

Fluvanna

REVIEW



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OUR DATA SPEAKS VOLUMES

On the cover: Vietnam memorial sketch. Cover design by Amelia McConnell.

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DISPLAY AND WEB ADS For information including rates and deadlines, call Rae Alberts at 434-207-0223.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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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. Submit to editor@fluvannareview.com

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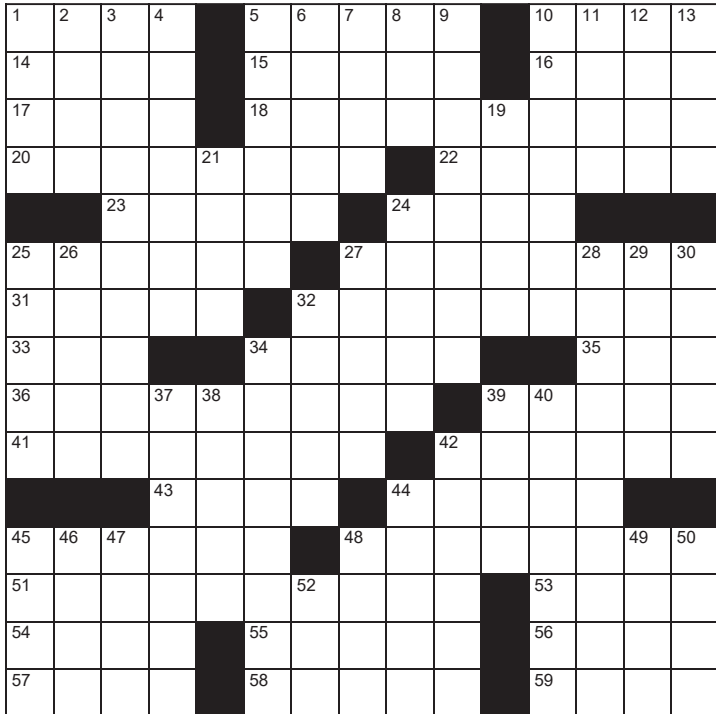
HOURS: MON to FRI-6:30 am 'til 4:30 pm and SAT-6:30 am 'til NOON

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Sonata finale
- 5 Laundry problem
- 10 Chick's chirp
- 14 Beat anagram
- 15 Around
- 16 Wheel connector
- 17 Get checkmated
- 18 Hertz rival
- 20 Morris Albert hit
- 22 Moon feature
- 23 Emulates the sun
- 24 Hens' home
- 25 Jackpot numbers
- 27 Like minor defects
- 31 Wide-eyed
- 32 Applegate, for one
- 33 Pot top
- 34 Rap sheet item
- 35 Do damage to
- 36 Battery type
- 39 1992 film, "___ of a Woman"
- 41 Out of the ordinary
- 42 Folds under pressure
- 43 Preside at tea
- 44 Genetic double
- 45 Stocks and such
- 48 Skin cream ingredient
- 51 Spreading of a pathogen
- 53 Vast
- 54 Word-of-mouth
- 55 Pontificate
- 56 Geom. Figure
- 57 Lock openers
- 58 Supermarket section
- 59 ___ bien



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- 3 Rightfully
- 4 Artist's studio
- 5 Spectacles
- 6 Tiny bell sounds
- 7 Liberal pursuits
- 8 Rink surface
- 9 Deep stupor
- 10 Balcony barrier
- 11 Off-ramp
- 12 Apart from this
- 13 Look narrowly
- 19 High-school dances
- 21 Does not exist
- 24 Shade of pink
- 25 Spicy dip
- 26 "Silas Marner" author
- 27 Put on ice
- 28 Track official
- 29 Mindless
- 30 Supermarket sights
- 32 Unclouded
- 34 Get used to
- 37 Kind of court
- 38 Mob scenes
- 39 Loafer, e.g.
- 40 Score a spare
- 42 Finalizes, like a deal
- 44 "J. Edgar" director
- 45 Run ___ (go crazy)
- 46 Bone-dry
- 47 Stick around
- 48 Where Bhutan is
- 49 Wedding shower?
- 50 Plays a part
- 52 Big brute

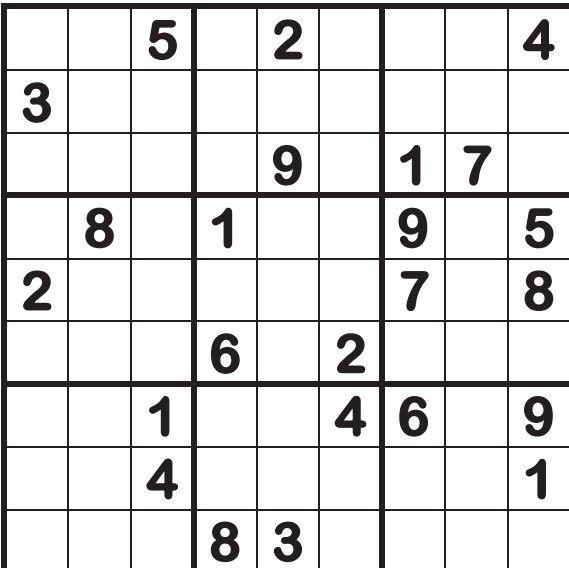
Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium



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:

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

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Letters to the Editor

American Experiment over

Two days after Fluvanna County celebrated Lafayette, the American Experiment ended— at the ballot box. O say,

while you still can: what do you make of that?

-Lindsay Nolting, Columbia

Trouble looking in the mirror

I find it difficult, as we have recently concluded perhaps the most consequential election in American history, to restrain my interest in a truly proven historic icon of success as reflected in his contribution to our American political and economic values. Who else but our former 'leader' Donald Trump can simultaneously spread his faith and reap a 2,000 percent profit in selling his

\$3 'Extra Holy' Bible to his supporters, or his \$25 Golden Tennies for \$400?

While we may have to forgive Trump's unfamiliarity with and preference for the Presidential Medal of Freedom - which he bestowed upon celebrities and major millionaire donors - over the Congressional Medal of Honor, tradi-

Letters to the Editor *continue on page 5.*



THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VISIT OF THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE TO FLUVANNA

The organizing team of Carolyn Talley, Kathleen Kilpatrick, Doris McGehee and Linda Bernick extend their deepest gratitude to all who gave their time, donations and efforts to make the Lafayette commemoration a success.

