



A message from Kathy Smith



This past Saturday I attended the Stuff the Bus event at the Clifton Giant that benefitted Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (pictured above). Thank you everyone that came out to help with the event and to everyone who donated to this great cause!

Yesterday was the start of Black History Month. Fairfax County libraries have several events lined up to celebrate, including one event at the Centreville Regional Library. More information is below.

In this week's newsletter you will find information about new zoning rules for restaurants, where to report high risk trees, and much more.

Sincerely,

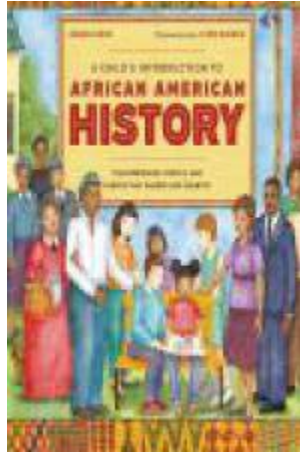
Kathy

Reminder!

zMod Online Survey Deadline Extended to February 14, 2018:

Fairfax County zoning officials have extended the deadline to [take an online survey](#) to provide feedback on its zoning modernization project. The survey is now available until February 14, 2018. It was previously set to close on January 31, 2018, but officials wanted to offer more time for public input.

Celebrate Black History Month at the Library



Celebrate Black History Month at the library in February. First, [test your knowledge of black history with this quiz](#) then fill in any gaps with library events, books and online and in person resources for additional exploration.

Attend:

[Soul in Motion: Back to the Root](#), **Saturday, February 10, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Centreville Regional Library.** This explosive group of dancers and drummers will explore the rhythms and culture of Western Africa. Interactive fun for the whole family.

The full schedule is available [online](#).

Read:

Here are a few selected titles on African-American history, but search the catalog or talk to library staff to discover other titles related to inventors, musicians, leaders, authors, artists and other subjects of interest to you.

[1001 Things Everyone Should Know About African American History](#) by Jeffrey C. Stewart

[A Child's Introduction to African American History: The Experience, People, and Events that Shaped our Country](#) by Jabari Asim

[Autobiography of a People: Three Centuries of African American History told by those who Lived it](#) by Herby Boyd

[Creating Black Americans: African-American history and its Meanings, 1619 to the Present](#) by Nell Irvin Painter.

[Freedom: A Photographic History of the African American Struggle](#) by Manning Marable

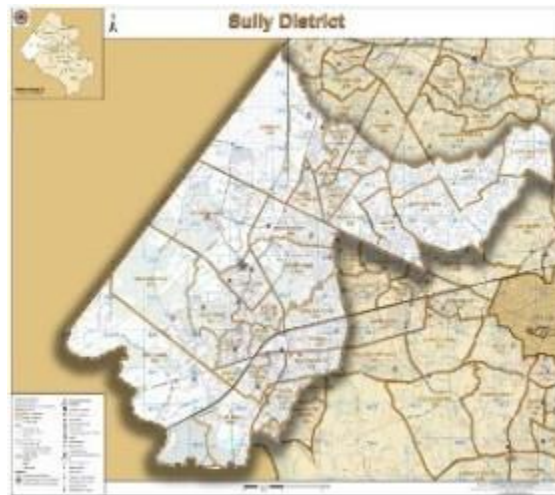
[Life Upon these Shores: Looking at African American History, 1513-2008](#) by Henry Louis Gates, Jr

Explore:

Learn more about the people who made history in two library databases including [Biography in Context](#) and [Women in History](#).

Or study your own family tree at Fairfax County Public Library's [Virginia Room](#). The Virginia Room maintains a collection rich in regional history and genealogy including research on African-American ancestors.

Sully Land Use Spotlight



Upcoming Meetings:

Dulles Suburban Center Study Meeting -

The Dulles Suburban Advisory Group will meet on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151) in the McDonnell Room. You can view the agenda [online](#).

