

Fluvanna

REVIEW

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Budget, bonuses, SOLs and summer school

BY RUTHANN CARR
CORRESPONDENT

Superintendent Chuck Winkler laid out the need and plans for summer school at the Fluvanna School Board meeting Wednesday (Jan. 13).

COVID-19 is wreaking havoc on student's education: virtual school, hybrid schedules, outbreaks, quarantines, masks and distancing all make learning harder than ever.

As a result, many students are falling behind and Fluvanna plans to help them by holding summer school.

If all goes well, the last day of school will be June 11, Winkler said.

The summer session will begin June 21.

"(It will be) extremely targeted, in-person, small group and some virtual," Winkler said. "All strategies are being worked through now."

The good news is there will be \$1.2 million in COVID funding targeted to help pay for it.

The money is to be used to address achievement and mental health issues, Winkler said. Schools have through Sept. 2023 to spend it.

"There will be a lot of future needs and we'll continue to adjust. There is talk in Richmond of having year-round

school," he said, adding he's not sure where that talk will lead.

Standards of Learning tests must be taken in person, which could pose a challenge for students who attend school virtually, Winkler said.

Passing SOLs are required for graduation.

Winkler intends on having in-person testing sessions on Wednesdays so the students taking the exams are the only ones in school.

Students can leave when they are finished with the test if their parent can pick them up. Otherwise, they will stay at school following their same schedule.

Testing students can ride the bus to school and home and the end of the day.

Winkler said he'll offer at least two testing dates before June for seniors.

Parents can choose not to send their children to school for the test if they are concerned about COVID-19.

However, the longer a student puts off taking the test after learning the material, the harder it is to pass, Winkler said.

"It's a roadblock to graduation if they

don't pass it," he said.

James Kelley, (Palmyra) asked Winkler about how he'd make the decision to close schools for in-person learning if COVID outbreaks continue to rise.

A discussion followed.

Shirley Stewart (Rivanna) asked Winkler if the Fluvanna's Covid testing positivity rate reached 25 percent, would he close the schools.

He said he would close if he had 25 teachers out and unable to teach.

Winkler said he felt school was the safest place for many students because of their strict mitigation strategies.

"Other than being at home, I believe wholeheartedly our staff and students are safer in school because we're doing all we can to keep them safe," Winkler said. "And, because when they're not in school, they're not staying at home. They're not wearing masks They're not following those measures at home. They won't stay home. I can't control that but I can control what goes on at school. You don't wear a mask? You're not coming in our building, period. If we get to 25 percent positivity rate I'm telling you we won't have enough teachers and I'll have to close schools."

Winkler said teachers and staff are included in the 1B vaccination category. Staff will get an email to schedule a

time to get the shot.

"I'm hoping they'll (vaccinations) be available by end of January or the first of February," he said. "It will be up to individuals to get the vaccinations."

He'd like to offer the vaccinations on site at school buildings.

The Board briefly discussed giving staff a bonus.

Winkler said he felt sure there was enough in the budget.

They will discuss it in more detail at the Feb. 10 meeting.

Don Stribling, executive director for human resources, operations and student services, said the Equity Task Force is meeting quarterly and each of the seven action teams meet monthly.

Charles Rittenhouse (Cunningham) asked if he could get a list of the people serving on the task force and a copy of their meeting minutes.

"I'd like to see what is discussed," he said.

Winkler said when the new semester begins Feb. 1, exactly half of Fluvanna students will be attending virtually and the other half following the hybrid schedule.

At the beginning of the meeting during public comments, Kelley read one sent in from a teacher, Michelle Pullman.

Budget, bonuses continues on page 4.

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PUBLISHER & EDITOR **CARLOS SANTOS**
434-591-1000 / editor@fluvannareview.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR **JUDI PRICE**
434-207-0223 / sales@fluvannareview.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE **GREG DORAZIO**
540-872-8099 / valleyadteam@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS MANAGER **EDEE POVOL**
434-207-0221 / edee@fluvannareview.com

ADVERTISING DESIGNER **LYNN STAYTON-EURELL**
sales@fluvannareview.com

EDITORIAL DESIGNER **AMELIA McCONNELL**
amelia@fluvannareview.com

DESIGNER **MARILYN ELLINGER**

REPORTERS **RUTHANN CARR,**
PAGE GIFFORD, HEATHER MICHON,
DUNCAN NIXON AND MADELINE OTTEN

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 59
Palmyra, VA 22963

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

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The Fluvanna SPCA will be closed to the public until further notice. We are trying to do our part to help cut down on the spread of COVID-19, and with our animals' and employees' best interests in mind we are trying to reduce foot traffic to help keep our employees healthy. The animals at the shelter will continue to receive wonderful care just as they normally do, so no need to worry. If you are interested in adopting or if you would like to drop off donations during this time that we are closed to the public, you can make an appointment to do so by contacting our shelter manager: manager@fspca.org. We appreciate your understanding and support during this difficult time for everyone, and we will be sure to keep you updated as soon as we will be open again to the public.

