

A message from Kathy Smith

July 1 marks the beginning of a new state fiscal year, and is also the day when several new laws, passed by the Virginia General Assembly, become effective. One new state law now requires health insurers to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder for individuals of any age. Prior to the bill's passage, such coverage was only required for individuals from age two through age 10. More information on these new laws is below.

In this week's newsletter you will find information about events happening this month at Centreville Regional Library and Sully Historic Site, new zoning rules for community gardens, and much more.

Sincerely, Katty

Reminders!

Informational Open House for the Loudoun-Ox 230 kV Partial Rebuild Project:

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2019

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: John Champs High School (41535 Sacred Mountain Street, Aldie, VA

20105)

Dominion Energy is currently in the conceptual phase of plans to rebuild a portion of aging electric transmission line which is nearing the end of its service life. They invite the community to one of their two informational open houses to learn more about the project and talk to subject matter experts. There will be no formal presentations at the events, so please drop in at your convenience. For more information about the project, <u>click here</u>.

Public Meeting - Update on the Sully Community Center:

Date: Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA

20151)

Supervisor Kathy Smith will host an informational meeting on recent plan updates to the Sully Community Center, a public facility to be located at the northwest corner of Wall Road and Air & Space Museum Parkway. In addition to the recreational facilities like basketball courts, multipurpose rooms, and game areas that were discussed at Supervisor Smith's October 1, 2018 meeting on the Sully Community Center, a community-based healthcare suite will also be co-located on the site. To learn more about the proposed Sully Community Center, click here.

The Sully Soap Project:

Date: From now until August 1, 2019

Location: Sully Governmental Center (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151)

We are collecting liquid laundry detergent and dryer sheets to help local community members in need! A volunteer group associated with Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) is assisting with laundry at a local laundromat each month for individual and families who do not have resources for laundry. WFCM clients benefit with clean clothes, towels, and sheets. The donation box is located in the lobby of the Sully Governmental Center. Questions? Email mhawk2@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Starlight Cinema



July Events at Centreville Regional Library



Photography Basics Part 1: Using Fully Automatic Mode

Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2019

Time: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This class will teach how to take pictures with your camera or mobile device on full

automatic mode. Ages: Teens and adults.

Kawaii and Iwako Pencil Box & Eraser Workshop

Date: Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Time: 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Teens will employ the use of 3D paint, whipped clay, cabochons, and gems to create a Japanese style of "cute" art. They will use Sculpey eraser clay to make character erasers that are fun to collect. A Shannyn Snyder workshop. Grade: 7 to

12.

For the Birds

Date: Monday, July 29, 2019

Time: 2:30 to 3:15 p.m.

Learn all about birds as Wildlife Ambassadors bring feathered friends; a parrot,

owl, crow, duck, and rooster. Ages: 6 to 12.

Harry Potter's Wizardry Workshop

Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Time: 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Teens will visit various "stops" along the Hogwarts Express to create, make, and try different crafts on Harry and J.K. Rowling's birthday. A Shannyn Snyder workshop. Grades: 7 to 12.

The <u>Centreville Regional Library</u> is located at 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville, VA 20121. For more information about these events, call 703-830-2223, TTY 711 or email libCE@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Dairy Days at Sully Historic Site



Dates:

- Sunday, July 14, 2019
- Friday, July 19, 2019
- Saturday, July 20, 2019

Churn butter, crank ice cream, milk a fake cow, play 18th century games, and experience the products of a historic dairy. The program at Sully Historic Site runs on the hour from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Cost: \$8 per person. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is recommended. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Tour the historic house for a separate cost. Ages: 5 and older.

The <u>Sully Historic Site</u> is located at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly, VA. For more information, call 703-437-1794, TTY 711 or email fcpasully@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Sully Land Use Spotlight



Upcoming Meetings:

Planning Commission -

The Planning Commission will meet on **Wednesday**, **July 10**, **2019 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in the Board Auditorium. The meeting will be broadcast live on <u>Channel 16</u>. There is one Sully District case on the agenda. More information about this case is below.

RZ/FDP 2019-SU-002 (JDA Custom Homes, Inc.) -

This application is to rezone 6.35 acres from the R-1 zoning district to the PDH-2 zoning district for the development of 12 single family detached dwelling units at a density of 1.89 dwelling units/acre. Staff recommends approval of RZ 2019-SU-002, subject to the execution of proffers consistent with those contained in Appendix 1 of the staff report dated June 26, 2019. Staff recommends approval of FDP 2019-SU-002. To view the staff report, click here.

Volunteer Opportunity

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST!

Fairfax County administers a competitive countywide grant program that provides limited funding for programs and services that fill critical human services needs among the most vulnerable populations.

