

A message from Kathy Smith

Thank you to everyone that attended the VDOT Centreville Area Construction Update meeting on Monday. If you were not able to make it to the meeting, the meeting materials can be found <u>online</u> in the Resources section. Please remember to stay alert and slow down in construction zones to keep you, and construction crews, safe.

Sincerely,

Katty

Reminders!

Fairfax Connector Reston-Herndon Bus Service Review:

The <u>Fairfax County Department of Transportation</u> (FCDOT) needs public input on alternatives developed to provide enhanced Fairfax Connector bus service in the Reston and Herndon areas, including connections to the future <u>Metrorail Silver Line Phase 2 stations</u> in Herndon and Reston.

Residents are encouraged to provide input on the service alternatives by filling out an <u>online</u> <u>survey</u>. **The survey will be open from October 23 to November 30, 2019.** Comments can also be mailed to: Fairfax County Department of Transportation, 4050 Legato Road, Suite 400, Fairfax, VA 22033. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

Save the Date! Transportation Town Hall with Del. Delaney & Supervisor Smith



Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 Time: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Location: Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151) in the Community Rooms

Join Delegate Karrie K. Delaney and Supervisor Kathy Smith on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Sully Governmental Center for their joint transportation town hall. Representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT), EMP (VDOT's I-66 partner), and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) will be in attendance to answer your transportation questions.

Save the Date! DMV 2 Go at the Sully Governmental Center



Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Location: Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151) in the parking lot

The handicapped accessible full service office-on-wheels is equipped to process all DMV transactions including:

- Apply for or renew your ID card available for adults and children.
- Apply for or renew your driver's license take road and knowledge tests; get your picture taken. Reinstate driving privileges.
- Apply for a Veteran ID card.
- Get a copy of your driving record.
- Obtain vehicle titles, license plates, decals, transcripts.
- Order disabled parking placards or plates.
- Get fishing and hunting licenses.
- Update your mailing address, voter registration address, and organ donor status.
- Request a Personal Identification Number (PIN)/password to set up an online myDMV account.
- Purchase an E-ZPass transponder.
- And much more!

Customers visiting DMV 2 Go are served on a first come, first served basis. Appointments are not available.

This is the perfect time to get your REAL ID before they are required in airports. Beginning October 1, 2020, Virginians will need a REAL ID compliant driver's license or ID card, or another federally approved form of identification (Example: U.S. passport or some military IDs), to board domestic flights or enter secure federal facilities.

All applicants for a REAL ID compliant credential must apply in-person and pay a \$10 one-time REAL ID surcharge in addition to the standard renewal or replacement fees. For more information about how to apply for a REAL ID, <u>click here</u>.

Volunteer Opportunity



Sully Historic Site: Volunteer on Duty

Duties: Greets visitors upon arrival at the center. Records number of visitors to the center. Orients visitors to the park, including its natural and cultural features, facilities, rules and regulations, and programs. Hands out written materials. Answers phone and takes messages when needed. Assists with gift shop sales and other projects as needed.

Minimum Age to Volunteer: 21

Time Commitment: 16 hours per month for one year

Location: Sully Historic Site (3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly, VA 20151)

Contact: Darlene Szudera, Volunteer Coordinator 703-437-1794 <u>darlene.szudera@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>

Golf Fairfax Offers Thanksgiving Tourneys



Are you looking to get some steps in and have fun before the big feast? Choose from two Golf Fairfax outings to showcase your skills, compete for prizes, enjoy time with extended family, and give thanks to those who matter most.

Impress your out of town guests with an 18-hole round at a top-rated municipal, destination course **at Laurel Hill Golf Club's (8701 Laurel Crest Drive, Lorton, VA) Thanksgiving Day Shotgun, on Thursday, November 28 starting at 9:00 a.m.** Cost: \$64 for public players and complimentary for Laurel Hill Golf Club members. Price includes warm up balls, greens fees, and a power cart. Call 703-493-8849 to register. Note the Tower Grill will be closed.

Enjoy pre-game fun before Thanksgiving dinner at Burke Lake Golf Center's (6915 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA) Turkey Scramble, on Thursday, November 28 starting at 10:00 a.m. Teams of two compete in an 18-hole scramble format, Prizes are awarded to first, second, and third place teams and Closest to the Pin. The scramble is limited to the first 48 teams. Ages: 7 and older. Cost: \$75 per team which includes lunch, green fees, and prizes. Fees are due at the time of registration. To register for the Turkey Scramble Tournament call 703-323-1641. To read the full article, <u>click here</u>.

Fairfax County Animal Shelter: Adoption Event



Date: Friday, November 29, 2019 Time: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Location: Fairfax County Animal Shelter (4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030)

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 29, 2019 for a special adoption event - Black Fur Day! Sponsored by the Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. All adoption fees will be waived for all pets! The shelter has adoptable dogs and puppies, cats and kittens, bunnies, guinea pigs, ferrets, gerbils, birds, snakes, and more! To see all currently available pets, <u>click here</u> or see our "Animal Spotlight" below.

Adoption Requirements:

- Must be at least 18 years of age, with a current photo ID
- Bring rabies vaccination certificate(s) for any current dogs and/or cats in the home
- Have licenses for currently-owned dogs (if you live in Fairfax County)
- Show proof that you are allowed to have the pet where you live (proof of home ownership, OR lease with pet addendum, OR letter/email from landlord/home owner)

For questions about the adoption process, visit the shelter's <u>Adoption FAQs</u>. You can also contact the Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100 (TTY 711) or send an <u>email</u>.

