



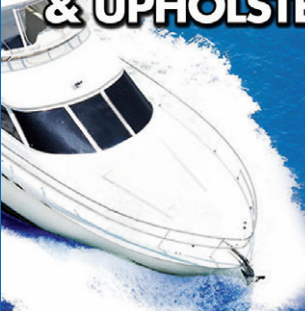
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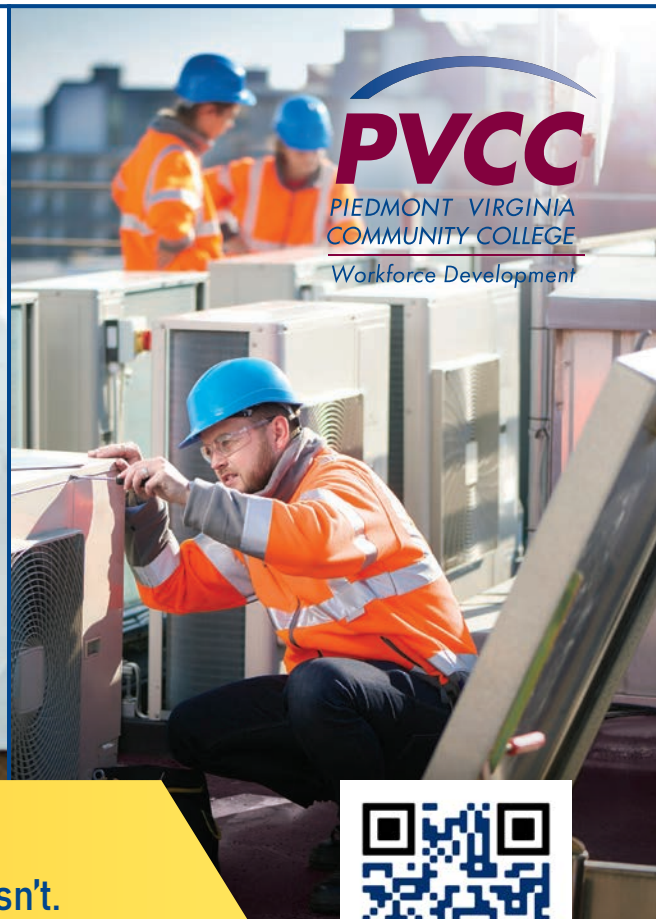
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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

- ACROSS
- 1 Entry permit
- 5 Ming things
- 10 Comic-strip possum
- 14 Border upon
- 15 Insect stage
- 16 "Argo" setting
- 17 Faction
- 18 Disguise
- 20 Doesn't include
- 22 Orchestral section
- 23 Recruiter's objective
- 26 Solomon's strength
- 28 In truth
- 32 Atlas enlargement
- 33 Narnia's creator
- 34 Fish delicacy
- 35 Lumber along
- 36 "Bet you can't!" taunter
- 37 Twelve Oaks neighbor
- 38 Bud holder?
- 39 ____ City: Detroit nickname
- 40 Busy places
- 41 Not localized, as a problem
- 43 Patio material
- 44 Smelly pranks
- 46 Fillion or Lane
- 49 Attributed
- 52 Thrill
- 55 Drug bust qty.
- 56 Salty drop
- 57 Emphatic refusal
- 58 Lab procedure
- 59 List anagram
- 60 Levels
- 61 Brings into play

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					
			44					45						
46	47	48					49					50	51	
52						53	54				55			
56					57						58			
59					60						61			

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- 5 "Law & Order" extra, maybe
- 6 Accumulate
- 7 Elliott or Neill
- 8 Freudian topic
- 9 Tourist shop offering
- 10 Southwest workers
- 11 Spoon-administered
- 12 Smitten
- 13 Snake eyes
- 19 Parking penalties
- 21 Novel idea
- 24 Dwayne Johnson, familiarly
- 25 Yard machine
- 26 Diaper bag supply
- 27 Mosaic technique
- 29 Ludicrous distortions
- 30 Sophia of "Two Women"

- 31 Baker's need
- 33 Classical tongue
- 36 Like some traits
- 37 Far-off place, figuratively
- 39 Nickel or steel
- 40 Rope fiber
- 42 Concert memento
- 43 Rising stars

- 45 Dog to avoid
- 46 Trawling items
- 47 Skater's jump
- 48 Bangkok native
- 50 If all ____ fails...
- 51 Specks
- 53 Camping gear chain
- 54 Caesar's hello

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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

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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:

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

Vast Majority of Virginia Voters Want Term Limits on Congress, Poll by National Reform Group Finds

FLUVANNA REVIEW STAFF

A newly released survey shows three-quarters of Virginia voters want to rein in career politicians in Washington — and they want action now.

