

# Fluvanna

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## REVIEW

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OUR DATA SPEAKS VOLUMES

On the cover: Cover design by Amelia McConnell.

**DEADLINE** Advertising due by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for the issue released eight days later. Submissions, letters and calendar items due by Friday at 9 a.m. for the subsequent paper.  
**DISPLAY AND WEB ADS** For information including rates and deadlines, call Rae Alberts at 434-207-0223.

**GENERAL**

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

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

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

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

**LEGAL ADS**

The *Fluvanna Review* is the paper of record for Fluvanna County. Call Rae Alberts at 434-207-0223 to place a legal ad.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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

**WEDDINGS, PROPOSALS, ANNIVERSARIES**

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**NEWS HOTLINE**

If you see news happening, call 434-591-1000.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

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

**THIS WEEK'S PET DUNCAN**

**Meet Duncan!** This adorable tripod is friendly, loves to play, and enjoys head rubs. Duncan loves long walks as well where he can explore. Despite one missing leg, he really is such a perfect pup. Duncan cannot wait for his forever family to come pick him up! So please, if you find this guy as charming as we do, come meet him today! Duncan came to us as a stray with his front left leg amputated, but we unfortunately do not know why. This however does not slow this big boy down. He is incredibly sweet with every person he has met, even when he was scared of the new environment.



**Adoption fee paid for and sponsored by a donor.**

Recently written by his previous adopter: returned after two fights with the resident dog. We are at this time recommending him to be an **only dog**.

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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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**STORE WIDE SALE**  
**50% off Christmas items**  
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With a heavy heart BLENDED will be closing Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 2 p.m. The Family has owned the building for 150 years and the landlord has decided to sell it to a family member. We must vacate on December 31, 2024.

BLENDED'S owner and staff would like to thank everyone for their patronage these last 4 1/2 years and for helping to make BLENDED a successful Gordonsville store! We have met many people from many parts of the country who have become our friends. Our memories of the good times will live on in our hearts.

B. Gibbon's Estate Sales, 804.347.9966, will continue holding the usual estate sales in Lake Monticello and surrounding areas.

Please come celebrate our success and shop for those one-of-a-kind deals, before our doors close December 31<sup>st</sup>.

*With best wishes to you all - Happy New Year!*

**SALE HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS**

Friday-December 27 ..... 11:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Saturday-December 28 .... 11:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Sunday-December 29 ..... 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
Monday-December 30 ..... 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

**FINAL DAY:**  
**Tuesday December 31... 11:00 am to 2:00 pm**

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*Christmas*



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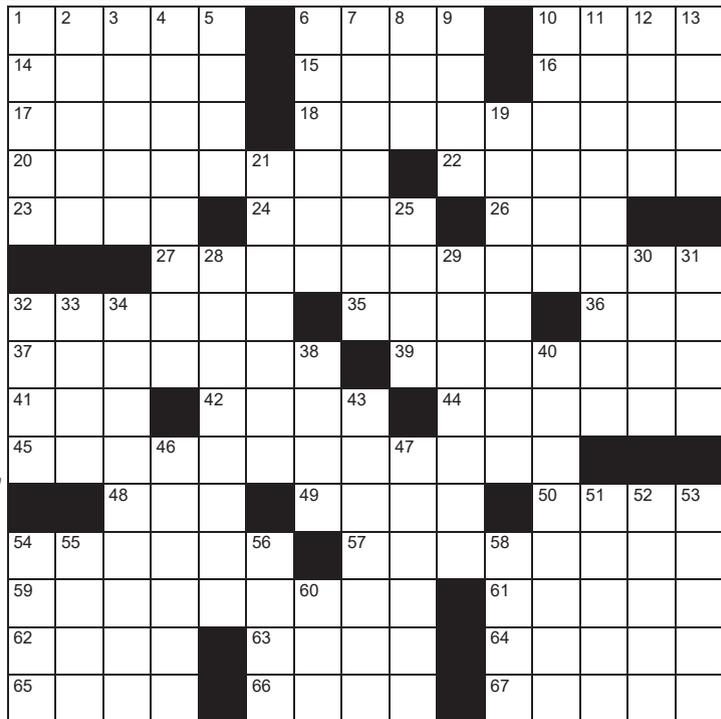


HOURS: MON to FRI-6:30 am 'til 4:30 pm and SAT-6:30 am 'til NOON

# The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

- ACROSS**
- 1 Caravan beast
  - 6 In things
  - 10 Sluggers' stats
  - 14 Amazon assistant
  - 15 Here, in Madrid
  - 16 Slangy ending for "buck"
  - 17 Wallops
  - 18 It may keep things moving
  - 20 Gilbert and Sullivan work
  - 22 Hits, old-style
  - 23 TV's "\_\_\_-Team"
  - 24 Longings
  - 26 LA clock setting
  - 27 Business tax deduction
  - 32 Squid cousins
  - 35 Sounds of reproof
  - 36 Course setting: Abbr.
  - 37 Field for Marie Curie
  - 39 Stops
  - 41 Listening device
  - 42 Alley prowlers
  - 44 Odd pages
  - 45 Race with jumps
  - 48 To and \_\_\_
  - 49 Unit of loudness
  - 50 Feature of 1-Across
  - 54 Laughed loudly
  - 57 Hertz rival
  - 59 Paycheck deduction
  - 61 \_\_\_ cum laude
  - 62 Lenovo competitor
  - 63 Relaxed gait
  - 64 Writer Asimov
  - 65 With a discount of
  - 66 Figure in red
  - 67 Perception



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- 3 Free-for-all
- 4 Arch's outer curve
- 5 Use a surgical beam
- 6 Lose momentum
- 7 Iconic hairspray brand
- 8 Do a voice-over
- 9 Knights
- 10 Certain bigot
- 11 Most ill-mannered
- 12 Skye of "Say Anything"
- 13 They're often loaded
- 19 Stalemates
- 21 Hardly surprising
- 25 Missile in '90s news
- 28 "Paradise Lost", e.g.
- 29 Repeating
- 30 Catch or latch follower
- 31 Capone's nemesis
- 32 Prefers, with "for"
- 33 Online dialogue
- 34 Bodoni and Bookman, e.g.
- 38 One of Hitchcock's 39
- 40 Cold storage
- 43 Spirit of Salzburg
- 46 Proofer's finds
- 47 Deceptive schemes
- 51 Deprive of courage
- 52 Michelle and Cass
- 53 Finish second
- 54 Iranian money
- 55 Years back
- 56 Farmer's place, in a kids' song
- 58 Goddess of fertility
- 60 Overly

**Answers to Previous Crossword:**

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

# SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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

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

# Supervisors talk sign cleanup challenges

BY HEATHER MICHON  
CORRESPONDENT

If Fluvanna County residents want political and business signs removed from private property off county roadways, they need to file complaints.

