

Developing News

The Economic Development Newsletter 2nd Quarter, 2020

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DEPARTMENTAL INITIATIVES

Prince William County Small Business Relief Grant



The Prince William Board of County Supervisors established the Small Business Relief Grant Program to provide financial assistance to small businesses that have been economically impacted by the pandemic. The program, which transferred \$5 million in federal funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to the county's Industrial Development Authority, offers

eligible small businesses grants up to \$10,000. Already, 146 small businesses have qualified to receive funding from Round One of the program and will receive grants, totaling \$1.2 million. The eligibility criteria have recently been expanded to include: homebased businesses; 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. For-profit business can still apply including sole proprietors and. Apply today!

Department of Economic Development and Prince William Chamber of Commerce Deliver Personal Protective Equipment to Local Businesses



The Department coordinated with the Emergency Operations Center and the Prince William Chamber of Commerce to distribute personal protective equipment (PPEs) to 200 businesses to facilitate their re-opening.

At three locations throughout the county (Gainesville, Manassas, and Woodbridge), staff and volunteers handed out almost 4,500 cloth face masks and nearly 500 gallons of hand sanitizer.

FOX5 DC "ROAD TO RECOVERY: HAYMARKET"



The Office of Tourism secured Fox 5 DC to broadcast Live from Prince William County on Thursday, June 26th. Three segments were filmed at Zandra's Taqueria, Aroma II Tasting Room, and Silver Lake Park in Haymarket as part of Fox 5 DC's 'Road To Recovery' series. Our very own, Christina Winn was featured on one of the episodes. Click here to watch.

UPCOMING: Prince William County Opportunity Zone Workshop



Calling all Opportunity Zone (OZ) stakeholders and practitioners! Register today for the Prince William County Opportunity Zone Workshop on August 18th 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Attendees will hear about Prince William County's local incentives,

redevelopment efforts, and the area's OZs. We will explain the basics of the program and how it can be leveraged in both real estate and operating business projects. Click here to



The past three months have arguably been been some of the most memorable in recent times. In the face of state-mandated closures of many businesses across the county and the continuation of those deemed essential, our customary observance of May as Business Appreciation Month took on a more profound meaning. Again, we would like to thank ALL our businesses for their patience, tenacity, resilience and for simply, hanging in there! Overnight, many of you became community partners and allies in helping to support relief efforts and for that we say a sincere "thank you." The past three months have afforded us the opportunity to interact more directly with our business community particularly our small businesses. We've learned a lot and look forward to maintaining that engagement going forward.

As we look towards the safe reopening of businesses and economic recovery, our Department will continue to be a source of information and resources. Please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions, comments or suggestions or visit our website. If your business is in need of financial assistance, we encourage you to consider applying for a Small Business Relief Grant while funds last. Lastly, we invite you to sign up and take the #PrinceWilliamStrong Pledge!

Prince William Strong

register.

KUDOS!

FOUR PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY COMPANIES AMONG TOP 50 FASTEST GROWING COMPANIES IN VIRGINIA



Congratulations to the following four Prince William County Companies that have been recognized by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce in this year's Fantastic 50 list.

- Open Systems Technologies Corp
- Contract Solutions Inc.
- MidAtlantic Contracting Inc.
- Seventh Sense Consulting

The list recognizes privately-held companies headquartered in Virginia that have shown positive revenue and net income growth in the last year and over the last four years. Read more here. View complete list here.

SEV1TECH CELEBRATES TEN YEARS IN BUSINESS



Woodbridge-based Sev1Tech recently celebrated its 10th year in operation. A provider of IT, engineering, program management, C5ISR and cybersecurity support services to government and commercial agencies, Sev1Tech has transitioned from a successful small business into a strong mid-

tier company with a diverse portfolio of offerings and customers. Read more here.

LIFE SCIENCES & BIOTECHNOLOGY

Innovation Park Soon to be Home to the Northern Virginia Science Center



The Prince William Board of County Supervisors agreed to support the construction of the Northern Virginia Science Center - a 30,000 sq. ft. commercially available wet lab facility. The Center will provide companies with Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) standard laboratories and will provide a home for graduating Science Accelerator companies and small to mid-sized Life Science

companies looking to enter the vibrant Northern Virginia economy. South Bend, Ind.-based Holladay Properties will serve as the developer as well as the property manager when the building is completed in November 2021. Read more here.

Ceres Nanosciences, Inc. Featured on American Institute of Biological Sciences Podcast



Dr. Robbie Barbero, Chief Business Officer of Ceres Nanosciences, Inc. outlines how Ceres Nano has recently ramped up efforts to improve the prospects of broad-scale testing for the COVID-19 in human patients. Listen to podcast heep. (Dr. Barbero begins at 17:30 mins.)

