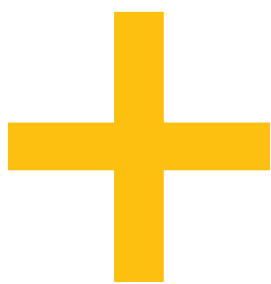


Fluvanna

REVIEW

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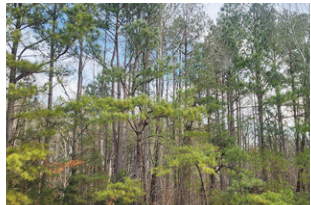
30 MEADOW RIDGE

22 HOPI



22 RIVERSIDE

20 ACRES



31 ZEPHER

20 OUT OF BOUNDS



17 FAIRWAY

4 PINEKNOLL



42 OAK GROVE

8 SHILOH



35 APPALACHIAN



773 BEALS LANE

14 STONEFIELD



6 ROCKWOOD

16 BRIDLEWOOD



507 JEFFERSON



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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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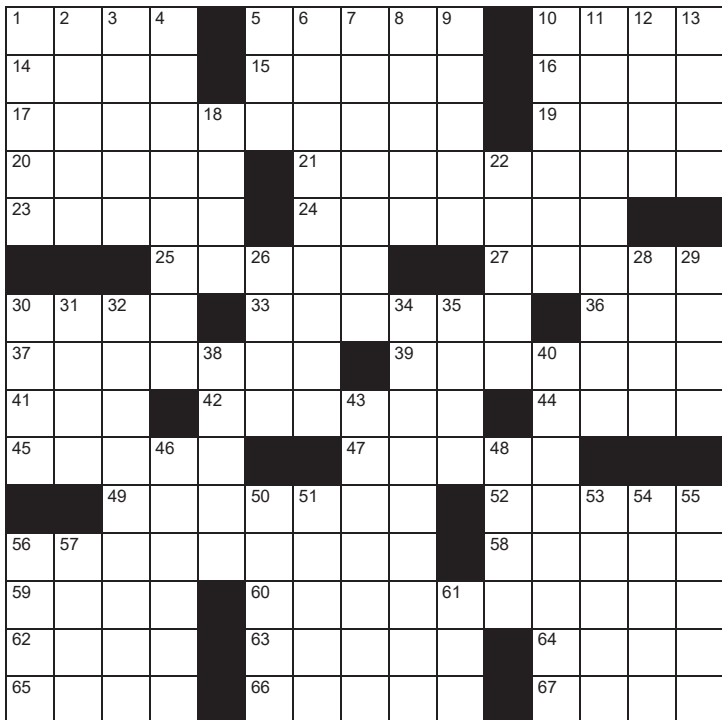
GOODYEAR

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 Queen of Carthage
 - 5 Highway hauler
 - 10 Hulu series, "___ Powers"
 - 14 Subj. for an M.B.A.
 - 15 Dustup
 - 16 Moved, nautically
 - 17 Beer bottle count, in a song
 - 19 Fresh way to start
 - 20 Wade noisily
 - 21 Criminal's helper
 - 23 Lofty nest (var.)
 - 24 Vaccine follow-up
 - 25 Designer's concern
 - 27 Most Saudis
 - 30 Work at a keyboard



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DOWN

- 1 Slow on the uptake
- 2 In an aloof way
- 3 Bloodmobile visitor
- 4 Like some arguments
- 5 Have a go at
- 6 Roadsters
- 7 Mythical creature
- 8 ___ de Mayo
- 9 Weak in the ___
- 10 Shot follower
- 11 Epithet for a judge
- 12 State firmly
- 13 Like a lawn at dawn
- 18 Fare-well link
- 22 Skittish move
- 26 Goatee's locale
- 28 Bavarian brew
- 29 Tender
- 30 Squirrel's home
- 31 Once around the sun
- 32 Fatherhood

- 34 Gym machine
- 35 Bring in, as pay
- 38 Lusterless finish
- 40 "Light My Fire" band
- 43 Go to the mat
- 46 Birchbark boats
- 48 Long cut
- 50 Racing venue
- 51 Tablecloth fabric
- 53 "Sesame Street" regular
- 54 Talk on and on
- 55 Polk predecessor
- 56 Faux
- 57 Soothing succulent
- 61 Vote seeker, for short

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Easy

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

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HOW TO SOLVE:

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

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

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

A look at the biggest stories of 2024

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

As we head toward what is sure to be an action-packed 2025, let's take a look back at some of the biggest stories from 2024...

