

A message from Kathy Smith

Warmer weather is heading our way. Tomorrow, March 31 is Work Day at Mt. Gilead in the Centreville Historic District (5635 Mt. Gilead Road, Centreville, VA 20120). The lawn of Centreville's historic house is in need of some spring cleaning. Grab your tools and head on over from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mt. Gilead is owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority, and is part of the Resident Curator Program. Read below for more information about this volunteer opportunity.

Warming temperatures means an increase in baby wildlife. Please remember that many species of wildlife will leave their young unattended for extended periods of time. If you believe a baby animal is in need of assistance, contact a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, veterinarian, or our Animal Protection Police. More information is below.

In this week's newsletter you will find information about the regional test of the Wireless Emergency Alerts system, events at Chantilly Regional Library, discounts on solar panels for your home or business, and much more.

Sincerely, Katty

Reminders!

Community Meeting on Route 28 Widening:

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting on the Route 28 widening project. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m., with an Open House, a formal presentation at 7:00 p.m., followed by time for questions and answers.

Location: Union Mill Elementary School Cafeteria (13611 Springstone Drive, Clifton, VA) Date: Tuesday, April 3 Time: 6:30 p.m.

2018 Teen Job Fair:

You are invited to attend the 2018 Fairfax County Teen Job Fairs and Resume Building Workshops. These events will focus on student job seekers (approximately ages 16 to 18) looking for full time employment, after-school employment, seasonal positions, internship opportunities, or volunteer experiences. It is open to all teens in Fairfax County looking for employment or wanting tips to build their resume. Volunteer opportunities and resume building workshops will be available for younger students looking to begin to build their resume. We ask that students <u>click here</u> to register.

Businesses and organizations have the opportunity to showcase their companies, brand their business in the local community, and advertise the positions they have available. It does not cost to participate. Businesses and organizations seeking to secure space at the job fair should <u>click here</u> to fill out the application form.

Location: Chantilly High School (4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151) Date: Saturday, April 7 Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Your mobile phone will buzz loudly **on Thursday**, **April 5**, **between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.** as the National Capital Region tests the Wireless Emergency Alerts system. Twenty jurisdictions, including Fairfax County, will simultaneously issue a **test message through the Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) system.** WEA is a public safety system allowing people who use cellphones and other enabled mobile devices to receive geographically-targeted, text-like messages about threats to safety in their area.

WEA triggers a loud noise and a text message on cellphones and enabled **mobile devices**. This special WEA tone and vibration will both be repeated twice.

Individuals with cellphones or other enabled mobile devices in Fairfax County will receive the following message: "A test of the Fairfax County Emergency Alert System. No action required."

We Need Your Help:

Consider where you will be on April 5 between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. Wherever you are, be it driving, in a store, at work, in a place of quiet like a library, know this test will be happening and let others know. Please share this information on social media and in other ways to help get the word out as the test will be temporarily disruptive and noticeable.

If you are traveling between jurisdictions during the time of the test, you may receive multiple messages. Each participating jurisdiction will draw a geo-targeted map in their Wireless Emergency Alerts system. Cellphones or enabled mobile devices located outside, but near, the participating jurisdictions will receive the WEA test because this technology uses carrier towers.

People visiting the area will also receive this message, too, not just residents of the region.

If you will be out of the region, then you should not receive a test alert as you won't be near local cell towers.

Why is WEA Being Tested:

Public safety officials need to be sure that in times of an emergency or disaster, they have reliable methods and systems that will deliver urgent alerts and warnings to the public when needed. Conducting a regional test supports the continued use, training and improvement of the system.

If a real-world event impacts the WEA test on Thursday, April 5, the back-up test date is Monday, April 9, between 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Participating Jurisdictions:

The National Capital Region Emergency Managers Council of Governments: City of Alexandria, City of Arlington, City of Bowie, City of College Park, City of Fairfax, City of Falls Church, City of Gaithersburg, City of Greenbelt, City of Takoma Park, City of Manassas, City of Manassas Park, City of Rockville, District of Columbia, Charles County, Fairfax County, Frederick County, Loudoun County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County and Prince William County.

More About WEA:

There are three types of messages sent through WEA:

- Extreme weather and other threatening emergencies in an area
- AMBER alerts
- Presidential alerts during a national emergency

WEA is a short text message designed to capture your attention – emergency officials currently only have 90 characters for the message.

