Roth, Jamie Clare  
 Schmack, Erika Michelle  
 Seal, Abigail Reese  
 Summe, Trayvon Carnell  
 Ward, Emma Lillian  
 Wells, Liam Richard  
 Wilkins, Lexi Raye  
 Wilkins, Ryan Tori

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, A and B

Al-Safi, Rand Hussein  
 Banton, Jason Matthew  
 Barnes-Hoo, Kaya Cheyanne  
 Baroch, Jayden Alexander  
 Beaulieu, Jocelyn Grey  
 Becker, Mia C.  
 Bennett, Kayli Marie  
 Blackburn, Mason Louis  
 Bond, Kimberly Grace  
 Bruce, Lance Jamez  
 Bryla, Deborah Ann  
 Bugg, Arianna Elaine  
 Cabell, Jordan N.  
 Cantu, Marissa Elianna  
 Carel, Jenna Rose  
 Carnes-Ivory, Sereniti Cheyenne  
 Carrion, Astrid Elana  
 Carter, Hailey Paige  
 Coleman, Tyler Mason  
 Cook, Madison Raine  
 Cox, Bradley Sean  
 Crawford, Shelby  
 Currier, Leah Grace  
 Davis, Tyler Neil  
 Davis, Zachary David  
 Decker, Landen Fokine  
 DeMers, Evelyn Beauchsne  
 Derrickson, Kadence Patrick  
 Diaz-Calvillo, Abril  
 Gentry, Makayla Lyn  
 Ginty, Erin Catherine  
 Glasscock, John Hunton  
 Gomez, Joseph Erick  
 Gomez-Melgares, Paola Alexan-  
 dra  
 Gragg, Nathan Zachariah  
 Grier, Arianna Yvonne  
 Haislip, Madeline IdaAnne  
 Hance, Karly Jayne  
 Haney, Braedon Randall  
 Hawkins, Asiana Deshay  
 Hawthorne, Izabelle Grace Ellyn  
 Hernandez, Laura Leona  
 Hughes, Peyton Maddox  
 Jackson, Emilie Jordan  
 Juarez-Viveros, Itza Karina  
 Kennedy, Ellie Katherine  
 Kimble, Abigail Paige  
 Kimble, Caleb Edward  
 Knisley, Maya Seong-Kyeong

Leydig, Owen Thomas  
 Lopez-Espinoza, Yeidi Saideth  
 Madrid, Zinnia  
 Marshall, Danny James  
 Martens, Brooke Skylar  
 McConnell, Aiden Patrick  
 Moore, Autumn Skye  
 Morris, Jared Diesel  
 Mundie, Anthony Charles  
 Napier, Brooke Danielle  
 Ngov, Samantha Mei  
 Noyes, Ethan Michael  
 Pace, Molly Grace  
 Perry, Owen Walker  
 Persinger, Jared Scott  
 Phillips, Anna Noel  
 Pleasants, William Alexander  
 Porter, Tinsley Elaine  
 Purviance, Cohen Jay  
 Reynolds, Destiny Nicole  
 Rush, Santrice R'Sheal  
 Sample, Jeffrey Connor  
 Seymore, Jacob Shane  
 Sheridan II, Andrew Ivey  
 Sloan, Joseph Henry  
 Smeds, John Christopher  
 Smith Jr, Robert William  
 Sprouse, Audrey Elaine  
 Stutz, Logan Daniel  
 Vasholz, Nevaeh Leigh  
 Via, Braelyn Analeigh  
 Washington, Alexis Nicole  
 Washington, Aniya Onea  
 Webb, Destiny Starr  
 Wells, Marcus Luke  
 Williams, Rebecca Mae  
 Wyche, Alayna Catherine Rose

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade, All A's

Amato, Ava F.  
 Bajs, Anja  
 Balagtas, Carmina Quiocho  
 Barnett, Claire E.  
 Booker, Euneka Angelica  
 Brobbey, Emily Ann  
 Brown, Gracie Elizabeth  
 Butler, Jacob Thomas  
 Cantagallo, Matthew Landon  
 Dech, Meghan N.  
 Divers, Alexa Noelle  
 Fayard, Ashlyn Nicole  
 Fields, Caroline G.  
 Foster, Stephanie Marie  
 Girard, Aidan P.  
 Glowatch, Jenna Leigh  
 Gregory, Brooke Renae  
 Grooms, Xavier Melek  
 Hagan, Jocelynn Grace  
 Hoefner, Caleb  
 Jones, Augustus Mason  
 Landsberg, Jackson Avery  
 Limbacher-Platt, Evicka Rose  
 Marlowe, Natalie Anne  
 Martinez, Mia A.  
 McKee, Zoe Claire  
 Mehrez, Fatma  
 Morton, Jada Caprice  
 Ondek, Jacob John  
 Padilla, Nayeli Isabel  
 Reece, Bryce Thomas  
 Robinson, Anne Charlotte  
 Sam, Joseph Mark  
 Smith, Ellie Faith  
 Smith, Mia E.  
 Staton, Dylan Thomas  
 Stevens, Emily Kate  
 Swain, Mackenzie Renee  
 Taylor, Alyssa Grace  
 Valentin, Nathaniel Javier  
 Viar, Amber Michelle  
 Warden, Rachel Ann  
 White, Ellie Paige  
 Young, Noah Samuel  
 Yowell, Riley Madison

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade, A and B

Alsamaradee, Hasan  
 Baber, Brycen K.  
 Barnes, Siariah Mercedes  
 Benson, Evelyn Anmei  
 Bollinger, Octavio Andres  
 Booker, Jaylan Nicole  
 Brown, Ashton Kenwood  
 Brown, Deven Gustavo  
 Campbell, Kayla Ashby  
 Carter, Angelica Josette  
 Caruso, Anthony Edan  
 Chapman, McKenzie Lea  
 Clements, Shane Michael  
 Conley, Savanna L.  
 Cooper, Avery Raine  
 Corrice, Gabriel Thomas  
 Costanzo, Kaitlyn Olivia  
 Craig, Cassidy Ann  
 Dabney, Saniya Renee  
 DeLong, Hannah K.  
 Denby, Sophia S.

Dillane, Kylee M.  
 Drumheller, Jordan Elizabeth  
 Edmonds, Kobe B  
 Estes, Nathan Wesley  
 Fain, Madison Elizabeth  
 Farley, Andrew Richard  
 Fontenot, Zachary M.  
 Forren, Sydney Alexandra  
 Fulk, Madeline Grace  
 Givens, Diana Rose  
 Givens, Samuel Ryan  
 Gowans, Lance Tyler  
 Hall Jr, Richard Edward  
 Hamilton, Ethan William  
 Haney, Joshua Michael  
 Harris, Georgia Riley  
 Harris, Trace Foster  
 Harrison, Willow Anne  
 Hart, Shea Lee  
 Herring, Gracyn A.  
 Jackson, Ka'Shawn  
 Johnson, Trenton Arlon  
 Johnson, Tyler Norman  
 Kelly, Laci Elizabeth  
 Kendrick, Abigail L.  
 Layne, John Preston  
 Leitzel, Carlie Jo  
 Lounsbury, Allyson E.  
 Many, Tyler Paul  
 Martin, Christian Matthew  
 May, Andrew Gage  
 Menendez-Flores, Stanley  
 Adolfo  
 Moncure, John Robert  
 Muddiman, Hunter Paul  
 Navarro-Reyes, Amy Yoselin  
 O'Connor, Joseph L.  
 Opaleye, Oladunni O.  
 Pardue, Gracie Dawn  
 Parker, Taylor H.  
 Parow, Sydney Elaine  
 Patterson, Kayla M.  
 Perry, Amya A.  
 Phillips, Sarah Elizabeth  
 Poulin, Emma C.  
 Rankin, Preston Edward  
 Ritenour, Kaileigh  
 Rodriguez, Justine A.  
 Russ, Emma Catherine  
 Russo, Daniel Rocco  
 Sawyer, Joseph V.  
 Seibert, Wesley Emmanuel  
 Simmons, Alison N.  
 Smith, Carmen Grace  
 Smith, Rylee A.  
 Stuart, Jessica Ann  
 Sweitzer, Mackayla Rose  
 Taylor, Callie Lynn  
 Taylor, David Rigg  
 Torres-Mateo, Yaniel Isamil  
 Treadway, Logen Anslae  
 Valladares, Cristina L  
 Washington, Dynasty Nashay  
 Wells, Joseph Travis  
 Wells, Nora Riley  
 Williams, Rebekah Dare  
 Woodson, Ahmad Malik  
 Yowell, Carter Thomas

