

August 7, 2020

# A Message from Kathy Smith

Governor Ralph Northam <u>announced the launch of COVIDWISE</u> at his press briefing this past Wednesday. COVIDWISE is a free notification app that will alert users if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. No location data or personal information is ever collected, stored, tracked, or transmitted to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) as part of the app. To learn more about COVIDWISE, and the download the app, visit www.covidwise.org.

The Governor also <u>announced that Virginia has joined a bipartisan six-state agreement to purchase 500,000 rapid anti-gen tests</u>. These rapid tests have been authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and deliver results in 15 to 20 minutes.

Census 2020 is currently underway, and the county has received responses from over 77% of households. Lets make it 100%! For each resident who does not respond to the census, the county could lose \$12,000 in potential funding over the course of a decade. Census takers will be visiting unreported households from now until September 30, 2020. More information is below in the "Reminders" section.

# Fairfax County Election Officials Warn Voters About Inaccurate Center for Voter Information Mailing:

- Fairfax County election officials want to <u>alert voters about an inaccurate and potentially</u> <u>misleading mailing from the Center for Voter Information</u>.
- This group is mass mailing pre-filled, absentee ballot applications to county voters without their request—and the mailer includes return envelopes to send the application to the City of Fairfax, not Fairfax County.
- Fairfax County is working with the City of Fairfax to ensure any applications received from the center's inaccurate mailing will be processed by the county.
- County election officials remind voters they can <u>apply online to absentee vote by mail</u>. This is the most secure method to apply. By applying online, voters will be able to track the status of their application.
- For more information or questions about absentee voting, contact the Fairfax County Office of Elections at 703-222-0776, TTY 711.

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#### **Supervisors Establish Affordable Housing Preservation Task Force:**

- At the July 28, 2020 meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor
  Foust, Chairman of the Board's Housing Committee, introduced a motion to establish a
  task force for the purpose of developing a comprehensive plan for the preservation of
  affordable housing.
- The county's stock of "market affordable" rental homes faces three critical pressures:
  - 1. Redevelopment of older apartment complexes
  - 2. The renovation and/or repositioning of previously affordable properties
  - 3. Household incomes are not able to keep pace with the increases in rent
- The way to ensure no net loss is through adopting a set of clear preservation strategies which can include renovation of existing developments with the addition of affordability restrictions, replacing units on or off-site, and/or buying and holding communities to reserve the market affordability.
- The Preservation Task Force is responsible for reviewing strategies and providing policy and planning recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for action. <u>Details</u>

#### **Fairfax Prevention Coalition Presents Sully District Community Focus Group:**

- Join the <u>Fairfax Prevention Coalition</u> (FPC) on **Tuesday**, **August 11**, **2020 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. for a virtual meeting**.
- FPC is conducting a community assessment on substance misuse. They need your input! Your voice matters! Share your thoughts and feedback around substance misuse in our community. Click here to register. Training ID: 858-313-004.

Sincerely,

Kally

# **Sully District: Free Food Distribution Event**

**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 **Time:** Starting at 2:00 p.m.

Location: Mt. Olive Baptist Church (6600 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, VA 20121)

The Office of Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith, in partnership with the DeLune Corporation, will host a free food distribution event on August 18, 2020. The free food boxes include a week's supply of fresh dairy products. No eligibility required. Please wear a face covering. More information is below.

#### FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Tuesday, August 18th, 2020 Mt. Olive Baptist Church 6600 Old Centreville Rd. Centreville, VA 20121 Starting at 2pm

FREE DAIRY BOXES CONTAINING MILK, CHEESE, BUTTER, SOUR CREAM, ETC.

No eligibility required. Contact-free distribution. Please wear face covering.

A week's supply of fresh dairy products



Brought to you courtesy of the Office of Knifty Smith, Sully District Supervisor in pertuerable with Ballone Corneration.