Fairfax County sends Fairfax Alerts messages via text, email and sometimes telephone calls. Messages sent through <u>Fairfax Alerts</u> often include more in-depth details about a critical event. Fairfax Alerts also deliver emergency and non-emergency information and you must subscribe to receive Fairfax Alerts.

For additional WEA information, visit <u>www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/wireless-</u> <u>emergency-alerts-wea</u>.

Fairfax County Board, Authorities, and Commissions (BACs)

VOLUNTEER IN SULLY DISTRICT BOARDS, AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs

Are you, or someone you know, interested in volunteering as a Sully district appointee? The Sully District currently has four vacancies for which we are considering candidates.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact the Sully District office at sully@fairfaxcounty.gov, or by phone at 703-814-7100. Please be prepared to provide a current résumé.

CURRENT VACANCIES INCLUDE



Animal Services Advisory Commission



Board of Building & Fire Prevention Code Appeals (professional experience required)



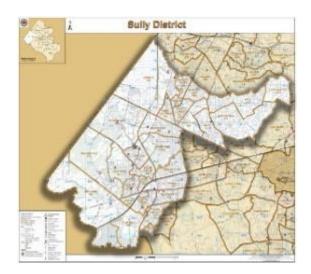
Barbara Varon Volunteer Award



Consumer Protection Commission



Sully Land Use Spotlight



Upcoming Meetings:

Board of Supervisors Development Process Committee Meeting -

The Development Process Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in Conference Room 11. The meeting will be televised live on Channel 16. Click <u>here</u> to view the agenda and associated presentation material.

Planning Commission Meeting -

The Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in the Board Auditorium. Click on the interactive calendar to review individual agenda items provided <u>here</u>. Although there are no Sully District cases

scheduled, the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Capital Improvement Program.

Events at Chantilly Regional Library

Poetry-Through-Art Workshop Date: Wednesday, April 4 Time: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Explore the amazing connections between poetry and art. Grades K-3.

Pajama Party!

Date: Tuesday, April 10 **Time:** 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Bring your cuddly friend and a blanket, wear your PJs and get ready for a rock-in' good time. Ages: 3-5 with a caregiver.

Sensory-Friendly Music and Motion

Date: Saturday, April 14 Time: 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Mr. Matt presents an inclusive music class designed to engage special kids through songs, movement, and stories. All ages.

Adventures in Art

Date: Wednesday, April 25 Time: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Explore the world of art through stories and art projects. Come dressed to get messy. Ages: 4-7 with a caregiver.

The <u>Chantilly Regional Library</u> is located at 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151. For more information, please call 703-502-3883; TTY: 711.



Volunteer Opportunity in Sully

Work Day at Mt. Gilead

The lawn of Centreville's historic house, Mt. Gilead, needs some spring cleaning, and a work day is planned Saturday, March 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority, the house is located in the Centreville Historic District at 5635 Mt. Gilead Road, Centreville, VA 20120.

Email Karen Waltman at <u>geraldwaltman@hotmail.com</u> if you are able to spare any time to help. Bring work gloves, a rake, clippers, etc.

Limited-Time Discounts on Solar Panels for Your Home or Business



Do you want to slash your electricity bill by 60 percent or more? You could if you go solar! For a limited time, April 2 through May 31, we are offering discounted prices on solar panels through Solarize Fairfax County.

Like a Groupon for solar, this program offers one-time, low prices with companies chosen through competitive bids.

Last year, almost 50 county homeowners and businesses installed reduced-price solar systems through this program and they are saving about <u>\$1,250 per year on</u> their electric bills.

We are partnering with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the nonprofit Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) to offer this program.

Sign Up Now and Get Started:

Solarize Fairfax County runs April 2 through May 31 and here is how to get started:

- Sign up today for a <u>free solar assessment</u>. No commitment to install solar is required, but you must sign up whether you ultimately choose to go solar or not. Everyone who signs up by May 31 is eligible for the discount even if the assessment occurs past this date.
- Attend optional information sessions in April and May. The first is April 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, and you also may watch this meeting broadcast live on Channel 16. At these sessions, you will learn whether solar is right for you, understand pricing and financing options and meet the contractors who will install your equipment. Attendance is not required but recommended if you plan to participate in the program.

