

September 4, 2020

A Message from Kathy Smith

Happy Labor Day! The end of summer is here, and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) will begin virtually on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. To help support online education, the Park Authority created programs that cover science and social studies topics for elementary school students. More information is below. I wish students and their families a safe and successful school year.

All Fairfax County government offices will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2020 in honor of the Labor Day holiday. My office will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Governor Northam's COVID-19 Update:

- Gov. Northam announced at a press conference this past Tuesday, September 1, that
 there will be no changes to coronavirus guidelines before Labor Day weekend. He wants
 to remind residents that this virus is still alive and well around the commonwealth of
 Virginia, and he hopes Virginians will remain vigilant.
- He urged Virginians to get tested if they believe they have been exposed to COVID-19, especially if your job requires you to be around other people, like teachers. Residents can find a map of testing sites on <u>Virginia's Department of Health website</u>.
- Gov. Northam reported that the COVID-19 exposure notification app, COVIDWISE, has been downloaded by 460,000 users since it launched four weeks ago. <u>Click here</u> to download the free app.
- The Governor issued <u>Fifth Executive Directive 7</u>, which extends the validity of some credentials issued by the <u>Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles</u> (DMV). For more information, click here. **Vehicle registrations have not been further extended.**

Stuff the Bus Events:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the need for food in our area, so Stuff the Bus is working to respond to the demand.
- On Saturday, September 12 and Saturday, September 26, Fastran buses will be parked at the 21 locations listed below from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to collect food donations. Details

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Sully Locations:

*Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151)

*Centreville Regional Library (14200 Saint Germain Drivé, Centreville, VA 20121)

Sully District Police Station - Community Engagement Meeting:

- The Sully District Police Station will hold a virtual community engagement meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android: https://fairfaxcounty.zoom.us/j/93036013125; or call +1 301 715 8592.
- Agenda Includes: community events update, Silver Shield Anti-Scam Campaign, and station update and Q&A with Lieutenant Josh Laitinen.
- For questions, contact Officer Sabrina Ruck at 703-814-7000.

<u>Park Authority Creates Programs to Support Online Education:</u>

- The Fairfax County Park Authority is <u>introducing programs designed to support online</u> school education and homeschooling students.
- The "Field Trips for All" programs are nature center and historic site field trips that cover science and social studies for elementary grades. Space is limited. Registration is required. Program locations in the Sully District include: Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Sully Historic Site, and Cub Run RECenter.
- For more information, call the <u>park</u> you intend to visit or 703-222-4664.

Sincerely,

Kally





Route 28 in Centreville Reduced to One Lane in Each Direction During Overnight Hours Next Week, September 8-11:

- Route 28 in Centreville will be reduced to a single travel lane in each direction for about one mile during overnight hours Tuesday, September 8, through Friday, September 11, to accommodate continued installation of beams for the new Braddock Road/Walney Road Bridge. Details
- Other closures necessary during this time include: the ramp from I-66 East to Route 28
 North, the ramp from I-66 West to Route 28 North, the ramp from Route 28 South to I-66
 East, and Braddock Road East to Route 28 South. Detours will be posted. Drivers should
 expect delays if traveling in this area.

Volunteer Opportunities



Fairfax County Seeks Board of Zoning Appeals Member:

- The <u>Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals</u> (BZA) has an opening for one member. Interested candidates must apply by September 18, 2020, to the <u>Fairfax Circuit Court</u>. Applicants should send their resume to Judge Bruce D. White, Fairfax Circuit Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. Applicants must be residents of Fairfax County.
- For more information, contact Brent Krasner, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development, at 703-324-1280, TTY 711.

<u>Fairfax County Office of Elections is Seeking Individuals to Help with Absentee Voting for the Nov. 2020 Election:</u>

- To be considered, <u>complete this form</u> as soon as possible. Candidates will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Pay is approximately \$14/hour.
- Available Opportunities: assisting with in-person absentee voting at satellite locations; processing mailed absentee ballots; and other office opportunities. For more information, click here.