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, All A's

Amato, Noah Gerric  
 Collier, Jacob William  
 Couch, Makayla J.  
 Drake, Emily  
 Edmonds, Kelcie Jordyn  
 Gable, Carlee Dianna  
 Hanson, Allyssa Joy  
 Harris, Tyler Addison  
 Holsapple, Logan Scott  
 Lukhard, Zachary Thomas  
 McCormick, Bryce  
 Metcalf, Shawn Wylie  
 Ngov, Tessa Mei  
 Sebastian, Brennan Thomas  
 Singer, Samuel Garrison  
 Small, Conner H.  
 Smeds, Emily Alden  
 Stephens, Troy Pradeep  
 Taylor, Rebecca Mae  
 Topping, Matthew Carl  
 Tuck, Allyson Faye  
 Williams, Elizabeth Grace

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, A and B

Beckman, Emily Rose  
 Bernat, John Andrew  
 Bower, Kaitlin Amy  
 Bryant, Danielle Brooke  
 Cantu, Kaitlyn Elizabeth  
 Chilson, Brianna Hope  
 Christian, Tyler Alexander  
 Clarke, Samantha Mary  
 Craig, Summer Faith  
 Crothers, Allyson Terese  
 Davis, Lauren Elizabeth  
 Donald, Kindal Brooke  
 Dudley, Dylan Alexander

Duenas, Aydon  
 Elliott, Ryan Austin  
 Fick, Maya Catherine  
 Florence, Kaylie Nichole  
 Frye, Jesse Eugene Howard  
 Fuller, Abigail Blake  
 Glowatch, Amy Claire  
 Gomez, Carolina Isabel  
 Gresham, Emma Catherine  
 Hammond, Delaney Jeannine  
 Harris, Katherine Isabelle  
 Haynes, Tyler Jeremy  
 Henderson, Rylie Lynette  
 Herring, Kelsea M  
 Hilliard, Hannah Jean  
 Hippert, Skyler Leigh  
 Holm Moldrup Thomsen, Thea  
 Holman, Ryan Kyle  
 Hopkins, Lily Mae  
 Kelly, Lea  
 Kraft, Aiden Michael  
 Kraus, Justin Ray  
 LaRosa, Olivia Bryne  
 Lintecum, Grace Elizabeth  
 Mance, Stephen Andrew  
 Marsh, Calista Danielle Nicole  
 Marshman, Haylee Reese  
 Matula, Aiden Teague  
 McCall, Caroline Marlene  
 McCormack, Maria Michelina  
 Milligan, Sean Ernst  
 Moore, Matthew  
 Morris, William Ryan  
 Munt, Somerville Jones  
 Nolan, Kylie Elise  
 Ott, Sophia Nicole  
 Payne, R'Tia Laylani  
 Peters, Jair Azzar  
 Price, Tiara Nichole  
 Proffitt, Sarah Elizabeth  
 Rackley, Edward S  
 Reid, Nya Lanay  
 Richards, Andrew Tyler  
 Ruffa, William John Ritchie  
 Scida, Natalie Catherine  
 Scida, Vivian Claire  
 Sealock, Mya Jaide  
 Short, Hannah Marie  
 Sites, Margaret Eleanor  
 Solga, Skylar Isabella  
 Solga, Tallon Amanda  
 Storie, Cheyanne  
 Stowell, Brett Keith  
 Tapscott, Mason Riley  
 Taylor, Kayla Nicole  
 Vernatter, Anja Alicia  
 Ward, Brianna Marie  
 Ward, Lindsey Kathleen  
 Wentz, Kailee Elizabeth  
 White, Molli Catherine  
 Works, Kaly Renae Raynor

### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, All A's

Black, Loren Alyssa  
 Bradshaw, Camille Olivia  
 Carter, Daunte' Marquis  
 Chisholm, Benjamin David  
 Cordes, Andrew Joseph  
 Crawford, Sydney Marie  
 Davis, Emory Nathaniel  
 Day, Amara Yashima-Bet  
 Dech, Jason Michael  
 Dunn, Jacob Paul  
 Estes, Kirsten Lucia  
 Fain, Mackenzie Eleanor  
 Finley, Keera Izabel  
 Green, Sequoia Eunique  
 Haislip, Madison Elise  
 Halstead, Kendall Elaine  
 Hartless, Caitlin Rose  
 Hartzog, Eli Nathaniel  
 Hawkins, Shantika Nicole  
 Henderson, Ikara Oneshia  
 Hoefner, Rachel Marie  
 Jackson, Kameron L.  
 Kent, Claire Elizabeth  
 Kirby, Donald William  
 Koczan, Leukas Danny  
 Lyons III, Charles Edward  
 Mance, Peter Eric Jr  
 Marshall, Cameron Alexis  
 McKee, Jenai Maria  
 McWilliams, Gracie Liane  
 Metcalf, Sariah Ann  
 Moore, McKenzie Michelle  
 Morris, Chloe Elizabeth  
 Morris, MacKenzie Blake  
 Nazar, Brooke Elizabeth  
 Paschall, Kendra Morgan  
 Pellicane, Alexander Paul  
 Peters, Ryan Thomas  
 Rush, Shatrice Rasheal  
 Sampson, Izabell Leigh  
 Sawyer, Alison Michelle  
 Sechler, Kaitlin Madison  
 Shepherd, Jules Alicia  
 Sherman, Tobias Eugene

Shifflett, Victoria Paige  
 Stallard, Malena Angela  
 Suttles, Jessica Renee  
 Warden, Nicolas Allen  
 Wentz, Margaret Jane  
 Williams, Alexander Nicholas  
 Wiseman, Jaime Lynn  
 Wright, Mya Michelle

### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, A and B

Ackenbom, Nika Lucille  
 Allen, Kaia Dawn  
 Allen, Najahad Calik  
 Anderson, Loquan Raphael  
 Armentrout, Jeremy T  
 Balik, Daniel Elighas  
 Baskfield, Ayanna Karin  
 Bislimi, Adonis  
 Botkin, Ellee Roxanne  
 Bourne, Haylee Elizabeth  
 Boyle, Jason  
 Bragg, Hunter Alexander  
 Carlton, Gabriel Michael  
 Carver, Matthew Hunter  
 Chisholm, Kaylee Evelyn  
 Craft, Amelia Ray  
 Dansey, Wyatt Owen  
 Davis, Addison Myles  
 DeHaai, Jessica  
 Dennis, Caleb James  
 DiFazio, Emma Elizabeth  
 Dillon, Wyatt Vinson  
 Dressler, Kelsey Luanne  
 Goldsmith, Kamron Michael  
 Grubbs, Madelyn Elizabeth  
 Halpin, Samuel James  
 Hearn, Ma'Shayla Nicole  
 Hill, Malachi Christopher  
 Holland, Cameron Terrell  
 Holtz, Bradley Paul  
 Houseknecht, Amber Louise Faith  
 Hunsaker, Alisha Lauren  
 Ivory, Nevaeh Heaven  
 Jackson, Aleksei Krishna  
 Jackson, Isaiah D  
 Kidd-Bania, Jaxom  
 Kritzner, Forrest Fields  
 Lasocki, Charlene Jean  
 Lewis, Aaliyah Alise  
 Lintecum, Hattie Diane  
 Marlowe, Samantha Louise  
 Martin, Iyanna Alania  
 Masinovic, Elvis  
 McGrath, Abigale Rose  
 Monroe, Destini Cianna  
 Montgomery, Olivia Faith  
 Morris, Annie Joann  
 Morris, Hali Michele  
 Muddiman, Tyler James  
 Notman, Jocelyn  
 Palmer, Zikala Alexis  
 Payne, KJUAN Tyrique  
 Powell Jr, Christopher Lee  
 Puentes, Isaac Salazar  
 Reed, Vanessa Nicole  
 Reid, Ledric Asonte Michael  
 Reimers, Megan Michelle  
 Rigsby, Erin Michelle  
 Schultz, Ashley Nicole  
 Schurtz, Clio Robnett  
 Scott, Kyia Shawn  
 Seal, Tyler David  
 Shelton, Lauren Antelle  
 Sheridan, Luke Austin  
 Shifflett, Hailee Elise  
 Shifflett, Kayleen Elizabeth  
 Smith, Mackenzie Tyler  
 Smith, Sheridan P.  
 Sprouse, Emily Denise  
 Stephens, Nicolai Phillip  
 Stoy, Gabriel Connor  
 Sullivan, Mikaela Sue  
 Sumner, Danielle Rose  
 Talley, William  
 Taylor, Alexandra Elaine  
 Thomas, Destiney Nikkole  
 Thornton, Nicholas Coleman  
 Tillman, MacKenzie Macon  
 Toppin, Alexis Rylan  
 Ward, Andrew Lee  
 Ward, Ayana Simone  
 Ward, Kevin Patrick  
 Wells, Antwyn O  
 Williams, Braden Wayne  
 Wilson, Amina Lavern  
 Yancey, Ethan Stewart



# JANUARY PROPERTY TRANSFERS

PROPERTY TRANSFER DEEDS ARE PROVIDED BY THE FLUVANNA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT.

