



Fluvanna

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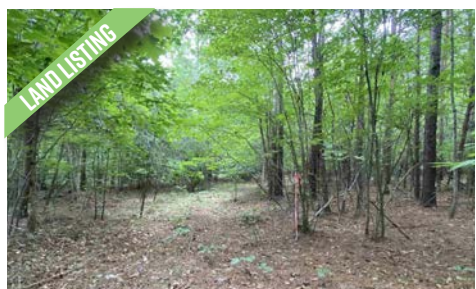


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OUR DATA SPEAKS VOLUMES

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GENERAL

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Fluvanna man to serve 31 years for child pornography convictions

STAFF/PRESS RELEASE



Anthony Roy Ricciotti Jr. Photo courtesy of the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office

A Fluvanna County man will serve 31 years in prison after being convicted of possession and distribution of child pornography and other charges.

Anthony Roy Ricciotti, Jr, 52, who lived in Lake Monticello on Woodlawn Drive, was sentenced to a total of 190 years by the Fluvanna County Circuit Court on Feb. 17, of which 31 years is active, according to the Fluvanna County Sheriff's office. Ricciotti had worked as an information technology contractor for the federal government.

According to the press release from Major David R. Wells, chief deputy, at the sheriff's office:

In October of 2019, the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office received a report from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children through the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force related to the distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) - commonly referred to as child pornography - from within Fluvanna County.

An investigation was initiated to identify the offender. In April of 2020, investigators received additional reports through the FBI in Richmond that were believed to be related cases with additional distribution of CSAM and the investigation continued.

In May of 2020, a search warrant was executed on a residence on Woodlawn Drive inside the Lake Monticello Community of Fluvanna County with the assistance of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Albemarle County Police Department, the Bedford County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Fluvanna County Department of Social Services Child Protective Service Division.

During the search, numerous electronic devices were seized to include comput-

ers, tablets, smartphones, and an elaborate home network with attached storage devices.

Ricciotti was arrested at the scene and charged with six counts of Distribution of Child Pornography. He was held without bond after being seen by a magistrate. As the investigation continued, consultation between the sheriff's office and the Fluvanna County Commonwealth's Attorney resulted in presenting the case to the Fluvanna County Grand Jury where additional charges were placed.

In July of 2021, Ricciotti ultimately pleaded guilty to the charges listed below. He was sentenced to 190 years by the Fluvanna County Circuit Court on Feb. 17, of which he will actively serve 31 years in the custody of the Virginia Department of Corrections.

He was convicted of one count of Possession of Child Pornography; nine counts of Possession of Child Pornography Second Offense; four counts of Distribution of Child Pornography; two counts of Distribution of Child Pornography Second Offense, and one count of Solicitation of Child Pornography to Gain Access to a Group, Association or Assembly of Persons Engaged in Trading Child Pornography. The final count listed - Solicitation of Child Pornography to Gain Access to a Group, Association or Assembly of Persons Engaged in Trading Child Pornography - is the first charge and conviction of its kind in the Fluvanna County community.

The Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office and the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office place a high value on the real and virtual safety of the children in our community. We will continue to vigorously investigate and prosecute crimes of this nature to protect the most vulnerable among us. We encourage parents, grandparents, educators, and anyone responsible for the care of children to educate themselves on safe online practices and to be active in the online lives of the children they are positioned to protect.

Educational information can be located through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues> and through their NetSmartz program at <https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz> which offers information for all ages.



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Odessa Knighting of Troy, will celebrate her 100th birthday on Monday, Feb. 28.

She was born in 1922 in Greene County. She is the mother of five children; grandmother to three generations of grandchildren of which she raised four as her own. Throughout her life she has been known for her kind and loving heart. She still loves the outdoors, gardening, cooking, dancing, and quilting. Her secret to longevity: Never lose the child inside, and you'll never grow old. Laughter is good for the soul.

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

Business Metrics that Have Impact

At the end of the year it is easy to compare revenue, gross margin, and profitability to the prior year and to your business plan. Here are a few ideas of other metrics to consider.

- **Customer acquisition cost.** Divide the total amount of money you've spent on marketing over a set period by the number of new customers you've gained. The result is your cost per new customer, also known as your customer acquisition cost. To get an even better read, divide your marketing costs into two buckets: one you spend on current customers and one for money spent to acquire new ones. Now you have two metrics: customer acquisition cost AND customer retention cost. Compare these figures against prior years to see if you are becoming more efficient.

To go a step further, look at how much each new customer spends on average compared with how much it costs to acquire them. Knowing your rate of return for each customer can help you revise your marketing strategy.