THIS WEEK'S PET: SQUEAKY



I got the name squeaky because I like to talk. A lot! I have no potty issues and I am not a fan of other felines. I am however a character. I like to growl while eating, purr when laying with you, talk when I am confused. I used to follow my human to the bedroom and lay with him in between his legs. I do not like to be picked up though. It is uncomfortable. I also enjoy being brushed. My human laughs at me when I get the zoomies. Unfortunately, that human had to surrender me due to medical needs. We just found out that I am hyperthyroid. That means that I need special food for the rest of my life called Y/D. This food is a little pricey, so please consider this before taking me home. My new friends here at the shelter know that I will also need a dental in about 6 months to a year from what our vet friend has said. Please think of me and call the shelter to schedule an appointment to meet me. I miss my home and it will take me some time to adjust to a new one. Will you be patient with me?

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Bob Good embarrassing

Newly elected 5th Congressional District Congressman Bob Good has so far managed to make a spectacular entry into public office while siding with the Proud Boys and other violent right-wing groups who desecrated the U.S. Capitol last Wednesday, Jan. 6.

On Dec. 12, 2020 in Washington, D.C. at a rally of rabid Trump supporters including the Proud Boys, Congressman-elect Good spoke along with such luminaries as Michael Flynn, the recently pardoned felon who lied to investigators. This was before he was even sworn in to represent us in Congress. He said at this rally where no one, including Good, was wearing a mask, "I can't tell you how great it is to look out there and see your faces. This looks like a group of people that gets it." Wearing a Trump hat, he declared "This is a phony pandemic."

Later that week, the United States experienced the single highest daily death toll of the entire period since the COVID-19 virus arrived on our shores - 3,124 people dead in a single day. We are now in the Commonwealth of Virginia experiencing up to 5,000 new cases of infection and 40-50 dying each day.

The day the Capitol was under siege Congressman Good voted with the majority of the House Republicans to deny Biden's victory. It is incomprehensible to me how such a man was elected to Congress. I am very proud that the voters in Fluvanna County gave the majority of their votes to Dr. Cameron Webb, the Democratic nominee and one who has experienced the virus epidemic firsthand as a physician at the University of Virginia Hospital. What a difference Dr. Webb would have made in Washington.

What an embarrassment it is to have this man representing the citizens of the 5th District in the US House of Representatives.

-Marvin Moss, Palmyra

Cult or not?

Probably, many Trump supporters had well-known reasons for supporting the president. They are not cult-like - certainly not all of them.

How can you tell if you are part of a cult? There is a simple test. Cultists are notorious for believing whatever lies their leader tells them. Some readers will recall Jim Jones, the cultist preacher who led hundreds of his followers to suicide in 1978. "Drink the Kool-Aid," he said. And they did.

So, who of you drank Trump's Kool-Aid?

Did you believe that Hillary should be "locked up?"

Did you/do you believe that most immigrants trying to gain entry to the U.S. are criminals and rapists?

Did you believe that Mexico was going to pay for the border wall?

Did you believe that Trump had a better, cheaper healthcare plan ready to go as soon as he got rid of Obamacare?

Did you believe COVID-19 was no worse than the flu? A hoax?

Did you/do you believe the news media are enemies of the people?

Did you, or do you believe that Trump won the election? Won by a landslide?

Did you applaud the ransacking of the Capitol? Did you ever say, "Stop the Steal?"

Those answering no to all or most of those questions are in good shape. Not cultists.

Cultists believe their leader no matter what the leader says, and Trump has a multitude of followers who were completely taken in by his stream of lies. As long predicted, they have proven to be highly dangerous to our country. For any who feel that they have been wrongly put in that category, it's an unfortunate - but understandable— mistake. We are sometimes judged by the company we keep.

-Susan Wolff, Lake Monticello

Budget, bonuses from page 2.

"I'm writing to urge you to move instruction back to remote learning or at least until we can all be vaccinated," Pullman wrote.

She said students are continuing to struggle.

Pullman said she has more students failing now (39 percent) compared to before moving to the hybrid schedule (15 percent).

Jessica Jackson, a West Central Primary teacher, spoke in person.

Jackson said she wanted to compliment her FCPS coworkers on the great job they're doing keeping each other and students safe.

"We understand there is no us versus them, no double standards, no different rules for students, teacher and administration," she said.

However, Jackson said she was dismayed and concerned that "some of the school board members feel they're beyond our school system guidelines. They won't wear masks because they don't want to, not because they can't."

If they continue not to wear a mask, she suggested ways they could help keep others at the meetings safe.

"School technology can set you up in a different part of the building or at home so you can attend the meeting

virtually. Or you can sit in a hallway or in the back of the room away from others. You could buy a vapor barrier to put around you. You could just stay home, or you could resign. I teach 4-year-olds and they all wear masks because they know they are keeping each other safe. I believe you all are role models. My 4-year-olds are better role models."

The School Board will have a seminar Jan. 20 at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the budget and the search for a new superintendent.



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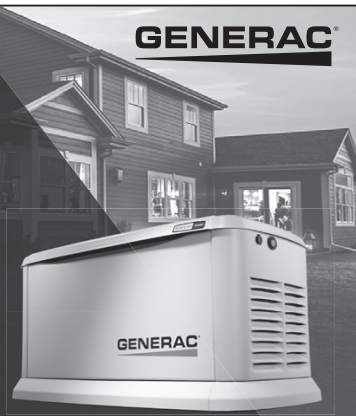
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FLUVANNA COUNTY, VA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Fluvanna County
Chamber of Commerce

Fluvanna Business Corner

A Letter from the President

Rudy Garcia President

Fluvanna County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

2020... What a year. Pandemic. Shut-downs. EIDL. PPP. ZOOM. CARES ACT. From Fluvanna Grants. High Speed Internet Expansion. Pandemic Response Membership. MICRO Business Membership. 2020.

