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Cover: A common sight around Fluvanna County. Cover design by Amelia McConnell.

### **GENERAL**

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### Fire forces Lake family out, three pets lost

CONTRIBUTED BY JUDY FISH, LAKE MONTICELLO NEWS

The Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire Department along with Palmyra and Fork Union Fire Companies were dispatched Jan. 5 to 15 Pinehurst Road at Lake Monticello to investigate a report of smoke inside a residence.

"Lake Monticello fire personnel were met by the homeowner who reported that he and his family returned home from a night away from the residence due to the storm, and when he opened the front door, he was met with thick, acrid smoke throughout the residence," Lake Monticello Fire Chief Richie Constantino said, adding that they also learned there were three cats still inside the home.

Firefighters simultaneously conducted fire suppression activities and a search for potential victims inside the residence, according to the chief. "The fire, which was located in the kitchen area, was quickly knocked down," he said, adding that one of the cats was found and brought outside where members of the Lake Monticello Fire Department and Fluvanna County Rescue Squad attempted to resuscitate the pet. "Their efforts were in vain—the cat died," the chief reported. "The same firefighter re-entered the residence and located the other two cats and brought them outside. Both cats were experiencing severe difficulty with breathing. Attempts were also made to save them. None of the cats survived."

After the fire was extinguished, a search for fire extension and an overhaul of the scene was conducted, the chief said. He said that while smoke inside the entire residence was cleared, the house is uninhabitable and the family will be staying with friends. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental due to electrical issue, according to Constantino.

"I am overwhelmed by the response," said the homeowner, Brett Philpott, of the Go Fund Me page that has been set up and other offers of help from the community. "It's all quite overwhelming." Philpott said he and his wife, Misty, and daughters Audrey (13) Talulah (12) and Delilah (11) are staying at a local hotel.

According to the Go Fund Me page write-up, "after having no power for 2 days, the (family) returned home only to find it on fire." Despite major damage and the loss of the family's cats, the writeup expressed gratitude: "Thank God that they are all safe and their two dogs were spared. They feel blessed to already have their insurance company working for them on temporary housing, but I am sure you can all imagine how devastating this is for the family. I am asking you to give generously to them so that they can get essentials and begin to rebuild." To donate to the Philpott family: https:// gofund.me/222d8b20



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THIS WEEK'S PET: TROY

A part of our Lonely Hearts Club, which means he has been with us for more than 6 months and his adoption fee is only \$200.

Troy came to us as a stray full of ticks on May 15, 2021 and has been looking for his new chance since. Troy is a smaller pitty mix weighing only 40 pounds. He loves to talk to you and go for walks. Troy is Ehrlichia positive and he does have a little hearing loss due to age. He is estimated to be roughly 9 years old. We are not certain if he is housebroken or not.

It will take him some time to fully adjust to his new living situation. Can you be the family that Troy has been looking for? He needs someone that is going to give him unconditional love and affection. Troy would need to be in a home with no live-stock around as he enjoys chicken too much. He is current on all vaccinations, preventatives, micro-chipped and neutered.

"I'm Troy. I haven't had the easiest life. I have a lot of scars on my face and neck. There is a growth on my stomach. Still, I am sweet as can be. I love to be petted and have someone tell me that I'm a good boy! Won't someone please give me a chance?'



Fluvanna SPCA Troy, VA 434 591-0123 • www.fspca.org

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.

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### Letter to the editor

### **Praise for Aqua Virginia**

Aqua Virginia deserves praise for their uninterrupted service during the recent snow event. The water was there without interruption. Better than any of the other basic services in my part of the Lake.

-George Hardy, Lake Monticello





### Weathering the storm

BY RUTHANN CARR CORRESPONDENT

It was more than a beautiful snowfall.

On Jan. 3, as much as 12 inches of heavy, wet snow fell onto ice-laden branches toppling trees and taking out power to Fluvanna and much of Central Virginia.

Some lost power for six to 12 hours, others for days

Dominion Energy serves much of Fluvanna

Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (CVEC) handles the rest.

It didn't matter which company supplied the power, the results were the same: few had it.

### **Stories**

### **Birthday Gift**

Because Jan. 3 is my birthday, my husband and I spent New Year's weekend in a rented room in the Northern Neck. We planned to stay Sunday night and travel home the next day. But after listening to the weather forecast, we made (for us) an unusually wise decision to drive home Sunday night.

Like everyone else, we went to bed to rain and awoke to a winter wonderland. That morning the lights flickered off and on a couple times, then power was out for good.

We're an all-electric home and are on a well. That meant no water, no heat, lights, or way to cook.

