

The Daily Progress

Cerina Fairfax murder underscores risks of domestic violence women face daily

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Cavs running back depth was on full display during annual spring game

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REAL ESTATE

Hitting the mark

Zoning board rules Fifeville apartment proposal qualifies as student housing

DAVID VELAZQUEZ
The Daily Progress

The Charlottesville Board of Zoning Appeals still doesn't know if the University of Virginia Medical Center and a university-owned pocket park count as part of UVa Grounds, but it's letting it count for the Mark, a proposed student housing complex on the northern edge

of the city's Fifeville neighborhood. In a 3-2 vote Thursday evening, the board ruled against Fifeville resident Paul Reeder's argument that the city's zoning administrator, Read Brodhead, erred in determining that the planned seven-story, 157-unit apartment complex falls within the half-mile radius necessary to be deemed student housing.

Housing projects within a half-mile of Virginia's flagship public university allow developers to label projects as student housing. The designation means projects do not need to include affordable units that are required by city code, and it also means developers pay a lower rate into the Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund.

Reeder's Jan. 8 appeal argued that Brodhead had taken a liberal approach to what constitutes Grounds, including a pocket park opposite the Graduate hotel on West Main Street and the UVa Medical Center.

Reeder, who was present at the

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A MOUNTAIN OF A HILL



ALLYSE PULLIAM, TIMES-DISPATCH

Oak Hill Farm, the Loudoun County home of former President James Monroe, are seen on Monday April 13, 2026.

Oak Hill, James Monroe's Loudoun County home in limbo, as nation's 250th birthday nears

MICHAEL MARTZ
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Del. John Chilton McAuliff, D-Loudoun, has a blood interest in preserving the last home of President James Monroe, as well as 1,240 acres of rolling farmland around it in Loudoun County, just minutes from the teeming suburbs of Northern Virginia.

Monroe, then an officer of the Virginia 3rd Regiment of the Continental Army, helped carry McAuliff's mortally wounded forebear, Capt. John Chilton, to a tree overlooking the Battle of Brandywine in late 1777.

The future governor and president, who had been severely wounded a year earlier at the Battle of Trenton, also tended to another wounded Revolutionary War hero that day: the Marquis de Lafayette, who would visit Oak Hill nearly 50 years later and bring two ornate marble mantelpieces as gifts that still flank both ends of one parlor.

"They fought side by side to create the nation that we love today," McAuliff told a



Monroe

House of Delegates committee early this year on behalf of his legislation to turn Oak Hill into a new state park.

But the future of Monroe's historic home and surrounding farmland is enmeshed in a different kind of battle, as the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates face off like opposing armies in a struggle over a new two-year budget that will determine whether Oak Hill becomes a state park or remains in political limbo, as land development pressures mount around it.

Oak Hill — not to be confused with Monroe's Highland plantation just south of Charlottesville next door to fellow Founding Father Thomas Jefferson's Monticello estate — sits minutes from the global heart of the data center industry that Virginia

Please see OAK HILL, Page A3

COURT

Brouhaha in Browns Cove

Albemarle County cousins enter plea deals after their family feud ends in injury

HAWES SPENCER
The Daily Progress

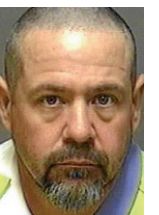
For the second time in 16 months, a cousin-versus-cousin shooting at a family compound in northwestern Albemarle County has left someone seriously injured. But unlike the first shooting which paralyzed a woman and culminated in a jury trial, the two cousins criminally charged after the latest shooting have chosen to enter pleas, and each man recently got a no-jail outcome despite the violence they both perpetrated.

Roger Lee Lamb, 35, and Frankie Jasso, 42, hadn't been getting along even before their intemperate encounter last fall. However, it was Lamb's brother Kevin who made the middle-finger gesture that sent Jasso into enough rage to drive a utility task vehicle into him.



R. Lamb

The trouble, according to the special prosecutor brought in from Charlottesville, actually began long before that fateful afternoon encounter.



Jasso

"This is a bit of an unusual case, your honor," special prosecutor Nicholas Kalagian recently told the Albemarle Circuit Court. "It's been an ongoing issue."

The issue involves allegations that the Lamb brothers, who live on their mother's property in the Browns Cove area, had created or permitted encroachments onto Jasso's land, which is adjacent.

Tensions were reportedly rising. "It had," said Kalagian, "reached a boiling point."

The boiling point was shortly before 3 p.m. Oct. 19.

According to prosecutors and police reports, Jasso had been angry about the sound of dogs barking and particularly about a pair of physical encroachments onto his property: a camper and a dog kennel. On the day that Jasso and the Lamb brothers confronted each other on the shared driveway, Jasso, by his own admission, was doing doughnuts on his Honda side-by-side UTV.

The driveways stem from Doyles Side Lane, so named because it lies next to the Doyles River. The 20-acre property of the late Russell "Rooster" Shifflett, who died in 1993, and Ruth Shifflett, who died in 2013, had been carved into four tracts for their descendants, and that bunch were arguing.

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Bettina Ring: What Virginia's landscapes give us — and why we must give back

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Weather

Mostly sunny
High 64 • Low 48
Forecast • A8

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