School book committee

Late in 2023, a resident submitted a list of books in the Fluvanna County High School Library as inappropriate for children. In January 2024, the School Board approved citizen representatives to sit with school librarians and educators on the Learning Resources Review Committee to decide if these books should be removed from the collection. After almost a year of reading, meeting, discussing, and debating a total of 16 young adult titles, the committee voted to keep 15 of them on the shelves. Only one book, Elana K. Arnold's award-winning *What Girls Are Made Of*, was recommended for removal from the library—and even then, the members asked that it be kept in the counselor's office as a teaching resource.

Solar struck down

As large-scale solar fields sprout up all over Virginia, Fluvanna has joined a group of rural counties in bucking the trend toward renewable energy. In March, the Board of Supervisors directed the Planning Commission to remove utility-scale solar projects as an approved use on agricultural land and created a joint committee to develop new ordinances for future projects. In October, the supervisors approved the creation of a special zoning district for solar. They also adopted a set of ordinances so restrictive that developers will find it nearly impossible to win project approval. Whether this is the end of the story for utility-scale solar in Fluvanna may depend on what happens in the upcoming legislative season, with the General Assembly likely to debate several new bills that could restrict local control over solar development at the state attempts to meet the goals set in Virginia Clean Economy Act to move to zero-carbon emission by 2050.

Plane crash

Fluvanna County made national headlines in May under tragic circumstances. Early on May 5, a private plane flying from Washington to Hilton Head, South Carolina, suddenly crashed in a wooded area off Miles Jackson Road near Wilmington. Rescue crews from Fluvanna and surrounding jurisdictions rushed to the scene. They found pilot John W. Latham, 63, of Haymarket, Va., and passenger Niiben C.A. Ayivorh, 73, of Burke, Va., both killed on impact. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is expected to release a final report on the cause of the crash sometime in early 2025.

Charter school proposal

In March, a small group of residents requested that the school board consider supporting a charter school for Fluvanna. Charter schools are taxpayer-funded but function more like private schools and are touted as a way to give parents more choices in education. LIFEPREP, the charter proposed for Fluvanna, is geared towards homeschooling families as a "classroom-less" program. The issue dominated the March and April meetings of the School Board and generated so much opposition that the parent who originally proposed the program withdrew her application. However, it later emerged that School Board Chair Andrew Pullen reached out directly to officials in Richmond without the authorization of the other board members, which led to the parent submitting her application not to the county, but to the state. LIFEPREP is under review by the Virginia Department of Education, but it is not known when – or if – it will come back before the School Board for a vote.

James River water project

August marked a major milestone for the James River Water Project: the official ground-breaking ceremony for a pumping station that will eventually carry millions of gallons of water into the Zion Crossroads area. Representatives from Fluvanna and Louisa counties met near Columbia for the ceremony on Aug. 14 to celebrate a moment almost 20 years in the making. Since it was established in 2006, the James River Water Authority has faced significant setbacks, including a lengthy dispute with the Monacan Indian Nation over the original site of the pumping station. If all goes as planned, water should begin flowing down the pipeline sometime in 2027, potentially spurring economic growth for both counties.

Looking back at the arts in culture in 2024

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT

The arts flourished in 2024 with another successful Artist's Studio Tour, sell-out crowds for Empowered Players at Carysbrook Performing Arts Center, while Fluvanna Art Association members' creative minds and imagination gleamed in the spring show *Elements*.

It wasn't a year just for entertainment but also for thought-provoking subjects, crossing over into sensitive issues including the Black experience, the evolution of feminism in sports, and the fight against mental illness.

Carysbrook Performing Arts Center has sought to be a place of variety and diversity. Audience members have been positive and receptive to the return of classical and jazz music. Films have become part of the season line-up and *Raised/Razed* raised some eyebrows about the plight of Black people living in Vinegar Hill in Charlottesville, displaced in the name of progress and politics.

