

# *Sull-E Newsletter*



## **A message from Kathy Smith**

I wish you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving! My office is closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in honor of the Thanksgiving Day holiday. My staff and I will be back in the office on Monday, November 27.

Need a safe place to meet someone for an online purchase? The Sully Governmental Center has an Exchange Zone, which is in front of the building in the parking lot. This area is monitored seven days a week and 24 hours a day.

In this newsletter you will find information about how to avoid scams and donate safely, a video about the history of Centreville, and more.

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Sincerely,

*Katty*

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## Event at Sully Historic Site



Santa is coming to Sully Historic Site, **3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly, VA 20151**, and you can take a picture with him on **Saturday, November 25**. Bring your camera and take photos with Santa in front of an open-hearth fire. Make an ornament to deck your halls and see a holiday puppet show. If weather allows, you can take a brisk wagon ride, too. This is an ongoing event from **12:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Santa visits and wagon-ride time slots will be based on arrival time. The cost is \$7 per person, and activities are designed for participants age 2 to adult. For more information and to register, please visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/).

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## Avoid Scams & Donate Safely This Holiday Season



The holidays are almost here! If you are planning to donate to those in need, here is what you need to know:

### Say Bah, Humbug to Scams:

Holidays are a prime time for scammers. Our [Consumer Affairs Branch](#) has valuable information about some scams to watch out for:

- **Counterfeit merchandise:** Street vendors may sell fake watches, purses and other items that appear to be high-end, name-brand merchandise, but are cheap knockoffs.
- **Fake vacation rentals:** This involves advertising property that the advertiser doesn't own. Be sure to use reputable individuals or organizations if you're booking a rental.
- **Fake charities:** Never give money to any charity without checking them out first. Whether they come to your door or approach you in the mall parking lot, ask for credentials and information, and tell them you'll consider it later. The [Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs](#) maintains a list of registered charities.

- **Check scams:** This usually involves cashier's checks. Someone who wants to buy your merchandise will offer to pay more than your asking price on the condition that you return the difference. Weeks later, you find out from your bank that the check was a fake and you're now without your money and your merchandise.
- **Buying online:** Make sure you check out the website where you buy the merchandise or check out the company. Some scammers set up fake websites that look legitimate but are only there to get your money.
- **Items off of a truck:** This is a roving gang of scammers masquerading as delivery men. They pull a truck up in a parking lot, say that they can sell you something cheap, like furniture or electronics. At best, the goods will be low-quality merchandise. At worst, you could be receiving stolen goods.
- **Gift cards:** Beware of tampered cards, where scammers use special software to find validated cards with money on them and then spend the money before the unsuspecting victim has a chance to spend it.

### Helping Others in Need:

Many people prefer to donate to a good cause during the holiday seasons. Here are a few ideas that will have a local impact.

- **Gift cards for child victims:** Our [Police Department is accepting donations](#) for families that have been impacted this year.
- **Toys for Tots:** Our [Fire and Rescue Department is collecting toys](#) for the Toys for Tots campaign.
- **Help Our Homeless:** Contact our [community partners](#) for information on donations and volunteering.
- **Rescue animals:** A \$20 donation will [buy toys and treats for two shelter pets](#).
- **Protect a neighbor:** \$75 will pay for a [home security system for victims of domestic violence](#).

- **Reforest Fairfax:** \$35 will [plant five new trees](#) in Fairfax County.
  - **Buy a bicycle:** \$50 will buy a [new bike for a low-income child](#).
  - **Donate kids books:** \$25 purchases [six children's picture books](#).
  - **Help a student:** \$10 buys about \$30 worth of [school supplies](#) for kids in need.
  - **Provide health care:** \$300 will buy [one child a year's worth of medical care](#).
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## Santa's Ride Toy Drive



Through **Monday, December 11 by 9:00 a.m.** Donate new, unwrapped toys, games, books, and gifts for children at area hospitals and through local charities for those who may not otherwise have a cheerful holiday season. Bring items to the lobbies of the Pennino or Herrity buildings, Public Safety Headquarters, Government Center, or any police station; including the **Sully District Police Station (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151)**. Contact [Capt. Bob Blakley](#), 703-280-0551, for more information.

Santa's Ride is presented by the Fairfax County Police Motor Squad with assistance from Virginia State Police, Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Herndon Police, Fairfax City Police, the Falls Church Sheriff's Office, and the MWA Police Department.

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## Fairfax 275 Celebration - Historic Centreville



### Reminder!

## 2017 Northern VA Refugee Blanket & Coat Drive

The 2017 drive, organized by [NOVA Relief Center](#), began on Wednesday, November 1 and will conclude on Saturday, December 2.



For anyone who wishes to contribute may do so by one of two means. New or gently used blankets and coats may be dropped off to one of the **drop-off locations**, including the **Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151)**, and/or a monetary donation may be made specifically for the drive. All monetary donations will go toward the purchase and distribution of blankets. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit NOVA Relief Center's website at <https://secure.piryx.com/donate/r93sDe73/NOVA-Relief-Center-Inc/blanket-coat-drive>.



Help Refugees this winter by bringing your new or gently-used coat or blanket to a location near you.

Donations will be distributed to refugees in Lebanon and Jordan.

# BLANKET & COAT DRIVE

## FOR REFUGEES

November 1-December 2, 2017

Uniting Hands to Help Those In Need  
[www.novareliefcenter.org](http://www.novareliefcenter.org)



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## Animal Shelter Corner



### Meet Sophie!

**Age:** 6y 9m

**Gender:** Female

**Color:** Brown / White

**Spayed/Neutered:** Yes

**Size:** Large

Sophie is a fantastic goofball of a gal. Despite her size, she has plenty of energy and is all about that play, play, play. She loves doing zoomies around the yard and is a sucker for plush squeaky toys - so much so that she may not want to give them back to you. She loves getting attention and pets all



over and is also a smart girl who will show off her commands "sit," "shake," and "down" for a treat or two. She transferred to us from one of the Animal Shelter's rescue partners. They said that she is housetrained, sits quietly in her kennel while waiting to be leashed, and specializes in napping after spurts of energy and zoomies. Wouldn't you love to curl up on the couch with her for a long winter's nap?

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## Volunteer Opportunity in Sully



### Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels Drivers pick up meals and deliver them to individuals on a specific route. Routes take a maximum of 2 hours to deliver all meals. Deliveries are made midday Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays, except in the Annandale/Falls Church region, where it is done Monday through Friday. Deliveries can be made by an individual or as part of a volunteer group. Opportunities available throughout Fairfax County close to where you live or work!

**Contact:**

Process Manager

703-324-5406

[VolunteerSolutions@Fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@Fairfaxcounty.gov)

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm>