

A message from Kathy Smith



I hope everyone had a fun and relaxing Thanksgiving! The 2017 Northern VA Refugee Blanket & Coat Drive was a huge success (pictured above). Thank you to

everyone that donated to this great cause!

The Sully District Police Station and my office are participating in Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' Holiday Food Drive. Beginning today until Tuesday, December 12 you can drop off non-perishable food items at the Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151). These items will assist families in need in Western Fairfax County. More information can be found below.

Finally, the Fairfax County Park Authority is seeking public input on the use of drones on county parkland. The public meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Oak View Elementary School (5004 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032). Additional information is below.

Sincerely,

Kally

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries Holiday Food Drive



This year the Sully District Police Station is participating in Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) Holiday Food Drive. Donations can be dropped off at the Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151) starting today until Tuesday, December 12. The food will be given to families in need to assist during the two week school break. One in four children attending Fairfax County Public Schools is on the free and reduced lunch program; many children are hungry on the weekends and over holiday breaks.

If you would like to donate a grocery store gift card to sponsor a family with food for the holidays, please mail it to WFCM, ATTN: Holiday Food Program, PO Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

Items needed include:

- Turkey
- Canned vegetables (corn, peas, green beans, or medley)

- Dried or canned beans (black, pinto, or kidney)
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Canned fruit
- Bagged fresh fruit (apples or oranges)
- Rolls (if you can deliver fresh)
- Canned gravy
- Canned soup
- Canned foods (ravioli, chili, baked beans)
- Canned chicken
- Boxed or bagged stuffing
- Instant mashed potatoes
- · Boxed or bagged rice
- Jarred peanut butter
- Jarred jelly/jam
- · Canned or jarred spaghetti sauce
- Dried pasta
- Instant macaroni and cheese
- Juice (64 oz.)
- Flour (1-2 lb. bags)
- Sugar (1-2 lb. bags)
- Cooking oil
- Cereal
- Parmalat milk (box)
- Pancake mix
- Syrup
- Instant Jell-O or pudding
- Brownie/cake mix or fresh pie
- Frosting

Ride Stress Free to DC on New Fairfax Connector Express Service Beginning Dec. 4



Try Route 699 for FREE Monday, December 4 to 8, 2017!

Beginning Monday, December 4, 2017, <u>Fairfax Connector Route 699</u> will provide express service from the Fairfax County Government Center, via I-66, directly to major regional employment and educational centers in downtown Washington, DC including the U.S. Department of State, the World Bank, and The George Washington University Campus.

How to Ride Route 699 - Stress Free to D.C.! (VIDEO)

Schedule and Fares - 4 Things to Know:

- Regular express fare \$4.25; older adults and people with disabilities \$2.10.
 Pay using a SmarTrip card or cash. Ride FREE the week of December 4-8,
 2017.
- 10 morning rush-hour inbound trips and 10 afternoon rush-hour outbound trips:

Morning service with regular departures (approximately every 20

minutes) from the Fairfax County Government Center to downtown DC

begins at 5:40 am with the last departure at 8:25 am. The average ride

time is 45 minutes.

Afternoon Service with regular departures (approximately every 22

minutes) begins at 3:25 p.m., from Virginia Avenue & 21 Street NW.

Last departure from DC will be at 6:43 p.m. from 19 Street & F Street

NW.

3. To depart downtown DC midday, take the Metrorail Orange Line to Vienna

and connect to the Fairfax Connector Route 621 midday service that

connects to the Government Center.

4. For emergencies, sign-up for <u>Guaranteed Ride Home</u>.

Stops in Downtown DC:

Location: Virginia Avenue NW & 21 Street NW

Serves: State Department, Federal Reserve, National Academy of Sciences, and

Office of Personnel Management

Location: Virginia Avenue NW & 19 Street NW

Serves: Department of the Interior and Constitution Ave. NW

Location: 18 Street NW & E Street NW

Serves: General Services Administration

Location: 19 Street NW & F Street NW

Serves: World Bank, International Monetary Fund, George Washington University,

and Farragut West Metrorail

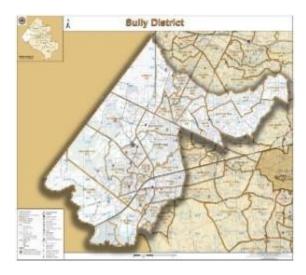
Parking and Transit Connections:

- Free parking is available at the <u>park-and-ride lot at the Fairfax County</u>
 Government Center.
- Connect to the Government Center via Fairfax Connector Routes 605, 621/622/623, and Metrobus 1C.