Friends of the Library welcomed a wide range of authors, most of whom wrote fiction, yet based on realistic and timely topics. Jody Hobbs Hesler's *Without You Here*, explores the raw emotions connected with depression and coping with suicide. Her in-depth research and attention to detail provides the realism that makes the reader forget it's fiction.

Kalela Williams tackles the relationship between a mother and daughter against the backdrop of a plantation and its history in *Tangleroot*. She takes her main character Nonie on a journey of self-discovery to unearth the meaning of her heritage.

In non-fiction, Bonnie Hagerman looked at the evolution of women from swimsuit models to successful athletes

in her book *Skimpy Coverage, A Look at Sports Illustrated and Female Athletes*. The author never found role models when she was an athlete.

Influenced by local Black history and the work of filmmaker Horace Scruggs, artist Linda Staiger saw this as an opportunity to bring Black and White artists together with Black descendants who would model for the portraits to facilitate learning about them and their history. This would help the artists shape their images through a perception of the model's history and self-expression.

The visual arts featured emerging artists engaging in mediums other than traditional drawing and painting. Duffy Dillinger demonstrated her unique style by building abstract sculptures with paper mâché. Carol Sorber discussed her glass creations and Alyce Walcavich talked about printing and mixed media. Joseph Gastrock in an interview, discussed rediscovering the master's technique of silverpoint, painting with metals.

Artists are branching out, exploring, and experimenting with mixed media, printing, and collage as a way of expressing themselves. With new products on the market, artists have become more curious about what can be accomplished with other than traditional methods.

Writers, artists, and filmmakers are not afraid to dive into thorny issues, confronting the norms and sharing their thoughts on a variety of timely subjects with their personal vision and voice. Visual artists break the barriers, going outside the boundaries of what has been acceptable to what is possible. Next year can only get better.

Letters to the Editor

Heart felt appreciation

On behalf of Fluvanna Christian Service Society's Happy Face, we would like to thank the citizens of Fluvanna County who donated food, money, toys, books, games, winter coats and pajamas, and/or your time this year. Because of your generosity we were able to serve over 238 children, 98 families at the Happy Face party on Dec. 14 at Central Elementary School. Over 30 senior citizens also received gifts.

We would also like to recognize

the Knights of Columbus and Fork Union Military cadets for their contributions and invaluable service. We would especially like to thank the *Fluvanna Review* for their support.

Due to the generosity received from the community, FCSS was able for the 50th year to make Christmas a little brighter for the children and senior citizens of Fluvanna County. Thank you again.

-Deborah Owens, The Happy Face Committee

Reminder: special election Jan. 7

I'm writing to remind people about the special election happening per the open seat for Senate District 10. Election day for this Special Election is Jan. 7 and Fluvanna residents can vote at their local precinct. Note that early voting is available at the registrar's office during the week of Dec. 30 through Jan. 4.

I'm encouraging all of our citizens to get out and vote in support of

Luther Cifers, a successful local businessman who has created hundreds of jobs in the area. Luther is known as a problem solver who listens and works with others to provide solutions. He is a Central Virginia native with a heart for improving the lives of others. Please join me in supporting Luther!

-Darrell R. Byers, chairman, Fluvanna Republican Committee



RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

Be Prepared for Higher Business Taxes

Welcome to 2025! Happy New Year to all of you. As we leave the old behind and start afresh, let's remember that many tax rules contained in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017 are scheduled to sunset at the end of 2025. Your business should begin planning now for the potential impacts of these changes. Consider the following as you start creating your business's TCJA tax plan. As a result, higher taxes may be in your business's future if the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is allowed to expire as scheduled at the end of 2025. In this month's newsletter, read through several ideas on how you can be prepared if this law is allowed to sunset.

