

Fluvanna

REVIEW



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OUR DATA SPEAKS VOLUMES

On the cover: Cover design by Amelia McConnell.

DEADLINE Advertising due by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for the issue released eight days later. Submissions, letters and calendar items due by Friday at 9 a.m. for the subsequent paper.

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The *Fluvanna Review* is published weekly by Valley Publishing Corp. and covers Fluvanna exclusively. It is printed on Tuesday mornings. One copy is free. Additional copies are \$1 each payable in advance to the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Copies will be mailed for the subscription price of \$150 per year or \$85 per six months. Please mail a check and a note with your name and address to: Subscriptions Dept., P.O. Box 59, Palmyra, VA 22963. For more information email Edee Povol at edee@fluvannareview.com.

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Contact - Edee@fluvannareview.com, or stop by the office at 106 Crofton Plaza, Suite 1, Palmyra, VA. We can not take ads over the phone. Questions? Call (434) 207-0221. Fee for the new year 2023 is \$10 for 40 word limit and .25 cents per word over limit. Payment may be mailed : P.O.Box 59, Palmyra, Va 22963 or Visa, Mastercard, Discover accepted. Deadline for print ads is MONDAY BY NOON.

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Letters to the editor should be a maximum of 350 words and include the name, phone number and address of the author. The phone number and street address are for the paper's records only. We reserve the right to edit letters to the editor.

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Obituary

Joanette B. Rasnake



nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and many more family and friends.

Joan was a member of the Prater Primitive Baptist Church, since September 1990. She was a kind-hearted and free loving woman. She opened her heart and loved everyone she ever met and everyone that met her loved her as well. She always offered kind words, a deep smile, and a big hug to all her family and friends. She never met a stranger.

Joan was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, niece, co-worker, and friend to many. Her legacy of kindness and love will forever be remembered through our thoughts, memories and love.

Joanette B. Rasnake, 73, of Palmyra, Virginia, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 14, 2024, at her home surrounded by her "little precious" family.

Joan was born on January 7, 1951, to the late Buford and Vivian Blankenship. She was also preceded in death by her sister Valery Sheila Blankenship and brother, Richie Darnell Blankenship.

She leaves behind her loving husband of 48 years, Gary Rasnake; her devoted daughter, Monica "Jo" Reese (Billy); her two granddaughters, Emily Smith (Malachi), and Kelly Reese, all of Troy, Virginia; her sister Debbie Hodges of Bristol, Tennessee; Steve (Connie) of Vansant, Virginia; as well as many

Family and friends of Joan will be accepted to pay their respects on Tuesday, September 24, at 6:00 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 227 Bethel Church Road, Palmyra, Virginia.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 28th, 3:00pm at Big Prater Primitive Baptist Church, 3077 Leemaster Drive, Vansant, Virginia and following Joan will go to her eternal resting place in her family cemetery in Buchanan County, Virginia.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to St. Jude's in Joan's honor.

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harass or defame

discriminate

incite violence

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Trump never even read Project 2025

The writer of your Sept 19 Letter to the Editor, "Educational Concerns" is unnecessarily distressed.

The assertion that a Trump administration would blindly follow the proposals of Project 2025 has been frequently and consistently debunked. The very long document was not commissioned by the Trump team, and he has consistently emphasized that he not only does not adhere to it, he has never read it. This scare-mongering aims to terrify uninformed voters.

The Department of Education is an expensive centralized bureaucracy that has established edicts such as nationwide standardized testing. The budget for 2025 is \$82.4 billion. If that amount were simply re-distributed, just think what each state could do with an extra \$1.65 billion to spend on students. The DOE's 4,150 employees earn a median salary of \$137,881, which is 218 percent higher than the US annual median salary. Why should unelected bureaucrats earn more than the tax-paying parents of the children whose lives they are impacting?

A search for information on the overall federal role in education indicates that 92 percent of education funding is from non-fed-

eral sources. School lunch programs here are funded under the Virginia State's Departments of Health, Department of Education, and Department of Agriculture. Services for our children with special needs or disabilities are served under Virginia's Child Services Act.

The teachers' unions are protected under the National Labor Relations Act, as well as the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment which protects the freedom of speech, assembly, and petition – fundamental rights that are protected under that founding document that some folks wish to discard.

Concerns about Head Start and Title 1 are also unfounded. These are organized and managed by labyrinthine bureaucracies that have grown more entangled and impossible to unwind with each new administration. No worries there – no one understands them well enough to figure out how to manage or change them.

Deciding on for whom to vote should not be based on unfounded assertions. Look at the overall policies, the track records, the commitments, the teams that have been announced, and whether you are better off now than you were four years ago.

-E.D. Campbell, Palmyra

Freedom of speech comes with responsibility

We have a constitutional right to free speech. Our freedom of expression is a profound privilege, and with privilege comes responsibility. It's tempting to claim our freedoms without accepting the responsibility that comes with them.

Free speech comes with the duty to be respectful, civil, and truthful. We have an obligation not to harm others, not to promote racism and xenophobia, and not to incite violence. We have a duty to honor the humanity and dignity of others, even those with whom we disagree.

Social media enables us to communicate instantly with more people than ever, magnifying the impact of our words. However, many see social media as a reason for the declining health of democracy worldwide. According to a Pew Research Center poll, 69 percent of Americans say social media leads to divisiveness and limits the effectiveness of our governing bodies.

