

Fluvanna

REVIEW



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Gequetta "G." Murray-Key



Darrell Byers



Charles Rittenhouse

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Cover: 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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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THIS WEEK'S PET: WALDEN

Walden is very active and he loves playing with toys. He enjoys resting in the sunlight and then when he wakes up it full speed ahead. Walden will make someone very happy!

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Counties need emergency rooms

We live in Fluvanna County. Last week I had to take my wife to the emergency room at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. It was an absolute nightmare. We arrived around 5 p.m. There were at least 100 people in the waiting room and it wasn't even the weekend. She had blood drawn and an EKG taken which was quick and then the wait started for the results of the tests. After a few hours I went to the desk and asked the nurse if her blood work came back. She informed me it was on her computer. The nurse gave me the results and I thanked her. I thought to myself: wow shouldn't she have had someone come out to talk to us.

We waited awhile longer and I asked the nurse how long before my wife would see a

doctor. She informed me there were 13 people ahead of us. I asked my wife how she felt and she said pretty good. It was 1 a.m. by this point. We both had enough so we went home. This is unacceptable. If one was to have a heart attack the first 20 minutes are critical. We need emergency rooms built in our counties. There are enough people to warrant this need.

I know the medical profession is overworked and under appreciated. Our local leaders need to address this problem and find a solution. The U.Va. building at Zion Crossroads has empty space which could be used. I hope our leaders read this letter.

-Bill Bruder, Fork Union

Fluvanna needs a positive perspective

As a native to Fluvanna, I am a product of Fluvanna's era of segregated schools; nonetheless, I achieved parity plus with my peers in the county and proudly served as a senior Army military officer for 28 years of my adult career endeavors. Fluvanna County needs different and positive perspectives from all its citizens who are looking to meet the ongoing challenges of moving forward under the educational, technological, and economical landscape of Fluvanna's future. I therefore offer my unequivocal support of Gequetta "G" Murray-Key for the Fluvanna County School Board representing the Rivanna District. As an educator, entrepreneur, and parent, Ms.

Murray-Key is exceedingly qualified to serve on the School Board. She will be a powerful advocate for our students and our schools. A dedicated member of our community, Ms. Murray-Key has served as past PTO president, and a member of the school's Accreditation and Safety committees and has worked with her family to collect and distribute school supplies to students. Ms. Murray-Key will bring an informed and positive perspective in support of our county youth and will work to ensure our schools are equipped to meet the needs of all students, parents, educators, staff, and the community.

-Joseph Creasy, Palmyra

Vote for your children

We need experienced educators to lead us! In this election, we have an opportunity to shape the future of our schools by electing two school board members who are experienced educators and community leaders.

Our school board is responsible for ensuring a quality education for all students to acquire the skills, knowledge, and values needed to reach their highest potential and the confidence to make informed decisions that positively impact their future.

Eric Anderson and Gequetta Murray-Key are both college educators who understand what students need to reach their highest potential. They are both uniquely qualified to guide our school board in service of its mission.

I understand this as I am a retired educator and former principal of Cunningham and Fork Union Elementary Schools for several years. Some of you reading this letter may have been students of mine.

Experienced educators know the sacred trust involved when parents send their children

to school. Effective school board members support parent engagement in ways that build success rather than causing division. Experienced educators and leaders also know how to bring knowledge to bear when making important decisions.

I respectfully ask you as parents, grandparents, and other relatives to cast your vote for your child(ren). I understand it can be hard not to support a candidate that may be your church member, neighbor, relative, or a member of your political party. We must reject partisanship and focus on the needs of our students. Let's elect school board members who appreciate and understand the value of an excellent pre-school-12 education and set policies that ensure all students have the best no matter what their ethnic, racial, or gender identity may be. Eric Anderson and Gequetta Murray-Key are experienced educators who will be excellent school board members!

-Mozell H. Booker, Fork Union (Mozell Booker is a member of the county Board of Supervisors.)

Strong leadership needed

Fluvanna County Public Schools need qualified and dedicated candidates for the School Board. They must have strong leadership skills, integrity, results driven, with creative and analytical skills. We need school board members that are committed to the long-term interests of our children. Their sole purpose for serving is to make it possible for our children to receive the best education the school system can provide. They should focus on providing guidance, support and stability for all children during these critical times. We need new and fresh perspectives for our schools, members who will represent and be a

voice for our community and students. The three critical items I think will make our school system more successful are to:

- Improve early childhood development;
- Close the achievement gap, so that all children are treated equally and can learn equally;
- Bring more technology to the school systems for better productivity.

I think Gequetta Murray-Key and Eric Anderson are the right candidates that will move our school system forward for greater success. Vote for Gequetta Murray-Key and Eric Anderson on Nov. 2.

-Barbara M. Cary, Palmyra

Where's the apology?

I served in the Army Medical Corps during the Vietnam War. I was trained as a field trauma medic or "corpsman" but I was assigned to an Army mental health clinic stabilizing and reintegrating soldiers returning stateside. I listened to these young men recount their traumatic experiences as part of de-escalation therapy. Most had never seen a person die before, much less the traumatic death of a friend. They needed somebody to listen attentively and understand what they had experienced. It's not an easy job, and very few families can handle those needs. These returnees were searching for a sense of meaning, a sense of appreciation and pride for facing life-threatening situations and doing what they had been called to do.

FUBAR AND SNAFU are common in military usage. Those terms are heard frequently these days in military circles in response to the Afghan evacuation. I literally get daily notices and videos from the Veterans Administration offering me suicide prevention counseling

and other resources. Evidently suicide among us veterans is on the rise, especially among combat veterans. When you see your combat related disability being rendered meaningless by the country you sacrificed for, it can be seriously depressing. R.E. Lee offered an apology to his Army upon his surrender, taking full responsibility for their defeat. A Harry Truman type of apology right now ("The buck stops here.") would go far in alleviating the current pain, but we know that will never be forthcoming from the current administration.

I must go to the Richmond hospital in a couple of weeks for a procedure, and I dread walking past bunches of guys in wheelchairs. They are usually proudly wearing ball caps with their unit or branch designations on, but this time it will probably be pretty grim. Not leaving American soldiers behind used to be the gold standard, Benghazi being the only exception. Now loyalty to our soldiers and allies apparently means nothing.

-Rick Bayless, Palmyra

School Board candidates explain their vision

BY RUTHANN CARR
CORRESPONDENT

It's clear throughout the nation that school boards are under fire. Fluvanna is no different. Cynics would say there is a coordinated attack on local government at the most basic level. Others might say people are just now riled up enough to get involved. Whatever the answer, it's a tough time to serve on any local board. Even more of a reason to appreciate those who decide to step up and run. Gequetta "G." Murray-Key is running against Darrell Byers in the Rivanna District. Eric Anderson is running against incumbent Charles Rittenhouse in the Cunningham District. Andrew Pullen is running unopposed in the Columbia District.

In an effort to inform and educate voters, the Fluvanna Review asked all five candidates for school board to answer a series of questions. Here are the answers from the four that responded. (Andrew Pullen, representing the Columbia District, did not respond.)



Gequetta "G." Murray-Key

1. Please give your name, occupation and the district in which you are running.

Gequetta "G." Murray-Key, Chief of Operations of a local regional jail. Rivanna District

2. What do you think are the top three issues facing Fluvanna Public Schools?

1. Equitable access to education, technological support/training for all students and staff. Also included is addressing student learning gaps and mental health from COVID shutdowns.

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2. Retaining and hiring quality educators and support staff from diverse backgrounds who feel valued and appreciated while they provide our students a great well-rounded education.

3. Student and staff safety, both physical and mental are important and our schools should foster a space for dignity and respect while learning.

3. What are your solutions to those issues?

1. The school board must work with the county government to use COVID funds to ensure that we have internet service in every area in the county. Along with technological access, staff and student training is crucial to using technology as a supplement, not replacement to traditional, solid teaching methods. As part of equity in educational opportunity, it will be important to identify and address gaps in student learning that may have occurred during the COVID virtual learning process.

