



Fluvanna

REVIEW



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Volunteer fire department regains EMS authorization after suspension

HEATHER MICHON, EDITOR

The Fluvanna County Volunteer Fire Department has regained authorization to provide emergency medical services after a suspension lasting more than a month.

In a statement released on Oct. 19, Fire Chief Andrew Pullen said the department's EMS Authorization to Practice was restored, effective that day.

This came after a Sept. 11 announcement that Operational Medical Director (OMD) Dr. Brendan Byrne had suspended the department's authorization, citing concerns about emergency response performance, tracking of

quality assurance and quality improvement (QA/QI), and the lack of a designated EMS officer.

While Byrne's concerns focused on Palmyra Volunteer Fire Company, the suspension also affected Fork Union and Kents Store. All three operate under the umbrella of the Fluvanna County Volunteer Fire Department. Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad is a separate organization and was not affected.

The suspension affected only volunteer EMS personnel within the fire department. The county's paid ambulance service, managed through the Fluvanna County Department of Emergency Services, continued operating throughout the suspension.

In the Oct. 19 statement, department officials said Palmyra leader-

ship and members worked closely with the OMD to address the deficiencies and show that corrective measures were in place.

The original suspension was imposed for up to 45 days; authorization was restored after 38 days.

"We are grateful to our members who have taken this situation seriously and worked diligently to make the necessary improvements," Pullen said. "Our goal throughout this process has been to address the concerns, strengthen our systems, and ensure that we have the accountability and oversight necessary to prevent these issues from occurring again."

Although the statement did not detail specific changes, the department said it had implemented additional procedures intended to improve accountability and consistency in its EMS operations.

While the restoration allows volunteer EMS personnel to resume providing care under the department's authorization, officials acknowledged that maintaining compliance will require continued attention.

Department EMS Officer April Walker said restoring authorization was only the beginning of a longer process.

"We understand that restoring the Authorization to Practice is only one step," Walker said. "The real measure of our success will be our ability to consistently follow these processes, hold ourselves accountable, and maintain the standards our community expects from its fire and EMS providers."





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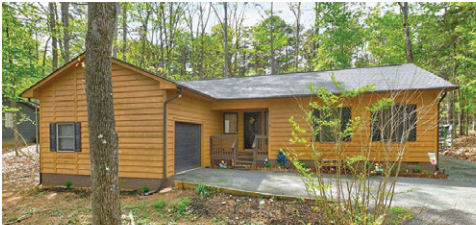
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Fluvanna Action Fund makes more contributions

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE FEAZEL

Continuing its efforts to benefit local community service organizations, the Fluvanna Action Fund decided to contribute \$1,000 each to the FLRD Food Pantry and to Happy Face, both of Fluvanna County.

The contributions were the second batch since the Fluvanna Action Fund launched about a month ago. Earlier contributions totaled \$2,000 to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Fluvanna and \$1,000 each to All Blessings Flow and the MACAA Fluvanna Food Bank.

The Fluvanna Action Fund is an initiative of the Lake Monticello Community Foundation that supports organizations and projects serving all of Fluvanna County. It plans to begin major fundraising activities in the next few weeks.

What's happening around Fluvanna

BY PAGE H. GIFFORD
ARTS & CULTURE CONTRIBUTOR

With the holiday season approaching, Fluvanna County has a full calendar of activities for all ages – from Halloween fun for children to craft workshops, movies to community gatherings.

Here are some upcoming events around the county.

•**Sensory-Friendly Trick-or-Treat:** Fluvanna County Public Schools (FCPS) Inclusive and Adaptive Activities will host a sensory-friendly Halloween event Saturday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Fluvanna County Library. Activities include interactive storytelling, arts and crafts, and music. All students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade are welcome. Parents or guardians must attend.

•**Library movie nights:** Movies return to the Fluvanna County Library on the first and third Fridays of each month, with free popcorn. Call (434) 589-1400 for film titles and additional information.

•**Author Marvin Moss:** The Friends of the Library will host author Marvin Moss on Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 10 a.m. Moss will discuss his recently published book, *Witness to an American Century*, and share stories from his youth and his years working in Washington with Sen. Paul Sarbanes.

•**Holiday craft workshops:** The Fluvanna County Library will offer several seasonal craft programs, including fall or Christmas wooden wreaths Thursday, Nov. 5, at 1 p.m.; fall bookmarks Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 1 p.m.; and air-dry clay lantern ornaments Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 1 p.m. Registration is required. Call (434) 589-1400 for more information.

•**Paint Like Bob Ross:** Local Bob Ross-certified instructor Sara Fritz returns Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon for a painting workshop using Bob Ross' wet-on-wet oil painting technique. Participants of all skill levels will learn to create landscapes featuring dramatic skies, fluffy clouds, and, of course, "happy little trees." All materials are provided, and participants will leave with a completed, frame-ready 12-by-16-inch painting. Registration is limited to 10 participants. Contact Fluvanna County Parks and Recreation at (434) 589-2016 to register.