So, how do we balance our free speech rights and responsibilities in the digital age? And what should we demand from those who represent us?

With all the potential for good, we see so much negativity. Aren't we all tired of the vitriol? Don't we want civil debate to lead to sound policy decisions? Don't we want our children to see examples of how to disagree without being disagreeable? Do we want to find common ground with our neighbors?

Respectful communication and active listening lead to common ground as we forge compromise and a shared future. Only when we listen can we begin to heal divides and build the bridges our nation desperately needs.

Our words matter. Words inspire creativity, inform, and encourage dialogue. Words are powerful motivators, moving people to laughter, joy, tears, or anger. Words can affirm or destroy, embolden crowds to cheer or jeer, support or attack, right society's wrongs, or incite evil acts.

Our words can be a force for good and a force for evil. Let us be mindful of this power when exercising our freedom of speech. Let's hold ourselves and those who represent us accountable for using this power responsibly.

- Sharon Harris, Palmyra

Speak up

I can no longer just be hopeful that democracy will prevail. It is not enough to just be kind or pray. Listening to what the citizens of Springfield, Ohio are dealing with related to false stories about their fellow neighbors sickens me. That people are allowing candidates for president and vice president to foment such fear and racism and encouraging in such an open way should make it clear

to us all that this is not about Mr. Trump.

He has simply become the socially acceptable way to say things, a few years ago people only said in the sanctity of their homes, churches and places they felt accepted.

It is so important that we speak up when we hear bullying, untruths, etc.

-Donna Johnson, Palmyra

Character matters

As retired U.S. Army Senior Non-Commissioned officers, we believe in character. We believe in integrity and to us that means doing the right thing even when no one is looking. To rise to the top of your chosen profession is normally not a red flag that someone lacks character, but rather the opposite. To rise to the highest enlisted rank requires a person to have good character. We have read estimates that to

rise to the rank of Sergeant Major or Command Sergeant Major is a distinction that less than 1-3 percent of enlisted service members obtain. We know this because both of us were fortunate enough to attain that rank before we retired after 22 and 25 years respectively.

Let us stop here and clarify something. There is a huge misunderstanding about a retirement pay grade and a retirement rank.

Generally speaking, a retiree is entitled to be addressed at the highest rank they held while on active duty as long as they receive an honorable discharge and have no reduction in rank through the military justice system. The retirement pay grade is the grade you are assigned on receiving permission to retire from the military. These are not always the same. To retire as an E-9 comes with some service and education requirements, that if not met, would have a Command Sergeant Major retire at the pay grade of an E-8.

This is not that unusual, as from the time one receives the notification that they are going to be promoted, and the actual promotion can cover a lot of time, and a lot can change in a person's life over that ensuing period of time. Couple that

with a lack of seats at the required USA Sergeants Major Academy and it is not hard to imagine why someone would choose to retire at a lower pay grade.

We believe that CSM (USA RET) Tim Walz, is a man who by his service of over 24 years to our county and his selection to Command Sergeant Major has demonstrated he is a man of character - a man who puts service to others as a major part of his being, as evidenced by his decades of service to our nation and to the state of Minnesota. Tim Walz is a man we trust to put the nation's well-being ahead of his own desires.

-CSM (USA RET) Catherine Garcia and SGM (USA RET) Rudy Garcia, Fork Union

RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

Cash In on 0% Capital Gains Tax Rate



If you're interested in minimizing your tax obligations and maximizing your savings, consider the helpful tips and ideas you'll find in this newsletter.

While the maximum capital gain tax rate can be as high as 23.8 percent, most taxpayers pay 15 percent. But there is the possibility to have your capital gains go tax-free. In fact, this tax break comes into play more often than you may think. Here is what you should know:

Qualifying for the 0% capital gains rate

You qualify for long-term gain treatment if you sell stocks, bonds or real estate (and other capital assets) you've owned longer than a year.

For 2024, the zero percent rate applies to long-term capital gains for single taxpayers with taxable income up to \$47,025 and married filing joint taxpayers up to \$94,050. The zero percent rate can apply if you're having a low income tax year due to:

- Temporary job loss
- A tax loss passed through to you from an S corporation or partnership
- Income fluctuation for a commission-based job
- Retirement
- Moving to part-time employment

But you could also have a higher income and qualify for this zero percent rate. For example, if a married couple earns \$123,250 in 2024, their taxable income would equal the

\$94,050 zero percent rate threshold after subtracting the \$29,200 standard deduction for a married couple.

Awareness is the key

While you may not always have the zero percent capital gains tax rate available to you, it is important to note when it comes into play.

Here's an example: Adam and Eve Johnson recently retired. They have a number of mutual funds they've owned for years and have retirement savings accounts. Their current income is \$58,700. Should they withdraw money from a retirement account or sell some of their mutual funds? Because they're aware of the zero percent capital gains, they decide to sell mutual funds with \$25,000 in capital gains to get the money tax free!

Plan your own tax moves

So keep the zero percent capital gains rate in mind as the year winds down. Know your projected income for the year and depending on your situation, you might realize capital gains that are subject to no or lower tax rates. Remember other factors often come into play, including paying tax on Social Security Benefits, so call if you would like a review of your situation. Call us at 434-442-4044 or email info@rwftaxservices.com if you would like to discuss how any of this information relates to you. If you know someone that can benefit from this information please share the Fluvanna Review with them!

