

## A message from Kathy Smith

This week, I had the opportunity to learn about semi-autonomous vehicles by taking a test drive in the new Tesla Model X and in a van retrofitted with an eTrans system. The eTrans system was developed in Fairfax County and allows cars to connect with each other and monitor the movements of vehicles around them and curves in the road. Fairfax County is the testing ground for many of these systems. You can learn more about semi-autonomous vehicles and hear audio from my test ride <u>here</u>.

Coming up next week, I encourage you to attend our Dulles Suburban Area Study public meeting at Rocky Run Middle School on Thursday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. This will be an important opportunity to discuss the comprehensive plan for our community. You can learn more about the study <u>here</u>. The Board of Supervisors will hold work sessions on transportation, development process, and information technology on Tuesday, May 9. You can review the agendas, slide decks, and livestream of these meetings <u>here</u>.

You can also read on to learn about voting in the upcoming primary elections, recycling your old bicycle, and signing up for Medicare.

Sincerely,

Katty



### **Primary Elections Set for June 13**



It is time to vote again in Virginia. On June 13, Fairfax County will hold <u>primary elections</u> for Democratic and Republican party candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, as well as Democratic candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates in the <u>42nd</u> and <u>67th</u> delegate districts. The <u>November general election</u> will held on Tuesday, November 7.

Absentee voting for the primary elections began on Friday, April 28.

#### Make sure you are prepared to vote with this checklist:

#### **Update Your Voter Registration -**

When was the last time you checked your voter registration status? Have you moved, married or changed your name? <u>Check now</u> to ensure you are able to vote in the 2017 elections. The deadline to update your voter registration or to register to vote for the June 13 primaries is Monday, May 22. Important Note: We do not register to vote by party in Virginia.

#### Check Your Voter Registration

#### **Consider Absentee Voting -**

<u>Absentee voting</u> began on April 28 and <u>you can apply now</u> to receive a mail-in ballot. Your absentee ballot is counted on the Primary Election Day, June 13 and included in the results.

#### In-Person Absentee Voting :

- Location: Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 2/3
- Dates: April 28 June 10
- Times:
  - Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to
     4:30 p.m.
  - Thursdays 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
  - Saturdays (April 29, June 3, and June 10) 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

• On **June 10** there are <u>nine satellite voting locations</u> available for inperson absentee voting from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

# The state permits nearly 20 valid reasons why you may be eligible to <u>absentee vote</u>; look over this list and see if you qualify:

#### Reasons You Can Absentee Vote

- Student attending college or university outside of locality of residence
   in Virginia
- Spouse of student attending college or university outside locality of residence in Virginia
- Business outside County/City of residence on Election Day
- Personal business or vacation outside County/City of residence on Election Day
- I am working and commuting to/from home for 11 or more hours between 6:00 AM and 7:00 PM on Election Day
- I am a first responder (member of law enforcement, firefighter, emergency technician, search and rescue)
- My disability or illness
- I am primarily and personally responsible for the care of a disabled/ill family member confined at home
- My pregnancy
- Confined, awaiting trial
- Confined, convicted of a misdemeanor
- An electoral board member, registrar, officer of election, or custodian of voting equipment
- I have a religious obligation
- Active Duty Merchant Marine or Armed Forces
- Spouse or dependent living with a member of Active Duty Merchant Marine or Armed Forces

- Temporarily residing outside of US
- Temporarily residing outside of US for employment or spouse or dependent residing with employee
- Authorized representative of candidate or party serving inside the polling place
- <u>Complete list of information from Virginia Department of Elections</u>, including supporting information you may need to provide.

#### Apply to Absentee Vote

#### Stay Informed -

There are several ways for you to be an informed Fairfax County voter and get news and updates from the Office of Elections:

- **Subscribe** to Fairfax Alerts. Check the box for Office of Elections and indicate how you would like to receive news and updates and on what devices.
- Follow <u>@fairfaxvotes</u> and <u>@fairfaxcounty</u> on Twitter.
- Go online to <u>www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections</u>
- Email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov
- Call 703-222-0776 (TTY 711)
- Visit the Virginia Department of Elections <u>website</u>.