•**Inclusive and Adaptive Playground Meet-Up:** FCPS Inclusive and Adaptive Activities will host a playground gathering Saturday, Nov. 21, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Lafayette Park in Lake Monticello. Students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade are welcome. Parents or guardians must attend.

•**Friday night bingo:** Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire and Rescue hosts bingo every Friday evening. Doors open at 5 p.m., with the first game at 6:30 p.m. Participants can enjoy an evening with friends or volunteer to help. Proceeds benefit LMVFR. For information, email bingo@lmvfr.org.

Flucos crush C'ville 63-21, with nine touchdowns

BY DUNCAN NIXON
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR



Photos by Duncan Nixon.

A large Fluvanna County High School crowd filled Charlottesville Stadium on Thursday, Oct. 22, to watch the Flucos take on the Charlottesville High School Black Knights.

The slaughter started on the first play. Jacob "Crumbs" Loving took the opening kickoff back for a touchdown for the Flucos. Dawson Raines added the first of his nine successful extra points, and the Flucos led 7-0.

The Black Knights went three-and-out on their first possession, and a flubbed punt gave the Flucos the ball at the C'ville 36-yard line. Jack Pace threw a 13-yard pass to Brody Shields on the Flucos' first play from scrimmage. Running back Garrett Jordan led five runs to the Flucos' second touchdown with 6:18 left in the first quarter.

On their second possession, the Black Knights lofted a long pass on third down, and Caleb Ray intercepted it, giving the Flucos the ball at their own 39. Three plays later, the Flucos were up by three touchdowns. Loving ran for 29, and Jordan ran for 24, putting the Flucos inside the 10. Jordan carried it in, and the extra point made it 21-0 with 3:51 left in the quarter.

This time the Black Knights' offense responded. On their first play from their own 20, a 75-yard

run put the ball on the Fluvanna five. In three running plays, C'ville had its first touchdown. The opening quarter ended with Fluvanna leading 21-6.

The Flucos added two touchdowns in the second quarter. Fullback Dhani Cooke scored the first with a short plunge over the middle. The second Fluvanna touchdown of the quarter came on a Pace-to-Shields pass with 19 seconds left in the half. This drive differed from most Fluvanna scoring drives, as it featured five successful pass plays.

Between the two Fluco touchdowns, the Black Knights got their second score, again on a long run. The Flucos led 35-13 at the half.

The third quarter started with two quick Fluvanna touchdowns. C'ville took the opening kickoff and went three-and-out with Flucos lineman Chris Moore blocking a third-down pass. Another flubbed punt by the Black Knights gave the Flucos the ball at the C'ville 32. Jordan promptly ran it in for another touchdown.

On the next C'ville possession, Cooke intercepted a long fourth-down pass and returned it to the C'ville seven-yard line. Pace threw a pass over the middle to tight end Jake McCall for the Flucos' seventh touchdown and a 49-13 lead.

On the Flucos' next possession, Cooke scored again on a short burst up the middle. The Black Knights returned the ensuing kickoff for their third touchdown. A successful two-point conversion made the score 56-21.

The fourth quarter started with the Flucos feeding the ball to running back Giovanni Pankau. He ran the ball on five of six plays to score the Flucos' final touchdown with 8:44 left in the quarter. That ended the game's scoring.

In all, Garrett Jordan scored three rushing touchdowns, Dhani Cooke added two, and Gio Pankau had one. Loving returned a kick for a touchdown, while Pace threw touchdown passes to Shields and McCall.

The Flucos are now 7-1. They play their Senior Night game on Oct. 30, hosting Goochland. Their final regular-season game will be at Albemarle High on Nov. 6. The playoff picture is uncertain.

Fluvanna Historical Society names new executive director, honors community service

SUBMITTED BY THE FLUVANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Community Advocacy Award accepted by Kristel Harris for the Haden Chapel Community Church.

Pictured: Kristel Harris, Hayley Tompkins, Kathleen Kilpatrick. Photo from Fluvanna Historical Society.

At its annual meeting held at Evergreen Baptist Church on Sunday, Oct. 11, Fluvanna Historical Society President Kathleen Kilpatrick announced the society's appointment of Hayley Tartaglino Tompkins as its new executive director.

"I am so honored to have been selected to lead this organization. It's an incredibly fortunate gift to be able to work in our county's history — getting to learn more about it, make it accessible to the people who need it, work with a community so invested in its preservation, and work alongside such a dedicated crew of staff and volunteers who care so deeply about it — and all in the place where I was born and raised. I will do my best to guide the society into the future as we continue to explore our past."

Tompkins first came to the society in 2007 as an intern and returned year after year during the summers while she attended the College of William and Mary.