- **Lead-to-client conversion rate.** For many businesses, generating leads is an integral part of the selling process. If this is true for your business, clearly define each step of the sales funnel from lead to purchase. You can judge how successful your sales efforts are over time by calculating how many qualified leads are converted to sales. Remember to use these measures to refine and improve your selling process. Even a tried-and-true conversion process can get tired, but if you are not measuring it you may not know until it is too late.

- **Website traffic.** Use tools such as Google Analytics to find out who is visiting your website, from where, and what they spend the most time on while they're there. You can learn a lot about your potential customers and your market by keeping notes on how your website traffic changes over time and how it reacts to new

content. Just don't get stuck inside this analysis.

- **Seasonality.** Understand and keep track of the seasonal trends for both sales and number of orders by month in your business. This helps manage human resources and cash flow in both busy and slow periods. Examining these metrics for sales and web traffic can help you prepare inventory and staffing for the busy season. It will also help you time the scheduling of technical upgrades and equipment repairs for expected slow periods. You can also use this information to shift seasonality with marketing offers to make better use of your staff during slow times.

- **Cash burn rate.** Keeping a close watch on your cash flow statement as well as your income and balance sheet is the key to keeping your business running smoothly. Simply subtract how much cash you have at the start of the month from what you have at the end of the month. You can then divide your reserves by your cash burn rate to see how many months you can sustain that rate.

A key to the usefulness of this measurement is maintaining a forward-looking financial forecast for the next 12 months. This will help you take timely actions to avoid a cash crunch, such as cutting costs, improving sales or collecting accounts receivable.

Remember that measurements for measurements sake is just busy work. The key to all of them? They need to provide an actionable result for your business.

We continue 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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Clementine came to us as a stray with a lot of thinning hair on her back end, most likely due to over grooming. This can happen out of habit or due to stress. She has been settling well in the shelter so far. Clementine loves her heating pad we give her to help her stay warm from missing so much of her coat. She is not a fan of being handled for very long, but she enjoys getting her head rubbed.

Clementine is spayed and up to date on age-appropriate vaccines and preventatives.



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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Fluvanna Art Association is back in action

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT



Bill Snow. Photo by Page Gifford

Because of COVID, the Fluvanna Art Association has not met for workshops for two years. That changed when members held their first fully attended workshop with watercolor artist Bill Snow on Friday, Feb. 18.

While many members who attended were cautious and masked, they were grateful to be back and learning art techniques. Snow worked his magic with wa-

tercolor, a challenging medium to most, as members circled the table observing artistry in the making.

"Watercolors are challenging but rewarding," he said. "I have painted in other mediums, but this is one I enjoy."

Snow was demonstrating watercolor skies. Methodical in his approach, Snow said he is a deliberate painter as he showed some examples of skies in his work, using various techniques, including wet on wet.

A former graphics designer, Snow began painting in his spare time and took it up full-time when he retired. He has shown his representational work in galleries across Virginia. A member of FAA, Snow is a master of applying what he has learned and sharing it with others.

"Skies are a major portion of any landscape," he said. "It takes me about 15-20 minutes to paint one. Some artists paint nothing but skies." Snow usually uses rough 300lb watercolor paper but said supplies have gotten more expensive. A 22-inch by 30-inch sheet of cold press 300lb watercolor paper can cost upwards of \$30.

For his demonstration, he used the smoother hot press 140lb, which is less expensive. Paper was of interest to members since watercolor papers are hot press, cold press, and rough. Snow, like many artists, use Arches for their paintings. It has been around since 1492 and is ideal for its absorbency and durability. A member mentioned there is now a 200lb paper and Snow added there is also a 400lb paper. The latter can also be used with acrylics.

"Watercolor board will not buckle," he said. Buckling is a concern when painting with water on smoother surfaces. Card stock and Bristol board will not buckle if the water is controlled properly.

"Look at the paper and the pigment, how is it performing. Use your judgment."

Watercolor paints, particularly on the high end, like Windsor Newton, are expensive but Snow encouraged artists not to

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be tentative when using watercolor paint. Even a small amount can go a long way.

"Watercolor dries quickly," he said as he showed various blends of paints with different effects from bright blue skies to a foggy coastline in Maine. "I use three colors in painting skies." Like most watercolor artists, Snow works light to dark whereas in other mediums it is the opposite. Color mixing is not what the novice thinks it is. All skies are not blue. It is varied and Snow used colors like blue and burnt umber. "Be careful when adding too many colors you could get mud."