#### Become an Election Officer -

If you are interested in being part of the election process, please consider <u>becoming a poll worker</u> (we call them election officers). We need thousands of poll workers to work in our 243 voting precincts – support our democracy, meet new people and get paid, too!

### **Turning Illness Into an Opportunity to Inspire**



Jean is a senior at Westfield High School. She's been suffering from an illness for two years. Jean took her illness as an opportunity to think about others and **organized a project to make cards of inspiration and encouragement** for patients at the Insight Memory Care Center and the National Children's Medical Center. Jean's group has made more than 600 cards. <u>Watch video</u>.

### **Re-Cycle Your Bi-Cycle**



Here is an opportunity to get rid of a bicycle or two that are languishing in

your garage or basement and to help people in the U.S. and in developing countries.

About six years ago, the county partnered with Bikes for the World, a nonprofit organization that makes quality used bicycles and bike parts affordable and available to lower income people in the U.S. and developing countries. Unwanted bikes are donated at the I-66 Transfer Station or the I-95 Landfill Complex and held for later pickup by Bikes for the World. There are several benefits: the bikes help people gain skills repairing bicycles; those people then have transportation so they get jobs; and the county keeps used bikes out of the waste stream. This is one way that the county's Solid Waste Management Program serves the community above and beyond normal trash and recycling duties.

What had been waste is now a benefit. It's similar to the Solid Waste practice with paint; all of the latex paint that is received by SWMP is donated to Habitat for Humanity. Habitat sells the paint and it is one of their largest sources of revenue. Solid Waste is also one of the biggest local sources of donated bikes for Bikes for the World.

Keith Oberg is the founder and director of <u>Bikes for the World</u> which is listed as "one of the best, small, non-profits in the area," according to the 2014/15 Catalogue for Philanthropy of Greater Washington. "Bikes for the World rewards everyone: bike donors; volunteers; recipients locally and overseas," Keith said. "It's all about economic efficiency, empowerment, and environmentalism," he said. "A bicycle can move someone someplace - like from poverty to self-sufficiency."

Overseas groups are coming back to Bikes for the World, again and again, asking for more bikes and in some instances the recipients pay the shipping

costs, confirming for John Kellas and Keith Oberg that what they are doing has value. "It's been a good collaboration," John said.

The next nearby bike donation event will be held on **Saturday, May 6 at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, VA 22302**; call **703-549-5500** or visit <u>Bikes for the World</u>.

### **Code Compliance Corner**

**Multiple Occupancy:** Section 2-502 of the Zoning Ordinance establishes rules related to limitations on the occupancy of a single family dwelling unit. If you notice an excessive number of vehicles in the driveway or street, multiple people entering or leaving the residence at different hours of the day, or generally what seems like an overcrowding situation, you may contact DCC to file a complaint. For more information, visit the DCC website at <u>http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/</u> or see the Multiple Occupancy Flyer below.







#### Multiple Occupancy Do you know about Fairfax County's zoning rules related to limitations on the occupancy of a dwelling unit?

- Sect. 2-502 of the Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance establishes that a dwelling unit may be occupied by <u>not more than one (1)</u> of the following:
  - One family, which may consist of one (1) person OR two (2) or more persons related by blood or marriage with any number of natural children, foster children, step children or adopted children, plus no more than two (2) roomers or boarders unrelated to the family.
  - Two (2) single parents with not more than a total of six (6) of their dependent children.
  - Up to four (4) persons not related by blood or marriage.
  - A group residential facility.
  - A group housekeeping unit, which may consist of not more than ten (10) persons, which
    requires approval of a special permit by the Board of Zoning Appeals.
  - A bed and breakfast, which requires approval of a special exception by the Board of Supervisors.
- A Home Occupation Permit is required when rooms are rented by boarders in a home. To apply for that permit, please contact the Zoning Permit Review Branch: 703-222-1082.

