

Fluvanna REVIEW



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Fluco boys win big at VTCA indoor meet

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT



Garrett Jordon FCHS Track 11th Grade.

Fluco track standout Garrett Jordan turned in an impressive performance Jan. 9 at the VTCA (Virginia Track Coaches Association) indoor track meet held at the Rockingham Recreation Center in Penn Laird, Virginia. The Fluco boys team won the meet with more than double the points of the second-place school.

Jordan won four events, taking first place in the 55-meter sprint, 300-meter run, long jump and triple jump. He also anchored the Fluco 4x200 relay team, which finished second. Jordan broke both the meet record and the facility record in the triple jump.

Fluco coach Melanie Kennedy said Jordan is ranked 30th in the United States in the triple jump. He is state-meet qualified in the 55-meter, 300-

meter, and triple jump events. Jordan was also the leading running back on the Flucos football team this past fall.

There were several other top performers for the Flucos as well. For the girls team, Ruby Frazier placed first in the 1,600-meter run (the metric mile) with a state-qualifying time. Charlotte Gifford placed third in the pole vault, while Izabella Campbell placed fourth in the 300-meter run.

The boys team had strong performances in addition to Jordan's:

- Jack Jeffries placed first in the 1,600-meter run with a state-qualifying time and finished second in the 1,000-meter run.
- Ethan McPherson placed second in the pole vault with a state-qualifying vault.
- Matt Dillon placed second in the high jump.
- Jayden Wrigley placed fifth in the shot put with a state-qualifying throw.

The boys 4x200 relay team that finished second also included Dillon, Duncan Ferrell, and Zion Cheribin.

The Fluco indoor track and field team will compete in the Fred Hardy Invitational on Jan. 24 and at Woodberry Forest on Jan. 29 before the Jefferson District meet Feb. 4.



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Planning Commission rejects Tenaska's substantial accord request

Company plans appeal to supervisors

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

The Planning Commission denied Tenaska's application for a finding that the company's plans to build the massive 1.5 gigawatt natural-gas-fired 'Expedition Generation' plant were substantially in accord with Fluvanna's Comprehensive Plan.

The Jan. 13 meeting was originally expected to focus not only on substantial accord, but also on Tenaska's special-use permit application and a waiver allowing taller towers planned for the proposed Branch Road facility.

However, following a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors focused on the special use permit on Jan. 7, Tenaska requested that debate on the permit and waiver be deferred until Feb. 24. The commissioners agreed with the delay, and removed other, unrelated items from Tuesday's agenda to focus on the substantial accord issue.

They also moved the meeting to the Carysbrook Performing Arts Center to accommodate the anticipated audience. The auditorium was almost full for much of the meeting, which lasted over three hours.

Much of the meeting—about two hours—was devoted to public comments, as citizens stepped to the podium to share persistent and growing concerns about the plant's potential impact on the health of the county and its inhabitants.

"Many of us chose to live in Fluvanna precisely to avoid chronic exposure to industrial-scale pollution. We did not choose to live in New York or Los Angeles," said Jennifer Kingrea Ruffner. "We chose a rural county with a reasonable expectation of cleaner air, lower cumulative exposure, and land use decisions that reflect that character."

Judy Spellman believed that Tenaska had not adequately responded to concerns about land, water, air, and health issues that might impact county residents, "except for building taller towers and adding more trees. I'd like for the Planning Commission to adamantly require Tenaska to come up with alternatives and remediations for these issues." She asked commissioners to delay any decisions until all issues had been addressed.

"County leaders would choose the easy path, a single large income revenue stream, rather than the true local economic development that this county needs. It would be the easy path, but not the right path in green-lighting Tenaska's construction of a second large-scale factory here in

Fluvanna," said Sara Hernandez. "In that process, county leaders chose to disregard the known health impacts of these factories have on the surrounding communities. No, worse than that—they decide that they would double down on the danger to these citizens in the imme-

diate vicinity as an acceptable tradeoff for an easy win of income that brings almost no real economic benefit to the citizens of this county."

Substantial accord

Under Virginia law, major public projects and some major private projects must undergo a "substantial accord" review to allow governing bodies to determine whether a project aligns with the general spirit of the locality's Comprehensive Plan, a document that lays out community preferences for development over a 20-year period.

"Substantial," however, is one of those words that leaves room for interpretation. The law does not require a plan to be 100% in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan, which is itself designed to be general in nature.

Commissioners had already received a staff report finding that Tenaska's proposal, which would preserve about 700 acres near the plant, aligned with the Comprehensive Plan's goals for rural preservation, supported rural areas through economic development, and would expand the county's tax base. However, the report concluded the project did not advance the plan's goal of growing the county's solar, wind, and geothermal energy sector.

"Accordingly, staff finds that the proposed facility is substantially in accord with the Fluvanna County Comprehensive Plan, or 'part thereof,'" the report concluded.

Tenaska representatives argued to the commissioners that the plan met the standards set out by the Comp Plan.