1/02/20  
Rothwell, Roger L & Janet K to Hunsberger, William E 7215 Venable Rd Kents Store, VA 23084. 6.832 AC \$15,130.00

1/03/20  
Gianniny, Michael James & ET AL to Gilbert, Ronald J 181 Albevan-naLN Scottsville VA 24590. See document for full description \$202,000.00

Sharp, Maegan to Harrell, Williams Whitmil 1270 Bybees Church Road Palmyra VA 22963. Palmyra Magis Distr 2.000 AC \$168,000.00

Liberty Homes, Inc to Weaver, Ethen Michael & Kall 78 Shiloh Church Rd Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 5 The Meadows Sub \$285,722.00

1/06/20  
Liberty Homes, Inc. to Sharp, Maegan Rae 472 Cunningham Meadow Drive Palmyra VA 22963. 0.495 AC \$250,000.00

Equity Trustees, LLC, Sub TR to FFC Properties, LLC 17090 Quail Creek Rd Hamilton VA 20158. Lot 319 Phase One Ashlawn LM \$224,001.00

Selinger Homes, Inc. to Friddell, Peter Grant Jr & A 613 Meadow Brook Ln Troy, VA 22974. 0.50 AC Lot 2 Meadow Brooke Sub \$425,000.00

1/07/20  
Browning, Jon Michael to Staton, Howard 308 Walnut Ridge Ln Palmyra VA 22963. 31.782 AC \$28,603.80

Denby, Ty E & Erin R to Wchlott-hauer, Anthony Wayne & 6482 Union Mills Rd Troy VA 22974. Palmyra Magis Distr 10.829 AC \$640,000.00

1/08/20  
Freedom Mortgage Corporation to Fisher, Ronald E, Jr & Kathy 5330 Lake Saponi Terrace Barbo-rsville VA 22923. Lot 181 Phase Six Riverside LM \$160,000.00.

Reilly, Patrick Vincent & He to Campbell, William H, Jr 16 Out of Bounds Rd Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 62 Phase Four Fairway LM \$235,000.00

Castaldo, Candyce J to Kenward,

Bryan J 21 Kingswood Rd Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 244 Phase 12 Edge-wood LM \$173,500.00.

1/10/20  
STM, LLC to House, Jack A & Janet S 140 Willow Dr Keswick VA 22947. Lot 17 Forest Glen \$65,000.00

Surety Trustees, LLC Sub TR to Flabstar Bank, FSB 5151 Corporate Drive Troy MI 48098. Fork Union Magis Distr 8.000 AC \$193,800.00.

Liberty Homes, Inc to Grooms, Matthew Lewis & Shon 11 Hav-ersack Road Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 318 Phase Five Tufton LM \$199,860.00

Burgess, E Douglas to Gianakos Loving, In c 61115 State Junc-tion Road Palmyra VA 22963. Lot 272 Phase Twelve Edgewood LM \$131,000.00

1/13/20  
WAP, LLC to Reed, Bobby A & Laura R Lot 15 Centre Hilo Estates Sub Sub 4.330 AC \$65,000.00

Burnett, Ashley Haas to Henshaw, Robert F, Jr & Rain, Patricia Lot 6 Southall Estates Sub 6.00 AC \$290,000.00

1/14/20  
Knepper, James R to Brunk, Pamela Ann Columbia Magis Distr \$350,000.00

1/15/20  
Hall, Jean T, TR to Reinstein, Robert, II Columbia Distr 7.78 AC \$35,000.00.

Stiner, Justin P to Smith, Geliesha Tamara Cunningham Meadow 0.487 AC \$288,900.00

1/16/20  
Shier, Vincent K to Bassi, Raymond R & Katrin Lot 512 Phase Twelve Edgewood LM \$540,000.00

Zvarych, Walter to Petrylak, John Peter & Amanda Elizabeth Lot 20 Phase Eight Nahor LM \$255,000.00

Alexander, Charles IV to Virginia Electric & Power Co Fork Union Magis Distr 217.2 AC \$950,000.00

1/21/20  
Secretary of Housing to Cedar Homes Investments, LLC Palmyra Distr 3.544 AC \$55,000.00.

1/21/20  
Breedon, John M to Anthes, Howard Wayne 2 AC \$100,000.00

Maxwell, Brian to Thompson, Tina & William Lot 73 Phase Eight Nahor LM \$186,200.00

1/22/20  
Panorama Land, LLC to Ruhlman, Meagan Brown Lot 7 Panorama \$202,210.00

EN Trust New Direction to De-varences, Michael Allen Lot 279 Phase Four Fairway LM \$231,750.00.

1/23/20  
McGibney, Albert F to Goode, Miranda L & Geer, Cameron W Cunningham Magis Distr 1.507 AC \$185,000.00.

Terry, Janice Faye to Wolfer, Ty R & Sherry Lot 178 Phase Three Mont-pelier LM \$218,000.00

Gormes, Woodrow Way to Young, Carl J 4.43 AC Plat BK 3 PG 334 \$21,000.00.

1/24/20  
PS 15, LLC to Morris, Dominic D & Stacey M Columbia Distr 8.000 AC \$45,000.00.

Equity Trustees, LLC to PHH Mortgage Corporation Columbia Magis Distr 6.024 AC \$84,360.00

NVR, Inc to Dumm, John & Jo-sephone Lot 7 Phase 1 A Village Oaks \$275,980.00

Kirkland, Douglas K to R H Prop-erty, OOC Lot 12 Nahor Village \$235,000.00

1/27/20  
Lofton Leasing, LLC to Cazarez, Esequiel Andrade Cunningham Magis Distr 12.41 AC \$264,717.00

Westrock CP, LLC to Renrut, Enter-prises, LLC Fork Union distr 9.408 AC \$10,000.00

Laurel Oak Properties to Chow-dhry, Jay Charles & Casey, Amie L Lot 1 Shady Creek Sub \$378,000.00

1/28/20  
West, LLC to Anne Leigh Farm Trust & Coleman, Anthony Pettit, TR See document for full descrip-tion \$500,000.00

Payne, Torrey Lance to Johnson, Whitney M Fork Union Magis distr

2.26 AC \$37,000.00.

Payne, Torrey Lance to Johnson, Whitney M Fork Union Magis Distr 2.26 AC \$37,000.00.

Harvey, Jessica Rae to Jones, Paul D Lot 78 Phase Six Riverside LM \$209,000.00

Mair, Linda E Morgan to CMH Homes, Inc Palmyra Magis Distr 21.5 AC \$46,000.00.

Panarama Land, LLC to Barche, Ronald Charles, II 0.40 AC \$245,000.00

Lewis, Karen Golembeski to Stutesman, Gary D Lot 168 Phase Two Shadwell LM \$164,300.00

1/30/20  
Southern Property, LLC to Persico, Rebecca Kent Lot 66 Nahor Village Sub \$342,700.00

1/31/20  
Mastronicola, Patricia to Sanders, Brittany Leigh Lot 246 Phase 8 Nahor LM \$169,900.00

Meade Construction, LLC to Jaffe, George L & Berta S Lot 41 Rose-wood Manor Sub \$279,300.00

Fluvanna County Habitat for Hu-manity to Herring, Lauren Lot 12 Houchens Place Sub \$133,000.00

Williamson, Michele Lynn to Moy-ghan, Kevin Lot 2 Rolling Wood Acres Sub \$99,813.00.

1/31/20  
Saavefra, Arturo P to Zarski, Andrew & Sorensen, Rachel Nicole Lot 152 Section One Ashlawn LM \$161,000.00

Ballid Investments, LLC to Day Family Living Trust Lot 1 B – Hunters Branch Center Sub \$560,000.00.

Dowell, Susie to Burgoon, Kelly S & McLynch, Melissa A Lot 276 Phase One Ashlawn LM \$165,000.00

Jordan, Michael L to Wietz, Lee lot 244 Phase Six Riverside LM \$180,000.00

Carlin, George H to Radle, Anthony & Danielle 14.222 AC \$235,000.00.



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3 Hatchchubee Road \$169,900



37 Chippewa Lane \$274,900



10 Dogleg Road \$239,000



4 Mulligan Drive \$224,900



18 Cliftwood Road \$219,900

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# Bob Good speaks at Lake Conservative Club

CONTRIBUTED BY BONNIE MACKEY



The Lake Monticello Conservative Club listens to 5th District Congressional Candidate Bob Good speak.

"I am a constitutional conservative." These five words form the basis of Republican Bob Good's political platform. Good is currently running as a candidate in Virginia's 5th Congressional District.