SPONSORS

- ★ The Lafayette Trail, represented by Julien Icher
- ★ Fluvanna Historical Society
- ★ Fluvanna250
- ★ Fluvanna Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Council
- ★ Point of Fork Daughters of the American Revolution and Jan Spears, National Vice Chair of the Franco-American Memorial Committee, Eastern Division
- ★ Lyles Baptist Church

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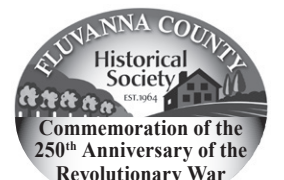
- ★ Fluvanna Community Singers and their director, Scott David
- ★ Fluvanna Flutterwheels
- ★ Thomas Jefferson Chapter, Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
- ★ Lady singers of St. John's Episcopal and Palmyra United Methodist churches
- ★ Fluvanna Sheriff's Department
- ★ The Wilmington Club

INDIVIDUALS

- ★ Lauri and Marcus Bach—and the noble Cash
- ★ Craig Bernick
- ★ Jean-Jacques Bevilacqua
- ★ Kathy Brent
- ★ Montchell Brice
- ★ Cathy Burrier
- ★ Wayne Corry
- ★ Mike Feazel
- ★ George Gage
- ★ Linda Gore
- ★ Sheriff Eric Hess
- ★ Melissa Hill
- ★ Mike Johnson
- ★ Dr. Randy Lanford
- ★ The Madison Family
- ★ Marvin Moss
- ★ Pat Robinett
- ★ Gene Runion
- ★ Jennifer Schmack
- ★ Horace Scruggs
- ★ Mike Sheridan
- ★ Eric Shrieves
- ★ Kristen and Andy Sorrell
- ★ Lynn Stayton-Eurell
- ★ Jeff Strider
- ★ Jeff Suling
- ★ The Talley Family
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Letters to the Editor

tionally bestowed upon, frequently deceased in combat, military heroes, his confusion is understandable in light of his multiple evasions of military service during the Vietnam war - while many of us served in his place.

However, one must give credit where credit is due! While Trump, from his willful ignorance denigrates Biden's substantial creation of jobs, Trump has from his entrepreneurial and marketing expertise not only

sold a lot of stuff to American working folk, like his sterling 'Trump Tokens' at three times the spot price of silver, his overpriced Bible and tennis shoes, but in promoting these successes he has created thousands of jobs - in China!

Our Trump supporting friends must really have difficulty looking in the mirror each morning, at least I hope that's the case.

-John R. Neighbours, Palmyra

Social media is anti-social

Oct. 31 *Fluvanna Review* front page headline: "Schools Discuss Digital Stress and Online Risks for Students." More and more school districts around the country are trying to limit students exposure at least while they're in the classroom. Good idea!

But as the article states "Smartphones and social media have been come a regular part of daily life for people of all ages." Sadly, once we're grown-up no one is looking out for us the way concerned parents and others did at their meeting on Oct. 24. Yet hardly a day goes by without a warning about the dangers exposure to the Internet poses for all of us. Bad sleep, isolation, exploitation, depression--the list goes on.

What I ask myself is: Where has Americans' famed rugged individualism gone? The apps we can't forgo enrich the titans of technology wildly at the expense of our mental health. There are no standards because sensationalism, pornography, scamming of old and young alike make a few fabulously wealthy. Why are we such sheep? Why do we follow the lemmings marching to the sea to jump off the cliff? It doesn't have to be that way. Europeans are doing a much better job of holding the "tech-bros" feet to the fire, but in the USA, home of the free, land of the brave, we leave them unfettered to pollute our minds. But, no one is holding a gun to your head and forcing you to create a Facebook or a Twitter account! You enslave yourself.

When George Orwell imagined a

future so like our present moment in his famous novel 1984, written 75 years ago, he got one thing really wrong. He imagined that the mass surveillance of the future--Big Brother, Doublespeak, and the Thought Police would have been preceded by violent armed struggle and civil war. He could not imagine how docile, how willing we'd be to allow ourselves to be spied on and manipulated all day long so that unfathomably greedy titans of industry can get richer. And how do they rope us in? It's free, free Facebook, TikTok, Twitter, etc. Show some spine people! Don't be sheep, don't be lemmings, don't let the anti-social media dominate and manipulate you. Seek out independent information, don't let an algorithm run/ruin your life!

-Mary MacNeil, Charlottesville



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- Keep letters under 350 words.
- Refrain from personal attacks.
- No letters that have been sent to other newspapers.
- Include your name, address & phone # for verification.
- We reserve the right to edit letters.

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You will get an email confirmation that your letter has been received. If you don't, contact the editor directly.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
 FLUVANNA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
 72 Main St., P.O. Box 550, Palmyra, VA, 22963

Case No. CL24000841-00

Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re*.....

GIOVANNA ROSE IRIZARRY, A MINOR v. BY CHERYLANNE DELMONTE, MOTHER

The object of this suit is to:

To change Minor's last name to Delmonte. It is ORDERED that Brandon James Irizarry appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interest on or before January 3, 2025 at 9:30 AM.

Entered 11/7/24 David M. Barredo
Circuit Court Judge

RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

End-of-Year Tax Moves to Consider for 2024

While the end of the year is fast approaching, there is still time to optimize your 2024 tax bill, but only if you act with a sense of urgency. Here are some ideas that you may still have time to implement before the year end clock strikes midnight.

- **Maximize Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions.** For those with high-deductible health plans, HSAs offer triple tax benefits--contributions are tax-deductible, growth is tax-free, and withdrawals for qualified medical expenses are tax-free. The maximum contribution in 2024 is \$4,150 (\$8,300 if married). You can contribute an additional \$1,000 if age 55 or older. If you have not contributed the maximum, consider doing it now. The unspent funds carry over, can be invested, and act as a way to pay for future medical expenses tax free!
- **Max out retirement contributions.** If you have not already done so, double check year to date contributions to your 401(k) and/or IRAs. For 401(k) accounts, the limit for 2024 is \$22,500 (\$30,000 if 50 or older); the limit for IRAs is \$7,000 (\$8,000 if 50 or older). Plan to max out these contributions if at all possible. Remember, contributions to traditional IRAs can reduce your taxable income, provided they're made by the tax-filing deadline in April.
- **Convert to a Roth IRA.** Consider converting some or all of your traditional IRA, SEP IRA, or SIMPLE IRA into a Roth IRA. Although you pay income tax on the amount of the Roth conversion the year it is made, subsequent growth is tax-free. Withdrawals from a Roth IRA are also 100% tax-free after five years from the date of the conversion. This strategy can help you be tax efficient each year if you find yourself in a lower income tax bracket. The idea is to convert enough funds during the year to take full advantage of a lower tax rate.
- **Gift money and other assets.** Consider gifting assets to your children and other



heirs, or into a trust for them, before the end of 2024. You can give up to \$18,000 to each person without cutting into your lifetime gift giving limit before being impacted by gift tax rules. If you're married, you can give up to \$36,000 per person.