For day-to-day information and assistance with Fairfax Connector service:

- Sign-up for <u>Fairfax Connector BusTracker</u> for real-time passenger information.
- Call our Telephone Information Center (TIC) at 703-339-7200, TTY 703-339-1608, for information on bus connections.
- Visit <u>www.fairfaxconnector.com</u> for schedule information.
- Visit a Connector Transit Store for trip-planning, fare media, and more.

Sully Land Use Spotlight



Upcoming Meetings:

Board of Supervisors Meeting - Tuesday, December 5, 2017

The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, December 5 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035). Specific item details will be available at the links to agenda items provided below.

Public Hearing Cases:

- SEA 89-C-047-02 (Sully District)
- RZ 2017-SU-011 (Sully District)
- AA 2012-SU-001 (Sully District)

Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting - Wednesday, December 6, 2017

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035). Specific item details, for the cases listed below, are available at the agenda link provided here.

Public Hearing Cases (New Items):

- SP 2017-SU-086 (Sully District)
- SP 2017-SU-090 (Sully District)

Planning Commission Meeting - Wednesday, December 6, 2017

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 6 at 8:15 p.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035). There are no items on the agenda in the Sully District. Specific item details are available at the agenda link provided here.

Planning Commission Meeting - Thursday, December 7, 2017

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Thursday, December 7 at 8:15 p.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035). Specific item details will be available at the links to agenda items provided below.

Public Hearing Cases:

- RZ 2017-SU-025/SE 2017-SU-022 (Sully District)
- PFM Amendment (Countywide)

Park Authority Seeks Public Input on Drones on Parkland



As unmanned aircraft systems or "drones" have surged in popularity, county parkland has become an in-demand location for this emerging technology. To address that interest, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) will hold a meeting on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Oak View Elementary School (5004 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032) to gather public comment on expanding the use of drones on county parkland.

In the first half of 2017, the FCPA launched an internal study to determine how to respond to community desire to use drones in the parks while ensuring the safety of the public and balancing the needs of all park activities, such as scheduled sports and natural resource protection. The study recommended expanding drone opportunities at a limited number of sites designated for this purpose. Public input is a key consideration in this site selection process.

Currently, drone pilots may take off and land only at <u>Poplar Ford Park</u> under a partnership with Northern Virginia Radio Control, a hobbyist model aircraft organization. The Park Authority is considering a limited expansion to other parks. The approaching meeting will focus on certain areas of Lake Fairfax and Popes Head parks.

The public meeting will include a brief presentation followed by a public comment period. Interested speakers may sign up in advance by contacting the FCPA Public Information Office. Individuals may speak for three minutes; groups or organizations may have one speaker for five minutes. Speakers may also sign up at the meeting at Oak View Elementary School. To sign up as a speaker, to send your comments or for more information you can contact Public Information Officer Judy Pedersen at 703-324-8662 or via Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. Public comments will be accepted through January 11, 2018. Find out more about opportunities to fly drones and model aircraft at Model Aircraft and Drones.

Fireplace Safety Tips



The Fairfax County <u>Fire and Rescue Department</u> would like to remind all residents to be cautious and keep safety in mind when handling fireplace ashes. Following a few simple safety tips can help keep you and your loved ones safe.

- Do not discard your ashes into any combustible container such as a paper or plastic bag, a cardboard box, or a plastic trash can.
- Do not place ash containers on/under decks, porches, or in garages.
- Put ashes into a non-combustible metal container with a lid and place it away from the house to cool.
- Pour water into the container to make sure the ashes are cool.
- Keep your can OUTSIDE and away from the home and away from your fire place, wood stove and anything combustible.
- Teach all family members to be safe with ashes from your fireplace or stove.
- Did you know that ashes can stay hot for several days?

Events at Centreville Regional Library



Chair Yoga

Wednesday, December 13

2:00 p.m.

A gentle, restorative yoga class. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Centreville Regional Library. Adults.

Tales of Scales

Monday, December 18

2:00 p.m.

Learn from a Hidden Oaks Nature Center expert how turtles survive the winter under the pond or in your backyard. Funded by the Friends of Centreville Library. Ages 6-12.

Paws-to-Read

Tuesday, December 19

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Practice reading to a trained therapy dog. 15-minute sessions. Ages 6-12 with adult.

Art at the Library

Wednesday, December 27

7:00 p.m.

December theme: Origami. Learn to make a good-luck crane and other designs.

Materials provided. Teens and adults.

The Centreville Regional Library is located at **14200 St. Germain Drive Centreville**, **VA 20121.** For more information, visit <u>Centreville Regional Library</u> or call 703-830-2223.