Speaking to a very large group of over 70 people at the January meeting of the Lake Monticello

Conservative Club, Good presented his views in a friendly, informal manner. Walking among the attendees, Bob Good stated his support for the president of the United States and his willingness to vote for Trump's agenda.

Showing his respect for hard-working taxpayers, Good re-

mindful us of the strong, vibrant economy that has been made possible through a combination of deregulations and historic trade agreements. Our Congressional Representatives need to embrace and support the financial stewardship of the Trump administration, he said. Bob Good aligned himself with these fiscal and other conservative policies.

Good said he understood the necessity for building a wall along our nation's southern border. Many criminals and drug dealers crawl through tunnels or climb through hole-ridden fences to enter the country illegally. A tall, substantive border wall would aid Border Patrol agents as they capture these criminals to keep our American citizens safe.

Additionally, Good believes in upholding our 2nd Amendment rights to allow citizens to own guns and use them with caution and wisdom. He also spoke about

his support for the sanctity of life, beginning with the baby in the womb. He is against abortion at any time during a pregnancy.

Through his service on the Board of Supervisors for Campbell County, Good obtained significant experience as a legislator. His conservative voting record is strong and steadfast. He has recently retired from his position as Senior Associate Athletics Director and Flames Club Executive Director at Liberty University.

Bob Good has been endorsed by former 5th District Congressman Virgil Goode. Please visit his website [www.bobgoodforcongress.com](http://www.bobgoodforcongress.com) for more information about the candidate and his campaign.

The Lake Monticello Conservative Club holds its monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Pub. All residents of the Lake and their guests are invited to attend.

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# Dry spell leaves farmers coping with hay shortage

VIRGINIA FARM BUREAU PRESS RELEASE

The impact of a dry spell can last long after it's over, and Virginia farmers are still feeling the effects of 2019's drought conditions.

The dry period, which began in the summer and lasted through the fall, caused a domino effect for farmers. Grass dried up, and farmers were forced to start feeding hay to their animals months earlier than normal, depleting their winter inventory.

The dry weather also led to a poor fall hay harvest, exacerbating the shortage.

"Farmers all over are looking for hay," said Cynthia Martel, an agriculture and natural resources agent for Virginia Cooperative Extension in Franklin County. "They're purchasing hay all across the state, and when it isn't available, they have to buy out of state."

Additionally, the high demand for hay is increasing prices. Martel said she has heard that round bale prices are doubling from \$40 a bale to \$80. Farmers also are hauling it farther, which increases their freight and operation costs.

While pockets of the state have adequate levels of hay, many areas are coping with a shortage.

"The mild winter is allowing farmers to stretch their hay supplies," Martel explained. "Some farmers have bought peanut hay to add as supplemental feed to their regular hay. Others have

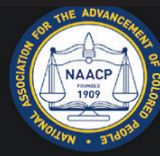
been looking for silage as well."

Peanut hay is made from the plant material left after harvesting peanuts. Silage is green fodder that is preserved through fermentation in a silo and fed to animals when pasture is unavailable. Robert Harper, grain division manager for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, said some cattlemen have been looking for other feed sources to supplement hay, such as corn gluten and corn stalk.

"It quit raining in the middle of July, and farmers didn't have any grazing," Harper said. "They were already feeding their winter hay in August and September, and nobody else had hay for 100 miles. So, last fall, some beef cattle producers decided to roll up their corn stalk [in bales] to use as an alternative feed."

In addition, pastures have not recovered well after the drought, and Harper predicts farmers will need to continue feeding hay until mid-April.

"There's going to be a lot of re-seeding in the spring and this coming fall," he added. "That's going to be a big expense."



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## THIS WEEK'S PET



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*Shiloh is one of the prettiest hounds we've had at the shelter! The name Shiloh fits him- he's super shy about meeting people. He will come to the gate to meet you but as soon as you go into his outside pen, he hides in his dog house. He is food motivated. A few of the staff have won him over. With time and some patience, he could become your friend too. Come meet this stunning guy!*

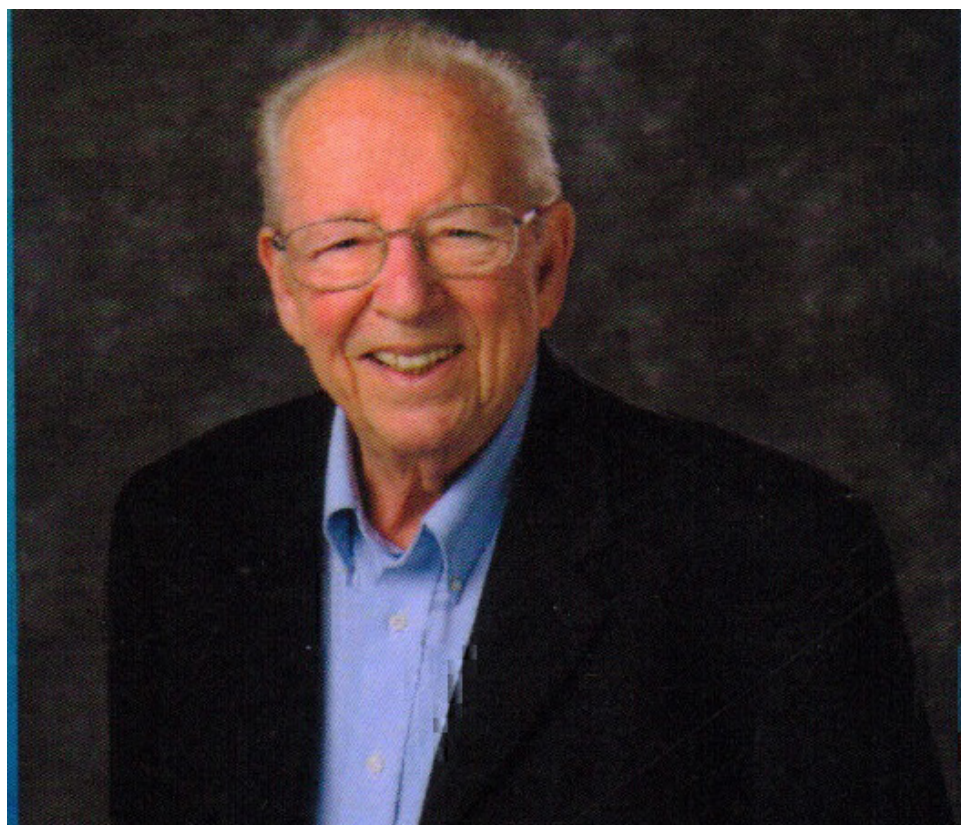
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# Author talks about “Mastering the Bucket List”

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD  
CORRESPONDENT



Forney Shell. Submitted photo.

Former engineer turned travel expert Forney Shell has visited 65 world cities, 29 countries, and taken 31 cruises; is the founder of Pan Piper Travel, and is the author of “Mastering the Bucket List.” In his book, he takes a comprehensive look at travel by using a bucket list and personalizing the travel experience.

“After 19 years in the travel business I discovered that when I talked with people about travel, they didn’t always know what they wanted but that they wanted to take a trip,” he said. “I would then

ask them about their interests and why they wanted to visit certain places.” This was the conversation starter that led to planning a trip that was more meaningful and memorable for the traveler.

“Mastering the Bucket List” aids the traveler and non-traveler, in certain aspects of their lives, including spending more time with family and planning for retirement. But the book focuses mostly on those who want to travel and is a practical guide to planning and organizing for an item once it makes the bucket list. The items consist of

goals based on future desires.

“I always wanted to do something with a bucket list. Sharing it with others and putting it into a book reaches more people.” Shell began his bucket list when he was a teenager and his items were movies. But in his later years, his first item to make it to the bucket list was a grunion run along the California coast. Seeing it as a child in a nature documentary fascinated him and he yearned to see one up close and in person.

“Grunions are small fish, similar to sardines and they ride the waves to the beach, dig in the sand with their tails up to their gills and lay eggs,” he said. It may appear to be a strange bucket list item but Shell’s explanation was intriguing. Years later, his job took him to California and after planning and precise timing, he finally viewed a grunion run. “It was just as spectacular as I dreamed it was as a child.”

Another item on his bucket list came from his love of movies and silent film star Rudolph Valentino and the tango.

“I was immensely impressed with his dancing ability and I decided if I ever had the chance, I would learn the tango.” He eventually checked off that item on his bucket list. During his marriage to his wife Judy, they enjoyed a variety of dances together on their travels.

Shell has his B.A. in business and his masters in Human Resource Management but he began his career in aerospace engineering as the senior research designer for Boeing and contributed to the design of the Apollo spacecraft and space shuttle Enterprise. These were also items he never thought would be realized.

“I remember looking up at the moon and thinking I don’t want to screw this up.”