The 2026 Virginia Poll, conducted Jan. 6–8 by RMG Research for U.S. Term Limits, finds 77% of registered voters in the commonwealth support placing term limits on members of the U.S. House and Senate, with strong backing across gender and party lines.

The executive summary also shows that 75% of respondents favor having Virginia call for a constitutional amendment proposing a convention specifically to enact term limits, and 73% say they'd be more likely to support a state legislative candidate who champions term limits.

That survey was released by U.S. Term Limits, a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C., dedicated to promoting term limits for elected officials at all levels of government, with a particular focus on a constitutional amendment to cap service in Congress.

Founded in the early 1990s, U.S. Term Limits has helped pass local limits

in dozens of jurisdictions and works closely with citizens and legislators to promote a "citizen legislature" model rather than an entrenched political career model.

To achieve its ultimate goal — a constitutional amendment imposing specific term limits for members of Congress — the group encourages state lawmakers to support measures that could trigger an Article V convention. Under the U.S. Constitution, if two-thirds of states agree, a convention can be called to propose amendments without action by Congress itself.

"Virginia voters are tired of career politicians in Washington and are looking to their state legislators to take the lead on this critical reform," said USTL President Philip Blumel in the group's press release.

Support for term limits has shown similar strength nationwide in other surveys, and advocates say the issue could help shape races up and down the ballot in 2026. Critics, however, argue that limiting terms might reduce institutional expertise and shift power toward unelected staff and lobbyists.

Obituary



Fred Buell Lewis

Fred Buell Lewis, 99, of Palmyra, passed away on January 21st, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on November 16, 1926, in Ashe County, North Carolina, the son of the late Lawrence Russell and Maude Octavia (Payne) Lewis.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 68 years, Margaret Thompson Lewis; his sister, Grace Davis; and his brother, Harold Lewis.

Fred proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II and later retired after 50 years in television sales and service. Deeply devoted to his community, he was a lifetime member of the Palmyra Volunteer Fire Department and a faithful servant of

the church, teaching Sunday school for many years at Palmyra Methodist Church before later joining Antioch Baptist Church. He loved staying connected with family and friends on Facebook and found great joy in his woodworking shop, where he created vases, clocks, and many other items, especially the more than 20,000 crosses he lovingly crafted and shared with people around the world.

Survivors include his two sons, Roy (Mary) and David (Jennifer); three daughters, Bonnie Snoddy (Hank), Jane Sharpe (Jerry), and Dorothy Kirby (John); nine grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; three sisters, Shirley Sclater, Patsy Walls, and Lois Moore; a number of nieces and nephews; and very special neighbors and friends, Jeff and Molly Suling.

Fred held out his hand to anyone in need and never knew a stranger. He delighted in sharing stories and reminiscing about days gone by. Guided by his faith, he lived a life of service and kindness, leaving a legacy that will continue through his family and all who were blessed to know him.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, January 31st, at 11:00 a.m. at Antioch Baptist Church, 4422 Antioch Road, Scottsville, Virginia, followed by a celebration of his life. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Palmyra Volunteer Fire Department.

Fluvanna officials cite Aqua Virginia rate hikes, service issues in support of bill limiting water rate cases

BY HEATHER MICHON
EDITOR

Fluvanna County officials told state lawmakers last week that repeated rate hikes by Aqua Virginia are straining household budgets and destabilizing long-term planning, as a House subcommittee advanced legislation to limit how often private water utilities can seek rate increases.

During a Jan. 27 meeting of the Virginia House Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3, Fluvanna County Attorney Dan Whitten and Board of Supervisors Chair Tony O'Brien testified in support of HB 422, a bill that would restrict regulated water and wastewater utilities from filing rate increase applications more than once every three years, with limited exceptions.

Aqua Virginia serves roughly 15,000 customers in Fluvanna County, representing a majority of county residents, including all of Lake Monticello and neighboring subdivisions.