"I have used a little bit of white paint for highlights but prefer to preserve the white paper." Many traditional watercolor artists prefer to use the white of the paper rather than use white paint for highlighted areas. "I will also mask in an area and uncover it later to preserve the white. White areas always lead to a question regarding erasing.

"Use an X-Acto knife or razor blade to scrape away pigment to expose white areas." It is wise to be careful when doing this on hot press 140lb smooth paper since it is less durable than 300lb cold press, which can take more abuse.

Brushes are an essential tool and Snow uses upscale paintbrushes with bristles made from squirrel hair and beaver hair. He has had some paintbrushes for years.

"These brushes will hold water better than synthetic," he said as he made light sweeping motions with his brush and softly blended other areas. "Keep it moving."

He used a hairdryer to speed up the process but usually lets it dry naturally. "I would suggest you go for it."

Regarding his comment, Windy Payne said to a fellow member, "You have to be brave."

"I like to create spontaneity in my skies," he said as he kept working on blending the colors.

Though Snow uses costly tools, paint, and paper in his work, professionals know these things work to create phenomenal paintings and less frustration in the outcome. But in his wisdom, Snow knows the best thing any artist can do is practice their techniques. In his parting words, "Get a pad of inexpensive watercolor paper and just practice making skies."

Police chase ends in crash at Lake Monticello

FROM LAKE MONTICELLO NEWS

A police chase ended with a crash at 42 Maplevale Drive just after 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb 17, police officials said. The chase began when a Lake Monticello Police Department car was struck on Jefferson Drive by an on-coming vehicle. The suspect vehicle fled, and the officer pursued until the truck skidded into a driveway culvert on Maplevale Drive. At least three police vehicles responded. The driver was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Virginia State Police and Lake Monticello Police Department are investigating, and charges are pending.

Jane Kulow to speak at Fluvanna County Friends of the Library meeting

CONTRIBUTED BY MONA ORANGE

Jane Kulow, director of the Virginia Center for the Book, will be the esteemed guest speaker at the March 2 meeting of the Fluvanna County Friends of the Library. She will be speaking about this year's Festival of the Book that takes place between March 16 and March 20 in Charlottesville and online.

Due to the pandemic, this year's Festival will have both in person and online programs. Ms. Kulow will show attendees how to best navigate the Festival of the Book website (vabook.org) filled with information on programs, authors, and schedules.

Learn how decisions are made about which authors to invite and how they are grouped together for different programs.

The public is invited to the free monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 2, at 10 a.m. at the Fluvanna County Library, 214 Commons Blvd, Palmyra. Please call the library at 434-589-1400 with questions and for most recent COVID-19 guidelines.

The Friends of the Library reserves the right to alter dates and times of Friends meetings. Please check the Fluvanna County Library website for any changes in scheduling. Refreshments are not available.

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FEB 24-MAR 2, 2022 | FLUVANNA REVIEW | 7



Photo by Mimi Moring

Fluvanna Faces: Blair Carter

BY HARVEY J. SORUM
CORRESPONDENT

living in Ohio and North Carolina for 12 years, I've always lived here. I live in Southern Albemarle County now, and I only have to travel a couple of miles to catch Rt. 53 and head for court.

Many attorneys choose an area of the law in which to concentrate their practice - which area of the law did you choose and why?

Family/juvenile law is my main focus now. I chose to practice in that area of the law because it interested me most and I enjoy going to court. I most often serve as a Guardian ad litem for children who are in the midst of custody and visitation disputes, foster care, abuse and neglect, and truancy as well as for those children who are in front of the court for various delinquency matters. I also do some mediation and no-fault divorces.

Why and when would the court encourage the parties to try mediation to resolve their differences?

Mediation is an option for just about any matter that comes through the court. In family law cases, rather than having a stranger who gets to know you and your family for usually just a day deciding what happens until your kids are 18, using mediation lets the people who know their children best come up with the best, or better, solution. I was first trained in

mediation in 1985, and it can be a much less stressful way to settle the case. It also helps the parents be more likely to be able to work with each other in the best interests of their child(ren) when the case is over rather than come out of court bitter enemies.

Is the coronavirus having an impact on your business?

COVID certainly affected my practice as the courts were practically shut down for months, except for emergency cases handled through virtual and appearing by phone. We're still wearing masks in court and social distancing as much as we can. I was lucky to be able to go back to work as much as I wanted to compared to the people who were losing their jobs, homes, health insurance and even their lives.

Why are you in Fluvanna so much?