Board of Supervisors Meeting -

The Board of Supervisors will meet on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway,

Fairfax, VA 22035) in the Board Auditorium. There are no Sully land use cases on the agenda at this time. The agenda and board package are available to view [online](#).

Planning Commission Meeting -

The Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in the Board Auditorium. There is one Sully case on the agenda, more information about the case is below. The full agenda is available [online](#).

[SE 2017-SU-008](#) (Vigario Management Corp.):

This special exception application would enable the construction of a Dunkin' Donuts facility adjacent to an Exxon Station on Lee Highway. It would be situated between Pickwick Shopping Center and Exxon. The address for the proposed development is 13839 Lee Highway. The property (Parcels 54-4 ((1)) 103/103B) is zoned C-8 and located within several overlay districts including the Highway Corridor, Sign Control, and Water Supply Protection Overlay Districts.

Events at Chantilly Regional Library



[VITA Tax Assistance](#)

Thursdays in February: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays in February: 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

IRS-certified volunteers help taxpayers who earned up to \$54K.

[Passport to Fun](#)

Friday, February 2

4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Travel the world exploring languages and cultures through crafts and games with the Chantilly High School Language Honor Societies. Grades 1-6.

[Girls Who Code](#)

Tuesday, February 20

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Come learn about coding and change the world. You can bring your own laptop. Registration now open! Space is limited. Must register in person. Grades 6 to 12.

[Adventures in Art](#)

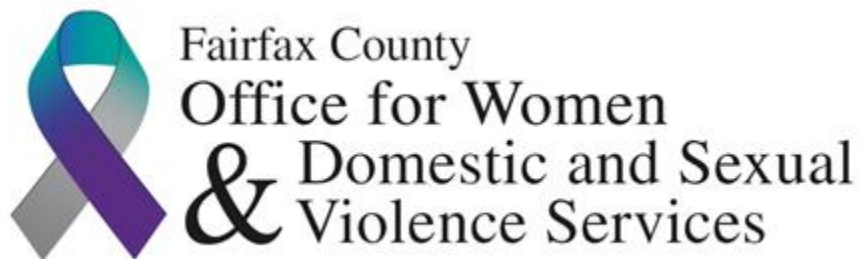
Wednesday, February 21

7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Join us as we explore the exciting world of art through a combinations of stories and art projects. Come dressed to get messy. Age 4-7 with caregiver.

[Chantilly Regional Library](#) is located at **4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151**. For more information, please contact 703-502-3883 (TTY: 711).

Volunteer Opportunity



The Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (OFWDSVS) will hold orientations for prospective volunteers on Thursday, February 8 and Monday, February 12 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The orientation includes an introduction to OFWDSVS, the services it provides, and the population it serves.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Hotline Counselor
- ADAPT Group Co-Facilitator
- Hospital Accompaniment Advocate
- Court Accompaniment Advocate
- Community Ambassador

- Data Analyst Assistant
- Client Intake Coordinator Assistant
- Special Projects

Upcoming Orientations:

Date: Thursday, February 8, 2018

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) Conference Room 8

Date: Monday, February 12, 2018

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Location: South County Government Center (8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 307, Alexandria, VA 22309)

Contact:

Didier Stom

703-324-9495

Didier.Stom@fairfaxcounty.gov

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/domestic-sexual-violence>

Help Launch a New Community Collaborative: Welcoming Inclusion Network (WIN)



Are YOU interested in [developmental disability services](#) in Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church? Do you want to connect with others who want to work toward creating a more integrated community

You are invited to join the [Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board's](#) new “**Welcoming Inclusion Network**” (WIN) at our inaugural meeting:

- **Monday, February 26, 2018**
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
[Fairfax County Government Center](#)
Conference Rooms 2 & 3

Please join us as we bring together a diverse group of stakeholders who are interested in, and committed to, advancing employment and day services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Together we will seek to address the many challenges facing individuals with disabilities, and work together to increase community integration and inclusion.