He warned that frequent rate cases, combined with ongoing service problems, have placed an outsized burden on residential customers.

"The impact of the rate increase would fall disproportionately on single-family residential customers in the county," Whitten told the subcommittee.

He added that since Aqua's last rate increase was approved in September 2024, four sanitary sewer overflows have occurred in Fluvanna County, all associated with Aqua-operated systems.

Whitten said a triennial limit on rate cases would provide families with greater predictability and make it easier for residents to budget for water and sewer costs.

O'Brien echoed those concerns, noting that Aqua serves approximately 35% of households in Fluvanna County. Current bills already exceed \$200 per month for many customers, he said, and a pending rate increase request could push typical monthly bills to \$300 or more.

"When 91% of our tax revenue comes

from homeowners, from property taxes, that means the county will ultimately have to raise taxes because of decreased values," O'Brien told lawmakers. "This is not just an issue about a predatory company charging too much. It's a compounding interest that's going to ruin our county."

HB 422, sponsored by Del. Nicole Cole, would prohibit regulated water and sewer utilities from seeking rate increases more than once every three years, while allowing exceptions for extraordinary circumstances, such as compliance with federal mandates or corporate mergers.

The bill also requires the State Corporation Commission to consider realistic timelines and funding constraints when reviewing applications.

Supporters argue that the change would curb repetitive litigation costs, which are ultimately passed on to customers, while encouraging utilities to engage in longer-term financial and infrastructure planning.

Aqua Virginia did not formally oppose the bill. Company representative Chris White told the subcommittee that Aqua appreciated the sponsor's engagement and said the substitute version of the legislation provides an opportunity for continued discussion.

Aqua Virginia is seeking state approval to raise water and sewer rates by nearly 30%, arguing that the increase is needed to fund tens of millions of dollars in infrastructure upgrades and rising operating costs.

The legislation also moves forward as Essential Utilities, Aqua Virginia's parent company, is in the process of being acquired by American Water Works, the nation's largest publicly traded water utility.

The Virginia Poverty Law Center and the Virginia Association of Counties also supported the measure, though some speakers cautioned that safeguards are needed to ensure utilities can still make necessary infrastructure investments.

The subcommittee voted 6-1 to advance HB 422, adding a reenactment clause that would require the General Assembly to approve the bill again next session before it could take effect.

For Fluvanna officials, the bill represents a rare chance to slow what they described as a cycle of escalating costs and declining service quality.

"Water is an essential service," Whitten said. "Families don't have another option."

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

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- **A conflict resolution strategy.** Conflict is bound to arise even if the fundamentals of your partnership are strong. Set up a routine for resolving conflicts. Start with a schedule for frequent communication between partners. Allow each person to discuss issues without judgment. If compromise is still difficult after a discussion, it helps to have someone who can be a neutral arbiter, such as a trusted employee or consultant.
- **A goal-setting system.** Create a system to set individual goals as well as business goals. Regularly meet together and set your goals, the steps needed to achieve them, who needs to take the next action step, and the expected date of completion.
- **An exit strategy.** It's often easier to get into business with a partner than to exit when it isn't working out. Create a buy-sell agreement at the start of your business relationship that outlines how you'll exit the business and create a fair valuation system to pay the exiting owner. Neither the selling partner nor the buying partner want to feel taken advantage of during an ownership transition.

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Virginia passes law regarding plastic bags – what does it mean for Fluvanna?

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
CORRESPONDENT

If you've been shopping in Charlottesville or Richmond recently, you've heard about the new plastic bag tax.

You might even wonder if the tax will come to Fluvanna County.

For now, the answer is no.

Under a new Virginia law, local governments may opt to charge a 5-cent tax on disposable plastic bags provided at checkout by grocery stores, convenience stores, and pharmacies.

The fee is meant to cut down on plastic waste, while helping fund environmental projects and reusable bags for SNAP and WIC shoppers.

Retailers may keep 1 cent of the 5-cent fee per bag.

While some Fluvanna residents have heard about the tax, it does not apply locally. The bag fee is optional under state law and only takes effect if a city or county passes an ordinance. There has been no discussion by the Board of Supervisors on implementing a bag tax.

The bag tax is currently in effect in several nearby localities, including Richmond, Fairfax County, Arlington, Alexandria, and Charlottesville.

Locally, some retailers have already shifted away from plastic.

