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NEWS

Attracting New Businesses, Improving the Economy

City of Fairfax establishes Technology Zone.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The City of Fairfax is proud of its historic downtown, but it's also looking toward the future. So the City Council has now established a citywide Technology Zone.

The goal is to provide real incentives for technology businesses to locate here. It enables qualifying businesses to have a reduction or suspension of City business license (BPOL) taxes for five years.

"It's the first step in being able to attract the type of businesses we want here and to proactively shape the future of the City we want to see," said Economic Development Director Chris Bruno. "Anything the Economic Development Office does must be able to create good jobs, stronger businesses and contribute to a robust City economy.



Chris Bruno



City logo

And doing so increases the prosperity of Fairfax City residents and, therefore, their quality of life."

During a City Council work session in June, Economic Development Authority Board Co-Chair Fred Cornett said a Technology Zone would "create higher-income jobs in the City and increase our tech base. Most businesses look at our Website before contacting the mayor or city manager, so they've already vetted us."

Furthermore, he said, "Most cities of our

size in Northern Virginia have Technology Zones – there are 40 total in the commonwealth. So to level the playing field, it would be beneficial to us to have a Technology Zone Ordinance to at least have what everybody else has in their tool kit."

Cornett said it could also be used to retain existing tech businesses in the City and could be promoted through the City Website and brochures, the (George) Mason Enterprise Center and at various conferences.

Following a Sept. 27 public hearing, the City Council unanimously adopted the ordinance. Councilman Michael DeMarco said they should see "how successful this program has been in other jurisdictions." And he asked Bruno to see about having some commitment to keep the new tech businesses in the City after the five-year, incentive period is up.

ACCORDING TO THE ORDINANCE, businesses qualifying for the BPOL-tax breaks would be those deriving "a reasonable accounting of their income from the design, development, manufacture or other creation, for lease, sale or license of technology-based products, processes or related services."

Such businesses would receive a BPOL exemption as follows: Year one, 100 percent; year two, 80 percent; year three, 60 percent, year 4, 40 percent; and year 5, 20 percent. However, the financial benefit of stimulating business in the City is expected

SEE FAIRFAX, PAGE 4



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax City Mayor Steve Stombres (to right of plaque) presents a proclamation to Fairfax Rotary Club President Paul Gauthier and some of his fellow Rotarians. They include (in back row) City Manager Bob Sisson and City attorney Brian Lubkeman, both past presidents of the local club.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROB RICKERT

(From left) are Fairfax Rotary President Paul Gauthier, Past President Paula Brown Kelley, Past President and International Chair Carolyn Chappell and Past President and Youth Services Chair Verne Tuininga.

Fairfax Rotary Club Celebrates 85 Years

Serves people at home and abroad.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The Rotary Club of Fairfax had just 16 members when it was chartered in 1931 by local businessmen and community leaders. Today, it's 75 members strong, has a long history of service to the City and just celebrated

its 85th anniversary.

Among them is Paula Brown Kelley, whose grandfather, Judge Paul E. Brown, was a charter member of the club. Kelly is a past president and current publicity chair and has been a member for 19 years.

"An old friend called and told me about my grandfather's connection – I had no idea," she said. "So my father, also named

Paul Brown, and I both joined and got to work together on some projects. We're really a diverse group – all different professions, as well as retirees."

In light of the club's milestone anniversary, Kelley and some other Rotarians gathered recently to discuss the club and the many, good deeds it does throughout the community. Besides her were Paul Gauthier, president; Carolyn Chappell, past president and international chairman; Robert Sowell, board member and volunteer; and Verne

Tuininga, past president and youth services chair.

THE MEMBERS meet every Monday, except federal holidays, at 12:15 p.m., at American Legion Post 177. Meetings include lunch, plus speakers on various, life-stages topics, such as retirement and benefits, as well as local dignitaries, authors, educators, etc. For more informa-

SEE ROTARY, PAGE 4

Rotary Club Turns 85

FROM PAGE 3

tion, go to www.fairfaxrotary.org.

“My role is fundraising,” said Sowell. “I head our vacation raffle and See’s holiday candy sale, and I also run our golf tournament, which raises money for scholarships.” Each year, the club gives four scholarships to Fairfax High graduating seniors; two are for four-year, public colleges in Virginia, and two are for community colleges. The Rotary Club’s golf tournament is the second Monday in May and, according to Sowell, “usually raises about \$22,000.”

Tuininga grants these scholarships, plus international scholarships to local students studying abroad in graduate programs. “We also have a youth exchange program where a student can do a cultural, ambassadorial exchange overseas with another family and student, and another student will come here for three or four weeks,” he said. “We have both a summer and an academic-year program.”