3 Reasons to Go Solar:

 Save money on your monthly bill: Northern Virginia gets almost as much sun as Miami—and sunlight is free. The more solar energy you capture, the less you pay monthly to your power company. If your current electric bill averages \$120 a month, a 6 kW system should cover about 60 percent of that cost on a good site. With Virginia's net metering law, when your system is producing more than your home is using, the power is fed into the grid and your account is credited at the retail rate.

- Get a 30 percent tax credit before it expires: The federal government offers
 a <u>30 percent tax credit</u> for solar systems through 2019, making now the time
 to install. This credit decreases after 2019, and it will expire at the end of
 2021. Fairfax County also <u>offers a credit on real estate taxes</u>, and the
 county waives all permit fees for the installation.
- Increase Your Home's Value: Homes with solar panels typically <u>sell for</u> <u>\$15,000 more</u> compared to those without them. This finding comes from the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Researchers looked at data from more than 22,000 homes across the nation.

Solarize Process and Timeline:

- 1. Follow up email: After signing up for a free, no commitment assessment, you will receive an email outlining the Solarize process.
- Satellite assessment: Within three to five business days of signing up, LEAP will perform a satellite assessment and will follow up on your property's suitability for solar.
- Provide your electric usage: If your property is a good candidate for solar, LEAP will ask for a copy of your electric bill. This allows the installer to determine the optimal size system for your home.
- 4. Installer contacts you: Once your electric bill is received, LEAP will assign you a solar installer. The installer will contact you for a site visit within three to five business days of being assigned.
- 5. Receive a proposal: After a site visit, the installer will send you a proposal tailored to your home (sometimes a preliminary proposal is sent before the site visit) and walk you through financing options.
- 6. Sign proposal.

 Installation begins: Installer obtains all necessary permits, orders the materials and equipment and manages the work. It generally takes about two to four months to get your panels installed, but every project is unique.

This process may take longer, depending on interest in the program.

For more information, email LEAP at <u>info@solarizenova.org</u> or call 703-517-7251, TTY 711.

Rec-PAC Summer Hiring Now Underway



This summer, the Fairfax County Park Authority's Rec-PAC summer camp program will operate at more than three dozen elementary school locations around Fairfax County on weekdays from July 2 through August 9, 2018. During the summer, staff will be assigned to a site and work daily from 8:15 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. Lots of qualified applicants are expected to apply so plan on attending an early open hire to ensure a spot working for FCPA this summer! The open hire events are held on several dates, times and locations:

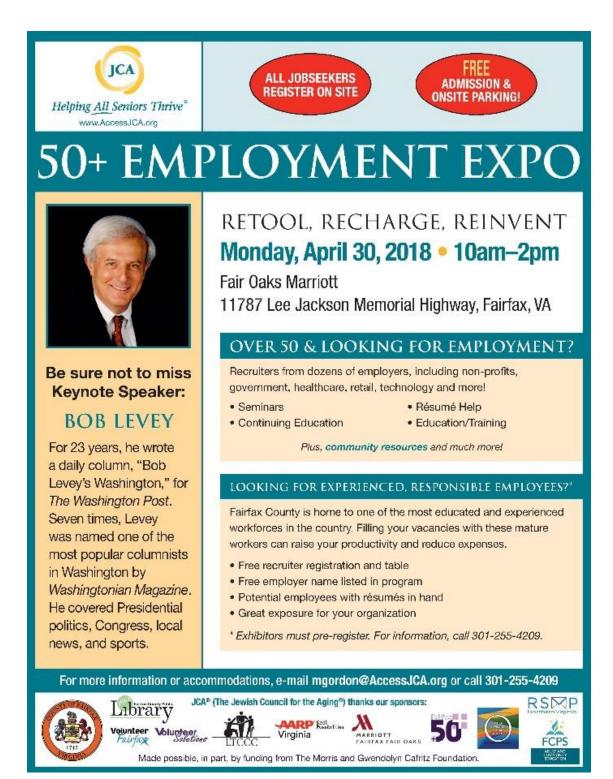
Tuesday, April 3 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Oakton Elementary School 3000 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, VA

Tuesday, May 22 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Herrity Building 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA

Wednesday, June 6 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Herrity Building 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA

Applicants are required to bring an original Social Security Card and a DMV photo ID. **Only those who are 18 years of age and older will be considered.** For more information, visit <u>online</u> or email the Rec-PAC office at <u>Recpac@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>.

