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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Central Virginia Electric Co-op Member **Receives Unsung Virginian Award**

Marvin Moss of Fluvanna County Honored at March 11 Ceremony

Marvin Moss, a retired public servant and tireless contributor to his community, has received the 2016 Unsung Virginian Award, a statewide honor bestowed by Virginia's electric cooperatives.

This award, which honors a citizen for services rendered to the Commonwealth without thought of personal gain, was presented March 11 in a special ceremony hosted by the Fluvanna County Historical Society at the old county courthouse in Palmyra.

Moss was nominated by Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. His nomination was accompanied by numerous letters of support, among them a commendation from retired Sen. Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, a leader in setting national clean-water goals who served in the U.S. Senate from 1977-2007.

After serving as chief of staff for Senator Sarbanes for more than 20 years, Moss moved to Fluvanna County in 1995. There, his unique skills and energies were put to good use, as he led the Fluvanna County Historical Society and served on both the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors and Capitol Square Preservation Council.

With his experience and knowledge of architecture, Moss was instrumental in the design of Fluvanna County's new courthouse, completed in 2001, and LEED-certified (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) high school, competed in 2012. He also played a key role in helping mitigate the environmental impact of the Pembroke Pettit Bridge over the Rivanna River in Palmyra, which replaced a steel truss bridge from the 1930s.

Moss was appointed by Gov. Mark Warner and re-appointed by Gov. Tim Kaine to serve on the Capitol Square Preservation Council from 2002-2010. During his tenure, the Council oversaw restoration of the State Capitol Building and construction of the new Visitor's Center.

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Perhaps Moss' greatest contribution was leading the Fluvanna County Historical Society to receive \$1.1 million in grants that funded development of Pleasant Grove Park and restoration of the site's historic Haden home, which opened to the public in 2014. The property, which houses the county's park and recreation staff and sheriff's office, offers a pavilion and multiuse trail system that attracts users from across the region. Moss' latest initiative is a Farm Heritage Museum to further add to the park's resources.

Judith Mickelson, past executive director of the Fluvanna County Historical Society, said of Moss, "His ability to forge compatible relationships between public and private organizations is exemplary and legendary." Added fellow historical society member Deborah Murdock, "Not only is Marvin extremely productive in all his involvements, he is also FUN to work with!"

In her nomination letter, Roberta Savage, executive director of the Rivanna Conservation Society, stated, "Marvin has been stalwart in the cause of clear water and has led a number of efforts to enhance water quality, river access and overall beautification of central Virginia."

In honoring Moss with the Unsung Virginian Award, James Huffman, chairman of the VMDAEC Awards Committee noted, "Because of volunteers such as Marvin, the quality of life in our rural communities will be enriched for future generations."

Richard Johnstone, VMDAEC executive vice president, added, "Marvin exemplifies the 7<sup>th</sup> cooperative principle of 'concern for community. We are proud to recognize his inspirational leadership that has made such a difference for central Virginia."

Nominations for the Unsung Virginian Award are solicited from the members of the 13 electric cooperatives that serve Virginia.

**About CVEC:** Headquartered in Arrington, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative provides power to over 35,500 homes, farms and businesses in 14 central Virginia counties and the Town of Gordonsville. To learn more, visit <a href="https://www.mycvec.com">www.mycvec.com</a>.

**About VMDAEC:** Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for 15 consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric distribution cooperatives that serve Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, including CVEC. The Glen Allen, Va.-based Association provides its member cooperatives with employee, director, and safety education and training, government relations and legislative support, and communications services, including the publishing of *Cooperative Living* magazine. For more information, visit <a href="www.vmdaec.com">www.vmdaec.com</a>, <a href="www.vmdaec.com">