



January 17, 2020

A Message from Kathy Smith

All Fairfax County government offices will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2020 in honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday. My office will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2020.

Absentee voting begins today for the Democratic presidential primary election! Currently, the only in-person absentee voting location open is the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in Conference Rooms 2/3. The 12 satellite locations, including the Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151), will open for in-person absentee voting on Saturday, February 22, 2020. More information about absentee voting and the Democratic presidential primary election is below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kathy'.

Reminders!

Rocks with Cops 2!:

Saturday, January 18, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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

Come paint rocks with the police! This is a free event and all ages are welcome! For more information and to RSVP, [click here](#).

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Stuff the Bus:

Saturday, January 18, 2020

10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Chantilly Walmart (4368 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151)

Join Fairfax County Government, MV Transportation, and area grocery stores as we collect food donations to assist the most vulnerable in our community. This Stuff the Bus event will benefit Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM). For more information about Stuff the Bus, [click here](#) or call 703-222-9764, TTY 711.

Coats for Kids - CSB Coat Drive:

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) Youth & Family Outpatient staff are holding a coat drive to benefit CSB clients and the community. Bring new or gently used coats, hats, scarves, and gloves to **CSB's Chantilly Office** (14150 Parkeast Circle, Suite 200, Chantilly, VA 20151) **now through February 28, 2020**. For more information, [click here](#).

Absentee Voting Begins Today, January 17 for Super Tuesday Presidential Primary



Super Tuesday is now weeks away — and [absentee voting](#) begins today, January 17, 2020 for the [March 3 Democratic presidential primary election](#).

To absentee vote in person, visit the [Fairfax County Government Center](#) (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) Conference Rooms 2/3.

Voting hours are:

- Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please note that the Fairfax County Government Center will be closed on Monday, January 20, for the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday and Monday, February 17, for Presidents' Day.)

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Currently, the Fairfax County Government Center is the only location for in-person absentee voting — but **12 additional locations will open starting Saturday, February 22, 2020**. The last day to absentee vote is Saturday, February 29, 2020.

Absentee Voting Requirements:

For the March 3 primary, you must have a reason to absentee vote, and there are 20 valid reasons, including working and commuting for 11 or more hours on Election Day. Check the list provided by the [Virginia Department of Elections](#) to see if you are eligible.

Who is on the Ballot?:

There are currently [14 candidates on the ballot](#), although three have suspended or ended their campaigns:

- Cory Booker
- Julián Castro
- Bernie Sanders
- Elizabeth Warren
- Marianne Williamson
- Michael Bennet
- Joseph R. Biden
- Amy Klobuchar
- Tulsi Gabbard
- Deval Patrick
- Pete Buttigieg
- Andrew Yang
- Tom Steyer
- Michael R. Bloomberg

Check Your Registration Information:

Voters should also confirm they are registered by checking on the [Virginia Department of Elections website](#). To vote in the March 3 primary, the [last day to register or update your information is Monday February 10, 2020](#).

To read the full article, [click here](#).

Volunteer Opportunity



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Election Officers Needed for the March 3 Democratic Presidential Primary

Fairfax County needs 2,100 election officers for the [March 3 Democratic presidential primary election](#).

Election officers must be registered to vote in Virginia.

Fairfax County is the largest voting jurisdiction in Virginia with 243 precincts. It takes thousands of enthusiastic and trained election officers to ensure that we have efficient and well-run elections. Compensation begins at \$175, although officers also may volunteer their time.

The Office of Elections is also seeking bilingual officers who speak Korean or Vietnamese. Bilingual speakers are especially needed in:

- Annandale
- Centreville
- Falls Church

On Election Day, officers will:

- Set up voting equipment.
- Check photo IDs and check names on the electronic poll book.
- Provide assistance and instructions for using the voting machines.
- Tabulate the results at the close of the polls.

For more information about becoming an election officer, visit the [Fairfax County Office of Elections webpage](#), or call the office at 703-324-4735, TTY 711.

Sully District Police Station: Valentine's Day Sock Drive

Sully District Police Station is hosting an Annual Sock Drive for Fairfax County students in need. Last year, the Fair Oaks Police Station collected over 3,500 pairs of socks. They were then passed out to students as a special Valentine's day surprise!