I really enjoy spending time in Fluvanna County because it's a lot like Charlottesville used to be - you still can get to know your neighbors and it is not (yet) chock full of people or development. The green spaces, access to the Rivanna River, Pleasant Grove and the trails are real bonuses. I try to support Fluvanna activities financially, which has included sponsoring a girls' softball team, having an ad for the Fluvanna County SPCA in the Fluvanna Review since 2011, giving monthly to Caring for Creatures, and contributing at least once a year to the Rose Deborah Altschull Endowment for Youth since it was established in 2008.

The Fluvanna Review is my local source for news about the county and I read it faithfully.

Do you have last words for the readers?

First there are two rules of thumb: 1. Don't assume; and, 2. It never hurts to ask.

Then, always keep in mind: You never know what rocks another person may have in her shoe, so first, be kind.

Finally, when needed, refer back to 1 and 2.

What did you do before you started practicing law?

Before I began practicing law, I worked as a telephone operator, a receptionist in my dad's law office, a summer camp counselor and a child social services worker. Once I graduated from law school in 1984, that's all I've done since. I've cut back to 20-30 hours each week now, and I appear almost exclusively in the Fluvanna Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

Why did you decide to become an attorney?

My becoming an attorney was practically predestined. My father and two brothers were also attorneys, and I joined their office in 1985. My poor mother endured endless years of being cross-examined at the dinner table! I practiced with my family and then in other offices since I returned to the area.

Why did you decide to start your practice in Charlottesville?

I was born and raised in Charlottesville. Except for

Fluco boys open post season play by trouncing Rustburg 75-50

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT



Tipoff. Photo by Deborah Nixon.

The Flying Flucos boys basketball team was too quick and too athletic for the Rustburg High Red Devils who they hosted on Feb. 19 in the opening round of the Virginia High School League post season. They broke to an early lead and were never seriously challenged. Senior point guard Kobe Edmonds had his long ball working for the Flucos as he drained six from beyond the arc. Three of these came in the third quarter when the

Flucos blew the game open, running to a 22-point lead.

The Flucos jumped to a big lead early, scoring the first 11 points of the game. Rustburg was getting some decent opportunities but could not convert early. The Red Devils finally got on the board at the end of the quarter to trail 13-6 at the buzzer. Edmonds had seven and junior guard Bobby Gardner had four.

The outcome of the game was never

really in doubt as the Flucos stretched their lead at halftime to 33-14. In the second quarter, Edmonds had seven again and Gardner contributed six. Junior forward Blaise Silverman had two baskets, one on a nice pass from Edmonds.

In the third quarter, the Flucos sank four threes, three by Edmonds and one by junior guard Lance Bruce. In mid-quarter, Junior forward Kenyon Smith came out of nowhere for a thunderous block of a lay-up that the Rustburg player probably thought was going to be uncontested.

In the fourth quarter, Coach Heath Bralley was able to give his reserves some valuable playing time. In the post season, back-ups often don't get much court time. However, Bralley was not reluctant to make the move, even though he noted that "those three guards (Edmonds, Gardner and Bruce) are hard to take out." He further noted that he believes that his team "has a lot of depth." In the fourth quarter, freshman forward Ben Denby, sophomore guard Chazz Barksdale-White and junior forward Mason Blackburn all got into the scoring column.

Edmonds had one of those games

where the opposition hardly knows how to handle him. He slipped in and out of defenses and suddenly there he was open at the arc, and getting his shot off quickly. He led the scoring for the Flucos with a steady, almost surprising 32 points. Gardner is more flamboyant. When he is open on the break a powerful dunk makes for oohs and aahs from the crowd. He contributed 12 and Bruce chipped in with eleven. Silverman had six. Smith was the leading rebounder with 8 and the Flucos continued to dominate on defense, forcing 19 turnovers and scoring 23 off those turnovers.

Despite the ease with which the Flucos won this game, Bralley was not entirely happy after the game. He said he told his players that, as they move on, they may not be able to get away with some of the defensive lapses he saw against the Red Devils. It was clear that the Red Devils were basically not in the Fluco's league. They were a last team in type of opponent. On Feb. 22, the Flucos traveled to the valley to take on Wilson Memorial High.