#### To report a possible violation: Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance

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12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035 Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711 Web: <u>www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</u> 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

### **Upcoming Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting**



The next Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting is on **Wednesday**, **May 10 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151.** Are you curious about gang life? Would you like to learn how to prevent your child from joining a gang? Wonder what's happening in the district? Join us to learn all this and more. Please feel free to share with neighbors, family, and friends! All ages are welcome to attend. Please bring your questions or concerns as we are here to serve YOU!

### **Reminder: Free Medicare Workshops**



The county is offering additional free Medicare workshops in May and June. Medicare experts from the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP) will discuss what you need to know about Medicare plan options in 2017. For one-on-one advice regarding Medicare, call Fairfax County's VICAP at 703-324-5851. Visit them at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/DFS/OlderAdultServices/vicap.htm.

#### Medicare 101

Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Centreville Regional Library

14200 Saint Germain Drive, Centreville, VA

Contact VICAP: 703-324-5851

## Celebrate the 77th Anniversary of VE Day in Historic Centreville



It has been 77 years since the allies declared Victory in Europe in World War II. Travel back to that time with a VE Day celebration in Historic Centreville Park on **Saturday, May 6, 2017**.

Crank home-made ice cream, spot airplanes, pose like Rosie the Riveter, and learn about the many ways county residents supported the war effort. Don't miss the chance to let an interpreter in period dress take you on a tour of the Spindle Sears House. Activities run from **1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the afternoon.

This event is free, but donations will be accepted to support Historic Centreville Park. The celebration will be canceled in the event of rain.

Historic Centreville Park is located at 5714 Mt. Gilead Road. For more information, call Ellanor C. Lawrence Park at 703-631-0013.

### Finding Your Lost Pet



Below are some tips to assist you if one of your pets goes missing.

#### Search the area thoroughly:

- Start searching in the area where your pet was lost immediately after you realize they're missing. Do not delay the search.
- Take a bright flashlight if you have to search at night or in dark places during the day.
- Call the pet's name repeatedly.
- Use a favorite food or toy to entice the pet. Shake a box or bag of treats or use any other familiar noise such as the rattle of your keys.
- Stop periodically to listen for your pet—a bark, a meow, a rustle in the leaves.
- Think like your animal. Get down low and search up high as well.
- Don't overlook unusual or small spaces in your search. A scared animal can fit into tight places, especially ones where you might not think to look.
- Ask neighbors if you can search their yard or property for your pet.

 Place items your pet may recognize by scent outside: dirty clothes, bedding, favorite toys, odorous food such as tuna, mackerel, liver, chicken. Placing a litter box outdoors may assist in recovering a lost cat.

#### Engage your neighbors in your search:

- Let people in the area know your pet is lost.
- Enlist a group to help you search.
- Post or leave flyers with your contact number should your pet be found.

#### Make flyers:

- Put a color or good quality black and white photo of your pet on each flyer.
- Use 8 ½ x 11 paper colored paper can draw more attention.
- Include your pet's species (dog, cat, etc), appearance, gender (including whether it is spayed or neutered), age, weight, color, markings.
- Leave out one or two distinguishing marks or characteristics—a floppy ear, a stubby tail, a missing canine tooth, one blue eye), so you can determine whether someone claiming to have found your pet actually has.
- Do not put your name or address on the flyer.
- Include your telephone number on the flyer a cell phone number works best, in case you have to be away from home.
- Consider offering a reward, but withhold the amount.
- Post as many flyers as possible within a one to two mile radius of where your pet was lost. At eye level in stores and offices; at waist

level on telephone poles and street signs to be visible to people in cars.

• Replace any damaged or missing flyers and take flyers down when you find your pet.