But why do we do this? Three years ago, one of our patrol officers was doing a school crossing at an elementary school. He noticed that even though it was a very cold morning many of the children were not wearing any socks. After his crossing ended, he went inside the school. He asked if it was a new fashion statement to not wear any socks. He learned that it is a luxury item that many families cannot afford once their bills are paid. He knew he had to do something and started a sock drive at the Fair Oaks Police Station.

Let's see if we can help warm up those little toes. We are accepting donations until February 10, 2020.

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VALENTINE'S DAY

**SOCK
DRIVE**

Little feet need love too!

Sully District is following in the **footsteps** of the Fair Oaks District and hosting our own Annual Sock Drive for Fairfax County Students in need.

Accepting donations until Monday, February 10

NEW socks can be dropped off or mailed to:
**Fairfax County Police Department
Sully Station C/O PFC Hawkins
4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly, VA 20151**

Questions contact PFC Meg Hawkins via Megan.Hawkins@fairfaxcounty.gov

Fire Investigators Seek Public's Help in Centreville Vehicle Fire



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Fire investigators are asking for the public's help gathering information regarding a vehicle fire that occurred in the early morning hours of Thursday, January 9, 2020. At approximately 2:57 a.m., units responded to a vehicle fire on Flamborough Road near Cub Run Court in the Centreville area of Fairfax County.

Anyone who was in the area at the time of the fire or who has information regarding this incident is asked to contact Captain Rich Gundert at (703) 246-4711. Callers may remain anonymous.

To read the full article, [click here](#).

2020 Fairfax County Cable Television Survey



Fairfax County is interested in your thoughts and opinions regarding cable television services within our community. Please provide your feedback, as part of the cable TV franchise renewal process.

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential. All data and reports will include aggregated data, only, not data for any specific respondent. Furthermore, this information will not be used for any marketing or solicitation.

[Click here](#) to take the survey! The survey will close on **January 31, 2020**.

Land Development FAQ: Do I need a Building Permit?

A permit is required for most new [residential](#) and [commercial](#) construction. Use the list below to help you determine if your project requires a building permit. If your project is not listed or you need help determining if a permit is required, contact the Permit Application Center at 703-222-0801 (TTY 711) or by [email](#).

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If a permit is not required, setbacks, and other zoning requirements may still apply. Contact Zoning at 703-222-1082 (TTY 711) for more information regarding zoning requirements.

For more information about the permit process, [click here](#).

Yes	No	Maybe
New buildings, additions, and structures	New floors, carpet, paint, trim work	Sheds and Playhouses: Yes, if the structure is over 256 square feet.
Finished basements	Residential window or door replacements	Swimming pools: Yes, except those that are 150 square feet area or less, 5,000 gallons capacity or less, and 24 inches deep or less.
Porches and decks, including alterations to existing porches and decks	Residential reroofs	Roof sheathing replacements: Yes, if over 256 square feet .
New and replacement gas appliances	Residential residings	Tents: Yes, if over 900 square feet.
New and replacement HVAC equipment	Low voltage (50 volts maximum) wiring systems and equipment that are not a component of any fire protection system, access control system, egress control system, located in a plenum, or penetrate fire rated or smoke protected construction .	Retaining walls: Yes, if over 3 feet.
New plumbing features		Gutters
New electric appliances	Kitchen cabinets	Flagpoles: No, if 30 feet or less in height.
Electric car charging equipment	Playground equipment	Temporary ramps serving residential dwellings: No, if no more than 30 inches high.
New exterior stairs or stoops	On-grade patios, including wood patios	Replacement of above-ground LP-gas containers: No, if installed in the same location, capacity of the containers are the same, and installed by the serving gas supplier.
Demolition of buildings and structures	Driveways: A land disturbance permit may be required. A VDOT permit may be required.	
Chemical dispensers connected to a water supply or plumbing fixture		
New and replacement backflow prevention assemblies		
Movement of a lot line		
Sump pumps		
Changes of occupancy or use group of a commercial space		

Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter: Tribute Garden



The [Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter](#) (FFCAS) are constructing a tribute garden at the front entrance of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Upon completion, the garden will consist of a patio with shrubs, plants, and benches. The area will serve as a place for visitors to enjoy, rest, and reflect, as well as serve as a tangible "thank you" for all who contribute, donate, and support our Shelter.