Goodwill no longer provides plastic bags and encourages shoppers to bring reusable ones, while Food Lion sells reusable bags at checkout.

If you're shopping in places like Richmond or Charlottesville, the best way to avoid the tax is to remember to pack that reusable bag.

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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
El Vaquero West
Cuppa Joe

Lake Centre Mailboxes
Danny's Bar & Grill
Tractor Supply
Beautiful Gate Church
Broken Island Mailboxes
Wahoo BBQ
Kidds Store & Deli
Route 6 Market
Family Dollar
Raceway Gas
Town & Country Comm. Market
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

C'VILLE DOWNTOWN 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
Zion Crossroads Laundry
Zion Crossroads Store
Burruss Store
Ferncliff Exxon
Ferncliff Market, Rte. 250

QUESTIONS?

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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
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ministries of CUMC's Men's Group. Call
336-817-9341 for more information.

CALENDAR FUNDRAISER: Fluvanna Co
Ruritan Club is selling 2026 calendars
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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
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schedule your appointment. www.dvs.
virginia.gov

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2026 FSPCA SPONSORS: If you would
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(434) 207-0221 no texts accepted. The pet
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shelter each week. The photos help find
forever homes for our four legged furry
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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,
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www.mealsonwheelsfluvanna.org. or phone
our volunteer, coordinator at 434.589.1685.

FOR SALE

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.

YARD SALES/ESTATE SALES

ESTATE SALE: 814 Jefferson Drive, (inside
LMOA) Palmyra, VA. Friday, Feb. 6, 10 –
6pm, Saturday, Feb. 7, 8-6pm, Sunday, Feb.
8, 11-4 pm. Household & Kitchen items,
home & Seasonal décor, bedroom, living
room and kitchen furniture, office supplies,
new/used women's shoes, lots of clothing.
Outdoor items: fishing poles & equipment,
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MARYJANE CATHERS Sacred Acres Alpaca Farm



Sacred Acres Alpaca Farm to Launch Alpaca Trailwear E-Commerce Site in February 2026



Set on 28 serene acres in Virginia's countryside, Sacred Acres Alpaca Farm is a quiet, working fiber farm where visitors experience the full journey of alpaca fiber—from animal care to finished goods. With its calm alpaca herd, woodland trails, and hands-on fiber education at the Fleece to Loom Studio, the farm has become a reflective destination rooted in stewardship, craftsmanship, and connection to the land.

In mid to late February 2026, Sacred Acres will expand that experience beyond the farm with the launch of a new e-commerce site featuring Alpaca Trailwear, a performance-focused collection of alpaca apparel and accessories designed for real-world use. Every item in the Trailwear line is personally field-tested by the farm's founder on the Appalachian Trail, across changing seasons, elevations, and weather conditions.

Naturally thermoregulating, moisture-wicking, lightweight, and odor-resistant, alpaca fiber performs beautifully in both warm and cold conditions. From socks and base layers to hats, glittens, and trail accessories, each piece reflects thoughtful design, lived trail experience, and sustainable fiber practices.

With the upcoming Alpaca Trailwear e-commerce launch, Sacred Acres invites hikers, outdoor enthusiasts, and comfort-seekers alike to carry the spirit of the farm into every mile ahead.

<https://www.sacredacresfarm.com>

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Now's the time to visualize your Community Garden summer crops

SUBMITTED BY E. DIANNE CAMPBELL



Flowers abound throughout the Community Garden to deter insects and attract beneficial pollinators. Master Gardener Mary Wyatt Bowers maintains walkways.

The nasty winter storm has given us plenty of time to drool over the plant and seed catalogues.

We can envision the perfectly ripe,

plump tomato, gently tugged from the stem, and savored while still warm from the sun. Or the sweet crunch of a green bean, fresh off its stem.

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The perfect mental escape from seasonal doldrums is the prospect of what can come in a Community Garden plot at Pleasant Grove Park.

And the time to make it become a reality is now.

There are 97 10' x 15' plots available for summer rental, plus one raised bed designed for gardeners with physical limitations. The price of the season's rental is \$45 until February 14, and \$50 after that.

Perimeter fencing protects from the critters that are familiar local nuisances, and members gain entry through four gates with combination locks. There is access to non-potable water and some tools, including wheelbarrows. A kiosk at the center of the garden is the place for announcements, gardening information, contact information for concerns, and an emergency first-aid kit.