Deliberations

Early in the discussion, commissioners raised concerns that signaled skepticism about approving the motion, with the vagueness of the law emerging as a central issue.

As in the commission's October meeting, discussion again centered on concerns about how to interpret "substantial accord," with Commissioners Kathleen Kilpatrick (Fork Union) and Loretta Johnson-Morgan (Columbia) emerging as the most vocal critics.

Kilpatrick argued that the laws were so vague as to give them no guidance. "Partial accord" and 'parts thereof' and bits and pieces here cumulatively do not define 'substantial accord,' she said.

Johnson-Morgan took things a step further: "This county needs to halt all development until the comp plan is completed and the ordinances are completed and they're working together and stop trying to put a band-aid on this big cut that we have right now."

The Comp Plan has been in limbo for several years. A required five-year update was due in 2020 but was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors. In September 2024, the Board of Supervisors re-adopted the 2015 plan with minor

revisions, and while advisory committees continue work on a full rewrite, a draft will not be complete until later in 2026.

In the end, a clear majority of commissioners felt they could not approve the motion, voting 3-1 to deny Tenaska's application, chair Barry Bibb (Cunningham) voting to approve. Commissioner Bob Dorsey (Rivanna) was absent.

Appeal

Tenaska quickly announced that they would appeal the decision to the Board of Supervisors.

"The project would directly support the

plan's stated goals of economic development and financial sustainability, rural area preservation and environmental resource protection," said company representative Timberly Ross in a statement released shortly after the meeting.

"We understand the level of scrutiny and diligence the county is putting forth. But we also believe the facts demonstrate the alignment of the proposed Expedition project with Fluvanna County's further prosperity," she wrote.

Supervisors had ten days to respond to the request, and have up to 60 days to hear an appeal.

RUDY TALKS TAXES

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

Getting Ready For Taxes

Plenty of tax changes are lining up as we move forward into 2026 and knowing what's coming can help you stay a step ahead. Before then, there's also several moves to make filing your 2025 tax return as easy as possible.

Preparing to file your 2025 tax return

• **Gather records to support deductions for no tax on tips and no tax on overtime.** Review the approved occupations for qualified tips and confirm the amount of this benefit you expect to claim in 2025. You will need proof of these claimed amounts. The same holds true for overtime pay. Employers are not required to issue W-2s or 1099s with this information in 2025, but they should provide you with the necessary confirmation of the dollar amounts. Compare these employer-provided amounts with your records to ensure they match prior to filing your tax return.

• **Look for new Form 1099-DA.** If you own cryptocurrency or other digital assets, you may see this new form. Starting with the 2025 tax year, exchanges and brokers must report certain cryptocurrency and digital asset transactions, so you should track cost basis, sale dates, and wallets used to avoid mismatches or questions from the IRS.

• **1099-Ks may still be issued.** You shouldn't see a Form 1099-K from a payment processor such as PayPal or Venmo unless you have 200 or more transactions amounting in more than \$20,000 in payments from the processor. But because of the many tax law changes in this area you may still receive a Form 1099-K in error. If you receive one, don't throw it away! Include it with your other tax documents for proper reporting on your 2025 tax return.

• **Review IRA and HSA accounts.** If you have an IRA or HSA account, you can make 2025 contributions up until either April

15, 2026 or the date you file your return, whichever is earlier.

What's new in 2026

• **Above-the-line charitable contributions.** You can deduct \$1,000 of charitable contributions if single or \$2,000 if filing jointly. This is available to you whether you use the standard deduction or itemize your deductions. There's also the introduction of a 0.5% floor for itemizing charitable contributions.

• **Itemized deduction phaseout is back.** If you're in the top 37% tax bracket, your itemized deductions could be reduced. This phaseout of deductions is being reintroduced beginning in 2026.

• **Gamblers take a loss.** Losses from wagering transactions are now limited to 90% of such losses. Under the previous law you could claim deductions up to the amount of your winnings. For example, if you won \$10,000 and incurred \$15,000 in losses over the course of a tax year, you could deduct \$10,000 using the previous law. Under the new law you can only deduct 90% of your losses, or \$9,000 in this example.

• **Mortgage insurance premiums** can be reported as an itemized deduction.

• **Elimination of many energy credits.** This includes the credit for purchasing electric vehicles after September 30, 2025 and the elimination of many residential energy efficient purchase credits at the end of 2025. So plan accordingly.

