



A message from Kathy Smith



Happy Holidays to you and your family! My office will be closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 in honor of the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day holidays. The office will reopen on Wednesday, December 26 at 8:00 a.m.

This week, County Executive Bryan Hill joined me in recognizing the Sully District appointees to the county's [Boards, Authorities, and Commissions](#) (pictured above). Appointees volunteer their time and expertise to advise the Board on pertinent

issues ranging from land use planning and the environment to human services and economic development. You can learn more about the Sully District appointees by visiting my [webpage](#).

Sincerely,

Kathy

Holiday Concert at Sully Historic Site



Date: Friday, December 28, 2018

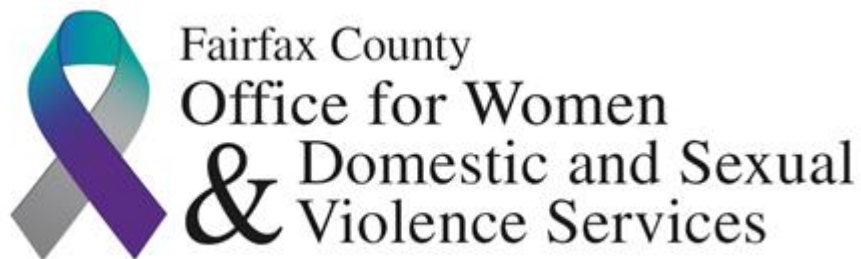
Time: 1:00 & 2:00 p.m.

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

One of the top-rated pan-Celtic groups in the world treats its audience to high-

energy entertainment featuring Scottish fiddling, percussion, and vocals at Sully Historic Site. An optional house tour is included after the concert. Refreshments will be served in the 18th century kitchen. The program runs at 1:00 and 2:00 p.m., and seating is limited. Cost: \$15 per person. Ages: 5 and older. For more information, call 703-437-1794. Click [here](#) to register.

Volunteer Opportunity



[Orientation for Prospective OFWDSVS Volunteers](#)

Date: Tuesday, January 15, 2019

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

Location: Government Center, Conference Rooms 2/3 (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035)

The orientation includes:

- Introduction to the [Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services](#) (OFWDSVS), the services it provides, and the population it serves.
- Description of the opportunities for volunteers to contribute to the agency's mission.

- Summary of the application process and the requirements necessary to become a successful candidate.

Contact:

Nadia Hoonan

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Record Rainfall Challenges Construction Sites; Hotline Available to Report Problems



This past weekend's rain pushed the annual rain totals for the Washington metro area to over 62 inches - breaking the record set in 1889. All this rain wreaks havoc on the many construction sites in the area. As a result, Fairfax County received more than twice as many complaints about erosion and sediment control problems on construction sites in the first 10 months of 2018 than were received in all of

2017.

After a rain event, the contractor on the site is responsible for repairing and replacing any damaged controls, such as broken silt fencing or clogged sediment traps. The excess rainfall seen this year presents even more challenges to construction managers' attempts to capture the sediment and clean and maintain the controls. The Site Development and Inspections Division (SDID) conducts a series of on-site inspections to make sure construction is moving ahead correctly and the erosion and sediment controls are working properly. Inspectors will also visit the site after a significant rainfall event to make sure the contractor is maintaining the controls in compliance with regulations.

[Land Development Services](#) (LDS) is committed to protecting communities and the environment from excessive sediment leaving construction sites. If you observe a construction site that seems to have malfunctioning erosion and sedimentation controls, you can submit your concern online [here](#), or call 703-324-7470, TTY 711.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

New Parking Resources Page



Have you ever wondered what the rules are for a parked vehicle and how long it can stay in one place? Do you know what the regulations are for Commercial Vehicles to park on public highways? Did you know parking citations and payments are made to the Fairfax County [Department of Tax Administration](#)?

The Fairfax County Police Crime Prevention Unit has put new code sections for parking, how to pay a parking citation information, and even how to report county property tax evaders conveniently in one place [online](#).

Your Battle Plan for Old Man Winter



Snow can bring delight or fright.

We are not in the weather prediction business, so all we can do is be prepared and encourage you to get ready for whatever this season may throw our way. We have compiled some of the more frequently accessed winter information below.

Our guide to snow is your comprehensive place to get key information about:

- [VDOT Snow Removal](#) (and [Plow Tracker!](#))
- [Weather Forecast and Expected Snowfall](#)
- Who Maintains [Roads/Sidewalks](#)
- [8 Places to Consider Shoveling Snow](#)
- [Tips for Creating a Neighborhood Snow Removal Plan](#)
- [The Trick to Properly Shovel Your Driveway When Snow Plows Pass](#)
- [Snow Shoveling Safety](#)

National Weather Service Commuter Alerts:

To help our region prepare better and potentially avoid horrific commutes, the local National Weather Service now offers [Potential Winter Commuter Hazard Statements](#).

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Hypothermia Prevention Program



The Hypothermia Prevention Program is one of the county's most successful

public-private partnerships. We rely on our nonprofit and faith-based community partners to help us carry out the life-saving mission to give our most vulnerable neighbors a safe place to stay from the cold.

The hypothermia shelters operate seven days a week from December through March. In addition, a "no turn away" policy is implemented outside of that timeframe based on temperature and weather conditions at all of our emergency shelters. To find out if the shelter is on "no turn away", please call them directly.