His book is broken down into short, easy to read sections. The focus is on travel but not just for the sake of travel but of being mindful of specific interests when choosing a destination. There are sections on culinary, cultural, fun, adventurous, and educational travel. Religious travel might include trips to places of religious significance. The traveler is only limited by their imagination.

Once travelers know their destination, then Shell speaks about specifics such as the pros and cons of traveler’s insurance, physical health and needs, and financials which play a role in the overall travel plan and the effect of the travel experience.

“The list can be as long or as short as you want. Stay flexible and review your list annually,” he said. The book is available in print and e-book from Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com.

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**THIS WEEK’S PET**

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I will stand on my hind legs & use my front legs like a raccoon and also to beg. I love for my belly to be rubbed. I will make the very best companion for you and your family. I am a bully sometimes with other cats. I like being the master in the home. I do get scared around loud noises. I like being held but not for long - I get a little claustrophobic. When my litter box is not cleaned regularly, I will find other places to use the potty. I am current on all shots, microchipped & neutered.



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# Fluvanna County Farm Bureau Women's Committee offers scholarships

## Deadline for application submission is March 27

PRESS RELEASE

The Fluvanna Farm Bureau Women's Committee is once again offering two, \$1,000 scholarships to qualifying Fluvanna County graduates pursuing a career in or related to agriculture.

The scholarship was implemented to recognize a graduating resident of the county for outstanding academic achievement and dedication to agriculture enrichment within the community. The recognition will go to an individual who desires a continued betterment of agriculture for our county and others by ensuring a career related to agriculture.

The women's committee is comprised of eight members who work hard to support agriculture in the county. They set up at Carysbrook Elementary on Ag Day and educate 4th graders on crops grown in Virginia, read to elementary and special needs classes in the spring, support the local 4-H livestock group, and the Young Farmers and FFA students at the middle and high schools.

The group also collects items and purchases supplies for the Ronald McDonald House and the Fluvanna County SPCA. In addition, they offer help for both the local food pantry and the Meals on Wheels organization and put on a Christmas party for residents at the Envoy Nursing Home.

The scholarship is funded solely through the committee's fundraising efforts. Their main fundraiser is a food booth at the Fluvanna County Fair tractor pull and rodeo events. Each year, members organize and set up both days to sell hot dogs, chips, snacks and drinks. This has been a profitable event for the committee that initially afforded them the opportunity to offer their scholarship.

Interested students can download an application online at <https://fluvannafbwomen.wixsite.com/scholarship> or stop by the Farm Bureau Office at 15905 River Road in Fork Union to pick up an application.

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For more information or questions please call 540-854-2300 or email [adihlmann@paulstefanhome.org](mailto:adihlmann@paulstefanhome.org)



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# Brown v. Board of Education SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS  
THROUGH MARCH 20, 2020

The Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program was established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2004 to provide educational opportunities for persons who were denied an education in Virginia due to the closing of the public schools during Massive Resistance between 1954 and 1964. The program is open to new eligible applicants for the 2020–2021 school year. For applications and information on eligibility, visit:

**BROWNSCHOLARSHIP.VIRGINIA.GOV**

or contact Lily Jones, Division of  
Legislative Services, at (804) 698-1888.

## Palmyra vendor's farmer's market bill passes House

PRESS RELEASE

The House of Delegates unanimously endorsed House Bill 342, patroned by Delegate Rob Bell, R-Albemarle, to help small vendors at farmers markets. The vote, taken on Feb. 6, was 99-0.

"This was brought to me by Cat Gardner, a Fluvanna County resident who sells coffee at local farmers markets as Two Labs Coffee," said Bell. "She said that the taxes were only a tiny amount, but the paperwork and record keeping were a burden for her."

The bill would create an exemption for vendors from county prepared meals taxes where the sellers' annual income from such sales does not exceed \$2,500. Vendors with an income of \$2,500 or

less are already exempt from the retail sales tax. House Bill 342 would extend the exemption to cover prepared foods.

Gardner traveled to Richmond and testified in favor of the measure in subcommittee.

"I support small vendors who want to be able to sell their products at farmers markets. Some sell farm products, others sell prepared food like coffee. I think we should try to reduce their costs where we can," said Bell. "This bill would simply give vendors of prepared foods the same tax exemption as vendors who sell farm products. Now that it has passed the House, I am hopeful it will pass the Senate and be signed into law by the Governor."

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Black history month

The Fluvanna County NAACP is having an African-American history celebration on Saturday, **Feb. 22** at 7 p.m. at the Fluvanna Community Center in Fork Union. Mrs. Leontyne Peck will be the guest speaker. Her story will motivate African-Americans to find out more about their family history.

### Grief Share at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church

Grief Share is a 13 week program for those who have lost a loved one. It is a Christian based program. It will be held in the Parish Hall Room 122 from **March 4 till May 27** from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday. There is a \$20 fee for materials for the program. If interested contact the church office 589-5201 or Cynthia Aycock 434-589-3347 or email [cynthia.b.aycock@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.b.aycock@gmail.com)

### Senior men's golf league

The Lake Monticello Senior Men's Golf Association welcomes new players age 50 or older for the 2020 season. The Gray Foxes sponsor two golf leagues: an 18-hole group, which plays on Thursday mornings starting **March 19**, and a 9-hole group which plays on Friday mornings, starting **March 20**. For more information contact: Paul Schmidt (901-395-3221) or [schmidtpr24@gmail.com](mailto:schmidtpr24@gmail.com), Dan Atkinson (434-594-3508 or [atkinson107@aol.com](mailto:atkinson107@aol.com)) or Dan Foley (434-589-6493 or [nvafoley@aol.com](mailto:nvafoley@aol.com)).

### Hospice volunteers needed

Looking for a way to make a difference in your community? Can you make one visit a week to help a hospice patient or family member? Hospice of the Piedmont will be hosting volunteer training during the evenings of **May 5, 7, 12** and **14th**. All volunteer roles are non-medical. To register or for more information, contact Tina Hughey-Commers at 1-800-975-5501.

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- JUST SAY IT!





# Autonomous shuttle transit pilot complete

## 530 autonomous miles driven, 750 passengers served

ALBEMARLE COUNTY PRESS RELEASE



The Albemarle County Board of Supervisors today reviewed a presentation on the outcomes of the public trial of the AVNU (“Autonomous Vehicle, Neighborhood Use”) shuttle.

The pilot was the first autonomous shuttle on public roads for the public’s use in Virginia. During the 90-day pilot, which operated in and around Crozet, over 530 miles were driven autonomously and 750 passengers rode in the shuttle. The shuttle operated with an onboard safety ambassador, but during the pilot, there were no safety incidents and no interventions or safety disengagements occurred.

“We’re thrilled on the success of this project and to have supported a first-of-its-kind, cutting-edge program to deliver innovative services for our community, in partnership with a homegrown technology

company, Perrone Robotics.” shared Ned Gallaway. Moving forward, Community Development will use the findings of the pilot to inform future planning efforts, to accommodate autonomous vehicle technology in our community through opportunities for curb cuts, lane widths, and electric charging stations. The partnership submitted a proposal to VDOT’s Innovation and Technology Transportation Fund to provide an autonomous electric transit on public roads for the public in other parts of Albemarle County.

The AVNU shuttle was built and operated by Perrone Robotics, Inc. (PRI) using their industry-leading autonomous engine. AVNU’s success at driving fully autonomously (Level 5) on public roads within Crozet aided Perrone Robotics’ efforts to grow its

business and obtain venture funding. “We’re very pleased to provide this presentation to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors who supported our efforts to create and deploy the AVNU shuttle,” said Paul Perrone, Chief Executive Officer and founder of Perrone Robotics. “We demonstrated the viability of our technology by delivering what was a fully autonomous shuttle service on public roads for our neighbors here in Crozet. Further, having the County support our efforts has opened doors for us with new customers, including a Fortune 50 logistics customer and a transportation authority that will be conducting a pilot and follow-on project that will be one of the largest public transit autonomous vehicle deployments in the US. The public pilot project and the awareness it generated has

also helped in the development of a customer pipeline that is now in excess of \$65 million.”

AVNU is a Polaris GEM e6 electric vehicle adapted with PRI’s TONY (“TO Navigate You”) autonomous transit retrofit kit. The TONY retrofit kit is being applied to a wide range of roadworthy transit vehicles. During the trial, the AVNU shuttle traveled public roads with pedestrian, cyclist, car, truck, and bus traffic at various times of the day. AVNU is a quiet, zero emissions electric vehicle using solar panels to significantly extend system range appropriate for last-mile transit opportunities.

A link to the final report to Albemarle County can be found here: <https://www.perrone-robotics.com/county-shuttle-report/>



# Flucos rally against Black Knights but come up short

BY DUNCAN NIXON  
CORRESPONDENT



Kobe Edmonds at the top of the key. Photos by Duncan Nixon.

