

# A message from Kathy Smith

Fairfax County Public School students will return to school on Monday, August 26, 2019. Residents can expect an increase in pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Read below for traffic tips on how to ensure the safety of our students.

The beginning of a new school year can be an exciting time for many students; however, it can also be a time of increased anxiety about the year that lies ahead. Below are tips on how to ease any anxiety your children might have about the upcoming school year.

Summer is not over yet! The last night of the Starlight Cinema is tomorrow, August 24, 2019 with the movie "Incredibles 2." Gates open at 6:00 p.m. and the movie will start at dark. Admission is free. More information is below.

Sincerely, Katty

#### **DMV 2 Go at the Sully Governmental Center:**

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA

20151)

Join Delegate Karrie Delaney and Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith on September 7, 2019 for a <u>DMV 2 Go event!</u> This event will allow you to access all the services of the <u>Department of Motor Vehicles</u> (DMV) without the long lines. This is the perfect time to skip the long DMV lines and get your REAL ID before they are required in airports beginning October 1, 2020. For more information about how to apply for a REAL ID, <u>click here</u>.

#### **Important Dates for the November 5, 2019 Election:**

- On or About September 20, 2019: Absentee Voting begins at the Office of Elections (12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference Rooms 2/3, Fairfax, VA 22035)
- October 15, 2019: Voter Registration Deadline. In-person by 5:00 p.m.; online by 11:50 p.m.
- October 29, 2019: Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail by 5:00 p.m.
- November 2, 2019: Final day to vote absentee in-person by 5:00 p.m.

For more information about the upcoming election, <u>click here</u>.

## **Starlight Cinema**



# FREE Starlight Cinema 🕻 Saturday Evenings in August • 6:00 p.m.

Welcome to another exciting season of Starlight Drive-in Cinema. These movie nights bring the community together and nurture community spirit with features that appeal to both children and adults. Our 2019 season provides four movies, free for the public to enjoy. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal so feel free to bring a picnic, blanket and chairs, and enjoy the movies. To volunteer, please contact my office at (703) 814-7100. I look forward to seeing you as we watch "Movies under the Stars!"

Kathy L. Smith, Sully District Supervisor

1-66 Express Mobility Partners is proud to sponsor the 2019 Starlight Cinema drive-in movies! We are working hard to Improve your drive on I-66 from the Beltway to Gainesville. Enjoy the movie!

#### Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Pkwy, Centreville

Gate opens 6 p.m. • Pre-Movie Activities 6-8 p.m. • Movie starts at dark.

Free children's games and rides. Food and drinks available for purchase. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio to enhance the sound, if you wish to sit outside. Consumption of alcohol is not permitted.



#### AUGUST 3 • THE LEGO MOVIE 2: THE SECOND PART

PG | 90 min | Animation Action | Warner Brothers | 2018 It's been five years since everything was awesome and the citizens are facing a new threa Lego Duplo invaders from outer space, wrecking everything faster than they can rebuild.



PG | 110 min | Animation Action | Dreamworks | 2019 When Hiccup discovers Toothiess isn't the only Night Fury, he must seek "The Hidden World", a secret Dragon Utopia before a hired tyrant named Grimmel finds it first.



PG | 117 min | Animation Action | Columbia Pictures | 2018 Miles Morales is a New York leen struggling with school, friends and, on top of that, being the new Spider-Man. When he comes across Peter Parker, the erstwhile savior of New York, in the multiwerse, Miles must train to become the new protector of his city.



AUGUST 24 \* INCREDIBLES 2

P/G | 118 min | Animation Action | Walt Disney Pictures | 2018

The incredibles here family takes on a new mission, which involves a change in family roles Bob Parr
(Mr incredible) must manage the house while his wife Helen (Eastigit) goes out to save the world.

It's a tough transition for everyone, made tougher by the fact that the family is still unaware of baby Jack-Jack's emerging superpowers. When a new villain hatches a brilliant and clangerous plot, the family and Frozone must find a way to work together again.

Scan to devote

The Summer Entertainment Series is made possible through corporate and private donations. To donate, visit www.fairfaxpurkfoundation.org/projects





















Movies are canceled due to inclement weather. Call (703) 324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the showtime for updates.









# Transform 66 Outside the Beltway **Construction Update Meeting**



Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2019

**Time:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Providence Community Center (3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031)

#### Learn more about:

- Upcoming work near the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Metro Station, including planned closure of the Vaden Drive bridge over I-66 from fall 2019 to summer 2020
- Rebuilding the Route 123 Interchange
- Nutley Street Interchange design update

Presentation at 7:00 p.m.; repeated at 8:00 p.m.

For questions and more information, call 703-662-3892 or email <a href="mailto:Outreach@fam66.us">Outreach@fam66.us</a>.