#### File a lost report with the animal shelter:

- Call the animal shelter and <u>fill out a lost report</u>. Also fill out lost reports at shelters in surrounding jurisdictions.
- If your report shows an error message, e-mail the shelter directly at <u>FCPD-LostPetReports@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>
- If you see a probable match to your lost pet at a local shelter, visit in person. Speak with shelter staff and if there is a probable match to a lost pet, staff may accompany you back to the stray holding areas to confirm. Remember that your description may not match someone else's description of your pet.
- Provide the shelter with a flyer (information and a photo of your pet) in case your pet is turned into the shelter.
- Virginia law requires municipal shelters to hold animals for five days if found without a collar; 10 days if found with a collar. Do not depend on a shelter to hold your lost pet indefinitely. (Most shelters charge a daily impoundment fee, so it is in your best interest to learn whether your pet is in the shelter sooner rather than later.)
- If a shelter calls to inform you they may have found your pet, visit in person to confirm.

#### Be careful when searching for your missing pet:

• Always search for a missing pet with another person or a group of people you know and trust, especially at night. Always respond to a

found pet call by taking someone with you and by meeting in a public place.

- Never tell the person where you live or invite them into your home.
- Do not give a reward to someone who claims to have your pet until you have the pet back safely with you. The identifying information you purposefully withheld from your flyer/ad will be helpful in determining if a claim is legitimate.
- Do not allow yourself by being tricked by a money scam. Do not trust someone who claims to have your pet but requires money to ship it back to you.

#### Call local veterinarians:

Don't forget to call and/or post flyers at emergency veterinary clinics in case your pet is found sick or injured. If a veterinary clinic calls to inform you that they may have found your pet, visit in person to confirm.

#### Provide information about your lost pet to local rescue organizations:

- Circulate flyers to local rescue organizations that can spread the word through their network of animal welfare contacts.
- The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) picks up animal remains, including pets, found on road. Call your local VDOT office about animals killed on a roadway.

#### Use newspapers to assist in your search:

Place an advertisement in one or more local newspapers. See if the newspaper offers free ads for lost pets and check the found ads daily.

### **Animal Shelter Corner**



### **Meet Otto!**

Age: 1 year 7 months Gender: Male Color: Black / Tan Spayed/Neutered: Yes Size: Large

Just look at that handsome mug! It's enough to make potential adopters swoon! Otto is a young, energetic boy who loves to chase tennis balls (although he may not always bring

them back), sniff everything, and play, play, play! He lived well with his family's pet bunny, did well with a short term foster kitten, and is good with dogs, although he does have a rough play style. He was surrendered by his owner because she was moving to a place that did not allow dogs. He took a little while to get used to the shelter environment, but he has really come out of his shell to show his playful, exuberant personality. He's a young boy who's still got a few puppy-like behaviors, but this super smart boy should have no problem polishing those skills. Come see him today! To learn more about Otto email the animal shelter at <u>animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>.



## Is Your Neighborhood Mosquito-Proof?

#### Schedule a Zika Presentation for Your Next Community Meeting



To have a Fairfax County Health Department representative give a brief overview of Zika and mosquito control at your association meeting, call 703-246-8428, TTY 711 or email HDZika@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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## ZIKA: What you need to know.

#### WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT ZIKA

 Zika is a viral disease spread to people mostly through the bite of an infected mosquito. It is transmitted primarily by the yellow fever mosquito (Aedes aegypti). The Asian tiger



(Aedes albopictus, or Asian tiger mosquito,

mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*), which is common in Northern Virginia, can also spread the virus. These are both aggressive, daytime-biting mosquitoes.

- There is a risk of Zika being imported into Virginia and being transmitted by local mosquitoes.
- Zika can be passed through sex from a person who has Zika to his or her partners even if the infected person does not have symptoms.
- Zika may be transmitted through blood transfusions.
- · Zika can pass from a pregnant woman to her fetus.
- Infection with Zika during pregnancy can cause birth defects in babies, including microcephaly (a condition in which a baby's head is smaller than expected).
- Pregnant women should not travel to areas with active Zika transmission.
- There is no vaccine or medicine for Zika.
- Based on information about similar infections, once a person has been infected with Zika, he or she is likely to be protected from future Zika virus infections.
- Local mosquito-borne Zika virus transmission has been reported in the continental United States.

#### SYMPTOMS OF ZIKA

Most people with Zika won't even know they have it. The illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting for several days to a week.