CVEC provides our power and it rarely goes out. If it does, it's not for long. It came back on that evening. Shortly after, we heard a plow clearing our street.

I knew others weren't so lucky, as I saw businesses, schools and government office closings reported on TV.

### **Fluvanna Chamber of Commerce**

Besides writing for the Fluvanna Review, I work for the Fluvanna Chamber of Commerce.

On Jan. 5, the Chamber Treasurer, Rudy Garcia, emailed me and the Chamber Board checking to see how we were all doing.

Garcia lives off Rt. 6 in the Rivanna

Woods housing community.

They were hit hard.

Garcia said it took VDOT until Tuesday afternoon to clear the route into the subdivision of about 10 downed trees.

"We are still w/o power, the internet and landline are still down and cell service is spotty at best," Garcia wrote. "We are staying warm enough not to be served as frozen meat (thanks to a wood burning fireplace!) and are working through our 20th gallon of gas for the generator. Hint, a 10K generator burns right at 10 gallons every 12 or so hours of running."

He said at least another 10 trees were down throughout the road in his neighborhood.

"So hopefully now Dominion can get in and get the power fixed," he wrote. "...All in all, one of the most impactful snowfalls in the 20 years we have lived here. Stay safe, stay warm and watch out for falling ice balls!"

After spending some hours warming up in his office on Turkeysag (near the county registrar's office) Garcia and his wife are at home. Their power was restored on Friday (Jan. 7) at 3:30 p.m.

### **Columbia Goats**

Jennifer Lyons owns Totes McGoats Body Soaps in the Village of Palmyra. She and her husband live on a farm in Columbia where they raise the goats who supply the soap ingredients. CVEC supplies the power to Lyons' farm and it was off until Wedneday (Jan. 6) evening. Lyons doesn't just raise goats, make and sell soaps and lotions from their milk. Most of her time is spent running the COVID-19 unit at Sentara Martha Jefferson where she's been a nurse for 26 years.

### **Alpacas Kept Warm**

Thanks to their thick coats, alpacas stayed toasty during the storm and power outage at their farm in Wildwood on Rt. 15, reported Sacred Acres Farm owner MaryJane Cathers.

The farm didn't go unscathed, however. "Power was out here for 30 plus hours, Cathers wrote. "The farm took a big hit from that snow hurricane on Monday. I'm hoping to get things clear enough to have the store open on Saturday. All other farm activities closed for at least two weeks while we get fallen trees off fences, gates and picnic tables. CVEC was here early yesterday cutting off the three trees that fell against the utility lines. My neighbor plowed my driveway yesterday. My focus today is clearing snow off the front/back porches on the house and the ramp to the store."

### **Sustainability Softens the Blow**

Sarah Sweet owns The Scrappy Elephant on Main Street in the Village. Like the other businesses and offices located there, Sweet's creative reuse shop didn't open all week due to the power outage.

She lives on Courthouse Road just east of the Village and was without power until Sunday (Jan. 9) evening.

On Friday (Jan. 7), Sweet was at home without CVEC electricity.

"We are also still without power here," she wrote. "We lost most of our dogwoods and Bradford Pears, but thankfully nothing fell on the house. We are extremely fortunate to have bought a house with a generator and we have a wood stove to heat our home (though we are quickly running out of wood)."

### Camp Friendship down but not out

Sarah Ackenbom lives on Camp Friendship's 500 acres off Rt. 15 a few miles north of Palmyra.

CVEC provides electricity to the camp and Ackenbom said when it goes out, it's often out for a long time.

"That's usually the trend since our power lines don't service much else," Ackenbom wrote. "We've had a huge amount of damage here from downed trees, including my house. I do hope other homes and businesses didn't get hit or damaged as badly as we did here; it's a mess!"

On the 20 developed acres of Camp Friendship, 100 trees were down and 10 buildings damaged.

Ackenbom said power was restored Sunday (Jan. 9) around 9 a.m.

### Schools Without Power for the Week

Superintendent Peter Gretz said Fluvanna school buildings were without power through Friday (Jan. 7) except Carysbrook. That building got power Saturday (Jan. 8). However as of Sunday, Carysbrook still didn't have phone service.

Heavy snow damaged batting cages at the high school.

Monday (Jan. 10) is a teacher workday. Students returned Tuesday (Jan. 11).





### **Snowstorm cripples Fluvanna**

BY HEATHER MICHON CORRESPONDENT

2022 got off to an exciting start for Fluvanna County, as a week of unseasonably warm temperatures gave way early Monday morning (Jan. 3) to a crippling winter storm that dumped the better part of a season's worth of snow on the area in the space of just a few hours.

