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Fluvanna to New District**
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District Matchup**
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**Sheridan Honored for Three
Decades of Service**
PAGE 9

THIS WEEK'S PET: Ferrero

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On the cover: Cover design by Amelia McConnell.

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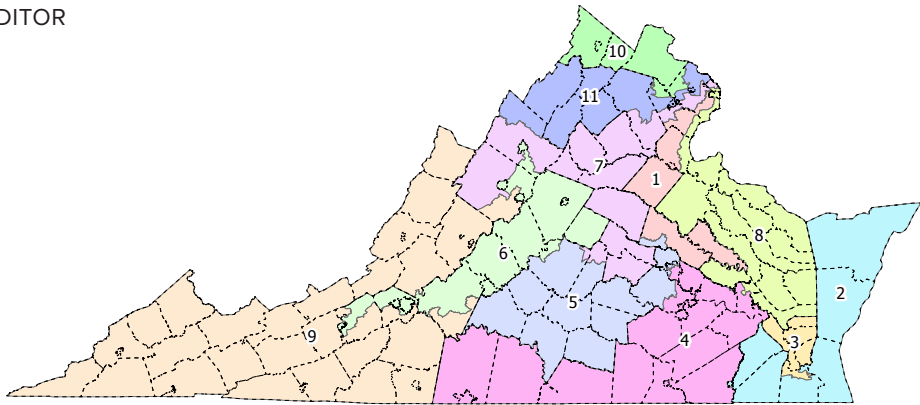
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Redistricting Fight Puts Fluvanna's Congressional Future in Play

BY HEATHER MICHON
EDITOR



Virginia Legislative Information System.

Fluvanna County has been a cornerstone of Virginia's Fifth Congressional District since James Madison faced off against his friend James Monroe in the first congressional elections of 1789.

But if a high-stakes mid-decade redistricting plan comes to fruition later this spring, the county may find itself a new neighborhood for the first time in centuries.

Virginia Democrats unveiled their proposed "10-1" redistricting map on Thursday (Feb 5), showing Fluvanna as part of a redrawn Sixth District.

The map is specifically engineered to shift Virginia's delegation from a 6-5 split to a 10-1 Democratic advantage by taking pieces of deep-blue Northern Virginia and other urban centers, and stretching them into rural districts to tip the scales.

While proponents of the new map say it is a corrective measure to level the playing field and ensure that representation in Washington reflects Virginia's Democratic tilt, critics argue that it is a hyper-partisan gerrymander that erases traditional boundaries and manufactures an outcome.

The College Town District

For Fluvanna County, the shift would mark a clear break from its rural Southside roots and dilute the influence of the county's reliably conservative electorate by placing it in a district dominated by larger, Democratic-leaning population centers.

At the same time, some political analysts caution against viewing the proposed Sixth District as permanently

out of reach for Republicans. While the map is designed to favor Democrats in high-turnout, blue-leaning election cycles, analysts note that outer localities—such as Fluvanna—could still play a meaningful role in closer contests.

In a strong Republican year, turnout in rural counties on the district's edges could narrow margins or even tip the balance, particularly in midterm elections where voter participation often drops in urban areas.

Under that scenario, Fluvanna and similar counties could function less as political passengers and more as swing territory within an otherwise Democrat-leaning district.

April referendum in doubt

The next step for the "10-1 Map" is an emergency review by the Virginia Supreme Court.

While Governor Abigail Spanberger has signed the bill to schedule a state-wide referendum for April 21, the vote is currently in limbo following a January 27 ruling by Tazewell County Judge Jack S. Hurley, Jr.

Hurley declared the Democrats' attempt to bypass the independent redistricting commission null and void, ruling that they violated procedural rules by passing the amendment during an improperly expanded special session.

The Virginia Court of Appeals took the

unusual step of asking the higher court immediately take up the case, saying "these appeals present questions of such imperative public importance as to justify the deviation from the normal appellate practice and to require a prompt decision in the Supreme Court."

The justices are expected to rule on the case by late February.

If they uphold this ruling, the April referendum will be canceled, the new maps will be scrapped, and Fluvanna will remain in the current Fifth District for the 2026 midterms.

However, if the Supreme Court reverses the lower court's decision, the focus shifts immediately to the voters, who will have just weeks to decide the state's political future.