This was the message from the Board of Supervisors on Wednesday night (Dec. 18) during a discussion of sign regulations and enforcement.

Under county ordinances, political signs can be put up a "reasonable amount of time" before an election but must be removed within ten days after the election.

However, over a month after Election Day, a dozen or more yard signs and banners for candidates of both parties are still visible on all major county roads. Director of Planning Todd Fortune said they had received at least four citizen complaints over the previous three weeks.

Supervisors have struggled with sign enforcement for years. Major intersections are often cluttered with small signs promoting businesses and services, with political signs proliferating during campaign seasons.

Most fall within the VDOT right-of-way and can be removed by road crews. In a November report, VDOT administrator Scott Thornton's office said his crews had removed 750 pounds of signs in a two-day sweep of Fluvanna.

Signs that sit on private property beyond the rights-of-way fall under county jurisdiction. Fortune and County Attorney Dan Whitten said those violating the ordinance could be issued a notice and be given time to correct the situation. Failure to comply could eventually result in prosecution.

Supervisors appeared generally reluctant to use limited county resources to go after violators. "I don't know this is really much of an issue unless somebody makes a complaint," said Chris Fairchild (Cunningham).

"I understand your frustration, but I just think you have to look at this and say, we have a limited amount of money that our county can spend enforcing this," said Tony O'Brien (Rivanna). "Probably there's other things that are more serious to enforce."

Residents can file anonymous complaints on signs or other zoning code violations using the form at <https://www.fluvannacounty.org/planning/webform/report-concern>

**Public health funding**

Supervisors also revisited a request for carryover funds that had been denied at its Dec. 4 meeting.

Ryan McKay, director of the Blue Ridge Health District (BRHD), renewed a request for the department to retain \$61,000 in unspent funding from Fiscal Year 24 (FY24). If not carried over, the funds must be returned to the county's general fund.

BRHD wanted to use the funding

to maintain and expand its testing program for sexually transmitted diseases and to fund two temporary contract positions for the MAPP (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships) program.

MAPP2Health is designed to connect organizations and community members and create programs that help improve health outcomes for all citizens. According to McKay, the two MAPP positions would be out in the communities, "gathering information, conducting focus groups, [and] meeting with key stakeholders" across the district. Other localities would also contribute to funding the work.

Supervisors were concerned about the timing of the requests, asking why McKay did not just ask for the funding during the upcoming budget season. McKay countered that doing so would delay posting and hiring for the position,

Mike Goad (Fork Union) noted that the request did not fit the county's criteria for carryover funds, which is usually reserved for uncompleted projects delayed due to unforeseen circumstances.

However, the supervisors can approve requests that fall outside the criteria. At the Dec. 4 meeting, they authorized around \$400,000 in carryover funds to the schools for new projects. "Well, we set the bar at school safety," he argued. "I think we can all agree it's okay to buck policy there."

A motion by O'Brien to approve the \$61,000 request failed on a 2-2 vote, with Mike Sheridan (Columbia) absent from the meeting. After further debate, consensus was built around a compromise amount of \$30,000. This motion passed 4-0.

Supervisors will next meet on Jan. 8 at 5 p.m. for their annual organizational meeting, followed by their regular meeting and a 7 p.m. budget work session.

## Upcoming talk features director of the Virginia Center for the Book

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD  
CORRESPONDENT



Kalela Williams. Photo by Carlton Melton

For those who are avid book lovers, on Jan. 8, at 10 a.m., Friends of the Library welcomes Kalela Williams, author and director of the Virginia Center for the Book in Charlottesville to talk about her new book, the center, and the upcoming Festival of the Book.

Williams' passion for the written word has led her on a lifelong journey, pursuing writing and self-expression in her work.

"I grew up near Atlanta, Georgia, where some of my favorite occasions were scholastic book fairs at school, going to the East Point Library, and going across town to Oxford II, a huge used bookstore in Buckhead, or the Shrine of the Black Madonna in the West End for Black-authored books," she said. She then attended Mary Washington College (that's what it was called back in the day) where I got a degree in English. A few years later, she graduated from Goddard College with an M.F.A. in Creative Writing.

Growing up reading and loving the worlds she was immersed in through books led her to writing.

"I knew I loved to write almost from the time I could hold up a pencil. When I was in the second grade or so, learning some basic vocabulary words that we'd have to use, one per sentence, I would make it so that my sentences told a story. A few years later, my mom bought me a marbled composition book, and I found I could spend all day scribbling."

Like authors of her generation, she combines history with fiction to create compelling stories. Her current novel *Tangleroot*, was inspired by Virginia's history. In a previous job for a non-profit, she says she drove around Central Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley, meeting with volunteers. The towns she spent time in inspired a setting for a fictional place she calls Magnolia, Virginia. She explains her vision in a unique way that is powerful and deeply felt.