After earning her master's degree in library and information sciences and spending 15 years in public library service with Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, including nine years as branch manager of the Crozet Library, Tompkins returned to the Fluvanna Historical Society as archives director and volunteer coordinator in January 2025.

The society's executive board unanimously voted to appoint her

executive director in September.

"Hayley stands on the shoulders of two outstanding former executive directors — Tricia Johnson, who retired last fall, and Judy Mickelson, our groundbreaking first executive director," Kilpatrick said. "Both took the society forward in scope and impact in Fluvanna. We have every faith in Hayley's energy and proven ability to lead in that way for the future!"

The meeting also announced the recipients of this year's Community Service Awards, a program named in honor of Marvin Moss.

"Meeting the goals of the society rests on partnership within and for this community. Clearly Fluvanna is blessed with people who care deeply about the county, its people, its rich history, and in passing forward the lessons, both the inspirations and the cautions, of that history as guides and assets for the present and future."

The awards recognize individuals and groups for exemplary work in preservation and for fostering and supporting an understanding of Fluvanna's history and culture.

The Community Advocacy Award went to Haden Chapel Community Church, headed by Kristel Harris, for its successful campaign to save the historic meeting place as a community resource following its closure by the Methodist Church.

The Public History Award went to Linda Staiger for her work identifying and mapping enslaved communities in the county, information displayed on a poster.

The Volunteer Hero Award went to Fluvanna Historical Society volunteers and staff for their sustained work and dedication to identifying and advocating for the preservation of important historic and cultural sites threatened by the proposed Valley Link transmission lines.

A record three Historic Preservation Awards were presented this year.

One went to Don and Conny Bellamy, who did exemplary, comprehensive work to preserve and restore the historic house and visual landmark known as Solitude.

Another went to the trustees of Union Baptist Church at Shores for restoring the cemetery and

working to honor and identify those interred in unmarked graves.

The final award went to Fluvanna County government, particularly the Board of Supervisors, for its stewardship and restoration of the historic 1830 courthouse, designed by John Hartwell Cocke as a precedent-setting architectural model and built by skilled enslaved workers.

Supervisor Tim Hodge of the Palmyra District accepted the award on behalf of the board, speaking about the importance of preservation.

Letter to the Editor

We Deserve a Representative Who Listens

I could write about sticker shock at the grocery store, paying \$60 for a tank of gas, health coverage cost increases for 2027 (25% premiums plus higher deductibles and co-payments), or that my doctor's office is negotiating to stay in network. But I'm not unique; everyone I know notices higher food, gas and healthcare prices. Our food banks have never experienced such demand and "America's truckers issue dire warning as soaring diesel costs threaten 'domino effect,'" (Fox News, 10.10.26). "Premiums on the ACA marketplaces increased an average of 58% in 2026 after Congress decided last year not to renew expiring subsidies" (Time magazine, 10.22.26). For 2027 the costs for Medicare Advantage plans are going up, \$0 premium plans are gone, benefits are less and the two largest insurers, United Health Care & Humana, are cutting plans entirely for 1 million customers (Fortune, 10.20.26).

There is no area in my life that the president's actions and his administration's policies have improved. How about you?

I've heard Tom Perriello, the Democratic candidate for the 5th District in the U.S. Congress, speak many times. One occasion sticks out when he was asked a question about foreign affairs. He didn't give a

Kilpatrick thanked Hodge and the board for "the steadfast commitment to ensure a landmark of national significance is fitted for its third century of public use as a gathering place and, importantly, as a shared and unifying symbol of our community identity."

The society thanked Evergreen Baptist Church for hosting the annual meeting. The historic church's history and service date to 1888. The society also thanked the church volunteers who helped make the gathering possible, particularly society volunteer and church member Montchell Brice.

pat answer or one the group wanted to hear. He had analyzed the situation and gave his honest assessment. When in Congress, he held more town-halls than any other representative. As a candidate, I've never witnessed someone so tireless in connecting with people in every part of a district. I have visited John McGuire's office, called and emailed him. The only response -- boilerplate emails not addressing my concerns, but emphasizing his unwavering devotion to the president and all his policies.

The person I want as a representative is someone who has proven that they will not only listen to us, but seek out our opinions, will study issues and bring a moral and intellectual clarity to his decisions. I trust him to take responsibility for his actions and positions and to hold others accountable for theirs.

Don't we all deserve that?

I'm proudly voting for Tom Perriello.

-Millie Fife, Palmyra

The Fluvanna Review invites county residents to share their opinions. Letters must be under 350 words and include the writer's name and town for verification. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Publication is at the discretion of the editor and subject to available space. Submit your letters to editor@fluvannareview.com

COACH'S CORNER

with Coach Mitchell Pace

Fluco Football Fans,

Last week our boys, older and younger, got two more big wins versus another district opponent in the Charlottesville Black Knights. The JV team overcame a back-and-forth game to make the big plays in the end to pull out the victory, while the Varsity squad got out early, extended the lead, and won by 42 points.