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The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 'Bohemian Rhapsody' addressee

5 Brusque

9 ___ in a blue moon

13 Desktop symbols

15 Come from ___

16 Actress Miles

17 "Tootsie" Oscar winner

18 Scented splash

20 Compared

22 Cheer up

23 Mystery writer ___ Jackson Braun

25 Jockey's wear

26 Unerasable, as ink

29 "Happy Gilmore" prop

30 Sets free

31 Places a value on

35 Barrister's field

36 "Steppenwolf" writer Hermann

38 Fertility clinic supply

39 Boating hazard

42 Main ideas

45 ___ Paulo, Brazil

46 Clips and clasps

48 Out of bed

50 Keys in, as data

51 Sara Gilbert role

53 Marked down

57 Needless

59 Whittle away

60 Finger jab

61 Delight

62 Avoid cancellation

63 Ocho minus cinco

64 Escape slowly

65 Disavow

DOWN

1 Grain grinder

2 Exotic berry

3 Jazz great

4 Part of U.C.L.A.

5 "Bodak Yellow" rapper

6 Roswell craft

7 Undue haste

8 Grove growth

9 Egg-making organs

10 Annoying

11 Battle ___, Michigan

12 Brings in

14 Declining, in a way

19 Fritter away

21 Actress

24 Nome native

26 Woes

27 U.S. weather agcy.

28 Piston movement

32 Sofa's cousin

33 Who follower

34 Mouth off

37 Weaken

40 Newsstand spread

41 Far from interested

43 Border collie, by nature

44 Made certain

47 "The Iron Lady" Oscar winner

48 Get used to

49 Enjoy

52 Old horses

54 Traffic director

55 Genesis locale

56 Like morning grass

58 Majors in acting

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Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Easy

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

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:

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

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Quitting social media is the new trend

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT

A growing number of people — especially Gen Z, young adults and older Americans — are reducing or quitting social media to protect their mental health, ease anxiety, and escape content fatigue.

Users are taking breaks or leaving platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, saying the apps increase stress.

Meanwhile, engagement is shifting to TikTok, YouTube and X, where people are more likely to build a brand, gather information or network rather than scroll passively or endure online arguments.

Many cite "platform fatigue" as the tipping point: an unpleasant environment, wasted time and pressure to maintain a polished image. Juggling multiple apps and digital tools can lead to information overload, fragmented data and burnout, all of which sap productivity.

The trend has fueled "posting zero," a movement away from sharing content altogether. As feeds become dominated by brands, influencers and AI-generated posts, some users say social media no longer feels social. What once felt fun now feels like a chore — or a performance competing

for attention.

Psychologists often compare social media to gambling. The cycle of checking notifications and waiting for likes or comments mirrors reward-based behavior, made more addictive by unpredictable payoffs.

For many, the realization is simple: seeking validation online was never the point. While the original promise of connecting with friends and family remains, it's often buried beneath curated content and constant noise.

The result is a shift toward "digital minimalism." People are choosing smaller, private or direct-message spaces instead of public feeds. Those who step back frequently report better sleep, lower anxiety and less comparison-driven stress.

Others bypass social media entirely, prioritizing real-world experiences, hobbies, careers and close relationships. Rather than chasing likes, they value authentic connections and personal growth.

They may seem anti-social to some. More often, they're simply setting boundaries — choosing depth over distraction and life off-screen over life on display.

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Fluvanna boys fall to Charlottesville Black Knights

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT



Photo by Duncan Nixon.

The Fluvanna boys' basketball team hosted the Charlottesville Black Knights on Feb. 3. Charlottesville came out shooting. It's hard to beat a team that sinks 13 three-point shots.

The Black Knights went 13-for-31 from long range, while the Flucos were just 2-for-10, resulting in a 39-6 scoring advantage from beyond the arc. The final score was Charlottesville 79, Fluvanna 48.

The game opened with a Charlottesville 3-pointer. The Flucos held their own, though, and the quarter ended with the Black Knights hitting a last-second basket to take a 12-10 lead. Senior Fluco forward Brady Crisp had two baskets, including one on a nice pass from junior Antwon Carter.

In the second quarter, the Black

Knights pulled away for good. They made six 3-pointers and outscored the Flucos 26-12 to take a 16-point lead into halftime. Senior Fluco Andre Key added two inside baskets and an impressive blocked shot.

In the third quarter, leading scorer Carter broke through against a defense that had focused heavily on him in the first half. A player who thrives near the basket, Carter frequently draws contact and trips to the foul line. He finished the quarter with two baskets and six free throws.

With the outcome no longer in doubt, Charlottesville outscored Fluvanna by eight in the fourth.

