

James R. Walkinshaw

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Braddock District Supervisor The Braddock Beacon

June 2020 Edition

Dear Neighbor,

It has been a difficult two weeks for our nation and our community. While the COVID-19 pandemic continues, claiming more than 100,000 lives nationwide and 423 here in Fairfax County, the May 25 killing of George Floyd at the knees of a Minneapolis police officer reminded us of the systemic racism present from the founding of our nation that continues to take Black lives. It should serve as a reminder to us all that we must continue to fight for justice at all levels of government, but especially at the local level.

My spirits were lifted yesterday as I joined hundreds of our neighbors in Burke to peacefully protest and rally for that justice. It was a truly grassroots effort, organized largely by young people, including many Lake Braddock and Robinson students and a profound display of unity and testament that Black lives matter to our community. The Fairfax County Police Department demonstrated their professionalism in ensuring that all could safely exercise their constitutional rights. I appreciate their work.

Some of the young people organizing yesterday's event were just-graduated high school seniors. I want to recognize and congratulate the entire class of 2020. While the pandemic cruelly stole their final months in high school and their in-person graduation ceremonies, our schools have organized virtual events and many neighborhoods have held car parades to recognize their achievement. To the class of 2020, we are so proud of you and can't wait to see the amazing things you'll accomplish in the years to come.

Finally, Governor Northam has announced that while most of Virginia will enter Phase 2 of his reopening plan today, June 5, Northern Virginia will remain in Phase 1 for the time being. While our health data continues to improve, we have only been in Phase 1 for a week and Governor Northam concluded we need more time to monitor the data before further easing restrictions. You can read the Governor's announcement <u>here</u>.

Yours in service,

Jamesh .

Supervisor James Walkinshaw

Walkinshaw in the Community



Supervisor Walkinshaw stuffing the bus with community food donations on May 19.



Supervisor Walkinshaw touring ECHO's food pantry with President Bob Vitter on May 8.

In May, Supervisor Walkinshaw also:



Supervisor Walkinshaw walking with the Village Drive Village's Wednesday Walkers on May 6.



Supervisor Walkinshaw supporting local businesses by purchasing tasty treats from Unique Bakery on May 6.

- > Hosted a COVID-19 Telephone Townhall with 2,000 Braddock residents on May 4.
- Joined Rep. Gerry Connolly and Spanish Language Radio Host Joel Martinez on WUST 1120 AM on May 5.
- > Met with the Capital Area Food Bank on May 7.
- > Met with Braddock District Land Use Committee on May 11.
- Participated in a conference call with Governor Ralph Northam and administration officials on May 13.
- > Met with Fairfax FISH Principal Officer Larry Velte on May 14.
- Met with the Arc of Northern Virginia and Buontempo family to discuss disability issues on May 14.
- Hosted an online meeting with local swimming pool representatives on safe opening practices on May 27.

Citizens of the Month

The Bears Care Food Pantry, run by Lisa Goodwin and Marguerite Wiese for the Olde Creek Elementary PTA, is based at Olde Creek Elementary School and provides weekend food provisions for multiple Olde Creek Elementary families. As a result of Lisa and Marguerite's hard work and community relationships, they have been able to obtain donations and grants from generous neighbors and other organizations. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the pantry now operates out of Lisa's home garage and delivers food and supply bags directly to the homes of 10 local families in need. Thanks to these generous goods and monetary donations from the community, more than 65 community members are receiving non-perishable food, produce, snacks, paper products, toiletries, cleaning supplies, books, and gift cards. Folks have also provided more than 100 homemade face masks!

In difficult times like these, strong and compassionate community members can make a big difference. We are thankful to Lisa, Marguerite, and all those who support the Bears Care Food Pantry in our community. Email Lisa Goodwin at **lisamarm@gmail.com** if you would like to donate to the Bears Care Food Pantry.



Lisa Goodwin and her two daughters.

Marguerite Wiese, Lisa Goodwin, and Bears Care Food Pantry Helpers receiving a generous donation to help the community.

Human Services Corner

COVID-19 Community Testing Centers

We would like to remind you that there is COVID-19 testing available in Fairfax County and surrounding jurisdictions. If you have serious symptoms, such as trouble breathing, pain or pressure in your chest, confusion, or bluish lips or face, call 911. Click <u>here</u> for a three-page resource guide with action steps and local testing centers who are accepting uninsured patients.

CVS Pharmacy Testing

39 CVS Pharmacy locations in Virginia (7 in Fairfax County) have added drive-thru COVID-19 testing centers, including:

- > 7205 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA
- > 3921 Prosperity Avenue, Fairfax, VA
- 10090 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax, VA locations.