On Friday, we got started quickly when Crumbs Loving took the opening kickoff to the house. Defense did its job (as they did most of the night), got the ball back for the offense who punched it in. And so went most of the night! Cville made some good plays, as good teams do, but in the end our boys prevailed 63-21.

Key stats include Garrett Jordan's 112 rush yards and 3 TDs, Jack Pace's 165 pass yards and 2 TDs (one to Brody Shields, one to Jake McCall), Dhani Cooke's 2 rushing TDs, and Gio Pankau's rushing TD. On defense Dedric Cooke and Caleb Ray both had spectacular INTs to lead the way. But lots of guys pitched in on key stops, including Dakota Drumheller showing off his signature speed.

This week is a big week for Fluco Football as we host our last regular season game vs Goochland. The Bulldogs always give us a tough fight and play a physical style of ball. Friday is Senior Night and this group of seniors have accomplished a huge turn around in this program... a special group of guys. Please come out on Friday at 6:30pm to honor these young men and root them on as we try to go 8-1 on the season.

Thanks,
Coach Pace

Courthouse restoration costs rise as supervisors approve another \$400,000

HEATHER MICHON, EDITOR

Restoration of Fluvanna County's historic courthouse will cost more than expected after workers uncovered extensive damage to the building's nearly 200-year-old brickwork.

The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Wednesday, Oct. 21, to appropriate an additional \$400,000 from capital maintenance reserves to cover repairs and other unexpected expenses.

Designed by Thomas Jefferson's contemporary John Hartwell Cocke and completed in 1831, the Greek Revival courthouse is one of Virginia's most distinctive historic buildings.

It is among the state's earliest examples of Greek Doric courthouse architecture and one of the few antebellum courthouses to retain much of its original appearance and interior.

The project is now in Phase 2, focusing on the exterior restoration. Originally scheduled for completion in December, work is now expected to continue into spring 2027.

Andrew Marshall of the architectural firm MTFA, who said he has visited every historic courthouse in Virginia, praised the building's architecture.

"It is not only my favorite, but I think it is also the most beautifully designed of all of them," he said.

Marshall explained that much of the additional work stems from Portland cement-based stucco applied to the courthouse columns and pilasters during earlier renovations.

Unlike the original lime-based stucco, the harder cement prevented moisture from escaping and damaged the softer, hand-made bricks beneath it.

Enslaved workers produced those bricks during the courthouse's construction in the 1830s.

Architects initially hoped to repair the existing stucco without

removing it, fearing that removal would further damage the historic brickwork.

Once they could examine the building more closely, they discovered that large sections of stucco had already separated from the deteriorating bricks.

The restoration now requires removing the old stucco, replacing or repairing damaged bricks and applying new lime-based materials.

The latest appropriation adds to a project whose costs have risen considerably since an early assessment estimated repairs at approximately \$1.5 million. By January 2026, the county had budgeted roughly \$2.3 million for the current restoration phase, including a \$2.01 million construction contract. The additional \$400,000 brings that figure to about \$2.7 million, with the final interior restoration phase still unfunded.

County Administrator Eric Dahl said approximately \$383,000 in

Courthouse, continues on page 8.

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Courthouse, continued from page 6.

additional masonry and stucco work had been submitted for review but not yet approved. Other anticipated expenses include chimney repairs, structural work, and additional professional services.

Officials estimated the county might need about \$541,000 beyond the previous project budget, though they hope to negotiate lower costs and possibly secure additional grant funding.

Some supervisors were reluctant to appropriate the entire amount before receiving more detailed estimates. They ultimately agreed to provide \$400,000, leaving the remaining potential expenses for later consideration.

Emergency communications upgrades

Supervisors also considered a proposal from Motorola Solutions to upgrade the county's emergency communications system through a multiyear agreement.

The upgrades would modern-

ize dispatch consoles, servers, and other equipment ahead of technological changes expected around 2030.

Motorola representatives estimated that spreading the costs across several years could save approximately \$700,000. If the county waits to replace the equipment later, prices would likely be higher.

The proposed agreement would cost approximately \$3.7 million over its term, including ongoing system maintenance, compared with an estimated \$4.4 million under Motorola's alternative scenario.

Dahl said the proposal could add approximately \$317,000 annually to the E-911 operating budget beginning in fiscal year 2028. However, an existing \$400,000 equipment replacement expense is expected to drop out of the budget, potentially offsetting that increase.

Several supervisors expressed reservations about committing future operating funds before the county develops its next budget. Work on fiscal year 2028 is only



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in its preliminary stages.

Dahl also cautioned that the county's available unassigned fund balance is shrinking. Departments have requested about \$12.2 million in capital projects, while only about \$1.8 million is currently available above the county's reserve requirement.

Tenaska questions continue

Although the proposed Tenaska Expedition Generation power plant was not on the agenda, supervisors returned to questions about what information they received before approving the project in March.