Fluvanna's 3-pointers came from junior Noah Washington in the third quarter and senior Amir Toney in the fourth. Carter led the team with 12 points, while Crisp added eight and Toney and Key scored six each. The Flucos were competitive on the boards, trailing just 39-35 in rebounds, and held an edge in points in the paint. They also recorded six blocked shots to Charlottesville's two.

The Flucos' final two games were on the road — Feb. 6 at Goochland and Feb. 10 at Orange. The team's record was not strong this season, but coach Heath Bralley noted afterward that the squad was very young.

Proposed county budget tops \$160.9M, calls for 1-cent tax increase

County explores 'expressive activity' rules after summer incidents

BY HEATHER MICHON
EDITOR

Fluvanna County's proposed budget could top \$160 million in the coming year, driven by rising operating costs, infrastructure needs and public safety staffing — and could require a modest increase in the real estate tax rate to balance the books.

County Administrator Eric Dahl presented a \$160,963,620 budget for Fiscal Year 2027, a jump of nearly \$35 million, or 27.7%, over the amended FY26 budget, during a work session following the Board of Supervisors meeting Wednesday night (Feb. 4).

To help fund the increase, Dahl recommended raising the real estate tax rate by one cent, from \$0.75 to \$0.76 per \$100 of assessed value, an increase he said would cost the average homeowner about 1.33% more. All other tax rates would remain unchanged.

The cost pressures behind the increase were largely familiar: higher prices for goods and services, efforts to keep employee pay and benefits competitive, maintenance of aging vehicles and infrastructure, and ongoing debt payments.

Two major variables remain unresolved.

Dahl based his proposal on the assumption that the school division's funding request will remain roughly flat compared with FY26 and that employee health insurance premiums will rise about 8%. Both figures could change in the coming weeks, potentially altering the final budget.

Until the School Board finalizes its budget and insurance quotes are received later this spring, their impact on the final county budget is unclear.

Essential services prioritized

Reflecting what Dahl described as the county's fiscally conservative approach, the proposal focuses on what officials view as essential or no longer deferrable needs.

For example, the budget funds eight new positions, including four EMS staffers, an assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, and other critical roles. At the same time, about a dozen requested

Proposed county budget continues on page 6.



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



Your Ultimate Tax Filing Checklist

"A Little Preparation Goes a Long Way"

A smooth tax filing experience starts before your return is prepared. When your information is organized and easy to follow, everything moves faster and feels far less stressful. This checklist gives you a simple, practical way to gather all your tax information.

- ☒ **Use last year as your cheat sheet.** Start with your most recent tax return. Skim it to remind yourself what showed up last year and what's likely to appear again. This keeps you from forgetting income sources or hunting for documents you never needed in the first place.
- ☒ **Lock down the basics first.** Confirm names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and bank details. Small errors here can cause outsized delays later, so handle this upfront before you touch anything else.
- ☒ **Create one home for everything.** Pick a single folder, digital or paper. Give every tax-related document one clear landing spot so nothing drifts off and disappears.
- ☒ **Sort documents by income or expense type.** Group forms by what they represent, not who sent them. Keep job income together, side income together, and investment income together. This mirrors how a return is built and makes patterns obvious.
- ☒ **Capture income that doesn't come with a form.** Write down cash, side gigs, resale activity, or digital payments that didn't generate official paperwork. If money came in, assume you need to report it on your tax return.
- ☒ **Pull records that support deductions and credits.** Gather mortgage interest, property taxes, charitable donations, medical costs, education expenses, and childcare records. When in doubt, include it with your tax documents.

- ☒ **Flag big life changes in plain language.** Make a short list of what changed last year — new job, move, marriage, divorce, baby, home purchase or sale. These details often drive tax outcomes more than numbers alone.
- ☒ **Summarize business or side income cleanly.** Provide totals instead of a shoebox full of receipts. List income, categorize expenses, include mileage and home office details, and note any estimated payments you made. Clarity here saves real time.
- ☒ **Label files like a stranger will read them.** Name documents so someone else instantly understands them. Include the year and a brief description. Clear labels prevent follow-up questions and missing pieces.
- ☒ **Note what's missing instead of guessing.** If a document hasn't arrived yet, say so. Don't estimate, round, or substitute last year's numbers. Accuracy beats speed every time.
- ☒ **Write down questions outside the documents.** Collect your questions in one place rather than scattering comments throughout your files. This keeps the review process clean and focused.
- ☒ **Do one final scan before.** Does everything make sense? If yes, you're ready to hand it off with confidence.

