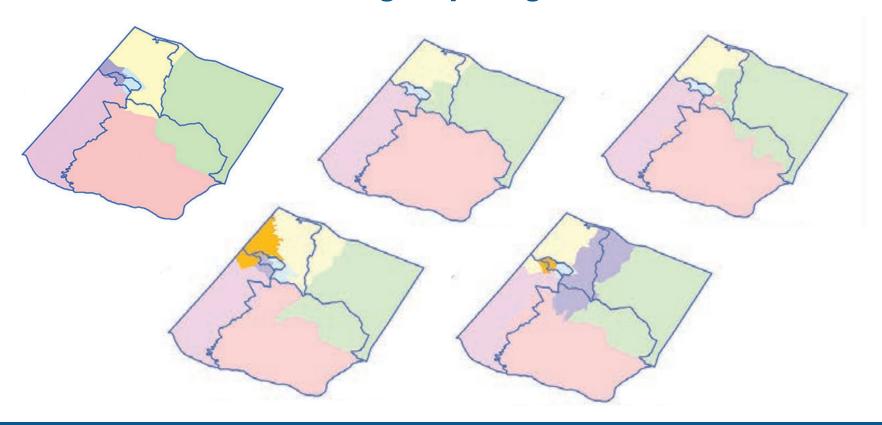
Fluvanna REVIEW

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GENERAL

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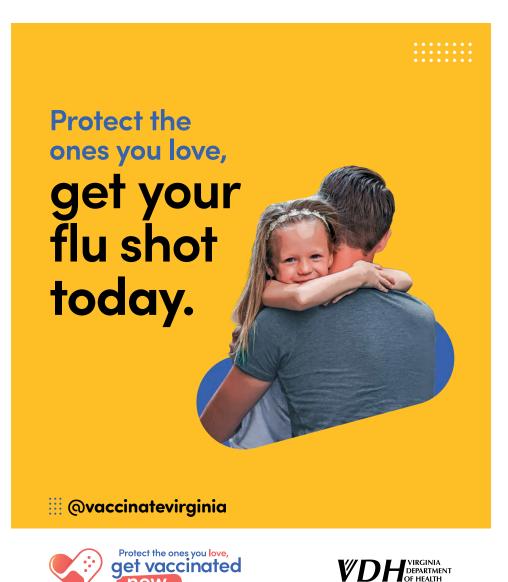
The Fluvanna SPCA will be closed to the public until further notice. We are trying to do our part to help cut down on the spread of COVID-19, and with our animals' and employees' best interests in mind we are trying to reduce foot traffic to help keep our employees healthy. The animals at the shelter 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.

Billy is apart of our Lonely Hearts Club. That means he has been with us for 6 months or more now. Since 5-11-21 to be exact! Billy came in as a stray and was never reclaimed. He is a very friendly dog that only wants love and attention. He is not housebroken and will need some time to adjust in his new home. Billy is heart worm positive, but we are in the process of starting treatment for him. Billy is current on all vaccinations and will be available for adoption once he is neutered.

If you are interested in meeting Billy, please go to our website fspca org and fill out a questionnaire and send it to office@fspca.org

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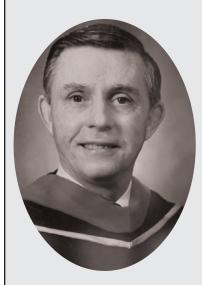


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Obituary

Norman E. Towler, Jr.



Did you notice a bright new star in the sky? That was light coming from our dear Norman. He passed to the heavens on November 13.

Born in 1934 in Danville, Virginia to Margaret and Norman Sr., Norman was an outgoing man who was an enthusiastic participant in life activities. Norman grew up in Virginia and Washington, DC where he met his lifetime love, Patsy, in high school. Norman attended the University of Richmond where he majored in sociology, participated in baseball, glee club, and found his second passion—golf! He attended Southeastern Baptist Seminary and spent his career in the ministry. He loved his career—helping many people over the years while serving in churches in NY, CT, MA, and MI, as well as local Virginia churches.

Norman made many lifelong friendships along the way and will be remembered as a wonderful man who always gave much more than he asked for in return. He was a humorous, talented leader who enjoyed singing and presenting lectures on his faith. He was

loved and appreciated for all of his many talents. His wife of 67 years, Patsy, and his family were his pride and joy. In addition to his precious wife, Patsy, Norman is survived by his children David, Paul, and Carol; his grandchildren Spencer, Christian, Tori, Natalie, and Drew; and greatgrandchildren Laila, Avilyn, Aniyah, Cairyn, Beau, Arlo, Iris, and Koda.

He will be interred at the University of Richmond Cannon chapel. We'll love you forever and we'll catch you on the back nine!

Obituary

Harold Bell Wright, Jr.



Harold Bell Wright, Jr., age 80, died peacefully of heart failure November 6 at his Lake Monticello home, surrounded by loving family. He is survived by his devoted wife of 43 years. Angell Husted: five sons: Michael Harold Wright of Franklin MA, Jonathan Joseph Wright and wife Rachel Knighten of Eugene OR, Mitchell Husted Wright of Arlington VA, Matthew Husted Wright and wife Naya Saucedo of Scottsdale AZ, Andrew Husted Wright of Arlington VA; stepdaughter Michelle Pak and husband Sung of Easton CT; grandchildren: Ana Knighten, Silvia Knighten, Timo Mitchell Wright, Malcolm Javier Saucedo Wright; his brother Paul Sims Wright and wife Mary of Lake Monticello VA. He was preceded in death by his parents Harold and Callie Wright and 17-year-old son Timo Husted Wright.

Dubbed by many as "the father and grandfather of Charlottesville television," Harold was a broadcaster for 58 years, all of it in the Charlottesville Radio and Television Market.

Harold was born December 1,1940 in Atlanta GA, and his family moved to Charlottesville in 1957. He graduated as the 1959 Salutatorian of Albemarle High School and then entered the University of Virginia with a major in electrical engineering. During his second year at UVA, he fell in love with broadcasting while working at the student-run station WUVA. Two years later, he joined WCHV radio as an engineer and announcer, and transformed their operations by incorporating remote broadcasts, hosting his "Fun with Harold" radio show, and even adding play-by-play commentary for high school sports. In 1965, Wright and three other Charlottesville businessmen bought a bankrupt radio station, WELK, and Harold turned it into the city's first Top 40 station. In 1972, he decided Charlottesville was large enough to support its own television station; Wright then garnered an additional 20 investors and an NBC network affiliation, and, in March 1973, Virginia Broadcasting Corporation signed on WVIR-TV/NBC29. In January 2020, Harold retired from WVIR-TV/NBC29, where he had served for 48 years as Vice President and General Manager.

Harold's drive and determination shown through in everything he did. He was a 1983 charter member — and third president — of the Blue Ridge Mountains Rotary Club. He also served on numerous boards and committees, including the Dogwood Festival Board, Salvation Army, Charlottesville Soap Box Derby, UVA Medical Center Community Relations, and UVA Children's Hospital Committee. His awards include the Charlottesville-Albemarle Chamber of Commerce 2007 Paul Goodloe McIntyre Award for Community Service, the 2018 Robert Gallimore Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Public Service from the Virginia/West Virginia Associated Press, and the 2019 C.T. Lucy Distinguished Service Award from the Virginia Association of Broadcasters, which honors leaders in the state's broadcasting industry.

Wright devoted much of his life to mentoring his employees, friends, and — of course — his sons. He was also an active churchgoer who gave freely of his time and resources. His favorite hobby was working in and around his yard, especially tending his lawn during what he called "joy rides" on his John Deere.

A Celebration of Life and Love, with a reception to follow, will be held on Harold's 81st birthday, Wednesday, December 1, 5:00 pm, at Effort Church, 7820 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Palmyra VA. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your favorite charity in Harold Wright's memory.