Your Chamber is here and serving you. We end 2020 with over 170 members, an increase of over 5%. That is a good thing. We added a micro-business membership category just before the world turned inside out and upside down. Like most of you, we survived because of our ability to pivot to remain relevant to our constituents, you the members. Realizing that, we put in place a special Pandemic Response Membership.

We realized early on that we needed to get more Connected as a Chamber to the community, our members, and our peers in surrounding counties. To facilitate that, we started holding weekly Business Town Hall meetings from April until August. Concurrently, we assembled a group of Chambers of Commerce, Economic Directors and Economic Development Authority members from Greene, Madison, Orange, Louisa, Goochland and Powhatan counties and led weekly meetings where we brought back ideas and best practices that we then shared during our "News You Can Use" newsletters.

In addition to connecting in this fashion we also continued to have Chamber Board members serve on other Fluvanna County Boards such as the Economic Development Authority and Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee.

We held 2 virtual Educational events, (Small Business Marketing & Planning for Life) and provided 4 High School Scholarships. We also continued to publish the bi-weekly Fluvanna Business Corner in cooperation with the Economic Development Authority and the Economic Development Office.

We helped Promote our local members by hosting two Virtual Networking Breakfasts that featured food and goodies from seven of our member businesses:

1. Totes McGoats Body Soaps
2. Sweet Art Emporium
3. Two Labs Coffee
4. E.W. Thomas Grocery
5. Local Eats
6. Herbert's Wine Jelly
7. The Pub at Lake Monticello

We participated in the first ever Quad County Virtual Business Summit and were on hand when two of our local businesses (Reliable Rides and Two Labs Coffee) met as finalists for the \$5,000 QUAD TANK competition. The eventual winner by a slim margin was Reliable Rides.

We added 5 new Board Members who are all small business entrepreneurs:

- MaryJane Cathers (SACRED ACRES FARM AT WILDWOOD)
- Cat Gardner (TWO LABS COFFEE)
- Lauren Joyner (Natural Steps Child Devel. Center)
- Jennifer Lyons (TOTES MCGOATS BODY SOAPS)
- Sarah Monceaux (MONTAGUE MILLER REALTY)

As an organization we were able to accomplish much in the craziness that was 2020. While membership revenue was impacted negatively, we were able to take advantage of several disaster related loans and grants and so we were fiscally able to help out our members by offering forbearance and a reduction in membership fees during 2020.

All in all, your Chamber is in a good place. We are leaning forward to continue to PROMOTE, CONNECT and EDUCATE in 2021. We could not have accomplished this without you, our members and a Board of Directors committed to serving you. When you have a chance call our Board and let them know you appreciate them as much as I do:

- Valerie Palamountain, Vice President (PVCC)
- Darryl Gibson, Treasurer (ATLANTIC UNION BANK)
- Sarah Ackenbom (CAMP FRIENDSHIP)
- MaryJane Cathers (SACRED ACRES FARM AT WILDWOOD)
- Cat Gardner (TWO LABS COFFEE)
- Delores Hubert-Christmas (DJS UNIQUE SERVICES)
- Lauren Joyner (Natural Steps Child Devel. Center)
- Jennifer Lyons (TOTES MCGOATS BODY SOAPS)
- Bonnie Mackin (GOOSEHEAD INS., THE MACKIN AGENCY)
- Sarah Monceaux (MONTAGUE MILLER REALTY)
- Christina Monfalcone (MONFALCONE & GARRIS, PC)
- Bryan Rothamel, non-voting (COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR)
- Ruthann Carr, non-voting (PRESENTS OF NATURE)

Finally, I want to thank two people who were instrumental in the day-to-day, week-to-week and month-to-month success of your Chamber this year.

A huge shout out and thanks to our Office Manager Ruthann Carr, who was responsible for so much of the communication and implementation of the Board's plans. We could not have accomplished all we did without her.

In addition, I want to say THANK YOU to Bryan Rothamel, Fluvanna County Economic Development Officer. Without his leadership and outside-the-box thinking many businesses in Fluvanna County who are thriving might not be here today.

Here is goodbye to 2020 and hello to 2021. Stay safe and see you on the other side.

~Rudy

CONTACTS

Curtis Putnam, Chair
Economic Development Authority
edafluvanna@gmail.com

Bryan Rothamel
Economic Development Coordinator
brothamel@fluvannacounty.org
434-591-1910

Ruthann Carr, Office Manager
Chamber of Commerce
ruthann.carr@fluvannachamber.org
434-589-3262

RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

More PPP Loan Funds Available For Small Businesses

Wow! 2021 is off to a fast start. Last week we talked about how PPP proceeds were going to be tax deductible if you met certain criteria. This week we will explain about how businesses who still have a need may be eligible for additional PPP funding. Please call if you would like to discuss your tax or business questions. If you know someone who can benefit from this newsletter, feel free to send it to them.