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THIS WEEK'S PET: Rocher

Meet Rocher! Rocher is a handsome adult hound dog with a big heart and an even bigger love for life's simple joys. With his soulful eyes, gentle nature, and classic hound charm, he's the kind of dog who wins people over the moment they meet him.

Rocher enjoys long sniffy walks, cozy naps, and spending time with the humans he trusts. He's friendly, affectionate, and has an easygoing personality that makes him a wonderful everyday companion. Whether he's following his nose on an adventure or leaning in for some love, Rocher brings warmth and joy everywhere he goes.

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Proposed county budget continued from page 5.

positions — including some in Parks and Recreation, Public Works and the library — were not funded.

Capital plan dominated by Fork Union project

Separate from the operating budget, the county's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) outlines one-time infrastructure spending.

Dahl projects a \$52.5 million CIP budget for FY27.

Of that, roughly \$43 million would go toward a new Fork Union water system. Unlike most capital projects, which rely on reserves or borrowing, Dahl said the water system would be paid for largely with funds provided by Dominion Energy under an agreement tied to the capped coal-ash landfill at the former Bremono Power Plant.

Looking ahead

Dahl described the county's finances as stable but suggested supervisors may eventually need to consider diversifying revenue sources to reduce reliance on property taxes.

The meals tax adopted in 2025 is one example, he said, noting it spreads costs beyond homeowners. Other potential options could include an annual business license fee or a Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) tax.

For now, those conversations are on hold.

Supervisors have roughly 10 weeks to review the proposal, with key dates ahead:

- March 4: deadline to set maximum proposed tax rates
- April 1: public hearing on the proposed budget
- April 8: final vote on the budget, CIP and tax rates

Expressive Activity

Fluvanna County officials are drafting a new "expressive activity" policy aimed at clarifying when residents may petition, distribute literature or campaign on county property, saying the current lack of formal guidelines has led to confusion and inconsistent responses.

County Attorney Dan Whitten told the Board of Supervisors the draft policy would allow noncommercial activities like leafleting and petitioning in public areas of county facilities, parks and grounds, with reasonable "time, place and manner" limits intended to protect safety and government operations without discriminating based on message.

Violations could lead to warnings, removal and, if necessary, trespass enforcement.

The discussion follows at least two incidents last summer where staff intervened during public events: employees approached Commissioner of the Revenue candidate Donald Reynard about campaigning during a county event, and a vendor at the Arts in the Park festival was reprimanded for collecting signatures on an anti-Tenaska petition at their booth.

Under U.S. law, governments can impose content-neutral "time, place and manner" regulations on speech, such as limits on where signs may be placed, hours of activity or permit requirements, so long as they do not target the message, are narrowly tailored to serve a significant interest, and leave open alternative channels for expression.

No motion was introduced Wednesday, and any policy changes must return for a public hearing before a vote.

But between last summer's enforcement disputes and fresh criticism from residents, the proposal appears poised for a more contentious debate.

During public comments at the end of the meeting, Millie Fife questioned whether the policy risks placing limits on constitutionally protected speech.

"I'm not sure why my freedom of speech means that I have to try and comply with whatever the mission is of the county," she said. "This is sort of being sprung on us, and I hope that this is something that gets a lot more airtime so that other people can try and understand what's going on, and what you do or do not want to allow to be said."

Phil Said 6 More Weeks! Time to Prep for the Spring Market!

