

Sull-E Newsletter



August 21, 2020

A Message from Kathy Smith

Many residents have reached out to my office with questions and concerns regarding voting by mail for the November 3, 2020 Election. The Virginia General Assembly convened this week for a special session and one of the items that Governor Northam presented is a decision of whether or not to allow localities to install drop boxes. Currently, the Virginia Code does not allow Fairfax County to install drop boxes for ballot collection. We are waiting to see what action the General Assembly takes.

In the meantime, here are ways to ensure your ballot is counted this November. You can request a ballot via mail and take it to the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) and deliver it to the Office of Elections. Furthermore, satellite voting locations will open beginning October 14, 2020 and you can return your ballot to one of these locations. **Please note that the ballot must be returned to the Assistant Registrar.** If you do not wish to enter one of these facilities, curbside service will be available with a phone number to call. If you explain you are there to drop off your ballot the Assistant Registrar will come out to collect the ballot. Finally, if you do enter the facility to drop off the ballot you need not wait in line. You can go the front and inform them you are there to drop off your ballot. For additional information regarding the mail in and absentee voting process, visit: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee>.

Fairfax County's New Program Bolsters Virtual Learning:

- [Supporting Return to School](#) (SRS) is a new program developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and this year's virtual return to school.
- SRS will provide full-day on-site programming for children in Kindergarten through sixth grade, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- The program serves children of families residing in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax. A sliding fee scale will be available for income eligible families.
- **Enrollment for the SRS program begins August 24, 2020. Space is limited.**
- [Click here](#) for additional information, or call 703-449-8989.

Sully Historic Site House Tours Resume on August 20:

- Tours of [Sully Historic Site](#) returned on a limited basis on August 20, 2020.

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- Walk-through house tours are available Thursdays through Sundays at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.
- Forgotten Road tours are available Thursday through Sundays at 2:00 p.m.
- Tickets are released each Sunday for tours that begin the following week. Please allow 10 minutes for check-in, temperature check, and a quick health screening.
- For more information, and to purchase tour tickets, [click here](#).

CARES Act Funding for Affordable Housing Providers:

- Fairfax County has allocated nearly \$2.5 million in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding **to affordable housing providers** in need of financial assistance due to the unexpected loss of rental income during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The funding is to be used to cover the rental obligations of eligible tenants who are unable to pay their full or partial rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There is **NO PENALTY OR REPAYMENT** associated with this assistance.
- **The application period is from August 17 to September 16, 2020.** [Click here](#) to view the application instructions.
- Email Michael.Pearman@fairfaxcounty.gov with questions or [click here](#) for further reading.

Sincerely,

Kathy

Transportation News



VDOT: Route 29 in Centreville Reduced to Two Lanes Under I-66 This Weekend:

- Installation of beams for the new I-66 bridges over Route 29 in Centreville will require reducing Route 29 (Lee Highway) under I-66 to a single travel lane in each direction **starting at 9 p.m. Friday, August 21, continuing through 5 a.m. Monday, August 24.** Two-way traffic will run on Route 29 North during this period. Expect delays.
- Drivers using ramps to and from I-66 will not be allowed to make left turns during this time.
- During the overnight hours Friday through Sunday nights, August 21-23, flaggers will alternate a single lane of traffic in each direction.

VDOT: Fox Mill Road Closed in Oakton Aug. 24-27:

- Fox Mill Road between Bronzedale Drive and Hunt Road will be closed to through traffic (weather permitting) **from 8 a.m. Monday, Aug. 24 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27** to replace a stormwater pipe. [Details](#)

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- Those needing to reach properties along Fox Mill Road will have access; however, traffic will not be able to go beyond the point of pipe replacement in either direction.
- Through traffic will be detoured via Bronzedale Drive, Waples Mill Road (Route 664), West Ox Road (Route 608) and Vale Road (Route 672) back to Fox Mill Road.

Fairfax Connector Returns to Full Service, Launches New and Enhanced Bus Routes on August 29, 2020:

- [Fairfax Connector](#) will resume full service on all routes starting Saturday, August 29, 2020, with service enhancements including a [new commuter route from the Stringfellow Road Park and Ride lot to Southwest Washington, D.C.](#), launching simultaneously.
- **Rear door entry and exit required.** Please note that while rear door entry is required, no fares will be collected, **and all routes continue to be free.**
- **Wearing a face covering on the bus is mandatory.** For further details, [click here](#).

WMATA: Metro Announces Silver & Orange Line Station Reopenings:

- The project to reconstruct outdoor platforms at four Orange Line stations west of Ballston is well ahead of schedule, allowing the early reopening of Silver and Orange Line stations. [Details](#).