- COVID-19 testing is available to eligible individuals meeting Centers for Disease Control and Prevention criteria, in addition to age guidelines. A physician's referral is not required.
- Patients need to pre-register, provide their insurance information as appropriate and verify their eligibility for testing. Once they have registered, the patient will receive an appointment window for that same day or up to two days out. Test results should be provided within three days. Click <u>here</u> to register and find a testing location near you.

Pharmacy and Grocery Pick-Up Service

In response to the increasing needs during COVID-19, Fairfax County Health Department Neighbor to Neighbor Program has launched a grocery shopping and pharmacy pick-up service for county residents age 60+ who need this service.

To Request Shopping and Pharmacy Pick-up Contact Fairfax County Aging, Disability & Caregiver Resource Line (703) 324-7948

- The Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) Shopping and Pharmacy Pick-up Program is provided in partnership with Fairfax Fire and Rescue and the Department of Family Service.
- Service is provided by vetted and background-checked volunteers. Financial assistance is available to those who are eligible. The service will not be provided to long-term care retirement communities, assisted living, nursing homes, group homes, or other facilities.

Contact Tracing Employment Opportunities

Interested in contact tracing employment opportunities? Want to make a difference in the community? Consider applying to become one of Fairfax County Health Department's 400 new contact tracers!

- The Institute for Public Health Innovation is pleased to partner with the Fairfax County Health Department in Virginia to support the Department's COVID-19 contact tracing efforts. IPHI will hire, train, deploy, and support a team of community contact tracing staff who will work as an integrated part of the Fairfax County Health Department.
- IPHI is currently recruiting Contact Interviewers, Case Interviewers, and Interviewer Supervisors, as well as several project support positions and a program director to be based at IPHI, including a Program Director. Click <u>here</u> to learn more and apply.

Virginia Employment Commission's Work Force Connection

The Virginia Workforce Connection (VAWC) is your online source to connect with potential employers, search for jobs, find training opportunities, research wage data and see industry and occupational trends. Click **here** to find upcoming virtual job fairs and more.

Catholic Charities St. Lucy Project Non-Perishable Food Drop off

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Catholic Charities is hosting drive-through food drives at local parishes where donors can drop off non-perishable goods for the St. Lucy Food Project while practicing social distancing. You can also donate food in the safe bins located at their Manassas warehouse, or by making a financial donation and designating the St. Lucy Food Project. The next contactless food drive will be at St. Bernadette Catholic Church (7600 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, VA 22152) on Friday, June 12, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Click <u>here</u> to learn more about Catholic Charities

Resources for Victims of Domestic Violence during COVID-19

If you are a victim of domestic violence and are worried about housing, employment, or food during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have resources to help. If you need assistance, please make the call to our 24-Hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline at (703) 360-7273 or click <u>here</u> for a list of resources.

How to provide support to victims of Domestic Violence

Family and friends can do many things to support a loved one who is being abused, starting with a call to the Fairfax County Domestic and Sexual Violence 24-Hour Hotline at (703) 360-7273. Click <u>here</u> to find ways to support loved ones experiencing Domestic or Sexual Violence. Fairfax County Department of Family Services

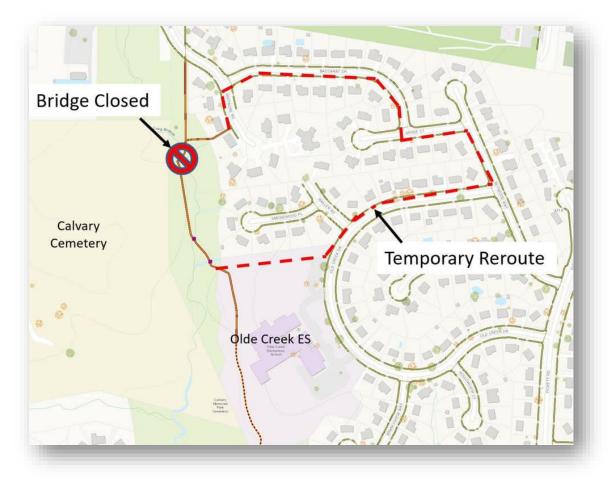


Environmental News

Temporary Detour Trail in Smokewood Park

Planning to visit Long Branch Stream Valley trail in the Smokewood Park? Use this temporary detour while **Fairfax County Park Authority** works to develop a sustainable solution that maintains trail connectivity.

- An inspection of the bridge identified that its steel girders have rusted, making it unsafe. No decisions have been made as to the long-term solution, and none will be made without community input.
- Our office will be in close communication with the Park Authority, and we will make sure that your views are heard. In the meantime, if you know others who would like to provide their input, they can send an email to <u>braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> and <u>parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>. Our office will provide updates on this project as they become available.



Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP) Seeking Volunteers

Friends of Lake Accotink Park is in search of volunteers to help make a positive impact. Minimum age to serve on a committee is 16. Most FLAP activities and events are perfect for the entire family. FLAP also provides service hours. Individuals can volunteer any amount of time (usually a few hours a month) to help lead or serve. Click **here** to learn more.

Eco-Friendly Activities for Kids

With summer vacation around the corner, the Fairfax County Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination is pleased to offer some how-to guides for eco-friendly activities suitable for kids of all ages. From water science to energy transfer to the importance of simply recycling, these activities are sure to keep kids engaged and learning.

- > Go on an informational outdoor scavenger hunt
- > Explore solar power and heat transfer with these energy-related experiments
- Take a deep dive into water science and conservation with three easy-to-execute activities

Reducing your monthly energy bills while teleworking

Working from home has its pros and cons. Higher monthly electricity bills are an unfortunate consequence of spending more time at home, using lights, hot water, appliances, and electronics like computers and monitors. If you are looking for a way to liven up your teleworking routine while reducing your monthly energy bills, the Fairfax County Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination has six suggestions for you. Click <u>here</u> to learn six simple steps to become more energy efficient while teleworking.

Preventing Tick and Mosquito Bites During COVID-19

By now, you can probably recite the various ways to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, but do you know how to prevent tick and mosquito bites? There are some simple steps you can take to avoid bug bites that can be itchy, painful, or make you ill.

- First, according to the Centers for Disease Control, at this time there is no data to suggest that the new coronavirus or other similar coronaviruses are spread by mosquitoes or ticks. However, ticks and mosquitoes do spread Lyme, West Nile, Zika, and other serious vector-borne diseases you want to avoid.
- Tip and Toss! Once a week, get rid of standing water where mosquitoes breed. Empty or turn over tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots and trash containers. Mosquitoes can breed in very small puddles, so be thorough.
- > **Defend your Castle!** Repair screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Stay Cool! Use air conditioning when available, or sleep under a mosquito bed net if air conditioned or screened rooms are not available.
- Shields Up! Wear EPA-registered insect repellent with DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, IR3535, para-menthane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone. Always follow the instructions on the product's label.
- Gear Up! Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Treat outer clothing layers with permethrin, but do not apply permethrin directly on your skin. Follow the label instructions for applying permethrin to clothing.
- > **Outsmart Them!** Stay indoors at dawn and dusk to avoid peak mosquito activity.
- Attack First! Insecticide used carefully and according to the product label can help eliminate mosquitoes in your yard.
- To request a free yard inspection, please email <u>FightTheBite@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> or call (703) 246-8931, TTY 711. (The Health Department does not spray for nuisance mosquitoes.) Click <u>here</u> to learn more.

Community News

Comments by Chief Edwin C. Roessler Jr. on Challenges to the Public's Trust of the Law Enforcement Profession (05/29/2020)

"The Fairfax County Police Department has been serving our communities for 80 years, and it has troubled all of us in law enforcement to observe events around this country, including what occurred in Minneapolis where the sanctity of Mr. Floyd's life was ignored and other officers did not intervene to preserve another precious life. Earlier today the Hennepin County Attorney issued murder charges, and we shall have faith the local and federal justice systems will navigate toward justice for the Floyd family, the communities impacted, and our entire nation. However, we must be mindful there is a healing process where righteous anger needs to be constructively exercised through the right to free speech." Click <u>here</u> to read the full message.

From the Office of Governor Northam (06/02/2020)

Governor Ralph Northam today signed Executive Order Sixty-Five and presented the second phase of the "Forward Virginia" plan to continue safely and gradually easing public health restrictions while containing the spread of COVID-19. The Governor also amended Executive Order Sixty-One directing Northern Virginia and the City of Richmond to remain in Phase One."

* "Most of Virginia is expected to enter Phase Two on Friday, June 5, as key statewide health metrics continue to show positive signs. Virginia's hospital bed capacity remains stable, the percentage of people hospitalized with a positive or pending COVID-19 test is trending downward, no hospitals are reporting PPE shortages, and the percent of positive tests continues to trend downward as testing increases. The Governor and Virginia public health officials will continue to evaluate data based on the indicators laid out in April." Click <u>here</u> to read the full press release.

Department of Motor Vehicles

DMV customer service centers in Arlington, Franconia, Leesburg, Prince William/Manassas, and Tysons Corner are now open. Click <u>here</u> to make an appointment at one of these offices. Additionally, driver's licenses and ID cards that expire on or before July 31 will now be valid for an additional 90 days.