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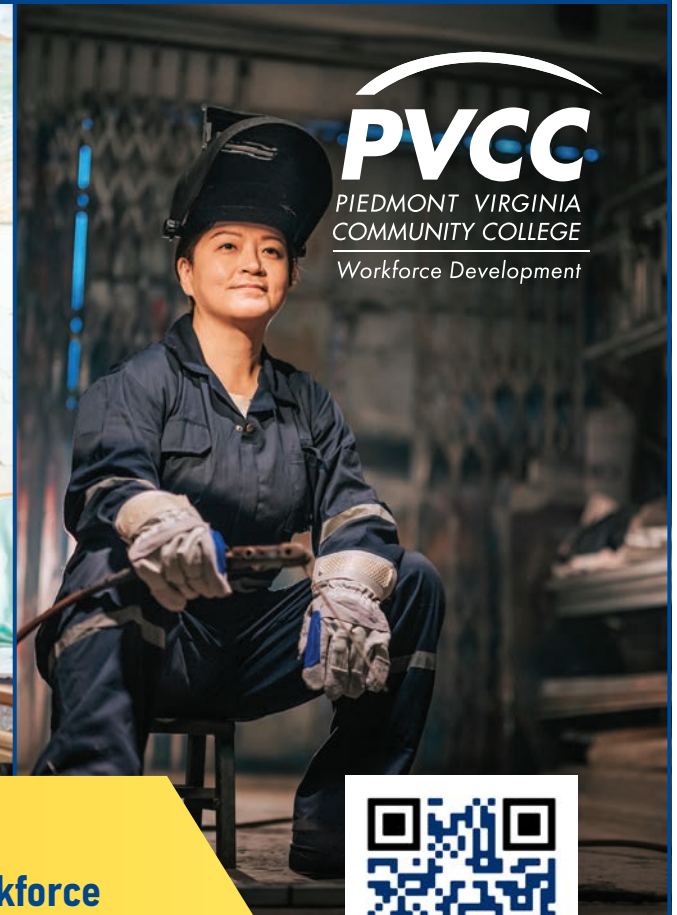
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LAKE VIEWS

NEWS FROM YOUR LAKE MONTICELLO NEIGHBORS



LMOA Holds 4th of July T-Shirt Design Contest

Lake Monticello Owners' Association (LMOA) is looking for a t-shirt design to help celebrate America's 250th Birthday during its annual Independence Day celebrations. Submit designs by March 1, 2026, online or by dropping them off at Member Services (41 Ashlawn Blvd.). Designs should be patriotic in nature and represent Lake Monticello in an appropriate and respectful manner. Staff will narrow designs down to the top 5, and voting will be open to the community on March 4th. The winner will be announced on April 6, 2026 and will receive a T-shirt with their design as well as an LMOA "swag bag". The shirt and corresponding merchandise will be available for residents to purchase online starting in the spring. Please note: Participants must be 18 or older and understand that the rights to the winning design will become the property of LMOA.

Time to Run for the Board!

The LMOA Board has scheduled the association's Annual Meeting of Members for June 27, 2026. This year, four Board positions are open, and LMOA is seeking committed Members in good standing to fill these roles. Petitions for board candidates and member proposals are now available online or at Member Services (41 Ashlawn Blvd.). Members in good standing must gather 150 signatures of support and submit their petitions by March 30, 2026. Following

signature verification, the Board will announce the certified candidates and proposals in April. Member proposals enable homeowners to suggest policy changes for a membership vote, provided they involve amendments to the Bylaws, repeal or modification of Rules and Regulations adopted by the Board, and do not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Statements of Subdivision, or applicable law. LMOA staff will once again facilitate digital signature collection. Voting will take place in the last week of May. For questions about the process, please contact Megan Fitzgerald, the Executive Assistant, at mfitzgerald@lmoa.org.

Aqua Virginia's Rate Case

On July 30, 2025, AQUA submitted a new request for a 26.42% increase in water rates and a 29.95% increase in wastewater rates, amounting to \$7.9 million annually. When this happened in the past, opposing comments from our community resulted in Aqua Virginia not receiving the full amount requested. For example, a similar case was considered by the SCC in 2023, and the community responded by submitting more than 2,800 comments opposing the increase. If you wish to participate again, you have until April 28, 2026. Here are some steps you can take: Send your comment opposing Aqua Virginia's request to the SCC on their website: scc.virginia.gov. It is advised to be as specific as possible and provide any supporting photos, videos, or documents you may have.

If you have reported a specific issue to Aqua Virginia, and they have not resolved it to your satisfaction, you can submit it through the relevant Virginia SCC complaint page. Comments about the rate increase are only reviewed by the hearing officer, but complaints related to service or water quality require the utility provider's response. The case number is PUR-2025-00071. The next Water Workgroup is scheduled for February 11, 10 – 11:30 AM in the Ashlawn Clubhouse Terrace Room A. This meeting is for local infrastructure upgrade updates and better communication between LMOA and our water and wastewater utility.

Laughter Yoga with Hygeia Wellness Park

Join instructor Marge Thompson for Laughter Yoga in the Ashlawn Clubhouse Lake Room on February 21, 2026, at 2 PM. When you laugh, you burn calories and all your body systems are affected in a positive manner! No special equipment needed. Confirm your spot with Cynthia Moore at cynhygeia145@gmail.com.