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April 23, 2022

Check-in 8 a.m. - Shotgun Start 9 a.m.
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LAKE VIEWS

NEWS FROM YOUR LAKE MONTICELLO NEIGHBORS

Lake Monticello Community Collaborates to Solve LMPD Crisis

Will Lake Monticello keep its private police force? On Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 6 PM in the Fairway Clubhouse, the Lake Monticello community will come together to address this critical question at a Town Hall meeting. The Lake Monticello Police Department (LMPD) cannot continue to operate under current conditions. Members of the Lake Monticello Owners' Association (LMOA) have important decisions to make in order to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

"We are facing a policing crisis at Lake Monticello," said Lake Monticello Owners' Association (LMOA) Vice President Judy Fish at the October Board Meeting. "Several factors have this board looking for solutions. Those factors include a shortage of officers and no police presence on the water."

As a private community police force, the LMPD should provide 24-hour police coverage but cannot meet that requirement due to a staff shortage. LMPD is not alone in its struggle to attract and retain officers. Fluvanna County Sheriff Eric Hess reported that he needed to request additional money in his budget from county administrators in an attempt to increase salaries for his team to become more competitive in attracting and keeping deputies.

Though police salaries in surrounding areas have significantly risen to combat staff shortage, LMOA has not been able to match the pay and benefits of nearby counties, making it an unattractive employer to police officers. Lake Monticello is currently down to five law



enforcement officers; it is budgeted for eight in 2022. Recently, the community has had no LMPD coverage on their streets after 11 PM, but as always, the Fluvanna Sheriff's Department provides backup.

The Security Town Hall is an effort to get feedback and hear potential solutions from LMOA members and many participants are expected to attend. Speakers (LMOA residents only) must sign up in advance by emailing rmathews@lmoa.org. Since October 2021, residents have provided feedback through a special email:

- securitysolutions@lmoa.org.
- Some residents, staff and Board Members would like to see LMPD:
 - perform Water Safety Patrols
 - provide enhanced police presence and response to LMOA
 - match certified law enforcement compensation to that of the area
 - fully-staff LMPD with 8 to 9 law enforcement officers
 - enhance speeding enforcement
 - increase LMPD 2022 Budget and out-year budgets

To accomplish these items, Annual Meeting action will likely be required to increase dues. LMOA staff is in the process of researching estimated costs for potential solutions and will provide the community with details before the Town Hall.

Other potential solutions that have been suggested include:

1. Outsource Security Services
2. Hybrid solution with a mix of law enforcement officers and in-house security civilian personnel while managing to budget.
3. Hybrid solution with a mix of law enforcement and private security officers

LMPD Defined

LMPD is a private police force, which means the officers are certified police officers hired by a non-governmental agency. Though LMPD officers swear an oath to the State and Country, their salaries, training, uniforms, equipment, vehicles, insurance, etc. are paid for by LMOA members. Currently, 11% of annual member dues fund LMPD—that percentage will likely need to be increased.

Like all police officers, LMPD officers must successfully complete Virginia mandated training before receiving State certification as police officers. They are held to the same regulations and standards as regular police officers and have full police power within their jurisdiction which is limited to LMOA property.

- Lake Monticello Police serve LMOA by:
- Supplementing the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office with law enforcement duties

- Improving response time (county officers can take longer to arrive on scene than LMPD)
- Issuing traffic tickets which are passed on to the courts

Contracted Security

Should Lake Monticello move forward with a security services contractor, the contractor's primary responsibility would be to protect LMOA common properties and amenities 24/7 by controlling entrance access, enforcing speed limits, providing seasonal boat patrols, investigating member complaints, etc., using a combination of unarmed guards and armed Special Conservators of the Peace (SCOP) officers. SCOP officers are individuals who are authorized (for example by the County Sheriff) and appointed by a Circuit Court to perform specific duties within a specified territory as defined by the Circuit Court. SCOP officers must complete regular training and re-register annually through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. Complete SCOP training and registration permits officers to carry a firearm, and their duties can include arrests and issuing fines, though most private resident law enforcement matters would be handled by the Sheriff's Department. For more information see

Code of Virginia § 19.2-13 on <https://law.lis.virginia.gov>.

Feedback from LMOA residents is important. Provide input at securitysolutions@lmoa.org or sign up to speak by emailing rmathews@lmoa.org. Follow developments on lmoa.news and in the GM Corner.

Don't Miss March Fun at Lake Monticello



Our Pub, dining events, and golf course are open to ALL of our wonderful County Neighbors! Check out the event calendar on lakemonticellogolf.org. Here's a sample:

- Pub's Live Music**
- 2/25 **Bob Benetta Trio** Charlottesville's finest jazz pianists
- 3/4 **Luchadora** - World's Finest Appalachian Surf Trio
- Pub's Dining Events**
- 3/1 **Mardi Gras Party** 5-8 PM with hurricanes and king cake
- 3/17 **St. Paddy's Day** - Irish Breakfast all day and bagpipers
- Golf Events**
- 3/12 **Lake Monticello's Annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament**
- Spring Jr Golf Clinic** - Open to youth aged 8-14

Jefferson Drive Closures

The removal of storm debris along Jefferson Drive begins in March. Motorists can expect delays as traffic will be stopped in both directions and released about every 10-15 minutes during the clean-up. We appreciate your patience, please plan accordingly.