# Save the Date! Rocks With Cops!



Save the Date! Rain Garden Workshop

# Rain Gardens for Homeowners Workshop

September 21, 2019

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

#### FREE!

James McDonnell Room Sully Government Center 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, VA 20151

Registration Required https://bit.ly/33oEOtC









Rain gardens, also known as bioretention areas, are attractive landscape features that allow rain water and snow melt to infiltrate into the ground. A layer of mulch and plants intercept water running off streets, driveways, and rooftops, slowing its flow and removing pollutants before the water reaches local streams, the Occoquan River and the Potomac River, drinking water supplies for the region.

Come to this **FREE** workshop to learn about designing and planting a rain garden at your home!







**Native Plant Festival Volunteer** 

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Ellanor C. Lawrence Park (5040 Walney Road, Chantilly, VA 20151)

Minimum age to volunteer: 13

Volunteers will join Ellanor C. Lawrence Park staff as they educate the public on the importance of native plants on September 7, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You will help them set up and clean up. You will engage the public through invasive plant pulls, games, and hands-on activities. Volunteers 15 years old and younger must have an accompanying adult.

#### Contact:

Kiersten Conley Visitor Services and Operations Manager 703-631-0013 kiersten.conley@fairfaxcounty.gov

Safety Reminders as Students Head Back to School



Our students go back to school in Fairfax County on Monday, August 26, 2019. We are committed to making sure our students have a safe start to the school year and our officers will be conducting increased enforcement near crosswalks and bus stops. We also need your help to ensure the safety of our students. Below are some tips for adults and students to keep in mind.

#### School Buses:

- It is illegal to pass a stopped school bus that is loading or unloading children. Drivers must stop in both directions, unless separated from the bus by a median.
- Children should maintain a distance of 10 feet away from the front, sides, and rear of the bus.

#### **Driving:**

- Familiarize yourself, and your children, with laws and safety tips related to school buses, school zones, crosswalks, and signals.
- Build extra time into your schedule to accommodate the increased congestion around school start and end times.
- Pay attention to your surroundings and do not assume others see you of that you have the right-of-way.
- Do not block crosswalks or intersections.
- Do not be distracted by electronic devices or passengers.

#### **Pedestrians:**

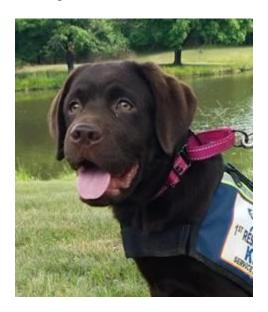
- Children should walk with a responsible adult and in a group.
- Make sure you walk on the sidewalk.
- Pay attention to the road and where you are going.
- Wear brightly colored clothing to be more visible to drivers.

#### **Bicyclists:**

- Use the proper safety gear.
- Utilize the sidewalk whenever possible; if you ride on the roadway, ride in the same direction as traffic.
- When riding on the sidewalk, you are expected to follow pedestrian traffic laws; when on the roadway, you are expected to follow motor vehicle traffic laws.

To read the full article, click here.

# Service Dog Program Launched to Support First Responders & Community



On August 13, 2019, the Chief of Police, Colonel Edwin C. Roessler, Jr. and the

Director of Incident Support Services, Jay Carson, introduced five of the newest and furriest recruits to the Police Department - police service dogs, Jack, Holmes, Lennie, Indy, and Sully (pictured above).

The dogs are assigned to the Incidental Support Service Section and are deployed to help reduce the effects of a traumatic event, including fear and anxiety, for our first responders and community members.

#### Highlights of the program include:

- All dogs will go through a two-year training program in order to meet ADA requirements for service dogs.
- Three of the dogs will go to disabled first responders and two will remain to deploy to incidents.
- The dogs are responding to critical incidents, not only on a local level but, if necessary also at a national level.
- The dogs will also play a role in fostering community relationships with trips to neighborhoods, schools, local events, etc.
- The dogs are named after fallen officers to honor those who have served and protected our community.

To read the full article, click here.

Overcoming Anxiety About the Start of a New School Year



The start of a new school year is often a very exciting time for many students. It also tends to be a time of increased worry and stress about the year that lies ahead. Try some of the ideas below to help ease anxiety with the transition back to school.

- Let your children know you care. Send personal notes in their lunch box or book bag.
- If the first few days are a little challenging, try not to over react. Remain calm and positive.
- Acknowledge anxiety over a bad experience the previous year. Consider sharing your children's concern with the school and confirm that the problem has been addressed.
- Reinforce your children's ability to cope. Talk with your children about ways to manage a difficult situation on their own.
- Try to arrange time for your children to get together with some of their classmates before school starts and during the first weeks of school to help them re-establish positive social relationships with peers.
- Consider volunteering in the classroom or at school in general. Doing so
  helps your children understand that school and family life are linked and that
  you care about the learning experience.
- If your children experience anxiety at the start of the school year that is not going away, do not hesitate to reach out for help.