There is additional money available from the Small Business Administration (SBA) for a new round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans courtesy of the Emergency Coronavirus Relief Act of 2020.

Here's what you need to know:

Requirements to Take Out a 2nd PPP Loan

If you received PPP loan proceeds in 2020, and wish to apply for a 2nd PPP loan, here are the qualifications:

- Your business must have 300 or fewer employees
- Demonstrate a decrease in gross receipts of at least 25 percent in any quarter of 2020 compared to the same quarter in 2019.
- Have used or will soon use the entire amount of their first PPP loan

Requirements to Take Out an Initial PPP Loan

If you didn't take out a PPP loan in 2020, but wish to do so now, you can still apply for a PPP loan.

For an initial PPP loan, your business must have been open on or before February 15, 2020 and have 500 or fewer employees or independent contractors for whom the business paid salaries, compensation and payroll taxes.

Loan Forgiveness for the New PPP Loans

As with the first round of PPP loans, the new loans are eligible to be entirely forgiven in certain requirements are met. There is even a simplified application for forgiveness. If the loan being applied for is less than \$150,000. The maximum amount of a new round of PPP funding is \$2 million.

What you need to do: Contact your banker as soon as possible. The last day to apply for and receive a PPP loan is March 31. As with the first round of PPP loan funding, funds are limited and are expected to quickly run out.

Remember... RWF Tax Services is here to help you navigate through all the tax implications for your small business and personal tax concerns. Call or email now to set up an appointment. We look forward to helping you!

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Fluvanna Faces: Edna Harris

BY MADELINE OTTEN
CORRESPONDENT



Where do you live?

"I live in Palmyra."

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

"I was born and raised in Fluvanna County, moved away after graduating from Saint Paul's College and lived in Danville, Virginia for over 20 years. I returned to Fluvanna to be closer to my parents David and Charlene Anderson."

Tell us about your family –

"My parents are David and Charlene Anderson, I have two amazing children Timothy and Zaria, and a precious grandson Liam."

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

"Growing up I had a desire to become an attorney, a neurosurgeon and a psychiatrist."

What was your very first job?

"My very first job was as a waitress in Fork Union at a little restaurant across from FUMA."

What do you do for a living?

"Currently I am employed as a Reading Specialist for Charlottesville City Schools."

What do you like to do in your spare time?

"I like to spend time with my family, gardening (flowers), and to read. I also serve on a variety of community service boards and committees."

What is one food that you could never live without? What is one you can never bring yourself to eat?

"I cannot live without chef salad and lemons. I will never bring myself to eat shellfish or pigs feet."

If there was a zombie apocalypse, who are three people you would want on your team?

"This is a difficult question, I would need my entire family."

What are your three favorite movies?

"Selma; It's a historical drama depicting a march led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. across the Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma Alabama for voting rights. It lends itself to be of historical significance for the world."

Madea's family Reunion; This movie in particular is a favorite because it references to the Madea the matriarch of the family bringing everyone together to celebrate family.

Oh Brother Where Art Thou? This movie is hilarious!"

Which is better – a novel or a movie?

"Reading a novel is better to me. I enjoy reading and creating a mind movie of how I imagine the characters and setting to be. I then often cross reference and view the movie to see if the story depiction captures what I imagined it to be."

What fictional character do you wish you could meet and why?

"The Black Panther, the reason being he created a powerful fictional world of hope and pride."

Fluvanna Faces continues page 8.

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WONDEROAST TUESDAY - \$5.00	Jif Peanut Butter 16 oz. 2/\$5
CHEAP CHICKEN THURSDAY /8 PC. -\$6.99	EE Tuna in Water 5 oz. 79¢
Boars Head Ovengold Turkey... \$7.99 lb.	EE Pancake Mix 2 lb. \$1.99
Boars Head Garlic Bologna \$4.99 lb.	EE Pancake Syrup 24 oz. \$1.49
Boars Head American Cheese . \$4.99 lb.	EE Elbow Macaroni or Spaghetti 16 oz. 2/\$1.19
Homemade Seafood Salad \$6.59 lb.	Minute Maid 100% Juice 3 pack 2/\$5
White House Dinner Rolls 14 oz. \$3.99	House of Autry Seasoning 2 lb. \$2.99
Apple Fritters 14 oz. \$2.99	EE Paper Plates 100 ct. \$3.49
MEAT DEPT.	DAIRY & FROZEN
USDA CHOICE TENDERED BEEF	International Delight Creamer 32 oz. \$2.99
Choice New York Strip Steaks \$8.99 lb.	RANA Filled Tortelloni or Ravioli 10 oz. \$3.99
Boneless Bottom Round Steaks \$3.99 lb.	EE Shredded Cheese 8 oz. 2/\$4
Boneless Bottom Round Roasts \$3.89 lb.	Minute Maid Lemonade or Punch/59 oz. 2/\$3
Fresh Lean Stew Beef \$3.99 lb.	Hanover Broccoli 10.5-14 oz. \$1.19
Pork Boston Butts \$1.39 lb.	Hanover Pretzels 12-13 oz. 2/\$4
Pork Butt Steaks \$1.99 lb.	Totinos Pizza Rolls 7.5 oz. 99¢
Boneless Chicken Cutlets \$3.29 lb.	Kemps Sherbert 54 oz. \$2.99
Perdue Chicken Nuggets Breaded/12 oz. \$2.99	PRODUCE DEPT.
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spotlight

Join Us For Lunch!