Ideas for your business

- **Review your business tax rates.** With potential changes to individual tax rates applied to flow through earnings, it may be worth reassessing whether your current business structure (C-Corp, S-Corp, LLC, Partnership or Sole Proprietor) is optimal. The current 21% corporate tax rate is permanent, while individual tax rates are currently scheduled to return to higher levels with a maximum rate of 39%.
- **Review Qualified Business Income (QBI) deduction.** Pass-through entities like LLCs, partnerships, and S Corporations should evaluate their options if individual tax rates increase and the 20% QBI deduction is allowed to expire. This could be a true double whammy for small business owners. Remember to consider the impact of the QBI when reviewing a potential transition from a pass-through entity to a C Corporation.
- **Accelerate income.** Consider accelerating income into 2025 if you anticipate a higher tax rate in 2026. This could include selling appreciated or fully-depreciated assets, realizing capital gains when converting an S Corporation to a partnership or LLC, or asking a customer to pay on an invoice in 2025 instead of 2026 if possible.
- **Delay deductions.** If possible, defer deductions into the year that has a higher tax rate to maximize the deduction's value. Examples include delaying the purchase

of new capital equipment, deferring the write-off of inventory or accounts receivable, and timing the payment of accounts receivable or other liabilities. Remember to include the changes in bonus depreciation rules when making your capital decisions.

- **Consider tax-efficient investments.** As higher tax rates are set to return in 2026, review your business's investments to be as tax efficient as possible. Municipal bonds and tax-deferred plans like 401(k)s and IRAs may become more attractive after 2025. Also consider tax-loss harvesting strategies to offset future gains.

- **Consider the expiration of individual tax provisions.** Some individual tax provisions, such as lower individual income tax rates, higher estate tax exemptions, higher standard deductions, and reduced itemized deductions, are set to expire. These changes may affect business owners who report their business income on their individual tax return.

Start your planning now

Many attorneys and financial professionals expect to be booked solid through the end of 2025, so it's critical that you begin scheduling your planning sessions now. Give yourself enough time to meet with your entire team of trusted advisors and draft your plan long before this pending change occurs. Give us a call at 434-442-4044 or email us at info@rwftaxservices.com to make your appointment now!

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Fluvanna County sports in review 2024

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT

It was an interesting and sometimes successful year for the Fluvanna County High School sports teams. Early in 2024 the Fluco boys basketball team had some strong performances, such as a five point win over Jefferson District rival Orange County, but the season had a somewhat middling ending with a 10-12 record. The girls team did no better but it was extraordinarily young and prospects for 2025 are good. The boys teams prospects for 2025 were also promising, until Coach Heath Bralley lost both of his big men.

The Fluco wrestling team hosted the 7th annual Billy Wensel Classic in late January and Cassidy Realyea was 5-0 at the event. The Fluco indoor track and field team under Coach Melanie Kennedy turned in an outstanding performance at the prestigious Fred Hardy meet held at FUMA. The boys team finished first and was led by meet MVP Jackson Fields. The Flucos sent an impressively large contingent of athletes to the Virginia State meet. Sophie Farley was second in the 1000 meter with a time that topped the former state record. The boys 4X800 relay team also did well, finishing in a school record time.

The Fluco baseball and softball

seasons got underway in March. The Flucos have always been very strong in baseball. They won the state title in their school size in the year before COVID. At one point in the baseball season the team was 12-3, and it won its first two games in region play, but a repeat state title was not to be. The softball team clobbered Charlottesville in five innings on the run rule but wins and losses were about even. The Flucos showed definite improvement in boys lacrosse and the girls lacrosse team also seemed to be looking up. Soccer is another spring sport for the Flucos. Unfortunately, the boys and girls teams did not excel. The spring track and field team was strong in the Jefferson District meet and in the annual Dogwood Track Classic at UVA.

Two spring events that bring many non-Fluvanna residents to the county are the Peggy Kirk Bell golf competition for top young female golfers from all around the east coast and the UVA rowing event that is back at Lake Monticello and which brings in teams of top women rowers from around the country.

In the summer, the two local youth swim teams compete across central Virginia and the Lake Monticello golf course holds its annual Member-Guest

tournament. The winners of the 2024 Member-Guest were Michael Hanson and Rich Williams. In August, the Lake Monticello Ladies Golf Association celebrated its 50th year in existence.

Of all high school sports, football is still king. In Fluvanna, baseball competes with football in spectators not related to a competitor, but the high school parking lot is more full for football than for baseball. The Fluco football team this year was almost there. Coach Mitchell Pace's team finished at 4-6, but they could easily have been 6-4 or even 7-3. The JV football team was undefeated so further progress is

likely. The Fluco volleyball squad has always been strong and this fall was no exception. Coach Christi Harlowe-Garrett has her teams well trained and disciplined and they always seem to be enjoying the competitions. It also helps to have powerful and tall kill shot specialists, like Molly McCall, on hand.