FCHS Boys Win Region Championship

CONTRIBUTED BY COS DIFAZIO

With strong individual performances and victories in the boys 200 Medley Relay (Jacob Ondek, Gus Jones, Anthony Caruso, Ahmad Woodson) and the boys 200 free-style relay (Ahmad Woodson, Jackson Kinsella, Anthony Caruso, Gus Jones), the FCFS swimmers won their first boys team Region 3C Championship.

Swimming freshman sensation Alexandra Fuller was the only individual event winner for the Flucos in the 100 Freestyle with a blazingly fast time of 52.69. Joining the girls relay that qualified for the state championship were, Vaile Altherr, Ally Lounsbury, Alexandra Fuller, and Anne Charlotte Robinson, who improved over 4 seconds to finish 3rd in the 200 Medley Relay. Vaile Altherr finished 5th in the 100 Backstroke to qualify individually for the state championships while Ally Lounsbury finished 6th in the 50 Freestyle.

FCFS divers who have been consistently improving all year long also made big contributions to the team with John Layne and Sara Beth Robinson both finishing second. Multi-talented senior Jacob Ondek finished 4th in the dive competition, swam on the winning 200 medley relay, and placed 3rd in the boys 50 Freestyle.

Coach Michael DiFazio said "It was a fun season for the Fluvanna swim and dive team! All of our hard work paid off at the regional championship meet. This is the first regional championship in swimming that FCFS has won, I am very proud of all

the athletes on this team. In my 15+ years around the sport of swimming, I have never seen a meet where every individual swim except for one was a personal best. I can not wait to see everyone compete this coming week at states!"

Seniors Anthony Caruso, Gus Jones, and Ahmad Woodson added 2nd place finishes in the 200 IM, 200 Free, and 100 Butterfly respectively. Ahmad also finished 3rd in the 100 Freestyle while Gus finished 4th in the 100 Breaststroke and Anthony finished 6th in the 100 Butterfly. Junior Jackson Kinsella went on to finish 4th in the 100 Backstroke and qualified for the state championships.

The girls 200 Freestyle Relay (Anne Charlotte Robinson, Vaile Altherr, Ally Lounsbury, Alexandria Fuller) and the boys 400 Free Relay (Jacob Ondek, Jackson Kinsella, Tyler Davis, Brandon Watkins) finished 5th.

Coach Mitchell Pace who won the men's coach of the year award for the region said "It was an amazing week for Fluvanna Swim & Dive! The swimmers and divers are peaking at the ideal moment of the season with lots of time improvements and personal bests! Winning the men's regional championship was one of the highlights of my coaching career! I could not be prouder of the entire Fluco team!"

Coach Stacey Fuller loved the team's improvement but wanted to recognize two of the biggest improvements with Anne Charlotte Robinson improving over 38 seconds in the 500 free to finish 8th and Anthony Caruso improving 6 seconds for the exciting 2nd place finish in the 200 IM.

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EVENT

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY: The Fluvanna Farm Bureau Women's Committee is offering (2) \$1000 scholarships to graduating students pursuing a career in agriculture. Interested students can visit <http://fluvannafarmwomen.wixsite.com/scholarship>, for more information.

RIVANNA LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP OFFER: Graduating Seniors at Flu. Co. High School who are planning to attend a 2 yr. college in the fall may apply for \$1000 scholarship. Applications are available from the high school guidance department. Dead line is April 15th. for application submissions.

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FINAL MOVING SALE: Friday, Feb.25, Saturday, Feb. 26 and Sunday, Feb. 27 at 10 Oak Terrace inside the Lake from 10 to 5 p.m. Lg. Freezer -\$50., Dehumidifier -\$20., Lg.dog cage -\$10., New wood chipper - \$50., new Ladder - \$50., Queen size bed w/mattress - \$100., Twin bed - \$50., Washer/Dryer - \$100., End tables - \$25. AND MORE! Cannot take it with me!! Make an offer.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Veteran's breakfast canceled

The central Virginia breakfast meeting, scheduled for **Feb. 26** is canceled in order to follow the recommendation of the CDC, VDH, and the BRHD that people should avoid gathering in large groups indoors unmasked.