Letters to the editor

Supervisors creating chaos

The Fluvanna Board of Supervisors (BOS) will be making a decision on Dec. 15 that will have ramifications for all of us for the next 10 years. I discovered this week that public input through the county's "My Two Cents" does not have any impact on the BOS' decision making nor is this communication part of the public record. The only way to potentially have any impact on the BOS decision is to give public testimony in person or through Zoom at the Dec. 1 public hearing on redistricting. I have been following the redistricting maps for the past month and realized that I did not fully understand the ramifications of drawing the district lines beyond how it would affect where I would vote. Redistricting is required every ten years, based upon a county's growth and where the population has grown or reduced. Usually redistricting occurs before a county's fall elections. This year, because the census data was late, elections occurred before the district lines were drawn. That leaves many questions. The county's attorney has advised the Board of Supervisors to make as little change

as possible. For redistricting map 5-2, there would be limited change; district lines are slightly altered but our elected officials would remain in their same district, including the newly elected officials. For map 6, there would be many questions because district lines would significantly change; some current elected officials would be moved into new districts. What would happen to the newly elected officials who get moved into new districts? Three of our Board of Supervisors are leaning towards six districts without an explicit rationale other than one saying it would provide better representation. The folks I talk to say six districts would lead to elected official chaos including potential lawsuits, potential gridlock and incur additional costs to the county. Seven districts would produce even more chaos. I hear folks, including me, support map 5-2. We need stability, not chaos in our county government. Please make your voice heard by attending the Dec. 1 public hearing on redistricting at 7 p.m. at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center.

-Kathy Swenson Miller, Palmyra

County leadership disappointing

After hearing the discussion surrounding redistricting at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Nov. 17, I must express my disappointment in our county leadership.

When the proposal to accept the 6 district map was passed earlier in the month, I was shocked. Why make this proposal when so much of their conversation was colored with uncertainty of the consequences? Consequences that could materialize at year end, and throughout the next 10 years.

Two of the supervisors expressed their reasoning behind this - one stating we must make a decision before Dec. 31, and the other indicating he felt it would give equal representation to the county. I wish they could give a more definitive explanation as to why they feel that way, but more time was spent shooting down alternatives.

Why are our representatives telling us we have no options? Why, when the population of Fluvanna has only grown by 6 percent, is a change necessary at all? It seems we do have options, but will the board even give it a second thought?

Unfortunately, the conversation on

Nov. 17 did not give me any reason to think that is going to happen. While the board encouraged us to send feedback to "MyTwoCents," the decision to not include "MyTwoCents" feedback on the public record has already been made. When it was suggested that we the people have one official chance to speak our minds and sway the board at the public hearing on Dec. 1, one board member quipped that "the only people who are coming out will be against this (six districts)" and implied absence was consent.

Do our leaders truly care about representing the constituents of Fluvanna, or simply giving the appearance of doing so?

There are many nuances to discuss when navigating the tough position our delayed census, and ambiguous state laws have put us in. If only the board was willing to take the appropriate amount of time to get input. No. Instead we are having a decision thrust upon us, and any attempt to push back is met by hand waving, heel digging, and platitudes.

The people of Fluvanna deserve to ask their representatives the tough questions. If they can't give satisfactory answers, the Board should avoid rushing to any decisions.

-James Schoenster, Palmyra

Board stifling outrage

I write to express anger at our current Board of Supervisors' attempts to stifle public outrage at the attempted plan to impose a six-member redistricting of Fluvanna County. They are refusing to include overwhelmingly negative responses to the sixth district plan publicly available on the Fluvanna County website. The "My two Cents" subsection of that site allows for public comment,

and public opinion should never be scuttled like this. We need more democracy, more engagement, more diversity of opinion, more compromising, more transparency here and in the country! Attempts to hide public opinion, whatever that may be, is undemocratic and dangerous.

-Jeff James, The Progressive Club at Lake Monticello

Letters to the editor

What is the compelling reason?

The past couple of meetings of the Fluvanna County Supervisors have been interesting. We have been hearing a discussion between supervisors about redistricting that has been confounding at best. Listening to the conversation about support for 6-districts leaves me frustrated. The three supervisors who voted to officially propose the 6-district solution have not given a compelling reason for their choice.

One of them hasn't really said why they chose it. One says they want more equal representation for Lake Monticello. The third wants to keep their representation focused on the rural members of their district. An interesting observation made by another citizen was that none of the three supervisors who voted to propose six were in danger of being redistricted out of their seat.

This makes no sense. What is the compelling reason for creating a map that may lend itself to deadlock? What is the compelling reason for adding a district that may require up to three appointments to office - potentially, a Board of Supervisor and School Board member for the newly created district and potentially a new School Board position in Palmyra. What is the compelling reason?

It may be that there is some simple compelling reason, but if so, why has it not been shared with the community? Is there some other reason? Who knows? But when you see a map that creates a new district by breaking apart the

main population of Lake Monticello one does wonder why. Why carve up the most compact, contiguous district in our county?

Additionally, the county attorney has suggested that minimal changes to the districts will reduce potential challenges and possible litigation. That seems like a compelling reason to stay with five members.

What is the rationale to go to six districts when over the past 10 years growth of 6.3 percent translates to less than 200 new citizens per year.

These are the questions that are running through my mind after listening to several hours of conversation between the public and between the Supervisors. When will they be answered? I hope soon because the citizens of Fluvanna deserve transparency.

To compound the issues we are facing, the state has not completed its maps yet. Because of a change in the state code, we are no longer able to have a precinct that is represented by more than one state delegate, state senator or congressional representative. Depending on what the state decides, we could be back at the drawing board again after the state redistricting maps are approved.

If you are interested in being part of the conversation, please mark your calendars for Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. for the public hearing on redistricting. You can come in person or Zoom in and make comments. In the meantime, call or write your supervisors. Voice your concerns. Ask them to explain their position. Remember they work for you.

-Rudy Garcia, Fork Union

Potential gerrymandering?

I wish to protest the efforts to create a politically gerrymandered Fluvanna County. This recent effort by three of the Board of Supervisors will effectively split the Lake community in half by diluting representation, and negatively realigning districts at the cost of minority marginalization, amongst other controversial issues. The process by which the three Board of Supervisor members are handling the issue of

Fluvanna gerrymandering is devoid of adequate public engagement as it concerns possible ramifications to the affected community. There is a need for a more democratic and increased public comment on this critically vital issue. We do not need more political gamesmanship in an already tumultuous and tribal political system, and certainly not in Fluvanna County!

-Larry Strauss, Palmyra

Why more districts?

I believe that some of the Board of Supervisors are in favor of denying Gequetta Murray-Key and James Kelley their elected school board positions. The Board of Supervisors knows that redistricting map 6, 7A and 7B may mean that Key and Kelly and Chris Fairchild, elected Board of Supervisor member, may lose their newly elected positions. Yet, Board members Weaver and Eager continue to support Map 6. Supervisors Mike Sheridan supports map 6 and one of the 7 maps. The population has only grown around 6 percent. Why is there a need for more districts?

At the October meeting, the BOS pass a resolution to stand in solidarity with a religious group in China, Falun Gong, to oppose the jailing and killing of their members allegedly by the China's government. Yet, Weaver, Sheridan and Eager voted to select map 6, which might nullify a legal United States election. Weaver, Sheridan, and Eager support freedom for people in China but are willing to snatch away democratically elected positions from American citizens. It appears that they want justice in China

but not in the United States. That makes no sense to me.

At the Nov. 7 BOS meeting, all county citizens who spoke during public comments, spoke in favor of maps 5-1 or 5-2. One also spoke in favor of 7-1 and 7-2 maps. Yet, the Board used over one hour mainly discussing maps 6 and 7. Sheridan said Map 6 gives better representation but did not state how. Eager said 6 gives more representation. Weaver stated that the only people who came out to express their opinions were those who oppose something, implying that those who support Map 6 are staying at home.