Fluvanna Extension Master Gardeners volunteers comprise the oversight team, which provides the gardening orientation program at the beginning

of the growing season, plus ongoing educational advice. Master Gardeners also manage the garden to ensure that all good neighbor practices are being observed by the plot members.

The registration form, guidelines, and full details of the facility are available at the Fluvanna Parks and Recreation site, www.fluvannacounty.org.

Plots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, but the registration form allows members to request a specific plot site, since members develop friendships over the years of gardening together and may like to continue being gardening neighbors.

The growing season isn't as far away as it seems right now, and planning for it is an easy way to preserve one's sanity.

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



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.



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From snow to ‘snowcrete,’ the storm that refused to just melt away

BY HEATHER MICHON
EDITOR

Along Route 53. Photos by Lynn Stayton-Eurell

From the start, the Jan. 24–25 winter storm looked bad—although exactly how bad remained a moving target for days.

Two feet of snow, some forecasts warned. Maybe only a foot. Maybe half a foot, but with more ice.

By Saturday evening, the consensus forecast called for up to 8 inches of snow and sleet, with up to a half-inch of ice. Power outages were considered likely.

Fortunately, the worst predictions did not materialize. Most areas saw 6 to 8 inches of snow and sleet, with only a thin veneer of ice. The power grid largely held, keeping heat on for most households as bitterly cold temperatures settled in for an extended stay.

But the storm was not finished with Fluvanna County.

As the sun emerged and began melting the snow’s surface, temperatures remained well below freezing, instantly turning meltwater back into ice.

The repeated thaw-and-freeze cycle compressed the snow into a dense, frozen mass that the Virginia Department of Transportation dubbed “snowcrete.”

Efforts to clear roads and resume normal life soon ran aground against this wall of ice. While main roads were cleared within a day or two after the storm, secondary roads proved far more challenging.

This was especially true at Lake

Monticello, where heavy-duty pickup trucks equipped with plow rigs were unable to break through the thick ice or clear the compacted snow from the roads.

Late in the week, the homeowners’ association brought in heavy farm equipment to finally break up the ice.

But many residents remained stuck with ice-covered driveways that could not be shoveled clear. Calls for assistance circulated widely on social media, as residents sought help from neighbors and contractors. The cost of clearing a frozen driveway reportedly reached \$250 or more.

As in any winter weather event, there was some fun to be had. Children had a rare chance to pull out sleds, test their strength against heavy blocks of ice, and even skate or slide across the glassy surface of frozen snow. For some households, it was a good week for binge-watching and catching up on reading.

For others, the lingering ice posed more than an inconvenience, limiting access to medical appointments or preventing them from reaching jobs they rely on for a paycheck.

Responses to the cleanup efforts were mixed. Many residents praised the plowing crews working under unprecedented conditions, while others expressed frustration that schools remained closed and that travel was still difficult in some places.

Almost ten days post-storm, most

residents were once again able to travel freely, and slightly warmer temperatures were expected to break up the remaining snow and ice.

Is this the last of the winter storms?

That remains to be seen. On Monday, Feb. 2, Punxsutawney Phil — the famously unreliable meteorological groundhog — saw his shadow, signaling six more weeks of winter.



Entering Fluvanna. Photos by Lynn Stayton-Eurell



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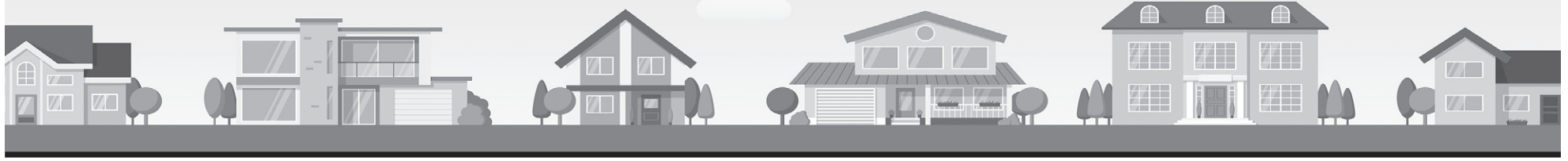