We are excited to celebrate our first year anniversary with a luncheon being held on February 22 at The Pub at Lake Monticello, we have limited seating, so follow us on **"Your Fluvanna Women In Business"** on facebook. [com/groups/493364071546312] for more information and sign up updates.

We're a group of over 100 businesswomen from almost every area of business in Fluvanna County. Our mission is to help improve lives with our services and provide the opportunity & environment to build belief and confidence in our business owners and their employees. We're working to help our local business community thrive together through networking, community participation, fun events, personal connections and co-op marketing. The goal is to create long-lasting relationships, mentor and learn while we share our business and life experience.

From our 1st Luncheon gathering that brought together 18 people who were

excited to see how a group could not only grow their business but also their relationships. Our future plans are a Women's Expo, fundraising for nursing students needs and more.

We are a Dues-Free group. Yes, we are a Women's group but do not exclude men from participating. Add your business to our **FB Group at "Your Fluvanna Women in Business Resource"**.

Always remember to SHOP LOCAL!

"By working together, pooling our resources and building on our strengths, we can accomplish great things." ~ Ronald Reagan

Last February Luncheon gatherings.

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We're excited to bring together our local small businesses to get together for lunch, laughs and network. This group is focused on the value of building long-lasting relationships. Our main goal is to encourage our members to support each other, give advice, and provide opportunities to learn from each other and increase business. Our group represents a variety of professionals, businesses, backgrounds, and passions but you do not have to own a business to feel like a part of our group. We are the Fluvanna County Women in Business and those who love Women in Business. We welcome men to participate at our events. Look us up and join us on Facebook!

~Fluvanna County Women in Business

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3. You'll be entered in a drawing to win!

The winner of the FREE vehicle car detailing by Detail Me Now is Laverne McMillian (left), once again! She won back in Nov as well. Jose Hernandez center. Peggy Shanklin at right.



I love Fluvanna. It's my home and where I chose to do business and have for years. And I wanted to find a way to give back to our county. Here we will highlight Fluvanna businesses. Businesses such as these give our county the charm that cannot be found anywhere else in our great county. If you would like to nominate your favorite business, that may not be getting the notice it deserves, visit my Facebook page, Peggy Shanklin Realtor, and leave your suggestions.



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Fluvanna Faces from page 6.

What is the best piece of advice you have received?

"Don't take any wooden nickels and live your best life."

What pivotal decision helped to shape your life?

"Attending Upward Bound at the University of Virginia during 9th-12th grade."

Tell us about a way you have changed over the years.

"Over the years I have become wiser and more detail oriented in life and living around the world."

What has surprised you about your life?

"I cannot think of any real surprises about my life. I do pray that "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

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

"To make this world a better place for my children and grandson, to leave it better than when I came."

Tell us about one of your regrets.

"The only regrets that come to mind is that I wish my maternal grandparents Charlie and Frances Felton and paternal grandparents John and Helen Anderson would have lived to see me as an adult in 2021. I hope that I am living up to all they would expect of me and then some."

Tell us about your proudest moment.

"The proudest moments of my life have been to become a mom to Timothy and Zari, Gigi to Liam, aunt to my only nephew Trey, and sister to Danisha and Erica."

Where is your favorite place to travel to and why?

"My favorite place to travel other than to visit my son and his family would be going to the beach. There's something about the sound of the waves crashing against the shore and looking out as far as the eye can see and it appears there's no distinction between the ocean and the sky."

When you are having a bad day, what do you do to make yourself feel better?

"Pray, meditate, read the Bible, look at pictures of my children, watch videos of my grandson Liam and listen to music."

What is one thing the COVID-19 pandemic has taught you?

"What I learned from the COVID19 pandemic is that everything we know as a normal everyday life, changed and stopped the world in its tracks. The seriousness of the pandemic has even closed churches of which I never thought could be possible."

What quote or saying do you connect with most?

"You are where you are today because you stand on somebody's shoulders. And wherever you are heading, you cannot get there by yourself. If you stand on the shoulders of others, you have a reciprocal responsibility to live your life so that others may stand on your shoulders. It's the quid pro quo of life. We exist temporarily through what we take, but we live forever through what we give." —Vernon Jordan.

This quote speaks to me about my life and living. I wouldn't be here if not for others that have tread the way, so it makes me consciously responsible to be a person that others can depend upon to stand on my shoulders to help them along this journey of life. It's our human responsibility to leave a footprint of such by helping others. Knowledge only matters if you can share with others to help them grow.

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SYCAMORE SQUARE



107 Justin Drive **\$295,500**

A well maintained home located at Sycamore Square. Near shopping & restaurants. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, with 2300+fin. sq. ft. Eat in kitchen with pantry, dining room. Partially finished, walk out basement, second master bedroom, possible in law suite. Open floor plan, double doors to back deck. Paved driveway on a half acre lot.