The consequences of the maps were not created deliberately or fully understood when the maps were drawn. However, now the Board knows the consequences. Yet, three Board members continue to support a map that might nullify Fluvanna's election. In my opinion, if Map 6, 7-1 or 7-2 is the final selection, citizens should take legal action against

- Jessica Jackson, Palmyra

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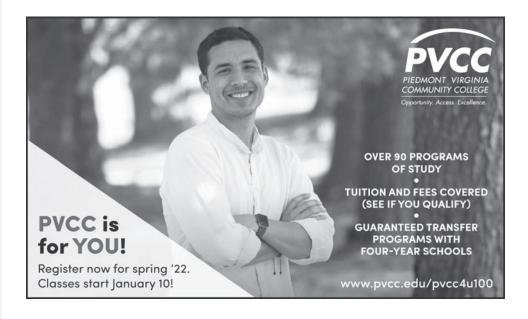
After enjoying your time with family and friends, Please remember to attend the Planning Commission Meeting on December 7 at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center at 7:00 pm.

The Planning Commission voted to reopen public comments on the twice revised Village Gardens application to build up to 355 houses on what is now agricultural land.

The revised application will be posted on Fluvanna County's website sometime on Friday, December 3.

Please copy us at <u>ruralfluco@gmail.com</u> with any written comments you send to the Planning Commissioners.

Ed Zimmer, Columbia, ezimmer@fluvannacounty.org; Lewis Johnson, Fork Union, ljohnson@fluvannacounty.org Gequetta "G." Murray-Key, Rivanna, GKey@fluvannacounty.org; Barry Bibb, Cunningham, bbibb@fluvannacounty.org Howard Lagomarsino, Palmyra, hlagomarsino@fluvannacounty.org Ad paid for by Donna D'Aguanno







Gray Foxes at Lake Monticello celebrate 2021 season

BY DUNCAN NIXON CORRESPONDENT

The Lake Monticello senior men's golfers play every Thursday (18-hole group) and Friday (nine-hole group) mornings from April to November. On Nov. 15, the two groups got together for their annual year-end banquet at the Ashlawn facility. Awards were handed out to the golfers who excelled during the 2021 season.

Dan Foley, coordinator of the ninehole players went first in the presentations. He announced that the best gross scores in the yearlong ringers competition were, for gross score, Larry Wolfe in first place, Ben Stoppe in second and a four way tie for third between Doug Caron, Ken Oukrop, Greg Kuhn and Fred York. In the ringers net score competition the best scores were posted by Larry Wolfe in first place, and there was a three way tie for second between Carl Heins, Jim Kinter and Ben Stoppe. In the match play competition for the ninehole group, the first place finishers, in a tie, were Ben Stoppe and Walt O'Connell. Second place was also a tie, between Fred York and Carl Heins.



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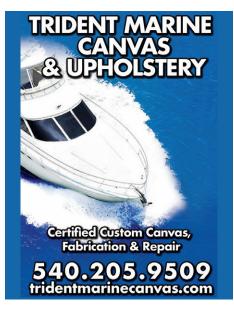


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Nine hole group winners are Carl Heinz, Jim Kinter, Coordinator Dan Foley and Ben Stoppe.

Both groups play ringers each season and it is a competition that draws a lot of interest. Players are often very disappointed when they have to miss one of the once-a-month competitions for travel or other personal reasons. The ringers competition tracks each player's best score for the year on each of the 18 holes. Thus, if a player who has had two double bogies and one bogie on a hole suddenly makes birdie, he now gets credit for the rest of the season for birdie on that hole.

Dan Atkinson, coordinator for the

18-hole group, was up next to make presentations. The 18-hole group plays a more complicated set of games and Atkinson is a meticulous record keeper as is required by the competitions involved. In the ringers competition, there was a three way tie for the best gross. Not surprisingly, three of the best Gray Foxes golfers tied for first place. They were John Alluisi, Mike Hanson and Mike Holmes. John Roeder was a stroke off the pace. In the net score ringers competition, the lowest score was posted by Gary Woody,

who won the competition by an impressive three strokes. Following Woody, there was a three-way tie between Ken Oukrop, John Platt and John Stenz. In the yearlong match play competition, the winners were, Dan Atkinson in first place, John Roeder in second, and Dave French, Ken Oukrop and Paul Seehaver in a tie for third.

The top money winners in pro shop credits for the season were John Platt, Dan Atkinson and Mike Holmes. In the skins competition, the top over-all money winners were Ken Oukrop, John Alluisi and John Stenz. The winners of the most skins for gross score were Mike Holmes, John Alluisi and John Roeder. The winners of the most net skins were Ken Oukrop, John Stenz and Duncan Nixon. To win money in the skins competition a golfer must have the lowest gross or net score on the hole of all the players competing on that day.

The yearend banquet at the Ashlawn Grill was generally judged to be a huge success. The dinner offerings were chicken or beef and the beer was free and flowing freely. The banquet is paid for out of the preseason Gray Foxes dues.

The Gray Foxes are always looking to add new players and some of the newest players are named quite often above. Not all the Gray Fox players live at Lake Monticello, so residents from outside the Lake may play, if they meet the necessary requirements.



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Right-of-way maintenance via helicopter trimming scheduled for Lake

PRESS RELEASE

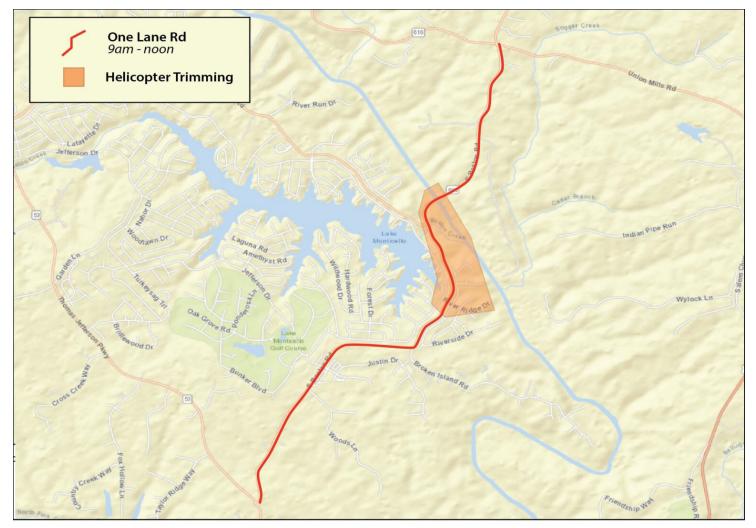
On Tuesday, Nov. 30, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (CVEC) will contract Aerial Solutions, Inc. to perform right-of-way maintenance near the Lake. It will be quite a show, but residents in this area also need to be aware of the low-flying helicopter, the change to the traffic pattern, and the possibility of power blinks during the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Helicopters are used to access the most challenging areas throughout the system. They follow the tree line and trim the lateral branch growth with a 30-foot saw that is equipped with 10 rotary blades. This method is very effective, particularly in the mountains and over areas with surface water.

In order to safely perform the trimming, South Boston Road will be reduced to one lane from the intersection of Thomas Jefferson Parkway to Union Mills Road from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. on Nov. 30. CVEC members in the area may experience power blinks during this time.

Keeping rights-of-way clear of tree branches increases reliability, and CVEC appreciates your patience as we work to maintain a safe and reliable distribution system for its members.

Trimming date is subject to change based on contractor availability and weather on the selected date. The contractor cannot operate the helicopter in inclement or windy weather due to the safety risk of flying involved with flying close to live power lines with the trimming saw.





CVEC will be utilizing Aerial Solutions, Inc. to trim right-of-Way in portions of our territory that are difficult to access by ground crews. Pending any contractor delays, trimming will take place in the highlighted area above on Tuesday, November 30. South Boston Road will be reduced to one lane from the intersection of Thomas Jefferson Parkway to Union Mills Road from 9am until noon while trimming is taking place.