The Fluco golf team and the field hockey squads did not have strong seasons. The Fluvanna County High School gym was the site of the 3C competition cheer event. The girls cross country team was led by Anna Amato and Ruby Frazier, while the boys team was led by Jack Jeffries.

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Stargazing in Fluvanna

BY PAT BEERS BLOCK



Happy New Year and welcome to this month's highlights of celestial events visible in Fluvanna County!

Fun events to view in January

This month's premier skylight performer, weather permitting, could be the Quadrantids meteor shower (Class I, Major) that will appear from early to mid January (www.ams-meteors.org). Other events of interest include the escapades of the moon with various planets and stars, again ensuring that the moon is a key player in our celestial calendar. Additionally, there are a significant number of planetary, and planet/star conjunction alignments to capture your interest.

Now that we have some insight into major events anticipated for January, let's get ready to engage in observing these events by setting up your star gazing equipment, charging your cell phones and linking to Sky Guide, Sky View Lite, or any other star gazing applications that you find useful, and settling into your favorite viewing spot to witness the magic of the night and early morning skies!

Weeks 1-2 (January 1-11)

January 2 and 3 are good evenings to view the planet Venus within close proximity to the waxing

(getting larger) crescent moon. On January 4 the planet Saturn appears within close proximity to the moon; this is the only time in 2025 when this conjunction (visually close to one another) will occur.

The Quadrantid meteor shower will continue from its late December appearance until January 12. Although this is a Class 1 shower, the peak of the shower on January 3 will only last about 4 hours, and the meteor flares might be dim and difficult to see.

On January 6-7, the moon will be entering its first quarter phase, a time when the Earth experiences neap tides. The moon will appear to be a "half-moon" with the right side of the moon illuminated with light.

The moon will be in conjunction with the Pleiades (aka the 7 Sisters, and Messier 45) within the constellation Taurus on January 9. The Pleiades are part of an open star cluster; these stars were all born together about 100 million years ago and are located within a nebula (aka cosmic cloud).

On January 10, Venus will be most visible after midnight in the western sky as it reaches its greatest distance from the Sun. Being well beyond the Sun's light, Venus can shine brightly in the night sky, about one hour after sunset.

Week 3 (January 12-18)

From January 11 through January 25, the planets Venus and Saturn will be in conjunction and visible within a few hours of sunset.

On January 13 the moon will be in conjunction with both Pollux of the constellation Gemini, and the planet Mars. The moon moves into its full moon phase this evening; enjoy the smiling face of our Earthly satellite.

On January 14, Mars will be in conjunction with the Beehive Cluster (aka Messier 44) within the constellation Cancer.

On January 15, Mars will be in opposition (close to) to Earth and made bright by the Sun's light. Mars will be at its apex of brightness for 2025 and visible throughout the night.

The moon and the star Regulus, within the constellation Leo, will be in conjunction on January 16.

Week 4 (January 19-25)

The moon will be in occultation (crossing over another celestial body) with the star Spica within the constellation Virgo on January 20. This occultation makes it seem like the covered celestial body has disappeared from the sky.

The moon moves into its last quarter phase on January 21. The moon will

be illuminated on the left half of its surface.

On January 23, the moon will be in conjunction with the star Pollux of the constellation Gemini.

Week 5 (January 26-31)

To end the month of January, the moon will complete its lunar cycle on January 29 and move to its new moon phase.

So ends the celestial highlights that we can look forward to observing throughout the month of January. Also worth exploring throughout this and the new year are NASA's asteroid detection events, space rocket and satellite launches, and sky shows like the aurora borealis that might appear in Fluvanna. With the perpetual motion of planets and stars, the daily changing sky promises to entertain you for a lifetime!

Until next month, keep your eyes facing the morning and evening sky to see the wonders of our universe as we Earthlings travel through it!

[information has been extracted from *Astronomy Calendar of Celestial Events 2025 - Sea and Sky* (seasky.org); <https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov>; <https://highpointscientific.com/astronomy-hub>; <https://ams-meteors.org/meteor-showers>; and Wikipedia]



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Farmers and rural motorists urged to act safely around railroad crossings

VIRGINIA FARM BUREAU PRESS RELEASE

As railroads facilitate the movement of agricultural products and other goods through Virginia and beyond, motorists and farm equipment operators are reminded to practice safe passage at railroad crossings.