'DISTRIBUCIÓN DE COMIDA GRATUITA'
Martes 18 de Ageste, 2020
Iglesia Bantista Mt. Olive
6600 Old Centreville Rd.
Centreville, VA 20121

A partir de las 2hs de la tarde

CAJAS LÁCTEAS GRATUITAS QUE CONTIENEN LECHE, QUESO, MANTEQUILLA, CREMA DE AGUA, Y MASI

No se requiere residencia. Distribución sin contacto. Por favor use mascarilla.

Provisión de lácteos por una semana.



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# **Upcoming Events at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park**



#### **Upcoming Events:**

- Monday, August 10, 2020 Humming Birds Our Winged Wonders
- Thursday, August 13, 2020 Botany Walk
- Saturday, August 15, 2020 Pond Life
- Sunday, August 16, 2020 The Mystery of Monarch Butterflies

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

### **Coronavirus Column**

Important reminders to keep yourself and others safe:



#### 3 Ways Small Businesses Can Seek COVID-19 Assistance:

- 1. A new program, Rebuild VA, will open for applications on Aug. 10 to help small businesses and nonprofit organizations whose normal operations were disrupted by the economic emergency created by the pandemic. This grant program will reward up to \$10,000. Click the link for more information.
- 2. Local governments and nonprofits have banded together to make a one-stop-shop portal with information on business continuity, business recovery, worker training and retraining. Visit <a href="novabacktowork.com">novabacktowork.com</a> for more information.
- 3. The federal government's <u>Paycheck Protection Program</u> has been **extended with the application deadline of Aug. 8**.

#### New Fotonovela - COVID-19 Safety When You Share Your Home:

• En Español - Haz clic aquí

To tell the story of how families who live in multi-family homes can reduce spread,
 Fairfax County published a <u>fotonovela</u>, a Spanish language video that uses photos,
 graphics and sound to tell a story. The video shares the tale of Camilla and her family,
 who have adopted new routines to keep everyone safe at home. <u>Watch, comment, and</u>
 share the fotonovela!

#### 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 <u>American Red Cross</u> is seeing an extreme shortage in blood donations. To make your appointment, <u>click here</u>.

### **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 <a href="mailto:ffxcovid@fairfaxcounty.gov">ffxcovid@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>. This email account will be staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. through 6 p.m.
- Visit a <u>web portal for coronavirus</u> that serves as a one-stop online resource for information.

## The Green Column



# **Solarize Fairfax County**

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The Solarize Fairfax County program is back once again, providing county residents and businesses the chance to install solar arrays at a discount. The Solarize program offers participants a streamlined process for exploring and pursuing solar power for their residences and places of business. Through August 31, Solarize reduced rates will be available through a pre-qualified solar installer, Solar Energy World.

All county residents and business owners are eligible for a free, remote assessment to evaluate if solar is appropriate for their home or commercial building. Additionally, residential Solarize 2020 participants are eligible for a complimentary, virtual home energy assessment to help improve their home energy performance holistically.

If you are curious about Solarize, join an upcoming virtual info session. More information is available on the website of the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination and on Fairfax County's new climate and energy Facebook page.

### **Animal Shelter Corner**



### **Meet Sony!**

Sony is three years old, just over seven pounds, and has lovely light yellow daffodil-colored eyes. She is friendly with adults, but just hides from kids. Sony would really like a home without kids, where she can settle in and relax and be loved and maybe please stay forever?

If you are interested in adopting Sony, send in a completed adoption questionnaire! 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

<u>Summer Entertainment Series Returns with Livestream Concerts:</u>
The <u>Fairfax County Park Authority</u> will livestream 25 free summer concert events featuring a mix of nationally known performers and singer-songwriters.

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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 <a href="Park Authority's Summer Entertainment web site">Park Authority's Summer Entertainment web site</a>.

### **Camp Fairfax:**

The Office for Children (OFC) is providing a summer program for rising first- through sixth-grade children of working families from now until Friday, August 14, 2020. The program, **Camp Fairfax**, will be at 18 locations across the county, including: London Towne Elementary. This full-day program will run from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day. Current CDC health and safety guidelines will be implemented. Space is limited. Learn more information here.