Fairfax 50+ Employment Expo



Spring Baby Boom: Let Wildlife Stay Wild



Springtime is here, and with the warming temperatures, we see a boom in baby wildlife. Our Animal Protection Police Officers receive many calls this time of year about young animals from residents who are trying to treat or raise wildlife that appear to be orphaned or abandoned.

While these actions are well-intended, it is important to realize that they may be unnecessary and can be detrimental to wildlife. Baby animals left alone are not necessarily orphaned or abandoned; many species of wildlife will hide their young for safety, leaving them alone for extended periods of time.

Common wildlife that are frequently found and "rescued" in Fairfax County include squirrels, red foxes, raccoons, rabbits, skunks, opossums, and songbirds. If you come across a baby animal and feel the need to intervene, we offer guidelines below to determine if the animal needs help. If an animal is displaying these signs, contact a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, veterinarian or our Animal Protection Police for further assistance and instruction. Please do not handle any baby wild animal.

Signs that an animal needs help include:

- Shows signs of flies, worms or maggots, which look like grains of rice
- Was caught by a cat or dog
- Is bleeding or shows signs of trauma, such as swelling
- If the parents are known to be dead or separated and cannot be united
- Is very cold, thin or weak
- Is on the ground unable to move
- Is not fully furred or feathered

Before intervening, please learn more about which wildlife species and situations you are most likely to encounter and ways to determine whether an animal needs help at:

- <u>https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/injured/</u>
- <u>http://wildliferescueleague.org/pdf/does_this_animal_need_help.pdf</u>

If you have questions about whether an animal needs help or to locate a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, you may contact the Virginia Wildlife Conflict Helpline toll-free at 1-855-571-9003. This helpline is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our Animal Protection Police can be reached through the Police non-emergency line at 703-691-2131.

Parents Helping Parents: Healthy Minds Fairfax Offers New Youth Initiative



Parenting children can be a challenging and demanding endeavor, and one that can feel especially lonely and anxious when your child is experiencing mental health or substance use issues. In a world of social media and complex societal issues, things can feel emotionally overwhelming. At times, parents may not want to share their thoughts with their own friends of family members, and as a result, they can feel isolated and that they don't know where to turn for help.

But you don't have to feel alone anymore.

A service of the <u>Healthy Minds Fairfax</u> initiative, parents are encouraged to reach out to the new <u>Parent Support Partners</u> (PSP) program for support, understanding, and connections on how to find and access services to help children, youth and young adults feel better and do better.

Parent support partners are people who've been there. They've faced family challenges and have come through to the other side and are now ready to give

back. PSP staff are all parents who have received training and are qualitied to offer education, support and assistance. They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. The PSP is provided at no cost to families or caregivers.

According to national statistics, approximately 36,000 children in Fairfax County communities have a diagnosable mental health condition; including 3,960 with significant impairment. "There may be many perceived obstacles to getting help but Healthy Minds Fairfax is creating a pathway to eliminate these barriers," said Jim Gillespie, Director of Healthy Minds Fairfax. "We urge parents to connect with other parents who've experienced challenges with their children; getting help is getting easier thanks to our caring, generous Parent Support Partners. Please don't hesitate to reach out."

You can call the Family Support Line at 571-458-7310 x103.

<u>Healthy Minds Fairfax</u> is the County's youth behavioral health initiative that coordinates a full range of mental health and substance abuse for families and young people. HMF services and resources connect Fairfax County Public schools, private treatment providers, and multiple county agencies such as the <u>Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board</u> (CSB). Since the summer of 2017, Parent Support Partner services have been provided through a unique public/private partnership involving Fairfax County, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health) of Northern Virginia, the Virginia Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Golf Fairfax Pass Sale



Get ready for the greatest golf savings of the season with the <u>Golf Fairfax Spring</u> <u>Pass</u> savings spectacular. The more you play, the more you save! From **March 26 through May 6, 2018** save up to 25 percent when you purchase multi-round passes at Fairfax County Park Authority facilities including Burke Lake, Greendale, Jefferson, Oak Marr, Pinecrest, and Twin Lakes golf courses.

Whether you're stocking up for your league or social season or looking for the perfect gift for the golfer in your life, visit a golf course pro shop near you to buy passes and prep for spring play.

Juniors and seniors receive 15 rounds for the price of 14 when you purchase a junior or senior pass at all courses including Laurel Hill Golf Club.