This year's tax law changes are complex and can be daunting. If you are in need of professional assistance, we would love to have a conversation with you. Time is of the essence. Don't wait to contact us for an appointment by calling 434-442-4044 or emailing info@rwftaxservices.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

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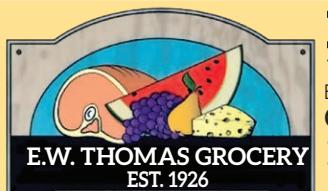
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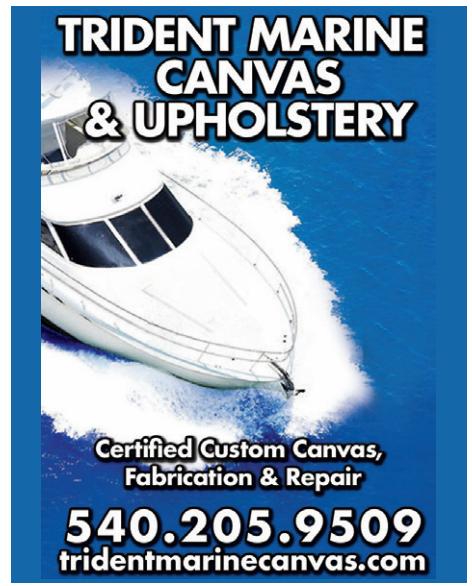
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C'VILLE DOWNTOWN MALL



School Board reorganizes, celebrates educators

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluvanna County School Board met on Wednesday (Jan. 14) to elect new leadership, set the stage for the busy budget season ahead, and then moved on to the main event of the evening: recognizing the recipients of the 2025-26 Teacher and Staff of the Year awards.

Superintendent Peter Gretz explained that teachers and staff were nominated by their peers “to recognize those who make exceptional contributions to our schools.”

Fluvanna County High School: Sherry Esch & Margie Brown

Principal Margo Bruce introduced Office Manager Margie Brown and FCHS English teacher Sherry Esch.

“The school does not operate if Margie is not there,” Bruce said of Brown. “She is my everything.”

If she were still in school, “I would want to be in Ms. Esch’s classroom,” Bruce said. “She just brings joy to the classroom.”

Fluvanna County Middle School: Alicia Patterson & Stacy Manuel

Principal Lara Dugolinsky said that Alicia Patterson was a star in the language arts department, “dedicated to her craft, fully invested in her students’ growth and progress, and consistently inspires those around her with creativity and commitment.”

Stacy Manuel, the school’s IT support technician, has tackled the many issues that go along with increasingly tech-dependent classrooms and “has dedicated countless hours to ensuring these successful rollouts” as each new tool is introduced.

Manuel is so dedicated, in fact, that she stopped during her own award ceremony to help the School Board staff with a faulty piece of recording equipment.

Carysbrook Elementary School: Jennifer Gross & Robert Palmer

Principal Scott Lucas said that Teacher of the Year Jennifer Gross “doesn’t realize how good she truly is,” adding that “she creates a learning environment where students feel valued, challenged, and encouraged to grow.”

Custodian Robert Palmer “just never stops,” said Lucas, “no matter what is needed, he’s there to take care of it. He takes so much pride in our school, in our staff, and in our students.”

Central Elementary School: Cynthia Peck & Troy Bates

“I could stand here and talk forever about Ms. Peck,” said principal Amy Barnabei of Cynthia Peck, “because I have the highest respect and love for this lady.”

Peck was recognized for her willingness to help staff, students, and fellow teachers. “But most importantly, she thinks outside the box.”

Custodian Troy Bates was not able to attend the ceremony, but Barnabei said he was “truly a role model and mentor for our students – he really is such an asset for us. He takes great pride in ensuring that our school environment is safe, clean, and welcoming for students, staff, and visitors.”

Peck and Bates were also named as Division Teacher & Staff Member of the Year.



Jennifer Gross and Robert Palmer



Alicia Patterson and Stacy Manuel



Margie Brown and Sherry Esch

New Year, New Leadership

Wednesday marked the first meeting for Sean Brennan (Columbia) and R. Anthony Edmonds (Fork Union), who were both elected in November.

Andre Key (Rivanna) was elected as chair, and Charles Rittenhouse (Cunningham) as vice chair.

Key guided members through a long list of committee assignments and policy approvals. Board members briefly debated the budget calendar before agreeing to hold a budget seminar on Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Meetings will continue to be held on the second Wednesday of the month, with public sessions starting around 6:30 pm.

The School Board will present its FY27 Budget to the Board of Supervisors on Feb. 25.



Cynthia Peck and Amy Barnabei

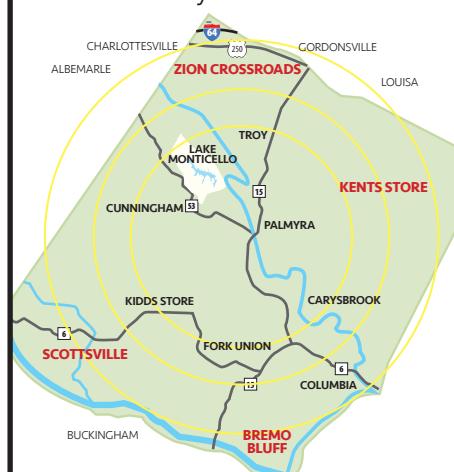
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Fluvanna Middle School | Second Quarter Honor Roll | 2025-2026