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11 Acre Lane **\$469,900**

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The Fluvanna SPCA will be closed to the public until further notice. We are trying to do our part to help cut down on the spread of COVID-19, and with our animals' and employees' best interests in mind we are trying to reduce foot traffic to help keep our employees healthy. The animals at the shelter will continue to receive wonderful care just as they normally do, so no need to worry. If you are interested in adopting or if you would like to drop off donations during this time that we are closed to the public, you can make an appointment to do so by contacting our shelter manager: manager@fspca.org. We appreciate your understanding and support during this difficult time for everyone, and we will be sure to keep you updated as soon as we will be open again to the public.

THIS WEEK'S PET IS CRANBERRY

She is as sweet as they come and loves to hop around. She is looking for a special home of her own. Cranberry is heartworm positive and is looking for a family that can provide her with the medical care she will need in the future. She is up to date on all vaccines and preventatives and will be spayed soon.

If you are interested in learning more about Cranberry, please call the shelter at 434-591-0123.



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Retired political scientist talks about today's Progressives

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT



Nowadays, when we think of Progressives, what comes to mind is Bernie Sanders, AOC (Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez), socialism, and the far left of democracy. Progressives have been around since the 1890s and started as a social movement. By the early 20th century it became a political movement and has evolved and shaped many mainstream issues, including giving women the right to vote, and under Theodore Roosevelt and William Taft, fashioning the Anti-Trust Act addressing corporate monopolies.

The underlying goals of the Progressives are to support social reform based on science, technology, economic development, and social organization. Nowadays, modern Progressives are concerned with healthcare, the growth of large corporations, corruption in government and other areas, social justice reform, and the environment. They are viewed with suspicion by those who do not want to disturb the status quo.

Progressives view the current state of society based on the results of modernization. A group in Lake Monticello, The Progressive Club, headed up by Jeff James, is a growing group of concerned citizens hashing out ideas and finding ways to help the human condition and contribute to society in a meaningful way. Many at the Jan. 12, meeting expressed horror and sadness at what had taken place the previous week at the Capitol. One of their main concerns was media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, which have been utilized for hate speech, violence, and fringe groups. Their goal is not to bridle free speech but to make these media platforms accountable for those who engage in hateful rhetoric and violence. The conversation has many facets and some take on the role of the opposition, which sees this as regulatory but unnecessary if the companies could regulate themselves.

It is a proactive group, writing letters or calling representatives to voice concerns and sharing information on when the COVID vaccine will be available. One member, Brian Cannon keeps them updated on the redistricting effort in Virginia.

James describes himself as a political scientist with very wide-ranging intellectual interests.

"My interests are primarily international in focus but domestic issues sustaining a strong second place in my scattered brain," he said. "My notion of being an American is one of humbled pride, but also disappointment about the weak sense of community our nation's people seem to have for one another." He adds that as a great nation, we do have all of the resources to improve the access to equity for our citizens, the safety net for all who live and work in America, and much to share with the world as well.

"My blue-collar upbringing was in a safe, middle-class racist suburb of Chicago, and after graduating from college and entering the Peace Corps, heading for Malawi, Africa, only then were my eyes fully opened to my good fortune as an American, but also that many other countries also were good at performing for their citizens. We Americans could learn from others and strengthen fairness within our democracy."

It was about seven years ago that James said he realized that many Lake Monticello residents with various career experiences had no platform or group for sharing diverse political views.

"There was very little balance in the political dialogue here; liberal opinions were seldom welcomed, and little attention was paid to dialogue among dissenters, Republican or Democratic. My thinking then and now was and is that even within an admittedly liberal-oriented organization people would and could share their perspectives so we all could be smarter, more engaged, more informed citizens." This inspired him to start the Progressive Club.

The club is open to all Lake Monticello residents, men and women, to consider a wide range of topics, including the judicial system, US-Chinese relations, local Virginia politics, redistricting, the Trump Administration, racial equality, and reparations, even the

Retired political scientist *continues page 13.*

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Public Notices



NOTICE

The Fluvanna County School Board will hold a work session at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 3, 2021. The purpose of this meeting is for the Superintendent to present the proposed budget for FY2022.

The Fluvanna County School Board will hold a Budget Public Hearing at 6 p.m. on the FY2022 Budget.

We allow in-person public comments, one person at a time in the meeting area. Our capacity is 17 in the meeting area at this time. There will be a health screening once entering the building. All visitors are required to wear masks in the building at all times, including during public comments. Our meeting will be available on Facebook Live, Google Meet, and in BoardDocs. If you cannot attend, you may submit your public comments to public-comment@apps.fluco.org by Noon on Wednesday.

The meetings will take place at the Fluvanna County School Board Office, located at 14455 James Madison Highway, VA 22963

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Virtual public health forum

A virtual public health forum with Taison Bell, MD, will be held on **Jan. 26** at 7 p.m. To register for the forum, send an email to fluvannacountyaacp@gmail.com Sponsored by the Fluvanna NAACP branch.

Mah Jongg players information

Order your 2021 Mah Jongg cards and support Lake Monticello Fire and Rescue by participating in our group order. The National Mah Jongg League will make a donation of \$2.50 per card to Lake Monticello Fire and Rescue when a group order is placed. For 2020 the donation was \$195. Cost is \$10 for large print, \$9 for standard print, the same cost as if you ordered your card individually and the card is mailed directly to you. Orders must be received by **Jan. 29** to qualify for the Mah Jongg League donation. Please call Marianne Riek, 589-9674 to place your order or for more information.