2. A priority is retaining and recruiting the best teachers and staff, with experience in multiple disciplines and diverse backgrounds. Also, recruit vocational and technical trades staff for our CTE courses to enhance our current offering to students, for those striving to go on to college, striving to go into the trades or those headed straight into the workforce. We want to offer more choices to our students as well as additional life skills.

3. School safety concerns require engaging with students, their families, educators and the community. Students must feel safe to tell and teach us what is happening at school, as opposed to what we think or imagine. Bullying (cyberbullying and physical bullying) and fights because some students look, feel or think a certain way and other disciplinary concerns must be addressed through a fair and equal protocol by all staff. Kids are going to make mistakes as we all did and still do, but school is one resource that can help students learn from their mistakes.

4. Many people feel the current School Board is dysfunctional. Do you agree? If so, why, and what would you do to change it? If not, why not?

All teams require collaboration, not confrontation when we disagree with one another. Leaders must be problem-solvers who consider individual and collective impacts before making a final decision. We must listen to each other, discuss and sometimes compromise to address the issues in front of the School Board. Ultimately, the goal is to get things accomplished, not just have meetings.

5. Since July there has been a hue and cry about three issues in particular: Masks, Critical Race Theory, transgender issues. What are your thoughts, positions about each and why?

My primary focus is education and safety in schools, not dwelling on socially divisive issues.

1. Masks are mandated by the governor

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in our schools. Masks are a proven mitigation step as is proper social distancing.

2. Critical race theory is not part of the Virginia Schools Curriculum. The Fluvanna County school system has no plans to teach CRT.

3. The US 4th Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled on transgender rights in schools in the case of Gavin Grimm v. Gloucester County Public School Board. The State of Virginia has mandated all public schools adopt a transgender policy that recognizes the rights of transgender students.

6. What is the role/function public schools play in our society?

Public schools are a ladder of opportunity that all students can climb whether a student wants to get a college degree, go into the trades or go directly into the workforce, all honorable outcomes. Public schools are the anchor of our democracy. We need well-rounded citizens who will either find the next cure, invent the next technology that can improve our quality of life (ex: cellphones) or simply fix our car.

7. What role does a School Board member play in public education?

Perhaps we should pose that question to the students. I believe an effective school board member comes prepared to School Board meetings, listens to all stakeholders, and considers differing perspectives in making decisions that are best for all students. The School Board oversees the fiscal resources of the schools, hires and supervises the superintendent and sets policies. I want to see the Fluvanna schools work towards creating a safe space for students and support each student's educational dreams so they feel alive in the classroom just as they do through the arts, drama, sciences, sports and music. The pathway to success is unique to each child; we need to support all students in that journey.

8. When there is a conflict between state and federal law and your constituents' thoughts and beliefs, how will you (do you) resolve that conflict?

I believe in following the law. Our goal is not to be divisive. Together, we should work to resolve any conflict by looking in depth at the actual impact of each policy on the education of the students. We must follow the law and rules even if we don't agree with them; we are the students' role models. I will work with the board to follow those federal and state laws while considering the community's views on state and federal legal decisions.

School board candidates, *continues page 6.*



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School board candidates, from page 5.



Eric Anderson

1. Please give me your name, occupation and the district in which you are running.

I am Eric Anderson, a lecturer in chemical engineering at the University of Virginia. I'm running for the Cunningham School Board seat.

2. What do you think are the top three issues facing Fluvanna Public Schools? What are your solutions to those issues?

Fluvanna schools are significantly understaffed in a few areas, especially in the transportation department. Since the start of the school year, we have too few drivers to transport our students, and this has resulted in long trips and long waits both before and after school, wasted time and uncertainty for both students and their families. We need to fill these positions, which means we need to provide fair and competitive pay and the kinds of non-financial support these valuable employees need. Also, we are having trouble recruiting enough substitute teachers.

Our school health professionals need help with contact tracing and other work related to keeping our children safe from the pandemic so that they can attend to the normal sorts of student medical issues.

We need a comprehensive review of pay for our non-teaching staff to make sure we can attract and retain the high-quality support people our students need.

3. Many people feel the current School Board is dysfunctional. Do you agree? If so, why, and what would you do to change it? If not, why not?

The people of Fluvanna deserve a School Board dedicated to working together collaboratively to address the issues that actually matter to our students and staff. I pledge to work collaboratively with other School Board members and staff, to be prepared, to be present and to listen.

4. Since July there has been a hue and cry about three issues in particular: Masks, Critical Race Theory, Transgender issues. What are your thoughts, positions about each and why?

In a public-health crisis such as the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, we need to do what we can to keep our students

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healthy and in the classroom. Masks, as recommended by medical experts and as mandated by the Commonwealth, reduce the risk of spreading this airborne disease. I've been teaching in a mask all this fall at U.Va., and it is not my idea of fun, but it is an easy way to keep students, faculty, and staff a little safer, to protect each other and our families, and to make sure we can keep doing in-person instruction throughout this crisis.

Critical Race Theory has no role in K-12 education. It is not part of the Virginia school curriculum. It is not on the SOLs. It is not in the Fluvanna curriculum, and no one is proposing to change that.

Both U.S. and Virginia law recognize the rights of transgender students. Virginia law mandates that school boards adopt policies that maintain 'a safe and supportive learning environment free from discrimination and harassment for all students.' I support such non-discrimination policies.

5. What is the role/function public schools play in our society?

Public schools are the places where our young people can be given the opportunity to learn the basic skills it takes to be a functioning, happy, healthy, productive member of society. We want children to grow up into adults who are literate and proficient, who understand the history and philosophy of this great nation, and who are ready to take their next steps in life as workers, parents, public servants, or to pursue higher studies if they wish.

6. What role does a School Board member play in public education?

The School Board, like any board of directors, exists to set high-level policies and priorities for the full-time professionals who execute those policies on a day-to-day basis. They need to hire a good superintendent, ensure that they have a clear understanding of the community's priorities, and that they have the resources needed to achieve those goals. Each board member also serves the community by listening to teachers and students, parents and taxpayers and by serving to help communication between all these people and the school administration.

7. When there is a conflict between state and federal law and your constituents' thoughts and beliefs, how will you (do you) resolve that conflict?

As a School Board member, I will take an oath to uphold the laws of the Commonwealth and support the Constitution of the Commonwealth and the United States. I have a fiduciary duty to uphold the existing laws handed down by both the state and federal government.



Darrell Byers

1. Please give me your name, occupation and the district in which you are running.

My name is Darrell Byers. I am employed by the County of Albemarle, more specifically the police department. My current assignment is the commander of the Operational Support Division. (*Byers is running for the Rivanna District seat.*)

2. What do you think are the top three issues facing Fluvanna Public Schools? What are your solutions to those issues?

In my opinion the top three issues facing the Fluvanna Public Schools are teacher retention, governmental overreach, under emphasis on students. The school system is failing our students daily. Instead of focusing on the basics; math, English, science, the arts and technical education, there seems to be a focus on social justice. As such, the government's overarching input fails to recognize the most important part of the school system, the student. I will be very intentional about making the students a top priority. I will work with the teachers to identify retention concerns, such as health care benefits. I will be diligent in ensuring all county employees have access to the same benefits package.

3. Many people feel the current School Board is dysfunctional. Do you agree? If so, why, and what would you do to change it? If not, why not?

I too believe the current board is dysfunctional. This is in part due to the loss of focus. It is overtly apparent certain members are seeking to advance personal political agendas. There's a reason this is an apolitical position and I will work tirelessly to collaborate with other board members, political agendas aside.

4. Since July there has been a hue and cry about three issues in particular: Masks, Critical Race Theory, transgender issues. What are your thoughts, positions about each and why?

My position on masks is simple. I believe it should be parental choice. Critical Race Theory has no business being a part of any curriculum. This nation is too divided, and public schools should not act as a breeding ground for discontent and hate. Our focus should be on similarities and not differences. We must teach the basics and instill a love of lifetime learning. My position on transgender restrooms is such that I believe unisex restrooms provide the privacy needed for anyone to use those designated restrooms. The Fourth Circuit and SCOTUS are clear in

their decision. However, I believe the VDOE has drastically changed the opinion of the court to advance social justice agenda.