Many rural railroad crossings typically are private with limited safety features. Some areas lack gates or lights that signal an oncoming train. Meanwhile, farm machinery is noisy, preventing farmers from hearing an oncoming train.

The national rail safety education organization, Operation Lifesaver Inc., reports that approximately 15 percent of all U.S. rail collisions each year occur on private crossings such as those on farmland.

"Rural railroad crossings have an increased risk for train collisions when crossing with farm equipment that often is heavier, longer, or needs to move slower," said Virginia Farm Bureau Federation safety coordinator Matt Nuckols. "Having visual contact with rail lines and looking both ways before crossing is critical."

A September 2024 Virginia Rail Safety Month proclamation noted a decrease in highway-rail grade cross-

ing collisions, with the commonwealth ranked 26th in the U.S., down from 13th in 2021, according to data from the Virginia Federal Railroad Administration.

"Farm Bureau supports improved safety strategies and best practices to protect the safety of farmers at railroad crossings," added Ben Rowe, VFBF national affairs coordinator. "We are pleased to see Congress funding improvements to rail crossings and infrastructure that will create a safer environment for farmers moving equipment and commodities."

This summer, Rep. Abigail Spanberger, D-7th, announced an award of \$3.2 million—made possible through the bipartisan infrastructure law—to improve railroad crossing safety in Stafford, Spotsylvania and Hanover counties. The funding will be used by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to make safety improvements at rural crossings.

American Farm Bureau Federation has partnered with Operation Lifesaver Inc. to spread awareness to rural motorists and farmers alike:

Slow down when approaching a railroad crossing. Stop for oncoming trains at least 15 feet away.

Look and listen for a train. Open cab windows, turn off radios and fans and remove headphones. Rock back and forth in your seat to see around obstacles. The average freight train traveling at 55 mph takes a mile or more to stop.

Once you start across, do not hesitate. Do not change gears. Tractors pulling heavy or bulky loads may take more time to clear a crossing than anticipated.

Low-clearance vehicles can get hung up on train tracks. If a low-clearance warning is posted, use another route.

For more information visit oli.org or see VFBF farm safety resources at vafb.com/Safety.

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- 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.

Submit via email to: editor@fluvannareview.com or mail to: Fluvanna Review, P.O. Box 59, Palmyra, VA 22963

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 HEARING
Fluvanna County Planning Commission
Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Virginia Code Sections 15.2-1427 and 15.2-2204, a Public Hearing will be held in the Morris Room in the County Administration Building at 132 Main Street, Palmyra, Virginia 22963 for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to appear before and be heard by the Planning Commission for the following items:

ZTA 24-11: Ordinance to amend the “Code of the County of Fluvanna, Virginia,” by amending § 22-22-1 to clarify that no more than five lots may be created from the parent tract using the minor subdivision approval process, regardless of whether the lots are created at one time or over an extended period of time, and to make other conforming changes.

A copy of the complete text of the above ordinance is available for public review at <https://www.fluvannacounty.org/> and at the Office of the Fluvanna County Administrator during normal business hours. Questions may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department, at (434) 591-1910. All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearing.



PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Board of Zoning Appeals
Tuesday, January 21 2025 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 24:03 – Bruce Patterson: A request for a twenty (20) foot Variance to Section 22-5-4 of the Fluvanna County Code to allow for the reduction of the required minimum front setback from seventy-five (75) feet to fifty-five (55) feet with respect to 0.588 acres of Tax Map 51A, Section A, Parcel 49. The subject property is zoned R-1, Residential, Limited, and is located in the Fork Union Community Planning Area and in the Fork Union 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.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR SOLID WASTE PERMIT-BY-RULE FACILITY

In accordance with Virginia Solid Waste Management regulations 9 VAC 20-81-410.A.3. and 9 VAC 20-81-450.B.4., citizens may comment on a permit-by-rule modification application for Troy Transfer, a solid waste transfer facility (formerly Zion Crossroads Recycling Center) located at 5498 Richmond Road in Troy, Virginia. The facility is operated under Permit-by-Rule #561 issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