County Attorney Dan Whitten summarized his review of earlier meeting records and presentations concerning the electrical transmission connection between the proposed plant and the existing Cunningham substation.

The review followed questions about whether supervisors were adequately informed about plans for the aboveground connection.

Whitten said Tenaska included a map showing the proposed route in its August 2025 open house materials and in its March 18 presentation to supervisors.

He also noted references to electrical infrastructure during Planning Commission discussions and the board's consideration of the project, but those references did not explicitly identify the connection as a transmission line.

The exchange comes as the county faces a lawsuit challenging its approval of Expedition Generation. This portion of the meeting did not directly address the lawsuit.

Supervisors also asked whether restrictive covenants governing some of Tenaska's financial commitments would remain attached to the property if it were sold.

Whitten said the covenants were recorded with the county, which would put any subsequent purchaser on notice of their existence.

However, recording the covenants does not necessarily make all their provisions legally enforceable against a future owner.

Other business

Supervisors also:

- Approved a \$116,153.75 contract for security fencing around the Sheriff's Office vehicle lot and sally port, along with a \$40,000 transfer from existing capital funds.
- Authorized conditional acceptance of a grant for a domestic violence prevention initiative
- Requested a VDOT traffic safety study at the intersection of Route 15 and Troy Road, where officials cited repeated crashes and visibility concerns.
- Scheduled a Nov. 4 public hearing on a utility easement adjustment involving water and sewer service for the planned Wawa near Routes 15 and 215.
- Scheduled Nov. 18 public hearings on temporarily relaxing sign restrictions for businesses affected by construction and detours along South Boston Road and on proposed changes to real estate tax relief for older and disabled residents.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 1



To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election

BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS QUESTION 1

Present Law

Currently, the Virginia Constitution does not explicitly provide to its citizens a right to reproductive freedom nor does it explicitly protect or prohibit certain kinds of health care procedures or decisions.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment would add to the Virginia Constitution's Bill of Rights the fundamental right to make and carry out decisions about a person's own reproductive care with only certain, specific exceptions. The proposed amendment specifically allows the state government to pass laws to regulate abortion care in the third trimester of pregnancy, but requires any such law to allow for abortion care when it is medically needed to protect the life and health of the pregnant person or because the fetus is not viable.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 11-A. Fundamental right to reproductive freedom.

That every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including the ability to make and carry out decisions relating to one's own prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, contraception, abortion care, miscarriage management, and fertility care.

An individual's right to reproductive freedom shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

Notwithstanding the above, the Commonwealth may regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester, provided that in no circumstance shall the Commonwealth prohibit an abortion (i) that in the professional judgment of a physician is medically indicated to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant individual or (ii) when in the professional judgment of a physician the fetus is not viable.

The Commonwealth shall not discriminate in the protection or enforcement of this fundamental right.

The Commonwealth shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against an individual based on such individual's own exercise of this fundamental right or such individual's own actual, potential, perceived, or alleged pregnancy outcomes, including miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion. The Commonwealth shall not penalize, prosecute, or otherwise take adverse action against any individual for aiding or assisting another individual in exercising such other individual's right to reproductive freedom with such other individual's voluntary consent.

For the purposes of this section, a state interest is compelling only if it is for the limited purpose of maintaining or improving the health of an individual seeking care, consistent with accepted clinical standards of care and evidence-based medicine and does not infringe on that individual's autonomous decision making.

This section shall be self-executing. Any provision of this section held invalid shall be severable from the remaining portions of the section.

Announcements



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

A Public hearing will be held in the held **Fluvanna County Circuit Court, 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:

VACATE A PORTION OF A UTILITY EASEMENT DEDICATED TO THE COUNTY AND LOCATED ON PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS TAX MAP NO. 5-A-55A

All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearing.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 2

To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election



BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS QUESTION 2

Present Law

Marriages, civil unions, and other legal relationships with the same rights, benefits, and effects of marriage between persons of the same sex or gender are prohibited under Virginia's Constitution. This prohibition is no longer enforceable as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* in 2015, but the prohibition on marriages between persons of the same sex or gender remains in the state's Constitution. If the Supreme Court were to overturn its previous decision, that prohibition would be enforceable again.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment removes the prohibition on marriages between persons of the same sex or gender from the Virginia Constitution's Bill of Rights. It is replaced with the fundamental right to marry, requiring the state to recognize and treat equally under the law any lawful marriage between two adult persons, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of either person. The proposed amendment prohibits the state from denying a marriage license to two adult persons because of their sex, gender, or race.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE I

BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 15-A. Marriage.

~~That only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this Commonwealth and its political subdivisions~~ marriage is one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness.

~~This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effects of marriage~~ deny the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. Nor shall this Commonwealth or its political subdivisions create or recognize another union, partnership, or other legal status to which is assigned the rights, benefits, obligations, qualities, or effects of marriage This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons.