- **Take your required minimum distribution (RMD).** If you're 73 or older, RMDs are required from retirement accounts. Missing these distributions can result in significant penalties. If you don't need the RMD income, you can make a qualified charitable distribution of up to \$100,000 directly from your retirement account. These distributions are tax-free and count toward satisfying your RMD.
- **Contribute to a 529 education plan.** You can contribute up to five years' worth of gift-tax exemptions in a single year to maximize your account's growth potential. This means you can contribute up to \$85,000 (\$170,000 if married) per beneficiary in a single year without incurring gift taxes.

It is not too late to reduce your upcoming tax bill, but act now as your days of opportunity are numbered. With the holidays rapidly approaching, now is the time to make an appointment for a year-end review. Feel free to call 434-442-4044 or email info@rwftaxservices.com to make your appointment now!

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Festival of Trees kicks off Dec. 6 at Lake

PRESS RELEASE

Lake Monticello's fifth annual Festival of Trees will be Friday and Saturday, Dec. 6 and 7, at the Ashlawn Clubhouse. The event, in addition to launching the Lake's holiday season, is one of the larger fundraisers for the Lake Monticello Community Foundation.

The Festival begins Friday evening with a 6 p.m. dinner dance at Ashlawn. Attendees get a chance to preview the two dozen holiday trees, each decorated by a local business or group, most with valuable gifts and prizes. They will also enjoy a gourmet dinner and dance to Sh'boom.

The free Festival Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. gives visitors the opportunity to tour the trees, talk with Santa, and listen to holiday stories read by Mrs. Claus.

At both events, visitors will be able to buy raffle tickets which they can use to try to win the decorated tree of their choice, along with all the decorations and prizes and gifts.

All proceeds from the Festival of Trees and the raffle go to benefit the charities and projects of the Lake Monticello Community Foundation. In addition to giving public service scholarships to local high school students and grants to many local public service organizations, the Foundation, a 501©3, donated the All-Inclusive Playground, new kayak launch ramps and other benefits to the community, and is now raising money for a proposed family pavilion.

Lake Monticello Memory Tree to be lit for fifth year

PRESS RELEASE

The fifth annual Lake Monticello Holiday Memory Tree will be lit Nov. 30 at the Bunker Bistro, with each light in memory of a loved one no longer with us. The tree will be lit through Jan. 14, and the names of the loved ones will be on a plaque at the tree, as well as on the Lake Monticello Community Foundation Facebook page. The suggested minimum

donation is \$10 per light, and they can be ordered via www.lakemonticellocommunityfoundation.org/community or Venmo to LakeMonticello-Community-Foundation. Include the names of those to be remembered in the notes section. All proceeds benefit the charities and projects of the Lake Monticello Community Foundation.

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Trump wins Fluvanna for a third time

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

Donald Trump may have lost Virginia but carried Fluvanna County by around five percentage points in Tuesday's general election.

According to the Virginia Department of Elections, Trump won 8,638 votes to Democrat Kamala Harris's 7,592 votes. Another 229 votes went to third-party candidates.

Trump's share of Fluvanna's vote has remained remarkably consistent over the past eight years: 52.48 percent in 2024, 51.48 percent in 2020, and 52.01 percent in 2016.

The only major difference this year was turnout. The Department of Elections shows that 75 percent of Fluvanna voters cast a ballot this year—a steep drop from the 84 percent turnout seen in 2020. It was also lower than 2016, which saw an 80 percent turnout.

Kaine, McGuire win

Tim Kaine will return to the US Senate for a third six-year term, comfortably beating Republican challenger Hung Cao by more than nine points statewide.

Cao did carry Fluvanna County by 51.8 percent to Kaine's 48 percent.

In the US House, John McGuire defeated Democratic challenger Gloria Tinsley Witt. Across the Fifth District, McGuire won by 57 percent to Witt's 42 percent. His margin of victory was slightly narrower in Fluvanna, where he won 54 percent of the vote.

McGuire's win means that his seat in the state senate will go to a special election. Louisa Supervisor Duane Adams, former State Senator Amanda Chase, and Powhatan realtor Jane Gammon have already announced they will run for their party's nomination for the seat.

Food Bank makes appeal for the holidays

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT

Many people are experiencing food insecurity in Fluvanna which is why the food bank and area churches are appealing for food donations,

Cindy Anderson attends Lake Christian Church and they collect food each week for the food bank. She works part-time at Grace & Glory, which collects food and monetary donations on the third Sunday of each month. She also works part-time for Cunningham UMC and they collect food for the food bank on the second Sunday of each month.

"I delivered the food from Grace & Glory this past week since the usual delivery person was busy. While I was there, I asked a staff member at the food bank what their current needs were and she recommended Thanksgiving foods," said Anderson. This would include canned vegetables, sweet potatoes, bread and cake mixes, etc. The food bank does have a refrigerator and can take perishable items.

For more information on donating food, visit <https://www.flucares.com/food>.

FCHS theatre's "Eurydice" wins district festival

BY ETHAN RITCHEY, FCHS JOURNALISM CLASS



Eurydice cast.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Pellicane

On Sat., Nov. 2, FCHS Theatre's performance of "Eurydice" placed first at the Jefferson District Theatre Festival, receiving all "1"s from the four judges and a perfect score of 100. The Flucos will advance to Regionals on Nov. 16, hosted at Monticello High School.