7th Grade - Principal's List

Aljiji, Duena
Arndt, Russell
Barcelona, Ionica Obriosca
Bass, Leah Rochelle
Beirne, Calvin Alexander
Butler, Ella Louise
Carter, Emma
Carter, Kayden Royce
Cary, Cameron Rose
Curtner, Hayden
Drumheller, Aubrey Raine
Dwiggins, Anna
Elliott, Maci Delaine
Esch, Joshua Wesley
Ford, Madelyn Rhea
Geffken, Matthew Thomas
Jasper, Andrew William
Ketola, David Michael
Koerper, Isabella Ellis
LaRochelle, Erin
Lewis, Aaliyah Mackenzie
Morgan, Olivia
Morris, Peyton Ann
Mundy, Julian Maximilian
Napier, Jae'Sean Edward-Lee
Payne, Harper
Pomare, Damian Roy
Seiden, Eliana Lee
Woolstenhulme, Jason Michael

7th Grade - All A's & B's

Amon, Andrew Sullins
Anderson, Jazmyne Ann
Bartley, Shania Lynn
Beichner, Declan Alexander
Black, Kyleigh Ann
Bobbio, Jason Lee
Boucher, Ava London
Bradley, Landon Shane
Bralley, Ty Walker
Brinkley, Aalimah Hadassah
Medehin
Bustillo, Michael Ethan
Christiansen, Kinsley Elyse
Claytor, Connor
Dane, Kayleigh Morgan
Davis, Carly Rose
Djunga, Toussaint Elemba
Drayer, Elijah Alexander
Dugan, Lily Michelle
Gardiner, Grant Birk
Glass, Grady Brent
Gunther, Claire
Hall, Scout Taylor
Henderson, Miles Xavier
Hoff, William Vincent
Houchens, Amiyah Grace
Houchens, Delilah Rose
Jernigan, David-Ray Henry
Kidd, Riley Marie
Lambert, Owen Michael
LaPerle, Isabelle Marie
Leconte, Shaddia Elisia
Mauck, Logan Davidson
McCall, Abby Rose
McComb, Keslie Belle
McLain, McKenzie Kristin
McLaughlin, Josslyn
Mehalic, Aiden
Menta, Averianne
Miller, Oliver Monroe

6th Grade - Principal's List

Nelson, Elijah Alexander
Porter, Annabelle
Portman, Silas Cole
Powell, Charles Benjamin
Rabinovitch, Reverie Belle
Rhea, Chloe Vivianna
Sadler, Stewart Matthew
Scopelliti, Owen
Scott, Jah'Vier Jaquice
Sherman, Semsati
Sidwell, Mason
Simonin, Rhiley Jayde
Snowden, Elijah James
Sweeting, Cameron Jeffrey
Thomas, Kenneth Brenden
Tyson, Dillon James
Villa-Sarceno, Evalyn-Marie
Whitley, Kendra-Lin Willow
Wortman, Wyatt
Wyland, Cori
Zlock, Deacon

6th Grade - All A's & B's

Aiello, Lily Anna
Allen, Bennett Robinson
Ayers, Angelina Grace
Barr, Zara Marie
Bean, Julian Quinn
Butler, Charles Patrick
Taylor, Addison Marie
Chidester, Clara
Cowger, Ethan Cole
Davis, Peyton Bella
Edwards, Georgia Ann
Elliott, Daniel Briggs
Fitz, Hadley Rebecca
Fornecker, Lily
Garfield, Cole Richard
Gehling, Cole Alexander
Gifford, David Douglas
Gitz, Carter Wayne
Goodwin, Avery Alexis
Green, Judith Marie
Hall, Cayden Bennett
Henderson, Abigail Clara
Howell, Emisyn Rylee
Howell, Laney Taylor
Johnson, Kamari Jalil
Livasy, Devon O'Malley
Lute, Parker
Mann, Jacob Matthew
Martens, Willa Louise
McKinley, Lily Elizabeth
Mosley, Ava
O'Brien, Miles River
Payne, Kendall Brooke
Pharr, Olivia Ruby Kjaer
Puccinelli, Matthew Joseph
Rohleder, Jaxon James
Ruddock, Joseph Matthew
Rusk, Evelyn Cadence
Stancil, Graham Caswell
Stone, Teagan
Torkornoo, Ethan Selasie
Williams, Jamierah Nicole
Wilson, Carter Blake
Worley, Grayson Walker
Yowell, Dawson Ronald