Worship Watch Workshop



Date: Saturday, December 16 Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (8304 Old Keene Mill Road,

Springfield, VA 22152)

Are you interested in enhancing the security of your faith based institution/worship center?

Do you have security based questions about your congregation?

Would you like to open a line of communication between your faith based community and the Fairfax County Police Department?

The Fairfax County Police Department Crime Prevention Unit will be holding a Worship Watch Workshop on December 16, 2017 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, VA.

This program is designed to help develop an action plan where staff/members remain alert and aware of their surroundings, report suspicious activity to the Fairfax County Police Department, and create an open dialogue between the faith-based community and the Police Department.

Parking is available at the location. We encourage everyone attending the free event to <u>register</u> to ensure we have adequate seating.

Protect Your Pipes; Trash Your Wipes



wipes in the trash, not the toilet.

Our Days Are Shorter: Tips on Walking & Driving Safely



We don't want you to be a headline.

- Pedestrian Hit and Killed on Richmond Highway
- Fatal Pedestrian Crash in Reston

In 2017, there have already been 155 pedestrian-related accidents (and 51 bicycle-related accidents) in our county. And with the recent change to Daylight Saving Time, our days are shorter and many of us have to walk on or across streets and busy intersections in the dark, on our way to school/work in the morning, or on our way home in the evening.

Be street smart and review these pedestrian and driver safety tips.

8 Tips for Safe Walking When It's Dark (or Anytime):

1. When walking at night, or in rainy or snowy conditions, you need to make yourself visible by using lights and reflectors and wearing reflective or bright-

- colored clothes. If possible, wear white, yellow or lime-green clothing. Red is not a good color to wear, since it looks black in the fading light.
- Pedestrians are required by law to cross roads at crosswalks whenever possible, and drivers should expect to see pedestrians crossing at crosswalks and intersections.
- 3. Crossing the street mid-block is not a good idea; most pedestrian crashes with cars occur at mid-block crossings, between intersections. Be alert.
- 4. Before crossing, pedestrians must stop, look LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT, and then over the shoulder for turning traffic.
- 5. If you are a pedestrian you have the right of way, but you must make sure drivers can see you. Use eye contact and gestures to alert drivers when crossing roads from sidewalks, crosswalks, paths and driveways.
- 6. Obey Walk/Don't Walk control signals or countdown timers.
- 7. Pedestrians are not allowed to walk on roadways when usable sidewalks are available. If there is no sidewalk or shoulder, you should walk as near as practical to the outside edge of the roadway, yield right of way to vehicles in the roadway, and walk facing traffic.
- 8. When walking, especially when it is dark, put away your headphones and mobile device.

8 Tips for Driving at Night:

- 1. Help pedestrians (and other drivers) see you in twilight by turning your headlights on before sunset and keeping them on for an hour after sunrise.
- 2. Yield to pedestrians (and bicyclists) who are crossing the road in a crosswalk, especially when turning.
- 3. Aim your headlights correctly and make sure they're clean.
- 4. Dim your dashboard lights.
- 5. Look away from oncoming lights.
- 6. Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping time.
- 7. Allow pedestrians time to cross safely.

8. Even though the route may be familiar, don't go on autopilot; stay alert.

Helping You To Be Street Smart:

Our Fairfax County police officers are participating in the fall campaign of "Street Smart." This program aims to reduce pedestrian and cyclist injuries and deaths across the region, educate drivers, pedestrians and cyclists about safe use of the roadway, and increase enforcement of pedestrian and bicycle safety laws and raise awareness about enforcement. This initiative spans across the roadways of Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia and Maryland.

Through December, our officers will participate in "Street Team Activations." You'll likely see high visibility and enforcement from our area police departments. Not only will we enforce laws regarding bicycle and pedestrian safety, but we will also hand out safety literature and traffic statistics to people using our roadways. Be safe out there!

Cybersecurity Tips to Keep Your Holidays Secure



'Tis the season for clicking away on our computers and mobile devices. Most of us will be online even more than usual in the coming weeks.

All that information sharing also makes us more vulnerable to cybersecurity threats and costly identity thefts. There are steps you can take to make sure your personal information stays safe and secure. And what you can do if you are hacked.