5. What is the role/function public schools play in our society?

The function of public schools is to provide a safe learning environment for all students. It is not a place to advance political ideology, but rather cultivate and engage young minds to be the best they can be.

6. What role does a School Board member play in public education?

School Board members should provide a positive influence for students to emulate. Additionally, they should ensure all students have equal access to the best educational platform available. Lastly, Board members should guarantee we have the best and the brightest to impart knowledge to our students.

7. When there is a conflict between state and federal law and your constituents thoughts and beliefs, how will you (do you) resolve that conflict?

I think it is important to remember that laws are passed oftentimes without forethought of unintended consequences. It's imperative that the spirit of the law is understood as well as the letter of the law. Ultimately, I would work within the confines of the law understanding there may be mitigating circumstances that would allow for some deviation.



Charles Rittenhouse

1. Please give me your name, occupation and the district in which you are running.

Charles Rittenhouse
Self-Employed, construction
Cunningham District

2. What do you think are the top three issues facing Fluvanna Public Schools? What are your solutions to those issues?

Making sure all students get a good education.

Everyone working together to stay focused on what is best for all students, teachers and employees.

Functioning in the COVID era.

Solutions to those issues:

Make the education of our children our main priority, by providing the tools and/or skills needed for their future in the workforce.

Stop focusing on radical political issues and policies which have nothing to do with learning.

Give parent's a voice and a choice, when it comes to their child(ren).

3. Many people feel the current School Board is dysfunctional. Do you agree? If so, why, and what would you do to change it? If not, why not?

I think my definition of dysfunctional and other board member's definition may be different. Not agreeing with someone is not the definition of dysfunctional, it just means we don't agree. Expecting everyone to be in agreement, just to put on a united front, is not truthful, nor is it a good practice. Everyone is different and the School Board is no place for building egos. The problem is, having to weed through what is logical and good for our school community, and what is politically motivated and has nothing to do with giving our children the best education possible.

4. Since July there has been a hue and cry about three issues in particular: Masks, Critical Race Theory, transgender issues. What are your thoughts, positions about each and why?

Regarding masks, I have been consistent in saying, wearing a mask should be left up to the individual and/or families to decide.

Regarding CRT and the transgender issues, these are politically motivated issues used to divide and cause contention and confusion. Protecting all of our children is of the utmost importance. Racism, bullying, harassment, etc. issues are already addressed in our school policy, therefore, enforcement is the key, not more policy. The educational future of our students should be our focus, not indoctrination of differing political views.

5. What is the role/function public schools play in our society?

As I stated before, public schools should be dedicated to providing the very best education we can give to all children, whether they are going to pursue higher education, go directly into the workforce, the Armed Forces, or whatever they choose. We need to concentrate on educating our children and having the best teachers possible to achieve that goal.

6. What role does a School Board member play in public education?

As an elected official, we are to establish policies and oversee implementation of those policies. We prepare budgets and oversee accountability of monies spent. There are other functions of the school board, but overall, our goal should be to provide the best educational services our county can afford.

7. When there is a conflict between state and federal law and your constituents' thoughts and beliefs, how will you (do you) resolve that conflict?

The board has a superintendent and an attorney to guide us through any conflicts related to federal and state laws. Again, we need to stay focused on giving all students the best education possible, retaining the best teachers and employees we can, and leaving the politics at home.

Fluco volleyball team suffers first loss in marathon match

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT



Fluco volleyball. Photo by Duncan Nixon

It was one of those matches where neither team deserved to lose, but except for soccer, there is always a winner and a loser. The Fluco volleyball squad came into their match with the Monticello Mustangs on Sept. 9 with six wins and no losses. The match started well for the Flucos. They won the first game. They pulled away from a three-point lead late in the game for a 25-17 victory. However, the Mustangs rallied and won the second game by seven points and the third game in overtime 26-24. The Flucos bounced back for a 25-17 win in the fourth game. In the deciding fifth game, which is played to 15 points, win by two, the Flucos led 13-12, but the Mustangs rallied to score the final three points for a 15-13 win. The Flucos posted 105 points in the match to 100 by the Mustangs, but the Mustangs won the match, three games to two.

The rules of volleyball now call for a point to be scored on every serve and if the serving team loses the point, the serve switches over. If one team is clearly

superior, this can lead to some lopsided games, but when the competitors are evenly matched volleyball is fast, exciting and entertaining. Because the Flucos were playing neighboring Monticello High and were coming in undefeated, there was a very decent crowd on hand.

In the first game, midway through, the teams were tied at 12-12. The Flucos nudged ahead to 16-15 and junior Brooke Napier took the serve for Fluvanna. She served for three straight points including an ace, for a 19-15 lead. Two kill shots by junior Khania Brassfield and two kill shots by senior Sophia Denby in the final stretch of the game gave the Flucos the win.

In the second game, the Mustangs burst out to a 7-2 lead early. The scoring bounced back and forth from that point on, but the Flucos were never able to get within less than four points. The Mustangs evened the match score at 1-1. It is very hard to win a volleyball match, if you fall behind one game to two, so the third

game was especially intense. Neither team backed off at all. There were ties at 11-11, 13-13, 15-15, 17-17 and 19-19. Junior Kayla Gentry made a fierce kill shot to tie the score at 23-23. Freshman libero Jillian Davis then served an ace for a 24-23 Fluco lead. Unfortunately, the Mustangs managed to win the next three points for a 26-24 win.

The Fluco girls certainly did not give up. With Brassfield scoring on two blocks at the net, the Flucos ran out to a 6-1 lead. In the middle of the game, the Mustangs ran off five points and took a 13-12 lead. Denby scored with a kill shot to tie the score. Junior Faith Shields served an ace, and junior Shelby Crawford scored a kill shot to put the Flucos up by two. The Mustangs managed to retie the game at 17-17, but the Flucos finished with a kill shot barrage. Gentry had two kill shots, while Denby, Crawford and sophomore Isabelle Garrett all had one. The Flucos finished with eight straight points with Davis on service.

The final game was a classic. Denby had a kill shot to give the Fluco a 2-0 lead. Brassfield had a kill shot to tie the game at 7-7. A Gentry kill shot gave the Flucos a 10-8 lead. After a long and impressive rally, the Mustangs won the point for a 12-11 lead. Fluco Coach Christi Harlow-Garrett called a time-out. A kill shot by Denby tied the score, and a service ace by Gentry gave the Flucos the lead 13-12. Unfortunately, the Mustangs took the final three points for the win.

The Fluco piled up some impressive statistics in this game. Shields had an awesome 45 assists. Gentry recorded a very respectable 18 kill shots, while Denby had 13 kills.

The Fluco volleyball team was on the road earlier this week, with matches at Chancellor High and Orange County on Sept. 20 and 21. The Fluco host Albemarle on Sept. 23 and then play their homecoming game on Sept. 28 against the Black Knights of Charlottesville High.

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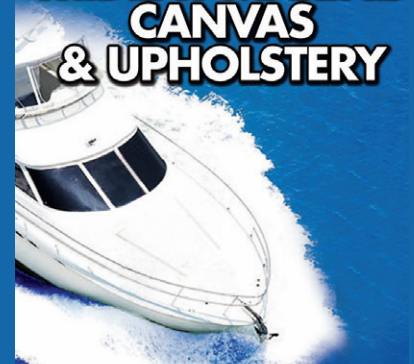
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Birds of prey visit the Lake

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
 CORRESPONDENT



Elizabeth Rand with a falcon.

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The Lake Monticello Wildlife Committee sponsored a program by EarthQuest, a non-profit organization on Sept. 18. Located in Virginia and Georgia, they provide environmental and conservation education focusing on non-releasable birds of prey and rescued parrots. Steve Hoddy founded EarthQuest over 30 years ago. A master falconer since he was in his teens, he has been involved for 50 years in wildlife education.