6th Grade - All A's & B's

Alessi, Cole
Aziz, Nasira Marie

Barlow, Luke Everett
Bland, Ashton Christian
Boothby, Miles
Brewster, Desmond Lewis
Burton, Logan Joseph
Combs, Henry
Cortez, Bryan
Covington, Easton Beckett
Denton, Alice
Diaz Nunez, Jesus Arturo
Donohue, Grace Elizabeth
Douglas, Ronzell Rahaan
Eichler, Anson DeWolfe
Evans, Colin William
Fauber, Zane Valor
Finch, Cassius James
Forbes, Giselle
Fusilier, Naomi Ray
Garcia, Natasha Xonixho
Gayda, Kaylee Inara
Gibson, Alaina Nicole
Good, Lilah
Gravitt, Natalie Jayne
Gross, Porter Quinn
Harris, Jasiah Price
Hawkins, Ethan Thomas
Hernandez, Isabella Angel
Herring, Kaiden Glenn
Hill, Jayce Alexander
Holdgrewe, Nathan Thomas
Huff, Gideon
Johnson, Alan Christopher
Johnson, Madoc Davin
Jones, Quinn
Jordan, Aryanna Alexandra
Jordan, Jonathan Avery
Kalinovsky, Brandon Michael
Kareem, Malak Myasar
Keller, Dallas Jayde
Lam, Jaxon Tyler Lee
Lerrick, Ava
Lein, Alexander Ethan
Long, William Pierce
Lucas, Serenity Chanel
Luniewski, Chase Matthew
Mahanes, Elley Ann
Mason, Alina
Mawyer, Leeanna Gracie
McCall, Barrett Reid
Meador, Leo Michael
Mendoza, Dominic Michael Robert
Mendoza, Liliana Elena
Menjivar, Sophia Valentina
Miller, Lukas Michael
Myer, Liam Lochlan
O'Brien, Murphy Conor
Ozoria-Hostos, Bryan
Payne, Meric Emerson
Placencia, Dylan Armando
Powell, Addalyn Grace
Reiff, Elijah
Rhea, Madelyn Grace
Ruhlman, Jordana Nicole
Samuels, Ezekiel Thomas
Sapp, Samantha
Scott, Sienna Grace
Scotto Di Vetta, Arianna
Serrano Hernandez, Tiffany Alexandra
Sharpe, Eli Brooks
Simmons, Adalynn Rose
Snoddy, Brianna Leigh
Sprouse, Arrington Marie

Stephens, Oliver Joe
Streaty, Sahara Valeska
Strickland, Levi Jerome
Strickland, Paxton Kolbe
Thompson, Caedan Wayne
Thompson, Elijah
Townsend, Braxton Wade
Trapp, Raylan David
Trent, Sydney Joelle
Vandevander, William Randolph
Waksmunski, Alexis Ann
Watson, Forrest Michael
White, Isla Clara

5th Grade - Principal's List

Adkins, Cariann Ruth
Aljiji, Duart
Arencribia, Brayden Cole
Bamford, Samuel Thomas
Brown, Charlotte Virginia
Carr, Myla Jo
Denby, Sadie Rea
Drayer, Jonah
Fornecker, John
Gentry, Elijah Phoenix
Godlewski, Violet Mavis
Harkrader, Joan Elizabeth Francis
Hartsock, Lucy Florence
Hughes, Benjamin Miller
Jones, Collin Pierce
Kirby, Brooke McKenzi
Lipscomb, Carly Ann
Lute, Hayden
McComb, Kashton Xander Jaxon
Messer, Juliana Hope
Moeller-Madere, Eris Violet
Persaud, Liliana Camille
Placencia Diaz, Angelina Monserrat
Rethemeyer, Dylan Jackson
Singleton, Stephon Ezra
Smith, Emry Leonard
Stargell, Liam Ashton
Stover, Cohen Alexander
White, Theo Michael
Wilder, Ryker Emery
Young, Clare Marie

5th Grade - All A's & B's

Albrecht, Ella
Allen, William Jace
Armstrong, Jessem Laron
Ashworth, Grayson Boyd
Bates, Isabel Yvette
Beck, Aubry Lynn
Billings, Khye
Birckhead, Keighton
Brewster, Barrett Martin
Cambria-Jackson, Amiraca Faith
Campagna, Reece Stephen
Carrico, Geneva June
Childers, Liam
Childers, Taydem Marie
Christianson, Ada Hasher
Collier, Lincoln Otis
Colwell, Lucas Alexander
Cosner, Laurel Elizabeth
Curtis, William Todd
Davis, Laycee Breanne
Desper, Brody Caleb
Diggs, Noah Wyatt-Antonio
Doyle, Sebastian
Doyle, Za'Niyah
Drumheller, Jaida
Earman, Matthew Paul
Edwards, Serenity Robert
Etheridge, Kyrie Jamir
Geffken, Katherine
Gianakos, Nicholas Dalton
Gray, Beckett Patrick
Grout, Emily Taylor
Grubb, Eleanor
Harrington, Henley Virginia
Hawkins, Mary Elizabeth
Henderson, Kennedy Lynn
Hernandez, Génesis Davette
Hourihan, Makenzie Leeann
Jernigan, Charlie Hope
Johnson, Charleigh
Jones, Penelope
Jordan, Lillian Rae
Jordan, Savien Jymere
Karnolt, Hannah Olivia
Kesner, Stella Dean
Kim, Alexandra Elise
Kinane, Bradley
Kirby, Everett Gage
Koontz, Lia Marie
Koontz, Skyler Brooke
Lambach, William Carl
LeBlanc, Sage Annabelle
Lewis, Chandler Jason
Louk, Colton
Martin, Mia Jane
Mason, Eli Edward
McClain, Garrett
McClanahan, Harrison George
McClanahan, James Austin
Morris, Noah Edward
Morris, Paisley Marie
Mozingo, Evan Phillip
Noble, Maddox Cole
Oliver, Holden Rea
Perkins, Alyza Brogan
Pinero, Amilia Maria
Price, Jacob
Proudfoot, Carlin
Reed, Macon Daniel Levi
Rivera, Amina Rose
Robbins, Cameron Dare
Robbins, Quinn Caroline
Scopelliti, Oliver Luke
Sheridan, Sadie Lee
Spencer, Olivia Brooke
Stewart, Katherine Nancy
Strickland, Stella Marie
Swope, Letty Estelle
Thompson, Chloe Grace
Timberlake, Amayah Renee
Trent, Mya Yvonne
Valdovinos, Sadie
Villa-Sarceno, Olivia Rose
Wagner, Avery Nicole
Wagner, Gunner Frank
Walding, Savannah Taylor
Wallace, Braelyn Nicole
Wear, Amelia Sunshine
Whitworth, Harper Michelle
Williams, Jeremiah Justice
Zarella, Luna Sophia