"The imposing plantation homes I saw rising behind the trees made me envision the Black residents who lived and were forced to labor there, and I wanted to tell their stories. The old cemeteries tucked behind iron gates made me think about the past, too, those buried with marble markers, and those whose graves

lay unmarked and forgotten," she said. She wanted to have a contemporary girl, become the centerpiece of her story, and Noni Reid, became her main character. She adds that she wanted to seat her in conflict with her mother because ultimately, she saw this as a mother-daughter story. But it is also a story about black history and a young girl's discovery of the past and what it means for her in the present.

While writing is what most writers do on the side while keeping a day job, Williams has been lucky to stay within her realm of expertise and build on it. After graduate school, she worked in the University of Virginia's Admission Department. She began teaching creative writing, as the Assistant Director of Furious Flower Poetry Center at James Madison University, and then in public program directorships at the Free Library of Philadelphia and later Mighty Writers, a Philly-based youth organization.

Her current job as director for the Virginia Center for the Book incorporates a variety of events and activities, including the visual arts. The Virginia Center for the Book has a Book Arts Program that offers workshops, artist talks, *Block Nights*, where artists can get together and work on projects, K-12 activities, and other public programs, such as 2025's *Alpha Buzz Series*, which explores the use of cool, portable hand presses. They have memberships available for hobbyists and professional artists alike to use the Book Arts Center studio, located in the Jefferson School City Center.

"Bookmaking and printmaking have always been interests for artists, and we're keeping the fun alive." The Virginia Center for the Book offers year-round programs. This past fall, they hosted a book launch for author Aran Shetterly, a book talk with bestseller author Amor Towles, and one of the Books and Brews event series, in the Shenandoah Valley, featuring local author Evan Friss.

Spring and summer promise to bring more programs in other parts of the state."

Festival of the book is a book lover's paradise, and the center will be hosting the festival from Thursday, March 20-Sunday, March 23. They will announce its official schedule in January.

"We are gearing up for an amazing series of events. We'll have everything: thrillers and true crime, science and climate change, history, fiction and poetry of every stripe. The two headliners who we are so excited about are Emma Donoghue and Louis Bayard, who will be in conversation together about their new books."

Williams adds that with the Virginia Center for the Book being a part of Virginia Humanities, they have so much to look forward to. The Virginia Humanities is celebrating their 50th anniversary with events that incorporate the work of all of our departments, and with programs in all regions of the state.

### To gain momentum, you have to start!

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**CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 21** [pvcc.edu/spring-momentum](http://pvcc.edu/spring-momentum)

## RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

### 2025 Social Security Changes

Find out how your benefits have changed

#### Average Retirement Benefits Starting Jan. 2025

Average Benefits - All Workers

- 2025: \$1,976/mo (+\$69)
- 2024: \$1,907/mo

#### Maximum Benefits for Workers Retiring at Full Retirement Age

- 2025: \$4,018/mo (+\$196)
- 2024: \$3,822/mo

An 2.5% cost of living increase for Social Security retirement benefits and SSI payments begins with December 2024 benefits (payable in January 2025).

Increase your Social Security retirement benefits by 5-8% per year when you delay applying until you're age 70.

#### Social Security Revenues & Expenditures

Revenue Sources = \$1.35 trillion

- 3.7% - Taxation of benefits
- 5.0% - Interest
- 91.3% - Payroll taxes

Expenditures = \$1.39 trillion

- 0.4% - Railroad Retirement financial inter change
- 0.5% - Administrative expenses
- 99.1% - Benefit payments

SOURCE: 2024 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds, Table II.B1.

#### 2025 Social Security & Medicare Tax Rates

Your employer pays **7.65%**

As an employee, you pay **7.65%**

If you're self-employed, you pay **15.3%**

NOTE: The above tax rates are a combination of 6.2% for Social Security and 1.45% for Medicare. There is also a 0.9% Medicare wages surtax for those with wages above \$200,000 single (\$250,000 joint filers) that is not reflected in these figures.

Item	2025	2024	Change
Maximum earning amount subject to Social Security tax	<b>\$176,100</b>	\$168,600	+\$7,500
Maximum amount you may pay in S.S. taxes (6.2%)	<b>8</b>	3	5

• **184+ million** people work and pay Social Security taxes

• Social Security has provided financial protection for Americans **since 1935**

• Social Security (SS) retirement benefits are for people who have paid into the Social Security system through taxable income.

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• **Social Security Disability** (SSD or SSDI) benefits are for people who have disabilities but have paid into the Social Security the system through taxable income.

• **Supplemental Security Income** (SSI) benefits are for adults and children who have disabilities, plus limited income and resources.

#### Maximum SSI Payments

Filing Status	2025	2024	Change
Individual	<b>\$967/mo</b>	\$943/mo	+\$24
Couple	<b>\$1,450/mo</b>	\$1,415/mo	+\$35

#### How does Social Security work?

- When you work, you pay taxes into Social Security.
- The Social Security Administration uses your tax money to pay benefits to people right now.
- Any unused money goes into Social Security trust funds and is borrowed by the government to pay for other programs.
- Later on when you retire, you receive benefits.

#### How to qualify for retirement benefits

When you work and pay Social Security taxes, you earn **credits** toward benefits. The number of credits you need to earn retirement benefits depends on when you were born.

- If you were born in 1929 or later, you need 40 credits (10 years of work) to receive retirement benefits
- You receive one credit for each \$1,810 of earnings in 2025
- 4 credits maximum per year

#### Did you know you can check your benefits status before you retire?

• You can check online by creating a my Social Security account on the SSA website. If you don't have an account, you'll be mailed a paper Social Security statement 3 months before your 61st birthday.

• It shows your year-by-year earnings, and estimates of retirement, survivors and disability benefits you and your family may be able to receive now and in the future.

• If it doesn't show earnings from a state or local government employer, contact them. The work may not be covered within Social Security.

Sources: SSA.gov

It is not too late to reduce your upcoming tax bill, but act now 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](mailto:info@rwftaxservices.com) to make your appointment now!