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Scruggs makes historical films on the Black experience in Fluvanna

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD CORRESPONDENT

One of the original concepts of the Fluvanna County Arts Council, when it began in the early 90s, was to promote and foster the love of film in all its forms. Musician and former choir teacher at FHS Horace Scruggs is now turning to film and documentaries about the black experience through historical reference and how it has evolved. Last year, Scruggs made a documentary on the black churches in the area, interviewing noted black leaders in the community, including Joe Creasey and Mozelle Booker.

This film deals with the broader issue of reconstruction after the Civil War.

"The focus of this documentary is how after Emancipation and the Civil War African-Americans began to reconstruct their lives after being torn apart by American slavery. So within a few short years, these newly freed enslaved Americans built churches, businesses, and schools," said Scruggs. The areas he identified in Fluvanna are West Bottom, Shores, Cloverdale, and Thessalonia.

'There are many others that have been lost to time. Many of these areas are anchored by a church, in most cases independent Baptist. Some of them are just a few miles from the plantations where their founders were enslaved." He added that some of these areas have not changed very much beyond common modernization. "The schools, mostly Rosenwald, have been abandoned or repurposed and the churches, though still active, don't have the same attendance as before. In most cases, younger generations have moved to economic centers which is why it's so important to tell these stories."

Scruggs takes a hard look at how these Black communities shaped their inhabitants and the reason why they are still so close-knit today.

"Enslaved Americans came away from enslavement will very little. Their families were torn apart and the life they knew since birth was suddenly and violently changed. So, forming these communities was very important to their survival. Religious beliefs, education, and economic independence were all established in these rural spaces."

Scruggs is working with the Fluvanna County Historical Society and other area historians. This project is sponsored by the Virginia Humanities and locally supported by the Fluvanna Arts Council.

"Three projects in Fluvanna County recently received endorsements from Virginia Humanities, the state humanities council. All three projects help tell a more complete story of the history of African Americans in Fluvanna and their contributions to the county," said Trey Mitchell of the Virginia Humanities.

On Nov. 3, Virginia Humanities announced nearly \$1 million in grants to 83 cultural nonprofits across Virginia as part of the American Rescue Plan which was passed by Congress earlier this year. This included an \$11,900 grant to the Fluvanna County Historical Society for Scruggs' documentaries of the historic Black communities in Fluvanna and the African American cemeteries found there.

"Oak Hill in West Bottom likely began as a cemetery for the enslaved at the Glen Arvon and Cleveland plantations. In Columbia—a historic community of free Black craftspeople and watermen—will focus on Free Hill," said Mitchell. "The grant also supports work with the descendants of those enslaved at Bremo Plantation to include the stories of their families in the exhibit at the Old Stone Jail in Palmyra."

In September, the Fluvanna County Arts Council received a \$5,000 grant to produce a documentary film exploring the role that African American churches and other religious organizations in the county played in creating and sustaining local Rosenwald Schools.

"Rosenwald Schools were part of an initiative to narrow racial schooling gaps in the South by constructing better, more-accessible schools for African Americans. Between 1912 and 1932, the program helped produce 5,357 new educational facilities for African Americans across fifteen southern states including 382 schools in 79 Virginia counties," Mitchell said.

Earlier this year, Scruggs was named as a master artist in Virginia Humanities' Folklife Apprenticeship Program. Since 2002 more than 150 master and apprentice teams, in art forms as wide ranging as decoy carving, fiddle making, boat build-African American gospel singing, and Mexican folk dancing, have helped ensure that the cherished cultural traditions found in Virginia are passed along to future generations. Scruggs will be apprenticing Niya Bates and his daughter Hannah Scruggs in the history and navigation techniques of the waterways of Fluvanna County. As part of the apprenticeship, they will explore their family history and that of the other African Americans whose labor built the plantations along the river and present the results in a documentary film.

"The investment in the county adds up to a little less than \$20,000. But the lasting legacy for Fluvanna County is more than financial. These three projects help amplify the stories of African American history in Fluvanna to ensure the history, culture, and stories of Fluvanna are told, preserved, and passed on to future generations.

"I want this documentary to feature those who have lived in these communities, who attend these churches, learned in these schools, and who found some level of economic independence. If there are people who were educated in the Rosenwald Schools or know the stories and history of their church, I would love for them to contact me," said Scruggs. "We are in the moment where we are losing the people who spent most of their lives in these communities. And once they are gone their stories are lost forever."

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Community Foundation Playground Project gets boost from local businesses

PRESS RELEASE



The Lake Monticello Community Foundation is a third of the way to its \$100,000 goal to create an all-inclusive playground at Lake Monticello's Lafayette Park.

Gary Albert of Gary Albert State Farm and Amy and Darian Cochran of Avenue Realty each donated \$2,500 from their respective businesses earlier this week. Albert said Thursday that the State Farm Corporate office will match his donation of \$2,500—pushing the amount raised for the playground to \$32,500.

"I was inspired to get involved with this project because of a client who became a good friend," said Amy Cochran. "She has a one-year-old who is wheelchair bound. I remember as a mom of two young children that going to the playground was where I could go on a 'Bad Mom Day' the kind of day where moms look for support from other moms on the playground. Who is my friend going to talk to if there isn't a playground for her child on her 'Bad Mom Days?' This is important and it feels personal."

Gary Albert, who has offices in Charlottesville and Palmyra, said about six years ago his then-seven-year-old son suffered a bad spiral fracture. "There was nowhere to take him during his recovery," Albert said. "It was even difficult to push his wheelchair over the mulch at the school. This playground will benefit all children."

Albert joked that as a father of four children, each 15 months apart, "there was always someone crying and it wasn't always the kids."

"This will be a wonderful playground for all the kids," said Foundation President Nancy Parsons. An inclusive playground simply means "all children can play" in it, she said, adding that it will hopefully be used by children with "a wide spectrum of abilities," including being fun for the fully-abled, and will "encourage acceptance and belonging" among children of all abilities. "This is truly a game-changer for Lake Monticello," she said.

Another Charlottesville business, Mill Creek Orthodontics, kicked off the fund drive last month by donating \$11,000 for a piece of playground equipment.

In addition to the donations from the three Charlottesville businesses, the rest of the money contributed to date came from a successful yard sale, a charity tea party and individual contributions.

The Foundation is applying for private grants and will seek individual donations from local companies and residents, Parsons said. It also plans an extensive list of fundraisers, including the Christmas Memory Tree and the Christmas Festival of Trees Dec. 3 and 4 at the Ashlawn Clubhouse.





AKEVIEWS

NEWS FROM YOUR LAKE MONTICELLO NEIGHBORS

35 Years of Stellar Service

If you have a question, just ask Kim Crowder! She is known by her colleagues as the saint with all the answers. In her 35 years working for LMOA, she has banked quite a bit of Lake expertise, and everyone loves her for it. If you get her on the phone, be sure to thank her for the stellar job she does!

If you were thinking of asking Kim to consider taking your gold watch as payment for dues, don't bother. She will say no, but she will still love you for trying. In 35 years working for LMOA, she has been offered everything from fur coats to stamp collections. She can only accept US currency, even rolled pennies, which does happen!

In fact, she welcomes payments made in pennies. She is a self-professed penny hoarder, quite fitting for LMOA's treasured Accountant! She came to us in 1986, a quiet girl from

North Carolina. "I started as a waitress, and my coworkers placed bets on how long I would make it in hospitality," she admits. Now she is known at the office as a steadfast, knowledgeable, tech-savvy, outspoken, and invaluable member of the Team.