Four actors were recognized for their exemplary performance at the festival: Maddie Gifford, Best Actor; Nick Culbertson, Best Actor; Angela Cumiskey, Honorable Mention; and Tomas Cruz Vega, Hon-

orable Mention. In addition, the cast and crew as a whole received recognition for their ensemble performance.

"In my 25 years of coaching the Fall One competition we have only placed 1st two times: In 2009 with 'Horton Hears a Who', and this year with 'Eurydice'. And this is the first time Fluvanna received a '1' from all 4 judges," said FCHS Theatre Director Craig Edgerton. "The cast and crew, which includes students ranging from 8th grade to seniors, is the most cohesive, supportive, and selfless group of kids I have ever worked with. Their dedication to their craft and to each other has been remarkable," he added.

There will be an Encore Community performance of "Eurydice" at FCHS on Nov. 14, at 7 p.m.

Upcoming productions from FCHS Theatre include their second annual Shakespeare monologue competition in December, as well as auditions for their spring production of a Shakespeare play.

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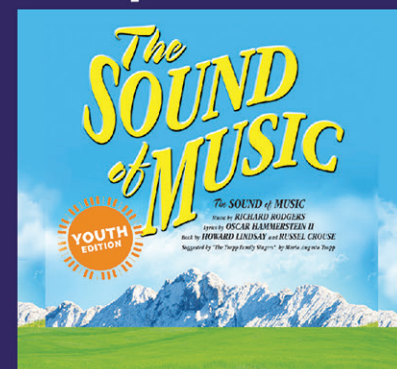


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Saddle Creek Farm gets \$15,000 donation

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT



Lori Brown. Photo courtesy of Virginia Equine Alliance

After the horses are done with their showing or racing careers, they are retired and one of the places they retire to is the 245-acre Saddle Creek Farm in Cunningham. It is a place for them to unwind in a peaceful environment and live out the rest of their lives. Farms like Saddle Creek are important for this reason.

Lori Brown, a former horse show mom who traveled the circuit with her three daughters, devotes her time and love to horses differently now that her daughters no longer show. Brown bought the farm in 1999 and initially owned hunters and jumpers, but in 2012 when her daughters went to college and moved away, she found a new purpose - caring for retired and rescued horses. She currently houses 80 horses, but her numbers can change as horses find their forever homes or pass away. Her mission nowadays is to use her horse farm as a halfway house for rescued horses, and a sanctuary for those put out to pasture until their final days.

Since Brown had the facility and the experience, she was able to help when the Standardbred Retirement Foundation contacted her, looking to board horses in Virginia.

"Our weather is nice, not too hot and not too cold. It's easier for horses to grow old without extreme temperatures so I agreed to take in a few of their retired horses and that's how it began," said Brown. All these horses have been Standardbred racers, meaning they pulled sulkies or carts and are pacers or trotters instead of thoroughbred racers. Most of the horses were eventually used as riding horse.

Brown began rescuing horses in 2018 when another nonprofit organization, Save Our Standardbreds from Slaughter (SOSS), contacted her to take in a couple of horses saved from a kill buyer in Louisiana. SOSS's mission is to rescue these horses, rehab them, and find forever homes.

"Unfortunately they are not always able to do that," Brown said. "The kill buyers keep getting in horses, good people keep paying their bail money to save them, but without a home offer they have no place to go, and the retirement foundation is forced to retire them in their program. At this time the foundation is full so unfortunately, unless a horse has a home offer, he cannot be saved."

Most of the horses rescued by Brown came from auctions in New Holland, Pennsylvania. "Every one of my horses has

a story," she said. "There are stories of hard work, abandonment, love stories, stories of life, just like people."

She told the story of Luna. "One horse was a little different than the usual horse coming from New Holland, and seemed to have been cared for by somebody before she ended up in the horse auction and then to me by way of the kill buyer." The horse was pregnant and gave birth to a little filly born on the full moon before Easter. Brown named her Luna.

Grumpy Jake, his registered name, was nothing like his name but was instead what Brown calls an absolute sweetheart. Jake's is a love story. Brown was contacted by a man from Ontario, Canada, desperately trying to find a place for his horse to stay until it was well enough to make the trip home. This man gave his horse away to a friend several years ago, who promised to keep him forever. That was not the case and the friend sold the horse. The original owner then found the horse in a sale in Canada but he needed \$5,000 to buy the horse back and didn't have the money. He lost the horse again. For the next five years, he searched for this horse.

"He told me there wasn't a day that went by that he didn't think about him," Brown said. "He contacted every rescue organization to please look for his horse, Grumpy Jake. Well, he [finally] got his phone call... that Jake had been found at a kill buyer in Virginia." He paid for Jake immediately, but Jake was not healthy enough to travel to Canada. Brown was contacted and Jake is with her, rehabilitating. He will eventually be reunited with his owner, who was crying on the phone at the good news.

"My goal is to give each horse the best quality of life for its remaining years," Brown said. "The key to that is not only medications and feedings but grouping them with others by needs and personality. But we have to be their voice and tell their stories."

"Things are going well and most of the horses have been with me for over 10 years. As they get older and especially in the winter months their lifestyles change and they need additional care," said Brown, explaining that there is some benefit to staying out in big fields with their herd, eating the lush grass during the spring and summer, and hay through the colder months. Others need grain added to their diets to maintain an optimal body condition due to worn down teeth that come with age. These horses are held in smaller paddocks and are usually fed in groups of two, twice a day. "The key to successful meal times is to match personalities. I get more one-on-one time with them and I love that. My job is to keep these horses well and happy so they can enjoy their senior years."

Recently the Virginia Equine Alliance gave a \$15,000 donation to Brown for her dedication in caring for these horses in their later years.

"I am very appreciative of the donation from Virginia Equine Alliance. This money goes directly to benefit my Virginia horses.

We plan to use this money to pay for dental cleanings and set some aside for unexpected medical procedures as necessary."

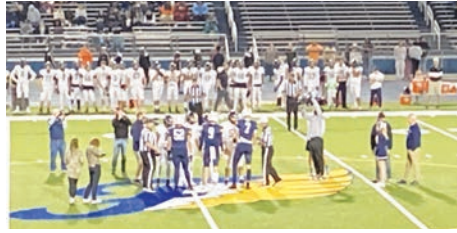
"Virginia's horse retirement farms like Saddle Creek Farm are important in supporting horses in their later years with a comfortable quality of life. The VEA has had a long-standing relationship with Saddle Creek Farm, and we are grateful for the good work that Lori Brown does with standardbred horses. We were honored to present Lori with a check for \$15,000 that will support the farm's operations for years to come," said Darrell Wood, communications director for Virginia Equine Alliance.