**265 Turkey's Trail #101, Palmyra, VA 22963**

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT



## Fluco wrestlers win three matches at Jefferson District quad meet

BY DUNCAN NIXON  
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluvanna County wrestling team under Coach Craig Connor scored three victories on Dec. 11 at a four-school meet held at the Flucos' gym. Fluvanna crushed Western Albemarle 60-24. The Flucos topped Monticello High 46-36 and snuck past Goochland County 41-38.

In high school wrestling there are 14 weight classes stretching from 106 pounds to 285 pounds. Very few high school teams are able to fill all 14 weight classes. Accordingly, teams often forfeit weight classes, which costs six points, the same as a pin or fall. In their match against Western Albemarle, both teams forfeited two weight classes. In the matches that were contested, the Flucos won by a fall in match after match. Anthony Waguespack won by fall at 126. Kevin Sloan scored a pin at 132. Cassidy Realyea wrestling at 138 also pinned his opponent, as did Josh Green at 144. At 150, Andrew Panas scored six points for the Flucos. Jack Stull made quick work of his opponent at 157. At 165, it was Jonathan Gretz scoring a pin for the Flucos. At 190, the Flucos got a fast fall by Connor Monfalcone.

In their match against the Monticello Mustangs, the Flucos ten-point margin was closer than it looks. If in a single match, a fall scored by a Fluco wrestler had been reversed and the Mustang wrestler had scored the fall instead, the

Mustangs would have won the match 42-40. In this match, there were also two forfeits by each side. Winning for the Flucos were, Jordan Cambria at 113, Waguespack again at 126, Relyea again at 138, Green again at 144, Panas again at 150, Stull again at 157, and Turner Gretz at 190. All of these winners scored six points for pinning their opponent, except Stull who won five points by scoring a technical fall. When a wrestler has greatly outscored the opponent but has not recorded a fall, a technical fall is declared. Stull outscored his opponent 16-1.

The Flucos obtained a six point advantage in their match with Goochland, as the Bulldogs forfeited three weight classes and the Flucos forfeited two. In the contested matches, the Flucos scored falls in three weight classes. Daniel Woolstenhulme won by fall in the 120 pound class, Jonathan Gretz and Turner Gretz both pinned their opponents wrestling at 165 and 175 respectively. Panas contributed five points to the Fluco cause by recording a technical fall in the 150 pound class.

The Flucos have two big tournaments on the calendar in January. They host another Jefferson District contest on Jan. 15, and then host their annual Wensel Tournament on Jan. 18.

## State police ask for gift of safe driving during holidays

810 killed on roadways so far this year

With the holidays rapidly approaching, as well as the start of 2025, Virginia State Police is asking Virginians, and all travelling in the Commonwealth, to please drive safely in the coming days. Virginia State Police's goal this holiday season is that everyone makes it to their destination safely. Preliminary data indicates that as of Dec. 20, 810 people have lost their lives on a Virginia roadway this year. That number is twelve fewer than in 2023 on the same date.

"During the Thanksgiving holiday, it appears Virginians heeded our message, and we saw a decrease in fatalities," said Lt. Col Matt Hanley, interim superintendent of Virginia State Police. "We would like this trend to continue, and hopefully have a holiday where there are no fatalities out on the roads."

In order to get to your destination safely, Virginia State Police is asking drivers to avoid distractions, to slow down and stay within the speed limit, to buckle up, and to drive sober. In 2023, there were 293 people killed in an alcohol-related crash in Virginia, a nearly 7 percent increase.

If you do plan to attend parties this holiday season, there are several options to be able to get home safely:

Plan ahead. Designate a sober driver or call a friend, call family, call a cab or use public transportation.

If you know someone who has been drinking - Do not let them drive. Arrange another safe way home.

Remain alert for impaired drivers and do not hesitate to notify law enforcement by dialing #77 (hands free only or have a passenger call) to notify your nearest Virginia State Police Emergency Communications Center. Your actions could save someone's life.

A total of 335 people who were not buckled up died in a vehicle crash in 2023. Over Thanksgiving 2024, in only two of the fatal crashes could it be determined that the victim was wearing a seatbelt.

Virginia State Police is currently in the middle of the holiday "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign, with enforcement efforts designed to discourage driving while intoxicated.

## Deadline approaching for specialty crop farmers to apply for grants

PRESS RELEASE

Applications for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency's \$2 billion Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops program are due Jan. 8.

The program provides financial assistance to help specialty crop farmers expand markets and manage higher costs. The program focuses on producers of commercially marketed specialty crops including fruits (fresh and dried); vegetables (including dry edible beans and peas, mushrooms and vegetable seed); tree nuts; nursery crops, Christmas trees and floriculture; culinary and medicinal herbs and spices; and honey, hops, maple sap, tea, turfgrass and grass seed.

"Specialty crop farmers don't have access to risk management tools typically available for row crop producers," noted Tony Banks, senior assistant director of agriculture, development and innovation for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. "MASC is intended to provide financial assistance to help specialty crop farmers manage increased marketing costs and expand existing markets or establish new ones."

He added that MASC payments can help farmers pay for specialized handling and transport equipment with temperature and humidity control; damage-preventing packaging; and high labor costs. "However, the program doesn't require funds to be directed toward marketing-specific activities, allowing specialty crop farmers flexibility to use the financial assistance as needed," Banks explained.

To be eligible for the MASC program, producers must be in business at the time of application. They also must maintain an ownership share of producing a specialty crop that will be sold in 2025.

FSA will issue MASC payments after the end of the application period. For details, visit MASC Program or contact your local FSA office.

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DECEMBER 24, 27, 28

• CLOSED DECEMBER 25 & 26 •

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	Arctic Shore 2 lb. Shrimp 16/20 ct.	\$12.99

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## State police investigate drone tips

### Offer guide to rules for flying drones in Virginia

During the month of December, the Virginia Fusion Center (VFC), located within the Homeland Security Division of the Virginia State Police, has received more than 150 tips regarding drone activity in the Commonwealth. All of the tips are being investigated and shared with key stakeholders. This comes as there have been

reports of drones flying in other areas of the country, including in New Jersey.