Last year's [collaborative workshops](#) identified the need for an ongoing dialogue and a desire for creative service options matched to individuals with varied interests and support needs. The goal of the WIN collaborative is to build opportunities for increased information and resource sharing, ensure service equity and efficiency, and boost employment opportunities through existing and new service models.

Together, we can encourage, support and improve inclusion and integration in our community.

When inclusion happens, we ALL WIN.

Be part of promoting and creating winning solutions in the year ahead.

Code Compliance Corner

Residential Fences and Walls – Article 10-104 of the Zoning Ordinance regulates the location and height of fences and walls on residential properties. Building permits are not required for fences of any height but are required for certain retaining walls, and the locations of fences and walls are restricted in front, side and rear yards. Additionally fences installed at intersections must provide adequate sight distance for motorists approaching an intersection such that a clear and unobstructed view of approaching traffic is provided. If you have questions concerning the height or location of fences or walls in your neighborhood, you may file a complaint with DCC. For more information, visit the DCC [website](#).



Residential Fences and Walls

Do you know Fairfax County's rules for fences and walls?

Regulations differ based on the type of lot and fence or wall, but generally:

- All Fences and Walls must comply with Article 10-104 of the Zoning Ordinance, which regulates their location and height.
- In a front yard, a fence or wall cannot exceed four (4) feet in height, except:
 - With Board of Zoning Appeals approval, up to six (6) feet in height may be permitted.
 - On corner lots abutting a major thoroughfare, up to eight (8) feet in height may be permitted.
 - On lots of two (2) or more acres in the R-A through R-1 Districts, up to seven (7) feet in height may be permitted.
- In a side or rear yard, a fence or wall cannot exceed seven (7) feet in height, except eight (8) feet may be permitted on:
 - Reverse frontage lots; or,
 - Lots with a yard within 150 feet of a major thoroughfare and abutting open space.
- Building Permits are not required for fences of any height, unless the fence is required for pedestrian safety or when used as the barrier for a swimming pool. Then a permit is required.
- Building Permits are required for concrete or masonry walls six (6) feet or greater in height.
- Retaining walls with more than three (3) feet of unbalanced fill also require a building permit.
- For more information about Building Permits, call 703-222-0801.



Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance
12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035
Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711
Web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code



To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Code Compliance.

This Fairfax County, VA Publication (published August 2016) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.

Video - Not Your Average High School Class



Know a rising high school senior (Fall 2018) who might be interested in a career in the fire service?

If so, consider looking into the High School Firefighter Program that is a partnership between Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and Fairfax County Public Schools. The course, introduced last year, focuses on skills development and concentrates on teaching the students to perform safely and effectively as firefighters.

For more information, you can contact Instructor James Ghi via email, jtghi@fcps.edu, or phone 703-803-2114.

Fairfax County Modernizes Its Zoning Rules for Restaurants



When Fairfax County first wrote its zoning rules for restaurants 36 years ago, fast casual eateries like Panera, Elevation Burger or Pei Wei didn't exist.

On Tuesday, January 23, 2018 the [Board of Supervisors](#) took action to [modernize its zoning definitions for restaurants](#).

The changes are important because the outdated regulations created challenges for many restaurants that are a growing segment of, and vital to, the county's retail economy. Fast casual restaurants, for example, have had sales growth that topped 12 and 13 percent nationwide in the last two years, according to Technomic, a research firm that tracks the restaurant industry.

The update simplifies and clarifies the definitions for restaurants and where they can locate, making them more flexible and adaptable to any future changes in the industry.

Until now, the county defined restaurants based on how they operate, using these characteristics to distinguish between traditional sit-down and fast food restaurants. The classifications considered whether employees bring food to a customer's table, individual menus are given out or whether disposable plates and silverware are used. Fast casual restaurants have blurred these distinctions, and some traditional sit down restaurants and fast food restaurants are changing their models consistent with this trend.