COMMENT PERIOD: December 26, 2024 – January 25, 2025

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: GFL of Virginia, LLC, 5498 Richmond Rd., Troy, VA 22974. The facility is owned and operated by GFL of Virginia, LLC.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The purpose of this notice is to allow the public to comment on a proposed modification to the solid waste transfer station’s permit-by-rule (PBR), which will be modified by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality after public comments are received.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The facility is located at 5498 Richmond Rd. in Troy, VA approximately one half mile west of the intersection of State Routes 15 and 250 (Richmond Rd.). Municipal solid waste (MSW) and single-stream recyclables (SSR) are unloaded inside the transfer building and loaded into transfer trailers. Full SSR trailers are sent to an appropriate processing facility. Full MSW trailers are sent to a permitted solid waste management facility.

The Troy Transfer Station proposes to increase the permitted intake capacity from 500 tons per day to 850 tons per day. This action is a modification to PBR permit condition II, Facility Description (Background). The Troy Transfer Station was designed, constructed, and certified to receive 1,000 tons per day of waste. Although no new construction or physical alterations to the facility will be made, according to the Virginia DEQ PBR Modification FAQ document, a requested increase in daily intake capacity is considered a design modification. The requested increase will serve to better handle the waste management needs of the region following the closure of the nearby Republic Services Transfer Station.

TO REVIEW THE PERMIT APPLICATION: A copy of the permit-by-rule modification document is available for review and copying at the Fluvanna County Public Library, 214 Commons Blvd., Palmyra, VA during regular business hours.

PUBLIC MEETING: A public meeting will be held to answer questions and receive feedback from the interested public on **Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 6:00 pm**, at the Best Western Plus Crossroads Inn & Suites, 135 Wood Ridge Terrace, Zion Crossroad, VA.

HOW TO COMMENT: Oral and written comments will be received during the public meeting. Written comments also may be submitted at any time during the 30-day comment period noted above. Written comments should be addressed to Bethany Acquisto, Ph.D., EnSol, Inc., 3000 Alt Blvd., Grand Island, NY 14072. Comments must include the name and address of the person commenting and a brief statement regarding the interest of the person commenting and how the operation of the facility may affect the citizen.



PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors
Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

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 appear before and be heard by the Board of Supervisors for the following item:

Ordinance to amend the “Code of the County of Fluvanna, Virginia,” by amending §15-4-1 and 22-26-7 to clarify the requirements of the phrase “shielded and screened from view.”

Copies of the full text of the ordinance are available for public review at <https://www.fluvannacounty.org/> and in the office of the County Administrator during regular office hours. Questions may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department, at (434) 591-1910. All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearing.

Community Calendar



Qigong workshop

Holly Chen will provide a workshop on "Qigong for Better Mind and Body Health" on **Jan. 10** at 10:30 a.m. at the Ashlawn Club House, Lake room. The event is open to the public and free of charge. During the workshop, participants will learn the fundamentals of Qigong, the differences between Tai Chi and Qigong, the health benefits of practicing Qigong, why they are beneficial, and the method and tips for learning and practicing. In addition, they will have an opportunity to learn various Qigong exercises.

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Order your 2025 Mah Jongg cards and support Lake Monticello Fire and Rescue by participating in our group order. The National Mah Jongg League will donate \$5 per card to Lake Monticello Fire and Rescue when a group order is placed. Cost is \$15 for large print, \$14 for standard print. Orders must be received by **Jan. 31** to qualify for the donation. Call Marianne Riek, 589-9674, to place order.

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**, 8:30 a.m. to 2 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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EVENTS

MASTER GARDENERS GARDEN EXPO: Garden Expo with Seed Share! Free Seeds! Seeds not required from customers. Receive Gardening Info. Raffle Baskets ! Door Prizes ! Come Saturday-Jan. 18, 2025. Time: 9:30 am – 12:30 p.m. Location: Louisa County Middle School, 1009 Davis Highway, Mineral, VA 23117. Sponsors: Louisa Extension Master Gardeners. Inclement Weather Date is Jan. 25, 2025.