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Fluco football team flies past Chancellor High

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT

After a bye week, the Fluvanna High football team under Coach Mitchell Pace traveled to Fredericksburg on Sept. 13 to take on the Chargers of Chancellor High. The Fluco offense clicked throughout. The halftime score was Fluvanna 22, Chancellor 0. The Chargers made a slight comeback in the second half, but it was still a two score win for the Flucos.

The Flucos rushing game was dominant as they rolled up 170 yards on the ground. Running back Logan Wade did most of the damage with an impressive 139 yards rushing and a touchdown. He also had three receptions for 112 yards and a score. The Flucos gained 187 yards in the air on the arm of quarterback Will Lambert. Tight-end Benny Denby had 42 receiving yards and running back Sam Loving had 33 receiving yards. Loving and Lambert both had rushing touchdowns.

The defense helped the Flucos put the game away in the first half. Leading the defense was Kyle Harris who recorded 12 tackles and forced a fumble. Caden Harris was also a big contributor with eight tackles, two for loss and a quarterback sack. Dakota Drumheller had five tackles, a sack and two forced fumbles, one of which resulted in a safety. CJ Johnson pitched in with four tackles and a quar-

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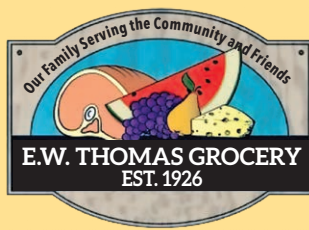


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terback sack. Two of his tackles were for a loss. DeAndre McCloud had four tackles and an interception. These are impressive overall statistics that demonstrate a balanced defense.

The decisive win upped the Flucos' record to 1-1. They traveled to Buckingham County on Sept. 20, and they will

play their first Jefferson District contest on Sept. 27, at Charlottesville. A home contest is scheduled for Oct. 4 against Albemarle High, a significantly larger school. On Oct. 11 they will travel to Crozet to play Western Albemarle and on Oct. 18 they will play their homecoming game against Orange County.

The third annual Women's Refresh help Fluvanna women

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluvanna Chamber will sponsor the third annual Women's Refresh at Camp Friendship on October 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"The Women's Refresh was created as a way for women in Fluvanna to have a one-day reset, re-focus, or refresh from the daily humdrum of activities," said realtor Kristal Harris. She adds it is not just for businesswomen but anyone who would like to benefit from the networking, discussions, massages, and mindfulness. The featured speaker will be full-time mother and entrepreneur SaraEllen Bagby, also known as Sara B The Coach.

One day of refresh can help but returning to the grind of daily living will quickly wipe away any benefit. Finding time each day to de-stress can help women achieve better physical and mental health, restore energy levels, and increase self-esteem. As little as five minutes of meditation, yoga, or walking during the day can help boost metabolism, lower blood pressure, ease muscle tension, and slow heart and breathing rates. Yet, with everything women do daily, taking time for themselves is viewed as a luxury, not a necessity. With all the demands, work, family, and children, putting themselves first is not an option. But getting burned out and exhausted will not accomplish anything either.

The seven self-care methods are mental, emotional, physical, environmental, spiritual, recreational, and social. Taking time off to attend a one-day event, like the Women's Refresh, can help

to focus on self-care and how it positively impacts mental health. Practicing what is discussed daily can help reduce anxiety, boost mood, and improve overall emotional balance. Whether it's through meditation, therapy, or simply resting, daily breaks can help with mental clarity.

A wellness day can be used to focus on physical health, whether it's through exercise or yoga. It gives women the time to recharge their bodies, increasing energy levels and long-term health benefits. Taking a hike with others at Camp Friendship is an option for nurturing the physical being.

Wellness days help promote a healthier work-life balance. For women managing careers alongside their personal lives, wellness days can make women more productive and happier at work and home. Taking time to focus on themselves while stepping back from daily routines can allow women to reflect on their personal goals, values, and priorities. This prevents being overwhelmed, leading to better decision-making, more purposeful living, and a stronger sense of fulfillment. It also helps make human connections stronger. When women are happier where they are in the moment, they share that with others.

"It truly is a day to relax, listen, network, and have fun and I might add the luncheon menu looks amazing," added Harris.

For more information and to register visit www.fluvannachamber.org or call 434-589-3262.

Happy Face Party celebrating 50 years

PRESS RELEASE

Fluvanna Christian Services Society (FCSS) is a nondenominational charitable organization representing many local churches and a multitude of concerned citizens of Fluvanna County. FCSS was originally started because they saw a need in the county that was not being met by other organizations. Since it was established in 1974, FCSS has sponsored the annual Happy Face Party to make Christmas a little more merry and bright for our Fluvanna neighbors. FCSS partners with social services, Region 10, and health services to assure qualifying families in Fluvanna County have a happy holiday. This year will be 50 years of vol-

unteers gathering donations, staging the holiday party with Santa, distributing toys, winter jackets and pajamas.