WE NEED COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

willing to participate on the Selection Advisory
Committee to review and evaluate proposals and make
recommendations on how to distribute funds among
the many applicants from across the county.

The review period for FY2021-2022 applicants runs from January – March 2020.

Orientation sessions will be held.

If you are interested in learning more about this critical volunteer opportunity, please contact:

Michelle Brizzi

Department of Procurement and Materials Management
michelle.brizzi@fairfaxcounty.gov

You can also visit us online at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/procurement/sponsoredprograms/fundingpool



New Zoning Rules for Community Gardens



As the hunger for locally grown food increases, Fairfax County's new zoning rules dramatically expand the locations where community gardens, farmers markets, and home gardens are allowed.

Now, fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers, and plants can be grown from the rooftops of office high-rises in Tysons to open spaces at houses of worship to the common areas of suburban homeowners associations.

With one in three U.S. households growing their own food at home or in a community garden, according to the National Gardening Association, the county made its zoning changes to meet this demand.

The new rules can also help to address <u>food deserts</u>, areas where it is difficult to find affordable fresh fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods.

As another way to increase access to fresh, local food, the new zoning laws broadens when and where farmers markets may operate and what they can sell. They can be open all year now whereas they were limited to April through November before. These markets can now be located anywhere, as long as there is adequate parking and access to the site.

To read the full article, click here.

Notable New State Laws Effective July 1, 2019



July 1 marks when new laws and new budgets become effective in Virginia and our county. There are many <u>new laws</u>, but we have highlighted some that you should be aware of here.

Transportation Changes:

- <u>SB 1768</u> Handheld personal communications devices; use while driving, etc. Prohibits any person from holding a handheld personal communications device (cellphone) in their hand while driving a motor vehicle in a highway work zone, with certain exceptions.
- HB 2033 Turns into or out of certain residential areas; resident
 permits. Allows Fairfax County to develop a program to issue permits or
 stickers to residents of a designated area that will allow such residents to
 make turns into or out of the designated area during certain times of day
 where such turns would otherwise be restricted.
- HB 2514 Motor vehicle safety inspections; increases maximum charge from \$16 to \$20, \$.70 transmitted to VSP. - Increases the maximum

- charge for a state safety inspection for a motor vehicle from \$16 to \$20 and increases the amount transmitted to the Department of State Police from \$0.50 to \$0.70.
- HB 2752 Motorized skateboards or scooters; clarifies definitions, riding or driving on sidewalks, etc. - Authorizes localities to regulate the operations of companies providing motorized skateboards or scooters for hire. Certain provisions of this bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2020.
- HJ 676 Constitutional amendment; personal property tax exemption for motor vehicle of a disabled veteran. - Provides that one motor vehicle of a veteran who has a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability shall be exempt for state and local taxes.

Education & School Changes:

- HB 1652 School calendar; opening day of the school year. Allows school divisions, in which the school board sets the calendar, to open up to two weeks before Labor Day. This bill is identical to SB 1005.
- HB 1753 School buildings; electronic room partitions. Prohibits school employees from opening or closing an electronic room partition in any school building except under certain limited circumstances.
- HB 2599 Public schools; prohibits use of seclusion and restraint. Requires the Board of Education to identify and prohibit the use of any
 method of restraint or seclusion that it determines poses a significant
 danger to the student, and establish safety standards for seclusion.

Public Safety:

- SB 1507 Unmanned aircraft systems; used by law-enforcement officers, persons sought for arrest. Allows a police officer to deploy an unmanned aircraft (drone) to aerially survey the home of a person they have an arrest warrant for, or to locate a person sought for arrest when police are in hot pursuit of such person.
- <u>HB 1659</u> **Child abuse and neglect; mandatory reporters.** Adds to the list of persons who are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect:

ministers, priests, rabbis, imams, and duly accredited practitioners of any religious organization or denomination usually referred to as a church; with certain exceptions. This bill is identical to <u>SB 1257</u>.

Health:

- HB 1743 Pharmacist; counseling for new prescriptions, disposal of medicine. - Allows a pharmacist to include information regarding the proper disposal of medicine when giving counsel to a person who presents a new prescription for filling. This bill is identical to SB 1405.
- HB 2577 Health insurance; coverage for autism spectrum disorder. Requires health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health
 maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the diagnosis and
 treatment of autism spectrum disorder in individuals of any age. This bill is
 identical to SB 1693.

