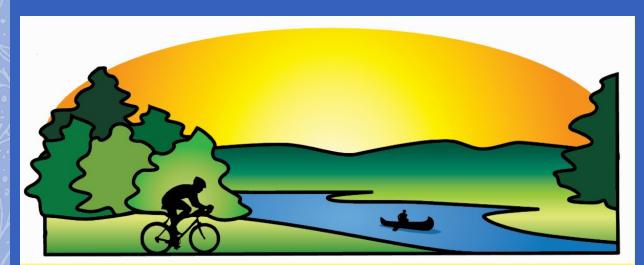
The **Fluvanna Area News (FAN Mail)** is an email information service of Fluvanna County government to help keep residents and others informed of happenings around the county. These periodic emails include information about upcoming public meetings, county- or schools-sponsored community events, and other topics of general interest. <u>Read more.</u> Please share with family, friends, and neighbors.



# A Message from Sheriff Eric B. Hess

Dear Fluvanna Neighbors,

We have faced several months of challenges in our lives, but nothing could have prepared us for the horrific video showing the heart-rending death of George Floyd thru acts committed by police officers of the Minneapolis Police Department. I am appalled and saddened by this needless and tragic death at the hands of these officers. There is no place in law-enforcement for officers who senselessly kill, or allow to be killed, the very people we are sworn to protect. Law enforcement officers who show willful and wanton disregard for human life and basic human dignity must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. My heart is with the family, friends and community of George Floyd, and I am keeping them in my prayers.

I understand that our Fluvanna African American Community are experiencing pain, anger and despair at another senseless death; I hear and understand your concerns and I will be here to serve you during this difficult time. My door is always open to anyone who has a concern or need and we encourage you to please bring them to my attention.

Trust between the Fluvanna Sheriff's Office and the citizens we protect and serve is essential to the stability of our community. Our citizens deserve an agency that has the integrity to provide professional law enforcement services. We work to provide strong community services by applying the 21st Century Policing practices established by President Obama's Task Force. I had the pleasure of meeting with President Obama and other Sheriffs and Chiefs in 2016. This office has striven to follow the six pillars recommended by the President's Task Force: Building Trust and Legitimacy, Police and Oversight, Technology and Social Media, Community Policing and Crime Reduction, Training and Education, and Officer Wellness and Safety. It is an ongoing goal that we work towards achieving every day – but we are human, and we realize there is always room to improve our actions and to learn from one another.

In the past, we have partnered with Commonwealth's Attorney Jeff Haislip to provide several community forums addressing community policing and the concerns of Fluvanna residents. Participants included members of the Board of Supervisors, members and pastors from our faith and business communities and other partners. I have realized it has been too long since we held these kinds of conversations. When the Governor lifts restrictions on gatherings, I will once again schedule several community forums so that we can address any concerns and or needs that arise together.

In the meantime, deputies will continue to train on Crisis Intervention, Cultural Diversity, how to avoid Bias-Based Policing, and the proper Use-of-Force. We will continue to use our body worn cameras to document all citizen/ law enforcement encounters. We will continue to serve Fluvanna County to the best of our ability to ensure everyone's safety. If there is something we can do to improve, please let me know. Thank you for affording me the opportunity to serve as your Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Eric B. Hess

#### Fluvanna County COVID-19 Information and Community Resources

All Fluvanna County-owned/operated buildings are closed to the public until June 10, 2020. The county continues to operate on a normal schedule, serving the community remotely via <u>telephone</u>, <u>email</u>, <u>My Two Cents</u>, fax, or any other electronic means.

Contact the county at:

- Phone: (434) 591-1910
- Email: connect@fluvannacounty.org

The Board of Supervisors will continue to meet. Please check the<u>Fluvanna</u> <u>County Coronavirus information</u> page regularly for updates on meeting status.

#### Engaging with Board of Supervisors During Public Health Emergency. Live stream the meeting:

• https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjsZls3BguXhfJMHGt0ndGQ

Public Comment may be made by: Email: <u>clerk@fluvannacounty.org</u> Phone: 434-591-1910

#### By calling during the meeting:

- Beginning at 15 minutes before the meeting starts, residents may call a live conference call line.
- Conference Line #: 1-866-845-1266.
- Access #: 15855270# (You must enter the # key.)
  - When you join the call, your phone line will automatically be muted. When it is time for Public Comment, callers will be unmuted one at a time (you will hear a voice say something like "Mute off.") The Board Chair will then ask for your name and address, and you will have 5 minutes to speak.

#### Fluvanna County Coronavirus Information and Community Resources

Fluvanna County Economic Development Office - Business Resources

Virginia Department of Health information <u>NEW - COVID-19 Virginia Resources</u> <u>Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office Facebook</u> <u>Fluvanna County, VA - Government Facebook</u> <u>Fluvanna County Public Schools Facebook</u> <u>Fluvanna County Government Twitter</u> - @fluvannacounty

# DOWNLOAD THE COVID-19 VIRGINIA Resources App



Coming soon to Google Play

Search for help based on the immediate needs of you and your family

## COVID.VIRGINIA.GOV VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## **Contact Information**

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