Volunteer Connie Payne, who admires the work of Brown and visits the farm often said, "My first ever visit was on New Year's Eve of 2016, to meet the horse I sponsored through the Standardbred Retirement Foundation. It's an awesome place because so many horses get to live out their retirement there. Over the years, I have become truly attached to Saddle Creek Farm and what it represents. It's a refuge for standardbreds, and being a fan of standardbred racing, it's great to give back."

Brown added, "I have not taken in additional horses. I am committed to caring for the horses I have here and 80 retired horses take up quite a bit of my time. But after having said that, I will never turn away a horse in need."

Fluco football starts strong but falls to Monticello Mustangs

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT



Captains meeting at midfield. Photo by Duncan Nixon

It was senior night on Nov. 8 and the last regular season football game as the Flucos hosted the Monticello High Mustangs. The first quarter was scoreless and it looked like a low scoring game was in the offing. The Flucos scored two touchdowns in the second quarter and went to the half leading 14-0. Unfortunately, the second half was a different story. The Flucos committed several turnovers and the Mustangs powered the ball on the ground, scoring five second half touchdowns for a 35-21 win.

The Flucos scored their first touchdown early in the second quarter. Junior running back Sam Loving powered the ball across the goal line from the three-yard line after only two minutes of second quarter play. The Flucos got the ball close to set up Loving on two impressive pass plays. Late in the first period, a long pass to senior receiver Benny Denby took the ball from the Fluco 18 to the Monticello 49 for a 33-yard gain.

After a false start and two unsuccessful runs, it was third and 16. Junior quarterback Will Lambert fired over the middle and junior wide receiver Tramayne Minor made a great catch at the 25 for a first down. From there it was Loving on the ground for a touchdown. Junior Carson Raines kicked the extra point for a 7-0 Fluco lead.

Late in the second quarter, the Flucos recovered a Mustang fumble at their own 23 yard-line. Lambert passed three times and the third was a completion to Denby to the Fluco 42. Two 15 yard penalties on the Mustangs took the ball close to the goal line and with only 46 seconds left in the half Lambert found senior Mike Gaines in the back of the end zone for the Flucos' second touchdown. Raines added the PAT and it was Flucos 14, Mustangs 0 at the half.

The Mustangs received the second half kick-off and returned it to mid-field. On their third play from scrimmage a rare long pass over the middle went for a touchdown. The PAT kick was good and the Mustangs trailed 14-7 with 8:45 left in the third quarter. The Flucos went three and out and punted. The Mustangs started at their own 45 and in seven running plays they scored their second touchdown. The PAT kick was good and the score was tied.

The Flucos bounced back. Lambert passed to Minor for a first down, but two penalties set the Flucos back. On third down and 15 to go, the Flucos executed a surprise play as junior halfback Kyle Harris looked like he was running a sweep, but he stopped

and launched a long pass to Denby who was behind the Mustangs' defensive backs. Denby was dragged down inside the ten for first and goal. This time it was Lambert throwing to Denby and the result was a touchdown. Raines kicked the PAT and the Flucos led 21-14 late in the third quarter.

Early in the fourth quarter, a 49 yard run by the Mustang quarterback and a successful PAT tied the score again. The Fluco ran three plays and the snap on their punt attempt was low and the punter could not handle it. The Mustangs had the ball first down and goal to go. They promptly ran it in for a seven-point lead. The Flucos went three and out and had to punt. They got the ball back when senior defensive back DeAndre McCloud intercepted a rare Mustang pass. But, as the Flucos moved down the field, Lambert was intercepted when he threw under heavy pressure. A long touchdown run by the Mustangs, with only 2:16 left in the game, effectively ended the game and the season for the Flucos.

After the game, Fluco Coach Mitchell Pace noted that even if it sounds like a cliché, he is extremely proud of this year's team. He noted accurately that although his squad finished with a 4-6 record, a different result on only a few plays could have resulted in a 6-4 or better record and a spot in the playoffs. While a few key seniors will be lost to graduation and possibly play at the college level (Denby has committed to William and Mary) Pace has a solid core returning. Additionally, the Fluco JV football team has just concluded an undefeated season.

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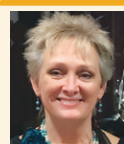
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The Gray Foxes at the Lake Monticello golf course wind-up their 38th season

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT



Gray Foxes' Dan Atkinson and John Roeder. Photo by Duncan Nixon

Another successful season is in the books for the Gray Foxes organization at the Lake Monticello golf course. The year-end banquet was held at the Ashlawn Grill on Nov. 7. The dinner was well received by all and the included beer and wine flowed freely. The dinner signaled a significant passing of the torch for the 18-hole players. Dan Atkinson, the group's coordinator for the past ten years, is stepping down and John Roeder is taking over.

The Gray Foxes are a senior men's golf group that plays nine-hole competitions on Tuesday mornings and eighteen-hole competitions on Thursday mornings. There is an entry fee payable at the beginning of the season. The year-end banquet is largely funded from the entry fee. Each week the competitors play a different format as determined by the group's coordinator. Some formats are individual scores, and some are two man or four-man teams. Once a month there is a ringers format. Ringers is a yearlong competition in which a player's best score on each hole for the season, is all that counts. Gross score and net score are in play.

Keeping track of all the scores from week to week is no easy task. Some very excellent scores were recorded this year. For the eighteen-hole group, the lowest gross scores over the difficult Lake Monticello course were 71 by John Roeder and 73 by Mike Hanson. The low net scores for the season were 63 by John Stenz and 66 by Dan Atkinson, Rich Barringer, Shawn Chen and Paul Schmidt. The best gross score in ringers was recorded by John Roeder with a 61. He was closely followed by Mike

Hanson and Les Tinsley with 62. The net ringers competition was a runaway. John Stenz came in at 46, while four others were at 52. They were Jim Davis, George Macomber, Jack Mudd and Mike Rodbell. In the year-long match play competition, Peter Rothschild had the best average score, recording 11.75 points per contest. George Macomber was second at 10.83.