Monocles and Liquor Lockers

Back in 1986, the Clubhouse (Ashlawn) had a restaurant upstairs and The Pub downstairs. "The serving staff wore black and white uniforms and was led by the beloved Nigel West. He had a delightful English accent, smoked his cigarette, had his 'spot of tea' and wore a monocle," Kim recalls. "The building was alive with wedding parties of 300 people, UVA fraternity parties, Committee dinners, and after-work drinks in The Pub." Other memories include the actress Sabrina Le Beauf attending one



Congratulations, Kim Crowder on 35 years at LMOA!

of the weddings and the infamous 'Liquor Locker.' "Our regular guests," Kim explains, "would give us their personal bottles of alcoholic beverage so we could lock them up, keeping them here for the owners to drink when they were at the Clubhouse. I learned how to bartend, then moved on to hostess, set up the snack bar, and even cooked for a little while when we were down a chef."

Then in 1990, Janet Riddle and Kym Sampsell saw potential in Kim and offered her a job in the Accounting Department. "I am forever grateful for the opportunity they gave me. I am also grateful for the many warm members and colleagues who have made it an enjoyable workplace. I love my job. The fact there is a new challenge that needs to be solved every day and that I have the freedom to find the solution just feels good."

Kim says she doesn't have a favorite memory. "They are all good. I didn't know a soul when I got here, and now it's home."

Holiday Home Tour is Back!

Take a peek at life at the Lake during the largest annual fundraiser for the Lake Monticello Beautification Corps (LMBC). This year, five homes open their doors to the public on Saturday, December 4, from 12:30-5 PM.

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased on the day of the tour at any of the five homes. Raffle tickets are also available. Prizes include a gift certificate to The Pub and handcrafted treasures by community artists, including a quilt by the Piecemakers. Prizes will be awarded during a post-tour reception at the Ashlawn Clubhouse on December 4 at 5:30 PM. The money generated by the Holiday Home Tour helps LMBC fund landscape projects around the Lake.

Meet the Holiday Home Tour participants:

Deb and LMOA Facilities Director Mark Lugar on 57 Laguna Road: Family is the focus of this happy waterfront home—the couple has four grown children and eight grandkids. Purchased in 2013 as a weekend/vacation home, the Lugars now live at the Lake full-time with their rescue pooch Sadie. The house built in 1987 features flooring from a skating rink in Pennsylvania. Be sure to check out the beautiful quilts in the loft bunk room made by Deb's mom for each of the Lugar children in honor of their 13th birthdays. Peek out the window to see a lit Christmas tree on the dock.

Dani and LMOA Board Member Johnny Williamson on 49 **Dogleg Road:** This couple is most likely to be the youngest hosts to ever be included in the Holiday Home Tour. They moved to the Lake

from Florida in March 2018. The family, including toddler Bodie, dog Riley, and cat Alfred, likes a casual holiday look with icicles on the front of the house (Johnny's contribution) and a beautiful tree of family ornaments (Dani's creation). Be on the lookout for the couple's Nativity Scene that will have to be displayed in a vet-to-be-determined location out of reach of Bodie.

Tony and LMOA Board Vice President Judy Fish of 9 Vine Ridge Drive: This is not the first time this couple has been on the Holiday Home Tour. If you toured the Fish's waterfront home in 2016, you might be surprised by the transformation the home has undergone. The kitchen has moved across the house, decks and rooms have been added and even the siding and color has changedmuch of the work done by Tony. The couple's 1957 Greyhound busthe Tuna Casa Roll-

this year, as will Tony's garage with his vintage VWs. The couple has been working on downsizing their collections and joked that people should place post-it notes on items they want! Their cat, Mr. Mosby, cannot be bothered by all the fuss and will visit a neighbor during the tour.

will be on the tour again

Bill and Terri Caldwell at 12 Northwood Road: Speaking of collections, this home is brimming with antiques and collectibles. Terri is an avid collector, as well as a dealer at A&W Collectibles Antique Mall. She said because items cycle in and out of her home, her husband jokes that she has "Obsessive, Compulsive, Decorating Disorder." Bill, a

retired sheriff's detective sergeant, has gotten in on the act too-painting, refurbishing and even building furniture. The couple moved to the Lake from Santa Barbara, California in 2008 after seeing Lake Monticello featured on a HGTV House Hunters' episode. Terri's twin sister, Wendy, also lives at the Lake. The Caldwells share their home with their 14-yearold dog, Magruder, and a 5-year-old cat, Watson.

Dick and Marilyn May of 16 Northwood Road: Marilyn, a retired critical care nurse, is an avid baker whose kitchen is sure to smell delicious. Dick is a retired aerospace machinist. The couple moved to the Lake from Northern Virginia four years ago this month after looking for a "place with water for a boat and fishing." They chose Lake Monticello over Lake Anna and Smith Mountain Lake because medical facilities were too far away from the other communities. Marilyn said she loves a homey Christmas tree with ornaments made by their children and picked up on travels. The tree by the front door with 28 White House ornaments is a Friendship Tree that is up year-round (with only white lights). The Mays welcomed pooch Piper within the past year to join their 9-year-old cat, Sassy.

For more information, email **Yvonne Arcement Yvonne Arce**ment (yba_cats@hotmail.com) or Connie West (cswim5@aol.com).





Content / Layout: LMOA Communications - Marieke Henry & William Patrick

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EVENT

HAPPY FACE PARTY 2021: Fluvanna Christian Service Society (FCSS) is holding their Happy Face Christmas party. It will be a drive through distribution for qualifying families who will receive age appropriate gift, winter jacket and PJ's for each child 13 yrs. or younger & food. Collection sites -Flu Co Public Library, Monticello Country Reality, LAKE Club House, Cuppa Joe's & Ivy Physical Fitness. Checks - make payable to FCSS, P.O.Box 411, Palmyra VA 22963. End date for donations of gifts (0 to 13 yrs) is November 27th.

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WANTED

FSPCA SPONSORS NEEDED FOR 2022: Our local animal shelter gives us photos of pets waiting for adoption to put in our paper each week. The sponsor's name /company/phone number or a special message (memorial, etc.) is printed under the photo of the PET OF THE WEEK. Will you help to find forever homes for a furry four-legged friend by being a sponsor? Call Edee@(434) 207-0221 or email: edee@fluvannareview.com with question/ requests. Thank you.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Central Virginian veterans meet on the last Saturday of the month for buffet breakfast, G.I. style. Next meeting is Nov. 27 at WAHOO BBQ Bar & Grill, across from Lake Monticello fire/rescue station. (turn at CVS - traffic light). All Veterans are welcome! Breakfast starts at 8:30 a.m. \$12 per person.

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 (recdesk.com) or just come and sign up!!



VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FLUVANNA COUNTY

DIANE RIGSBY, et al

Plaintiffs,

Case No.: 21CL635 UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MADELINE HORVATH Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this action is to admit to probate of the Circuit Court of the County of Fluvanna, Virginia a copy of the Last Will and Testament of Madeline Horvath, who passed away on April 22, 2021.

It appearing from an Affidavit filed in this cause, whereby Plaintiff, by counsel, did affirm that due diligence has been used by the Plaintiff to ascertain the identity and whereabouts of all possible defendants, who are the heirs of Madeline Horvath, whose identities and addresses are unknown and further that there may be parties who are unknown that may have an interest in Estate of Madeline Horvath, without success;

On consideration whereof, it is ORDERED, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 8.01-316(A)(1)(b) that all parties hereinabove named, including those designated as "The Uknown Heirs of Madeline Horvath", appear on or before 7th day of January, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., and do what is necessary to protect their interests.

AND, it is further ORDERED that this order be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the Fluvanna Review, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Fluvanna. The Clerk of the Court shall post this Order at the front door of

ENTERED this 29th day of October, 2021

Claude V.Worrell II JUDGE

I ASK FOR THIS:

Graven W. Craig, Esquire (VSB #41367) Rea T. "Torrey" Williams, Esquire (VSB# 84691) CraigWilliams, PLC P.O. Box 68 - 202 W. Main Street, Louisa, VA 23093 (540) 967-9900 • (540) 967-3567 facsimile torrev@callnow.law e-mail

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Fluvanna County real estate and personal property taxes for the second half of 2021 are due December 6, 2021. Taxes need to be paid in full by midnight December 6, 2021 to avoid penalty.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE VARIOUS PAYMENT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE:

- By mail postmarked by December 6, 2021
- Drop Box Location: 34 Palmyra Way, Palmyra VA.