Law enforcement is encouraging citizens to contact the Virginia Fusion Center at [vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:vfc@vfc.vsp.virginia.gov), if they see drones acting suspiciously.

"We encourage anyone that witnesses a drone flying over critical infrastruc-

ture, such as energy installations, or military sites, to contact the Virginia Fusion Center," said Virginia State Police Special Agent D. Robinson. "This will enable us to work with our partners to determine exactly what is occurring, and how to move forward."

Drones are required to remain in sight of either the operator or a visual observer and have a maximum allowable altitude of 400 feet unless waived by federal regulators. Operators are required to have a remote pilot certificate for recreational use or a license from the FAA for commercial use. You can learn more about the rules and regulations at Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) | Federal Aviation Administration.

It is against the law to shoot at a drone. Airspace is governed by the Federal Government. State Law does prohibit flying drones within 50 feet of a residence, unless the person is authorized by the federal government to operate and is doing so lawfully and consistent with federal regulations.

The Virginia Fusion Center Shield Program has released additional information on drones available at All Sectors Bulletin - UAV Assessment. All information bulletins distributed by the VFC Shield are public and are intended to be shared. The public is encouraged to sign up for this free outreach program by visiting <https://fusion.vsp.virginia.gov/shield>.

### Community Calendar

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



#### 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.

#### Mah Jongg players

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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at the  
**Fluvanna Review**



# Fluvanna REVIEW

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### 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 NOTICES



### 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 Planning Commission January 7, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

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:

**AFD 24:01 Withdrawal from the North 640 Agricultural and-Forestal District-A** request to withdraw a parcel from the North 640 Agricultural and Forestal District in accordance with County Code Section 3.1-13. This parcel located on 6.78 acres and known as Tax Map 30 Section 12 Parcel 3A. The Parcel is located on James Madison Hwy (US 15) in the area of Haden Martin Rd (SR 640) and is located in the Rural Residential Planning Areas and the Fork Union Election District.

Copies of the complete text of the above ordinances are 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.



### SENATE OF VIRGINIA, DISTRICT 10 SPECIAL ELECTION TUESDAY, January 7, 2025

MEMBER, SENATE OF VIRGINIA, DISTRICT 10

AN ACCEPTABLE ID IS REQUIRED TO VOTE.

**Tuesday, December 31st, 2024:** Last day to register to vote or change your voter registration information (i.e. name or address) for this election. Mailed voter registration applications must be sent to the Fluvanna County Office of Elections and received on or before close-of-business Tuesday, Dec. 31st.

#### EARLY VOTING

**In-Person Early Voting will begin on Friday, Dec. 27th through Saturday, Jan. 4th. Curbside Voting will be available for voters with disabilities.**  
Open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.  
**OPEN on Saturdays Dec. 28th and Jan. 4th 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, January 4, 2025:** Last day to vote early in-person in the Registrar's Office.

#### VOTE-BY-MAIL ABSENTEE VOTING

**Friday, December 27, 2024:** Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail. Applications must be received in the Office of Elections Office by 5 p.m.

**DROP BOX LOCATIONS: Registrar's Office during business hours and at each voting precinct on Election Day.**

**Friday, January 10, 2025:** All absentee ballots being returned by MAIL must be clearly postmarked on or before election day (01/07/2025) and delivered to the Office of Elections by the postal service by NOON (EST) on Friday the 10th to be counted.

**ELECTION DAY POLLING HOURS: 6 A.M. – 7 P.M.**

Joyce W. Pace, Director of Elections & General Registrar  
265 Turkeysag Trl, Suite 115, Palmyra VA 22963  
TELEPHONE: 434-589-3593 • FAX: 434-589-6383  
Email: [jpace@fluvannacounty.org](mailto:jpace@fluvannacounty.org)  
Website: <https://www.fluvannacounty.org/registrar>



# LAKE VIEWS

NEWS FROM YOUR LAKE MONTICELLO NEIGHBORS

advertorial  
Content: LMOA

## Lakers Contribute to Meals On Wheels

LMOA is happy to share that the LMOA Merchandise Sale raised \$475 dollars for Meals On Wheels! A huge thank you to everyone who supported this initiative. We'd love to hear your thoughts on the items that were for sale and what you'd like to see next year, so feel free to drop us an email at [mhenry@lmoa.org](mailto:mhenry@lmoa.org).

## LMOA Utilizes Everbridge to Communicate Via Text

LMOA will start offering text alerts starting January 15, 2025, for emergencies, event updates, and community announcements via the Everbridge platform. Lake Monticello residents can sign up now and were sent a link via email on December 18, 2024, and there will be reminders in the weekly GM Corner. Registering is easy and residents can choose the types of messages they want to receive and how (email and phone calls are also available). LMOA encourages all residents to register because LMOA's regular email service may not be available during storms, while Everbridge is a more reliable option. Member Services can help if needed. For more information, please visit [lmoa.org](http://lmoa.org).

## LMOA Holiday Closures

- Most of LMOA's staff will be celebrating the holidays on December 24 and 25 and January 1, so our Main office will be closed. The Residential Standards and Barcode Offices and the Marina will be closed the whole week of Christmas and

New Year's Day. We thank the LMPD, the Main Gate, and other emergency staff who will be providing service throughout the holiday season!

- Project and construction applications will not be reviewed again by the Environmental Control Committee until January 7, 2025.
- Bunker Bistro will be closed December 24 -26, and 31.
- There will be no GM Corner in the week of Christmas and no Lake Views on January 2.
- Trash is delayed by one day for Christmas and New Year's.

## Safety & Security Committee Seeks New Members

This committee seeks Lake homeowners who are eager to contribute to the safety and enhancement of our community. Members provide guidance to the Board on safety and security tasks, evaluate the effectiveness of safety services, and suggest policies that address the community's needs. If you wish to join this committee, please request the application link by emailing [krivera@lmoa.org](mailto:krivera@lmoa.org). Applicants will be reviewed by the LMOA Board in January.