Up to a foot of wet, heavy snow brought down trees and power lines, left motorists stranded on county roads, and caused major power outages that took hours, often days to bring back online. Some area homes remain without power a full week later.

### Historic damage

The storm caused catastrophic damage to the power grid, leaving Dominion Power and Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (CVEC) struggling to get customers back online.

Crews worked 16-hour shifts in sub-freezing temperatures to clear trees off lines, install new poles, and get the power flowing back into homes and businesses.

In a Facebook post on Sunday night, CVEC called the damage "historic," rivaling the recovery from Hurricane Isabel in 2003 and the 2012 derecho. Over 75 percent of the company's 36,000 customers were offline following the storm.

"The January 2022 storm will go down as one of the major storm events in the history of CVEC[,] based on the number of accounts impacted, poles broken[,] and overall damage to CVEC facilities," they reported.

As of Sunday night, about 425 of its Fluvanna county customers were still without power. Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company had no reported outages according to the tracking website poweroutage.us.

Phone and internet providers were also impacted by the storm. At one point on Monday, CenturyLink service went out, temporarily cutting access to the county's 911 system.

### First responders

Roads quickly became impassible as the snow mounted on Monday morning, and the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office took to Facebook to beg residents to stay off the road.

"We are urging everyone to shelter in place," they posted shortly before 10:00 am. "Road conditions are extremely hazardous. We have multiple trees and power lines down throughout the county. We have very limited wrecker service [and] if you get stuck[,]there is a 2-3 hour wait time if they can reach you."

County fire and rescue went into action early Monday to help clear roads of downed trees and disabled vehicles. rescue stranded motorists, and deal with power lines that had caught fire as the electrical grid began to fail.

Later, they were called out for medical To advertise call: 434.207.0223

emergencies and carbon monoxide alarms, chimney fires, and downed trees on homes.

"To say we were busy would be an understatement," Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire & Rescue Chief Richard Constantino said in an email. Volunteers staffed the firehouse round-the-clock from late Sunday night to Wednesday morning. "At any one time, there were at least 21 firefighters on-duty, staffing all our apparatus and living in the firehouse."

And they were needed, with over 60 calls for service and five structure fires in the first 48 hours of the storm. Often, crews had to cut away trees and brush just to reach the homes in need of assistance.

All area fire and rescue crews faced considerable challenges, especially in the first 24 hours. Most volunteers worked non-stop for much of the week.

### **Warming stations become shelters**

Temperatures fell from a high of around 62 degrees on Sunday to a low of 13 on Monday night into Tuesday.

To cope with these potentially life-threatening temperatures, the county opened up a warming station at the Fluvanna County High School on Tuesday, which was soon converted into an emergency shelter for those who remained without heat and electricity.

Assistant County Administrator Kelly Belanger Harris said that a dozen people used the warming station on Tuesday, 17 on Wednesday, and 15 on Thursday. Three people used the facility to shelter overnight.

### "Essential Service"

Many businesses were forced to close for much of the week, but one that stayed open was Fluvanna ACE Hardware at Crofton Plaza on Lake Monticello Road.

Managers Jeff Craig and Renny Megahan, along with members of their staff, kept the store running despite having neither heat nor light nor phones. This allowed residents to access sand, salt, shovels, chainsaws, and other storm recovery tool as the clean-up began.

"We are tired, cold, hungry, and frustrated," they posted on their Facebook page late Thursday afternoon. "However, we realize we are an essential business to this community in good times and bad. Therefore, we will reopen at 7 am tomorrow, power or no power."

Their power was restored later that day, and by Friday, fresh stocks of firewood, propane, and other crucial items were coming back in stock.

The Food Lion at Turkeysag was reopened by Tuesday, with EW Thomas back in business by late in the week. MACAA's Food Bank was able to open by Saturday morning.

### **Community**

As weather emergencies often do, the storm brought out the best in the community.

Neighbors helped neighbors clear fallen brush, pulled out their chainsaws to begin removing trees that had fallen across roads, and push stuck cars out of the snow-clogged streets. As some areas got their power back on, open calls went out on social media, inviting those who were still in the dark to come on over to warm up, recharge electronics, heat up

food, even take a shower.

With the immediate crisis now past, the cleanup begins.

At Lake Monticello, which lost several hundred trees to the storm, the maintenance staff estimates it may take 4-6 months to clean up all the debris. LMOA News reports that staff will clear up to 15 feet from the edge of the roadway, leaving residents responsible for anything beyond that point.