Upcoming Events at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park



Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, August 23, 2020 - [Turtle Survey](#) (Ages 4 and older)
- Monday, August 24, 2020 - [Humming Birds - Our Winged Wonders](#) (Ages 8 and older)
- Saturday, August 29, 2020 - [Paw-Paw Prowl](#) (Ages 14 and older)

Click on the links above to learn more about the event. [Ellanor C. Lawrence Park](#) is located at 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly, VA. For more information, contact 703-631-0013 (TTY 711) or email parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Coronavirus Column

Important reminders to keep yourself and others safe:

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FREE COVID-19 Testing Offered Every Tuesday:

- In partnership with the Centreville Labor Resource Center, Healthworks for Northern Virginia is offering FREE COVID-19 testing **every Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for walk-ins and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment only.** Location: 5944 Centreville Crest Lane, Centreville, VA.
- **Testing is available to everyone**, and you do not need to have symptoms to request a test.
- To make an appointment call 703-443-2000, select option #1.

When - and How - Can You Safely Visit Grandparents and Older Adults?:

- Here are some scientific facts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to keep in mind as you make your decision whether or not to visit with family members who are older.
 1. Older people are at higher risk for severe COVID-19 infection and death.
 2. People can [spread the disease](#) without having symptoms.
 3. A negative COVID-19 test is not a guaranteed clearance for safely visiting with grandparents.
 4. For grandparents in long-term care facilities visitors are restricted. Call ahead to ensure you know the facility's policy prior to arrival.
- To read the full article, [click here](#).

Help is Still Needed:

- **The Office for Children** continues to seek donations to support childcare programs in providing critical services to children and families.
 - *Essential cleaning supplies are needed, including hand soap, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer. [Click here](#) for more information.
- **Face Covering Donations** - Smaller face coverings for kids are also needed. Cloth face masks of any size can be donated to community members in need at Fairfax County Police Stations. Drop off any time, day or night. [Find a location near you.](#)
- **Donate Blood** – The [American Red Cross](#) is seeing an extreme shortage in blood donations. To make your appointment, [click here](#).

Ways to Stay Informed:

- Call our Health Department Call Center at 703-267-3511 with Coronavirus questions; open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.
- Text FFXCOVID to 888777 to receive updates from Fairfax County about COVID-19.
- Email questions or concerns to ffxcovid@fairfaxcounty.gov. This email account is staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. through 6 p.m.
- Visit a [web portal for coronavirus](#) that serves as a one-stop online resource for information.

The Green Column



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Fairfax County is developing its first-ever [Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan \(CECAP\)](#) and your input is needed! Your input will be considered by the CECAP Task Force as they make decisions about climate change mitigation goals, strategies, and actions we can take in the years to come.

- [Join the virtual public meeting on August 27, 2020 from 7:00 – 9:00 PM](#)
- [Join the virtual public meeting on September 1, 2020 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM](#)
- [Join the virtual public meeting on September 2, 2020 from 7:00 – 9:00 PM](#)
- [Take the CECAP public survey \(available from August 27 – September 13\)](#)

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Bill & Ted!

Bill and Ted are itty bitty babies but they are READY for their next excellent adventure: GETTING ADOPTED! They are very smol and need a nice and patient adopter who can give them an awesome setup to grow up in, lots of time to stretch their bunny legs, and lots of healthy rabbit-approved food.



Rabbits have complex needs, and their families need to make sure they have lots of mental and physical stimulation to keep them healthy and happy!

Do a little research to see if a rabbit is right for your family, and if you'd like to adopt, send in a completed questionnaire for these two babies! They are bonded and need to be adopted together. All adoption info, steps, and forms can be found [online](#).

Reminders!

2020 Census:

Enumerators (census takers) will be visiting households that have not yet responded to help collect Census information in a fast, safe, and confidential way. Field data collection will end by September 30, 2020. Residents in low-response areas may also receive emails asking them to complete the 2020 Census. If you respond online or by phone today, a census taker is less likely to have to visit your home to collect your response. Households can still complete the [2020 Census](#) online, by phone at 844-330-2020 (TTY 711) or by completing the paper survey received in the mail. **The Census Bureau does not disclose any personal information.** [Details](#)

Summer Entertainment Series Returns with Livestream Concerts:

The [Fairfax County Park Authority](#) will livestream 25 free summer concert events featuring a mix of nationally known performers and singer-songwriters. Concerts will be broadcast live via Facebook each Thursday through Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. Arts in the Parks children's shows will be livestreamed Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. The complete concert schedule, with links to join the concert live and information about the performers, is available on the [Park Authority's Summer Entertainment web site](#).