Fairfax Update

Special Edition

During this crisis, the Town will be sending out weekly newsletters with reminders and updates on Covid-19 and Town services.



April 18,2020

A Message to the Community from the Mayor



"Everyone does better when Everyone does better"
I saw this in a window downtown, and the message stuck with me.

Yesterday the County issued an order that everyone 12 years and

older wear facial coverings when they are interacting with others who are not members of their household, in public and private spaces. The order takes effect on April 22nd. When we follow these orders, we are not only covering our own faces, but we are acting as a community that "has each other's backs." It has never been more important to act in the best interests of the whole.

The Town Council received a public comment at our first ever "100% virtual" Town Council meeting this past Wednesday, expressing that during this time when sweeping mandates are being imposed, and people are losing their jobs and support systems, it is more vital than ever that the Town analyze and address the wide diversity of our resident's needs and circumstances. Solving the massive challenge of providing equal access to resources including everything from food, shelter, open space to access to adequate facial coverings, can begin with each of us.

The Fairfax 1 to 1 match program continues to meet the needs of those who ask for help. Please reach out! A giant Thank You goes to the 130 volunteers who have signed up to provide services. We know that the Shelter in Place order has taken a toll on everyone's mental health to some extent. Remember that many will struggle silently, and it is our responsibility as a community to connect with those who may be alone or afraid. Make a call, write a note or draw a picture and deliver to someone's gate, and please encourage anyone in need to ask for help.

Here are some examples of what our residents and essential businesses are doing 5 weeks into the Shelter in Place order - Your Town is grateful!

- The Fairfax Food Pantry and their team of loyal volunteers are providing food to approximately 150 households every Saturday,
- 130 volunteers are being matched with those in need.
- Mask makers are popping up out of the woodwork and offering their services.
- Our grocery stores are rising to the increasingly challenging task of supplying the shelves and keeping their clerks and the public safe.
- Our teachers are creatively inventing online classrooms which meet State education standards and address the needs of the 'whole student' and their family network.
- Health care workers continue to work the front lines and lead the effort to keep us healthy both physically and emotionally, while consistently vulnerable to infection.
- Artists and musicians are keeping our spirits high with online concerts and exhibits
- People are covering their faces and staying home!!

Remember to smile with your eyes and know we will get through this. We've got our eyes on the future. #fairfaxforward

Renee Goddard Mayor of Fairfax, CA

#fairfaxforward

During this COVID-19 period the Town recognizes the many creative ways community members are supporting each other. We have started #fairfaxforward to share the spirit, mindset and momentum of the Fairfax community. It considers the legacy of our town and the forward thinking of our residents.

Show us your flair and tag #fairfaxforward!

FAIRFAX OPEN FOR BUSINESS-- Ready to Serve You

The Chamber has launched

<u>www.fairfaxopenforbusiness.com</u> Explore this site to discover restaurants, grocery stores, and other businesses that are here and still open, providing goods and services to our community

Downtown Sidewalk/Ramp Project Completed

During the Shelter in Place order, we were able to complete much needed improvements to our sidewalks downtown.

Below are photographs of the new curbs ramps at Bolinas/Broadway, Mono/Bolinas, Taylor/SFD, and the construction on Bolinas across from the Mono Lot.









A Video Message From Your Public Health Officer

Dr. Matt Willis provides an update on the Shelter at Home Order currently in effect and provides information about an upcoming Health Order requiring facial coverings in certain circumstances in public.

(Click on the image or watch on YouTube)



Public Health Order Issued, Requiring Face Coverings

Marin County Public Health has issued a <u>new order</u> requiring that everyone wear facial coverings in certain settings. Beginning on

April 22, everyone is asked to wear a face covering when they are interacting with others who are not members of their household in public and private spaces.

Face coverings should be washed after each use with detergent and hot water and dried on a hot cycle. Resident face coverings do not have to be hospital grade but do need to cover the nose and mouth. Home-sewn fabric coverings, bandanas, a "DIY" mask from an old t-shirt and neck gaiters are examples of acceptable face coverings, especially because they can be washed and worn again.

<u>Visit our Face Covering Information page</u> to learn more about the order, find links to how to make a fabric mask and how to donate a fabric mask to a resident in need.

Here is a great article about what kind of face covering is best for this pandemic.



iStock Image

Fairfax Food Pantry



The Fairfax Food Pantry continues to be open every Saturday from 8:30 - 10:30 at the Fairfax Community Church 2398 SFD.

Because of social distancing requirements, they are not able to take on new volunteers at this time. They are grateful for the outpouring of interest, however, and will keep the Town's volunteer match up program informed if things change.

There's been a 30% increase in customer need these last two weeks so if you are able to give, the SF/Marin Food Bank can use donations. See www.sfmfoodbank.org

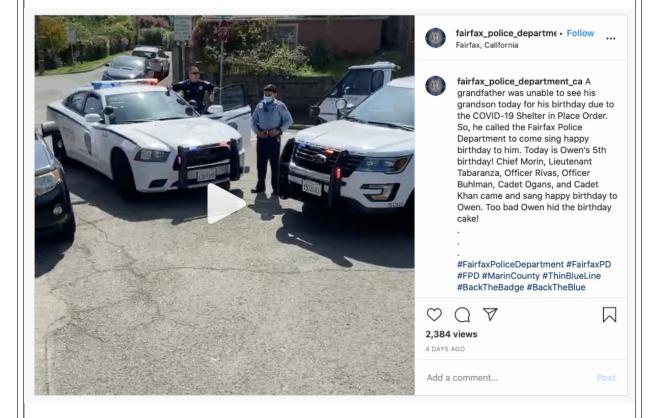
Fairfax Program to Match Local Residents in Need with Volunteers to Assist Them

The Town's 1-to-1 volunteer matching service to support and protect people in need during this difficult time is going strong. The program is going strong and was featured in the Marin IJ and KTVU news.

If you are a **resident** who needs extra help to get through this time, or a resident willing to volunteer to help, please click <u>here</u>.

A Very Special Happy Birthday

Fairfax Police brightened a 5 year old's birthday!



Events Cancelled or Postponed

Fairfax Festival

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fairfax Festival Committee has sadly decided to cancel the June 13th & 14th, 2020 Fairfax Festival and Ecofest.

All festival activities including Movie Night, the Parade as well as the festival itself are going to have to wait a year in order to protect the health and safety of our community of volunteers, vendors, visitors and musicians who transform our town into the Fairfax Festival.

While our hearts are heavy with this turn of events, our committee is looking forward to presenting a memorable comeback event next year on June 11th-13th, 2021. In the meantime, please do visit our website www.fairfaxfestival.com for features on our Festival Art Contest winner, as well as music from the amazing bands we had lined up for this year.

Brewfest

The Brewfest was originally postponed to May 9th but due the uncertainty around large gatherings the Chamber has postponed the event again. No date has been set. Stay tuned for new plans as they develop.

Sign Up to Receive Updates From the Town

We encourage residents and businesses to <u>sign-up/subscribe</u> to receive a variety information from the Town such as newsletters,

Town Council agendas, and updates on such projects as Marinda Heights. Just pick the ones you want to receive.

Town of Fairfax COVID-19 Resources Page

We have set up a dedicated webpage: www.townoffairfax.org/coronavirus-updates-resources

- Information about Building and Planning services that are still available as well as guidelines.
- Links to the EDD, SBA and Utility Companies.
- Online classes thru Fairfax Recreation and Age Friendly Fairfax.
- Information and resources are updated regularly so check back often.

Join Our Mailing List

Join our Facebook page for regular updates throughout the month!

