

October 2, 2020

A Message from Kathy Smith



I was pleased to participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Preserve at Westfields a mixed use development in the Westfields Business Park (pictured above). The word is that the Sedona Taphouse is anticipated to open in November.

The deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration, for the November 3, 2020 Election is Tuesday, October 13, 2020. That's less than two weeks away! I encourage you to check your voter registration as soon as possible to ensure that no updates are needed. To check your voter registration status online, <u>click here</u>.

My office has received several inquiries about ballot drop-off boxes. Currently, the only ballot drop-off boxes available are at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035). There are two drop-off boxes available at the Government Center. The blue drop-off box in the lobby is only available during voting hours. The red drop-off box located outside of the Government Center is available 24/7. Please note that the Office of Elections does not check IDs when individuals drop off ballots in the drop-off box. Previously, the Code stated that only the voter can return their ballot; however, the Commonwealth recently changed this and now it is permissible for an individual to drop off another person's ballot.

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Additional early voting locations open on October 14, 2020 (excluding the Great Falls Library, which is only open on Saturdays beginning October 17). A drop-off box will be available at these early voting locations (outside the voting room) during voting hours only. For more information about early voting, click here.

On Election Day, November 3, 2020, a ballot drop-off box will be available at every voting precinct from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. A poll worker will be attending every box at all times.

Personal Property (Car) Taxes Due October 5, 2020:

- Personal property taxes are due October 5, 2020. See all ways to pay including online, by mail, by phone, in person or drop off. Payments postmarked on or before October 5, 2020 are considered to be on time, regardless of date received.
- If you have questions about your personal property taxes, contact the Department of Tax Administration at 703-222-8234, TTY 711 or email DTAPPD@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Stuff the Bus Celebrates Two Successful Food Drives in September:

- To help fill the food pantries of area nonprofits, Stuff the Bus held two food drives in September. On both days, buses were parked at 21 locations throughout the county, including many Board of Supervisors' offices, Fairfax County Public Schools, libraries, and the Fairfax County Government Center.
- During the two drives, the Fairfax County community generously donated 27.6 tons of food to 10 area nonprofits, including 4,336.78 lbs. of food collected at the Sully Governmental Center and the Centreville Regional Library.
- The next Stuff the Bus food drives are tentatively scheduled to be held in January 2021. If you wish to donate before then, you can donate virtually to area nonprofits by visiting Volunteer Fairfax's <u>Stuff the Bus Donation Page</u>.

Health Department Flu Vaccine Clinics:

- With the COVID-19 pandemic still in full force and influenza season now starting, it's
 more important than ever that everyone do their part to help prevent the spread of
 respiratory illnesses. Details
- Adults & Children (6 months+) Make an appointment by calling 703-246-7100. See flyer: English | Spanish
 - *Saturday, October 3, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at <u>Joseph Willard Health</u> Center
 - *Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Herndon Reston District
- Office *Saturday, November 7, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Mt. Vernon District Office
- Adults 50+ Make an appointment by calling 703-246-6010. See flyer: English | Arabic | Bengali | Chinese | Farsi | Korean | Punjabi | Spanish | Urdu | Vietnamese
 - *Tuesday, October 6, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Herndon Senior Center *Monday, October 19, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center
 - *Monday, October 26, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Original Mt. Vernon High School
 - *Monday, November 2, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at <u>Little River Glen Senior</u> Center
 - *Monday, November 9, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at <u>Lewinsville Senior Center</u>

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Small Business Grant Program Expands Businesses Eligible to Apply:

- The Rebuild! VA Grant Fund is a program to help small businesses and non-profits whose normal operations were disrupted by COVID-19.
- Expanded business sectors are now eligible to apply, including small hotels and bed and breakfast lodging facilities, along with film industry companies supporting production in the commonwealth.
- Businesses and nonprofits that are approved for a Rebuild! VA grant may receive up to three times their average monthly eligible expenses up to a maximum of \$10,000. For more information and to apply, visit the REBUILD! VA website.

Fairfax County Establishes New Program to Encourage Economic Growth:

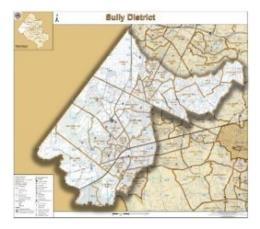
- Fairfax County adopted a new program, called the Economic Incentive Program (EIP), on Sept. 15, 2020, this program encourages economic growth by providing multiple financial and regulatory incentives. <u>Details</u>
- The application process and forms are currently being finalized, and the county plans to make it available later this fall. Interested applicants are invited to connect with county staff and discuss their eligibility for the program by emailing the Community Revitalization Section Director Elizabeth Hagg at Elizabeth. Hagg@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Access Free Online Training and Job Search Tools 24/7 with Your Library Card:

- Fairfax County Public Library's nearly 100 <u>research databases</u> cover a wide variety of topics and include dozens of online resources for career training and job searches. Details
- Looking for a job? Search <u>AtoZ Databases</u> for current openings. Thinking of starting your own business? Use it to see what companies already exist in the area.
- Need assistance accessing any of these resources? Ask Your Library!