The nine hole Gray Foxes are a slightly smaller group than the eighteen hole Gray Foxes and have been bolstered in the past several years by the determination that golfers can play in both groups, if they wish. The coordinator for the nine-hole Gray Foxes is John Stenz. The best ringers

gross score over nine holes for the season was a 33 posted by Peter Rothschild. The second-best score was 35 by Jim Beach. The lowest net score over nine holes was 28 by Mike Hayden. Tied for second place were Ben Stoppe, Joe Esposito and Carl Haynes.

The Gray Foxes have been playing for almost as long as the Lake Monticello course has existed. However, the membership is constantly turning over. New members are always welcome. The players named above include some long timers but most of the names are fairly new to the organization. A number of lower handicap players are now included.

Dogwood Vietnam Memorial to expand space, continue mission as center for community healing

PRESS RELEASE



Vietnam memorial in Charlottesville.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. As this somber occasion approaches, a Charlottesville-based group is advancing its quest to preserve the nation's first public Vietnam memorial. Located on a grassy slope at the intersection of Rt. 250 and John Warner Parkway, this historic landmark, which pays tribute to soldiers from the Vietnam War era, was built 16 years prior to the dedication of the national monument in Washington D.C.

The idea for the memorial first surfaced in the fall of 1965. The Charlottesville area had just suffered its first Vietnam casualty - 18-year old native son, Champ Lawson. Champ was also a new father. He and his wife had welcomed their first child in July.

It was in that moment that a small group of local citizens came up with a plan: to create a space honoring the spirit of sacrifice personified by residents like Champ.

The Dogwood Memorial now showcases the stories of 28 soldiers who died in the Vietnam conflict. They represent a cross-section of local life in the 1960s: graduates of the all-Black Burley and Jefferson high schools, students from the newly integrated Lane High School, and UVA student-athletes and ROTC trainees.

Unveiled in January 1966, the site has become a destination for those veterans and their loved ones seeking comfort and restoration. Bruce Eades, Vietnam veteran and president of the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial Foundation, shares that "It's been really important for my healing." He even gave the location its nickname: "The Hill that Heals."

When Eades first returned from war, he consciously chose to distance himself from his identity as a Vietnam soldier. But during

a remembrance ceremony at the Memorial in 1995, he decided it was time to speak up.

In his keynote speech to a gathering of veterans and their families, he stated that "Because of the stigma associated with the Vietnam veteran, I, like many others, rarely spoke of my experience in Vietnam... I hid my tears when I remembered my fallen friends."

This marked the first time Eades talked openly about his deployment - 27 years after returning home. Until then, he had not even shared his memories with his wife and daughters.

The Foundation recently unveiled plans to expand the Memorial. A plaza will be added to accommodate 26 additional Vietnam veterans' profiles. Other improvements will make for easier access to the space. They include the addition of paved parking alongside John Warner Parkway, and a pedestrian bridge connecting the parking lot to the complex. Construction is slated for completion in 2026.

The Foundation has also come up with a way for citizens to participate in this initiative. Memorial bricks can now be purchased and engraved with a lasting, personal tribute to a veteran's service and sacrifice. They will be placed on a new walkway linking the pedestrian bridge to the Memorial Plaza. Note that all veterans who served in the military are eligible for this honor.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will help finance construction plans and future Foundation efforts to educate the public about our involvement in Vietnam.

For more information on the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial, visit www.dogwoodvietnammemorial.org.

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Budget Planning Season Closes with Good News

The mood at the LMOA Budget Hearing on November 7, 2024, was worlds apart from the 2023 session. Last year, the LMOA Board of Directors needed an extra month for discussions and struggled to fit the 2024 budget within tight constraints. The crisis had two main issues: LMOA faced diminishing reserve funds while an insufficient budget restricted Operations. Last year, the Board needed an extra month for discussions and had challenges fitting the 2024 budget within tight constraints. The crisis had two main issues: LMOA faced diminishing reserve funds while an insufficient budget restricted Operations. This situation compelled the Board to request a \$150K dues increase for reserves. Additionally, LMOA's Operations reduced losses in Food & Beverage for 2024 and implemented an aggressive approach to managing investments.

As seen at this year's hearing, the hard work of everyone paid off, leading to several positive results and a sense of relief:

- A \$150 dues increase in 2025 will sufficiently fund reserves. There will be a surplus in 2025, which is needed to pave roads in 2027.
- Golf operations are projected

to have a small surplus for the first time.

- LMOA reduced F&B losses by leasing its restaurants to RocDun Hospitality, saving over \$200K.
- Thanks to improved cash management, the association achieved \$211K in income and \$460K in unrealized gains through September 30, 2024.
- Additionally, LMOA has successfully collected about \$200K from past-due accounts.

All these gains mean that Operations will no longer need to send \$300K to reserves, giving the homeowners' association the flexibility to return to an acceptable level of functioning. LMOA staff says they look forward to addressing deferred maintenance next year and improving service to desired levels. The General Manager, Tom Schauder, also stated, "We want to thank LMOA Members for making this possible. The dues increase is instrumental in preserving the quality of life enjoyed at Lake Monticello!"

The LMOA Board of Directors is expected to approve the 2025 Budget at the regular Board Meeting on November 21, 2024. Members can view the 2025 budget proposal in more detail by logging into lmoa.org,

selecting 2025 Budget under the Finance tab, and opening 'Budget Presentation'; and other materials,

Holiday Office Closures

LMOA Administrative Staff will observe Thanksgiving on November 28 and 29. The Member Services and Residential Standards desks will be closed on these days.

Newcomers and Old Friends Meet at Firehouse

The club's monthly meeting will be on November 17 in the Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire Department from 3:30 – 5:00 PM. There will be no monthly meeting in December.

Free West Coast Swing

Kyla Miller is hosting another free West Coast Swing practice session on November 18 from 7 - 8:30 PM in the Terrace Rooms of the Ashlawn Clubhouse. The first 30 minutes will be a lesson on push, pass, or whip variations, followed by an hour of beginner-friendly music for open dancing. Dancers are expected to know their basics (push, pass, and whip). For more information, please get in touch with Kyla at kyla.bohon@gmail.com.

LMOA Board Meets on 11/21

The regular board meeting will

be held on November 21 at 7 p.m. in the Fairway Clubhouse (51 Bunker Blvd.). To sign up to speak, please email krivera@lmoa.org or call Member Services at 434-589-8263.