The most common symptoms of Zika are fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis (red eyes). Other symptoms include muscle pain and headache. If you suspect you may be infected with Zika, contact your medical practitioner, especially if pregnant. Even if you do not feel sick, take steps to prevent mosquito bites for three weeks by staying indoors or wearing protective clothing and insect repellent. This will help prevent mosquitoes from biting you and spreading the virus to others in the community.

#### DO YOUR PART FROM THE START: Prevent & Protect Against Mosquito Bites!

#### **Control Mosquitoes in Your Yard**

 Aedes mosquitoes lay eggs in containers. To prevent mosquitoes in your yard, eliminate standing water weekly. Tip and toss water from containers like tires, buckets, flower pots,

drain pipes, tarps, bird baths, toys, etc. Scrub the inside of containers, discard them or place indoors.



- If you cannot dump water from a container, treat it with a larvicide like Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis (follow label instructions).
- If mosquitoes are biting, use insecticides in your yard to control them. Treat areas where they rest, such as dense vegetation or ground cover (follow label instructions).

#### Prevent Mosquito Bites

- Use EPA-registered insect repellents
   containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon
   eucalyptus or IR3535 (follow label instructions).
- Cover exposed skin. Wear light-colored, longsleeved shirts and long pants.
- Treat clothing with permethrin. Treated clothing remains protective after multiple washings. Never apply permethrin to skin (follow label instructions).
- Keep window and door screens in good repair to keep mosquitoes out.

#### RESOURCES

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/westnile/zika-virus.htm http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/zika/ https://www.cdc.gov/zika/

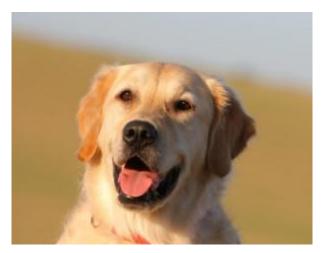
Fairfax County Health Department A Fairfax County, Va., publication. Updated Feb. 2017. To request this information in an attemate format, piesse call the Health Department at 703-246-2411, TTY 711.







**Volunteer Opportunity in Sully** 



**Rock Hill District Park - Dog Park Monitor** 

**Description:** Be a part of the community and visit with some furry friends by monitoring local dog parks.

**Purpose:** Ensure visitors have a safe and enjoyable experience while visiting the dog parks.

**Duties:** Monitor dog park for safety and maintenance issues. Remind users of the dog park rules and encourage compliance. Check waste bag dispenser periodically and replenish as needed. People skills a must. Pick up and dispose of pet waste and trash in the dog park. Report any issues to appropriate Park Authority Area Manager.

Volunteer Benefits: Free RECenter facility use: \*Park Services and \*Resource Management volunteers who maintain an average of four hours of service per week or three weekly classes per class session as an Adapted Aquatics assistant, can use ANY RECenter's general facilities free of charge. Free RECenter classes: \*Park Service and \*Resource Management volunteers who have served a minimum of 32 hours and maintain an average of eight hours of service per week, or volunteer as an Adapted Aquatics assistant for four weekly classes, per class session are eligible to take one free FCPA Parktakes class per session on a space available basis. Family Discount Pass: All FCPA volunteers are entitled to purchase a 25visit pass for their family use to any RECenter at a special county employee rate. Ten Percent Merchandise Discount: \*Park Service, \*Resource Management and \*Golf volunteers who serve four or more hours each month are entitled to a 10% merchandise discount, some exclusions apply. Fairfax County Credit Union Membership: Any active FCPA volunteer is entitled to free credit union membership.

**Qualifications:** Mandatory FCPA volunteer training (provided) and Site Orientation with FCPA staff member

#### Minimum Age to Volunteer: 18

**Time Commitment:** You will be expected to volunteer 4 hours per week for 3 months.

#### Location:

15150 Old Lee Rd. Chantilly, VA

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m. to dusk; weekends and federal holidays, 8:00 a.m. to dusk. Volunteer hours are typically 4 hours slots.

#### Contact:

Jeannette O'Dell 703-324-8740 jodell@fairfaxcounty.gov

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer/wp-adopt.htm