The Black Knights from Charlottesville High came to Fluvanna on Feb. 4 with only two losses on their resume. For most of the game, it looked like they would come away with an easy double-digit win against Fluvanna.

A comeback, led by sophomore guard Kobe Edmonds, who scored an impressive 31 points on the night, cut the gap to three points and the gym was rocking with less than two minutes in the game.

Unfortunately, as Fluco Coach

Heath Bralley pointed out, good teams find a way to win the close ones. In basketball, at all levels, the team that is ahead in the final two minutes can almost always win if it makes its free throws. That is what Charlottesville did, stretching its final lead to eight, to win 68-60.

The game started out with the Black Knights' strong and quick backcourt taking control. The Flucos managed only six points in the first quarter with a free throw by junior center Daniel Campbell a three-point shot by freshman guard Bobby Gardner and lay-up by Edmonds, on a nice assist by freshman Isaac Rivera. After eight minutes, the Flucos trailed 20-6.

In the second quarter, the Flucos young guard core started to assert itself. Edmonds led the way with two driving lay-ups and a rebound put back. The Flucos outscored the Black Knights 11-10 but trailed by thirteen at the intermission.

At the start of the third quarter, Charlottesville ran off eight points to stretch its lead to 15. Fluco forwards Malachi Hill and Elijah Bullock scored, but Charlottesville continued to build its lead. In the middle of the third quarter, the Black Knight were up by 22. That was when Edmonds started to go wild. He made a traditional three-point play and followed with a three point shot from the right side and then a three point shot from the left side. Charlottesville was forced to take a time out. After the time out, Edmonds added a driving lay-up and four free throws for 15 points in the quarter. In the final four minutes of the quarter, Edmonds scored 13 while the Black Knights were held to six. Unfortunately, due to the early run by Charlottesville the Flucos still trailed by 13 going into the final quarter.

The Flucos opened the fourth quarter strong, Gardner made two free throws and Edmonds followed with a driving lay-up and two free throws. Bullock had a lay-up on

a pass from Edmonds and junior forward John Rittenhouse scored inside on a pass from Rivera. The Black Knights had six points during this run and the Flucos now trailed by eight, 55-47. Bullock scored again inside on a pass from Edmonds and the Flucos trailed by six. At this point, the Fluco fans sensed the possibility of the comeback upset and the noise level rose significantly. Charlottesville did not fold under the pressure and they pushed their lead back up to nine at 60-51 with two and a half minutes remaining.

Edmonds then made one of two from the line and Rivera scored on a lay-up. Then, 5-9 senior guard Keshawn Fisher nailed a three-point shot from the left side and the Flucos were within three at 60-57 with just over a minute to play. In the closing minute, the Flucos were forced to foul to keep the Black Knights from running out the clock. Charlottesville converted six of eight from the line and there was nothing the Flucos could do. The final score was 68-60.

The Fluco scoring was lopsided, but the whole team played good defense and the bench contributed well. Edmonds finished with 31, just over half his team's points, including 23 in the second half. Gardner had eight and Rivera and Bullock each pitched in with six. Coach Bralley noted after the game that the Fluco press in the second half was effective and that getting the Black Knights' starting guards in foul trouble was a factor in this success. He noted that he believes that his squad's future looks good.

The Flucos had a good win over Orange County on Jan. 31, but they remain under .500 for the season. This game against the Black Knights was the penultimate game of the regular season. The final regularly scheduled game was played on Feb. 11 at Monticello High.

## Fluco wrestlers perform well in Region meets

BY DUNCAN NIXON  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluco wrestling team hosted the Region 3C qualifying tournament on Feb. 5. Coach Michael Gore said that his team qualified wrestlers for the Region meet in 12 of 14 weight categories, the most qualifiers in Coach Gore's career.

Qualifiers were, in ascending weight order, 120 Tyler Haynes, 126 Jariq Henson, 132 Wyatt Dillon, 138 Alden Valentine, 145 David Taylor, 152 Shawn Metcalf, 160 Tyler Stoy, 170 Gabe Stoy, 182 Jason Drumheller, 195 Jason Hamsher, 250 Caleb Stoltz, and last but not least 285 Alden Custer.

The Region 3C Tournament was held on Feb. 8 at Liberty High School in Bedford. Four Fluco wrestlers earned berths to wrestle in the Class 3 State tournament which will be held on Feb. 21-22 at the Salem Civic Center in Salem.

The qualifiers were, Jariq Henson at 126, Alden Valentine at 138, Shawn Metcalf at 152 and Tyler Stoy at 160. Wyatt Dillon and Alden Custer just missed qualifying and will be alternates. As a team, the Flucos finished seventh out of fifteen.



## FLUVANNA COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDEN

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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact VCE Fluvanna at (434) 591-1950/TDD\* during business hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM to discuss accommodations seven days prior to the event. \*TDD is (800) 828-1120.



# FLUVANNA GIRLS'



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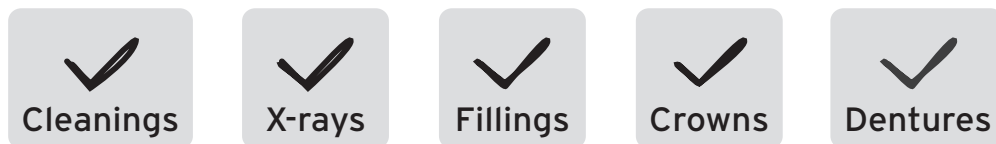
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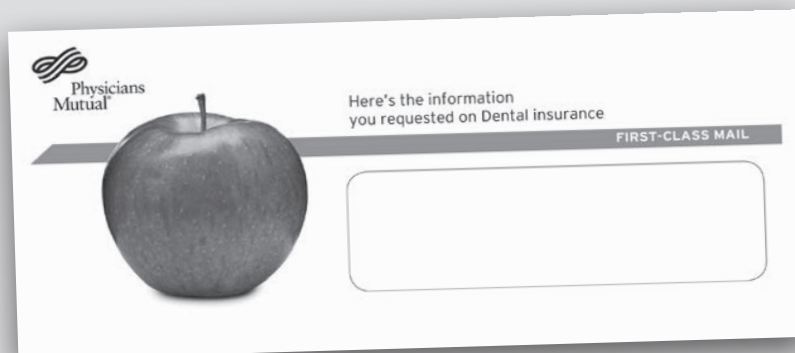
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# PUBLIC NOTICES



## COUNTY OF FLUVANNA, VIRGINIA Request for Proposals (RFP) #2020-01 Agent for Voluntary Benefits

The County of Fluvanna, Virginia is seeking sealed proposals from qualified firms capable of recommending and providing optional voluntary benefits, employee communications, complete enrollment and billing/reconciliation assistance for all of the voluntary benefits selected by the County. The County is not requesting Actuarial Services or Healthcare Insurance Brokerage. All sealed proposals shall be turned in no later than February 26, 2020 2:00 p.m. EST. Proposal documents may be picked up at the Fluvanna County Department of Finance located at 132 Main Street, 2nd floor, Palmyra, VA 22963 or at this link: <https://www.fluvannacounty.org/rfps>.



## PUBLIC HEARING Fluvanna County Board of Zoning Appeals Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2204, a public hearing will be held in the Morris Room of the County Administration Building located at 132 Main St. in Palmyra, Virginia for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to appear before and be heard by the Board of Zoning Appeals for the following items:

**BZA 20:01 – Ja-Zan LLC:** A request for a variance to Fluvanna County Code Sec.22-11-5 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow for the reduction of the minimum building setback required from a street right-of-way, from 100 feet to 50 feet, for the purpose of constructing a light manufacturing facility with respect to 1.952 acres of Tax Map 5, Section 24, Parcel 4. The subject property is zoned I-1, Industrial, Limited and located within the Zion Station industrial subdivision between Zion Station Road (Route 1021) and Richmond Road (Route 250). The property is located in the Columbia Election District and is within the Zion Crossroads Community Planning Area.

Copies of the complete text of the above ordinances and associated plans are available for public review at the Office of the Fluvanna County Administrator during normal business hours. The public is invited to attend these hearings at which persons affected may appear and present their views. Questions or comments may be directed to Planning & Community Development Department, at (434) 591-1910.

# Sentara Martha Jefferson Receives 5-Star Rating

PRESS RELEASE

In a recent update of its quality of care website Hospital Compare, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has assigned 5 stars to Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital in its Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings. A Five-Star rating is the highest quality score that CMS awards to a healthcare facility.