The club has an Interact program for Fairfax High students, as well, through which they perform community service, raising funds for families in need in the local area. “It’s about the Rotary motto, ‘Service above Self,’” explained Tuininga. “We also donate financially to the Boys and Girls Scouts programs and to the Fairfax Police Youth scholarship.”

Furthermore, said Gauthier, “We give a Teacher of the Year award. We select up to three teachers from the six schools within the City of Fairfax, including Paul VI and St. Leo, and they each receive \$1,000.”

“And we give out dictionaries to all the third-grades in the six elementary schools that feed into Fairfax High,” said Chappell.

The Fairfax Rotary Club takes the motto about service seriously. “On the last Saturday in April, the City of Fairfax designates a home for us to repair – usually belonging to an elderly couple or single mother,” said Gauthier. Louise Armitage, the City’s Human Services coordinator, chooses the home to be fixed up, and it must be owner-occupied.

“We go there with 15-20 Rotarians and provide the supplies and tools, plus 10-15 high-school students from the Interact

Club,” continued Gauthier. “We do painting, yard work, minor plumbing and electrical repairs and replace cabinets. We once even rebuilt a woman’s bathroom.”

THE CLUB also supplies meals through Northern Virginia Family Services for Fairfax City residents needing parental education. “One of the major things we do is work with Britepaths to give a Christmas outreach party to the families they refer to us,” added Chappell. “It’s complete with dinner, Santa and Christmas gifts for the kids. About 30-35 children and their parents attend, plus the Rotarians.”

It’s also a special event for the club members. “The smiles on those children’s faces are so rewarding,” said Tuininga.

Besides all that, said Chappell, “We ring the bell for the Salvation Army, three Saturdays in December, outside the Giant and Safeway stores in the City of Fairfax.”

There are 1.3 million Rotarians worldwide, and Rotary International – which includes the local club – wants to eradicate polio throughout the world. So, said Chappell, “We’re always raising money to support that project, too. And we partner with several other Rotary clubs in our Rotary District 7610, which has 56 clubs, in the Strategic Water Alliance to have boreholes dug in Zambia for clean water.”

In addition, she said, “We’re partnering on building a kitchen facility for a school in Chantel, Haiti. And we also support the Guatemala Literacy Project, providing money and books for schools there.” Tuininga said the key to the Rotary Club’s projects is sustainability, and Kelley noted that some Rotarians go to Zambia and Guatemala to check on the projects in person.

Chappell also stressed the community service projects the local club has done to benefit the City of Fairfax. “We provided the pavilion at Van Dyke Park and the street Rotary clock at Old Town Square,” she said. “The clock commemorates 200 years of the City and 100 years of Rotary International.”

She said the club also paid to have the art gallery within the Sherwood Center named the Rotary Gallery, and it donated a park bench outside the Center in memory of past City Councilwoman and Rotary



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAULA BROWN KELLEY
(From left) are Fairfax Rotary board member Robert Sowell and club President Paul Gauthier.

member Joan Cross. “We also participate in the City’s Independence Day parade,” added Kelley. “And our float this year won first place.”

On Sept. 13, the City Council officially recognized the Rotary Club of Fairfax’s 85 years of service to the community and its “generous contributions of volunteer time and financial support of many worthy causes” by proclaiming Sept. 25 as Fairfax Rotary Club Day in the City. It meant a great deal to the group, but they also have their own reasons why they’re happy to be members.

Tuininga, a 22-year Rotarian, likes the service and fellowship; and Gauthier, in his 10th year, likes the idea of “Service above Self.” He was house captain for the home-repair projects for eight or nine years and also worked on the Teacher of the Year program. And Kelley enjoyed running the Christmas party for families in need.

Chappell, a 24-year member, likes the knowledge imparted by the guest speakers. And, she said, “My father and grandfather were both Rotarians; women weren’t admitted until 1987.”

A Rotarian for 11 years, Sowell enjoys the camaraderie of his fellow club members. But he joined, he said, because “My dad instilled in his kids to volunteer and give back to their local community.”

Red Cross Seeks Blood Donors

The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood to help stock the shelves before the busy holiday season.

Many regular donors delay giving between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day because of holiday activities. This often causes a drop in donated blood available for patients. Therefore, more donations are needed in the weeks leading up to the holidays to help ensure the blood supply is sufficient through the winter months.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood.org/rapidpass to save time when donating.