7 Steps to Be Cyber Secure:

- Limit Your Personal Information Online: Create social media profiles with limited information. The more personal and professional information you share publicly, the easier it is for you to be hacked. Limit who you are sharing information with by reviewing the privacy settings on your social media accounts.
- 2. Use Strong Passwords and Change Them: Make sure you use strong passwords many sites now force you to use strong passwords and that's a good thing. Use different passwords for each of your online accounts and set up two-step verification, when possible. You should also try to change your passwords every three months.
- Keep Your Operating System Up to Date: Computer operating systems are
 periodically updated to stay in tune with technology requirements and to fix
 security holes. Be sure to install the updates to ensure your computer has the
 latest protection.
- 4. Be Careful What You Download: Carelessly downloading email attachments can circumvent even the most vigilant anti-virus software. Never open an e-mail attachment from someone you don't know and be wary of forwarded attachments from people you do know. They may have unwittingly advanced malicious code.
- 5. **Use Secure URLs**: Check to be sure websites are security enabled when performing an online transaction. Look for web addresses with "https://" or

- "shttp://," which means the site takes extra measures to help secure your information.
- 6. Turn Off Your Computer: Many of us opt to leave our computers on and ready for action. The downside is that being "always on" renders computers more susceptible. Beyond firewall protection, which is designed to fend off unwanted attacks, turning the computer off effectively severs an attacker's connection.
- 7. **Trust Your Gut:** If you think an offer is too good to be true, then it probably is.

What To Do If You Are Hacked:

- Immediately change all passwords; financial passwords first. If you used the same password for multiple resources, make sure to change it for each account, and do not use that password in the future.
- Contact companies, including banks, where you have accounts as well as credit reporting companies.
- Check to make sure the software on all of your systems is up-to-date.
- Run a scan to make sure your system is not infected or acting suspiciously.
- If you find a problem, disconnect your device from the internet and perform a full system restore.
- Report the incident if you believe there was a financial crime committed or identity theft. <u>File a report with our police</u> so there is an official record of the incident
- Watch for any unexplainable or unauthorized charges to your accounts.

Resources:

Recovering From Identity Theft

- How to Protect Your Computer
- Financial Crimes Online Reporting

Events at E.C. Lawrence Park



Holidays at Walney Farm

Saturday, December 9 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Celebrate the winter holidays with the Machen family at Walney Farm. Learn about the gifts and foods of an 1850 farm, create your own historic holiday ornament, take a wagon ride along the trails, and enjoy hot apple cider and treats around a campfire. Cost: \$10 (County resident); \$12 (non-resident). Ages 2 and over.

Winter Survival Camp

Monday, December 18 to Thursday, December 21 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Learn to survive and have fun with nature's most challenging season. Campers will make a fire, build shelter, track animals, make crafts, and more during this wonder-filled adventure into winter wilderness. Bring snack, lunch, and drink. Cost: \$235 (County resident); \$250 (non-resident). Ages 6 to 11.

Animal Vets Workshop

Wednesday, December 27 to Friday, December 29 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Spend time with our exhibit animals. Check their health, weight, and size; clean and refresh their tanks; and enjoy some fun animal activities and games. Bring snack, lunch, and drink. Wear old clothes. Camp forms can be downloaded online. Cost: \$179 (County resident); \$194 (non-resident). Ages 6 to 11.

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park is located at **5040 Walney Road in Chantilly, VA**. For more information, visit <u>Ellanor C. Lawrence Park</u> or call 703-631-0013.

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Prince!

Age: 4y 1m

Gender: Male

Color: Tan

Spayed/Neutered: Yes

Size: Large

Prince is a big squishy wrinkly dog and so calm and well-behaved! He is just over four years old, so you are safely out of the puppy phase with this big dude. He was adopted with his brother dog, but they decided they actually didn't like each other too much (arguing over who was more handsome, probably) so Prince is back and looking for a new family to join, where he can be the center of everyone's attention. And we mean everyone! He just looooves people and has lived with lots of kids in the past too. Prince is house trained, crate trained, not destructive in the home, loves long walks (and trying to chase squirrels), and is especially fond of toys with squeakers. He just absolutely has to find out what's making that noise!!! He does well with Kong toys and is a good boy about sitting and waiting for his food/treats to be given to him. Prince is really an awesome dog and whoever adopts him is going to be so lucky!

Volunteer Opportunity in Sully



Ombudsman Volunteer

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities throughout Northern Virginia. Volunteers work to protect resident rights, help to resolve concerns and can be assigned to facilities close to where they live. Training for new advocates is provided twice a year in the spring and fall.

Purpose: Visits must occur between 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Duties: The Volunteer Ombudsman will be assigned to visit a local nursing or assisted living facility and will work to ensure that the residents' rights are being protected and they are being helped with concerns that they are unable to resolve alone.

Qualifications: People who are empathetic, diplomatic, assertive, and are skilled communicators.

Minimum Age to Volunteer: 21

Time Commitment: You will be expected to volunteer four hours per week for one year.

Contact:

Lisa

703-324-5422

lisa.callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ltcombudsman