To learn more about the Park Authority's seven municipal golf courses, sign up for the Golf Fairfax e-news. Stay in the know with news, promotions, renovations, classes sign up for the <u>Golf Fairfax e-news</u>.

Park Authority Seeks Volunteers to Combat Invasives



The Fairfax County Park Authority continues its national award-winning program to combat invasive plants this spring.

The Invasive Management Area (IMA) program was established in 2006 and the annual highlight of the program is the spring Take Back the Forest effort. This year, Take Back the Forest begins on **Sunday, April 1, 2018 and runs through May.** During that timeframe, the Park Authority will seek volunteers to remove non-native invasive plants from parkland and replace them with native plants. Volunteers who help during the designated period will receive a special Take Back the Forest t-

shirt.

The Park Authority has many volunteer opportunities available during April and May. More information about the program and becoming an IMA volunteer is on the Park Authority's <u>IMA page</u>. Take Back the Forest coincides with national volunteer days such as Earth Day, National Volunteer Week, Potomac River Watershed Cleanup Day, and Arbor Day.

Since the IMA stewardship effort started in 2006, 18,250 volunteers have spent 61,266 hours battling non-native plants during nearly 3,000 workdays. Volunteers have removed more than 11,700 bags of invasive plants. Thousands of native species have been planted. There are currently over 55 active IMA sites across the county.

For additional questions or more information, contact Erin Stockschlaeder at 703-324-8681.

Event at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center



Get up close and personal with some of Britain's most celebrated aircraft. Sunday, April 15, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia

The British are coming to the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center! Join us as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the oldest air force in the world — Great Britain's Royal Air Force (RAF) — with a fly-in, presentations, and hands-on activities.

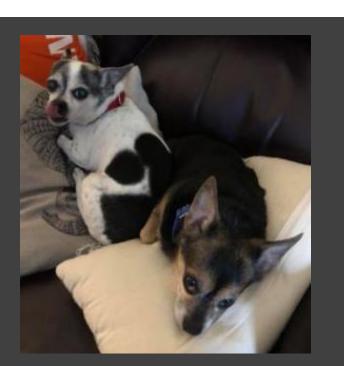
Check out over a dozen former RAF and other military aircraft, flown in and on display at the Udvar-Hazy Center for one day only. Aircraft currently scheduled to appear:

CWH Avro Lancaster FM 213 North American B-25D Mitchell Grumpy Three North American P51-Ds Supermarine Spitfire Mk.1X Supermarine Spitfire Mk.XVIII Percival Provost Scottish Aviation Bulldog Boeing PT-17 Stearman Two DeHavilland Tiger Moths Two DeHavilland Chipmunks Boeing P-8 Poseidon Short Tucano T Mkl North American AT-6 Texan

- Listen to talks by RAF officers and Museum experts about Royal Air Force history and RAF aircraft.
- Learn about the Museum's Sopwith Camel, one of the most significant and famous of all World War I aircraft, now on display at the Center.
- Enjoy performances from the RAF Band and drill displays from The Queen's Colour Squadron.
- Programs begin at 10:00 am, but come early at 8:00 to watch the planes arrive.

airandspace.si.edu/GBFlyIn Admission and programs are free. Parking is \$15/car. 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway Chantilly, VA 20151

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Momma and Baby!

Momma and Baby are the cutest little old ladies who will keep a smile on your face all day long! As their names suggest, they are mother and daughter and have never been separated, so the Fairfax County Animal Shelter is looking for a special person willing to adopt both and give them a loving, happy home to live out their golden years.

They recently spent time with one of the Animal Shelter's fosters, and this is what she had to say about this dynamic duo: "Y'all....these two ladies are GOLD. They're like little shadows following you around the house and love to nap and play and snuggle. They are VERY good pups. They're both sweetie pies who will let you know what they want when they want it. Whether it's pets, food, poo, etc. They do not act like ladies of a certain age, I tell you. Both are quite playful and enjoy belly rubs and pets." They also got along well with the foster's cats, although Baby did occasionally get sent to timeout for charging at the cats too much.

Momma and Baby have both been diagnosed with significant heart murmurs, but they are still active and recently handled anesthesia well. They will need to be monitored by a veterinarian but are currently not on any medications and don't require any additional care. They are just two lovely ladies looking for a warm, safe home. Do you have room in your heart and home for these two?

For more information about Momma and Baby, please contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100 or by email at <u>animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>.