There is, as yet, no estimate on the cost of the storm damage to the county.

### RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

### **Small Business Tax Return To-Do-List**

Six ideas to make filing your tax return easier

Consider these suggestions for helping to make tax season smooth sailing this year for your small business:

- 1. Make your estimated tax payments. Tuesday, January 18th is the due date to make your 4th quarter payment for the 2021 tax year. Now is also the time to create an initial estimate for first quarter 2022 tax payments. The due date for this payment is Monday, April 18.
- 2. Reconcile your bank accounts. Preparing an accurate tax return starts with accurate books. Reconciling your bank accounts is the first step in this process. Consider it the cornerstone on which you build your financials and your tax return. Up-to-date cash accounts will also give you confidence that you're not over-reporting (or under-reporting!) income on your tax return.
- 3. Organize those nasty credit card statements. If you use credit cards for your business, develop an expense report for these expenditures, if you have not already done so. The report should recap the credit card bill and place the transactions in the correct expense accounts.
- 4. Reconcile accounts payable. One of the first tax deadlines for many businesses is issuing 1099 forms to vendors and contractors at the end of January. Get your accounts payable and cash disbursements up-to-date so you have an accurate account of which vendors you paid.



- 5. File employee-related tax forms. If you have employees, file all necessary W-2 and W-3 forms, along with the applicable federal and state payroll returns (Forms 940 and 941). Do this as soon as possible in January to allow time to identify any potential problems.
- 6. Review the impact of COVID-19. There are a number of federal and state initiatives that will need to be considered when filing your 2021 tax return. If you received payroll credits for employee retention or have a Paycheck Protection Program loan that needs to be accounted for this year, be prepared with the details. It will be important to correctly account for these funds.

This year, as in years past, returning clients and other groups such as Veterans, Teachers, and First Responders will continue to receive a discount on our services. We are a part of this community and as such, we want to make sure that those who provide us services are recognized.

We will also be continuing to encourage use of our virtual services and will continue best practices for any in-person meetings needed. Please take advantage of our online calendar service to book your 1-on-1 appointment now! Don't hesitate and be late! Call 434-442-4044 or email info@rwftaxservices.com to book your appointment. Please stay safe!

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### **Issues Of High-Density Development Remain The Same:**

- Longer Commute Times, Less Time With Family
- Higher Taxes, Higher Water And Sewer Bills
- Higher HOA Fees And Lawyer Fees for Residents Of Lake Monticello To Protect Tufton Pond
- Higher Costs For And More Demands On Schools, Rescue, Police, & Fire
- Destruction Of Environment & Wildlife
- New Dangerous Entrance On Route 53 Could Be Approved By VDOT

# Email Our Supervisors And Tell Them To Deny Rezoning For Village Gardens

Mozell H. Booker, Fork Union, mbooker@fluvannacounty.org; Tony O'Brien, Rivanna, tobrien@fluvannacounty.org Chris Fairchild, Cunningham, cfairchild@fluvannacounty.org; Patricia B. Eager, Palmyra, peager@fluvannacounty.org John M. (Mike) Sheridan, Columbia, msheridan@fluvannacounty.org Please send a copy to: ruralfluco@gmail.com

### Please Attend The January 19, 2022 Public Hearing At 7 PM

Carysbrook Performing Arts Center, 8800 James Madison Highway, Fork Union Please attend and comment using Zoom if you can't attend in person.

Meeting ID: 868 3180 9748, Passcode: 776941.

### PRESERVE THE FLUVANNA WE LOVE

Ad paid for by: Donna D'Aguanno

### **PVCC** to begin spring semester online

PRESS RELEASE

Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) President Frank Friedman announced today that the spring 2022 semester will begin online. Classes scheduled to start Monday, Jan. 10, will be held virtually the first two weeks, through Jan. 23. No in-person classes will be held during this period. In-person classes are planned to resume Monday, Jan. 24.

In addition, all Thomas Jefferson Adult Career Education (TJACE@PVCC) and PVCC Workforce Services open-enrollment courses scheduled to start between Jan. 10 and 23 are postponed until Jan. 24

or later. Contract training courses scheduled to start between Jan. 10 and 24 will be reviewed on an individual basis.

"The health and safety of our faculty, staff and students is our highest priority. We move to two weeks of remote learning because we believe it is in everyone's best interest. PVCC faculty have considerable experience teaching online and I assure our students that they will receive the high quality education they expect from PVCC. Although PVCC does not require students to be vaccinated, I strongly encourage our students to get vaccinated. It is the best way to protect themselves, their families and the entire PVCC community," said President Friedman.

