



VOL. 1 ISSUE 1 • FALL 2019

THE LOCAL BEAT

Official Newsletter of the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office

Crime Prevention Specialist

This past spring we had Master Deputy Brennan attend a week long Crime Prevention Specialist course put on by the Virginia State Police in Richmond. It is a long and rigorous process requiring almost 200 hours of teaching and continuing education in important topics to include Community Policing, Violence Prevention and Security and Risk Assessments. Look out for some great safety classes to be put on by the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office in the very near future.



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The Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office reminds everyone to be Cheerful, Merry and **SAFE** this Holiday Season

- **S** - Show up with a designated driver.
- **A** - Always recognize and understand your individual limits.
- **F** - Family and friends **DO NOT** let family and friends drive drunk.
- **E** - Even buzzed driving is drunk driving.

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."

-WINSTON
CHURCHILL



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- December 8th 6-8 pm - Pleasant Grove Tree Lighting
- December 14th 2-4 pm - Carysbrook Performing Arts Center Holiday Performance **Entry Fee is a Non-Perishable Food donations to MACAA**
- December 15th - Holiday Festival in Palmyra - Old Courthouse
- December 18th 11-2 pm - Senior Holiday Luncheon - Fluvanna County Community Center

Cold weather tips for **pets**

Grooming your pet

Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth.

If your pets spend most of their time outdoors, you might want to consider these tips on how to keep them healthy and warm.

Take your pets inside

If the weather is too cold for you to handle, the chances are it's probably too cold for your pet too. Take your pet inside during the winter months, providing them with a nice warm blanket and a pillow or foam cushion to sleep on.

Pets in the car

Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.

Paw health

Check your pet's paws regularly for signs of cold-weather injury or damage.

Sleeping outside

If your pets can't sleep inside, provide them with a cozy dog or cat bed and a warm blanket.

Pet food for winter

Does your dog spend a lot of time engaged in outdoor activities? Increase the supply of his food and fresh running water to keep him, and his fur, in fantastic shape.

The leaves are falling and temperatures are dipping. The cold weather will be here before you know it. The Sheriff's Office and Animal Control want to remind you to ALWAYS remember these important tips for your furry loved ones!



The Code of Virginia §3.2-6503; Care of companion animals by owner lists "Adequate Shelter" as: provision of and access to shelter that is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal; provides adequate space for each animal; is safe and protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat or cold, physical suffering....during cold weather, has a windbreak at its entrance and provides a quantity of bedding material consisting of straw, cedar shavings, or the equivalent that is sufficient to protect the animal from cold and promote the retention of body heat.

Remember, when in doubt, bring your pet indoors!!



Ho Ho Hold It!!!

While these types of crimes occur throughout the year, we typically see a rise around the Holidays. Between the hustle and bustle of holiday parties, family get togethers, and holiday cheer; people use the opportunity of a stressed-out victim to steal their identity and other personal identifying information. Don't be a Victim! Always remember these tips! And remember, if you are ever in doubt, **CALL THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE!!!! (434) 589-8211**

- Look-Alike Websites – Many consumers will see an increase in the number of email alerts announcing deals, gifts, and sales. While mailers can look legitimate, the links may lead to look-alike websites meant to trick you into entering private information or give scammers an opportunity to download malware onto your computer.
- Grandparent Scams – Scammers target seniors posing as a grandchild or other family member and claim they have been in an accident, arrested, hospitalized or another urgent issue. The circumstance often requires money be sent immediately to resolve. Targets should:
 - Verify the situation by calling the family member in question directly;
 - Check with other family members to see if the claims are true;
 - Be wary if you're asked to wire money or send gift cards in place of making a payment with a credit card.
- Unusual Forms of Payments – When making your holiday purchases be wary of anyone asking for a strange form of payment as they often can't be traced or undone. These may include:
 - Prepaid debit or gift cards - (Amazon, Google Play, Apple/iTunes, Steam)
 - Wire Transfers - (Western Union, Walmart to Walmart)
 - Third parties - (Unexpected Payments, Gross Over Payments)



Bringing Forensics To Fluvanna County

We are proud to congratulate Investigator Richard Morrison on graduating from the Department of Forensic Science's 99th Session of the Virginia Forensic Science Academy! The Virginia Forensic Science Academy is a nine week intensive training program where investigators learn to recognize, document, collect, and preserve items of physical evidence at a crime scene. Investigator Morrison is the first deputy the Sheriff's Office has sent through this Academy. Acceptance into the Academy is competitive as the Academy only accepts a small number of students per session. We are proud to have Investigator Morrison serving our citizens and enhancing the capabilities of the Sheriff's Office.



Check Out Our New and Improved Website!

<https://www.fluvannacounty.org/sheriff>

"Working Together To Keep You Safe"