Announcements



PUBLIC HEARING
Fluvanna County Planning Commission
Tuesday, November 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 Administration Bldg., The Morris Room, 132 Main Street, Palmyra, Virginia 22963** for citizens of the County to have the opportunity to appear before and be heard by the Planning Commission for the following item(s):

ZMP 26:01: A request to rezone from A-1, Agricultural, General, to B-1, Business, General 7.417 +/- acres of Tax Map 5 Section 16 Parcel 4A. The subject parcel is located on James Madison Highway (U.S. 15) approximately 0.45 mile south of the intersection with Richmond Road (U.S. 250). The parcel is located in both the Zion Crossroads Community Planning Area and Zion Urban Development Area, and the Columbia Election District.

Copies of the complete text of the above ordinances and plan are available for public review at <https://www.fluvanna.gov/> 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.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – QUESTION 3
To Be Voted On at the November 3, 2026, Election

BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS
QUESTION 3

Present Law

Virginia’s Constitution currently provides that a person who is convicted of any felony loses the right to vote for the rest of their life unless the Governor of Virginia takes administrative action to restore that specific person’s right to vote. This is the only means of getting back the right to vote after a felony conviction.

The current constitutional provision also imposes a broad restriction, while using outdated terminology, on voting by persons found to be incapacitated. A person who is determined by a court to be incapacitated, regardless of the kind of incapacity, loses the right to vote, and only a court can restore the person’s right to vote later.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment enshrines in the Constitution the fundamental right of all qualified persons in the Commonwealth to vote. Two exceptions to this right are for persons who are serving a sentence of incarceration for a felony conviction and persons who are determined by a court to not understand the act of voting. Such right cannot otherwise be restricted by laws.

Under the proposed amendment, a person who is convicted of a felony loses the right to vote during their period of incarceration. Once released from incarceration, the person gets back the right to vote without needing to apply for restoration by the Governor.

The proposed amendment also requires a specific finding by a court that a person does not understand the act of voting in order for that person’s right to vote to be taken away.

With the right to vote, a person also has the right to be a juror, the right to be elected to an office, and the right to be a notary public.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE II.

FRANCHISE AND OFFICERS.

Section 1. Qualifications of voters.

(a) In elections by the people, the qualifications of voters shall be as follows: Each voter shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be eighteen years of age, shall fulfill the residence requirements set forth in ~~this section~~ subsection (b), and shall be registered to vote pursuant to this article. Every person who meets these qualifications shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, and such right shall not be abridged by law, except that:

(1) No person who has been convicted of a felony shall be ~~qualified~~ entitled to vote unless his civil rights have been restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but every such person, upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote; and

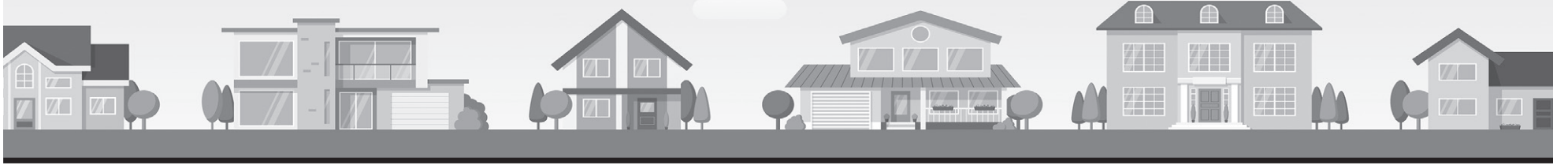
As prescribed by law, no (2) No person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting shall be ~~qualified~~ entitled to vote during such period of incapacity until his ~~competency~~ capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law.

(b) The residence requirements shall be that each voter shall be a resident of the Commonwealth and of the precinct where he votes. Residence, for all purposes of qualification to vote, requires both domicile and a place of abode. The General Assembly may provide for persons who are employed overseas, and their spouses and dependents residing with them, and who are qualified to vote except for relinquishing their place of abode in the Commonwealth while overseas, to vote in the Commonwealth subject to conditions and time limits defined by law. The General Assembly may provide for persons who are qualified to vote except for having moved their residence from one precinct to another within the Commonwealth to continue to vote in a former precinct subject to conditions and time limits defined by law. The General Assembly may also provide, in elections for President and Vice President of the United States, alternatives to registration for new residents of the Commonwealth.

(c) Any person who will be qualified with respect to age to vote at the next general election shall be permitted to register in advance and also to vote in any intervening primary or special election.

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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

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 – Kiddy Store & Fork Union. Apply online www.mealsonwheelsfluvanna.org or phone our volunteer coordinator at 434.589.1685.