Located by the steps across from Palmyra Methodist Church, this is a brown drop box.

Special Hours Office Hours:

Saturday, December 4th from 8:00 am to 12 noon On deadline Day December 6th from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR), 9 VAC 20-81-260(C)(4), and the USEPA Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) Rule, 40 C.F.R. § 257.96(e), Dominion Energy Virginia is holding a public meeting on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at the Fluvanna Community Center auditorium located at 5725 James Madison Highway in Fork Union Virginia at 6:00-7:30 P.M. to discuss the results of Assessments of Corrective Measures (ACMs) performed as a result of a statistically significant increase of one or more groundwater protection standards at the Bremo Power Station CCR Units - North, East, and West Ash Ponds (Solid Waste Permit No. 618) located at 1038 Bremo Road, Bremo Bluff, Virginia, in Fluvanna County. The purpose of the meeting is to acquaint the public with the technical aspects of the ACMs, inform the public of how the provisions set forth in the VSWMR and the CCR Rule will be met, to identify issues of concern, facilitate communication, and to establish dialogue between Dominion Energy and persons who may be affected by the units.

This notice initiates a public comment period that will last 30 days, beginning Thursday, November 18, 2021 and ending Saturday, December 18, 2021. During the public comment period, the ACM Reports may be reviewed and commented on by all interested parties. Persons may view and copy report documentation at the Fluvanna County Public Library (214 Commons Blvd in Palmyra, Virginia), Monday through Saturday, or online at: https://www.dominionenergy.com/bremo-acm. Written comments will be accepted and may be sent to the address below. Written comments must be received by 5:00 P.M., Saturday, December 18, 2021.

For additional information or to submit comments, please contact Mr. Dennis Slade, Manager Environmental, Dominion Energy Services, Inc., 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23219. Phone: (804) 273-2658. Email: ACMComments@dominionenergy.com and reference Bremo Power Station.



PUBLIC HEARING

Fluvanna County Planning Commission December 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Pursuant to VA Code Section 15.2-2204, public hearings will be held at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center located at 8880 James Madison Highway in Fork Union, VA 23055 for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to be heard by the Planning Commission on the following requests:

FY 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan – Public review and recommendation of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for fiscal years 2023 through 2027 (FY2023 – FY2027) which is to be submitted in conjunction with the fiscal year 2023 (FY2023) Fluvanna County Budget. The CIP lists the major construction and acquisition efforts planned for the next five (5) fiscal years and it describes proposed methods of financing for CIP projects as is prescribed in Virginia State Code.

ZMP 21:04 Southern Development – A request to rezone from A-1, Agricultural, General and R-3, Residential Planned Community to R-3, Residential Planned Community of 122.6 acres of Tax Maps 8 Section A Parcel 18A, 17 Section A Parcel 10 and 17 Section 9 Parcels 1 and 2. The subject properties are located along State Route 53 and along Garden Lane (SR 636) and with additional access via a stub road located south of 415 Jefferson Drive in Lake Monticello and they are in the Rivanna Community Planning Area and in the Cunningham Election District.

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held in person and attendees can attend in person, virtually online or by telephone. Instructions for public participation during the meeting will be made available on the Fluvanna County website. Interested persons may submit written comments prior to the scheduled meeting to dmiles@fluvannacounty.org and any questions may be directed to Douglas Miles, Community Development Director at 434-591-1910, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday.

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PUBLIC HEARING

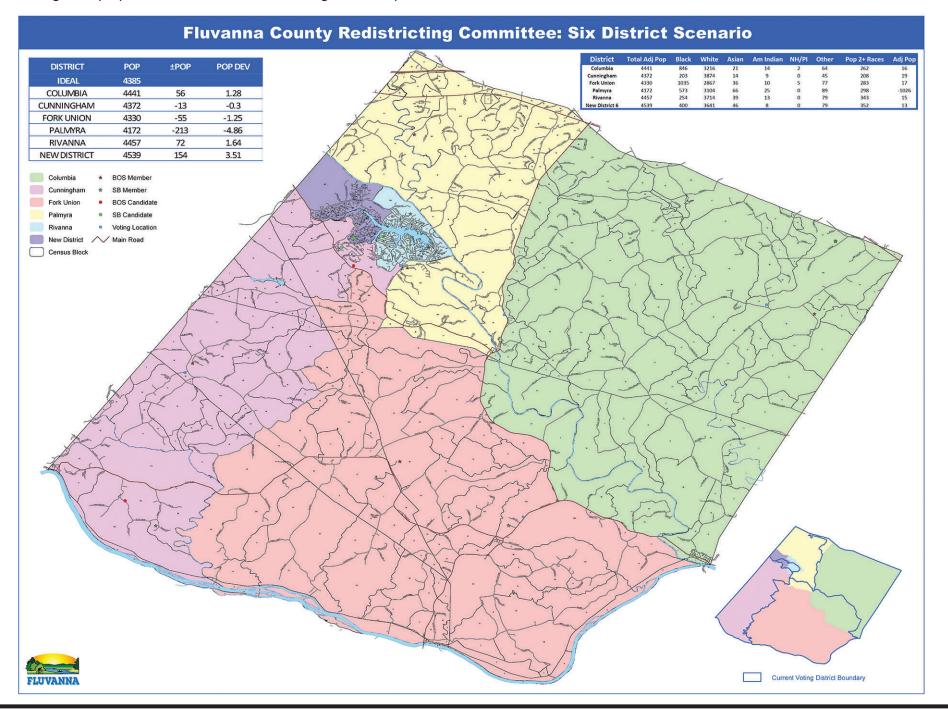
Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors • Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 15.2-1427 and 24.2-306, the Board of Supervisors of Fluvanna County, Virginia, will hold a public hearing on December 1, 2021, at 7:00 PM, at the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center, 8880 James Madison Highway, Fork Union, VA 23055, to receive public comment and input regarding a proposed ordinance to repeal and reenact Sections 2-2-3 and 2-2-4 of Chapter 2 (Administration), Article 2 (Elections) of the Fluvanna County Code to establish six (6) election districts, precincts and polling places, including a new, as-yet unnamed district with a polling place to be determined at a future date, as set forth in the proposed ordinance; as well as consideration of four (4) alternative election district configurations. Reapportionment of representation among election districts is required by law to take place in 2021 following the 2020 decennial census, and will affect representation on the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission, and the School Board.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance including boundary descriptions, along with the six (6) election districts configuration map, four (4) alternative election district configuration maps under consideration, and related materials may be examined during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, at the Office of the County Administrator, located at 132 Main Street, Palmyra, VA 22963. A copy of the full text of the ordinance, such maps, and other materials may also be viewed, and written comments may be submitted, on the Fluvanna County website's 2021 Redistricting page, at www.fluvannacounty. org/bos/page/2021-redistricting. Comments can also be submitted by contacting Caitlin Solis, Clerk to the Board, at 434-591-1910 or csolis@fluvannacounty. org or by mail at Clerk to the Board of Supervisors, 132 Main Street, Post Office Box 540, Palmyra, VA 22963.