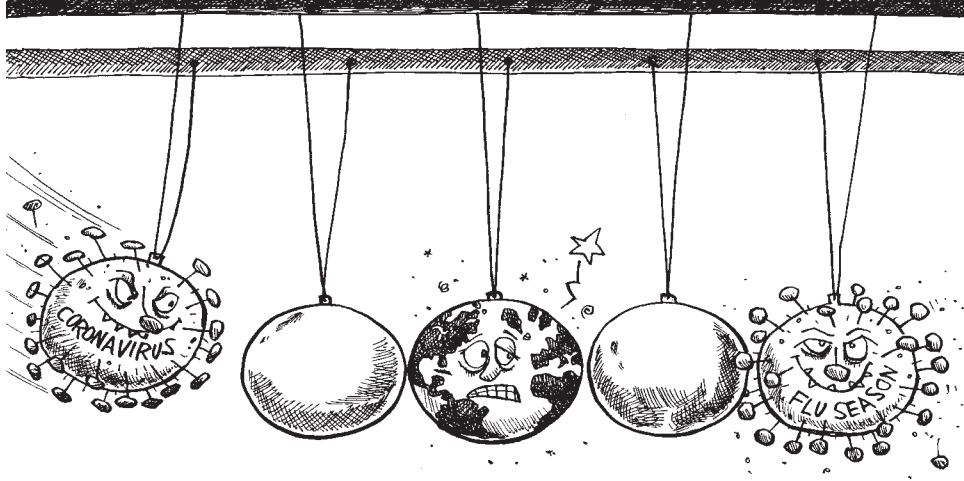
The Overall Hospital rating is based on the most up-to-date quality information available, and includes 64 quality measures that cover the type of routine care that patients receive for problems like heart attack and pneumonia, as well as quality measures that focus on infection control, the value of care and unplanned hospital visits.

“We focus on improving our quality and patient safety every day at Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital,” said Paul Tesoriere, MD, Vice President of Medical Affairs for Sentara Martha Jefferson. “Each morning leadership

from around the hospital participates in a safety huddle to identify problems, focus on safety issues of the day, and get updates on our performance with quality metrics and patient satisfaction. Our efforts align well with the items that CMS is measuring, and this rating is a reflection of this effort.”

Hospital Compare is a website maintained by CMS to help patients and their families learn about the quality of hospitals in their area, compare healthcare facilities and ask questions about the care provided so they can find the care that is right for them.

“We’re very grateful for this recognition by CMS, but we realize it takes constant attention not only to sustain success but also to achieve our real goal, which is to improve our patient care and safety every day.”



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# SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Easy

		4		1 5		3		
		6		7				
	2					1		7
3		2	9				7	
			4		8 2			1
					6			
						9		
9			6					
	4 1					8 6 2		

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## 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:

1	5	4	6	2	9	7	3	8
6	3	9	4	7	8	2	1	5
2	7	8	1	5	3	6	4	9
8	2	5	7	9	4	3	6	1
4	9	3	8	1	6	5	2	7
7	1	6	5	3	2	8	9	4
5	4	7	3	6	1	9	8	2
3	8	2	9	4	7	1	5	6
9	6	1	2	8	5	4	7	3

## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Throws in
- 5 Rhombus or rectangle
- 10 Yellowstone, for one
- 14 Guitar part
- 15 December ditty
- 16 Medicinal herb
- 17 More than suggestive
- 18 Under construction
- 20 Washington Monument, e.g.
- 22 "The Thorn Birds" novelist McCullough
- 23 Telescope part
- 24 Tapping sound
- 25 Big club?
- 27 Shredded
- 29 Text alternative
- 32 Old what's-\_\_\_- name

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21				22						
		23					24							
25	26			27		28			29			30	31	
32				33				34		35				36
37			38		39				40		41			
42				43		44				45		46		
	47				48		49					50		
			51			52			53		54			
55	56	57						58					59	60
61								62			63			
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

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### DOWN

- 1 Bushy do
- 2 Cheerless
- 3 Slow down
- 4 Fashion sense
- 5 Tailor's tool
- 6 Ketcham of the comics
- 7 Fly ball's path
- 8 Four-legged friend
- 9 "Freaky Deaky" author Leonard
- 10 R.J. Reynolds brand
- 11 Direction at sea
- 12 Memorization method
- 13 Peachy follower
- 14 Feather in one's cap
- 15 Quite fond of
- 16 Like The Who's wasteland
- 17 "Excuse me..."
- 18 Paparazzi target
- 19 Barrel of laughs
- 20 Donald's first wife
- 21 Carpenter's device
- 22 Fancy edging
- 23 Fill to the gills
- 24 Ocean current
- 25 Thought out
- 26 Like the boondocks
- 27 Arduous journey
- 28 Bottom-line figures
- 29 Sting operation
- 30 Tree for chocolate
- 31 A bit cracked
- 32 Wise one
- 33 Sacred bird of the Nile
- 34 Former V.P.
- 35 Sloth's home
- 36 Sam Cooke song, "You \_\_\_ Me"
- 37 NHL surface

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

L	I	P	S		K	A	R	A	T		C	R	A	M	
A	B	L	E		I	N	U	R	E		H	O	S	E	
M	E	A	N	S	T	E	S	T	S		A	P	S	E	
E	X	I	S	T		W	H	I	T	E	M	E	A	T	
		N	E	A	P		C	E	L	E	R	Y			
O	P	T		G	U	T	T	U	R	A	L				
D	R	I	P		C	U	R	L		N	E	E	D	S	
D	I	V	A		K	R	A	A	L		O	P	A	L	
S	M	E	L		B	I	T	E		N	I	N	E		
				P	U	R	U	L	E	N	T		C	A	W
		C	H	I	S	E	L			D	A	L	E		
D	E	A	T	H	L	E	S	S		P	I	N	T	O	
A	L	B	A		I	N	C	I	D	E	N	T	A	L	
F	L	I	T		S	C	A	L	E		D	E	L	I	
T	O	T	E		H	E	R	O	N		A	R	C	O	

# SHERIFF'S REPORT JAN. 31-FEB. 6



## NATURE OF INCIDENT / TOTAL

911 HANG UP	6
911 MISDIAL	7
911 OPEN LINE	3
ANIMAL CONTROL CALLBACK	10
ANIMAL CONTROL FOLLOW UP	7
ADULT WELFARE/PUB SAFETY CHK	4
ALTERED LEVEL OF CONCIIOUSNESS	1
ANIMAL BITE	1
ANIMAL WELFARE	6
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE RECEIVED	3
BE ON LOOKOUT	11
BURGLARY PAST OCCURRANCE	1
CARDIAC ARREST	1
SHERIFF'S OFFICE CELL CHECK	1
CHILD WELFARE/ABUSE/ENDNGMNT	2
CIVIL INFORMATION REQUEST	1
CIVIL PAPER RECEIVED	5
CIVIL PAPER SERVICE	68
COMMERCIAL BURGLAR ALARM	2
COURTHOUSE SECURITY CHECK	1
COURTESY TRANSPORT	1
DISABLED VEHICLE	3
DISTURBANCE	6
ECO TDO CALL	3
FINGERPRINTS	2
FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION	11
FRAUD	2
GUN PERMIT RECEIVED	4
HARASSMENT PHONE/OTHER	2
VCIN CHECK	1
INCLEMENT WEATHER LOG	1
LARCENY/THEFT	1
PHONE CALL RETURN	30
MAGISTRATE WALK IN	3
MENTAL WELFARE CALL NO INJURY	1
MVC WITH INJ OR UNKNOWN INJ	4
MVC WITH NO INJURY	4
DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS	1
NUISANCE DOMESTIC ANIMAL	1
OTHER LAW CALL	8
PEDESTRIAN IN ROAD/INTOX PEDES	1
PRISONER TRANSPORT	6
PROJECT LIFESAVER RELATED CALL	2
RADIO TOWER SITE LOG	1
REPOSSESSION	3
RESIDENTAL BURGLAR ALARM	3
SELECT PATROL	47
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY	1
SHOTS HEARD	3
STRAY DOG	3
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY / PERSON	10
DIRECT TRAFFIC/FUNERAL TRAFFIC	17
TRAFFIC HAZARD	2
TRAFFIC STOP	121
TRESPASSING/HUNTING TRESPASS	1
UNRESPONSIVE	1
VCIN HITS RECEIVED	1
WARRANT CHECK IN/OUT	4
WARRANT RECEIVED	7
OUT SERVING WARRANT	6

TOTAL INCIDENTS 470

## CRASHES

MVC INJURY/UNK	16:00:45	02/04/20
40 BLK HERITAGE DR		
MVC NO INJURY	03:18:11	02/03/20
HUNTERS LODGE RD & JAMES MADISON HWY		
MVC NO INJURY	19:39:51	02/01/20
190 BLK TURKEYSAG TRL; SALS LAKE		
MVC INJURY/UNK	00:16:02	02/01/20
1000 INTERSTATE 64; MM 132 EASTBOUND		
MVC INJURY/UNK	17:57:51	01/31/20
2780 BLK JAMES MADISON HWY		
MVC INJURY/UNK	15:41:42	01/31/20
TROY RD & JAMES MADISON HWY		

TOTAL CRASHES 6

## ARRESTS

ARREST DATE: 13:28:54	02/04/20
ADDRESS: PALMYRA, VA	
TRESPASS/RECKLESS HANDLING	
FIREARMS	
ARREST DATE: 13:36:15	02/04/20
ADDRESS: NONE LISTED	
POSSESS CONTROLLED	
SUBSTANCES	
ARREST DATE: 03:03:00	02/06/20
ADDRESS: HENRICO	
DUI/DUID	
ARREST DATE: 00:16:00	02/03/20
ADDRESS: NONE LISTED	
DUI/DUID; POSS OF MARIJUANA;	
DRINKING WHILE OPERATING VEHICLE	

TOTAL ARRESTS 4

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## EVENT

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**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:** The Fluvanna Farm Bureau Women's Committee is offering (2) \$1000 scholarships to graduating residents of Fluvanna County. Applications can be downloaded online at : <https://fluvannafbwomen.wixsite.com/scholarship>, and are due by March 27th.