How Are the Bear Cubs?

The LMOA Wildlife Committee invites you to learn about its partnership with the Wildlife Center of VA on November 23. They sponsor the center's bear program, which allows injured and/or orphaned bear cubs to be rehabilitated over the course of a year before being released back into the wild. At this event, attendees will be updated on the status of the cubs taken in earlier this year. The committee will welcome guests at the Ashlawn Clubhouse at 1 PM.

One More Week of Happy Face Donation Box

Please add something to the Happy Face donation box at the Ashlawn Clubhouse before November 25! The Fluvanna Christian Society (FCS) is looking for toys, kids' coats and pajamas, and nonperishable foods for a holiday dinner so families in need can enjoy the holidays. The box can be found next to the Help Desk at 41 Ashlawn Blvd. from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Friday. The donations will be gifted to families at an annual Christmas party in December.

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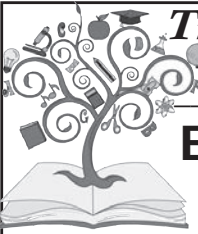
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Fee for the new year 2023 is \$10 for 40 word limit and .25 cents per word over limit. Payment may be mailed: P.O.Box 59, Palmyra, Va 22963 or Visa, Mastercard, Discover accepted. Deadline for print ads is MONDAY BY NOON.

EVENTS

VENDORS WANTED: Lake Monticello's Holiday Arts & Crafts Market will be held on December 7th. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. inside the Ashlawn Community Bldg. If you wish to be a Vendor at this event please email: fiveOhClub@gmail.com, for details.

REIKI 1 CLASS: Sunday, November 17th., 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Learn: Energy centers of the body, healing techniques for self and others; group healing; scanning the body for imbalances, how to purify your energy field. \$200. Includes manual and certification. Contact Kim at 434-249-1806, or kim@simplymindfulmoment.com

FLUVANNA FARMERS MARKET HOSTING HOLIDAY EVENT: Sunday, December 1st. starting at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Crofton Plaza (Ace Hardware store Lawn). Featuring all our regular vendors plus many more! Cousin's Lobster will be there! Holiday sounds and sights to delight! Cyber Saturday - shop local on Sunday! Email: Fluvannacountyfarmersmarket@gmail.com or call Peggy Shanklin (434) 962-2762.

FORK UNION CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: at Carysbrook Elementary School, Fork Union, VA on Saturday, December 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This event supports the Community Food Pantry. Shop local: Crafts, Gift Items, Food Trucks, Live Music, Vendors and More! Sponsored by the Fluvanna Leaders for Race & Diversity.

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Community Calendar

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



Deathtrap

Persimmon Tree Players next show, *Deathtrap*, is a comedy thriller. Performances are set for **Nov. 16 and 22** at 7:30 p.m. and **Nov. 17, 23 and 24** at 2 p.m. at the Victory Hall Theater in downtown Scottsville. Tickets will be available on-line and at the door.

Christmas Market

Christmas Market Grand Opening At Fruit Hill Orchard on **Nov. 20** at noon, M-F, thru late December. We will be closed Nov. 27 and Thursday Nov. 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Offered - Fresh cut fir trees, boxwood wreaths, gift baskets, apples, baked goods, and so much more!

Veterans breakfast

Central Virginia Veterans will be holding their monthly 'G.I.Style' breakfast on **Nov. 30** at 8:15 a.m. at Wahoo BBQ & Grill, Slice Road Gate, Lake Monticello. Cost is \$12 per person (cash only please). Veterans and spouses/friends are welcome. Questions? Contact Paul Bethke (703) 965-8363.

Donations needed

FCSS Happy Face Christmas Party will be held Saturday, **Dec. 14**, at Central Elementary School starting at 9 a.m. FCSS is collecting new toys (\$15-\$30 range), stuffed animals, bikes and helmets, clothes for children. To volunteer or have questions email marykidd01@gmail.com.

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.

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Open Door Christian School honor roll

The following students achieved the honor roll for the first 6 or 9 weeks of the 2024-25 school year. A * denotes all A's.

First Grade: Thomas Aldridge, Mille Crawford, Tyler Guthrie, Hannah Hensley, Hazel Johnson, Ayden Lawson*, Greyson Lockhart, Ari Pendleton-Smith, Alexander Ponomarev*, Layla Whitfield.

Second Grade: Annabell Bourgeois*, Camille Brandt, Maddox Dunn*, Grace Ferguson*, Jenesis Johnson, Carly Martin, Faith Perry, Silas Robbins* Presley Shifflett, Axl Pendleton-Smith, Amina Taliaferro.

Third Grade: Mason Braxton*, Asher Carroll*, Sawyer Fleming*, Sofiya Ponomareva*, Haley Wilcox.

Fourth Grade: Avah Drymond, Grace Perry*.

Fifth Grade: Brantley Henshaw, McKinley DeRosario, Sara Wilcox.

Sixth Grade: Alisa Berko*, Josslyn McLaughlin*.

Seventh Grade: Holly Dunn.

Eighth Grade: Eliana Berko, Chris Hamilton.

Twelfth Grade: Ben Bruce*.

Comp plan work to begin in January

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

Planning Director Todd Fortune told the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors that a new comprehensive plan would take between a year and 18 months to complete.

Often referred to simply as the "Comp Plan," this detailed policy document guides growth and development within a locality by defining the community's preferences on land use, housing, transportation, and other issues. Under Virginia law, the Comp Plan must be reviewed and approved every five years.

Fluvanna's Comp Plan was scheduled for an update in 2020, and committees had completed significant amounts of work. However, COVID and other factors meant that the final product was never completed. To comply with state law, supervisors approved a partial update earlier this year.

The committees will soon be reconstituted, and work will begin on what will likely be the 2025—or perhaps 2026—Comprehensive Plan.

At their meeting on Wednesday evening (Nov. 6), Fortune assured supervisors that the public would have the opportunity to share their views on growth in Fluvanna County.

Dates have not yet been finalized, but he said five community meetings would be held from late January to early February, one in each voting district. At least two would be on Saturdays.

"You get a lot more bang for your buck if you do community meetings first and then use that input," he said.

Surveys

To improve participation rates, the county is exploring third-party vendors to conduct the annual satisfaction survey of county staff.