7th Grade

Anderson, Ja'zel
Bobbio, Jason
Brown, Tmyia
Claytor, Connor
Clements, Riley
Dringo, Stella
Dwiggins, Anna
Elliott, Maci
Esch, Joshua
Fisher, Isabelle
Gardiner, Grant
Gomez, Layla
Gunther, Claire
Jackson, Nariah
LeBlanc, Liam
Maldonado Castillo, Camila
McLaughlin, Josslyn
Rhea, Chloe
Schaarsmith, Leigha
Silverman, Harper
Sweeting, Cameron
Tallini, Mason

Waltz, Kole
Washington, Taevyon

6th Grade

Ayers, Angeline
Bonilla Villa, Jasmin
Booker, Lilyahna
Boothby, Miles
Burton, Logan
Chidester, Clara
Cowger, Ethan
Douglas, Ronzell
Evans, Flynn
Gehling, Cole
Good, Lilah
Goodwin, Avery
Henderson, Abigail
Howell, Emisyn
Howell, Laney
Jordan, Aryanna
Livasy, Liberty
Mann, Jacob
McKinley, Lily

McLaughlin, Sophiah

Meador, Leo
Rhea, Madelyn
Stone, Teagan
Torkornoo, Ethan
Trent, Sydney
Watson, Forrest
Waksmunski, Alexis
Wilson, Carter
Worley, Grayson

5th Grade

Aljiji, Duart
Arenicibia, Brayden
Bailey, Ryan
Bell, Lilly
Carrico, Geneva
Gianakos, Emma
Hemedi, Imani
Hernandez-Durantes, Kathy
Jensen, Scarlett
Johnson, Charleigh
Kenward, Aiden

Kinane, Bradley

Kingrea, Jack
Koontz, Skyler
LeBlanc, Sage
McClanahan, James
Morris, Paisley

Nolan, Thomas

Price, Jacob
Ragland, Easton
Ramos, Tynia
Reed, Macon
Rethemeyer, Dylan

Schaarsmith, Colby

Sisk, Wyatt
Trent, Mya
Turner, Layla
Wagner, Avery

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PUBLIC NOTICES



FLUVANNA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Fluvanna County School Board will hold a budget work session on **Wednesday, February 4, 2026**, at **5:30 p.m.** for the Superintendent's presentation of the FY27 budget.

A budget public hearing will follow at 6:30 p.m.

Both meetings will take place in the auditorium of the Fluvanna School Board Office, located at 14455 James Madison Highway, Palmyra, VA

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

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

Case No. 26CL43

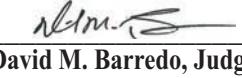
Michelle L. Palmer v. Wesley D. Walker

The object of this suit is to:
Obtain a No-Fault divorce

It is **ORDERED** that Wesley D. Walker appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before **March 26, 2026 at 9:00 AM.**

1/14/2026

DATED


David M. Barredo, Judge

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Community Calendar



QR Code provided by the Fluvanna Leadership Development Program

Fluvanna Flutterwheels Open House

Fluvanna Flutterwheels Square Dance Club's open house at the Fluvanna County High School will be held on Mondays, from 7 to 9 p.m. on **Jan. 19 and Jan. 26**. Casual dress. Great exercise. Great Fun. Questions? Call Janice @ (434) 286-2585 or Warren @ (434) 981-1747. We are on Facebook.

Cash, food accepted

Fluvanna Leaders for Race & Diversity (FLRD) is located at 14455 James Madison Highway in Palmyra. It is open on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It accepts cash and food donations. (434) 987-1938.