The Happy Face party can only be a success because of volunteers who are willing to lend a helping hand. Volunteers are needed to help our toy, jacket and pajamas coordinators, shop, and sort and inventory these items. Volunteers are needed for the party itself. This year the party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14. If interested, please email Mary Kidd at marrykidd01@gmail.com.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Dropped, as in the polls
- 5 This-and-that dish
- 9 Country singer Hill
- 14 Tie up
- 15 Obsessed with
- 16 Listlessness
- 17 Telltale sign
- 18 Photo's focal point
- 20 Section of Manhattan
- 22 Salad follower
- 23 A Kardashian
- 24 Devours
- 26 Towel inscription
- 27 Beer after a shot
- 30 London length
- 32 Slithering danger
- 34 Childishly silly
- 38 Valuable rock
- 39 Leaching product
- 40 Not online, to a texter
- 41 ___ & Bradstreet
- 42 Symbol on the "5" key
- 44 Low-traffic street
- 46 Scents
- 48 Undercover ops
- 49 Go yachting
- 52 Heist haul
- 54 Superlative suffix
- 55 "Happy Days" malt shop owner
- 57 Prep period
- 61 Brooklyn's locale
- 63 Caustic chemical
- 64 Set right
- 65 Like cupcakes, usually
- 66 Vampire's weapon
- 67 Challenges
- 68 Nov. honorees

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17				18				19					
20				21				22					
		23			24		25		26				
27	28				29		30			31			
32						33		34			35	36	37
38				39				40			41		
42				43				44			45		
				46				47		48			
49	50	51			52			53		54			
55				56			57		58			59	60
61						62				63			
64						65				66			
67						68				69			

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DOWN

- 1 Tart plum
- 2 Mongolian monk
- 3 Michelle Kwan, e.g.
- 4 Doc Holliday was one, briefly
- 5 Stereo system
- 6 Positive pole
- 7 View on Hulu, say
- 8 Tiller's tool
- 9 Maidenhair, e.g.
- 10 Bar request
- 11 Harden
- 12 Radio feature
- 13 Tannery inventory
- 19 Silent signals
- 21 Got a whiff of
- 25 Lukewarm
- 27 Trim, as a photo
- 28 Tortoise racer
- 29 Debbie or Ryan
- 31 Like siblings
- 33 Back-in-style style

- 35 Exactly alike
- 36 Breathing apparatus?
- 37 They may be loose or split
- 43 Atomizer scent
- 45 Spinning wheel attachment
- 47 Comfort
- 49 Caesar, for one
- 50 Bakery output
- 51 Word with ear or peace
- 53 Dogma
- 56 Pot covers
- 58 Tosses in
- 59 Fielder's cry
- 60 Place for a fringe
- 62 Roman 54

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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

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

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MLS# 656750 • 0.56 Acs • \$499,900

Price Reduced!

Open House Sat 10-12



32 WILLOW DRIVE, KESWICK, Fieldstone, Fluvanna Co
3 BR, 2 Baths, 1910 fsf, 1012 ufsf basement (3 Rooms for Future Expansion), Lg 2-car Garage & Detached. Garden Shed. Lovely one-level Ranch in highly desired neighborhood between C'ville & Zion Crossroads. Easy access to I-64. Located on Cul-de-sac. NO HOA DUES or thru traffic. FLEXIBLE FLOORPLAN w/split BR Design.
MLS# 655886 • 2 Acs • NEW PRICE: \$ 449,900

Active

Open House Sat 1-3



1537 BLACK CAT ROAD, KESWICK, Albemarle County
4 BR, 2 Baths, 2241 fsf RANCH w/full Basement, 1-Car Garage in back, basement level. PRIME LOCATION w/Convenient Access to Rt 250 & I64. LOT OFFERS TOTAL of 7.47 acs w/ 3 DIVISION RIGHTS. Home Needs Full Renovations & TLC, NEW SURVEY AVAILABLE shows house w/wide road frontage on 2 acs and Access Easement. to back 5.47 timbered acs for Future Horse Farm or 2 add'l homes! SO MANY OPTIONS for the right Buyer!
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Kennel cough hits shelter

Fluvanna SPCA urgently requesting dog foster homes

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluvanna SPCA is urgently calling for residents willing to foster dogs as they deal with an outbreak of "kennel cough" at their facility on Union Mills Road.

Mycoplasma cynos is a bacteria that leads to a respiratory infection in dogs. It is transmitted through droplets as the dogs cough and sneeze and can spread quickly in the close confines of a shelter.

The SPCA says that most dogs will recover without medication, but a few will require antibiotics.

In the meantime, they need to stop the spread.

"We are doing our best to isolate the sick dogs, but unfortunately, we are strugg-

ling to have the room to properly isolate the sick from well dogs," the shelter said in a weekend Facebook post.

Removing the symptom-free dogs from the shelter is the best way to bring the outbreak to an end.

"If you have no dog at home, we would be very happy if you could foster one of our symptom-free dogs. As a foster, you are provided what you need to care for the dog as well as any medical needs."

To learn more about fostering a dog, call the Fluvanna SPCA at (434) 591-0123. You can also visit their website and fill out a foster application at <https://www.fspca.org/foster>

Horace Jefferson Scruggs, III auditorium dedication ceremony set

PRESS RELEASE



spent in Fluvanna) Scruggs became a fixture in many students' lives as the one who inspired them not only in music, but also as an influential and positive role model for their lives.

As a Fluco teacher, he always brought professionalism to the table and strived to unite the Fluvanna community and schools throughout his career. His desire to bring to the forefront stories of the African-American experience through song, dance, and speech helped to foster an enthusiasm for a rich and varied culture. The Fluvanna community has been made that much better for the strides taken by Scruggs throughout his career.