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11/12/2016: 7 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fairfax Blood Donation Center, 2720 Prosperity Avenue, Suite 200

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Fairfax Establishes Technology Zone

FROM PAGE 3

to exceed the loss of BPOL tax income. Eligible businesses would also enter into a performance agreement with the City requiring a minimum investment in the City and/or a commitment to create a certain number of jobs.

“We’re developing a list of these businesses now, and it’s extremely flexible,” said Bruno in a recent interview. “We’re looking for businesses that attract bright people so we can take advantage of our extremely educated, potential workforce here. For example, web designers and TV

production assistants are businesses that use technology to do their jobs.”

He said they could even share the same workspace, such as a number of small businesses operating within the same facility. And not all the businesses in the building have to be technology firms. But, said Bruno, “They could share the office amenities, plus the same Internet and WiFi capabilities.”

“We have a lot of outdated and obsolete office space in the City,” he said. “But I’m hoping that technology businesses will show interest so we can get the developers to upgrade their facilities.”

“My goal is to create an exciting city with an established sense of place and a more prosperous tax base,” continued Bruno. “If we have an exciting economy making people in their 20s, 30s and 40s want to move here, we can grow and evolve. So these incentive packages help us do that while, at the same time, preserving our city’s historical character.”

The Technology Zone was developed by the Economic Development Office in partnership with Commissioner of the Revenue Page Johnson and the Economic Development Authority. And, said Johnson, it “will help make the city competitive regionally and attractive

to emerging technology companies.”

APPLICATIONS for this program will be accepted by Jan. 2, 2017. Forms will be posted on the City Website and, starting in December, will be available from the Economic Development Office in City Hall.

Bruno, who became Fairfax’s new economic development director in May, is excited about the potential to grow and diversify the City’s economy. And he has more ideas up his sleeve. “The Technology Zone is one step in my long-range plan,” he said. “And we want this to benefit the entire City.”

NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

First responders were able to douse the flames fast enough on Oct. 22 to limit damage to the attached trailer, preventing the fire from spreading to the building.

Firefighters Extinguish Burning Tractor Trailer

Firefighters from Battalions 7, 5 and 4 helped extinguish a burning tractor trailer in the 8900 block of Burke Lake Road on Saturday, Oct. 22, a release from Fairfax County Fire & Rescue said.

The truck was behind a building, where firefighters found it with the fire underway.

First responders were able to douse the flames fast enough to limit damage to the

attached trailer, preventing the fire from spreading to the building.

As of going to print, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue did not respond to questions of whether a source or cause of the fire has been determined, or whether there were any injuries related to the fire.

—TIM PETERSON

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Bulova: Vote Yes

A legally binding commitment that 70 percent would go to the Fairfax County Public Schools.

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISOR

I was elected chairman in 2009, just as the Great Recession settled over this country like a stubborn storm cloud. The market value of property in Fairfax County plummeted, resulting in historic reductions in both residential and commercial tax revenues. At the same time, more people than ever turned to the county for assistance. Former County Executive Tony Griffin's prediction, in the throes of the Recession years, that "this will be our new normal" has proven prescient.

Recovery from the recession has been sluggish, exacerbated by the effects of sequestration and cut-backs in our commercial sector's bread and butter, federal contracting. To maintain fiscal equilibrium; real estate tax rates were raised, hundreds of millions of dollars were eliminated from the budget, salaries were frozen and reductions-in-force require our

COMMENTARY

workforce to do more with less. County cost-cutting measures that were accepted as necessary when the Recession first materialized eventually have caused some "fraying around the edges," per The Washington Post, (April 2, 2016). I am providing this backdrop to lend some context to our board's decision to put the question of a meals tax to the voters.

In Virginia, towns and cities are allowed a greater array of revenue tools, including the right to adopt a meals tax. Most cities and towns within and around us have a meals tax: Alexandria, Arlington, Herndon, Vienna, Falls Church, Fairfax City, Leesburg, and Manassas. Counties on the other hand must rely primarily (almost 80 percent of our budget) on real estate and property taxes to provide local services. Other revenues are capped or controlled by the state.

Counties in Virginia (which were rural farmland when early tax authorities were allocated) are only able to implement a meals tax fol-

lowing a successful voter referendum. This question will be put to Fairfax County voters on Nov. 8.

If the referendum is successful, and a 4 percent tax on restaurant meals and prepared foods is adopted, it would raise almost \$100 million, equivalent to over 4 cents on the Real Estate tax rate. The language on the ballot question becomes law and revenue from the meals tax must be used per the ballot language.