Director of Operations Robert Haynes spoke to a crowd of nearly 100 people, mostly families with children who were excited and delighted to see the birds up close and to learn about them. Many bird watchers of all ages were also in attendance.

Elizabeth Rand, brought out a rescued macaw, a big bird, who quietly nuzzled Rand as she visited the crowd. The macaw was rescued from a woman who said he was aggressive and attacking her daily.

“They liked to be bathed and when he came to us, he hadn’t been, he was in poor condition and his feathers were all stuck together,” said Haynes, who added once rescued he evolved into a brighter, happier bird, never showing any further signs of aggression.

The falcon had a lot to say as Haynes introduced her. Normally, falcons loath and fear humans but can work with and become used to humans but never bond with them.

“They are diurnal and hunt during the day unlike owls who are nocturnal,” said Haynes. “They will often collaborate with other hawks to kill prey. The fastest bird, it has a diving speed of 242 miles per hour and folds its wings to catch prey.”

He talked about the near extinction of the peregrine falcons back in the 1970s when it was discovered that there were only 350 nesting sites left. It was biologist Rachel Carson, who while working for the government, uncovered evidence

through her research that led to DDT being responsible. The chemical was released into the ecosystem and thinned out the eggshells, dehydrating the babies. When the government ignored her warnings she left and published the now famous book titled “The Silent Spring.”

Bugo the owl, who was large and beautiful with an inquisitive look, rotated his neck to get a better look at the crowd as he perched on Haynes’ arm.

“They have a highly developed sense of smell and hearing and are far-sighted. They can turn their heads to the back farther than we can but not quite all the way around. When they fly they are silent, no one hears it.”

Turkey vultures are a common sight on the side of the road in packs feeding off roadkill. Unlike most birds, they feed this way because their talons are not strong enough to carry prey.

“Vultures don’t spread diseases,” he said. “They have such strong acids in their stomachs that they can kill anthrax, botulism, cholera, rabies, and many more dangerous diseases. When vultures clean a carcass that has died of a serious disease, the disease is destroyed within their digestive system.”

Haynes said Toohoo had fallen out of his nest and was found by a couple of hikers, who took him along with them and fed him. He reinforced with the audience never to remove wildlife from the area in which you find them because the mother will return.

“Now, he imprinted on humans and had become domesticated and could no longer live in the wild.” TooHoo became another non-releasable bird saved by EarthQuest.

For more information about Earth-Quest visit <https://www.earthquest.org/>.



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Scottsville welcomes a creative minister

CONTRIBUTED BY HARVEY J. SORUM



The Reverend Laura Stratton and her family. Submitted photo

The Reverend Laura Stratton and her family arrived at their new home in Scottsville this July to minister at Scottsville United Methodist Church (SUMC) and Mount Zion UMC (MZU) in Esmont. As is the norm, everyone was a little on edge to see if the change would be a positive one. But this was quickly answered after meeting her, talking with her about her goals, and listening to her enthusiastic sermon. Ever since then, attendance has

increased and potential new members have attended church.

She was interviewed for the Fluvanna Review.

Tell us a little about you and your family.

My husband, J.R., and I have been married for nine years, and we have two daughters. Our oldest is 7 and is going into second grade at Scottsville Elementary this year. Our youngest is 4, and she

will be at the Scottsville UMC's preschool. We all love music and reading, and the girls can often be found dancing and singing out loud to whatever is our favorite music of the week. We also spend as much time outside as we can.

Are you a native Virginian?

Yes. I born in Bedford and then grew up in Luray, graduating from Luray High School. I've also lived in Williamsburg and in Arlington and Alexandria.

What are your most memorable experiences as a minister?

One of my most memorable experiences was presiding over the Holy Communion table for the first time. In the United Methodist Church, we believe that Communion is a way by which God extends us grace, and we believe that we encounter the Lord whenever we partake of the bread and juice. Communion has been a holy moment for me since I was a child, and I loved being able to finally offer this gift of God to others.

Another memorable experience happened at my first church about six months after I arrived. I was given a role in the Christmas pageant as the innkeeper's wife, and I had to sing a solo. I do not have a solo voice, and since I was still new to being a pastor and speaking in public, I struggled to loosen up and relax into the role. I ended up doing an okay job, but what was memorable was the love and grace that the congregation extended to me. It reminded me that I don't have to be perfect as a preacher or minister, but rather, I just need to serve from the heart, with love, whatever I am called to do.

How do you plan on children taking an interest in formal religion?

I don't think this is the right question. I want children, and people of all ages, to experience God's love and to love God, others, and themselves in return. I hope this happens within the context of a local church, because faith communities offer us opportunities to grow in faithfulness and knowledge and love of God. They help us tap into centuries of Christian wisdom as we wrestle with issues of faith. They connect us to a larger communion of believers, and they remind us that our faith is at its best when it is in communion and conversation with others. We also are reminded that our faith is a global faith that transcends geography and time. The church ideally helps to form people of all ages into faithful disciples who then offer to the world a glimpse of the kingdom of God, where love, mercy, and justice are the hallmark features.

How does this happen with children?

Our goal is to offer events and experiences where children will begin to experience the love of God, and from there, we can invite them and their families into a closer relationship with the church and with God.

Will you be meeting with area leaders such as other pastors, city officials, lay

leaders, etc.?

Yes. I am meeting with as many community leaders as I can. Since I am new to the area, I want to learn as much about the communities of Scottsville and Esmont as I can. I want to hear the strengths and challenges of these communities, because we, at the churches, want to do ministry and programming that speaks not only to our gifts and interests, but also the needs and interests of those around us.

SUMC has a very large social hall for meetings and social events. Can you use this to attract new members?

I don't know if our social hall itself can attract new members. What the social hall enables us to do at Scottsville UMC is to host events that may be of benefit to the larger community and allow outside groups to use our facility for their work. I see this as a crucial part of being a servant church in the Scottsville community, and I know Scottsville UMC has done exactly this in the past. As COVID restrictions recede again, we plan to use our fellowship hall safely once more for all ages.

With so many interests and obligations of everyone today, church is now a low priority. How do you plan on getting your fair share of their time?

I think the challenge for those of us in the church is to create experiences – worship or small group or even committee meetings – so that people can find meaning and love and will want to be engaged. We don't want to guilt people into attending. Instead, church experiences ideally are spiritually renewing for people and connect people to God and to one another. When we form true community, then I think people want to be engaged and will make it a priority.

You mentioned during your one sermon that we should all be creative and use the "tools" we already have. Would you explain this?

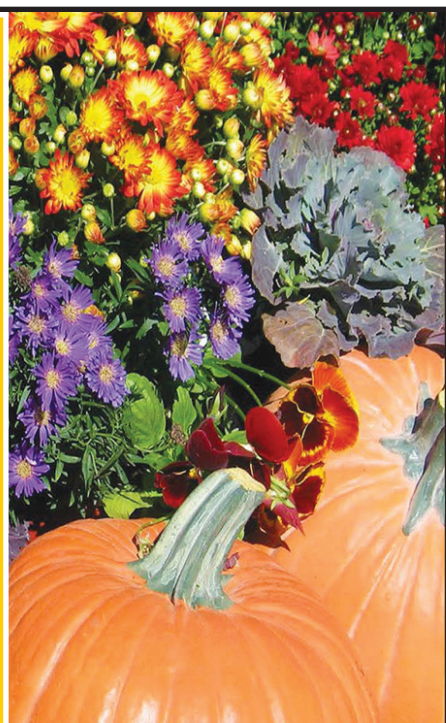
Well, first I would say to check out our worship service on Aug. 1, 2021 on our YouTube channel (Southern Albemarle Charge of the UMC). But briefly, I want us to recognize that we have been gifted with an abundance of resources, even if they aren't the traditional resources we may think about. Each person involved in our churches has gifts that they can offer, and the Bible is filled with stories of people serving God and others in a variety of ways no matter their age. So, how can we be creative in using our tools and gifts to serve God and love others? For example, perhaps an individual loves worship and God, but is really shy and doesn't want to participate in leading worship in any way. But that individual also has a gift for design. So, one creative use of their talents could be to decorate the front of the church in a way that supports the theme of worship and elevates our hearts to God.