The county has previously used a simple Google form for the survey, and while it is technically anonymous, many staff members have been reluctant to participate due to concerns that their superiors will be able to figure out who they are.

"The survey we've done in-house is anonymous, but we are a small group of people, and you can probably tell even when you're just reading it on paper," said Deputy Administrator Kelly Harris.

To remove this barrier, Harris has looked at several companies that conduct employee surveys, analyze and anonymize the data, and return it to the county with suggestions on improving employee satisfaction and retention.

While the price could run anywhere from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars a year, if it helps retain staff, it could save money over the long run by reducing the need to hire and train new employees.

Legislative agenda

With a new session of the General Assembly on the horizon, supervisors approved the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission's 2025 Legislative Agenda.

David Blount, Director of Legislative Services for TJPDC, gave a presentation on what his organization would be lobbying for during the upcoming session.

Chief among the priorities for the five-county area within the TJPDC is funding for public education, land use, and growth management initiatives, and budget and funding for the localities.

Supervisor Tim Hodge (Palmyra) urged Blount to press for changes in protected funding under the Children's Services Act (CSA), the state program designed to help at-risk children and their families navigate educational and social services programs.

Funding for the CSA comes from both the state and the locality, but Hodge argued that the funding rates "haven't been updated in a long time, and in this locality, we tend to burn through the protected funding pretty quick."

As a result, CSA staff is forced to decide whether the individual will lose services or if the locality can pick up the costs for the rest of the year. This can also impact if new cases are picked up once the funding runs low.

But in other localities, there might be a surplus of funds. "Why can't that money be used in a locality with greater needs?" he asked. By creating a pool of funding, once a locality exhausts its money, it could request reimbursement from that pool.

Blount agreed to add the request to the agenda, and the motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer's office

Treasurer Debbie Rittenhouse asked for approval to change the classifications of several of her employees to reflect new responsibilities or promotions within the department.

These changes would put the employees in new pay bands, and her request included retroactive pay increases for three employees going back to the start of the fiscal year in July. The lump-sum payments would range from \$3,462 to \$5,399 and would be taken from the supervisors' Contingency Fund.

Chair Chris Fairchild (Cunningham) initially wanted to defer the decision. "I'm not saying I'm against it; I just feel like there's more to this, and I haven't had a chance in the last couple of days, with the election being yesterday, to dig into as much as I'd like to."

However, most members agreed with Rittenhouse's arguments, and each motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

Fork Union Military Academy honors veterans with special ceremony

PRESS RELEASE



FUMA celebrates Veterans Day. Submitted photo

The Fork Union Military Academy held its annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Monday (Nov. 11), bringing together cadets, staff, alumni, and community members to honor the service and sacrifice of America's veterans. Held at the Academy's Veterans Memorial, the ceremony was marked by a profound sense of gratitude and respect for those who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

The Academy was privileged to welcome back alumnus SSG USA (Ret.) Dustin Denby, Class of 2002, as the guest speaker. A decorated veteran, Denby shared his journey and spoke to the values of courage, loyalty, and resilience that define military service.

Adding to the day's significance was a motorcycle procession led by members of the Spotsylvania Masonic Lodge 26 and the Naphtali Widow Sons Masonic Motorcycle Association. A group of 20 to 24 riders arrived on campus to join the Academy in honoring veterans. After the ceremony, representatives from these groups presented a generous donation to Capt. Mark Black, President of Fork Union Military Academy. Their contribution underscores the community's commitment to supporting the Academy's mission of shaping young men into leaders of character.

The check presentation and the heartfelt speeches were just a few highlights of a day dedicated to honoring the legacy of those who serve. The event provided cadets with a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by veterans, as well as the importance of respect and responsibility in their own lives.

Fork Union Military Academy is proud to continue its tradition of honoring veterans and instilling in its cadets a lasting

appreciation for their service. As the event concluded, the Academy's community departed with a renewed sense of commitment to preserving the values that veterans like Denby exemplify.

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- Diane Miller 434-960-5856
DianeMiller@Earthlink.net

NEW LISTING



702 Jefferson Dr. Lake Monticello \$400,000



- Remodeled
 - 2 Primary Suites
 - Screened In Porch
- Pat Arndt 434-981-2650
Patricia.Arndt@LNF.com

NEW LISTING



8577 Louisa Rd Louisa \$299,900



- Remodeled Single Level Living
 - Great Location
 - 2 Acres
- Gunnels Group 434-361-4987
Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com

NEW PRICE



198 Jefferson Dr. Lake Monticello \$519,900



- Vaulted Sunroom
 - Screened In Gazebo
 - First Floor Primary Suite
- Gunnels Group 434-361-4987
Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com

NEW LISTING



151 Peach Grove Rd. Louisa \$249,900



- Remodeled
 - Spacious Level Half Acre Lot
 - Convenient To Louisa and I64
- Gunnels Group 434-361-4987
Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com

NEW PRICE



4 Carriage Hill Rd. Fluvanna \$385,000



- Fresh Paint
 - Fenced Yard
 - No HOA
- Jen Sample | 434-989-9246
Jen.Sample@longandfooster.com

NEW LISTING



3 Overlook Circle Lake Monticello \$279,000



- Remodeled
 - Unfinished Basement
 - Wooded back Yard W/ Stream
- Diane Miller 434-960-5856
DianeMiller@earthlink.net

CUSTOM BUILT



5 Thrush Ct. Lake Monticello \$669,900



- 5 Bedrooms 3 Baths
 - Over An Acre
 - Gourmet Kitchen
- Peggy Shanklin 434-962-2762
Peggy.Shanklin@lfn.com



Second Annual!!

Christmas Tree Lighting Event!!

**4312 James Madison Highway, Fork Union
(the old grocery store)**

**Saturday, November 30th, 2024
4:00 PM until!**

Attention Fork Union Community!!

Let's celebrate the Christmas holiday season together.

Join us for:

Christmas tree lighting, refreshments, Santa Claus,
Carriage Rides,
Kidz Korner, Caroling, Toy Drive, Food Drive

*This event is free to the public!

If you'd like to volunteer, donate, or perform at the event, please contact:

Nina Monroe @ 434-825-5298

In Today's Market You Need To Call An Experienced Long & Foster Agent!



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