PVCC leadership has been reviewing CDC and Blue Ridge Health District guidelines, Gov. Ralph Northam's executive orders and projections about the trajectory of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 provided by the UVA Medical Center and other experts. The PVCC leadership team made the decision to adjust the approach for the start of the semester to hopefully avoid a large-scale outbreak during the current surge in Omicron cases.

The college will remain open, academic division offices will be open and all academic and student support services will be available to students in person from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. between Jan. 10 and Jan. 21. Virtual services will also be provided to students as previously scheduled. Beginning Jan. 24, PVCC operating hours will return to the regular schedule. The current PVCC face mask policy requiring face masks inside all buildings remains in effect.

PVCC will continue to actively monitor conditions and provide updates related to PVCC decision-making. To see full details on this announcement and review all Omicron/COVID-19 updates, visit www. pvcc.edu/coronavirus-covid19.

### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

### MLK prayer breakfast

The Rev. Tyrone Mealy, pastor of St. James Baptist Church, will speak at a virtual MLK prayer breakfast set for **Jan. 15** at 10 a.m. and sponsored by the Fluvanna NAACP. For more information visit www.fluvannacountynaacp.com.

### Johnson to speak at ARC

The Kents Store Agricultural Recreation Center (ARC), 111 Kents Store Way, Kents Store is hosting a series of free discussion/presentations on the history of Fluvanna. Tricia Johnson, director of Fluvanna Historical Society will be our first quest speaker on Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. Casual, Free. Bring a refreshment and a neighbor!

### **Mah Jongg players**

Order your 2022 Mah Jongg cards and support Lake Monticello Fire and Rescue by participating in our group order. The National Mah Jongg League will make a donation of \$2.50 per card to Lake Monticello Fire and Rescue when a group order is placed. Cost is \$10 for large print, \$9 for standard print. Deadline is Jan. 29. Call Marianne Riek, 589-9674 to order or for more information.

### 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 Monda**y 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!

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Realtor 434-242-5318



Cyndi Mylynne Realtor, GRI ABR, e-PRO 434-981-4629



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NEWS FROM YOUR LAKE MONTICELLO NEIGHBORS

### **Snowmageddon Halts Life at the Lake**



Snow has never made me sob before, but as I drove around the Lake and in the county last week looking for pockets of connectivity in order to do my job, I was brought to tears. Have you ever seen so much snow destruction? I lost several trees in my yard, none of which hit my house, but

many Lakers were not so lucky. Trees everywhere were bowing to the earth or laid splin-tered like toothpicks. Freshly cut stacks of logs every few feet were the evidence crews had been working furiously to clear roads.

By Tuesday morning, January 4, our Maintenance Team had re-.

ceived over 200 damage reportsMost off ce staff was unable to reach LMOA off ces where power, phones, and internet were out. As a result, many worked from home or were unable to work at all.

However, the Maintenance Team, supporting contractors, LMPD, and Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire and Rescue were working at full force starting Monday morning at 5 AM. Emails with reports of blocked roads flooded the maintenance@Imoa.org email account. Continued on next page...







### **Hot Meals for Cold Crews**

On Tuesday, I visited Denice Flynn and I was so impressed. It was next to impossible to get an update from her as she was constantly on the radio dispatching cleanup crews while simultaneously processing over 200 damage reports. The teams of staff and volunteers worked as quickly as possible to get to your street to ensure every street had at least one exit, but trees continued to fall for days, blocking roads that had already been cleared. The task was enormous, but crews kept

on keeping on in the cold. They will return to clear debris from the easements - this will take months to complete.

The sound of chain saws and ice crashing to the ground continued throughout the week. Neighbors helped neighbors clear trees off of cars, shovel driveways, and checked on each other. Most residents remained supportive and encouraged despite the enormous challenges including hours to days without power and connectivity. To show gratitude to the men and women working in the cold, residents and businesses made food

donations. Among the donations was a hot meal from the owners of Villa Nova.

### **Community Comes Together**

By Wednesday evening, most residents had power and internet. Those still waiting for power could go to The Pub for complimentary coffee and the chance to warm up and charge devices.

As LMOA's Communications Director, I struggled to keep the community informed when the system to send email blasts crashed on

the first day. As a resident, I could move around the Lake looking for connectivity and updated the webpage LMOA.news, Facebook and Instagram as often as possible. We will look into providing text alerts in the future. Thank you all for being so supportive and assisting us and each other during the snow storm. Of course we come together in the best of times, but when we unite in the worst of times it really shows how blessed we are to be part of such a wonderful community. Thank you for being my neighbors!