YARD & ESTATE SALES

YARD SALE: OCT. 23–25 Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 23–25, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at 14 Rockwood Lane, Lake Monticello. TOOLS and more! Craftsman radial saw, jewelry, shoes, handbags, housewares, blankets, garden items, Avon products, perfume, books, office supplies, furniture, stationery & toys.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- Keep letters under 350 words.
- Refrain from personal attacks.
- No letters that have been sent to other newspapers.
- Include your name, address & phone # for verification.
- We reserve the right to edit letters.

Submit via email to: editor@fluvannareview.com or mail to: Fluvanna Review, P.O. Box 93, Palmyra, VA 22963

You will get an email confirmation that your letter has been received. If you don't, contact the editor directly.



WHAT BURNED



WHAT THEY CLAIMED

Their lies come out of your wallet. Insurance fraud costs everyone in Virginia \$1,000 per year. Learn how to spot it and report it at TheCostOfFraud.com.

STAMP OUT FRAUD
WHOLESALE FRAUD PREVENTION
INSURANCE FRAUD PREVENTION

The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

- ACROSS
- 1 Sultan's ladies
- 6 Sitting on
- 10 Budget rival
- 14 Amazon assistant
- 15 Elisabeth of "On the Verge"
- 16 Word with ditch or minute (hyph.)
- 17 Bounded
- 18 Cadbury bar
- 20 Jerry Lewis tradition for 44 years
- 22 Creator of Boo and Atticus
- 23 ___-chat
- 24 Having teeth
- 25 Lessener
- 28 First-place finisher
- 29 Spy's device
- 30 W-2 information
- 32 Most Saudis
- 35 Tennis legend Bjorn
- 37 Gardener's spread
- 39 Missile housing
- 40 Watchful ones
- 42 City on the Ruhr
- 44 Work on a tan
- 45 Billie with ten Grammys
- 47 Breaks one's back
- 49 Campus dining area
- 51 Pitchfork part
- 52 Sports venues
- 53 Wryly funny
- 57 Person of no importance
- 59 Fit to be tied
- 60 Pantry invaders
- 61 Just makes, with "out"
- 62 Continental coins
- 63 Insurance claim
- 64 Nuisance
- 65 Flower features

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					62			
63						64					65			

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DOWN

- 1 March leader's command
- 2 Sheltered, in a way
- 3 Authentic
- 4 Anticipate
- 5 Lillard or Modine
- 6 Knotted neck-wear
- 7 Larger-life link
- 8 "Days of ___ Lives"
- 9 Showy bird's mate
- 10 Sirens, say
- 11 Seaport of Chile
- 12 Archipelago part
- 13 Squirrel away
- 19 Food from heaven
- 21 Dr. ___ Baker of "Little House..."
- 24 Spinal parts
- 25 Priest in Paris
- 26 Harbor bobber
- 27 Covenants
- 28 Born in Cardiff, e.g.

- 31 "You'll never ___!"

- 33 Picture problem
- 34 Male heirs
- 36 Severity
- 38 Prefix with centric
- 41 Dane's "Grey's Anatomy" role
- 43 Female goats
- 46 Part of the foot
- 48 Lebanese capital

- 49 Panama, e.g.
- 50 Home of the Black Bears
- 51 Secret rendezvous
- 53 Suffix with social
- 54 Give a hoot
- 55 Proton's place
- 56 More or ___
- 58 Presidential nickname

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

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

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



Community Calendar



QR Code provided by the Fluvanna Leadership Development Program

Annual Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat

Come join us for an evening of Good Food and Fun! Beulah Baptist Church (1633 Kents Store Way Kents Store, VA) is holding our Annual Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat Saturday **October 31st** 5pm-7:00pm. Everything is Free! Sno-Cones, Popcorn, Trunks full of candy, and other Food and Games. Call 434-589-2245 for more info.

Central Virginia Veterans Breakfast

Central Virginia Veterans (CVV), Inc will be holding their monthly 'G.I. style' breakfast on **October 31, 2026**. Time is 8:15 AM at Wahoo BBQ & Grill, Slice Road Gate, Lake Monticello. Cost is \$12 per person (cash only please). Veterans and spouses/friends are welcome. Questions? Contact Paul Bethke (703) 965-8363.

Donations Needed

FCSS Happy Face Christmas Party 2026 will be held Sat., **Dec. 5** at Central Elementary. FCSS is collecting new toys (\$15-30) and books for children, ages infant to 13. A collecting new winter coats and PJs, sizes infant to 18. Collection boxes are set up at various locations. To volunteer or have questions, email Mary Kidd at marykidd01@gmail.com.

Free Rural Health Clinic at Dunbar Rosenwald School on the **1st Thursday of each month** from 2 to 5 p.m. through December. County residents can receive needed health services to address local health inequities and disparities.

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 & Food Assistance

FLRD Community Food Pantry is located at 14455 James Madison Hwy, Palmyra VA in the School Board Administration Building. To receive food please visit our pantry on Tuesdays and Thursday from 10am to 2pm. Questions or donations, contact (434) 987-1938.