In the Western and Central area, including Fairfax and Centreville -

FACETS' hypothermia prevention season began on November 25, 2018 and will run until March 31, 2019, with door opening at 5:00 p.m. each evening and closing at 7:00 a.m. each morning, seven days a week. The locations of FACETS' hypothermia program are updated weekly, and can be found online at www.facetscares.org/programs/hypothermia-prevention-and-response-program or call 703-352-5090 ext. 302 (ext. 303 for Spanish) for an automated voicemail recording of the locations. For further information, please contact Maria Avila at Mavila@facetscares.org.

For more information about the Hypothermia Prevention Program, click [here](#).

6 Tips to Prevent Frozen Water Pipes



When cold spells set in this winter, that spells potential trouble for your water pipes. During the height of a cold snap last winter, Fairfax Water reported hundreds of frozen meters.

Here are some steps you can take to avoid frozen pipes when colder weather fills the air this winter:

1. Always know where your main water shut off valve is located.
2. Make sure the water line to outside faucets is turned off and the line is drained. Drain each outdoor spigot after turning off the valve to prevent any remaining water from freezing and bursting the pipes.
3. If your water pipes do freeze, never try to thaw a pipe with an open flame or torch.
4. If you will be away from your home, keep the thermostat at a reasonable temperature to make sure all areas with water pipes are kept above freezing.

5. Eliminate drafts. Check around the home for areas where water supply lines are located in unheated areas and take measures to prevent the flow of cold air in these areas.
6. Whenever temperatures drop into the teens, it is suggested you leave a thin, steady stream of water running.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact [Fairfax Water](#) at 703-698-5800 during normal business hours or after-hours/emergency number 703-698-5613.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Keep Safe This Holiday; Be Aware of Candles and Holiday Tree Fires

Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

<p>More than half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles.</p>	<p>More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles.</p>	<p>The top 3 days for home candle fires are Christmas Day, New Year's Day and New Year's Eve.</p>
<p>Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.</p>	<p>Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous.</p> <p>On average, 1 of every 45 reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in death.</p>	<p>A heat source too close to the Christmas tree causes 1 in every 4 winter fires.</p>
<p>Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.</p>	<p>Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.</p>	<p>Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.</p>



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

Video: What is Early Literacy?



Tina Mraz, Youth Services Manager for the Fairfax County Public Library, talks about the five steps you can take to help your child get ready to read.

Innovative Ideas Sought for Workhouse Arts Center



Fairfax County and the [Workhouse Arts Foundation](#) are looking for innovative ideas to continue transforming the historically significant, 50-plus acre Workhouse Arts campus into the first mixed-use arts campus in the county.

The county and the Workhouse recently [issued a request for expressions of interest](#), seeking proposed adaptive re-use concepts from businesses, nonprofits, or individuals.

The two entities are asking for cultural, educational, residential, commercial, or other uses that complement the Workhouse Arts Center's existing studio, gallery, and museum spaces. This could include food halls, restaurants, craft breweries,

craft manufacturing, housing, arts and entertainment venues, business incubators, and possibly other uses.

Concepts will be accepted from December 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, and will be reviewed monthly in the order of submission for further action. Concepts presented could lead to a range of actions, including but not limited to: in-person discussions, lease negotiation, or a formal procurement depending upon the nature of the adaptive reuse concept.

For more information, visit the [Workhouse Campus RFI webpage](#) or contact Regina Coyle with the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1214, TTY 711.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

The Green Column



Holiday Tips for a Waste-Free Party

It is that time of year again! Black Friday and Cyber Monday have come and gone and now it is time to spread some holiday cheer in the form of work parties, family gatherings, and the promise of a happy New Year!

Here are some strategies for reducing waste that you can apply when planning your next event:

- **Food and Meal Planning:** Keep it simple. Most people will not be expecting a full-blown meal. Use this new [online calculator](#) to help you plan the menu and avoid too many leftovers.
- **Beverages:** Buy liquor, wine, and beer in bulk. For non-alcoholic beverages, consider mixing up large batches of punch, eggnog, cider, or cocoa and put them in a fun seasonal dispenser. Be sure to ditch plastic cups and use reusable glasses or mugs. If you want individual containers for beverages, buy a mix of sparkling water and soda in large plastic bottles, paper cartons, or preferably aluminum cans, that can be recycled.
- **Gifts:** Consider a cookie exchange. Have reusable tins available for guests.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Ace!

Age: 3y 8m

Gender: Male

Color: White

Spayed/Neutered: Yes

Size: Medium

FLUFF ALERT! This little fluff ball was surrendered to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter because his family sadly had to move into a place that doesn't

allow pets. They said he was great with their three kids, crate trained, and not destructive in the house when left alone. They also said he was nervous and vocal about strangers, and that held true- he was pretty nervous when he first arrived to the shelter! He's warmed up now though, although he is still a little nervous. They have had him in small playgroups with other dogs and he's been fine, but they always recommend a proper slow intro to other dogs. Ace's favorite game with the other dogs in the playgroup is CHASE! He loves to chase and be chased. Ace does like to guard his food, so whoever adopts him will need to work with him on that and also know to give him space when he eats food or long-lasting treats. If there are kids in his adoptive home they should be old enough to understand that they need to leave him alone when he eats food. In summary, Ace is a good little guy who likes to get affection on his own terms, so potential adopters may not feel the love right away. Once he knows you he is a real sweetheart! Come and meet this little guy today! For more information about Ace contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100 or by email at AnimalShelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.