LMOA Hosts Town Hall

To ensure Lake Monticello residents are up to speed on the proposed Tenaska Expedition Generating Station, the Lake Monticello Board of Directors have arranged a town hall to take place on February 12 from 6 – 8 PM at the Fairway Clubhouse. All Lake residents are invited to learn more about the project, ask

questions, and voice concerns about the impact it could have on our community. Visit lmoa.org to learn how to sign up to speak or call Member Services at 434-589-8263. Only Lake Monticello residents will be allowed to sign up. The meeting will be broadcast live on LMOA's Comcast Channel and streamed live on LMOA's YouTube Channel.

Golf Job Opportunity

Lake Monticello Golf Course is looking for a dependable and experienced Golf Course Mechanic to help keep our course and equipment in top condition. For more information, call the Golf Pro Shop at 434-589-3075.

Ice on Waterways is Unsafe

As temperatures rise and ice continues to melt, we urge residents to remain off the ice. Please do not attempt to skate or walk on the Lake, ponds, or coves as the ice is not frozen enough to hold your weight and is very dangerous. Please be sure to communicate this with your families.

This Weekend at the Bistro

Come to Bunker Bistro this Friday night for live music by Sue Harlowe on Guitar at 6 PM or celebrate VALENTINE'S DAY with someone special Saturday night. Visit bunkerbistro.com for details or call 434-591-0106 to make a reservation.

Sheridan honored for decades of service

BY HEATHER MICHON
EDITOR



Photo by Heather Michon.

The Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors began its Feb. 4 meeting with a standing ovation and a formal proclamation honoring longtime Commissioner of the Revenue Mel Sheridan, marking

the close of a public-service career that stretched more than three decades.

The proclamation recognized Sheridan's tenure from January 1994 through December 2025, first as Columbia District supervisor and later as commissioner. He served 10 years on the Board of Supervisors before being elected commissioner in 2004, a role he held for 22 years.

Sheridan announced his retirement in the summer of 2025. In November, Deputy Commissioner of the Revenue Lauren Ryalls Sheridan won a special election to complete the remainder of his term.

Speaking to the board, Sheridan said the path that brought him back home to serve the county wasn't something he could have predicted when he left the military.

"So I finished in '98, and I had no clue what I was going to do," he said, later adding that he "found my way into the commissioner's office".

Despite describing the work as sometimes grueling, he said serving had always felt worthwhile.

"The 10 years on the Board of Supervisors ... lots of bumps in the road, but you feel like you're contributing," he said.

Looking back, Sheridan highlighted one decision from his time on the board that he believes will outlast them all: the purchase of Pleasant Grove Park.

"I thought that it was a significant achievement — it was being a part of the purchase of Pleasant Grove," he said.

Recalling the scale and price of the acquisition, he added, "I'd like to see another 996 acres for about \$1,043,000. I think in 100 years from now, Pleasant Grove will still be considered a good

county asset."

He also credited the people behind the scenes, saying the office's success depended on staff.

"I've met, worked with, and became family with some of the most dedicated people," Sheridan said. "And I can tell you, the best thing I ever did was hire them".

Supervisors praised Sheridan's institutional knowledge, professionalism, and steady leadership, presenting him with a plaque before transitioning to the evening's regular agenda.

After years of numbers, deadlines, and tax seasons, Sheridan told the room he's ready for a slower pace.

"I'm looking forward to the next chapter," he said with a smile.

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EVENTS

SHROVE TUESDAY: Cunningham United Methodist Shrove Tuesday PANCAKE DINNER on February 17, 2026, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Enjoy the company of friends & Neighbors while supporting the ministries of CUMC's Men's Group. Call 336-817-9341 for more information.

CALENDAR FUNDRAISER: Fluvanna Co Ruritan Club is selling 2026 calendars for \$10.00, a great holiday gift! The sales are going to find our scholarships and community service projects. Please support our students and young athletes with your purchase(s). Contact Sandy Turner (571) 208-2895 or email FluvannaRuritanClub@gmail.com for more information.

BINGO IS BACK ! at Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad, 10 Slice Road, every Friday night. Doors open at 5 p.m. First game at 6:30 p.m. Progressives, pull tabs, and a \$1000 jackpot every week! Cash only. No one under 16 allowed. All others welcome!! Join us for a fun & Friendly night out.

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SPECIAL NOTICES

MACAA FOOD PANTRY NEW HOURS: Monday: 1 to 6 pm., Tuesday: NO food pick-up, Wednesday: 10 am to 2 pm., Thursday: 1 to 6 pm., Friday: 10 am to 2 pm., Saturday: Every 3rd. Saturday of the Month from 10 am to 2 pm. Location: 8878

James Madison Hwy., Fork Union, VA. Phone (434) 842-2521.