Written by: Marieke Henry

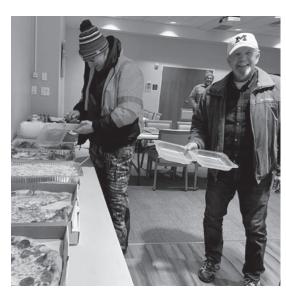












### These are the winners of the Holiday Lights Competition!

The Young Residents and Families Committee received over 65 submissions from the community! We want to thank each and every one who shared their holiday spirit with the rest of the community! It was so much fun to see all the different holiday decorations and glowing lights!

The winners are: First Place: Barbara Carey Second Place: Brandi and **Derek Pendleton** Third Place: Adam Stevens

If you are listed as one of the winners, please email the YRF Committee at:

YRFCommittee@gmail.com to claim your choice of prizes - free golf, free food at the Pub, or a free 10-strip pool pass!

Please join us in congratulating the winners of the 2021 YRF's **Holiday Lights Competition!** 

### Scan to Plan View our January Caldenar!



Content: LMOA Communications Department - Marieke Henry & William Patrick

### CLASSIFIEDS \$5 per Week

0221 or stop by our office at Crofton Plaza Building 106, Suite 1. Payment: In advance. We accept: Visa, Master Card, Discover, checks & cash. For \$10 your ad will appear in the next two issues of the Fluvanna Review. Deadline for print ads is MONDAY BY NOON.

2005 Chrysler: Chrysler PT Cruiser Touring Edition Convertible. Pewter metallic paint with Black top. Custom Chrome rims. Mileage - 145,782. Driver side window does not go all the way up. \$3000. Call 434-960-0599.

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MONTICELLO PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT: Long and Foster office at 3661 Lake Monticello Palmyra, VA. For current home rentals: contact Genevieve at (434) 589-7653 or email: MonticelloPropertiesMgt@gmail.com

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### SPECIAL NOTICES

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

FSPCA SPONSORS NEEDED FOR 2022: Our local animal shelter sends us photos of pets every week that are waiting for adoption. A picture speaks volumes! Your sponsorship can help to find forever homes for a furry four-legged friend. Place your business name, phone number or special message/memorial under the photo. Let animal lovers know you care. Call Edee@(434) 207-0221 or email: edee@fluvannareview. com with question/requests. Thank you.

### HELP WANTED

**COGSWELL STONE:** We are looking for fabricators and installers. Experience is preferred. Salary will be based on experience and position. These are Full Time positions, with Holiday, Vacation and Health Insurance Benefits. Give us a call at 434 589-9661.

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ANIMAL CARE/FLUVANNA CO: Animal sanctuary has 2 open positions. We are seeking hardworking and reliable candidates who want to better the lives of the animals who come to us. Job duties are feeding and cleaning of the animals' living areas. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. One weekend day required. Start @ \$12/hour. Call 434 842-2404 for appointment or email resume to CFCSanctuary@gmail.com.

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Fork Union Military Academy is seeking the following positions. Benefits include a retirement plan, health, dental, life insurance and meals provided depending on the shift. The Academy is a Christian male boarding and day school that attracts students from more than 30 states and 15 foreign countries. The Academy offers our students a college preparatory curriculum in a military-style environment.

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 English Instructor For more information and how to apply: https://www.forkunion.com/employment-opportunities

Dining Hall Staff

Contact Michael Ray 434-842-4390 or mray@sagedining.com

4744 James Madison Hwy. Fork Union, Virginia 23055

### Better Business Bureau warns of COVID-19 test scams

PRESS RELEASE

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is warning people of fraudulent coronavirus tests, vaccines, and treatments as the pandemic continues. According to Centers for Disease Control, since the arrival of the Omicron variant, the increase of testing for COVID-19 has become a concern. Scarcity often leads to potential scams for a product that doesn't exist, the compromise of personal identifiable information, or the increase of deceptive advertising.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) issued a warning earlier this year about potential fraud related to the antibody tests. Scammers are selling unapproved COVID-19 antibody tests, which can give inaccurate results. In doing so, they are also collecting personal information, such as Social Security numbers and dates of birth. They may also be stealing health insurance or Medicare information that can be used in future schemes.

### **How the Scam Works**

Robocalls are sent out to consumers directing them to a website that looks like a clinic or medical supply company offering COVID-19 tests. These tests allegedly identify if a person has been infected with coronavirus - even if they've recovered. Some even promise results in 10 minutes. However, to receive a test, a credit card or a form needs to be completed with personal

In some cases, the test involves an easy at-home testing kit. Other times, the tests are allegedly offered through a clinic. But in all versions, the person or website selling the test is short on details. They aren't willing or able to provide any information about how the test works, where it is sourced, and what laboratory processes it.