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7/01/2021
Smith, Robert W., Sr. to Ragland, Ashley L. Lot 6 Needham Village. \$280,000.
Sventek, Jeffrey C. to Bowman, Jeanette R. Lot 379 Phase Four Fairway LM. \$458,100.
Liberty Homes, Inc. to Wishert, Franklin J. and Pamela Lynn Wishert. Lot 5 Section IV, Fox Hollow Subdivision. \$336,380.
Wells, Henry D. to County of Fluvanna and Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna. \$27,000.
Wells, Henry D. to County of Fluvanna and Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna. \$18,000.
Bassing, Kim to Bernard Bassing Revocable Trust... \$292,650.
7/02/2021
Allen, John Michael to Trapp, Keith, Jr., and Leslie Trapp. See document for full description. \$580,000.
Kidd, Nash L., Jr. to Houle, Matthew O. and Karino A. Houle. See document for full description. \$37,000.
Sipe, Steven Blake to Johnston, Cory J. 6.35 Acres. \$125,000.
Hammill, George F. to Haislip, Ryan Todd. 2.0 Acres. \$240,000.
7/06/2021
Thraikill, Sharon Renee to Hollowell, Frank W. and Deborah M. Hollowell. Lot 375 Phase Five Tufton LM. \$231,500.
White, Craig S. to Daniel, William C. and Lisa M. Daniel. \$752,500.
Webb, Nancy J. to Staton, Howard. \$45,000.
7/07/2021
Webb, Nancy J. to Schmidt, Stephanie. \$165,000.
NVR, Inc. to Faett, Jane. Lot 41 Phase Three Village Oaks Subdivision. \$314,585.
7/08/2021
Thackston, John M. to Chidester, Kate Marie and Sarah M. Chidester. Lot 229 Phase Three Montpelier LM. \$253,000.
Sycamore Square, LLC. To NVR, Inc. See document for full description. \$170,000.
Roukous, Thomas W. to Brooks, Stanley, Jr. \$385,000.
Durham, Laura to Steege, Phillip and Karen Steege. \$319,900.
7/09/2021
Hayes, Charles William... to Hedgemen, Andrea Nicole. Lot 291 Phase Two Shadwell LM. \$277,000.
Roberts, C. Mark to Birthisel, Joseph and Lauren Birthisel. 6.00 Acres. \$490,000.
Dickey, Matthew L. to Chunn, Benjamin Ryan and Amanda Lee-Anne Chunn. \$441,300.
Joyce, Heather L. to Marbaker, Brittany M. and Charles J. Marbaker. \$300,000.
Kidd, Walter D. to TBF, LLC. \$200,000.
Bear, Edward S. to Pritchard, Angela. 129.282 Acres. \$1,875,000.
Bright, Mary L. to Aquilino, Michelle. 6.548 Acres. \$370,000.
Padro, Philippe J. to Carel, Nicholas Charles and Christi Ann Carel. Lot 254 Phase Four Fairway LM. \$369,000.
Breighner, Sam to Panas, Cheryl L. and Kevin W. Panas. \$255,000.
Graziano, Eric Michael to Rivera, Justin A. and Alexandra R. Ruff. \$255,000.
Fowley, Daniel J., Jr. to Mandujano, Juany. Lot 412 Phase Two Shadwell LM. \$300,000.
Mills, Betty A. to Lehr, Aaron N. and Nora J. Browning. \$267,000.
7/12/2021
McLaughlin, Susan W., Tr... to Mayhew, John and Wanda Mayhew. \$595,000.
Baldanza, Michele, Tr... to Liberty Homes

VA, Inc. Lot 104 Phase Three Montpelier LM> 425,000.
Fulford, Gregory E. to Liberty Homes VA, Inc. Lot 332 Phase One Ashlawn LM. \$20,000.
Divine, John David to Jang, Carlee Lauren and Moongyu Jang. \$202,000.
7/13/2021
Wright, Jodie L. to Laurel Oak Properties, LLC. \$174,445.
Johnston, Brianna Ashl... to Charlton, Kianna Tashae and Stacey Thomas Charlton, Jr. \$275,000.
Morse, Richard M. to Kreider Mueller, Erica L. and Ava Rose Mueller Krieder. \$621,015.
NVR, Inc. to Proctor, Tracy Devoron. \$318,570.
7/14/2021
Dempsey-Corley, Terry to Sarah Young. Lot 225 Phase Eight Nahor LM. \$254,500.
Norris, Shannon, Jr. to Smith, Christopher M. and Amber J. Smith. \$290,000.
7/15/2021
Foster, Stephen M. to Kilpatrick, Kathleen Spencer and Tracy Crowell Kilpatrick. \$150,000.
Sycamore Square, LLC. To NVR, Inc. Lot 70 & 80 Phase Three Village Oaks Subdivision. \$170,000.
Hotz, Douglas R. to Steward, Mark R., Tr. and Anna M. Stewart, Tr. \$549,900.
Reid, Heather L. to Chronister, Emma K. \$355,000.
Gerlach, Kristin to Grauer, Randy Curtis and Marie Symone Grauer. \$600,000.
Roach, Michael A. to Stark, Joseph Anthony and Breanna Jeru Stark. \$306,000.
7/16/2021
Nuckoles, Carole Mari... to Johnson, Amy Rene. Cunningham Dist. 33.556 ACRES. \$100,000.
Cogswell, John W. III, Exe... to Hernandez, Kristian W. and Jennifer G. Hernandez. \$239,000.
Quigley Properties, LLC to Tadpole Land & Trail Conservan... 76.511 ACRES. \$270,000.
Burnett, Travis A. to Layton, Dale E. \$48,000.
Hughes, Carolyn Michele to Jenkins, Timothy. \$425,000.
Watson, James H. to Rai, Pratap and Suk M. Rai. 1.333 ACRES. \$450,000.
7/19/2021
Tibbs, Amanda S. to McLaughlin, Renica S. and Jesse McLaughlin. \$10,000.
Henshaw, Robert F., Jr. to Kirby, John Wesley and Dorothy Lewis Kirby. \$351,000.
Dowell, Shereaka L. to Summers, Maria Christine. \$280,000.
7/20/2021
Topping, Andre R. to Craddock, Jade and Helene Remaley. \$324,000.
7/21/2021
Kelley, Jennifer Yvette to Jackson, Juanita Elaine. 10.00 ACRES. \$60,000.
Weber, Anne C. to Stump Busters Tree Service, LLC. \$95,000.
Stafford, Jeanie Wittjen to Sisson, Raymond E. and Gena R. Sisson. \$56,100.
Gensel, Marie Elena Cla... to Liberty Homes VA, Inc. \$45,000.
7/22/2021
Clements, Jimmy S. to Shifflett, Ronald and Ashley De Neal Shifflett. \$143,150.
Fullerton Properties, Inc. to Macon Properties, LLC. \$1,500,000.
Sycamore Square LLC to NVR Inc. \$85,000.
Cruz, Hector Louis to Schmodt, Greg G. and Yvonne M. Schmidt. \$690,000.
Cushine, Gorge C., Jr. to Nickels, Robert B. and Andrea R. Nickels. \$1,180,000.
Podwysocki, Patricia K. to Mundell, Thomas C. and Diane W. Mundell. \$425,000.
7/23/2021

Degel, Louis to Cornette, Gina Lee. \$320,000.
Williams, Willie C. to Thomas, Gary Aundra, Sr., and Wanda Dean Thomas. \$25,000.
Smith, Jessica Anne to Garcia, Monica K. and Arturo Garcia. \$231,500.
Liberty Homes VA Inc. to Richardson, Dale Andrew. \$257,042.
Browning, Robert L., II. To Butler, Teresa Brown-ing. \$300,000.
Carey, Richard D. to Smith, Ashley N. and Brandon L. Smith. \$328,000.
R G Purcell & Daughter... to Bryant, Ealr E. and Chances R. Bryant. \$430,000.
Fork Union Rentals, LLC to Ramson, Brandon T. and Stephanie A. Whitman. \$169,500.
Petersen, Lynn Eileen to B T Lake Holdings, LLC A VA Limited. \$180,000.
Okros, Yvette Julia to Tackett, Galen Jacob and Alexandra Tackett. \$386,900.
Jones, Gary R. to Fenton, Christine and Douglas Fenton. \$490,000.
7/26/2021
Wenderoth, Carolyn S. to White, Thomas William and Rachel Brianna Cole. \$225,000.
Brown, Reginald David to Royston, Barbara L. \$359,900.
Futie, Demetrio to Mudd, Tina M. and John E. Mudd. \$415,000.
7/27/2021
Fluvanna/Louisa Housing... to McQueen, Sharon. See document for full description. \$190,000.
Lee, Mark Wah to Hunsinger, Cody James. 2.02 ACRES. \$432,600.
Smith, Stephen L. to Velasco, Kevin David Bonilla. Lot 41 Stagecoach Hills Subdivision. \$207,700.