If authorized by the voters, the Board of Supervisors would hold a public hearing to adopt an ordinance defining specifics of the tax. Already we have made the legally binding commitment that 70 percent would go to the Fairfax County Public Schools. The School Board has committed that its share, estimated to be about \$70 million in new funding, would be used primarily to address teachers' salaries, which have lagged behind those in neighboring jurisdictions. Fairfax County today is spending \$800 less per pupil than in 2008. The remaining 30 percent would go toward other county

needs, including public safety, parks, libraries, and mental health. The meals tax is intended to diversify and enhance county revenue — to supplement and not supplant — support for school and county services. While our county continues to work hard to identify efficiencies and to stimulate our commercial tax base, we are also hoping to diversify the local revenue available to provide the quality services our residents value and rely upon — top notch schools, safe communities, and compassionate human services.

I am proud to lead Fairfax County, one of the best-managed, safest and well-educated jurisdictions in the country. Residents love Fairfax because of our great schools and because we are a safe and welcoming community. Maintaining that quality is a top priority for the Board of Supervisors and our partners on the School Board. It isn't, however, a simple or easy job given constraints under state law.

I hope you will vote "yes" on the meals tax referendum on Nov. 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Four Cents Make Sense for the Future of Fairfax

To the Editor:

On November 8, Fairfax County residents will have an opportunity to vote on a meals tax that may add nearly \$100 million into our county budget. This issue has come up before and it didn't pass. This time, it's critical that we vote yes because it is doubtful that we'll have another opportunity to diversify our tax revenue stream again.

Beautiful parks, resource-packed libraries, and other services are part of why I moved back here when I had children. But by far the biggest reason was that I wanted them to get the great (if not better) education that I did when I went to school here.

But let's just take a step back — certainly, not everyone feels the

way I do about schools. Many people hate, even detest the idea of additional taxes — even if a significant portion of those taxes will be paid by other people. With 28 percent of the added revenue coming from commuters and tourists, I would think that help adding to our budget would be a welcome solution. Voting no on the meals tax is a no vote to Fairfax getting funds from anywhere but the state and property taxes. I don't know about you, but if someone else's lunch tab, or just four pennies on the dollar can lessen the blow to my October tax bill and help our schools, why would I say no to that?

The School Board has made it clear that the increased school

budget will go towards giving our teachers a much-needed raise. These raises will keep more great teachers from going just a few miles to Arlington or Alexandria, where they can earn as much as an additional \$10K per year.

Some restaurants (many of which I used to patronize frequently) claim that this tax will hurt their business and employees. Really? If that was the case, why open "any" restaurant in a county with an existing meals tax? If it was that damaging to businesses, you'd think that those jurisdictions (nearly all in Northern Virginia) would have significantly fewer dining options — just to avoid the meals tax.

People that go out to eat simply

don't base their decisions on a local meals tax. It's about the quality of food, service, location, and now, at least in my case, how they support the community.

Less than stellar schools lead to dropping property values. As school Superintendent Karen Garza said, "We can't cut our way to excellence."

Pennies invested now will help preserve a great education system, as well as the safety, resources, enrichment, and support that are found in our schools and county services. But we can't begin to invest those pennies unless you vote yes to the meals tax. Learn more at yesmealstax.org

Esther Rege Berg
Springfield

Supporting Meals Tax

To the Editor:

I'm writing to encourage Fairfax County voters to support the county meals tax referendum on the ballot in November. The proposal would impose a 4-percent tax on ready-to-eat prepared food and beverages at restaurants and stores. Seventy percent of the money raised would support the

Fairfax County Public Schools; the remainder would cover other expenses like police, fire, rescue, and human services. Supporting our schools is essential to maintaining our quality of life in Fairfax County. Good schools make Fairfax County a desirable place to live and do business and they raise the values of our homes. More specifi-

cally, the meals tax would allow the county to make teacher salaries competitive with those in neighboring jurisdictions. It would also allow the county to address increasing school class sizes, which make teaching less effective and which make our schools less attractive to prospective teachers.

The meals tax is also an alter-

native to a further increase in Fairfax County property taxes. The \$100 million per year it would raise would more than cover the increase in real estate taxes from 2015 to 2016 (caused by increasing property assessments). According to the county budget summary,

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Blood Donation

FROM PAGE 4

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check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood donors can now save time at their next donation by using RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, prior to arriving at the blood drive. To get started and learn more, visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass and follow the instructions on the site.

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Parcel 3: (Ox Group) 9333 Lee Highway, Fairfax; Providence District; Hatmark, 17,906 sq. ft.; Tax Map #0484-01-0002; Acct. #408216571

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CONNECTION FAMILIES

Teaching Gratitude and Charitable Giving

VOLUNTEER EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Experts offer suggestions for instilling these practices in children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As the holiday season approaches, many begin to think about expressing thankfulness and giving to those who are less fortunate. Teaching gratitude and establishing a sense of charity in children also becomes a priority for many parents.