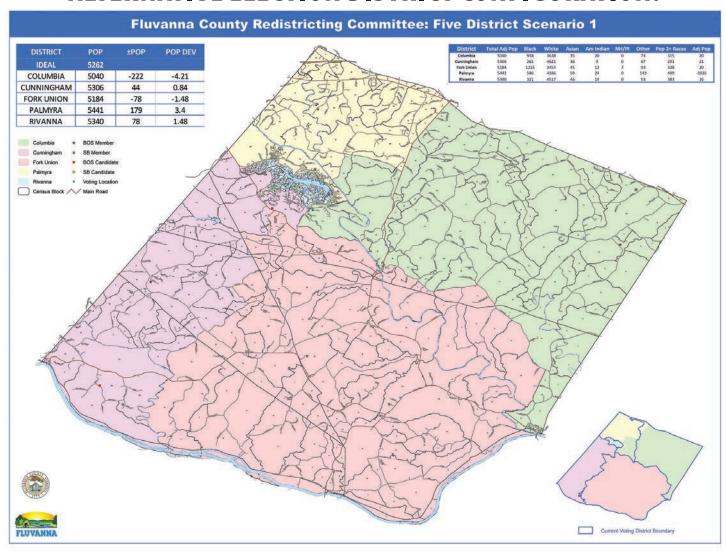
All interested persons are invited to attend the hearings and to present their views and/or to submit written comments for the Board's consideration.

Following is the proposed six (6) election district configuration map:

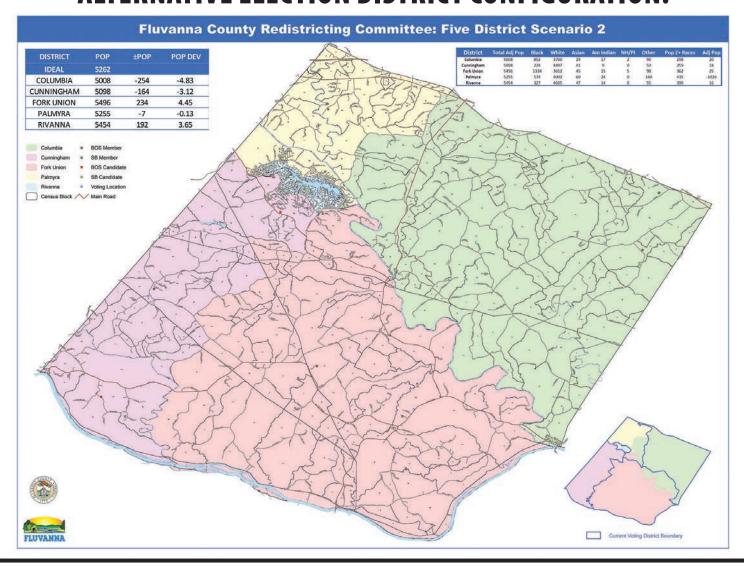


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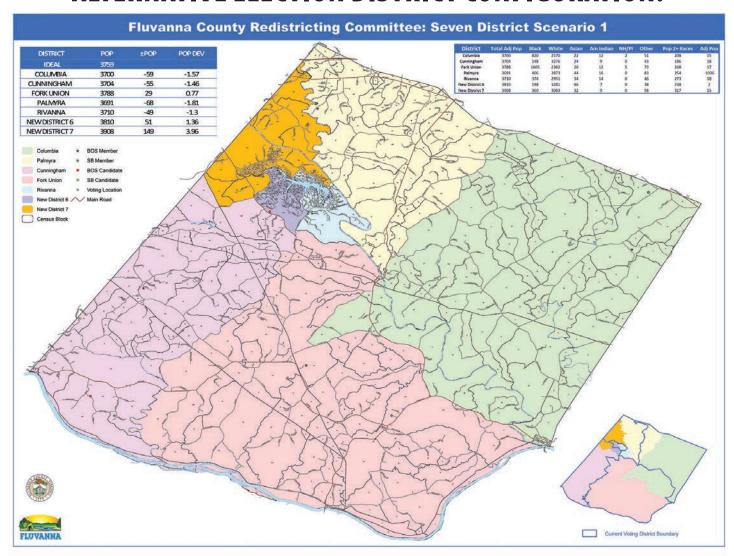
ALTERNATIVE ELECTION DISTRICT CONFIGURATION:



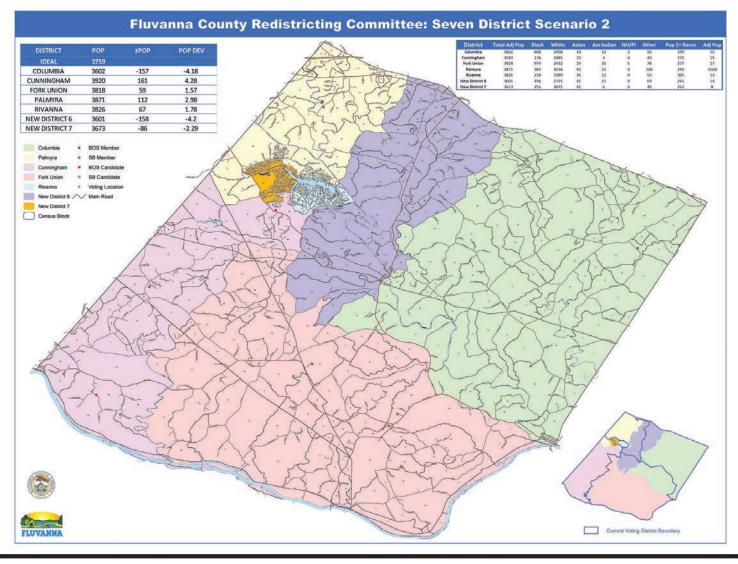
ALTERNATIVE ELECTION DISTRICT CONFIGURATION:



ALTERNATIVE ELECTION DISTRICT CONFIGURATION:



ALTERNATIVE ELECTION DISTRICT CONFIGURATION:



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The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke **ACROSS** 1 Hefty rival 5 Waterston's D.A on "Law & Order' 20 10 Impassioned 14 Type of paper or pudding 15 Fictional Scarlett 16 "Fame" star Irene 39 17 Facing trouble 19 In the know 43 about 20 Down-and-out 21 Sedimentary rock 23 Large bay window 25 Washstand 66 vessel 26 Seven Wonders

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DOWN

- 1 Cheshire Cat trademark
- 2 Cash biopic "Walk the
 - 3 Stomach woe
 - 4 Toiletry product
- 5 Groundskeeper's task
- 6 Scene with stuntmen
- 7 Tree with white flower clusters
- 8 Lucy's "Kill Bill" character
- 9 Logging
- equipment
- 10 Critical
- 11 Streak in an aircraft's wake
- 12 Heavy metal
- 13 Copenhagen native
- 18 Beginner
- 22 Greta Garbo, for one
- 24 Wight, for one 26 Word with hot or

home

70 Button material 71 1040, for one

lighthouse

31 Caps Lock

neighbor

34 Tibetan monk

35 Ground beef

37 Mournful sona

41 Kind of market

43 Extra inning

44 2014 Affleck

flick, "___

48 Foul smell

52 Grimace

46 Scrabble draw

47 Draw to a close

50 Breakfast order

54 Doomed one

56 Be suspicious

63 Keep an eye on

59 Select group

64 Self-restraint

66 Part of ABM

67 Wickerwork

68 Many miles

willow

away

69 Ploy

39 Iron Man or Thor,

in a film series

Girl"

option

29 Remove the rind

27 Any port in a

- 28 Constitutional add-ons
- 30 Briefly unknown?
- 32 Light-footed
- 33 Military cap 36 Proof word
- 38 Protective sheet 40 Halloween
- spook 42 Lowly laborer
- 45 Type of farming
- 49 Church officer

- 51 Part of G.M.T. 53 Nostalgic
- number 55 River critter
- 56 Celestial body
- 57 Remote button
- 58 Santa California
- 60 What FAQ's offer
- 61 Capone
- trademark
- 62 School session
- 65 Indignation

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

	S	E	C	ı		O	V	E	ĸ		Α	S	Α	۲
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Е	Α	Т	Α	В	Г	Е		G	_	Α	Ν	Т		
			С	R	Е	S	С	Ε	Ν	Т		Α	Р	Т
С	Α	F	Т	Α	Ν		Α	Ν	Т	Ε	Α	Т	Ε	F
0	G	R	Е		Т	R	1	Т	Е		В	0	R	Е
С	0	Е	R	С	1	0	Ν		S	Т	0	R	М	S
Α	G	Ε		Α	Ν	С	Ε	S	Т	0	R			
		S	Н	R	Е	K		Н	Α	М	1	Т	U	P
Α	С	Т	U	Р		F	Ε	Α	Т		G	0	Ν	Е
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SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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

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:

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

LMOA seeks additional police officers

PRESS RELEASE

The Lake Monticello Police Department (LMPD) continues to experience a staff shortage. Though the Lake community should be a coveted workplace, noncompetitive law enforcement salaries make it difficult to attract additional officers. The Lake's patrol officers are down by half, with the remaining police stretched to cover shifts. In an effort to improve recruitment and retention, Lake Monticello Owners' Association (LMOA) Management has decided to adjust salaries.