The Fluvanna County High School auditorium will be named for lifelong educator and Fluvanna community member Horace Scruggs.

A dedication ceremony for the *Horace Jefferson Scruggs, III Auditorium* will take place on Sunday, Sept. 29 from 3-4 p.m. at the high school. Friends, former students, colleagues, and community members are invited to attend.

During his 35 year teaching career (29

Growing up as a student in Fluvanna County Public Schools, Horace served as a choir member under then director Jeff Suling. From that point forward, Horace left an indelible mark on the school system, the community, and the countless students who continue to flourish due to his educational and personal leadership.

Community Calendar

Community calendar items must be under 50 words and will run only once a month.



G.I. style breakfast

Central Virginia Veterans will be holding their monthly 'G.I. style' breakfast on **Sept. 28** at 8:15 a.m. at Wahoo BBQ & Grill, Slice Road Gate, Lake Monticello. Cost - \$12 per person (cash only please). Veterans and spouses/friends are welcome. Questions? Contact Paul Bethke (703) 965-8363.

Music Series

St. John's Episcopal Church, Columbia will wrap up this year's music series with a performance by the Sleepy Hollow Bluegrass Band on **Oct. 6** at 3 p.m. Admission is free.

Farmers market

The Farmers Market is back! **Every Sunday**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., outside of ACE Hardware Store at 101 Crofton Plaza, in Palmyra.. Live music, food trucks, vendors. Email fluvannacountyfarmersmarket@gmail.com or contact Peggy Shanklin at 434-962-2762.

Food Bank

Fluvanna MACAA Food Bank is located in the old Carysbrook High School. To get food from the food pantry bring a photo ID as proof of Fluvanna residency. Open: **Monday through Friday**, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. To donate directly to the food bank call 434-842-2521 to find out which foods are most needed. Cash and food donations gratefully accepted.

Supervisors approve 2015 Comp Plan; talk dogs, schools and housing

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the re-adoption of Fluvanna's 2015 Comprehensive Plan at its meeting Wednesday night (Sept. 18).

The Comprehensive Plan is a master document that guides a county's physical development. It is required under the Code of Virginia and must be renewed at least once every five years.

Fluvanna had planned to develop an updated Comp Plan in 2020, but COVID and other issues made it impossible to complete within that time frame.

With the county now out of compliance with the State code, the plan is to renew the 2015 Comp Plan with minor modifications to chapters on land use, economic development, and historic preservation – and immediately restart the process.

Planning Director Todd Fortune said it will likely take 12-18 months to complete.

Dangerous dogs

County Attorney Dan Whitten introduced potential amendments to the County Code related to controlling "dangerous and vicious dogs."

Many measures are designed to bring the county into compliance with the State Code, which has changed considerably since Fluvanna's ordinances were last updated in 2015.

Among other provisions guiding how

the courts treat cases, the new amendments could require dogs declared dangerous by the courts to be chipped, spayed or neutered, and require owners to carry up to \$100,000 in liability insurance in case of dog bites or attacks.

A public hearing is scheduled for October 16.

School funding

The meeting started with a lengthy discussion over school appropriations.

County Administrator Eric Dahl gave a presentation on the two major ways money can be allocated to the schools each budget year: total funding and funding by major category classifications.

Total funding, the county's long-used method, means that the schools are given a lump sum at the start of the fiscal year, and the School Board then allocates those funds to cover operations, capital outlays, and debt service.

As the name implies, funding by major category would allow the supervisors to allocate funding by specific, defined budget categories rather than a lump sum. While the supervisors would not be able to control line items within the school budget, it would give them more oversight, as the School Board would need the Board of Supervisors' approval to shift funds between major categories.

According to the Virginia Association of Counties (VACO), about 56 percent of counties use "total only," and 44 percent

use major categories.

Asked about the impact of changing to a major categories process, Superintendent Peter Gretz said, "It would do very little to impact my job... It would probably have even less impact on school operations. There would be some added administrative work to about four folks in the finance office."

In his estimation, the schools made a couple of category transfers each year, usually in small amounts, to cover unexpected costs like increases in insurance or fuel.

He did believe there were some potential downsides to moving to categorical funding, a move that, in other districts, often stems from distrust between the two boards.

The supervisors said they had trust in Gretz, his administration, and the School Board.

At the same time, they were clearly interested in the concept of having more oversight over the school budget.

Chris Fairchild (Cunningham) said it was odd to him that the county does things one way with the schools and a different way with the county departments, especially given that school expenditures make up around half the county's annual budget.

He pushed back on the argument that the School Board is the same as the Board of Supervisors. "One group asks for the funding. The group they ask for

the funding from is the one that tells all the shareholders—the taxpayers—here's what we're going to take out of your paycheck," he said. "We have accountability to the taxpayer that the school board doesn't."

"If we're talking \$50,000 or \$100,000 on an \$80 million budget, why are we putting in additional levels of work?" Tony O'Brien (Rivanna) argued. "We've got enough stuff to do."

Gretz encouraged the supervisors to reach out to school districts that have changed methods and ask them about their experiences.

"I think right now we have a great working relationship between the two boards, and there's great communication," he said. "I would hate for something to be communicated to the public that schools are doing something they shouldn't do with their money."

Fairchild later stressed that their responsibility was to focus on best practices and accountability.

"We can't control how it's interpreted," he said. "That would be on whoever puts that message out there."