General Laws:

• HB 1660 Landlord and tenant: landlord may obtain certain insurance for tenant, notice to tenant. - Provides that if a rental agreement does not require the tenant to obtain renter's insurance, the landlord must provide a written notice to the tenant, prior to the execution of the rental agreement, stating that the landlord is not responsible for the tenant's personal property, the landlord's insurance coverages do not cover the tenant's personal property, and if the tenant wishes to protect their personal property, they should obtain renter's insurance.

Commerce & Labor:

- HB 2473 Minimum wage; exemptions. Eliminates the exemptions to Virginia's minimum wage requirements for newsboys, shoe-shine boys, babysitters who work 10 hours or more per week, ushers, doormen, concession attendants, and cashiers in theaters. This bill is identical to <u>SB</u> 1079.
- <u>HB 2748</u> Tobacco products, nicotine vapor products, etc.; purchase, possession, and sale. Increases the minimum age for persons prohibited

from purchasing or possessing tobacco products, nicotine vapor products, and alternative nicotine products from 18 years of age to 21 years of age with the an exception for active duty military personnel. This bill is identical to SB 1727.

 SB 1759 Underground electric distribution lines; placing in areas of transit-oriented development. - Allows Fairfax County to request an electric utility to place underground power lines as part of the Embark Richmond Highway project. Power bills in the county would slightly increase to pay for it.

Changes to the Community Health Care Network

On July 1, Neighborhood Health and HealthWorks for Northern Virginia, non-profit Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) operating in Northern Virginia, took over the clinics previously operated through Fairfax County's Community Health Care Network (CHCN).

The CHCN program provides primary care services to approximately 16,000 low-income, uninsured county residents. Beginning July 1, the Merrifield and South County clinics are now part of the Neighborhood Health system, and the North County Clinic is now part of the HealthWorks system.

HealthWorks and Neighborhood Health offer:

- Affordable, full health services, including medical, dental, and behavioral health services. These services will now be available for families, including children.
- Established partnerships with local hospitals and other community providers for specialty care.
- Free translation services and staff who speak languages other than English.

For more information, <u>click here</u>.

Fairfax County Designated "SolSmart Silver" for Advancing Solar Energy Growth



Fairfax County received a Silver designation from the national SolSmart program for making it faster, easier, and more affordable for homes and businesses to go solar.

This designation recognizes the county for its long-standing efforts to <u>encourage</u> solar energy growth and remove obstacles to solar development. The county also received special recognition for its inspections process.

Fairfax County offers:

- No-fee permitting for residential or commercial solar systems.
- Same-day building permits for solar systems.
- <u>Tax exemptions</u> for homeowners and businesses who install solar equipment.
- Discounted solar systems for homeowners and businesses through <u>Solarize</u>
 Fairfax County.

 \$5,000 grants for homeowners associations for energy conservation projects like solar through the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

To read the full article, click here.

The Green Column



What's that Stuff in the Stream?

Why is the water a weird shade of blue?:

Typically, this is from a dye that may be applied by upstream lake or pond owners to intensify the blue color of the water. The dye is not toxic to humans or wildlife. This dye may also be incorporated into commercial algaecides. The algaecide is not toxic to wildlife or humans when applied at manufacturer-recommended rates.

Why is the stream so dark?:

Water in pools, or other slow moving areas, may appear dark brown or black. This is caused by decomposition of organic material. Leaves and other natural organic material release tannins which cause a stream to turn a darker color. This is a natural occurrence and is not toxic.

What is that orange slime?:

The fuzzy, bright orange substance is often a type of bacteria. This bacteria takes iron dissolved in groundwater and oxidizes it, drawing energy from the process of turning it into fuzzy orange gunk. Oxidation prevents iron from dissolving in the water and produces either an orange colored slime or an oily sheen. This indicates

that the stream is partially fed by groundwater.

To read the full article, click here.

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Tadashi!

Age: 1y 1m Gender: Male Color: Red

Spayed/Neutered: Yes

Size: Medium

Say a big AH-ROO to Tadashi! He's a young, happy hound who has the cutest face (argh! just look at it!) and the velvetiest ears that just call for you to pet them! To top it off, Tadashi is a great dog! He loves people once he gets

to know them. He has lived with kids as young as one and a half years old and liked them, although he could get a little mouthy at times (he is still a youngster). He likes other dogs, though he may get a little crazy-excited when he meets them, so an introduction to potential doggy siblings would be a good idea. AND he has even lived with cats!

As great as he is, Tadashi has shown some anxiety in new situations and when meeting new people. When he's uncomfortable, he does some pacing and panting, and he may bark at strangers. So slooooow introductions to new people are a must, and he needs adopters who will help him experience new things at his own pace. With a little work, you will no doubt have a sweet, affectionate, awesome new best friend with the velvetiest ears! For more information about Tadashi, contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100 or by email at AnimalShelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.