Alan G. Dillard Jr. Trust to Harley, Twila S. and Dean P. Strevel and Christina M. Corrigan. See document for full description. \$1,200,000.
Rawls, Joann W. to Cabrera, Armond P. and Burket, Diane M. \$420,000.
7/28/2021
James A. Neri to Fulford, Lynda P. Lot 361 Phase Four Fairway LM. \$420,000.
Liberty Homes, Inc. to Runyon, Nathaniel T. and Kathleen Runyon. \$366,208.
7/29/2021
Austin, Donna M. to Gilliam, Marta Jo Cornett. Lot 231 Phase Six Riverside LM> \$245,000.
Gooch, John Y. III. To Hargett, Stefan R. and Crystal O. Hargett, and Reginald G. Haargett. \$375,000.
Lot 5 Seven Island, LLC. To Skeen, Walter and Karin W. Skeen. \$318,000.
Shifflett, Dustin to Arroyo, Adrianna G. and Odilia L. Arroyo. \$225,000.
Reitsma, Jason W. to Pomare, Housny and Demi Pomare. \$355,000.
WAP, LLC to M3, Inc. Lot 28 Forest Glen Subdivi-sion. \$63,500.
Mullins, Christipher to Bruce, Stuart and Lisa A. Bruce. \$180,000.
Johnson, Heidi to Lewis, Reginald Demetrius and Chantal Synithia Lewis. \$445,000.
7/30/2021
Peake, Robert W. to Westfall, Michael and Vivisn D. Westfall. \$307,000.
Diaz, Antonia J. to Cracchiolo, Giacomo. \$220,000.
Liberty Homes, Inc. to Braginetz, Thomas J. and Elizabeth J. Braginetz. \$240,650.
Gibson, Wanda D. to LBQ Properties, LLC. \$145,500.



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Yard sale raises \$4,000 for all-inclusive playground at lake

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE FEAZEL, LAKE MONTICELLO NEWS



Lake Monticello Community Foundation yard sale. Photo by Judy Fish.

In an informal start for the fund drive to build an all-inclusive playground at Lake Monticello, a yard sale on Vine Ridge Drive raised \$4,000 Saturday, four times its goal, for the Lake Monticello Community Foundation, organizers said.

"It just fills my heart to see how the community turned out to support this event to help fund the new playground," said Foundation President Nancy Parsons. "Who ever heard of a yard sale raising \$4,000? Some people got nice stuff for a dollar or two, and some contributed \$100

for a couple of dishes. You have to love that."

Yard sale donations ranged from a quarter to \$550, Parsons said. Sale items ranged from china to outboard motors to art work and many antiques. None of the items were priced; donations were voluntary.

Several antique vendors from the Old American Barn in Gordonsville and A&W Antiques in Keswick donated antiques and collectibles and brought tables and helped set up the event. Other items

were donated -- some anonymously -- by various members of the Lake Monticello community.

"Many, many thanks to all the people who donated some real 'treasures' to help boost the sale," said Parsons, adding that volunteers spent hours on their feet helping people find those treasures. "It's a Community Foundation, and this was a real community effort."

The Foundation is working to raise \$100,000 for the all-inclusive playground, an expansion and improvement of the existing playground at Lafayette Park. The improvements will include an asphalt sidewalk around the playground, a new accessible surface and two additional pieces of ADA-compliant playground equipment. The goal is to make the playground accessible to children of all abilities, as well as to parents and grandparents with mobility issues, Parsons explained.

"I think the fundraising for the Lafayette playground is off to a smashing start," Parsons said. The official launch of the fundraising campaign will be later this year, and work on the playground upgrade is to start next spring.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Registration for leadership program

Registration is open for the Fluvanna Leadership Development Program's hybrid classes about the county beginning Oct. 21. County residents can get more information about the classes and register for them at www.fluvannaleadership.org. Registration will close **Oct. 7**, or when the class fills.

Increased COVID testing opportunities in county

The Blue Ridge Health District will be significantly ramping up testing efforts over the next 7 weeks. All test sites are weather dependent. Inclement weather can cause testing cancellation; please check the BRHD website, as well as their social media for updates. The test site will be held at the Fluvanna County Administration Building in Palmyra on **Sept. 29**.

H.U.G.S. meeting

Hands United by God's Spirit (H.U.G.S) has begun meeting again at Cuppa Joe's coffee shop near CVS/traffic light (off of Rt. 618) **every Monday from 3 to 4 p.m.** Members knit or crochet shawls and blankets for those in need or are ill and need a warm hug. Interested participants can be taught to knit/crochet. All are welcome!

Monthly hike

Bring the family and enjoy a Virginia Master Naturalist-led Monthly Hike on the first **Saturday of each month at 10 a.m.** Due to COVID restrictions, we will meet outside, masks required. Please register in advance: Eric Armentrout at 434-842-3150 or email earmentrout@fluvannacounty.org or go online at [Programs\(recedesk.com\)](http://Programs(recedesk.com)) or just come and sign up!!

Veterans' Breakfast

Veterans' Breakfast resumes on Saturday, **Sept. 25** at the WAHOO BBQ (former Dogwood Restaurant) located at Slice Road off of Rt. 600 (turn at traffic light/ CVS). Breakfast is served Buffet /G.I. style and starts at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$12. Come and enjoy the camaraderie, swap tales, opinions, experiences!

Orchestra holding concerto competition

The Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra is having a concerto competition for pre-college students (ages 13 to 18) from Central Virginia Counties/Cities. Competition will consist of a first round that will be judged based on a video recording, and must be submitted electronically by **Oct. 18**, 11:45 p.m. Finalists perform in person on **Nov. 20** in Waynesboro. Solo winner receives a cash prize. For more information visit: www.wsomusic.org.

Fire Prevention Day

All are invited to participate in a Fire Prevention Day **Oct. 9** (Saturday) from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The free fun includes a bounce house, smoke detector info, child ID's, Children's Firefighter Course (for all ages!), car cutting demonstration, popcorn and more. Tom Morgan from 99.7 will be there. BBQ lunches will be sold for \$7 and include coleslaw, mac-n-cheese, green beans and a beverage. \$3 Hot Dog lunches include hot dog, chips and a drink. Join us for family fun at the Lake Monticello Fire & Rescue property.

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EVENT

SALEM U.M.C. HOLDING HUGE YARD SALE: Friday, Sept. 24 and Saturday, Sept. 25 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 840 Church Rd., Palmyra. Abundant selection of holiday decorations, unopened gift items, lots of household goods, baby stuff, toys, sporting goods, electronics, many brand new items. You name it, we've got it. Check us out on FACEBOOK. Proceeds donated to FluvannaSPCA and Palmyra Fire Dept. RAIN or SHINE!! Masks are required if indoors.