There was no motion for a vote, and supervisors didn't explicitly indicate they wanted to move forward with exploring a shift to categorical funding. Mike Goad (Fork Union) asked Gretz for data on categorical shifts in the past 3-5 years to better understand the issue.

Supervisors continues on page 15.

Fluvanna County Arts Council Presents

Chicken Head Blues Band



October 12 at 7:00 pm

Experience Charlottesville's premier New Orleans boogie-woogie, upbeat rhythm and blues band, **Chickenhead Blues Band**. These talented musicians deliver classic blues with a funky twist, creating a musical experience you won't want to miss.

Raised/Razed



November 23 at 3:00 pm

Join us for a screening of the documentary **Raised/Razed**. The award-winning film tells the story of the Vinegar Hill community through interviews, historical records, maps, and photographs. For 100 years, Vinegar Hill thrived as the center of business, education, religious, and cultural life until—like hundreds of Black communities across America—it was destroyed. A discussion with the filmmakers will follow the screening.

8880 James Madison Hwy
Fork Union, VA



\$10 tickets are available online at www.carysbrook.org.
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Jefferson Speedboat Live

Friday, September 27th, Hardware Hills Vineyard 5:30-7:30
Saturday, September 28th, Fluvanna Family Fall Festival 12:00-2:00

Jefferson Speedboat is a 5-piece cover band based in Lake Monticello, Virginia. Their unique blend of rock, folk, and blues influences creates a captivating musical experience that keeps audiences coming back for more. Get ready to rock the boat with Jefferson Speedboat!

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THIS WEEK'S PET MICKEY



Meet Mickey! This big baby is a total love bug. He has won over the hearts of the staff, volunteers, and his foster family with his sweet nature. Mickey was surrendered to the shelter because his former owners could not afford his health care. He has been in an amazing foster home since March. According to his foster mom, he has been warming up right away with new visitors, and absolutely loves people! Once he feels comfortable, he bonds quickly! He is also house trained, crate trained, walks well on a leash, and has learned some basic obedience as well as a few tricks with ease! Mickey is also a dog that wants to engage and loves treats which has made him easy to train. Mickey has done well around his foster family's dog as well as other neighborhood dogs. He is neutral to all of them with the exception of one female hound that brings out his playful side! However, he is not a fan of cats and will go after them if given the opportunity. Mickey is microchipped, neutered, and up to date on all his age-appropriate vaccines and preventatives. **Since being with us for more than 6 months, we consider him one of our Lonely Hearts which makes his adoption fee FREE thanks to a generous donor!**

Fluvanna SPCA 5239 Union Mills Road Troy, VA • 434-591-0123 • www.fspca.org

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PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors
October 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 15.2-1427 and 15.2-2204, a Public Hearing will be held in the Fluvanna County Circuit Court, at 72 Main Street, Palmyra, VA 22963 for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to have the opportunity to appear before and be heard by the Board of Supervisors on the following item:

ZTA 24:04 – Ordinance to amend and reordain “Code of the County of Fluvanna, Virginia” by amending § 22-2-1, enacting §§ 22-3-1 through 22-3-5.4 and enacting §§ 22-28-1 through 22-28-25 to create a Solar Zoning District and to add supplemental regulations for utility scale solar generation facilities

Copies of the complete text of the above ordinance is available for public review at <http://www.fluvannacounty.org/> and at the Office of the Fluvanna County Administrator during normal business hours. Questions may be directed to the Planning & Zoning Department at (434) 591-1910. Interested persons may submit written comments prior to the scheduled public hearing to planning@fluvannacounty.org. All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearing.



PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors
Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-1427, a Public Hearing will be held in the Fluvanna County Circuit Court, at 72 Main Street, Palmyra, VA 22963 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:

Ordinance to amend and reordain “Code of the County of Fluvanna, Virginia,” by repealing § 4-2-3 and enacting §§ 4-2-3.1 through 4-2-3.6 relating to the control of dangerous dogs, obligations following a dangerous dog finding, violation of law by the owner of a dangerous dog, and penalties for a vicious dog to conform with the Virginia Code.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is available for review by the public on the County’s website and in the office of the County Administrator during regular office hours.

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



PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Board of Zoning Appeals
Tuesday, October 15 2024 at 7:00 pm

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2204, a public hearing will be held in the Morris Room of the Fluvanna County Administration Building, located at 132 Main Street Palmyra, VA 22963 for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to be heard by the Board of Zoning Appeals on the following request:

BZA 24:02 – Clyde Nuckols: A request for a seventy-five (75) foot Variance to Section 22-4-3 (E) (2) of the Fluvanna County Code to allow for the reduction of the minimum front setback from one hundred (125) feet to fifty (50) feet, and a request for a thirty (30) foot Variance to Section 22-4-3 (F) of the Fluvanna County Code to allow for the reduction of the minimum side yard from fifty (50) feet to twenty (20) feet with respect to 3.4 acres of Tax Map 3, Section 30, Parcel 6. The subject property is zoned A-1, Agricultural, General, and is located in the Zion Crossroads Community Planning Area and in the Palmyra Election District.

The meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be in person and instructions for public participation during the meeting will be made available on the Fluvanna County website: www.fluvannacounty.org Interested persons may submit written comments prior to the scheduled meeting to planning@fluvannacounty.org or call 434.591.1910, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday – Friday or visit the County Administration Building at 132 Main Street Palmyra, VA 22963.