Bumping up the starting salary, wage increases for the existing officers, and retention bonuses were agreed upon by LMOA management late last week. "Our police department's upper management and supervision are jumping in to cover shift duties where ever they can, with help from the sheriff's office, to ensure adequate coverage," General Manager Steve Hurwitz explained. "But when you do that over a very long period, it becomes hard on the team."

Hurwitz said that as a short-term solution, pay adjustments will hopefully make the positions more attractive. He said roughly 11percent of annual dues per household (about \$12/month) goes towards funding LMPD. "Wage increases as a long-term solution may not be sustainable," he said. "That is why the Board continues to research all possible solutions, including contracting private security."

Earlier this month, the Board of Directors stated a private security firm can offer more officers, more hours of Water Safety Patrol, and youth engagement programs for a cost similar to what LMOA currently budgets for LMPD. "But it's just one of a multitude of considerations, and we are far from any kind of decision," Hurwitz stressed. "A long-term solution requires fully engaging the membership. We encourage all members to get involved by emailing viewpoints and suggestions to securitysolutions@lmoa.org, which has been well-publicized."

The special email address was created by the Board to consolidate membership feedback. The question of whether or not LMOA needs a police force has surfaced multiple times over the years. Many members of the Lake community say a private police department was the deciding factor to buy real estate at Lake Monticello whereas others feel the department is too expensive.

"With some 12,000 residents, LMOA is like a city," LMPD Chief of Police Tony Abbott said. "On a weekly basis, we record over 50,000 gate entries and answer thousands of calls a year. We patrol over 60 miles of private roads, and are right here and ready for immediate action during emergencies, including assisting our maintenance team with clearing roads after storms. When it comes to law enforcement, we are able to take additional steps private security can't take."

The pros and cons of maintaining a private police force will be thoroughly researched in the coming months. Meanwhile, the LMOA Staff, Board of Directors, LMPD and the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Department work hand in hand to ensure the continued safety of the Lake Monticello Community. Together, the community will decide on a long-term solution.

Redistricting debate heats up

BY HEATHER MICHON CORRESPONDENT

The debate over redistricting heated up during the Board of Supervisors meeting on Wednesday (Nov. 17).

At a previous meeting, supervisors voted 3-2 to put forth a six-district map for a public hearing on Dec.1.

This map is non-binding; supervisors may ultimately vote on any of the five maps prepared by county staff, or even come up with something different.

However, the discussion over which map to present illustrated the division between board members, some of whom want to stay with five districts, one who would prefer to see seven districts, and two who unexpectedly came out in favor of six districts.

But speakers during the public comment period on Wednesday made it clear: they want to stay at five districts.

Mike Feazel of Lake Monticello read a letter signed by 75 residents, arguing that six districts would lead to tied votes and increased costs to the county for salaries, among other impacts. "In fact, it seems that the only intent in switching to a six-seat system would be to stall county actions," he said.

"I'm concerned and disappointed that the majority of you voted for Redistricting Map 6," said Jessica Jackson.

One major issue was that redistricting could potentially redistrict two school board members out of their seats. State law is unclear what would happen to current member James Kelley and newly-elected Gequetta Murray-Key, an African-American. "I really don't understand how three of you would push a map that may take the only African-American school board member off the board," she said.

School Board Chair Perrie Johnson said the vote for the six district map had been a "tremendous surprise." While not commenting on any issues around the school board, she said she supported a five-district map.

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Rudy Garcia of the Chamber of Commerce said he had at first supported seven districts, but "I was wrong." After much discussion with other residents, he had come to believe "seven is a mistake and six is an absolute disaster."

Among other issues, Garcia said six districts could potentially tarnish the county's reputation. "Because someone is going to say that this community did that because it didn't want a Black School Board member. Whether it's true or not is irrelevant."

Unfinished Business

Following a full agenda, the discussion over redistricting came back late in the evening and went on for well over an hour

Chair Mike Sheridan (Columbia) and Vice-Chair Tony O'Brien (Rivanna) had recently attended a meeting of the Virginia Association of Counties, where the complications of redistricting had been on full display.

"Everyone is doing something a little different," said O'Brien.

The process of redistricting is usually completed in the spring of the year following a census. But COVID-19 lead to a delay in the 2020 Census results, and counties didn't get the data until September, pushing the process close to the deadline of Dec. 30.

Further complicating the issue, the statewide bipartisan commission tasked with redrawing congressional and leqislative maps deadlocked and has now handed the process to the Virginia Supreme Court. Without those maps, counties run the risk of creating split precincts and being sent back to the drawing board sometime next year.

Because the redistricting process is usually completed long before the elections in November, state law is unclear on how localities would fill any newly-created seats or what happens to those elected in one district, only to find themselves suddenly in a new district.

County Attorney Fred Payne urged the supervisors to take "the most literal and conservative interpretation of the statutes as a whole."

Payne indicated that Cunningham supervisor-elect Chris Fairchild, and possibly Murray-Key, might be protected under safe-harbor laws that allow those elected and seated to boards to maintain their seats even if district lines change during their terms.

Fairchild's term starts January 1, 2022. Payne said new district maps have to be approved by the Attorney General before they can take effect, and "we're not going to get approved by Jan. 1."

O'Brien, who sits on the redistricting committee, said that because the idea of six districts hadn't been a board priority, the six-distict map hadn't been given the same consideration as the five- and seven-district map.

"That map should be re-looked at again and if we're going to seriously consider a six-district map -- which I don't recommend as a board member -- if we're going to do that, we should not be considering that map," he said. "That is not a good map."

During the second round of public comments, Jessica Jackson came back to the podium.

"I've really been frustrated and disappointed with these last 20 minutes," she said. "There's a difference between hearing and listening to the public."

All the residents who spoke out had called for five districts, she noted, yet the supervisors' conversations had still focused mainly on six or seven districts. She called the disconnect "patronizing" and disrespectful to the citizens who had stayed for the duration of the lengthy meeting.

"This is not about race," she said. "It's about fairness."

Other matters

While redistricting dominated the conversation, the board took action on several other matters:

- · Approved a Special Use Permit for a 36-acre solar farm on a 361-acre parcel on Rt. 615 in Carysbrook by a vote of 5-0;
- · Approved an ordinance amendment allowing the county to levy and enforce a cigarette tax of \$0.02 per cigarette. The seven-county Blue Ridge Cigarette Tax Board will manage the logistics of tax collection, and Flu-

- vanna is projected to result in annual revenues of \$200-300,000. The vote was 4-1, with Supervisor Patrica Eager (Palmyra) voting no;
- Approved a budget transfer of \$37,000 to Human Resources to pay for a compensation and classification study for county employees by a 5-0 vote;
- Voted 5-0 to join the Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund. The state will receive \$530 million in the coming years for the pharmaceutical industry's \$26 billion settlement with the states. Some of this money will be given to localities, although the amounts are not yet clear;
- Deferred an appointment to the James River Water Authority (JRWA). The death of one of the two Fluvanna representatives to the board created an unexpected opening, and Sheridan had offered to assume the seat at a recent meeting. However, Booker said there were some qualified individuals that might be willing to serve. The board voted 4-0 to defer, with Sheridan abstaining.



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