## Residents See No Refund from Aqua Virginia in December

Earlier this fall, Aqua Virginia's Communications Specialist, Heather Keefer, reported that customers in this area would receive a credit on their December bill; however, the credit has not yet been issued. LMOA has been in contact with her and is awaiting an explanation,

which will be relayed as soon as possible.

## Lake's Holiday Tree Disposal

LMOA will offer live holiday tree drop-off at Tufton Pond from December 30 to January 19 for Lake Monticello residents. Please remove all decorations, lights, and stands, and do not leave trees beside the road and follow signs to the drop-off area. Tufton Pond is on Tufton Lake Lane between Sunset Court and Northwood Road. These trees will be chipped. If you prefer disposal with trash, GFL requires cutting trees into small pieces that fit in your tote (the lid must close). This will go to the landfill.

## Bunker Bistro Hosts New Year's Eve Party

It's a Roaring 20s party at the Ashlawn Clubhouse on December 31! Go to [bunkerbistro.com/new-years-eve/](http://bunkerbistro.com/new-years-eve/) to reserve tickets for dinner and a night of fun! Royce Campbell will play guitar during dinner which takes place from 5 - 7:30 PM at \$75/person. Enjoy a Prime Rib Station, Pasta Station, Salad Station, and Dessert Station! Or just come after dinner for Late Night Music which costs \$25/person at the door with champagne toast, hats, noisemakers, and an 11:30 PM snack buffet (dinner guests pay just \$15 for party tickets). "ZUZU'S HOT 5" will play from 9:30 PM - 12:30 AM. The Ashlawn Clubhouse is located at 41 Ashlawn Blvd.

## Safety Tips From Chief Richie

As always, Fire Chief Richie Constantino is concerned for your

safety and wants to share tips on preventing fires during the holidays. Unattended candles, overloaded outlets, faulty decorations, and dry trees can all devastate a household. Following these tips can save lives:

- Make sure you only purchase artificial trees and lighting that is UL-listed.
- If you buy a live tree, cut 2 inches off the bottom of the trunk and place it in a stand with plenty of water, giving it at least one gallon every couple of days. Check the needles; the tree is too dry if they snap or fall off easily.
- Place your tree strategically away from heat sources like candles, space heaters, vents, radiators, and fireplaces - do not block stairways or exits!
- Use LED lights. They do not get as hot, and the plastic casing is less likely to break than a glass bulb.
- Electrical problems cause about 1/3 of Christmas tree fires. Check last year's decorations for damage.
- Do not overload outlets and power strips.
- Turn lights off when you leave the house.
- The Chief discourages the use of real candles; however, if you do use them, never leave burning candles unattended. Always avoid burning candles in the bedroom, where it's easy to fall asleep with one still lit. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Finally, always remember to call 911 in an emergency, not the Main Gate.

# A LOOK BACK AT 2024

POLITICS-FREE ZONE

NON-ELECTION CARTOONS DRAWN BY JOE HELLER

WE ALL COULD USE A BREAK!



## Atlantic Union Bank Offers 50 Paid Internship Grants for Community-Based Organizations

PRESS RELEASE

Nonprofits and community-based organizations have until Jan. 31 to apply.

Atlantic Union Bank's Future Community Impact Makers grant application program opens today for nonprofits and community-based organizations to support 2025 paid summer internship programs.

Fifty grants of \$4,000 each will be awarded across the bank's service area for a total community investment of \$200,000. This year, an additional 20 grants were added to the program.

"For students seeking to develop core skills and begin building their professional network, summer internships provide invaluable experience," said Nathalia Artus, Head of Community Impact at Atlantic Union Bank. "Our goal is to support organizations in providing these critical professional development opportunities and increase access to these experiences regardless of economic status."

Atlantic Union Bank will award up to 50 organizations with \$4,000 in grant funds to support an intern. The majority of the funding – \$3,600 – is intended to go directly to intern wages. Of the remaining \$400, \$150 is designated for associate management/recruitment costs and \$250 will be used for direct professional development costs, such as conference attendance or association membership. In addition, organizations will receive professional development and internship best practice resources.

Organizations must be community-based (e.g., nonprofits, government entities, community foundations, etc.), located in an Atlantic Union Bank service area, and commit to hosting an undergraduate- or graduate-level student in an eight-week, direct-permanent hire, paid internship program. The grant recipients will have full discretion on the intern's job description and hiring decision. Atlantic Union Bank will provide resources and guidance as needed.

Grant applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on Jan. 31. Awards will be announced by email no later than Feb. 17. Interested organizations can find more information and apply at [AUBCares.com](http://AUBCares.com).

LOCAL NEWS

IF YOU SEE NEWS HAPPENING, EMAIL US

[editor@fluvannareview.com](mailto:editor@fluvannareview.com)

## Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm named AITC Book of the Year

PRESS RELEASE

Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom has selected *Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm* by Lindsay H. Metcalf as its 2025 Book of the Year.

Volunteers will read the book to thousands of children during Virginia AITC's annual Agriculture Literacy Week, March 17-21.

With bright illustrations by Xin Li, *Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm* explores how produce is grown both inside and outside on farms. Readers can join best friends Emma and Efrem as they learn about their families' farms and the various farming equipment, innovations and techniques involved in growing the food we enjoy.

"This year's selection spotlights the diversity of agriculture and the technology used to produce food for our communities and worldwide," said Tammy Maxey, Virginia AITC's executive director. "Agriculture Literacy Week is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to share stories of farming with children across the commonwealth. Over 70,000 youth participate in this event annually, spurring their interest in agriculture and in growing food and fiber."

Now in its 15th year, Agriculture Literacy Week is AITC's largest educational event of the year, with thousands of volunteers reading to children across the commonwealth. The program helps

teach youth about the importance of agriculture, and about the origins of their food.

Copies of *Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm* are available for purchase at \$14 each from Virginia AITC, and a book order form is located on the Virginia AITC website, [virginia.agclassroom.org](http://virginia.agclassroom.org).