VIRGINIA DEPT. OF VETERANS SERVICES: Need Help? Attention Veterans and Dependents! Visit us at the Fluvanna Community Center, 5725 James Madison Highway > by appointment only. Call Jeannette Flint at (434) 529-6431 to schedule your appointment. www.dvs.virginia.gov

WANTED

2026 FSPCA SPONSORS: If you would like to sponsor a Pet of the Week photo, email edee@fluvannareview.com or call (434) 207-0221 no texts accepted. The pet photos are sent to us from the Fluvanna shelter each week. The photos help find forever homes for our four legged furry friends. You may place your business, special occasion, memorial narrative , etc. at the bottom of each pet picture.

VOLUNTEERS FOR MACAA FOOD PANTRY: We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to help support MACAA's work in the Fluvanna community. Tasks: food pickups, sorting donations, stocking, packing boxes, checking in visitors, and other minor tasks. Volunteer hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. , M-F. No prior experience needed – training will be provided. Call (434) 842-2521 or email foodpantry@macaa.org.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Drivers needed, regular and substitute positions available – Kidds Store & Fork Union. Apply online www.mealsonwheelsfluvanna.org. or phone our volunteer, coordinator at 434.589.1685.

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ODDS & ENDS: Medium size Frigidaire refrigerator (14.8 Cu.Ft.) \$50., Corona Kerosine Heater (6 Gal. container filled) \$30.00, Solid Oak Executive-size desk w/ locking drawer \$300.00, Antique Golf MT Target computer tracks the distance of your golf ball \$200.00. Location: 907 Bybees Church Road. Phone (434) 589-8302.

PUBLIC NOTICES



PUBLIC HEARING Fluvanna County Board of Zoning Appeals Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:00 pm

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

BZA 26:08 – Giacomo Cracchiolo: A request for a one hundred (100) foot variance to section 22-4-3 (D) of the Fluvanna County Code to allow a reduction of the required lot width at setback, and for a fifty (50) foot variance to section 22-4-3 (E) (2) of the Fluvanna County Code to allow a reduction of the required front setback for the parcel identified as Tax Map 17, Section 29, Parcel 1. The subject property is zoned A-1, Agricultural, General, and is located in the Rivanna Community Planning Area and in the Cunningham Election District.

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



PUBLIC HEARING Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to VA Code Section 15.2-2204, a public hearing will be held in the held Fluvanna County Circuit Court at 72 Main Street, Palmyra, VA 22963 for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to be heard by the Board of Supervisors on the following item:

ZMP 25:05 Kevin and Ashley Wright – A request to rezone from A-1, Agricultural, General, to R-1, Residential, Limited 7 +/- acres of Tax Map 50-A-129D. The subject property is generally located on the west side of Gold Mine Road (Route 671) approximately 0.1 mile north of West River Road (Route 6). The parcel is located within Fork Union Election District and the Rural Residential Planning Area.

Copies of the complete text of the above ordinances and associated plans are available for public review at the Office of the Fluvanna County Administrator during normal business hours. Questions may be directed to the Planning & Zoning Department, at (434) 591-1910. All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearing.

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VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF FLUVANNA

EDNA M. SMITH
Plaintiff,

v.

ALL PARTIES UNKNOWN, CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFF'S TITLE, OR ANY CLOUD UPON PLAINTIFF'S TITLE THERETO.

Case No. 26CL65

Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Plaintiffs Motion Seeking Order of Publication. This is an action wherein Plaintiff seeks to quiet title to a property located at Tax Map 51 (A) Parcel 58, a 20.904-acre parcel of undeveloped land in Fluvanna County (the "Property").

It appearing to the Court that the Complaint in this action (i) states that there are or may be persons, whose names are unknown, interested in the subject to be divided or disposed of; (ii) briefly describes the nature of such interest; and (iii) makes such persons defendants by the general description of "parties unknown," and for good cause shown and in accordance with Va. Code §§ 8.01-316 and 8.01-317, it is hereby

ORDERED that any parties unknown claiming an interest in the Property must make a written appearance within fifty (50) days of this Order if he or she wishes to assert or protect any interest he may have in this matter, and it is furthermore

ORDERED that the Clerk shall cause copies of this Order of Publication to be posted, mailed, and transmitted to the Fluvanna Review within twenty (20) days after the entry of this Order of Publication pursuant to Va. Code § 8.01-317, and it is furthermore

ORDERED that the above paragraphs be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Fluvanna Review, and it is furthermore

ORDERED that the Clerk shall file a certificate in the papers of this case that the requirements of Va. Code§ 8.01-317 have been complied with.