Sincerely, Kally

Sully Land Use Spotlight



The <u>Health Care Advisory Board (HCAB)</u> will hold a public meeting on **Monday, October 5, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.** to review <u>Special Exception Application SE 2020-SU-13, Recovery Innovations, Inc.</u> Similar to the role of the Planning Commission, the HCAB makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on land use applications that include medical facility uses.

The meeting will be held electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic via ZOOM. (Website: https://zoom.us/j/95269307201 and Password: v2rF@8&0Hj). You may also connect via telephone at (866) 434-5269, Conference Code: 788288.

Teentober Events at Centreville Library



Coronavirus Column

Important reminders to keep yourself and others safe:



Recent Headlines:

- <u>Donations Needed to Support Nonprofits Who Help Individuals Experiencing Homeless-ness</u>
- Virginia Department of Health Announces New Pandemic Metrics Dashboard
- Six Things to Know About the COVID-19 Response Today
- Donate Fabric and Purchased Masks or Make One of Your Own

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.

Inova COVID-19 Update:

- Testing -
 - *Inova is offering vehicle-side COVID-19 and flu testing at three select locations across our region by appointment only.
 - *Patients with a **provider's order and symptoms of COVID-19** can self-schedule their test at www.inova.org/covidtest.
 - *Inova maintains two Respiratory Illness Clinic locations that offer walk-in evaluations and screening for flu and/or COVID-19.
 - *Those who are uninsured or have Medicaid coverage can contact Inova Cares Clinics for Families for virtual COVID-19 screening. More information is available at www.inova.org/iccf.
 - *All regional testing sites and Respiratory Illness Clinics will operate seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Urgent Need for Blood Donation + Antibody Testing -
 - *Inova Blood Donor Services is currently experiencing a critically low supply of O+ blood and is asking the community to help. Additionally, beginning September 14, all successful blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies. For more information, and to make an appointment, please visit www.inovablood.com.
- All Inova hospitals and care sites are open and serving patients. The most up to date information on Inova's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including what to do if you feel sick, how to be tested if appropriate, visitor information, and other information to plan for your care can be found at inova.org/covid19.

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

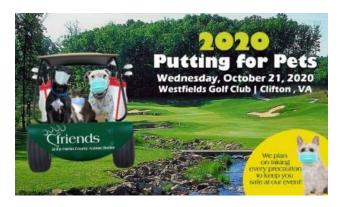


What's a REC?

For the most part, when you flip a light switch or turn on a computer, it is impossible to know whether the electricity flowing from an outlet comes from fossil fuel-based sources, or clean energy sources. Purchasing Renewable Energy Credits/Certificates (RECs) is one way to account for the use of clean electricity. While purchasing a REC does not guarantee that the electricity flowing into a specific building or facility is generated from a renewable source, it does allow the purchaser to legitimately state that a certain percentage of their electricity comes from clean sources.

To read the full article, click here.

2020 Putting for Pets Event



Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Time: Starts at 7:30 a.m.

Location: Westfields Golf Club (13940 Balmoral Greens Avenue, Clifton, VA 20124)

The <u>Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter</u> will host the <u>2020 Putting for Pets</u> event on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. The Friends group is the nonprofit, fundraising partner of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. The group funds important needs beyond what the Shelter's budget can provide.

All necessary precautions will be taken to adhere to Virginia's physical-distancing requirements. For more information about this event, and to register, visit: https://www.ffcas.org/friends-events/golf/.

Animal Shelter Corner



Upcoming Adoption Events

- Fall for a Shelter Dog! To help get Shelter dogs adopted, the first 31 dogs adopted during October will get \$100 off their adoption fee! For more information, click here.
- Fall for a Shelter Cat! For one week only, October 10-16, 2020, all cat and kitten adoptions are fee-waived! For more information, click here.

To learn about the Shelter's adoption process, including their requirements and adoption fee structure, click here.

Reminders!

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FCFRD) to Host Virtual Open House:

FCFRD will host several fun, interactive activities, and virtual events throughout Fire Prevention Week **beginning Monday, October 5, 2020.** <u>Details</u>. A virtual open house will highlight the week and occur throughout the day on Saturday, October 10, 2020 on FCFRD social and digital platforms. Register online to be eligible for daily prizes, perks, and to enjoy our specially prepared weekly selections! Register here: <u>Virtual Fire Prevention Week 2020</u>.

Low-Cost Rabies Clinics:

The Department of Animal Sheltering will host three curbside, no contact, <u>low-cost rabies</u> vaccination clinics:

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- Cats and Ferrets: Sunday, October 18 and Sunday, December 6, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on all dates at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter (4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030).
- Dogs: Sunday, October 18 and Sunday, December 6, 2020 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on all dates at Pender Veterinary Centre (4001 Legato Road, Fairfax, VA 22033).

Pre-registration is required! Cost is \$20 per vaccination, exact cash or check only. This is a drive through clinic, and pet owners must remain in their car. Pet owners must wear a mask to receive services. For more info, <u>click here</u>.