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!!

Public Notice



PUBLIC HEARING

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2204, a Public Hearing will be held in the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center, at 8880 James Madison Highway, Fork Union, Virginia for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to appear before and be heard by the Board of Supervisors for the following item:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 2, SEC. 2-2-3(A) OF THE FLUVANNA COUNTY CODE TO DESIGNATE THE BEAVER DAM BAPTIST CHURCH AS THE POLLING PLACE FOR THE PALMYRA DISTRICT, 101 VOTING PRECINCT.

WHEREAS, the Fluvanna Board of Supervisors previously amended Section 2-2-3 of the County Code by two ordinances adopted December 15, 2021, and such prior amendments are subject to the provisions of Virginia Code Section 24.2-129, pursuant to which a certification of no objection has been requested from the Attorney General of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 24.2-129, this ordinance shall not be given effect until the Attorney General of Virginia has issued, or is deemed to have issued, a certification of no objection;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FLUVANNA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the County Code be, and it is hereby, further amended, in Chapter 2, Article 2, Sec. 2-2-3(A), as follows (deletions additions):

Sec. 2-2-3. Districts enumerated; populations and polling places; precincts.

(A) The election districts, with populations and polling places set forth, are as follows:

Name	Population	Polling Place
Palmyra	5255	Palmyra Fire House Beaver Dam Baptist Church
Columbia	5008	Kents Store Agricultural Recreation Center
Fork Union	5496	Fluvanna County Community Center
Cunningham	5098	Antioch Baptist Church
Rivanna	5454	Lake Monticello Firehouse, Maple Room

Precincts shall be known by their respective polling places and shall be coterminous with the respective electoral districts.

(B) In addition to the foregoing precincts, there is hereby established a central absentee voting precinct, which shall be in the office of the Registrar, Palmyra, Virginia. The central absentee voting precinct shall be used for all elections on and after June 1, 2021.

AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FURTHER HEREBY AUTHORIZES AND DIRECTS the County Attorney and County Administrator to submit this ordinance, together with such other and additional information and documentation deemed appropriate by them, to the Attorney General of Virginia on behalf of the Board for issuance of a certification of no objection in accordance with Virginia Code Section 24.2-129.

A map showing the polling place change described in this notice 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. For additional information please contact Caitlin Solis, Clerk to the Board, at 434-591-1910 or csolis@fluvannacounty.org.

All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearing.

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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

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HOW TO SOLVE:

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

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

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

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Flip out
- 5 Farm workers?
- 9 State of disorder
- 14 Yield
- 15 Poet Angelou
- 16 Divide in two
- 17 Engine sound
- 18 Barbell exercise
- 19 September bloom
- 20 Plain folk
- 22 Soft mineral often carved
- 24 Used-car datum
- 26 Pal, in Perth
- 27 Remedy
- 29 Flow stopper
- 32 Organize, in a way
- 35 Shade of blue
- 37 Owl's call
- 38 Kind of colony or code
- 40 Mind-matter connector
- 41 Catch in a net
- 43 Item on a carousel
- 45 Kan. neighbor
- 46 Exhausted
- 48 On the side of
- 49 Like some boat motors
- 53 Sketch
- 57 Make a case for
- 58 Oscar or Tony
- 59 Put in the mail
- 61 "Dark Angel" actress
- 62 Take pleasure
- 63 To ___ his own
- 64 Cost to cross
- 65 Word before school or route
- 66 Squirrel's nest
- 67 Farm females

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

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- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 3 Be of use to | 44 Marching band member | 52 Does a casino job |
| 4 Harass | 47 Discontinued, with "out" | 53 Old Dodge |
| 5 Pacer maker | 48 Pumped up | 54 Pitcher |
| 6 Revolt | 50 Visibly happy | 55 Basalt source |
| 7 Newbie | 51 Moscow money | 56 Eye drop? |
| 8 Pizza topping | | 60 Your of yore |
| 9 Correct by punishment | | |
| 10 Swiftiness | | |
| 11 Type of sax | | |
| 12 Place for a roast | | |
| 13 Arid | | |
| 21 Mover's duty | | |
| 23 Expo structure | | |
| 25 Black lead | | |
| 28 On edge | | |
| 29 Cher, et. al. | | |
| 30 Countless years | | |
| 31 "Encore!" | | |
| 32 Now and ___ | | |
| 33 Top-notch | | |
| 34 Perform poorly | | |
| 36 Grad-school goal | | |
| 39 Theatergoers, e.g. | | |
| 42 Take for a ride | | |

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

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Substation, senior housing requests deferred

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

Two planning and zoning requests were deferred by the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on Wednesday (Feb. 16) after lengthy public hearings that, combined with a budget work session and closed session, stretched the meeting to well over seven hours.

