

Family Life Center Opens in October

Effort Baptist Church Will Further Open It's Doors to the Community



Effort Baptist Church, Family Life Center. | Photo by K. Kullman

By Erin Higgins

Palmyra will soon be able to enjoy a new addition to the Effort Baptist Church. The church's Family Life Center will offer its first services on Sunday, October 16.

The new Family Life Center boasts nineteen thousand square feet, will house eight class-rooms and seat six hundred and fifty people. It will have taken about nine months to complete.

The church hosts a variety of functions, all hoping to reach out to and benefit the community. Recovery and support groups are one of the noble offerings of the

church's community. These groups help victims of abuse and those who have suffered great tragedies by offering spiritual and psychological counseling.

"We do what we can to help," says Dr. David Clay, Pastor of Effort Baptist Church. "Our goal is to be the best neighbor possible by reaching out and teaching."

Pastor Clay hopes that the programs offered will help to rebuild those who have suffered greatly, making them healthy and whole again. He realizes that this is no easy task, but is up for the challenge.

A variety of programs are offered for all members of the community, catering to the needs of the young, old, and everyone in between. Effort Baptist Church serves as a meeting place for members of a local Alcoholics Anonymous group, and also hosts a local Boy Scout Troop. The addition of the new Family Life Center will allow the church to offer even more room for these valuable programs.

There are after school and pre-

school services offered for the community's youth. The church also participates in the nationwide Christian athletic program UpWords Sports, which offers a variety of activities for youth participation.

Upcoming highlighted events at Effort Baptist Church include Christian comedy Night on September 17, at 7 p.m. with Charles Marshall. A carnival and picnic will offer free entertainment, and pony rides, on September 25. Jimmy Fortune, formally of the Statler Brothers, will be performing on October 15. These are just a few of the community events being offered that are open to the public, and a full listing can be found at the church's website.

For more information about the new Family Life Center, about Effort Baptist Church's upcoming events and programs, or for other details, contact Effort Baptist Church at:

7820 Thomas Jefferson Highway
Palmyra, VA
(434) 589- 8962

www.effortchurch.org



Effort Baptist Church, Family Life Center inside. APR '05. | Photo from the EBC website: effortchurch.org

SOS Pen Pal Program

Animals and Inmates Assist Each Other

The Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women in Troy has joined several other institutions by implementing the SOS Pen Pals Program.

The SOS Pen Pals Program places hard-to-adopt dogs from local pounds with carefully selected inmates for an intense eight-week training program. Upon graduation from the program, these dogs are housebroken, leash trained, receptive to voice and hand commands, and ready to be placed in the community.

SOS Pen Pals is a partnership between Save Our Shelters and the VA Department of Corrections. Its hope is to reduce the euthanasia rate in Virginia's public pounds and

to promote rehabilitation and while providing job skills for inmates.

Since the first graduation of the Pen Pals Program at James River Correctional Center on May 24, 2001, over two-hundred healthy, well-adjusted, and well-trained animal companions have been adopted.

The Pen Pals Program is currently offered in Virginia at five correctional facilities: James River Correctional Center, Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, Botetourt Correctional Center, Buckingham Correctional Center, Pocahontas Correctional Unit

For more information about SOS Pen Pals, please call (804) 358-7499 or visit www.sos-penpals.org



SOS PET: Rose is brand new to the SOS PenPals training program! Friendly to everyone she meets, Rose is a Pointer mixed perhaps with a dash of English Bulldog. At about a year old, Rose weighs 45 pounds. The day she arrived, it was quite hot and instead of drinking from the water bowl, Rose tried to take a bath! As we learn more about Rose, we will update her profile. Rose is receiving her obedience training at a Virginia correctional center. Other SOS pets online at petfinder.com



Tom Farruggio's Fluvanna County Market Update

The Real Estate Market in Fluvanna County follows closely with the surrounding counties with few exceptions for the second quarter of 2005.

Fluvanna had 188 home sales in the second quarter of 2005 excluding homes For Sale By Owner, a drop of 12.1% from the second quarter of last year. DOM or average days on market, was 64 days, down 4 days from last year. The median sales price was \$229,000, up a whopping 32% over the second quarter of last year, which incidentally is the highest increase of all the counties in the Charlottesville area. Although there are a few more homes on the market overall this year, Fluvanna County remains at a deficit for marketable homes. Continued buyer pressure in our county has given rise to higher prices, quicker sales and a list price to sale price ratio of 99.9%!

Several new subdivisions and slower sales for the month of July may bring some relief to the soaring home prices. It remains a good time to invest in real estate but be cautious and use a knowledgeable Realtor to help you understand the market.

For information about the value of your home, a resale or any new subdivision in the area call



Tom Farruggio at 434 589 0777

When it's time to sell your home
Real Estate III sells a home every three minutes.



UNDERGROUND PET FENCING

"Protect The Dog You Love"
SAFE PETS...HAPPY OWNERS.™



- Free Estimates • Lifetime Warranty • Veterinarian Preferred
- Low Battery Warning Light
- Programmable For Every Size Dog
- Low Stress Training • Satisfaction Guaranteed

**Ask About Our FREE 10 Year
Battery Plan**

434-589-8995

Mobile: 434-960-2691 www.undergroundpetfencingva.com



WE SERVICE ANY SYSTEM