As a result, the county streamlined and simplified its zoning definitions into three categories: one for restaurants, one for restaurants with drive-through service and one for carryout restaurants.

The zoning changes also removed some of the use limitations. For example, the previous rules restricted the size or number of restaurants allowed in a shopping center based on their square footage, percentage of the building or the number of other uses. These limitations presented an unnecessary obstacle to filling vacant retail space in shopping centers at a time when many other retailers are closing their brick-and-mortar stores.

The new rules also ended the restrictions on where restaurants and carryouts could locate in office districts. The previous rules limited restaurants to office buildings with a minimum of 90,000 or 100,000 square feet depending on the zoning district. By removing this building size restriction, this could help smaller office buildings revitalize and offer existing tenants in those buildings new customer opportunities.

The changes also allow for restaurants to add limited outdoor seating without requiring additional parking like some neighboring jurisdictions. Outdoor seating is important because it helps to contribute a location's vibrancy, character and sense of place.

To craft it's new zoning rule for restaurants, county staff and officials sought public input from residents and industry representatives.

The update makes up part of the county's overall project to modernize its zoning ordinance, [known as zMod](#). Officials are working to update specific, key zoning provisions, like the recent changes to allow greater flexibility to make minor modifications to approved rezonings, and the county just launched its effort to make the ordinance more user-friendly.

For more information, contact the Fairfax County [Zoning Administration Division](#) at 703-324-1314, TTY 711.

Where to Report High Risk Trees in Fairfax County



Fairfax County receives many inquiries regarding individual trees that are a potential high risk to the public. Here is a rough guideline on how potential high risk trees are reported and processed by Fairfax County.

If the tree is on private property and threatens the general public or if you are not sure, call the Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Division (UFMD) at (703) 324-1700 TTY 711. UFMD will assess the tree as to its degree of risk to the general public once ownership is verified. If the tree is determined to be a hazard to the general public, then UFMD will issue a health and safety code enforcement violation and require the property owner to remove the tree or part of the tree that is a hazard.

If the tree is threatening another private property and not the general public, then the tree is considered a civil issue between neighbors. UFMD does not have the authority to assess trees that are civil issues, nor can UFMD offer an expert opinion of the tree.

If there is a potential high-risk tree from a private property threatening your property, UFMD recommends the following:

1. Talk to your neighbor to work out a solution. Open, honest, friendly communication often yields satisfactory results. Many neighbors are unaware of potential high risk trees on their property. If the neighbor doesn't think that the tree is a safety issue, see if he or she would be willing to have an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist assess the tree and agree to abide by the arborist's assessment. A certified arborist can be found at www.goodtreecare.com.
2. If the neighbor will not cooperate, then you may want to enlist the services of a private attorney to help you address this issue. The Fairfax County Bar

Association offers a Lawyer Referral Service at

<https://www.fairfaxlawyerreferral.org/>.

If you see a dead, dying or decaying tree or otherwise a tree you suspect may be a high risk on public property, please contact the following agencies:

- If the tree is located within a few feet of a public street, it is most likely in the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) right-of-way. Contact the VDOT customer service center at 1-800-367-7623 TTY 711 or fill out a VDOT work request at <http://www.virginiadot.org/info/contactus.asp#work>.
 - If power lines are down as a result of a storm or tree failure, contact Dominion Power at 1-866-366-4357.
 - For trees on county park property, please contact the Fairfax County Park Authority at (703) 324- 8594, TTY 711.
 - If the tree is on Fairfax County Public School property, please call (703) 764-2429, TTY 711.
 - If the tree is located on other Fairfax County property, please call the Fairfax County Facilities Management Department at (703) 324-2055, TTY 711.
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Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Shelgon!