Food Pantry

Fluvanna MACAA / FCSS Food Pantry is located at the old Carysbrook High School. To receive food from the food pantry bring a photo ID for proof of residency in Fluvanna. WINTER hours: open Monday : 1 pm to 6 pm, Tuesday: No food pick-up, Wednesday: 10 am to 2 pm, Thursday: 1 pm to 6 pm, Friday: 10 am to 2 pm, Saturday: Every 3rd. Saturday of the Month from 10 am to 2 pm. Questions? Phone (434) 842-2521.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

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

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26	100-eyed giant of myth	34	Sty cry	47	Power networks
30	Goes in again	35	Threads in shreds	48	Rapp of 2024's "Mean Girls"
32	Detection device	36	Cabinet members, e.g.	49	Many times
36	Quaint lodging	37	Camping gear chain	51	Somewhat dark
37	Makes certain of	38	Trousers measurement	53	Locust or larch
39	Org. in 2025's "The Amateur"	39	Start of a break-in	55	"Hud" Best Actress Patricia
40	Senile sort	40	Monroe of "Some Like It Hot"	56	Trait carrier
42	Maintain the guitar	41	Swahili master	58	Cork sound
44	Upcycles, say	43	____ Park, Colo.		
46	Air-show maneuvers	44	Baseballer Pee Wee		
47	Pirate's drink	45	Direction at sea		
50	Hard on the ears	46	Tractor name		
52	One who proves false	47	Ran off with		
54	Lathering up	48	Scot's family		
57	Cuts in (on)	49	Pick up on		
59	Direction at sea	50	Peppy		
60	Tractor name	51	Salad green		
61	Ran off with	60			
62	Scot's family	61			
63	Pick up on	62			
64	Peppy	63			
65	Salad green	64			

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

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

Edited by Margie E. Burke

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:

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

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Storm could bring 12+ inches of snow to county

Forecasters are tracking a major winter storm that could bring a foot or more of snow to the region from Saturday afternoon into Sunday evening.

While exact snowfall totals may change as the system develops, officials say residents should begin storm preparations now.

Road conditions are expected to deteriorate by Saturday evening, with heavy snow and reduced visibility

making travel increasingly hazardous through the weekend.

The snow is expected to be followed by several days of cold weather, with daytime highs struggling to reach the mid-30s and nighttime temperatures dropping into the teens.

A little preparation now could prevent serious problems later

WHEN SHOULD YOU WORRY ABOUT FROZEN PIPES?

Frozen pipes are most likely when air temperatures stay at or below 20°F for several hours, especially overnight. Brief dips below freezing generally do not pose a serious risk.

Homes are at higher risk if pipes run along exterior walls, are located in crawl spaces or garages, or are affected by power outages that prevent heating.

During prolonged cold:

- Keep indoor temperatures above 55°F if possible
- Open cabinet doors under sinks
- Let faucets drip during extended sub-20° cold or outages

Avoid unnecessary dripping during mild cold—it wastes water without adding protection.

WINTER STORM PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

HOME PREP

- Put shovels, snow brushes, ice melt and other equipment in an accessible spot
- Set faucets to drip only during prolonged cold or outages
- Know how to shut off water if pipes burst
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Charge phones, laptops, and power banks
- Bring extra blankets into living areas
- Set thermostat to a consistent temperature

POWER OUTAGE READY

- Flashlights (not candles)
- Extra batteries
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Safe backup heat source ready
- Carbon monoxide detector working

FOOD & WATER (AT LEAST 3 DAYS)

- Drinking water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Non-perishable food
- Manual can opener
- Baby food or special dietary needs
- Paper plates and utensils

MEDICAL & PERSONAL

- Prescription medications refilled
- First-aid kit
- Hygiene supplies
- Glasses, contacts, hearing aid batteries

VEHICLE PREP (IF TRAVEL IS NECESSARY)

Reminder: Stay off the roads unless travel is essential. Snowplows and emergency crews need room to work.

- Gas tank at least half full
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Jumper cables
- Sand, salt, or cat litter for traction
- Blanket, hat, gloves
- Snacks and water
- Phone charger or power bank

PEOPLE & PETS

- Check on elderly or disabled neighbors
- Bring pets indoors
- Extra pet food and unfrozen water
- Warm, dry shelter for animals

STAY INFORMED

- Weather and emergency alerts enabled on phone
- NOAA Weather Radio or trusted local news
- Road conditions checked via 511Virginia.org

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January Reminders for Lake Monticello Homeowners

With billing season officially underway, LMOA's Member Services is happy to answer any questions you may have about your statement. Annual Billing Statements have been sent out and a payment (monthly, semi-annually or full) is due by January 31, 2026. Annual barcode renewals were not included with these statements and will be billed separately next month. Also, the first LMOA Board Meeting of the year will be held on January 22, 7 PM at the Fairway Clubhouse. Agenda items include updates on Golf and Food & Beverage, the 2025 Year in Review, and preparations for the 54th Annual Meeting of LMOA Members. To review the Board Meeting Agenda and Packet, log in to lmoa.org and select Board Meeting Details under the GOVERNANCE tab.