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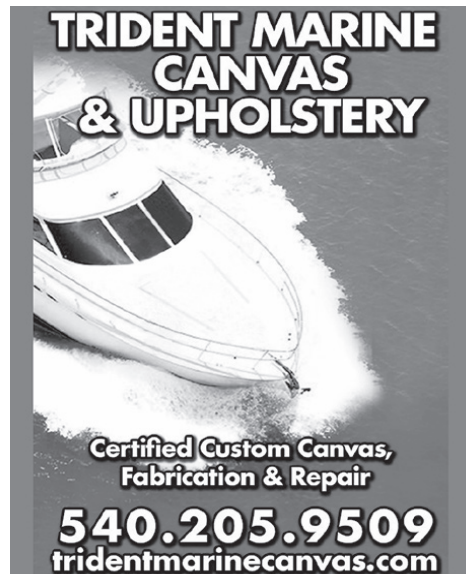
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AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION! Late Model CNC Machining Equipment! American Machine Company Is Closing. Online Only. Feb. 12, 10am. Richmond, Va. Bid at motleysindustrial.com. VAAL#16/NCAL#5914.

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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 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 items:

FY 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan – Public review and recommendation of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for fiscal years 2027 through 2031 (FY2027 – FY2031) which is to be submitted in conjunction with the fiscal year 2027 (FY2027) Fluvanna County Budget. The CIP lists the major construction and acquisition efforts planned for the next five (5) fiscal years and it describes proposed methods of financing for CIP projects as is prescribed in Virginia State Code.

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.



PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Planning Commission
Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2204, a Public Hearing will be held in the Fluvanna County Circuit Court at 72 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:

SUP 25:05 Memory Lane Property, LLC – A Special Use Permit request in the I-1, Industrial, Limited District to construct a solid waste material recovery facility on four parcels totaling approximately 13.868 acres: Tax Map 4-26-2; 4-A-18A; 4-A-19; and 4-A-20. The parcels are located in the Zion Crossroads Community Planning Area and the Palmyra Election District.

SUP 25:06 Prater – A Special Use Permit request in the A-1, Agricultural, General District to construct a landscape materials storage and sales facility on a parcel totaling approximately 8.193 acres, Tax Map 17-A-72. The parcel is located in the Rural Residential area and the Cunningham Election District.

SUP 25:07 Saddle Creek Lane – A special Use Permit request in the A-1, Agricultural, General district to construct a seasonal summer camp on a parcel totaling approximately 23.71 acres, Tax Map 28-A-33G. The parcel is located in the Rural Preservation area and the Cunningham Election District.

A copy of the complete text of the above ordinances 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.

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.

Defendants.

Case No. 26CL65

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:

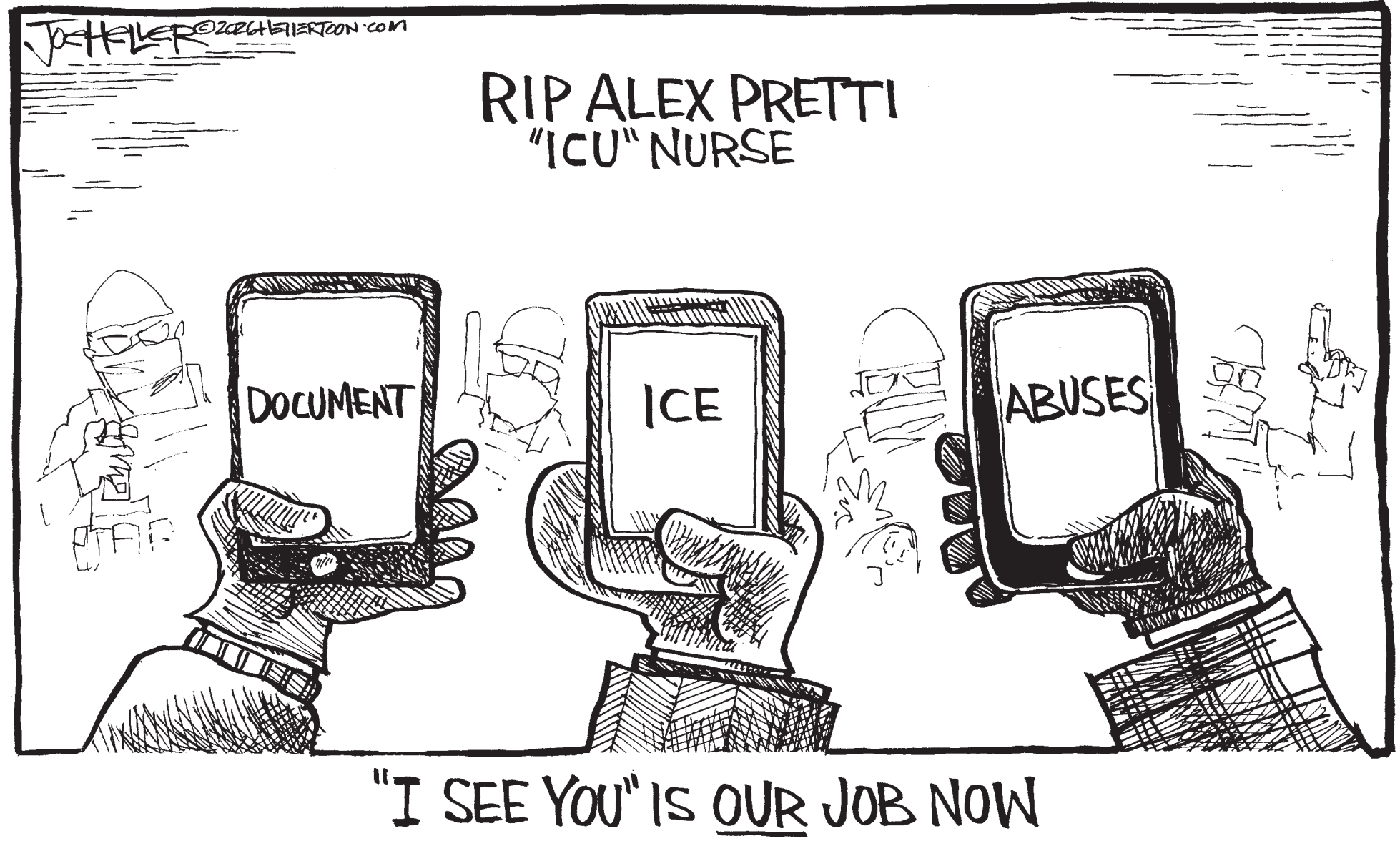


Christopher Janszky, Esq. (VSB #99069)
MichieHamlett PLLC
310 4th St. NE, 2nd Floor • Charlottesville, VA 22902
P: (434) 951-7285 • F: (434) 951-7245 • cjanszky@michiehamlett.com • Counsel for Edna M. Smith

Entered this 22nd day of January, 2026



Circuit Court Judge





Stargazing in Fluvanna

BY PAT BEERS BLOCK

Fun events to view in February

The shortness of days in the seasonal calendar is overshadowed by the celestial calendar, given the busy line up of celestial events that will occur throughout the month. Starting with a full moon on day one (1) and ending with a multi-planetary line up at the end of the month, star gazers have lots more to witness throughout this wintery month. With whirling comets, small planets preparing to be easily seen, and plenty of noteworthy planetary and lunar conjunctions (remote objects visually appear close to one another), and occultations (one body appears to cover another), there will hopefully be events this month that capture your interest and motivate you to spend time observing the night and early morning dark sky despite the chilly February weather!

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

Weeks 1 and 2 (February 1-14)

Starting the month, on February 1 at 5pm est, we will find the moon in all of its fullness at sunset. This month's full moon is known colloquially as the Snow Moon by Native Americans (Naudowessie Dakota tribe) and early Colonist due to fact that February typically has the most snow in the

US. Other names attached to this moon include the Eagle Moon (Cree), the Bear Moon (Ojibwe), the Black Bear Moon (Tlingit), the Racoon Moon (Dakota), the Groundhog Moon (Algonquin), the Hungry Moon (Cherokee), and the Goose Moon (Haida).

The moon will also be in conjunction with the Beehive star cluster (aka Messier 44) within the constellation Cancer on this date.

On the night of February 2, the moon will be in occultation with the star Regulus within the constellation Leo. Regulus, the brightest star in this constellation, might be out shone by the moon; a lunar filter for binoculars can help reduce the moonlight so that Regulus can be seen.

On February 7, the moon will be in conjunction with the star Spica within the constellation Virgo. Spica is the brightest star within this constellation.

On February 9, the moon will be in its last quarter, illuminated on the left side of the surface that faces Earth.