Commission for Women Seeks Student Commissioner:

- The <u>Commission for Women</u> (CFW) is seeking a college or high school student interested in serving on the Commission for one or two school terms beginning in the 2020 academic year. <u>Details</u>
- Application deadline is Wednesday, September 30, 2020. For questions, contact Mery Juarez.

Coronavirus Column

Important reminders to keep yourself and others safe:



Recent Headlines:

- Face Coverings Work But Not All Are Created Equal
- What You Need to Know about Using Hand Sanitizer Correctly and Safely
- Vaping Raises Risk of COVID-19 Complications in Teenagers
- Travel in a Time of COVID-19: What You Need to Know
- 5 Things to Know about COVID-19 Testing

FREE COVID-19 Testing Offered Every Tuesday:

- In partnership with the Centreville Labor Resource Center, Healthworks for Northern Virginia is offering FREE COVID-19 testing every Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for walk-ins and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment only. Location: 5944 Centreville Crest Lane, Centreville, VA.
- Testing is available to everyone, and you do not need to have symptoms to request a test.
- To make an appointment call 703-443-2000, select option #1.

Help is Still Needed:

- The Office for Children continues to seek donations to support childcare programs in providing critical services to children and families.
- Essential cleaning supplies are needed, including hand soap, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer. Click here for more information.
- Face Covering Donations Smaller face coverings for kids are also needed. Cloth face masks of any size can be donated to community members in need at Fairfax County Police Stations. Drop off any time, day or night. Find a location near you.
- **Donate Blood** The U.S. faces a critical blood shortage. Donation centers and blood drives are using the latest COVID-19 precautions to keep donors and team members safe. The FDA has stated that COVID-19 is not considered to be transmitted via blood.
 - *Inova Blood Donor Services Click here to make an appointment using their online scheduling tool, or feel free to call <u>1-866-256-6372</u>. You can donate whole blood, double red cells, plasma and platelets. Click here for donor center locations.
 - *American Red Cross To schedule an appointment to donate, use the free Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Ways to Stay Informed:

- Call our Health Department Call Center at 703-267-3511 with Coronavirus questions; open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.
- Text FFXCOVID to 888777 to receive updates from Fairfax County about COVID-19.
- Email questions or concerns to ffxcovid@fairfaxcounty.gov. This email account is staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. through 6 p.m.
- Visit a <u>web portal for coronavirus</u> that serves as a one-stop online resource for information.

The Green Column



The Fall Webworm in Fairfax County

The fall webworm is a native caterpillar that spins webs over leaves of deciduous trees. There is a very noticeable increase in fall webworm in the area compared to recent years. It is not unusual to see population levels rise and fall over a span of a few years. This insect does not pose a serious risk to trees and native trees are well adapted to this pest.

To read the full article, click here.

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Jack!

Meet Jack! He's lived with another cat, a ferret, and maybe even a dog? (The Fairfax County Animal Shelter does not have too many details about where he came from.) Here is what their staff has to say about Jack: "Jack is one chill dude. He prefers to roam around the room and will do so for a long while! Once he has had his fill he returns to his kennel without issue. He loves food, so he can be convinced pretty easily!"

If you'd like to adopt Jack, send in a completed adoption questionnaire. All adoption info, steps, and forms can be found online.

Reminders!

2020 Census:

Enumerators (census takers) will be visiting households that have not yet responded to help collect Census information in a fast, safe, and confidential way. Field data collection will end on September 30, 2020. Households can still complete the 2020 Census online, by phone at 844-330-2020 (TTY 711) or by completing the paper survey received in the mail. **The Census Bureau does not disclose any personal information.** Details

Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) - Survey:

Fairfax County is developing its first-ever <u>Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP)</u> and your input is needed!

• Take the CECAP public survey (available from August 27 – September 13)