Age: 2y 6m

Gender: Male

Color: Tan / White

Spayed/Neutered: Yes

Size: Medium

Shelgon is a big, handsome, happy boy with loads of personality! He gets super excited to go out on adventures, and his whole body starts to wag! He loves to explore and will sniff everything in his path. He also LOOOOVES meeting other dogs! He has a rough and tumble, in-your-face kind of play

style that might not be welcomed by all dogs, so the Animal Shelter recommends a visit with potential doggy siblings. Shelgon is a younger dog who still has some puppy-like mannerisms, and he just doesn't seem to realize how BIG he is! So training is a must! The Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter have helped the shelter out with that, and Shelgon's adopter will get two free training certificates to get you started on the right path to building a strong, happy relationship with this strong, happy boy! For more information about Shelgon, please contact the Animal Shelter by email at animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov or by phone at 703-830-1100.

2018 Soil & Water Native Seedling Sale

Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District

2018 Soil & Water Native Seedling Sale

Deer Tolerant

This year's seedling sale features native shrubs and trees that are tolerant of deer browse. While no plant is deer-proof, these species are less susceptible. They also help clean our water and air, prevent soil erosion, provide valuable habitat, and add beauty and resilience to your landscape. Enjoy!

10 Bare-root Shrubs & Small Trees

\$16.95

- 2 **Witchhazel.** *Hamamelis virginiana*. Height to 30 ft, spread to 15 ft. Very attractive small tree with fragrant bright yellow, ribbonlike flowers in fall and winter. Fall foliage is bright yellow. Part sun to shade, dry to moist.
- 2 **False Indigobush.** *Amorpha fruticosa*. Deciduous shrub, fast growing to 12-18 feet. Provides excellent food and cover for quail, songbirds, and other wildlife. Unusual purplish-blue spike flower in June. Full sun to part shade, moist to dry soils.
- 2 **Serviceberry.** *Amelanchier canadensis*. Small deciduous tree, 20-35 feet. Billowy masses of white flowers in early spring complement attractive silvergray bark. Part sun to shade, moist to wet soils.
- 2 **Silky Dogwood.** *Cornus amomum*. Height: 6-10 feet. Shade tolerant, spreads by root suckers. Foliage is silky underneath. Small clusters of yellowish-white flowers in late May, blue or grayish berries in fall. Grows well in moist to wet soils, full to part sun.
- 2 **Spicebush.** *Lindera benzoin*. Height: 6-12 feet. Small yellowish-white flowers bloom in early spring, yellow foliage in fall. Tiny scarlet berries are attract songbirds through winter. Part to full shade and moist to wet soils.

6 Bare-root Trees

\$11.95

- 2 **Redbud.** *Cercis canadensis*. Small tree, height to 20 feet, spread to 12 feet. Small pink flower clusters of pealike blooms in early spring. Large heart-shaped leaves are yellow in fall. Part-full shade, dry to moist.
- 2 **Pawpaw.** *Asimina triloba*. Height to 12-20 feet. This small tree has long, broad leaves and the largest fruit native to our continent. Moist, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Forms stands from root suckers.
- 2 **Shortleaf Pine.** *Pinus echinata*. Height to 100 feet. Evergreen, excellent for screening. Slender, flexible needles are 3-5 inches with small, oval cones. Open, pyramidal crown. Does well in full sun to part shade, dry to moist soils.

Key Dates

- Online orders open on Wednesday, February 1.
- A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order by **Wednesday, April 11** or until supplies run out.
- You will receive a confirmation receipt and directions to the pickup site, the Fairfax County Packard Center at 4022 Hummer Road in Annandale.
- Orders may be picked up on: **Friday, April 20, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, or **Saturday, April 21, 9 a.m. - noon.**

How to Order Your 2018 Seedlings

Help us streamline our operations by paying online with a credit or debit card.*

To order your seedling package, please visit

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/native-seedling-sale

Or Search Online:

Northern Virginia Native Seedling Sale

* If necessary, we can also take orders over the phone and checks. Call us at 703-324-1460, TTY 711.