Don't fall for it! These tests are not U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved and will not give accurate results. In fact, requestors may never even receive an actual test kit. Either way, scammers will have made off with the money and personal information.

### **How to Avoid Fake Coronavirus Tests**

- · Want a test? Talk to your doctor. Reach out to your healthcare provider. They can help figure out if the test will be covered by insurance and where to find a legitimate clinic. If you don't have a primary care physician, check out the official website of your local health department for more information on testing availability.
- · Research before buying. Scammers put pressure on people to buy or commit without giving them time to do further research. Before agreeing to anything, investigate first. Research any claims the company makes. Start with searching BBB.org to see they are BBB Accredited, have good reviews, and if there are complaints or scam reports associated with their business name. In addition, review the warnings on FBI, Federal Trade Commission, Attorney General's office, and BBB ScamTracker.
- Understand all options: The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has a detailed guide to testing for COVID-19. Understand the different tests available.
- Never share your personal information with strangers. Only make purchases and share your personal information with people and companies you know and trust.
- · Check claims of FDA approval. Per the FBI, "Not all COVID-19 antibody tests have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and their efficacy has not been determined." Check the FDA website for a list of approved tests and testing companies.

### For More Information

If you've spotted a scam, report it to BBB. org/ScamTracker. Your report can help others to avoid falling victim to this con.

### Virginians use caning, weaving to preserve pieces of history

VIRGINIA FARM BUREAU PRESS RELEASE

A few modern-day artists are bringing back the centuries-old crafts of caning and weaving furniture.

Alice Higgins, who opened Higgins Chair Caning in Augusta County in 2005, said chair caning has been practiced in Southeast Asia, Portugal, France and England since the mid-1600s. "The techniques haven't changed much. Weaving requires only a few common tools you probably already have, so you only need the desire, a little patience and some tenacity," explained Higgins, an Augusta County Farm Bureau member.

Her passion for the craft of looping and weaving long, thin strands of cane led her to start her own business. She previously worked for a furniture refinisher and saw a need for weavers. After lots of trial and error, she honed her skills and opened her business.

Now she weaves and sells restored antique furniture to customers from all over the East Coast.

"Woven chairs can fit into any décor," Higgins said. "The craftsmanship is exquisite. It's hard to find the same quality in factory-made furniture."

Tommy Kwesi Asante, owner of The Master's Touch Furniture Service in Fredericksburg, agreed. He said working on caned and woven furniture is about restoring special memories or giving new life to an heirloom passed down through generations.

"When people come pick it up, they feel so

**Public Notice** 

following request:

satisfied to see it in pristine form that's going to outlive them, and they can pass it on," Asante said.

He entered the business in 2014 after immigrating to the U.S. from Ghana with his family. An established wood carver in his home country, Asante learned to cane and weave from the shop's previous owner, who eventually retired and left the business to Asante.

"The most common type of repair is the chair seat," he remarked.

Higgins said each individual chair "dictates the weave for the most part." She explained that holes lining a chair seat's perimeter indicate the seat is hand-caned, one strand at a time.

One of the most common weaving techniques is the seven-step method-weaving cane in vertical and horizontal directions before going diagonal—forming the traditional octagon pattern seen on many antique

Danish cord is a more contemporary look and is woven on the chair frame, creating a basket weave design. Splint is a type of flat material made from rattan reed, ash, oak or hickory that's woven in herringbone or basket weave patterns and commonly seen on Southern porch rockers.

Then there's blind cane.

"It's called blind cane because you don't see it from the back," Higgins explained. "The holes don't come all the way through, and you have to end each strand right there in the hole and peg it as you go."

Asante said fixing caned seats is the final step in the restoration process—the rest of the chair must first be repaired if necessary.

He added there aren't many Virginians caning or weaving, but he believes preserving the ancient art is important.