Retired political scientist from page 10.

merger of the U.S. and Canada.

"All informed opinions are sought and encouraged, maybe with a touch of humorous bias in one direction. If the members are energized and stimulated with new ideas and opinions, we have done our job," he said. "The organization is not perfect but even in these threatening times we continue to meet, now buoyed by an incoming national administration I believe will better serve the broad interests of the American people and indeed the world." Because of the current political climate, many of these similar interest groups are sprouting up across the U.S., bringing people together and giving them a collective voice. Many in the mainstream media have pointed to a lack of involvement in politics at the state and local levels and it has weakened the system over time. Groups like James' club are a way for people to get involved other than just at election time.

Currently, they meet on Zoom and discuss issues and the conversations

are informative and interactive. Often they have speakers and some of the past speakers have been members, and local political leaders, authors, all types of candidates, community business people, poets, medical experts, and economic development scholars.

"We constantly solicit new ideas and issues of importance of wide appeal. Our slate is brimming over with pressing issues to better explore and understand." He added that this year will include issues regarding global climate change imperatives, new foreign policy initiatives, the status of Native Americans in the US, racial justice and improved policing, education funding improvements, health-care reform, workers' rights and the role of unions, and child poverty.

"Our country has narrowly escaped threats to 'the core of American democracy.' Only through an informed, compromising citizenry will we be able to hold onto this wonderful creation of a country that we have inherited. In a very small way, the humble Progressive Club members work toward that reality."

Fluco girls trample Monticello Mustangs 48-34

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluco girls' basketball team jumped to a commanding lead early against Monticello High on Friday, Jan. 15, and they were never seriously challenged throughout. In the first quarter, the Mustangs tried to move the ball around and force it inside. Nick Ward's squad destroyed this strategy. The Flucos played a collapsing zone and forced turnovers, made steals and blocked shots. At the end of the quarter, the Flucos led 11-2. Sophomore guard Alana Carter-Johnson led the way for the Flucos with 5 points in the quarter.

The second quarter started well for the Flucos. Senior Allyson Crothers scored on a drive. Eva Stribling made two free throws. Abby Seal nailed a three and Carter-Johnson scored on a drive to make the score 20-2. With the second quarter half over, the Flucos clearly had the game well in hand. In the second half of the quarter, the Mustangs managed to outscore the Flucos 6-4, but that made the half time score 25-8. A seventeen-point half-time lead was understandably unsurmountable. Coach Ward noted after the game that his squad "played our game" in the first half and was "very focused."

In the third quarter, the Mustangs managed to rally to some extent and the Flucos had some troubles from the foul line, making only two for eight. However, the Flucos maintained a

comfortable lead. The Mustangs never cut the lead to less than 13. The Flucos led 36-22 going into the final quarter. Carter-Johnson scored four in the third quarter and Crothers sank a three-point shot.

In the fourth quarter, the two teams played evenly, both scoring 12 points for a final score of 48-34. In this quarter, Carter-Johnson and Tatyana Turner both scored four points.

The Flucos were led in scoring by Carter-Johnson who recorded 17, she ran the offence and drove to the basket well. No other Fluco was in double figures, but Turner had eight and Keke Davis-Heinrich had seven. Davis-Heinrich was a major factor inside, as she controlled the backboards and blocked a number of shots.

The Fluco girls have a very active schedule this year, as the compressed and shortened season results in games that are closer together than usual, assuming games are not canceled due to COVID-19 concerns. On Jan. 16 the girls traveled to Western Albemarle and on Jan.19 they were at Louisa County High. On Friday Jan. 22 they will host Western Albemarle. On Jan. 26 they travel to Monticello High, and on Jan. 27 they host Albemarle High. After that, they have only two remaining games on their schedule. Attendance at games is severely restricted and masks are mandated.

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Easy

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

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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:

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

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Got a perfect score
- 5 Divvy up
- 10 Judge's order
- 14 Wild hog
- 15 Cashless deal
- 16 Put in a position
- 17 "So what ___ is new?"
- 18 "Crying" singer
- 20 Info bank
- 22 ___ of truth
- 23 Sitter's headache
- 24 Rider's handful
- 26 "Gosh!"
- 28 Night flier
- 30 Consecrates with oil
- 34 Frank or Joe of kids' books
- 36 Spanish flower
- 38 Word in a Paul Newman prison film title
- 39 Leer at
- 40 Kind of engineer
- 41 Hathaway of Hollywood
- 42 Like some chances
- 43 Cameo shape
- 44 Unescorted
- 45 Not easily debunked
- 47 Go on and on
- 49 Safety device
- 50 Alex Haley saga
- 52 Not as much
- 54 Ill will
- 57 Setting for many shootouts
- 61 Blue-green gem
- 63 Pro's foe
- 64 Extremist sect
- 65 Pint-sized
- 66 Bygone despot
- 67 Where Bill met Hillary
- 68 Heeds a command
- 69 ___ and now

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 Bead anagram
- 2 Pepsi or RC
- 3 Locale of a bygone wall
- 4 Gloomy, in poetry
- 5 Rock layers
- 6 Major-leaguers
- 7 Cake section
- 8 Wedding words
- 9 Airport building
- 10 Playfully eccentric
- 11 Greet the day
- 12 Chipping choice
- 13 Circus structure
- 19 One-named rocker
- 21 Pampered one?
- 25 With little effort
- 26 Whoopi's Oscar film
- 27 Top scout
- 29 Hot-dish holder
- 31 Strictly business
- 32 Heavy metric weight
- 33 Frozen rain
- 35 Set boundaries
- 37 Egg cells
- 40 Garden of the Gods state
- 44 Parodied
- 46 Explosive sound
- 48 Narrow side streets
- 51 Trough diners
- 53 Mower's path
- 54 Rather suggestive
- 55 Bluish hue
- 56 ___ and void
- 58 Pitch-black
- 59 Hollywood Blvd sight
- 60 Bicycle part
- 62 Chest protector?