DMV at Ashlawn Clubhouse

Skip the trip to the DMV and take care of your business here at Lake Monticello's Ashlawn Clubhouse at 41 Ashlawn Blvd. on January 27. Appointments are available from 9 AM - 4 PM and can be scheduled at dmv.virginia.gov/appointments. In addition to standard DMV services, hunting and fishing licenses are also available.

Watercraft Registration Open at the Marina

For LMOA Members, 2026 registration stickers are now available for purchase at the Marina. As a friendly reminder, all motorized

and non-motorized watercraft must be registered in order to use them on The Lake. Payments for 2026 boat slips and kayak/canoe racks are also being accepted and are due by March 31, 2026. Please make your payment on time so you don't risk losing your spot to the next person on the waiting list. The Marina is open Thursday-Monday from 10 AM to 4 PM, and our friendly staff is happy to help with registration needs. *Important note: In accordance with LMOA policy, current proof of insurance is required when registering a boat. Documentation must include declarations of property and casualty insurance with a minimum of \$500,000 per incident in liability coverage, including fuel spill liability of at least \$500,000, either embedded in the policy or as a separate rider.*

Water Workgroup

Postponed to February

Due to scheduling conflicts, the January workgroup meeting was canceled. The next workgroup meeting will take place on February 11 at 10 AM at the Ashlawn Clubhouse, Terrace Room A.

LMOA Gifts LMVFR

Annual Donation

This weekend, the Lake Monticello Owners' Association (LMOA) had the honor of presenting our 2025 annual donation to Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire and Rescue during its end-of-year celebration. The annual

donation, which totaled \$35,000, is consistently supported by LMOA Members. The community is so grateful to have such an outstanding team giving their time to protect and save lives so close to home.

Independence Day Volunteers Needed

The LMOA 4th of July Planning Workgroup is hard at work on preparations for celebrating our Nation's 250th Birthday with Lake Monticello residents. We are excited to add some new events while also making sure we keep the old favorites. To make this happen we are looking for coordinators for Volleyball, Sandcastles, and the Car Parade. If you live at Lake Monticello and are interested in being the lead coordinator for any of these events, please contact Communications Assistant, Melissa Kalinosky at mkalinovsky@lmoa.org.

Run for the LMOA Board

The LMOA Election Committee and Staff are actively planning for the 2026 Annual Meeting and Election. With four board seats opening in June, now is the perfect time to consider serving your community. Members in Good Standing may request candidate packets at the end of January. Potential candidates will gather 150 signatures of support, either electronically or on paper. Once signatures are verified, certified candidates will be announced by the Board in April. Candidates may then begin campaigning for the election

scheduled to open in May 2026. We welcome any questions you may have and encourage you to contact the Executive Assistant, Megan Fitzgerald at mfitzgerald@lmoa.org.

News From Bunker Bistro

During the month of January, Tuesdays are "Two-Fer-Tuesdays"! From 4-8 PM, order any 2 burgers and/or sandwiches off the dinner menu for just \$25. Kids also eat free from the kids' menu with an adult purchase on Tuesdays, so it's a win-win for everyone! Keep an eye out for the February opening of "Lakeside Virginia Fried Chicken" take-out dinners, coming soon! Visit www.bunkerbistro.com or call 434-591-0106 for more information and the start date for the BEST fried chicken! Finally, save the date - February 17 is Mardi Gras! Enjoy Cajun food specials, Hurricanes, and Zydeco music by Jolie Fille!

Tip to Manage Stormwater

Did you know Lake Monticello, Tufton Pond, and surrounding streams, springs, and drainage areas make up our vital watershed? Rainstorms and melting snow or ice create runoff that can carry gravel, trash, leaves, animal waste, pesticides, and other pollutants into our Lake. How can you help? Keeping ditches, culverts, and the roadside rights-of-way on your property clear of leaves and debris will help to make sure that runoff can flow and drain properly. Taking care of your property plays an important role in protecting the health and beauty of our Lake!

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48 Jennings Dr. Lake Monticello \$350,000

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15 Smokewood Dr. Lake Monticello \$359,000

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Source: NAR Research

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340 Jefferson Dr. Lake Monticello \$342,000

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Peggy.Shanklin@lnf.com

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28 Out Of Bounds Lake Monticello \$469,000

- Golf Front
- Single Level Living
- Workshop

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Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com

NEW LISTING



12 Whippoorwill Lake Monticello \$425,000

- Single Level Living
- Sunroom
- Fenced Yard

Pat Arndt 434-981-2650
Patricia.Arndt@lnf.com

NEW LISTING



62 Pine Shadow Ct. Lake Monticello \$730,000

- First Floor Primary Suite
- 300 Ft Detached Studio
- Fenced Yard

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