Just Arrived: A New Choice for Your I-395 Travels



With the November 17 opening of the 395 Express Lanes, drivers can anticipate the following improvements to their commute:

- An electronic, dynamic tolling system to help manage and keep traffic moving.
- An added lane to give customers 3 reversible lanes 24/7. This new capacity will help reduce congestion on both the Express Lanes and the regular lanes.
- Quicker access to the Pentagon and Pentagon City thanks to the improved Eads Street Interchange.
- New and expanded transit service: Transurban, the operator of the 395 Express Lanes, will provide Virginia with \$15 million a year to improve transit service in the corridor. Check out the <u>Northern Virginia Transportation Commission's commuter choice program</u> to see the first 10 projects funded through this agreement. By the agreement's end, Transurban will have provided more than \$2 billion to the Commonwealth for transit improvements.

But don't forget:

- Customers will need an E-ZPass[®] or E-ZPass[®] Flex to travel the 395 Express Lanes 24/7.
- Motorcycles and buses always ride free, and motorcycles don't need an E-ZPass[®].

Visit <u>expresslanes.com</u> for up-to-date information regarding the lanes and your travel needs.

Video: Pedestrian Night Safety - See and Be Seen



So far in 2019, there have been approximately 112 pedestrian crashes, including 14 fatalities and 126 injuries on our roads. Watch the video above to learn safety tips for pedestrians walking at night. For more pedestrian safety tips, <u>click here</u>.

Reclaiming the Joy of the Holidays



It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving, the official start of the holiday season, is right around the corner. This season can provide opportunities for families to spend time together and to be grateful for their loved ones. However, the long to-do lists, packed schedules, and high costs are natural triggers for elevated stress levels in families.

This year, try some new strategies from the experts with the <u>Parenting Education Program</u> to reduce stress and find joy during the holidays:

- **Be realistic about your commitments**. Take time now to talk with your family and decide where you will put your energy. Saying "no" to a few things is okay, and it might just make the season more enjoyable in the long run.
- Have open communication throughout the season. Check in often throughout the season with your children and other significant people in your life to find out how they are doing. Make sure that they are clear that they can come talk to you when they need a break or other support.
- Make time for yourself. Self-care is more important than ever during times of stress. When you feel stress creeping in, sometimes taking a break from the situation is what you really need to get yourself back on track.
- Limit Travel. If taking a long trip to see family is burdensome, consider staying home during the holidays this year and visiting at another time when you can enjoy relatives more fully.
- **Spend smart.** It is important to set a balanced budget ahead of time and stick to it. Making an effort at the beginning of the season to manage children's expectation for gifts is key.

To read the full article, <u>click here</u>.

Backyard Birding All Winter Long



By considering the four elements emphasized in the National Wildlife Federation's Backyard Wildlife Habitat program - food, water, cover, and a place to raise young - you can be assured of a variety of birds to watch from the windows of your home.

Food:

Bird feeders supplement natural food sources. Place feeders at least eight feet from trees or other squirrel launching pads, or use free-standing poles with baffles. Feeders will be busiest from late October through the winter, and it is important to remember that late spring, when natural food supplies are still low, is a critical time to continue offering food. Bird feeders can host bacteria and parasites if the feeders are not regularly cleaned and sanitized. Putting a minimal amount of seed per day, using shelled seeds, or certain types of seeds can prevent attracting unwanted creatures.

Water:

Birds will happily drink or bathe in ponds, streams, ditches, puddles, or birdbaths. A birdbath should be set in a sunny clearing, ideally 15 feet from trees or shrubs where predators can lurk. Baths should be no more than 2-3 inches deep and should be rough-surfaced. Birds especially will be attracted to baths or pools with dripping or running water.

Shelter & A Place to Raise Young:

Birdhouses, nesting platforms, and winter roosting boxes can supplement garden plantings. Some 50 bird species will accept nest boxes, while about 35 will use them regularly. If you use birdhouses, remember that you will need to clean them out between broods and at the end of the nesting season.

To read the full article, <u>click here</u>.

The Green Column



Weatherize Before Winter

Fall is the perfect time to tackle projects that will make your home safer, more efficient and resilient to the changing weather. One of the most important steps you can take to save both money and energy is to understand where air is leaking in or out of your home.

Knowledge is power and Fairfax County is pleased to offer all residents the opportunity to <u>borrow thermal cameras</u> to evaluate their homes for possible leaks.

Taking simple steps like installing foam socket sealers around electrical outlets and light switch plates on exterior walls can have a big impact. Placing weather stripping in gaps around doors and windows can make a dent in your heating bill.

To learn more about weatherization techniques and best practices, review the <u>Thermal Camera Loan Program guide</u> and the <u>Energy Action Fairfax tips.</u>



Animal Shelter Corner

Meet Cupcake!

The award for World's Longest Whiskers goes to...Cupcake! This mustachioed miss has landed at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 14 years old, through no fault of her own. She is a friendly gal that enjoys snuggling on the couch with her humans. Front declawed Cupcake lived with a dog and kids but tended to hide from them, much preferring the quiet calmness of adults. (We feel ya, Cupcake, we feel ya!) Bring your measuring tape if you'd like, but promise us you will go meet Cupcake! For more information about Cupcake, or the adoption process, contact the shelter at 703-830-1100 or send an email to <u>AnimalShelter@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>.