In addition to the book, orders will include free supplementary resources to expand learning at school and at home. Books will be accompanied by a volunteer guide, as well as other teaching resources to be presented to the classroom educator.

Volunteers are encouraged to read *Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm* to children in pre-K through third grade. Virginia AITC also will share highlights on its social media platforms throughout the week.

Agriculture Literacy Week participants include county Farm Bureau volunteers; Farm Bureau Women's Leadership and Young Farmers committees; FFA and 4-H members; partners from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and other state agencies; and members of other agricultural organizations and businesses. Colonial Farm Credit and Farm Credit of the Virginias have been supporters as well. For details or to order books, visit [virginia.agclassroom.org](http://virginia.agclassroom.org).



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### SERVICES

**DIVORCE-** Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. WILLS-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. <https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com>.

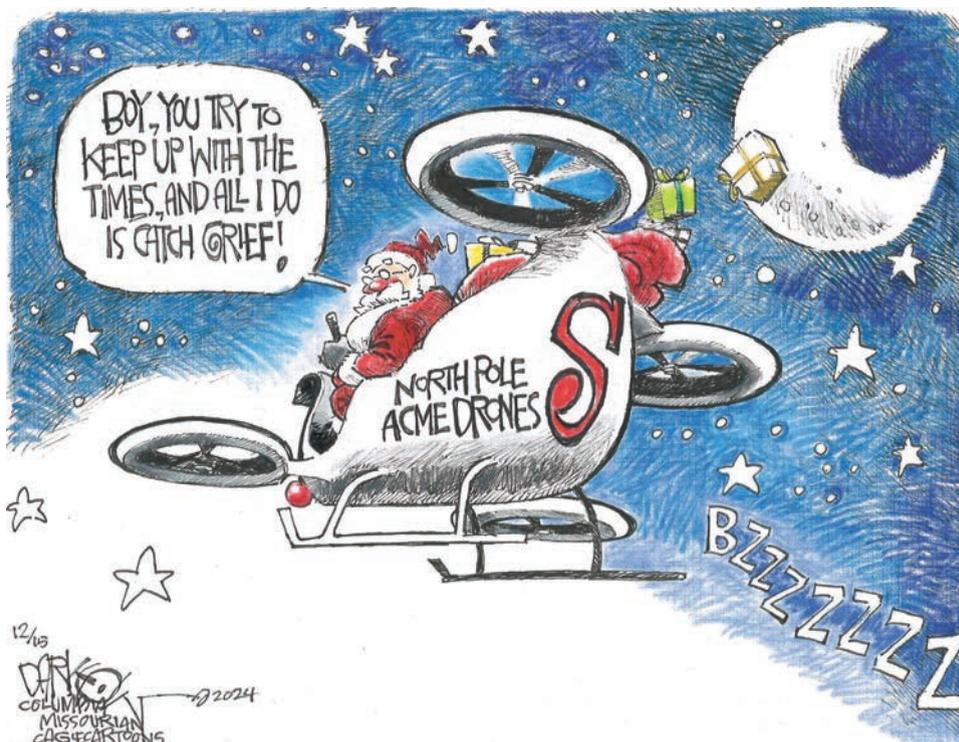
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Contact - Edee@fluvannareview.com, or stop by the office at 106 Crofton Plaza, Suite 1, Palmyra, VA. We can not take ads over the phone. Questions? Call (434) 207-0221. **Fee for the new year 2023 is \$10 for 40 word limit and .25 cents per word over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

**EVENTS**

**CENTRAL VIRGINIA VETERANS BREAKFAST** will NOT be scheduled in December due to the holiday season. The first breakfast in the New Year 2025 will be on January 25. Usual time of 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.

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**GENEVIEVE REILLY, REALTOR:** Long & Foster Gold Team, Lake Monticello Office - Thinking about selling or buying a new home? Let's work together to make that dream happen. "Energetic. Passionate. Knowledgeable. Devoted. All about the client." Call/ Text or e-mail me (434) 414-4453, genevievearlinereilly@gmail.com

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**FIRST VIRGINIA HOMES:** We provide Property Management services in Central Virginia Region. Also House Watch services. Call us at 434-589-3958. Look us up: www.firstvirginiahomes.com

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

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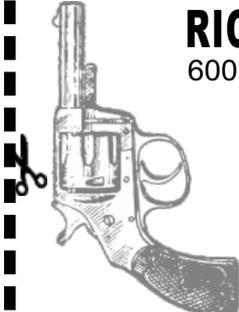
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REVIEW

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Meals On Wheels  
Shell Gas Station/Dunkin Donuts  
Tucker Griffin Barnes  
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Mailboxes/Jefferson Center  
Jefferson Pharmacy  
Salon DeShano & Spa  
Gia Italian Restaurant  
T-Mobile  
Food Lion  
Pleasant Grove House  
Fluvanna Sheriff's Office  
Fluvanna County Library  
E.W. Thomas Grocery  
Cuppa Joe  
Lake Centre Mailboxes  
Tractor Supply  
Beautiful Gate Church  
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Wahoo BBQ

Kidd's Store & Deli  
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Raceway Gas  
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Sal's Italian Restaurant, Fork Union  
Fork Union Pharmacy  
Fork Union Village Shopping Center  
Fork Union Post Office  
Fluvanna Community Center  
Columbia Store  
Columbia Post Office  
Central Elementary School  
Fluvanna Middle School  
Fluvanna High School  
Carysbrook Elementary  
Fluvanna Courthouse  
Fluvanna Chamber of Commerce  
Fluvanna School Board Office  
Campbell Tire  
Troy Post Office  
Royals of Troy  
Green Dogs Unleashed  
REMAX  
Kents Store  
Kents Store Post Office

### ALBEMARLE COUNTY

Keswick Post Office  
Tip Top Restaurant, Pantops  
Rivanna Gear & Apparel  
Bodo's Bagels, Emmett St.  
Bus Station/Water St., C'ville  
Bus Station 3rd. St./Water St.  
Trailway Station  
UVA Hospital Bus Stop/JPJ  
C'ville Water St. Parking Garage