SPONSORS NEEDED: Flu. Co. American Legion Post #2003 will be holding its annual Golf Tournament on Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021. Please provide support by being a sponsor of this event. Sponsorship of a hole with a custom-sign on the golf course is \$50. Proceeds from the tournament will support our Veterans and outreach programs. Send your sponsorship donation to Ray Weimer at 45 Marwood Drive, Palmyra, VA 22963.

BIG ANTIQUES & VINTAGE SHOW: Sale/show dates are Friday, October 8 and Saturday, October 9, from 9 to 5 at the 67th. Fishersville Antiques Expo, Expoland, Fishersville, VA (I-64, Exit 91), 300 dealers, 4 buildings, & outside. www.heritagepromotions.net.

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DINING ROOM SET: Solid Cherry (no pressed wood), Table with one leaf and four chairs. 66 inches long and 48 inches wide. Excellent condition, seldom used. Paid \$1000.00. Asking \$300.00. Call (434) 589-7635.

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VIRGINIA DEPT. OF VETERANS SERVICES: Need Help? Visit us at the Fluvanna Community Center, 5725 James Madison Highway > by appointment only. Appointments are only available on the first Wednesday of each month from 9 to 11:30a.m. Call Pamela Zirkle & Jeannette Flint at (434) 529-6431 to schedule your appointment. www.dvs.virginia.gov

WANTED

CLEAN-UP: Unwanted cars/ tractors, etc. Pick up free. Call (434) 420-2002.

MOVING/YARD SALES

YARD SALE: Friday, Sept. 24 and Saturday, Sept. 25 at 8 Wedge Terrace, inside Lake Monticello, from 8 a.m. to 12 Noon. Embroidery business clearance - new items, T-shirts, Beach and Kitchen towels, and gift items. Display racks, wire shelving. Household items, vacuum, vintage wood wagon, dog ramp, etc.

MOVING SALE: Friday, Sept. 24, Saturday, Sept. 25 and Sunday Sept. 26th. at 400 Jefferson Drive, inside Lake Monticello, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contents of the house - ALL the household items and outside, the garage holds tools and Machinery. EVERYTHING MUST GO!! Bring ad to main gate for admittance.

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Fluvanna
REVIEW



PUBLIC NOTICES

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF FLUVANNA

George Robert Moore,

Plaintiff

v. Case No.: 21CL551

Parties unknown, claiming any Interest in the property referenced herein.

Defendant.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of the above-styled suit involves the Plaintiff's interest in a parcel of property known as Tax Map/Parcel Number 12-A-58A in Fluvanna County, Virginia. The legal description of this property is:

All that certain lot or parcel of land, with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, containing 10.69 acres shown on a survey of William S. Roudabush & Associates dated February 1970 and recorded in Deed Book 76 at Page 607 of the Fluvanna County Land Records.

An Affidavit having been filed, whereby Plaintiff, by counsel, did affirm that due diligence has been used by the Plaintiff to ascertain the identity and whereabouts of the all possible defendants, without success.

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 8.01-316 A .1. b., it is hereby **ORDERED** that all interested parties appear on or before November 19, 2021 at 2:30 pm in the Clerk's Office of this Court and do what is necessary to protect his interest.

ENTER: Judge, Richard E. Moore Date: 9/16/21

I ask for this:

Mary Ann Barnes, 29779
Tucker Griffin Barnes
307 West Rio Road
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901
(434) 973-7474
(434) 951-0870
mbarnes@tgblaw.com
Counsel for Plaintiff



PUBLIC NOTICE THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION FOR THE COUNTY OF FLUVANNA

Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization for Fluvanna County will meet on the days hereafter listed for the purpose of hearing complaints of inequalities including errors in acreage. Upon hearing such complaints, either oral or written, the Board will give consideration and **INCREASE, DECREASE OR AFFIRM** such real estate assessments. Before a change can be granted, the taxpayer or his agent must overcome a clear presumption in favor of the assessment. The taxpayer or agent must provide a preponderance of the evidence that the assessment of the property is not uniform with the assessments of other similar properties or that the property is assessed in excess of its fair market value.

Appointments will be scheduled every 20 minutes to minimize waiting. To appear before the Board of Equalization, please call 434-591-1903, from 8:00am to 5:00pm or email at boe@fluvannacounty.org.

Due to the continuing Public Health Emergency, Board of Equalization Meetings will meet with modifications. Meetings of the Board to hear objections will be held remotely via Zoom and conference call, or in person at the Morris Room in the Fluvanna County Administration Building, 132 Main Street, Palmyra, VA 22963.

The date(s) and time(s) are:

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Tuesday, November 9, 2021 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Tuesday, December 14, 2021 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm

(Additional dates and times will be scheduled if necessary and advertised)

By order of the Fluvanna County Board of Equalization

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Half a ticket
- 5 Ad headline
- 9 Photo finish?
- 14 Superior
- 15 End of a prayer
- 16 Raptor's roost
- 17 Beer, casually
- 18 "Schindler's _____"
- 19 Petty malice
- 20 "Cinderella" meanie
- 23 Go through volumes
- 24 Control, symbolically
- 25 Negligent
- 27 Main Street event
- 29 Spike for climbing
- 30 Done dozing
- 31 Promised in marriage
- 35 Figured out
- 36 "Grey's Anatomy" spinoff, "____ 19"
- 38 Andean tuber
- 39 Dumbo, et. al.
- 41 "Rain Man" director Levinson
- 43 Stallone's Best Picture
- 44 National head count
- 45 Drunk, in slang
- 47 Fit to be tied
- 48 Give an edge to
- 49 Kellogg's and KFC, e.g.
- 53 Boxing ring borders
- 55 Kind of code
- 56 Support staff?
- 57 Calendar entry
- 58 Italian import
- 59 Screen symbol
- 60 Poverty-stricken
- 61 Fairy follower
- 62 Card balance

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		

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DOWN

- 1 Bratty talk
- 2 Speak highly of
- 3 Give a low appraisal
- 4 Indicate
- 5 Kind of solution
- 6 Out of order
- 7 "____ we forget..."
- 8 Intestinal inflammation
- 9 Cooking fuel
- 10 Go back to press
- 11 Dodge from the '80s
- 12 Pocket breads
- 13 Pay attention to
- 21 Midway offering
- 22 Like bell-bottoms
- 26 Bit of night light
- 27 Library worker
- 28 Military no-show
- 29 Tom who sang "American Girl"

- 31 Check type
- 32 Kentucky Derby, e.g.
- 33 Light beige
- 34 Time pieces?
- 37 Silent, in music
- 40 Make believe
- 42 Stomach remedy
- 44 Dream up
- 45 What push may come to
- 46 Plains dwelling
- 47 Perfect
- 48 Small songbird
- 50 Part of a score, maybe
- 51 Door opener
- 52 Shipped off
- 54 Pig's digs

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

Sudoku is on page 19.

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Planning Commission defers decision on Village Gardens

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluvanna County Planning Commission deferred a decision on rezoning 122 acres for Southern Development's proposed Village Gardens housing complex at its meeting on Wednesday (Sept. 14).

Village Gardens would bring 260 single-family homes, 95 townhouse units, and 9,000 square feet of retail space to a parcel on Rt. 53 and Garden Lane. It is located less than a mile from the site of the Colonial Circle development, approved in 2019, which will include 325 residences and 81,000 square feet of retail space.

To move forward into the next phase, the property would need to be rezoned from A-1 (Agricultural) to R-3 (Residential).

Residents along the Rt. 53 corridor have been critical of the project, saying that it will add even more traffic to local roads, put pressure on aging water and wastewater infrastructure, and continue the degradation of the county's rural character.

All these arguments came to the floor on Wednesday night during a public hearing that stretched on for more than three hours, including two hours of public comment.

Infrastructure issues

Community Development Director Douglas Miles gave a report on the most recent version of the development's proposed master plan, which includes housing and standard amenities like walking trails, playgrounds, green spaces, and a clubhouse.

Southern Development has been working with Aqua Virginia, which in turn has already been working on plans to increase the water pressure of its system to meet the expected demands of Colonial Circle and -- if approved -- Village Gardens. "Throughout the summer, they've been doing different studies of the entire Lake Monticello water system," Miles said. "Due to [these] pressure concerns Village Gardens could connect into the higher pressure zone, working with them as part of their construction of a loop system."