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

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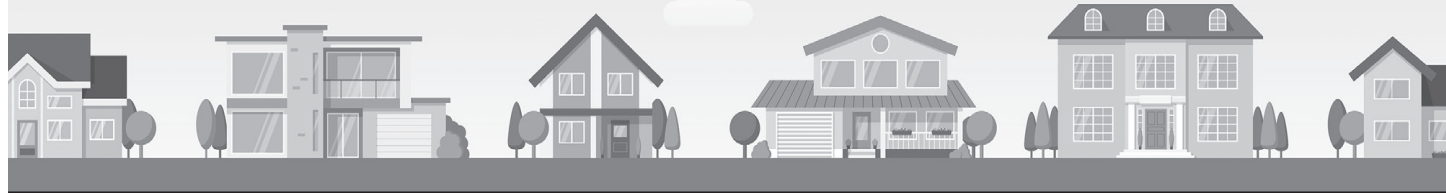
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Palmyra residents fear new development will deplete local water supply

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

Residents of Courthouse Road in Palmyra raised concerns about the impact of a proposed development during a public hearing at the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday night (Jan 12).

Developer Tim Miller of Meridian Planning Group submitted an application to build a housing development on a 124.5-acre tract on Courthouse Road last fall. If developed, Ballinger Bluff would contain 48 single-family homes.

Miller was seeking the commission's approval for both the subdivision plan and a Special Use Permit for a central sewer system for the development. Rather than each home having its own septic system and drain field, he proposed a system where clusters of four homes share a single drain field.

But during the public hearing, it was clear that water -- not sewage -- was the main concern of local residents.

Many homes on Courthouse Road have long-standing problems with their wells, including low water supply and the need to dig new wells as old ones have gone dry. They fear adding 48 new wells to the neighborhood might make the issues even worse.

Miller, along with his water consultants, largely dismissed the potential for disruption of adjacent wells. Based on their hydrogeological survey, they believe there is adequate water supply for the new homes.

Some residents remained unconvinced.

"One minute, you're saying you can't guarantee that there's water out there and you need to drill test wells," said Renae Chiovaro. "And then another minute you're saying 100% sure it's not going to affect anybody. So I'm a little confused about that."

Another resident said that while the developer had to show sufficient water quantity as part of the Certificate of Occupancy, by the time any problems arose, "Mr. Miller has washed his hands of the subdivision at that point, and has no financial responsibility to any of the current owners of those lots or to anybody in the surrounding area to address the issues with our wells."

Overton McGehee said, from his research, the proposed development would have the highest density of wells

in the county, with multiple wells in a 300 to 400-foot radius.

He also argued that interruptions in water availability would impact not only homeowners, but two farms directly across from the development.

While understanding that developers have a right to access groundwater for their projects, "we believe that existing homeowners and farmers have a right to some water, too," said McGehee.

Other residents raised concerns about the potential for runoff from the development contaminating Ballinger and Oak creeks, light pollution, and increased traffic on Courthouse Road.

In his closing statement, Miller had some concerns of his own, particularly a provision in the Special Use Permit that would require him to guarantee the full cost of maintenance and replacement of the sewer system for a period of five years after the 90 percent of the lots were sold. If he never reached that 90 percent mark, he argued, this would leave him on the hook for the system "forever."

Douglas Miles, Director of Community Development for the Planning and Zoning Department, said the provision was "pretty standard in subdivision development," and had been used in other county projects.

In his closing statement, Miles had concerns of his own, including the lack of in-depth Miller's consultants had provided about the water supply. He and his staff recommended deferring the approval of the permitting process to give Miller 90 days to do a fuller hydrogeologic study, including the digging of test wells.

Commission member Ed Zimmer made a motion to defer approval of the subdivision to give Miller and his team time to present a clearer picture of the water supply at the site.

While he said he knew no water study could give a 100% guarantee of supply, he felt it could alleviate some of the concerns from both residents and county planners.

The motion passed 5-0. The Planning Commission will revisit the motion at their March 9 meeting.

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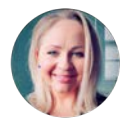


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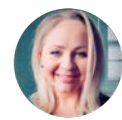


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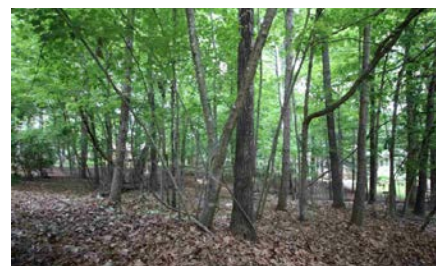
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