Edited by Margie E. Burke

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5		8	7			2	

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### **HOW TO SOLVE:**

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

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

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

by Margie E. Burke

### The Weekly Crossword

### **ACROSS**

### 1 Upper crust

- 6 Inside info
- 10 Walking trail
- 14 Outer boundary
- 15 Who follower 16 Nabisco classic
- 17 Strike down
- 18 Loan seekers 20 South Pole
- region 22 Tube-shaped
- pasta Kournikova of
- tennis
- 24 Took off
- 26 Work on a doily
- 28 Rock concert equipment
- 30 Cop's collar
- 31 The "A" in "CAT scan"
- 33 Makes a choice
- 35 Laddie's love
- **39** Lumber along
- or lose ...'
- 41 Ready, willing,
- and 42 Mail away
- 43 Houston slugger, to fans
- 44 Sundae topping
- 45 Ledger entry
- 47 Suffix with beat or neat
- 49 Guggenheim display
- 50 Felt in the gut
- 54 Smooch
- 56 Banded stone
- **57** Earth orbiter 61 Final demand
- 63 Energize (with "up")
- 64 Cut of pork
- 65 "Nebraska" actor Bruce
- 66 Touch up, as text
- 67 Chinese dynasty
- 68 Outdated expletive
- 69 ACT and MCAT

# 65

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### **DOWN**

- 1 Schiaparelli of fashion
- 2 Depict
- 3 Knockoff 4 Saturn's largest
- moon 5 Going on and on
- 6 Borrower's burden
- 7 Grape-shaped

- 8 Understanding
- 9 Make a goof
- 10 Takeover attempt
- we all?"
- 12 Lead and tin allov
- 13 In a fix, slangily 19 Fictional city in
- Tarzan novels
- 21 Engine part
- 25 Nuisance
- 26 Lights-out tune
- 27 Wagon part
- 29 USPS manager 32 Like nicotine, for
- many

- 34 Pricing word
- 36 Sandpaper and such
- 37 Speak unclearly
- 38 Back-to-school mo.
- 40 False friend
- 44 Cast-iron pan, often
- 46 Overflow (with) 48 Mamie's man
- 50 Olympics event
- 51 Dome dwelling 52 Lustrous fabric
- 53 Linney of
- "Ozark"
- 55 Snail trail
- 58 Crime-fighting turtles, briefly
- 59 REI purchase 60 Odds and
- 62 Make sense, with "up"

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

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to dmiles@fluvannacounty.org and any other questions they may be directed to Douglas Miles, Community Development Director at 434-591-1910, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday.

**PUBLIC HEARING** 

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors

**January 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm** 

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2204, a public hearing 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 Board of Supervisors on the

**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 Sec-

tion 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 they are in the Rivanna Community

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held in per-

son and attendees can attend in person, virtually online or by tele-

phone. 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 public hearing

Planning Area and within the Cunningham Election District.

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### **Kents Store ARC gets facelift**

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD CORRESPONDENT



The Kents Store Agriculture and Recreation Center (ARC) has been around for 60 years. Its original purpose related to the tobacco farming in that area of Fluvanna County. Things are much different now and families who have lived in the area for decades see the potential in using the center for other activities that will enhance their community. But work was needed to update the place.

"The makeup and interests have changed quite a bit since its original mission when established over 60 years ago," said Jim Bowles.

It became a community effort and over the past four decades families with deep Fluvanna roots, including the Sheridans, Bowles, and Smiths, have led the way.

"The partnerships with fire departments and local churches, and businesses have been key," he said. "We want to transition from the "go to" social center of the '70s and '80s to more of a community service/educational organization. From dances to education. It needs to mirror the realities of our time. That being said, the arts, including live music would still be high on our list."

A complete makeover of the facility is now complete. Bowles is now looking for various ways to use the facility for the enrichment of the community, whether it is through the arts or education.

"We believe that the ARC can play a role in community development in that through relevant educational programming, we can bring people together in a way that focuses on what unites us, rather than give in to issues that divide us."

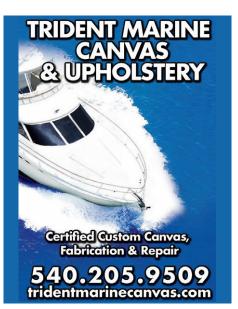
Bowles said they are continuing to generate funds through the low cost rental of the facility to members of the community for family gatherings and celebrations, partnering with other community organizations, including the Kents Store Fire Department, to support their community missions, and Fluvanna Parks and Rec to provide a place for county services, like the senior programs that have been established throughout the county.

"We want to sponsor programs that reinforce and strengthen our community commitment to maintaining a protected rural environment. We want to host educational programs that are fun, and generate broad interest, that people will want come to not only to mingle with neighbors, but to learn something compelling as well."

They are planning to have talks by the Fluvanna County Historical Society, as well as to hold dances and feature local bands. He is hoping once the word gets out, residents will make the effort to come forward and create ways to come together, share and learn. "We would love to hear from folks who have creative ideas about ARC programming, who might be interested in taking on a leadership or coordinating role, or who have a topic they would like to share that might have broad community interest," said Bowles.

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