Announcements



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors
Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Public hearings will be held in the held **Fluvanna County Circuit Court, 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:

ORDINANCE TO TEMPORARILY WAIVE THE DEFINITION OF BANNER SIGN UNDER SECTION 22-22-1 OF THE FLUVANNA COUNTY CODE FOR BUSINESSES LOCATED ON ROUTE 600 (SOUTH BOSTON ROAD) BETWEEN STATE ROUTE 53 (THOMAS JEFFERSON PARKWAY) AND ROUTE 618 (LAKE MONTICELLO ROAD).

ORDINANCE TO AMEND “THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF FLUVANNA, VIRGINIA,” BY AMENDING §§ 20-3-3, 20-3-5 AND 20-4-2 REGARDING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION AMOUNTS FOR CERTAIN ELDERLY AND DISABLED PERSONS AND SPECIAL CLASSIFICATIONS OF REAL ESTATE

All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to attend the public hearings.

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION

A REFERENDUM AUTHORIZING A LOCAL SALES TAX TO BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR MAJOR RENOVATIONS OF SCHOOLS

The following question will appear on the ballot for the November 3, 2026 General Election, and is stated as follows:

Shall Fluvanna County be authorized to levy a general retail sales tax at a rate not to exceed 1% to provide revenue solely for capital projects for the construction or major renovation of schools serving the county? Should this referendum be approved authorizing the levy of such tax, the tax would expire no later than June 30, 2046.

This referendum election is being held pursuant to an Order of the Circuit Court of Fluvanna County entered July 10, 2026, and §§ 58.1-605.1 and 24.2-684 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, following action taken on July 1, 2026 by the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors.

Why is this on the ballot? As part of the State budget, the General Assembly expanded the authority of localities to impose up to an additional 1% sales tax to be used solely for school construction or major renovations. Localities are required to put the question to the voters.

If Fluvanna voters approve the referendum: If the referendum passes, the Board of Supervisors would approve an ordinance and the tax would become effective on the first day of the month at least 120 days after adoption of the ordinance.

Questions about the referendum? Please contact County Administration at (434) 591-1910.

Voter Information:

- Deadline to Register to Vote/Update Registration: 10/23/2026
- Early in-person voting: 9/18/2026 through 10/31/2026
- Deadline to apply for ballot to be mailed to you: through 10/23/2026



Scan QR Code for information about upcoming elections.

Questions about voter registration or upcoming elections? Please contact the Registrar’s Office at (434) 589-3593.

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NEW LISTING



2 Baskin Ct. Lake Monticello \$349,999



- 4 Bedrooms 3 Baths
 - Two Car Garage
 - 2 Fireplaces
- Patricia Arndt 434-981-2650
Patricia.Arndt@LNF.com

NEW LISTING



3 Nutwood Circle Lake Monticello \$890,000



- Waterfront 1 Plus Acre
 - 3 Bedrooms 3 Baths
 - Screened In Porch
- Michael Darby 434-249-3438
Michael.Darby@LNF.com

NEW LISTING



2157 Sclaters Ford Rd Fluvanna \$534,900



- Single Level Living
 - 3 Bedrooms 2.5 Baths
 - Sunroom
- Jen Sample 434-989-9246
Jennifer.Sample@LNF.com

NEW LISTING



803 Jefferson Dr. Lake Monticello \$389,900



- One Level Living
 - 5 Bedrooms 3 baths
 - Finished Basement
- Peggy Shanklin 434-962-2762
Peggy.Shanklin@LNF.com

NEW PRICE



17 Windy Way Lake Monticello \$328,000



- 3 Bedrooms 2.5 Baths
 - New Roof and water Heater
 - Private Back Yard
- Genevieve Reilly 434-414-4454
Genevieve.Reilly@LNF.com

NEW PRICE

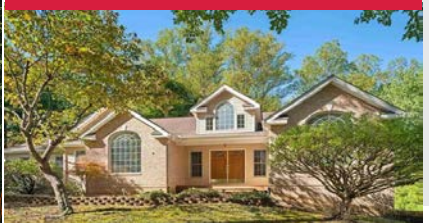


13 Condor Rd. Lake Monticello \$932,000



- Waterfront
 - Finished Basement
 - Single Level Living
- Genevieve Reilly 434-414-4453
Genevieve.Reilly@LNF.com

NEW LISTING



4 Locks Rd. Lake Monticello \$649,900



- Golf Front
 - 4 Bedrooms 3 Baths
 - Main Level Primary Suite
- Gunnels Group 434-361-4987
Maggie@GunnelsGroup.com

NEW LISTING



38 Dogleg Rd Lake Monticello \$415,000



- Golf Front
 - First Floor Primary Suite
 - Open Floor Plan
- Diane Miller 434-960-5856
Diane.Miller@LNF.com

In Today's Market You Need To Call An Experienced Long & Foster Agent!



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