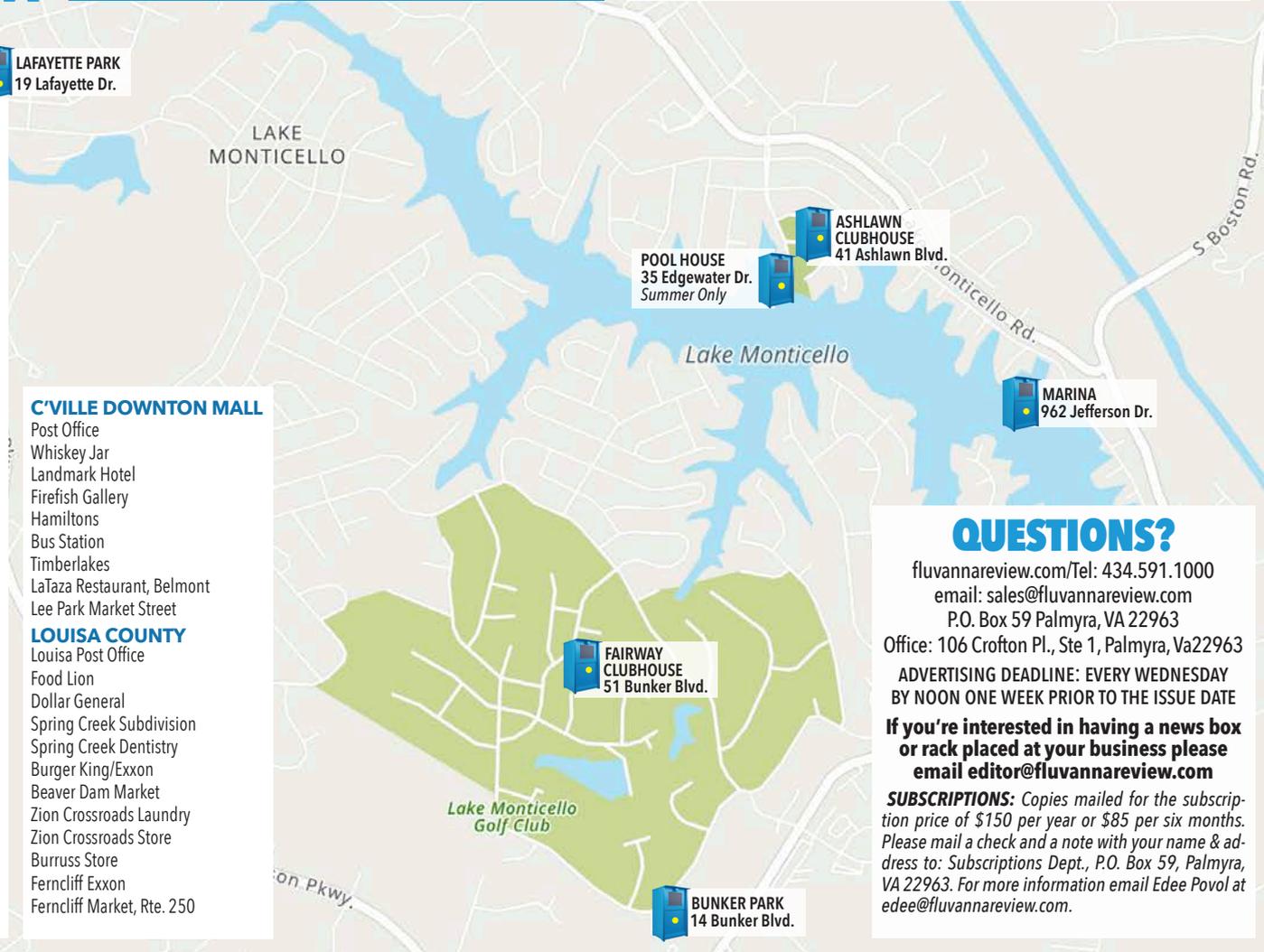
**LAFAYETTE PARK**  
19 Lafayette Dr.

### C'VILLE DOWNTON MALL

Post Office  
Whiskey Jar  
Landmark Hotel  
Firefish Gallery  
Hamiltons  
Bus Station  
Timberlakes  
LaTaza Restaurant, Belmont  
Lee Park Market Street

### LOUISA COUNTY

Louisa Post Office  
Food Lion  
Dollar General  
Spring Creek Subdivision  
Spring Creek Dentistry  
Burger King/Exxon  
Beaver Dam Market  
Zion Crossroads Laundry  
Zion Crossroads Store  
Burruss Store  
Ferncliff Exxon  
Ferncliff Market, Rte. 250



### QUESTIONS?

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email: sales@fluvannareview.com  
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I have come as a light to shine in  
 this dark world, so that all who  
 put their trust in me will no  
 longer remain in the dark.  
 John 12:46

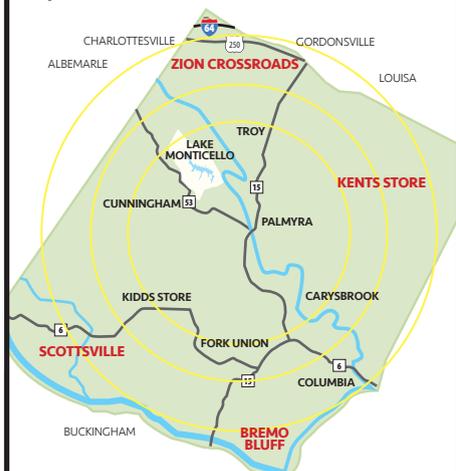


## Fluvanna REVIEW

# 6,200

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### QUESTIONS?

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**000 Bells Lane - \$219,900**



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**364 Jefferson Drive - \$2700/mo**



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**42 Hatchchubee Rd - \$330,000**



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