# Monitoring Toxic Algae: Keep Your Dogs Safe During Warm Weather



Algal blooms typically occur in lakes, ponds, and slow-moving streams that are warm, get plenty of sunlight, and are rich in nutrients like phosphorous and nitrogen. Dog owners should be especially wary of water that may contain a harmful algae, called cyanobacteria, which can be deadly to dogs.

Do not allow pets (or anyone else!) to play in or drink water that is discolored or where you see foam, scum, or mats of algae on the surface. The blooms can be blue, bright green, brown, or red. If you or your animals experience symptoms after swimming in or near an algal bloom, seek medical/veterinary care.

Providing access to a baby pool or offering frozen treats to your furry best friend are great options for staying cool during the dog days of summer. Always remember to bring enough fresh water for you and your dog when you are out on summer adventures.

The Virginia Department of Health maintains an Algal Bloom Surveillance Map that

is updated regularly between May and October. Currently no Fairfax County locations are identified. You can report suspected Harmful Algal Blooms online.

To read the full article, click here.

# CSB Steps Up to Offer All Clients Primary Health Care Screenings



In support of The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) System of Transformation Excellence and Performance (STEP-VA) program, the <u>Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board</u> (CSB) now offers all clients outpatient primary care screenings. The goal of the CSB is to increase overall client wellness, prevent health-related crises, and reduce trips to hospitals and emergency rooms.

As of July 1, 2019, the primary screenings became an additional DBHDS requirement for all CSB clients across the state, within 90 days of intake appointments. The CSB had already implemented the screening program prior to the new requirement and more than 90 percent of clients had already had blood pressure, height, weight, and Body Mass Index (BMI) screenings.

The CSB established a BeWell healthcare integration initiative in 2015. BeWell features health coaches who work with CSB clients to develop and implement individualized wellness plants. Learn more about <u>integrated care</u> or the CSB's <u>BeWell program</u>, and learn <u>how CSB clients are impacted</u>.

To read the full article, click here.

# **County Strategic Plan Moves Forward**



In the months since public feedback on the county's first-ever strategic plan yielded <u>nine areas of focus</u>, teams have been working to further define and shape the future of our community together.

Teams have been conducting analysis, reviewing data, examining existing plans, taking site tours, writing goals, offering challenge questions, and developing indicators to show progress. Teams have also been working together, since there are significant connections among all priority areas. Cross-cutting themes such as equity (framed by the One Fairfax policy) have infused conversations about the plan as well.

As work begins on draft strategies, a new round of community engagement is being planned for early fall. The full timeline includes:

- Now Through November: Develop solutions, strategies, and metrics.
- September: Community engagement.
- November-December: Refine draft strategic plan.
- **January:** Present strategic plan to Board of Supervisors for consideration and adoption.

To read the full article, click here.

#### The Green Column



## **Book Reuse & Recycling Opportunities**

There is nothing like flipping through the pages of a good book. However, if your stack of used books is getting too high, and you find yourself overwhelmed with the responsibility of having to figure out what to do with it all, you might want to consider investing in an e-reader and/or checking out books from the library.

When you just want to get rid of unwanted books lying around the house the first idea that comes to mind is donation. Here are a couple things to keep in mind before donating:

- Condition Look carefully at the condition of the books you are trying to give away. Is the book torn? Does it have missing, stained, or loose pages?
   Is the binding intact? Books that are in bad condition should be disposed of or recycled.
- Relevance of Topic Some books never go out of style like many children's books or classic literature. But if you have the 1996 edition of "What Color is Your Parachute?" or the 1988 World Almanac you can be reasonably sure their contents are out of date and would probably not be sought by any person or organization.

Donating books with the above issues just puts the responsibility of disposal on the organization receiving the books. Some ideas, other than dropping them off at the library or secondhand store:

- Children's books could be used at day care centers, after-school programs, and hospitals.
- Also consider donating to organizations that promote literacy for children and adults - either locally or nationally.
- Overseas donations there are organizations that send books overseas to developing countries that are book starved.
- Senior centers or retirement communities will often take lightly used books.
- Freecycle or Craigslist are additional options.
- Create your own Little Library to distribute books to your neighbors.

Paperback books can be put in your recycling bin. Hard backed books cannot be recycled, unless you remove the cover.

### **Animal Shelter Corner**



**Meet Baby!** 

Age: 14y 6m Gender: Female Color: Brown/Black Spayed/Neutered: Yes

Size: Small Declawed: Yes

Meet one of the sweetest cats - Baby! And her name could not be more appropriate. Baby loves nothing more than to give and get affection. She is good with other cats and could potentially do okay with a dog. She lived with kids and did great with them. She had to be surrendered because the other cats in the home were not a fan of Baby. Here is what Baby's former owner had to say about her: "Baby has no real behavior issues other than jumping up on counters. She uses her litter box without any issues, and prefers an uncovered box with unscented clay litter. Baby is not picky about food. She is well behaved, cuddly, affectionate, social, and very mellow. She is fine being picked up and being petted." For more information about Baby, contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter by email or call 703-830-1100.