Human remains found in Buckingham County

The Buckingham County Sheriff’s Office along with State Police are investigating human remains found in Buckingham County on a property off C.G. Woodson Road about 2 miles south of Breomo Bluff in Fluvanna County, according to Cville Right Now.

Authorities were notified around 6:30 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 21) by a caller that they had found the remains.

The remains were transported to the chief medical examiner in Richmond for identification and cause of death.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Virginia Self Storage Act 55-419 Zion Crossroads Self Storage will sell at public auction, to satisfy the lien of the owners, personal property contained in 14 units located at 659 Better Living Drive, Troy VA 22974.

The auctions will take place & be advertised on www.StorageTreasures.com, Beginning at 11 am on October 2, 2024 and ending at 3 pm on October 16, 2024. All bids are online only. View ZXRSS auctions: <https://www.storagetreasures.com/facilities/homepage/45900>

Purchases must be paid in full with cash at the facility referenced above in order to complete the transaction. The defaulted tenant has the legal right to cure the account therefore canceling the auction, up until the cash payment has been received from the winning bidder.

Public Notice – Environmental Regulatory Variance

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on the tentative decision by the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to grant a variance to regulatory requirements of the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) regarding the proposed Breomo Bluff Fossil Fuel Combustion Products (FFCP) Management Facility in Fluvanna County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 26, 2024, to October 26, 2024

PERMIT NAME AND NUMBER: Breomo Bluff FFCP Management Facility, SWP 627

VARIANCE PETITION APPLICANT: Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia (Dominion Energy)

FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Breomo Bluff FFCP Management Facility, 2134 Breomo Road, Breomo Bluff, VA 23022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Dominion Energy has submitted a petition to the Director for a variance to the requirement of 9VAC 20-81-120.C.1.b. that requires no disposal unit or leachate storage unit to be closer than 100 feet from any perennial stream or river. During the development of the proposed facility, two sections of perennial streams will be impacted. Dominion Energy asserts that the stream impacts would not result in an unreasonable risk to public health or the environment based on a thorough alternatives analysis and impact evaluation included in the Joint Permit Application submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) and has secured the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Individual Permit from DEQ and Section 404 Permit from the Corps for the impact of the streams. This petition has been submitted consistent with the requirements of 9 VAC 20-81-760.A. The tentative decision to approve this petition for a variance is based on information submitted to the Department.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the variance petition at the DEQ office named below.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Mr. JengHwa Lyang, Ph.D., P.E., Solid Waste Permit Writer, Valley Regional Office, 4410 Early Road, P.O Box 3000, Harrisonburg, VA 22801; Phone: (540) 830-8837; E-mail: jenghwa.lyang@deq.virginia.gov

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Contact - Edee@fluvannareview.com, or stop by the office at 106 Crofton Plaza, Suite 1, Palmyra, VA. We can not take ads over the phone. Questions? Call (434) 207-0221. **Fee for the new year 2023 is \$10 for 40 word limit and .25 cents per word over limit.** Payment may be mailed: P.O.Box 59, Palmyra, Va 22963 or Visa, Mastercard, Discover accepted. Deadline for print ads is MONDAY BY NOON.

EVENTS

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: In celebration of St. Frances' Feast Day, please bring your furry friends on Saturday, October 5th, at 3: p.m. to Grace & Glory Lutheran Church, 683 Thomas Jefferson Pkwy. (Rte 53), Palmyra, VA. Pets need to be pet and animal friendly and contained with leash or carrier. Animals in absentia for any reason - bring a photo. Small children are welcome to bring stuffed animals! Service expected to take half an hour. We hope to see you there.

FLU CO AMERICAN LEGION POST 2003: is having their annual Golf Tournament on MONDAY, September 30, 2024 at the Lake Monticello Golf Course. Signup forms available at the golf Club House or at www.alpost2003.org, under Special Events. Proceeds used to support Veterans and Youth Programs.

FOR SALE

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Lake Police Put Stop to Contractor's Scam

The Lake Monticello Department of Public Safety congratulates Officer Jim Mooney for his hard work on multiple construction fraud cases. Officer Mooney investigated construction fraud complaints from five Lake residents whom the same contractor defrauded. Mooney, working with the Fluvanna Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, was able to successfully indict the contractor on multiple felony fraud charges as well as contracting without a license. On September 12, 2024, the contractor pleaded guilty to multiple counts in Fluvanna Circuit Court. He was sentenced to three years in prison, was ordered to pay over \$70,000 in restitution, and had several other conditions placed upon him. LMOA thanks Officer Mooney for his diligence in putting these cases together and protecting other Lakers from further fraud. This is an excellent reminder to make sure you use licensed contractors. You can check to verify that your contractor is licensed by visiting the VA Department of Professional and Occupational Regulations License Lookup. Virginia Law requires that any person performing construction, removal, repair, or improvement projects over \$1,000 hold a valid contractor's license.