Those lessons should begin long before it's time to put the turkey in the oven or trim the tree, however. Experts say practicing gratitude and demonstrating charitable giving year-round in age-appropriate ways are keys to raising compassionate children.

In fact, regular conversations between parents and children about charitable giving and gratitude increase the chances that youngsters will be willing to give to charity, according to a recent study. Research from the Women's Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy showed that children whose parents spoke to them about the importance of giving to those in need were 20 percent more likely to give than those who parents did have such conversations.

"The conversations don't need to be formal or contrived," said Marcia Rosen, a marriage and family therapist in Bethesda, Md. "They can be as simple as sharing an experience about helping a friend who might need help running an errand, so we change our plans so that we can give the gift of our time to a friend. There are plenty of examples all around us everyday."

"The ability to empathize and take another's perspective increases as a child gets older and less egocentric," said Dr. Linda Gulyan, a professor of psychology at

Local charities such as Interfaith Works offer families a variety of opportunities for benevolence this holiday season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF
INTERFAITH WORKS

Marymount University in Arlington. "For example, make a thank you note to grandma for the birthday gift. With little kids, there might be a positive consequence for writing a note, for example [saying] 'After you write the note, we can watch the video.' As kids get older, have them take Grandma's perspective: 'You know how it feels to be appreciated, don't you?'"

Encourage children to find their own ways to express gratitude and give charitably. "For example, when thanking their soccer coach for helping them all season, have them come up with ways to thank him, even if it's clumsy or kid-like," said Gulyan. "[Parents] often do it for them. For example, parents take up a collection of money from other parents and then they buy and present a fancy gift to the coach, and the kids are not that involved."

"Gratitude often relates to expectations and entitlements," said Amy L. Best, chair

of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University. "It is important that young people develop some sense of entitlement. They are entitled to dignity and have rights of care. Without a sense of entitlement, claims to care, recognition, justice and dignity are more difficult to articulate. But too much entitlement can elevate expectations to too a high a level so that disappointment prevails and gratitude is difficult to muster."

Children must learn to be in the moment to take those chances, however. "Dwelling too much in the past, through endless rumination for instance, or always looking to the future undermines our ability to just be, to soak in and soak up a moment," said Best. "Consideration of past, present and future should be in healthy balance. Young people are often pressured to focus on the future, and some feel a sense of hopelessness to-

"It is important to understand the suffering of others and to feel a sense of empathy toward the struggles of others to feel gratitude."

— Professor Amy L. Best, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University

ward the future. Both make it difficult to be in the moment.

"Cultivating mindfulness of self and your connection to others and the world is important," she added. "It is important to understand the suffering of others and to feel a sense of empathy toward the struggles of others to feel gratitude. Too much ambivalence toward others, or too focused on the self, makes it difficult to cultivate a disposition of gratitude."

Local charities offer a variety of options for families interested in giving this holiday season and throughout the year. Interfaith Works, a Montgomery County, Md. nonprofit organization with a goal of meeting the needs of the poor and homeless, holds annual drives for coat and cold-weather gear including mittens, scarves and hats. The organization is opening a new women's homeless shelter and is in need of supplies. "We need things like sheets, blankets and pillows to make the women feel at home and welcomed when they move into their new residence," said Charlotte Garvey of Interfaith Works. "So families can shop online for the ladies."

For more information, visit www.iworksmc.org.

VOLUNTEER EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Fairfax County's free **Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group** meets by phone on **Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7-8 p.m.** Share your experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. Register beforehand at www.-fairfaxcounty.gov/-olderadults and click on Telephone Caregiver Support Group. Call 703-324-5484, TTY 711.

30th Annual Northern Virginia Dementia Care Consortium Caregivers Conference, Friday, Nov. 11, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The conference "Gems: A Treasure Chest of Ideas" will have speakers and resources on topics important to caregivers. The \$30 fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, materials, and certificate of attendance. First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St., Alexandria. Find out more at www.-fairfaxcounty.gov/-olderadults and click on Caregivers Conference.

The **Fairfax Commission on Aging** meets

on **Wednesday, Nov. 16, at noon** at the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Rd., Burke. The public is welcome to attend and join in the comment period that begins each session. Find out more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/coa.htm. Call 703-324-5403, TTY 711 for meeting access needs.