Another lunar conjunction will occur on February 11 when the moon appears to pass very closely to the bright red star Antares within the constellation Scorpius. An interesting note about this red supergiant star is that it is considered the rival of Mars because of their similarity in color and brightness.

Weeks 3 - 4 (February 15-28)

On February 17, the moon will move into its new moon phase. The new moon phase, a time when the moon will no longer be visible except as a ghostly



sphere in the sky, will find the moon within the constellation Aquarius. This moon phase gives us the opportunity to better view the night sky since there will be no moonlight to obstruct views of stars and planets.

On February 19, the moon will be in conjunction with the planets Saturn and Neptune within the constellation Pisces. Binoculars will be needed to view Neptune.

Additionally on the 19th, the planet Mercury will be positioned far away from the Sun and visible unaided by binoculars or telescopes in the evening sky within the constellation Aquarius, just above the horizon.

On February 23, the moon will be in occultation with the Pleiades star cluster (aka the Seven Sisters). The best time to observe the occultation of several Pleiades stars occurs from 10pm-12am.

A three-planet line up of Mercury, Venus, and Saturn, along with the moon at various locations nearby, will appear on the evenings of February 26 and 27.

On February 27, Jupiter will be in conjunction with the moon within the constellation Gemini. It will be easy to see Jupiter this evening because it will appear as a golden bright object.

The final event this month is the lunar conjunction with the stars Castor and Pollux within the constellation Gemini also on February 27.

In Summary...

There is one exceptional addition to this month's star gazing events; It's the

return of the cloud comet C/2024 E1 (Wierzechos) that was discovered in March 2024 by the Polish astronomer Kacper Wierzechos. On February 17, this comet will be at its closest position to Earth this year. The comet can be found in the southwest horizon about 1 hour after sunset. A binocular or telescope will be needed to observe this comet.

So ends the highlights of this month. For additional sky events, and news about new celestial sightings, visit NASA's website for updates. And remember to keep track of the ISS movements through the downloadable ISS phone app ; look for the aurora borealis flare-ups which are noted on the website with the same name; and track other space related websites noted below that provide information about rocket and satellite launches.

With the perpetual motion of planets and stars, the daily changing sky promises to entertain you for a lifetime! Until next month, keep your eyes facing the morning and evening sky to see the wonders of our universe as we Earthlings travel through it!

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



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.

Fried Chicken at The Lake

Because of the weather, RocDun has postponed Virginia Fried Chicken to February 7, 2026, at the Ashlawn Clubhouse from 5-8 PM. Enjoy an all-you-care-to-eat buffet for \$15.99 (\$10.99 kids 10 and under) featuring Virginia Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, baked beans,

collards, coleslaw, and buttermilk biscuits. A full bar will be available for purchases of beer, wine, and cocktails. There will be music by 'Mid-Life Crisis' for your listening pleasure. Be one of the first to taste this fan-favorite fried chicken recipe before they open for take-out at the Ashlawn Clubhouse the following week!

Family Movie Matinee for Lake Residents

Join YRF on February 8, 2026, from 2-4 PM at the Ashlawn Clubhouse Lake Room. Snuggle up with your favorite blanket and join the Young Residents and Families Committee for a matinee viewing of The Wild Robot! Popcorn will be provided. All children must have a guardian present. Interested in helping with YRF Committee events and activities? Email yrfcommittee@gmail.com to learn how to get involved.

Blood Drive at Ashlawn

The next Red Cross Blood Drive at the Ashlawn Clubhouse will be on February 14, 2026, from 9 AM – 2 PM. With a severe shortage happening across the Nation, blood donors are urgently needed. Share the love this Valentine's Day by giving the gift of life. To make an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

The Ashlawn Clubhouse is located at 41 Ashlawn Blvd., Palmyra, VA.

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DianeMiller@earthlink.net

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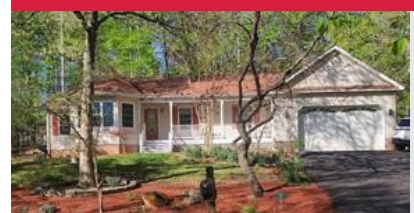


28 Out Of Bounds Lake Monticello \$469,000



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 - Workshop
- Gunnels Group 434-361-4987
Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com

NEW LISTING



12 Whipoorwill Lake Monticello \$425,000



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

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