LMOA Board Receives Fireworks Survey Results

At the LMOA Board Meeting on September 26, the Board of Directors (BOD) will once again hear from the Director of Public Safety, Chief Wells, who will request that

the 2025 fireworks show at Lake Monticello be canceled. He also plans to share the LMOA fireworks survey results and summarize an opinion received from legal counsel. It is an LMOA tradition to provide the community with a fireworks show on or around Independence Day. However, as the community has grown, so has the event's popularity. In 2023 and 2024, LMOA attempted to control crowds by closing the gates to the public, but this did not decrease the number of spectators on the Main Beach. Due to the increased spectators and lack of parking spaces, streets become too congested during the event for emergency vehicles to pass, and too many people gather on an ill-lit beach. According to Chief Wells, there is insufficient staff to respond to emergencies, nor can emergency vehicles reach the Main Beach if an accident or incident occurs. LMOA has asked Fluvanna County about holding fireworks at Pleasant Grove in 2025, but that request was not met with enthusiasm. The Board meeting is on September 26 at 7 PM in the Fairway Clubhouse. Email krivera@lmoa.org if you would like to sign up to speak.

Water Safety Volunteers Donate 1500 Service Hours

Monti cookies were the star of the show at the Volunteer Water Safety Team's end-of-season get-together. The theme of the potluck was 'Under the Lake', and Pat Petersillia won first prize with her lake monster cookies. The second and third prizes went to Diane Allen (lake cake) and Nadine Lawliss (seaweed and fish).

The Team also shared tales of their adventures while conducting water safety checks on Lake Monticello this summer. From educating boaters on rules and regulations to towing stranded boaters to shore, 72 Volunteer Water Safety Team (VWST) volunteers spent a total of 900 hours supporting the Department of Public Safety during large events and weekend safety shifts. VWST said another 650 hours were spent on training, boat maintenance, and administration! LMOA is beyond grateful for their tireless efforts to maintain a safe Lake. Thank you!

New Marina Winter Hours

Starting September 30, the Marina will adopt new winter hours of operation:

SUNDAY: 10 AM - 4 PM
MONDAY: 10 AM - 4 PM
TUESDAY: CLOSED
WEDNESDAY: CLOSED
THURSDAY: 10 AM - 4 PM
FRIDAY: 10 AM - 4 PM
SATURDAY: 10 AM - 4 PM

Give Black Bears Space

There have been several black bear sightings around the lake lately. Black bears are indigenous to the area, and as development around Lake Monticello grows, black bear sightings become more common. They look adorable, but they are wild animals. It is important to respect black bears and give them their space. Please make sure your kids know not to approach them. For more information about living with black bears, please go to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

website. This page has several helpful tips regarding bears and how to avoid conflict with the animals. Additionally, there is no need to call the Lake Police or Sheriff's Office to report bear sightings unless the bear appears injured or is aggressive. Local law enforcement will not attempt to move the bear out of your yard or capture the bear. Remember, it is best to admire the bear from indoors and wait for it to pass through.

Lakeside Restaurant Offers Takeout Menu

Jacie Dunkel and Sam Rochester, the owners of RocDun Hospitality LLC (Bunker Bistro) have expanded their service with a To-Go Menu at Lakeside Restaurant:

- Order Monday - Saturday from 2-6 PM, Sundays 12-5 PM
- Pick up hot between 4 - 7 PM or ready to reheat anytime from 2 - 7 PM
- **Orders can be picked up at the Ashlawn Clubhouse at 41 Ashlawn Blvd.**

Entrees cost \$25 per two servings and include baked mac & cheese, lasagna, cottage pie, chicken pot pie, chicken cordon bleu, fried chicken, and salmon filet. Sides are \$3-\$5 and include mashed potatoes, au gratin potatoes, baked potato, polenta, buttered linguine, rice pilaf, garlic bread, rolls, broccoli, green beans, honey-glazed carrots, and salads.

To order, visit bunkerbistro.com and click the "Order Online" button.

Rural cluster developments

The final issue of the evening was discussion about rural cluster subdivisions.

These housing areas permit one dwelling unit per two acres and require 75 percent of the property to be held as open space.

One example of this is Island Hill on South Boston Road, a 114-acre property where 50 homes run along a central street on small plots and more than 80 acres are undeveloped open space.

Under state law, localities have been required to allow rural cluster development as a by-right use in areas where population growth is 10 percent or higher.

Under by-right use, rural cluster developments do not have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors and don't have to agree to proffers or conditions. There is little ability to enforce standards for private roads or conservation of the open space.

As of the 2020 Census, Fluvanna's population growth has fallen below that level, and the county does have the option to remove rural cluster developments as a by-right use and move to a more regulated process.

Supervisors voted 5-0 to request the Planning Commission to look at potential changes to the zoning rules regarding rural clusters and report back sometime in November.



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30 Overlook Circle - \$359,500



- 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, Large 2-car garage
- Beautiful 100+ year old heart of pine floors
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- New interior paint throughout / New windows
- Stainless appliances and gas stove top
- Lower level with large family room and full bath

4 Shiloh Court - \$399,900



SOLD!

- Immaculate renovation / MUST SEE!
- 3 bedrooms / 2 baths / 1780 fin sq ft
- New roof / new heat pump / new paint
- Fully renovated kitchen and baths
- Hot tub pavilion / Large corner lot

211 Lilac Place - \$555,000



SOLD!

- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2800+ finished sq ft
- 10 ft ceilings / gas log fireplace / new sunroom
- Gourmet kitchen with stainless appliances
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- Attached 2-car garage / Elevated 2-acre lot

13 Chatham Lane



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- 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 1-car detached garage
- 126 feet of water frontage on quiet cove
- Spacious living room with gas log fireplace
- Lower level with family room & bathroom rough-in
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14 Stonefield Drive
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