Fairfax County's free Caregiver Seminar/Webinar Series features experts in Medicare, dementia care, mental health and wellness, nutrition and elder law. **Register online** at www.-fairfaxcounty.gov/-olderadults and click on Caregiver Support and Respite Programs or call 703-324-5205, TTY 711.

10 Legal Issues Caregivers Should Know About, Thursday, Nov. 3, 7-8:30 p.m. Caregivers often make health and financial decisions for loved ones. Learn what documents loved ones need in place, if the document age matters, and what happens if the documents fail or can't be

drafted. George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale.

When is it More Than Just a Bad Day? — webinar, Wednesday, Nov. 9, Noon-1 p.m. Learn how to identify, cope, and find partnerships to support your family if depressive symptoms hit you or your loved one.

Simple Meals for Healthy Eating — webinar, Wednesday, Nov. 16, Noon-1 p.m. Learn tips to simplify meal preparation and eat healthy during the holidays and beyond.

Improving Family Conversations About Aging Issues, Wednesday, November 16, 7-8:30 p.m. It's difficult for many families to talk about topics related to aging like help at home and driving. Learn easy-to-use tips for starting the conversation and keeping it going in a positive direction. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Rd., Chantilly.

Fairfax County is offering free **Medicare 101 and Enrollment Events**. Find out more at www.-fairfaxcounty.gov/-olderadults and click on **Medicare 101**.

Medicare Enrollment Event, Tuesday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Lewinsville Senior Center, 1515 Great Falls St., McLean.

Medicare Enrollment Event, Friday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lorton Senior Center, 7722 Gunston Plz., Lorton.

Medicare Enrollment Event, Saturday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington, Ste. 406, 7700 Little River Turnpike, Annandale

Medicare 101, Wednesday, Nov. 9, Noon-1:30 p.m. St. Luke Parish, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean.

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American Festival Pops Orchestra, Anthony Maiello conducting.

PHOTO BY STAN ENGBRETSON/
COURTESY OF GEORGE MASON
UNIVERSITY



Patriotic Musical Salutes to America's Veterans

Veterans Day weekend at Center for the Arts.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Veterans Day weekend will bring two musical concerts to honor veterans of military service and America's "greatest generation" at the Center for the Arts. The two separate performances will span patriotic favorites, American musical standards and swinging jazz along with signature vocals to honor those who have served America.

The shows include Jazz 4 Justice's "Tribute to the Greatest Generation" and the American Festival Pops Orchestra's "A Salute to Our Veterans."

Under the musical direction of Jim Carroll, Jazz 4 Justice's "Tribute to the Greatest Generation" will feature music running the gamut from Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, Toots Thielemann, to Louis Prima and more. "What better way to pay tribute to our brave men and women of the armed forces with the music that marched us through World War II," said Darden Purcell, Director of Jazz Studies, George Mason University

The concert will "not only pay tribute to our heroes; the men and women of the United States military, but also showcase the work of our wonderful students," said Purcell.

"Many young adults now do not grow up with the music of Duke Ellington so it is incredibly gratifying to watch them develop, both musically and emotionally, when they make a connection with 'Jazz' and its significance within American history."

Celebrating jazz, "the music is going to be great! You will leave 'fingers snappin' and toes tappin'!" added Purcell.

Under the baton of Anthony Maiello, Professor of Music at Mason, the 60-member American Festival Pops Orchestra will "Salute" veterans with musical numbers from the likes of Glenn Miller, John Philips Sousa, along with the vocal quartet, "The Side Boys" of the United States Navy Band. There will also be an emotional rendition of "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

"Our audiences come to be engaged. Patrons can expect to be part of the concert, to be involved from the very first note," said Maiello. "I can promise them that they will feel better when they walk out of the concert hall than when they entered it."

Maiello added, "I believe American music is essential to our existence as a nation. Everything we

Jim Carroll, Professor of Music, George Mason University, Music Director of Jazz 4 Justice



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY



Darden Purcell, Director Jazz Studies, George Mason University

WHERE AND WHEN

* **Jazz 4 Justice:** "A Tribute to the Greatest Generation" at George Mason University, Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performance on Nov. 12, 2016 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$15 for students and seniors. Tickets are available online at cfa.gmu.edu or by phone at 888-945-2468. NOTE: There will be a reception and jam session hosted by the Mason student group, "The Voyage" immediately following.