The Clerk of this Court shall post this Order at the front door of the courthouse pursuant to Va. Code § 8.01-317.

I ASKED FOR THIS:

Entered this 22nd day of January, 2026

Christopher Janszky, Esq. (VSB #99069)

MichieHamlett PLLC
310 4th St. NE, 2nd Floor • Charlottesville, VA 22902
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PUBLIC NOTICES

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
David M. Barredo, Judge

ABC LICENSE NOTICE

Full Name(s) of owner(s): Hometown Grill LLC
Trading as : Hometown Grill
Location: 63 Market Street, Palmyra, Virginia

The above establishment is applying to the
VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a mixed beverage license to consume or manufacture of alcoholic beverages on premises/combined restaurant.

NAME OF AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT:
Lauren Davis

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notice. Objections should be registered at **WWW.abc.virginia.gov** or **(800) 552-3200**.



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STAUNTON WAYNESBORO: 540-997-3300



The Denise Ramey Team

#1 Top Team Producer
Top Team Producer, Units
#1 Top Team Lister | #1 Top Sales Team
Gold Team | Platinum Club
Charlottesville West Office



KK Homes Team

Top Team Producer
#1 Top Team Producer, Units
Gold Team | Platinum Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Charity Cox

#1 Top Producer
#1 Top Producer, Units
#1 Top Lister | #1 Top Salesperson
Gold Team | Master's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



The Gunnels Group
Top Team Producer
Top Team Producer, Units
Gold Team
Master's Club
Lake Monticello Office



Nicole Fauver
Top Producer, Units
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Gil Gallardo
Top Producer
Top Producer, Units
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Charlottesville Office



Jay Kalagher
Top Producer
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Charlottesville Office



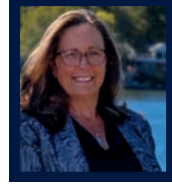
MK King Realty
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Charlottesville Office



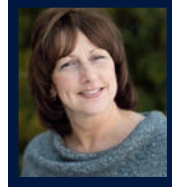
Marina Ringström
Top Producer
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Charlottesville Office



Patti Rowe
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Charlottesville Office



Peggy Shanklin
Top Producer
Top Producer, Units
Gold Team
Founder's Club
Lake Monticello Office



Patricia Arndt
Top Producer, Units
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Lake Monticello Office



Patricia Clare
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Kim Irving
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Sophie Lin
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Charlottesville Office



Erin Moore
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Tom Pace
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Charlottesville Office



Sue Plaskon
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Charlottesville Office



Genevieve Reilly
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Lake Monticello Office



Cindy Riggs
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Charlottesville Office



Jen Sample
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Outstanding Service Award
Lake Monticello Office



Kelly Wimmer
Gold Team
Chairman's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



AJ Becerra
Silver Team
President's Club
Outstanding Service Award
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



David Cooke II
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Carol Davis
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Andy Givens
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Jonathan Mason
Silver Team
President's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



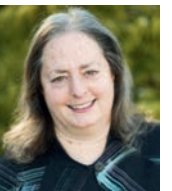
Anne McIntyre
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Sherry Millard
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Tee Miller
Silver Team
President's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Loi Patkin
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Shruti Shah
Silver Team
President's Club
Staunton/Waynesboro Office



Sabrina Thompson
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Denise Voltz
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Casey Woodzell
Silver Team
President's Club
Charlottesville Office



Joyce Washington
Outstanding Service
Award
Charlottesville Office



Amy Nickol
Outstanding Service
Award
Charlottesville West Office



Harry Rindler
Top Rising Star
of the Office
Top Rising Star of the Year
Charlottesville Office



Yang Liu
Top Rising Star
of the Office
Staunton/Waynesboro Office

Congratulations on a Fantastic 2025!

Thank you!



Dawn Bradley
Senior Vice President & Regional
Manager Richmond &
Charlottesville Regions



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CLUB LEVEL	VOLUME	UNITS
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Chairmans	\$5,000,000 - \$9,999,999	25 - 63
Founders	\$10,000,000 - \$19,999,999	64 - 124
Masters	\$20,000,000 - \$49,999,999	125 - 174
Platinum	\$50,000,000 - \$99,999,999	175 - 274
Diamond	\$100,000,000 +	275 +