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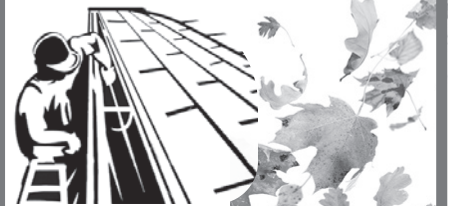
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Portrait project celebrates descendants of free and enslaved Fluvanna residents

Artist Bryan Fair paints Jana Harrison.

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE FEAZEL

“The world will see me now!” enthused Fluvanna resident Reatha Holloman after sitting for a portrait done by local artists as part of the “Looking Back, Seeing Now” collaboration between the Fluvanna Black community and local artists.

She was one of 17 Fluvanna citizens, all descendants of enslaved or free people of color, who sat for portrait paintings and photographs in the project to celebrate their accomplishments and history. More sittings are being planned.

The art show resulting from “Looking Back, Seeing Now” will open Feb. 2, 2-5 p.m. at the Fluvanna County Public Library. It will include a short program, artists, portrait sitters, food and live music. The display will be open at the library for a month, followed by exhibits at Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital in May and June, and at the Center at Belvedere in July and August.

Linda Staiger organized the project when the Fluvanna Historical Society was looking for portraits of local African Americans, and she said “the project grew from there.” Artists have met once a month for 18 months to do portraits of many of the Fluvanna African Americans who are descendants of either an enslaved or free person of color who lived in Fluvanna. In each portrait session, several artists paint each model, resulting in multiple images of each sitter.

Each sitter was also interviewed, sometimes for several hours, for an oral history including their ancestry and personal story. The narratives, organized by Fluvanna residents Nadine Armstrong, Melissa Hill, and Kathy Swenson Miller will be available on the project website: <https://www.lookingbackseeingnow.com>.

Loretta Johnson-Morgan said she was skeptical and nervous at first about

sitting for a portrait, but it turned out to be “a good experience. This is a great way to bring out the experience of African Americans in Fluvanna. Nothing like this is really being displayed anywhere, and it helps tell the story of some wonderful people and what they have done and accomplished.”

Fluvanna’s sizeable African American community has lived here for at least 150 years. “This project aims to memorialize the continuing thread of life and community in the Fluvanna Black community,” Staiger said. “Portraiture has historically been elitist, reserved for those of wealth and power. We want to turn the artist’s view to these neighbors, to express that they are worthy of being seen. This project is also about building a more racially integrated community.”

The project is important for the community because it helps people see people “that they know, but really never knew, until now,” said Nadine Armstrong. She said it’s especially important to highlight some of the older residents that are relatives of enslaved people who lived in the county.

“With a portrait it gives you some idea of what their ancestors looked like and what they have gone through.”

A dozen local artists participated in the project. Staiger said she worked hard to recruit Black artists, and some have participated, including Virginia Commonwealth University Professor Clinton Helms. “We want to start people talking about the gap between the races, building trust,” Staiger said.

“We are working on building a better community – the kind I want to live in, integrated and appreciative of art and creativity.”

The artists are all volunteers, and each paints the models in their own way, and ultimately can keep the portraits, though some are given to the models or donated to the Fluvanna Historical Society and other local groups.

“It’s important that this project recognizes the sitters, and that they have representation,” said Lake Monticello artist Tom Tartaglino, who participated in about half of the sittings. “These are people that work hard and never get representation, and this is part of that. This is about painting to understand these people and their lives and their histories.”

Sitters, who are encouraged to present themselves as they want to be seen, volunteer their time in return for a donation to their favorite charity, and get a high-resolution digital copy of their portraits. The project, including lighting and other equipment, has been funded by Staiger, using a small bequest she received. She said she will be looking for grants, donations or other funding to expand the project and make it available to more viewers.

The project also includes digital mapping of the communities where enslaved people lived in Fluvanna and where many of their descendants still live. The project will continue, focusing on those who received education in schools their communities built for themselves.

Staiger is looking for future display venues, after the Sentara Martha Jefferson and Center at Belvedere exhibits, and hopefully an archive in Fluvanna to make information available to current and future generations.



Portrait of Reatha Holloman. Photos courtesy of Linda Staiger



Portrait of Loretta Johnson-Morgan.

“This project aims to memorialize the continuing thread of life and community in the Fluvanna Black community.”

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