Prince William Accelerator Member Spotlight Event - Serpin Pharma

The Prince William Science Accelerator hosted its inaugural Membership Spotlight lunch and Learn. These monthly gatherings are a way for the accelerator participants to meet, mingle, and learn



Meet Our New Business Intelligence Manager



Sebastian Caballero Business Intelligence Manager T: 703.792.6802 | M: 540-878-8972 Email: scaballero@pwcgov.org

We are pleased to introduce our new Business Intelligence Manager, Sebastian Caballero. Get to know more about him here.

Prince William Science Accelerator



about the work that each other is doing. It's also a way to find out about community resources, share ideas, and of course, enjoy a tasty lunch! For this event, Dr. Cohava Gelber, the CEO of Serpin Pharma, presented. She discussed the work Serpin Pharma is doing to create a new class of medicines using a key, short peptide fragments derived from natural molecules from the SERPINs (Serine Protease Inhibitors) family.

George Mason University Scientists Working on Saliva Test for COVID-19 Antibodies



A team of George Mason University scientists is developing a saliva test to detect antibodies to COVID-19 and could begin screening student, faculty and staff volunteers as early as this summer. Antibody tests are being intensely studied by medical scientists worldwide because they provide key information about previous exposure to COVID-19.

Most notable about the Mason project is its reliance on oral fluid, rather than blood, for antibody testing. Read more <u>here</u>.

Forensic Science Research and Training Laboratory Coming to SciTech Campus



Construction of a new Forensic Science Research and Training Laboratory on Mason's SciTech Campus is expected to be completed in the fall of 2020, with research beginning in the spring semester of 2021. This laboratory will be the eighth of its kind in the world, and the only one in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States.

Virongy LLC Receives \$50K in EDOF Funds to Support Vaccine Development Partnership



Prince William Science Accelerator tenant, <u>Virongy, LLC</u>, has received \$50K in Economic Development Opportunity Funds from the Prince William Board of County Supervisors to support the company's Vaccine Development Partnership with George Mason University. Virongy focuses on creating cuttingedge technologies in virology, viral vector-based gene therapy, virus-host cell biology, and viral immunology.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

SkyFarm Company Launches Animated Children's Series

The SkyFarm Company, a tenant company of the Virginia Serious Game Institute is set to launch an

Space Available!!!



Looking for the perfect location for your start-up or early-stage life sciences company? Then look no further! The Prince William Science Accelerator, located within the nucleus of Prince William County's life sciences community next to the George Mason University Science and Technology Campus, offers the only public-private, commercially available wet lab space in Northern Virginia with over 9,000 sq. ft. of wet lab, office, and conferencing facilities to suit all your business needs.

Click <u>here</u> for more information or <u>contact</u> us today.

Did You Know?

Are You a Small Business Owner?

Prince William County
Small Business Assistance



Approximately 60 Clients Assisted in Jan-Mar 2020





upcoming animated series. The company has been a resident company at the <u>Virginia Serious Game Institute</u> (VSGI) since February 2019 after winning First Place at GMU's 2018 Mobile Game Competition. As a winner, they received office

space and computer equipment at the VSGI and development funding to launch their company. Click here for preview.

IN OTHER NEWS

Have you taken the #PrinceWilliamStrong Pledge?



The '#PrinceWilliamStrong Pledge' encourages County businesses to commit to meeting all 'Forward Virginia' guidelines, mandatory requirements and best practices, as well as, Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) guidance to ease the spread of COVID-19. Endorsed by the County's Economic Recovery

Taskforce and the Prince William Chamber, the <u>#PrinceWilliamStrong</u> Pledge inspires support of local businesses while providing assurances to customers, clients, and employees as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Businesses that commit to the pledge will receive a #PrinceWilliamStrong Business Support Kit in July that includes:

- A FREE supply of PPE including masks and hand sanitizer
- A certificate, and decals to display at your place of business, including 'Social Distancing' Floor Clings
- A 'Yes, We're Open For Business!' sign to display on your storefront
- · Access to digital assets to use in business communication platforms
- Inclusion in a summer advertising campaign

Take the #PrinceWilliamStrong Pledge today!

NOVA EDA "Business Resiliency" Webinar Series



The Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance (NOVA EDA) is continuing its "Business Resiliency" Webinar series. Created for NOVA businesses to ensure they have the latest and best possible information from a variety of experts, these webinars focus on how to keep moving forward during and after the current global pandemic. Each session convenes experts spanning issues such as government financing, staffing, technology readiness, healthy workplaces, new business and revenue models,

customer retention, and more. Find out more and register for upcoming webinars here.

Contact us today to find out more about free oneon-one counseling, workshops and other small business resources available through our Small Business Development Center's Prince William County location.

Financial Resources for Small Businesses



Prince William County's AAA Bond Rating Reaffirmed



Prince William County is one of 48 counties out of 3,100 in the U.S. to hold the highest rating from all three credit rating agencies. Read more here.

Check Us Out on YouTube



Click here to learn more about why we love to live, work and play in Prince William County.

Follow Us



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