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Now is your chance to support FFCAS with a donation that will last a lifetime. Brick purchases will benefit our shelter pets for years to come, and will symbolize your commitment and love for animals. FFCAS invites you to be a part of this special and limited opportunity by purchasing a personalized, engraved brick for \$200. You can also choose selected clip art with your engraved brick for \$230. You may also purchase a 'keepsake', mini replica brick for \$50.

Each brick is 4" x 8" and will have up to three lines for inscription. Each 'keepsake', mini replica brick is 2" x 3". Each line will have 20 characters for inscription (If you select clip art, each line will have 16 characters for inscription. Examples of inscriptions are: "In honor of" or In memory of" a pet or individual, the name of an animal or animal lover, a donor's name, a family name or a business name.

For more information about the tribute garden and how to purchase a brick, [click here](#).

A Hidden Gem in Fairfax



Light, color, texture, sound, fragrance, motion... These can all be used to calm or arouse the senses. They are also core elements in the **Sensory Room**, a unique therapeutic space at Providence Community Center in Fairfax. Opened in 2015, the room is dedicated to former Deputy County Executive Patricia D. Harrison, who played a key role in its inception.

As a certified Snoezelen® Multi-Sensory Environment, the Sensory Room promotes stress-free engagement and physical and intellectual development, particularly for individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities.

Some of the room's state-of-the-art features include:

- An oversized circular remote that makes it easy for people of all abilities to control colors and sounds. This promotes inclusivity, choice, control and accessible learning.

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- Interactive wall panels and a large floor mat that can be used passively as visual stimuli or to play games teaching cause and effect and color recognition.
- Bubble tubes offering visual, audible and tactile stimulation through gentle vibrations.
- Swinging chairs to provide needed vestibular stimulation for individuals with balance and sensory processing issues.

The Sensory Room is open by appointment only to all registered members of [Providence Community Center](#) (membership is free for Fairfax County residents and open to others for an annual fee). All programs are led and/or supervised by full-time Inclusion Specialist Bekah Stone, who is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, and Kevin Aly, a Therapeutic Recreation student and part-time activity facilitator at Providence.

In addition to one-on-one and group sessions, the Sensory Room offers a full slate of weekly programs including a meditation and open relaxation station for adults; an adaptive seated yoga class for people living with mobility concerns; a sensory program for children 3 and under and their parents; and open time for teens to connect and explore.

The Sensory Room also partners with Fairfax County Public Schools and the SACC program to offer weekly and monthly field trips, as well as the Infant and Toddler Connection to assist families of young children experiencing developmental delays.

For a weekly programming schedule, view the [Providence Community Center activity calendar](#). For more information on the [Sensory Room](#) or to schedule a visit, call 703-865-0534.

The Green Column



Community-wide Energy & Climate Action Plan

Fairfax County is getting closer to launching its newest environmental initiative, the Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP). This process will seek to develop strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our region while mitigating negative effects of climate change on our communities. Such strategies will be formulated over the course of the next 18 months through public meetings and feedback from residents.

The CECAP effort will be led by Fairfax County's [Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination](#).

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The first CECAP Task Force Meeting will take place **on Friday, January 24, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the ICF Headquarters (9300 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA, 22031)**. This meeting will be conducted by the CECAP Task Force, which is comprised of community leaders and stakeholders selected by the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination. This meeting is open to the public. For the latest updates on CECAP, [click here](#).

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Cookie!

Little Cookie will jump into your lap the moment she meets you and will insist on standing there until she finally decides she'd rather sit. She is also a sucker for ear rubs and brushing! This purry little lass would do well in any loving quiet home. She does have stage 3 kidney disease but that isn't stopping her from being so sweet! For more information about Cookie, contact the [Fairfax County Animal Shelter](#) at 703-830-1100 or send an email to AnimalShelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.