Donate Face Coverings at County Police Stations

In just a little over a week since police stations began receiving donations, more than 4,000 face coverings have been collected. However, Fairfax County is still in need of cloth mask donations to support our most vulnerable communities. Starting June 2, we will be accepting cloth mask donations at each Fairfax County police station. Each station has a donation bin for you to place your items. Click <u>here</u> to find a location near you.



RISE Grant Program Application period

The RISE Grant Program application period is set for June 8 - 15. The grant program's primary purpose is to provide immediate relief to small businesses and nonprofits impacted by the COVID-19. Fairfax County hopes to help small businesses and organizations remain in business through the COVID-19 emergency and address gaps that may exist among complementary programs.

- > Department of Economic Initiatives will send an email reminder on June 8 to remind interested parties of the grant program application opening.
- > All microloan applicants will also be emailed.

Click here to learn more and register to receive email reminders.

Pool, Water Mine, and Our Special Harbor to remain closed this Summer

The Fairfax County Park Authority will not open its outdoor water attractions this summer due to COVID-19. The popular Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole at Lake Fairfax Park in Reston and Our Special Harbor Spray Ground at Lee District Family Recreation Area will remain closed this summer. Also closed is Martin Luther King Jr. pool. Similar actions were announced Wednesday by Prince William Parks & Recreation, echoing closures across the region.

Water parks, spray grounds and pools are greatly constrained by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines governing safe use by the



public. Current CDC guidelines suggest that people not visit water and spray parks. Operational challenges -- with social distancing, limits to the number of people inside facilities and the pools, the use of recommended safety masks, protocols for public and staff safety -- are significant. Click **here** to visit FCPA's FAQs list.

Summer Concert Series

We are sorry to report that The Fairfax County Park Authority's Summer Entertainment Series will be canceled through July due to public safety concerns related to the COVID-19. FCPA-sponsored Fourth of July events have been canceled as well. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and health-related guidelines continue to recommend against large gatherings. Click **here** to learn more.

Women's Golf Month Celebration

The Fairfax County Park Authority's seven courses are celebrating Women's Golf Month with a variety of fun social events and specials to celebrate their growing network of women golfers. Whether you have never picked up a club or are looking to get back into it, golf is an excellent way to stay healthy, challenge yourself mentally, embrace nature, and connect with people. Click **here** if you would like to learn more and participate.

Outdoor Athletic Fields Reopened

The Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County Public Schools, and the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services announced the reopening of outdoor athletic fields in Fairfax County for unpermitted use as part of Forward Virginia Phase 1 for Northern Virginia.

Areas opened include more than 850 athletic fields, including synthetic turf fields and fields at Fairfax County parks and public schools. Click **here** to learn more.

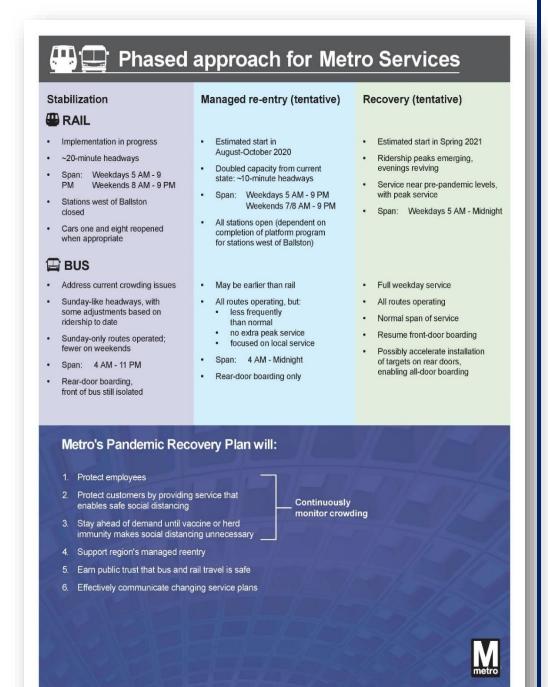
Open, walk-on use of athletic fields is allowed when the field is vacant and only during regular operating hours. All groups that use the fields must follow all state and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, including limiting group size to fewer than 10 individuals, following social distancing, wearing a cloth face covering if physical distancing is difficult, covering coughs and sneezes, using proper handwashing hygiene, and staying home if sick.

Phased Approach for Metro Services

Metro is currently in their Stabilization Phase. Metro service levels will not increase substantially during this phase. Once Metro begins their Managed Re-Entry phase, they will begin to restore all bus routes with less frequent service, but the routes will be operating. According to the Metro graphic, this is expected in August- October.

Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling's (FABB) Advisor Program

Volunteers from around the county are available to advise new commuters on bike routes to work or wherever they need to go. FABB can help you select a well-chosen bike route that avoids highvolume, high-speed roads and provides a safer and more pleasant commute. Their advisors also can provide helpful advice on the equipment and other resources needed to have a successful bike trip. Click here to learn more.



JUNE 23, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTIONS

On Election Day (June 23, 2020) Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- > June 16: Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail, 5:00 p.m.
- > June 20: Final day to vote absentee in-person, 5:00 p.m.
- > June 23: Deadline to return your ballot to the Office of Elections, 7:00 p.m.
- > <u>Voter Photo ID Requirements</u>
- > Upcoming Voter Photo ID Opportunities
- Not sure of where you vote? Visit the GIS <u>My Neighborhood App</u> or the <u>Virginia</u> <u>Department of Elections</u> website

CANDIDATES

Republican Primary Election - Member, United States Senate

- Daniel M. Gade
- > Thomas A. Speciale II
- Alissa A. Baldwin

Democratic Primary Election - Member, United States House of Representatives, 11th Congressional District

- Serald E. "Gerry" Connolly
- Zainab M. Mohsini

NOTE: Due to COVID-19, all voters are eligible and strongly encouraged to vote absentee. When requesting a mail-in ballot, people can use 2A as the reason for the request. Click <u>here</u> to request

a ballot. You can also access printable applications **here**. Additionally, the courts have determined that the witness signature is not required if you have concerns that it would require you encountering others during the pandemic.

Drive-Thru Low-Cost Rabies Clinics

COVID-19 has affected many shelter programs including low-cost rabies clinics typically held at locations around the county. To provide county residents with this service, the shelter has created a curbside/drive through low-cost rabies clinic plan and will be offering the first two clinic dates on Saturday, June 13 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and Sunday, June 14 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 A.M.

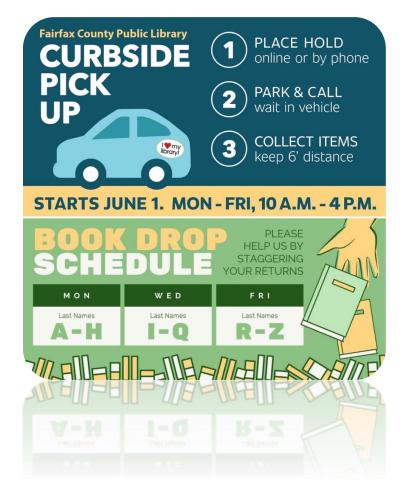
Pre-registration is_required. Individuals may bring more than one pet for their appointment. Click <u>here</u> to register and learn more.



Fairfax County Public Library's (FCPL) Contactless Curbside Service

FCPL's contactless program began Monday, June 1. Curbside pickup hours at all branches are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

- To pick up your holds, please park in the designated area of your library's lot and call the branch phone number on the posted sign. Provide your library card number to staff on the phone and remain in your car until your holds have been deposited on the pickup table and library staff have returned to the building.
- You may request a book or a grab bag based on your reading preferences by calling the branch. Contacting the library with requests ahead of time will provide a faster pickup experience.
- All returned library materials should be deposited in the library's book drop. Do not return library materials to staff or put them on the pickup tables.



Land Use

Planning Commission Actions

Proposed Subdivision of 4028 Olley Lane

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the **application** to rezone one acre of land at 4028 Olley Lane from the R-1 District to the R-2 District.

Fairfax Corner Retail LC

The Planning Commission approved an amendment of the previously approved Comprehensive Sign Plan associated with RZ 87-S-039 to permit sign modifications, with conditions. Located on the S. side of Random Hills Rd., E. side of Government Center Pkwy. and N. side of Monument Dr. (Click <u>here</u> for details)

Proposed Plan Amendment 2018-CW-2CP, Natural Landscaping at County Facilities

<u>**Click here</u>** for details. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval. The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on this matter on Tuesday, June 9, 4:00 p.m. <u>**Click here**</u> for details on ways to provide testimony.</u>

Upcoming Planning Commission Decisions

For details on the below items, see the Land Use section of the May 2020 Braddock Beacon.

- Consideration of Plan Amendment for NW Corner of Lee Highway and Waples Mill Road -7/22
- > Monument Drive Commuter Parking Garage and Transit Center 9/16
- Proposal for Second Phase of Kenilworth Development 9/17
- > Trinity Christian boundary adjustment 10/14

Other Land Use Items

Board of Zoning Appeals to resume meetings on June 10 <u>Click here for details</u>.