"My concern is, where and when Aqua is going to be held accountable for what they owe the residents of Lake Monticello and

these folks that they've already serviced?" said Commissioner Gaquetta Murray-Key. "It almost sounds like Aqua was waiting on these developments to address issues about sewer and water, and I'm not really understanding why we are waiting on these developments and these different developers offering this seeming fix [to] an issue that many of us have been waiting on for a long time."

Traffic is another potential issue. A 2017 VDOT study found that 7,000 vehicles per day use Rt. 53 from the Albemarle County line to Ruritan Lake Road. Village Gardens would bring the total daily vehicles up to 10,000-12,000 per day. Factoring in Colonial Circle, the amount of traffic on Rt. 53 could easily double from the 2017 study.

Miles said they were working with VDOT to study how to better manage traffic on that section of the road to cope with the influx, but no firm plan was yet in place.

Public comments

Residents and business owners raised multiple concerns about the impact the development would have on the Rt. 53 corridor.

Traffic was a major concern. Lake Monticello residents say traffic volume around the gates on Rt. 53 and Rt. 618 is already bad and will only get worse with more development; residents of the Nahor Village also have concerns about speeding and congestion.

Because Village Gardens will run along the Lake Monticello boundary and even touches one edge of Tufton Pond, Lake residents shared their concerns about new neighbors crossing over into the gated areas to use Lake roads and amenities.

Others raised larger concerns about how development might strip the area of some of the quiet rural charm that have drawn so many people to call Fluvanna County home.

There are also worries about how more development might put a burden on the schools, first responders, and other county agencies. While new residents also bring

the county more in tax revenues, there is a feeling that all taxpayers would one day have to pay more to support an increased population.

Last-minute deferral

Commissioners had the option of approving, denying, or deferring the rezoning application, and as soon as they began their discussion, it was clear they were not going to vote to approve.

The motion to deny the permit was made, but before it was seconded, the de-

veloper asked if they could have a deferral to see if they could answer some of the concerns raised in the discussion.

After consulting with the acting county attorney to see if they could change the motion after it was entered, they agreed to defer any action on the application on a vote of 3-2.

Southern Development now has 60 days to address any outstanding issues. The motion will likely come back to the commission on Nov. 9.

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Supervisors approve kennel; join cigarette tax board

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluvanna Board of Supervisors had a relatively light agenda, focused mainly on public hearings, during its first meeting at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center on Wednesday (Sept. 15).

Four hearings were held back-to-back, and all were approved by the supervisors.

Kennel

First up was a permit for a commercial kennel on Venable Road in Kents Store.

Joseph Bradley has been working with the county in recent months to come up with a design for a small kennel devoted to training dogs for waterfowl hunting.

Neighbors have raised concerns about noise and other potential issues. The final plan will permit him to have a maximum of 10 outdoor dog runs and includes requirements for noise attenuation and screens to hide the facility from the road.

In his agreement with the county, he also agreed that the property could not be expanded beyond 10 dogs and could not later be sold as a commercial kennel.

In his comments to the supervisors, Bradley spoke passionately about his love of waterfowl hunting and the training of hunting dogs. "I've been doing this since I got out of the military in 2006," he said, "and once COVID hit, I had to make a choice: can I do this to make a living since

I can't drive Uber anymore."

The motion passed 4-1, with Chairman Mike Sheridan (Columbia) voting against the permit.

Cigarette tax board

The county took another step towards a cigarette tax as they unanimously approved a resolution to join the Blue Ridge Regional Tax Board.

The state now allows counties to levy a tax of up to 40 cents per pack. County Administrator Eric Dahl said the county could see an estimated \$190,000 to 287,000 annually if the tax is fully implemented.

Fluvanna is now the sixth locality to adopt the ordinance to join the Tax Board, which will manage the collection of taxes and distribute them to the counties, although there are several more steps before any tax would be collected.

Solar

Community Development Director Douglas Miles introduced some proposed text changes to the county ordinances related to solar generation facilities.

All Fluvanna schools are now equipped with solar and there are several other solar farms and units throughout the county. The ordinance changes more

clearly defines what constitutes a minor facility, a small-scale facility, and a utility-scale facility.

The motion passed 5-0.

School board

During budget season, supervisors approved around \$3.71 million in capital improvement projects for the Fluvanna County Public Schools, including the purchase of 10 new school buses, a new

HVAC system at Carysbrook Elementary, and renovations at S.E. Abrams.

To fund the projects, they unanimously approved a resolution on the issuance of Virginia Public School Authority Series 2021 bonds. Under the resolutions, they can issue up to \$4 million in bonds for a period of up to 20 years at an interest rate of up to 3.50%.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

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

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Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:

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

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

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

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- Large garage / Paved circular driveway

11 North Bearwood - \$269,900



Sale Pending

- 3/4 bedrooms / 3 full baths / 2150 fin sq ft
- Formal living and dining rooms
- Updated kitchen w/ Corrian and stainless
- Cozy basement family room w/ fireplace
- Wonderful deck / Private back yard / Shed

19 Ashton Road - \$274,900



Sale Pending

- 5 bedrooms / 3 baths / 2464 fin sq ft
- Terrace level 2 bdrms, 1 bath apartment
- Split bedroom design / Covered front porch
- Vaulted ceiling / Fireplace / Landscaped
- Large eat-in kitchen w/ laundry hook ups

26 Northwood Rd. - \$265,000



Reduced!

- 4 bedrooms / 2.5 baths / 1920 fin sq ft
- All bedrooms up / possible flooring allowance
- Beautiful kitchen and formal dining room
- Great location near playground / tennis
- Fenced, level back yard / Extra shed

Bells Lane Lot - \$195,000



Louisa County

- 45.31 Acre Lot / Numerous homesites
- Currently used for hunting and recreation
- Quick access to I-64 / Richmond / C'ville
- Stream / Potential pond site
- Occupied by deer, turkey, and raccoon

116 Fox Hollow - \$634,900



Sale Pending

- 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 4283 fin sq ft
- Remodeled kitchen / Granite & stainless
- 2 garages, 1200+ sq ft / Fireplace
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Sale Pending

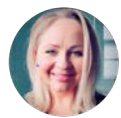
- 3 bedrooms / 2 baths / 1596 fin sq ft
- Vaulted ceiling w/ skylights / Custom fireplace
- Kitchen w/ new cabinets, counters & apps
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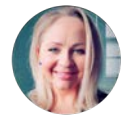


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NEW LISTING



305 Village Blvd, Palmyra \$335,000

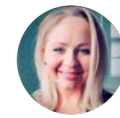


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33 Woodlawn Dr, Lake Monticello \$289,900



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 - Village Oaks
- Peggy Shanklin 434-962-2762
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2633 Emerys Lane, Esmont \$179,900



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3400 Kidds Dairy Road, Scottsville \$99,900



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 - Spring On Property
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Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com



13 Pine Shadow Ct, Palmyra \$75,000



- Meadow Brook Subdivision
 - Corner Lot
 - Level Wooded
- Mike Himes 434-960-4407
michael.himes@lnf.com



16 Hollands Road, Palmyra \$75,000



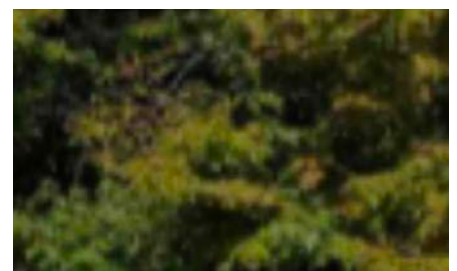
- Zions Crossroads
 - 2.9 Acres
 - Equestrian Community
- Diane Miller & Tom Morace 434-962-1625
DianeMiller@earthlink.net



Lot 4 Meadow Brook Ln, Palmyra \$60,000



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 - Bring Your Own Builder
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michael.himes@lnf.com



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 - Gravel Drive
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