**BINGO:** Every Thursday, doors now open at 4:30 p.m. Early Bird 6:45 p.m. Progressive games: \$1000 Jackpot \*with 80 or more players. Serving large food menu. Located at 10 Slice Road, Palmyra VA (off of Rte 600, near CVS & Dogwood Restaurant). Questions? Call 434 591-1018.

## FOR SALE

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## HELP WANTED

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**ANIMAL CARE:** Caring For Creatures seeking staff for animal care. Must be reliable, hardworking and have own transportation. Be at least 18 years of age. Tasks: Feeding and cleaning animal areas. 35-40 hrs/wk, one weekend day required. Considering candidates needing fewer hours for cat cleaning tasks: 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Call 434-842-2404 to schedule interview.

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## RENTALS

**WILMINGTON CLUBHOUSE:** Looking for a venue to host your party or event? Wilmington Clubhouse is available for rent at 1083 Wilmington Road, Palmyra, VA 22963. For more information email: [WilmingtonClub@gmail.com](mailto:WilmingtonClub@gmail.com) or phone (434) 373-0985, or text.

**MONTICELLO PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT:** MCR, 3661 Lake Monticello Road, Palmyra, VA. For current home rentals: contact Genevieve at (434) 589-7653 or email: [MonticelloPropertiesMgt@gmail.com](mailto:MonticelloPropertiesMgt@gmail.com)

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## SPECIAL NOTICES

**ATTENTION VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS:** Do you know your Veterans Benefits? We Do ! Virginia Department of Veterans Services: [www.dvs.virginia.gov](http://www.dvs.virginia.gov). Need help? Visit us at the Fluvanna Community Center by appointment only, at 5725 James Madison Highway. Appointments are the first Wednesdays of each month from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Call Pamela Zirkle or Jeannette Flint at (434) 529-6431.

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

## WANTED

**COINS:** I buy old coins. Call (434) 466-7968.

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# Hundreds turn out for surprise celebration Mike Brent lauded for 32 years as fire chief

BY TRICIA JOHNSON  
CORRESPONDENT



Mike Brent. Photo courtesy of April Walker.

It's hard to catch a man like Fluvanna Fire Chief Mike Brent off guard – but Saturday, when hundreds of firefighters and community members came together to celebrate Brent's retirement after

32 years of service as chief, he says he was "totally surprised."

"I had no idea this was going to happen," said Brent with a laugh. Brent thought he was going to Fluvanna Middle School to see his grandson's award-winning artwork. Instead, he was greeted by a warm and enthusiastic crowd that cheered as he walked up the sidewalk lined with applauding firefighters and into a crowd of Fluvanna residents, friends, and family.

Newly elected Fluvanna County Fire Chief Dwayne Mayo hosted the ceremonies, during which chiefs from each of Fluvanna's fire companies spoke about Brent and the impact he has had on them as individuals, and on the fire service to the community. Speakers credited Brent's dogged determination with bringing to Fluvanna modern

fire stations and up-to-date equipment and apparatus. Of particular note was his commitment and hard work that ensured the new emergency services radio system became a reality.

County Administrator Eric Dahl said Brent was "always rock-steady when it came to keeping his community safe." Dahl presented Brent with a resolution from the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors, recognizing Brent's long service to the citizens of the county. Supervisors Mozell Booker and Tony O'Brien were also present, along with Commissioner of the Revenue Mel Sheridan.

Fluvanna Chair of the Board of Supervisors Mike Sheridan – himself a volunteer firefighter – called Brent a "good friend," and thanked him for his service. Sheriff Eric Hess reminisced about his

first emergency call in Fluvanna County with Brent, and presented him with a wooden plaque from the sheriff's office that reads in part "Your commitment, dedication, and loyalty as a public servant to our citizens, and as a great friend and supporter of the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office, reflects great credit upon you, Fluvanna County, and all those you have served for the past three decades."

Fork Union Fire Chief Chris Aley wanted to be sure Brent's family was recognized as well. "Your support is priceless," he said, "not only to Mike but to your entire community." Andrew Pullen, chief of the Kents Store Volunteer Fire Department, turned to Scripture in his remarks: "Mike continued to get up every day and raise his hand, saying, 'Here am I, Lord, send me.'"

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Pullen presented Brent with a resolution from the Virginia Senate sponsored by Senator Mark Peake and one from the U.S. House of Delegates sponsored by Congressman Denver Riggleman; a video of the congressman reading the resolution on the floor of the House was played to a rapt audience. Senator Peake also sent a flag of Virginia that had flown over the state capitol building.

Richie Constantino, chief of the Lake Monticello Fire Department, and a retired fire chief from New York, credited Brent with helping him adjust to a different kind of firefighting. "Mike taught me so much," Constantino said. "He indoctrinated me into firefighting in Fluvanna – So different from my experience as a New York fire chief." Constantino added that he is "proud and honored to have (Brent) as a friend."

Fluvanna firefighters then surprised Brent yet again, this time with a retirement gift – a Henry "Golden Boy" Firefighter Tribute Edition lever action rifle. In lieu

of the actual rifle, which he will receive later, Brent was given a framed sketch of the gun, done by his grandson Caleb - a riff on the story that brought Brent to the event in the first place. Brent really did get to see his grandson's artwork.

Brent says he won't miss some of the pressures of his former position – the background stress of meetings, and constant awareness of possible risks to the community; but he relishes his new role as an everyday firefighter on his own terms. "I drive a fire truck and that's it – that's my responsibility," Brent said. "There are a lot of things around the fire house that need to be done," he added, "but they are things I can do at my own

leisure now." Brent wants to be certain that the young fire chiefs in the county know they can still rely on him for advice. "I've offered to help any of the fire companies out," he said. "I hope they all know they can come to me."

Brent finds great hope in the younger generation of chiefs that serve Fluvanna now. "It's a new generation," Brent said. "Josh and Chris, Dwayne and Andrew – these were our first junior firefighters, and now they are in leadership positions." Thinking about these young

leaders, Brent added, "I guess I have become the elder statesman."

Brent says he is grateful for the support of his family – especially his wife Kathy and their children – who always seemed to understand

that his work as a volunteer firefighter often had to come first. "I remember one Christmas," he said, "that we spent the entire day fighting a fire at a sawmill in Columbia. It was a Sunday, too, as I remember, which only made it worse for my family." He added that he and his wife drove separately to events because he never knew when he was going to be called away.

Fluvanna's fire service is still 100 percent volunteer, Brent pointed out, something that he takes great pride in. "I think the fire and rescue volunteers are extraordinary people doing extraordinary things," Brent said. "And their gratification comes when a property owner or an accident victim says 'thank you' for what has been done to help them."

Brent looked around the room filled with well-wishers and said the only word he could come up with to describe the ceremony was 'overwhelming.' "I wasn't expecting it," he said, and added, "I am so happy that all of my folks are here."



Firefighter sign guest list. Photo by Tricia Johnson

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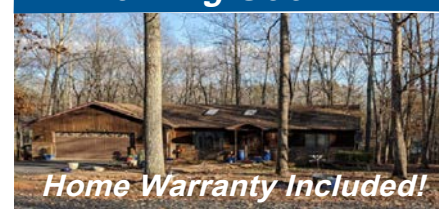
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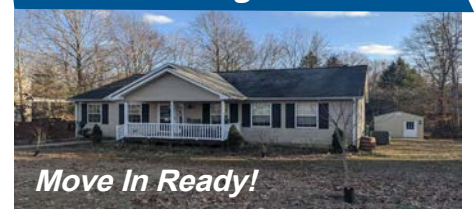


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