Dominion substation

Dominion Energy requested a special use permit to construct a new power substation at the intersection of Ruritan Lake Road and Branch Road. The facility is part of a project to replace a section of transmission lines and poles in service since the 1920s.

Called the Grapevine Substation, the facility would create little noise, almost no light pollution, and has few regulatory or construction issues. Instead, questions about what might be called "site aesthetics" dominated the conversation.

Bruce Deal, who runs Cunningham Creek Winery along with his wife, Debby, said the substation – which would sit right at the winery's entrance – would be a blow to local agri-tourism.

"We are trying to make a place in the county that's very conducive to visitors who want to see agriculture, not power lines or industrial artifacts," he said.

He noted the irony of Dominion naming the station "Grapevine," when "the owners of the grapevines" don't want it there. While they would prefer the substation not be built

at all, at the very least, "we do want some screening on the right-of-way," to better hide it from view.

Dominion representatives seemed responsive to the requests for screening and other site details, but couldn't commit until speaking with others involved in the planning process.

As a result, supervisors voted 5-0 to defer the matter until the March 16 meeting.

Senior housing

The second hearing of the evening focused on a special use permit request from the Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation (VUMHDC) as part of the proposed 120-unit senior housing project at Village Oaks on Lake Monticello Road.

The permit would raise density from 2.9 dwelling units per acre to 5.0 per acre for two parcels right at the entrance to the Village Oaks development.

VUMHDC director Larry Dickenson said his organization has been in operation since 1975 and has developed or sponsored the construction of nearly 2,000 apartment units in 18 developments across the state, all focused on seniors and lower-income households.

The Village Oaks facility would consist of two three-story buildings offering a mix of studio and 1- and 2-bedroom units, plus indoor and outdoor communal spaces, a gym, and even gardening spaces.

Dickenson said this was not an assisted living facility, but a place where seniors could live independently in a supportive communi-

ty environment. To qualify, residents would have to have incomes at 50-60 percent of average median income, and rent would be offered on a sliding scale.

VUMHDC first looked at the property in January 2021 and purchased the two parcels from Southern Development in August.

Dickenson added that he had heard several people allude to "some closely tied plot of something with Southern Development," during public comments at the Planning Commission, but said their only interaction with the developer was a simple real estate transaction.

Their analysis showed that around 1,100 Fluvanna residents would qualify for the development, potentially allowing more seniors to age within the county. There would be limited impact on traffic, schools, and public safety, and the property could easily add over \$100,000 in annual real estate taxes to the county revenue.

Dickenson said his organization was hoping for board approval so they could meet a March 10 deadline with the state for a 9 percent tax credit; without that, construction could be delayed at least a year or more.

At least a dozen residents spoke during public comments, raising various concerns about the impact the project would have on the Village Oaks community.

While affordable housing and senior housing are a growing concern for the county, as the discussion continued, it was clear there was no consensus among the supervisors to move forward at that time.

Palmyra Supervisor Patricia Eager moved to deny the zoning request, with a second

from Supervisor Chris Fairchild (Cunningham). The vote split 2-2, with supervisors Mozell Booker (Fork Union) and Tony O'Brien (Rivanna), voting to move forward with the zoning request.

This left the deciding vote to Chair Mike Sheridan (Columbia), who said he would rather defer the motion.

"I got too many questions to approve this tonight," he said.

He then abstained, causing the motion to fail.

Eager made the motion to defer action until the November 16, 2022 meeting. This motion passed 4-1, with Fairchild voting no.

Budget 2023

Prior to the regular meeting, the supervisors heard the School Board's budget request for nearly \$20 million in funding from the county.

School Board members approved a \$52 million budget package at their Feb. 10 meeting; they are asking the county to pick up about 42 percent of the total, with the remainder coming from state and federal funds.

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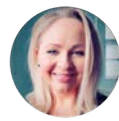


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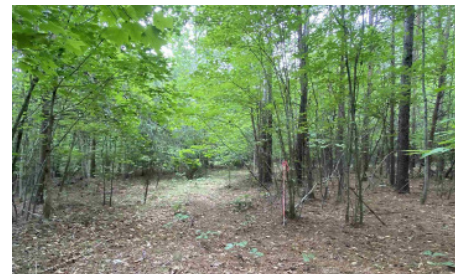
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