* **American Festival Pops Orchestra:** "A Salute to our Veterans" at George Mason University, Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performance Nov. 13, 2016 at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$50, \$43, \$30 with Youth Discount. Tickets (half price tickets for youth through grade 12) are available for this event. Tickets are available by phone at 888-945-2468 or online at cfa.gmu.edu. Note: There will be a pre-performance discussion with big-band arranger Bryan Kidd, who is in Residence with AFPO.

do involves music in some way or another. Holidays, ceremonies, events, personal and public gatherings are just a few examples of how music plays a role in our daily lives, whether we are making it or listening to it."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Shenandoah Run in Concert — Folk Music with a Kick! on Saturday, Oct. 29, at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., concert starts at 8 p.m. Ticket price - \$15. A family-friendly event. Adult refreshments and soft drinks served. For more information: www.accontinuu.org/concerts-at-accotink; 703-503-4579; administrator@accotinkuu.org

CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication at noon. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

ONGOING

The Pumpkin Patch will be open October 2 through 31, Sunday through Friday, from noon until 7 pm daily, and Saturdays from 10 am until 7 pm. Located at St. George's United Methodist Church, 4910 Ox Road, near George Mason University at the crossroads of Rt 123 and Braddock Road and across from the University Mall. A large variety of pumpkins and decorative gourds of all shapes and sizes will be for sale. www.pumpkinsusa.com

Batting Cage Occoquan Regional Park 9751 Ox Road Lorton. Open through Oct. 30 Occoquan offers a baseball/softball batting cage, for hitters of all levels. Pitching machines offer other pitches like curveballs. Cost: 14 balls \$1.50 Team Rentals Per Cage: 30 min. \$18 60 min. \$34 <https://www.novaparks.com/parks/occoquan-regional-park/things-to-do/batting-cage>

Adventures in Learning Shepherd's Center of Fairfax 8:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. every Monday for 6 weeks, Oct. 3, 2016 - Nov. 7 these events take place at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd. Fairfax. start with gentle exercise, followed by speakers on topics such as health, history, community, personal development, finance, and more. Afternoon breakouts are book club, bridge, canasta, and mind games. Bring a brown bag lunch. Cost: \$30 for 6 weeks (Mondays). To register: call 703-426-2824 www.scfbva.org.

Senior Line Dancing 1 - 2 p.m. Little River Glen Senior Center 4001 Barker Ct, Fairfax. Line Dancing is a gentle, social form of aerobic activity. Studies have shown it aids in warding off Alzheimer's disease. No previous experience needed. Cost: \$5.00 per 8 week session. barbriba@hotmail.com 703-524-3739

Farmers Market & Food Trucks: 3-7 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 27 at the Fairfax County Government Center front parking lot.

Rock the Block! 6:30 p.m. Every fourth Friday through Oct. 28. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Concert series. Food is available for sale. Bring chairs and or blankets to sit on. Kids - wear swim suits and bring towels. Enjoy the new spray pad. No Pets allowed except service animals. fairfaxva.gov.

The Farmer's Market at Springfield Town Center. May 7- Nov. 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Through November. Corner of Spring Mall and Loisdale roads, Springfield. Enjoy fresh baked goods, produce, vegetables & fruits, meats & cheeses, and a host of other vendors. springfieldtowncenter.com.

Fairfax Rotary Club Meeting. 12:15-1:30 p.m. Mondays. American Legion, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. Meetings with luncheon and program. fairfaxrotary.org.

Carolina Shag. Wednesdays. 6:30-10 p.m. Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m. No partners needed. Dinner menu. \$8. Under 21 free. nvshag.org.

FUN-Exercise. Thursdays, noon-12:50 p.m. Grace Presbyterian Church Family Room, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Inova certified exercise instructor leads a moderate level exercise class with music and current events conversation. Muscle, Balance, Strength Training using stretch bands and weights both standing and seated exercises. Instructor donation is \$5. moorefitt@yahoo.com or 703-499-6133.

EXERCISE PROGRAM Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd. Fairfax. The exercises are for strength, balance and maintaining limberness. Contact SCFB office at 703-426-2824 for more information.

Cafe Ivrit (Hebrew Cafe). Wednesdays. 8:15-9:15 a.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Shalom (hello) Did you always want to converse in Hebrew? Join Na'ama each week for conversational Hebrew. You will learn and practice Hebrew in a fun and interactive way while learning more about Israel. Free, however

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a bible study fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and children's church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100 or www.fbtministries.org.

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa

Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit <http://www.guhyasamaja.org> for more information.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by both traditional and contemporary worship services at 10:30 a.m. at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspRINGfield.org.

Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Cup of Fellowship at 11 a.m. Nursery

care is provided from 9:45-11:15 a.m. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., Latin mass at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. Additional mass offered Monday-Friday at 6:30 a.m. (except on Federal holidays) and 8:45 a.m. 703-817-1770 or www.st-andrew.org.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.poplc.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ or call 703-778-9416. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THROUGH NOV. 4

Sheehy Auto Stores Fall Harvest Food Drive Sheehy Auto Stores throughout Washington, D.C.; Richmond, Virginia; and Baltimore, Maryland areas will collect canned goods and non-perishable food as part of the company's annual Fall Harvest Food Drive. Feeding America provides low-income individuals and

families with the fuel to survive and even thrive. As the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, Feeding America's network members supply food to more than 37 million Americans each year, including 14 million children and 3 million seniors.

Locations include:
Sheehy Volkswagen, 6601 Backlick Road, Springfield
Sheehy Nissan of Springfield, 6727 Loisdale Road, Springfield
Sheehy Infiniti of Tysons, 8527 Leesburg Pike, Vienna
Sheehy Ford of Springfield, 6727 Loisdale Road, Springfield
Sheehy Subaru of Springfield, 6571

Backlick Road, Springfield
Patriot Harley-Davidson, 9739 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax

FRIDAY/NOV. 4 - NOV. 6

Scouting for Food In support of Scouting for Food Charity Drive during the weekend of Nov. 4-6. The Cub Scouts will distribute the bags sometime from Friday evening, Nov. 4 to Sunday evening, Nov. 6. Then the Boy Scout pick-up will be on the next Saturday, Nov. 12. Fill the bag with non-perishable foods and leave on your doorstep the following Saturday, Nov. 12th, for Troop 1346 to pick them up. Contact: Cliff Phillips at ctp198@yahoo.com



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Mark Hartley, MD
Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Reston Hospital Center, Classroom C, West Wing

"The Latest Advancements in Total Shoulder Replacement"

Christopher Annunziata, MD & David Novak, MD
Tuesday, November 15, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
OrthoVirginia Tysons Office

orthovirginia.com/joints

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BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION



Woodson Cavaliers on Parade

Woodson High's Homecoming Parade was Friday, Oct. 7.

A cheerleader group with pom-poms.



Students on a float



Sophomore Court members Riley Allison and Rachel Adenan



Senior Court members Sam Scheele and Emily Cabrera



Braddock District Supervisor John Cook



Senior Court members Juston Carter and Kerry Miller

11

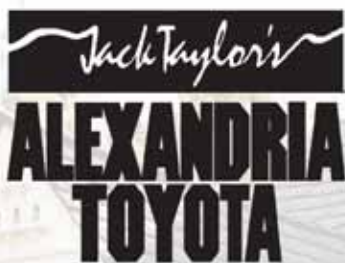
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HALLOWEEN 2016 PREVIEW

FRIDAY/OCT. 28, 2016

Spooktacular. 6:30-8 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Enjoy ghoulish games, a spooky craft and a children's show. Fee: \$10/child in advance or \$15/child on day of event. www.herndon-va.gov.

Bradley Farm Haunted House Friday & Saturday 6 - 10 p.m. 13159 New Parkland Drive, Herndon. The guided tours are \$5 www.BFHauntedHouse.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 29

Clifton Haunted Trail 7 - 10 p.m. in the historic town of Clifton. Admission: Ages 13+ \$15 Ages 12 and under \$10. www.cliftonhauntedtrail.com/

SATURDAY/OCT. 29 - OCT 31

Roer's Zoofari Trick-Or-Treat 5 - 7 p.m. 1228 Hunter Mill Rd. Vienna. Roer's Zoofari welcomes families from all areas to a new way of trick-or-treating this year. Kids can trick-or-treat for candy and treats, bounce around in our kids zone, and meet bugs at our creepy crawly station. Admission: \$10 per child, free for adults. www.roerszoofari.com/

SATURDAY/OCT. 29

Howl-O-Ween at Lake Anne, 1-3 p.m. Plaza Activities. Free. Join us on the Plaza dressed in Halloween flair (adults + pets) for a Howling good time! Dogs, cats, and all types of furry friends are welcome to participate. Pet Costume Contest starts at 1:30 p.m.: Pet Parade, Live DJ, Pet Friendly Beer Garden, Window Decorating Contest, Yappy Hour Specials from 1-5 p.m., Treats, Tricks & More From Local Merchants. www.lakeanneplaza.com



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Thrill-seeking souls enter the eight-acre Clifton Haunted Trail on Oct. 24, 2015

MONDAY/OCT. 31

Halloween Spooktacular at Great Falls Village Green and Great Falls Center, 5-7 p.m., with Pet Parade at 4 p.m. (all dogs must vacate the green by 4:50 p.m.) Boy Scout Troop 55 will create some spooky fun for everyone in the Haunted House; The Langley Marching Band performs in the Wells Fargo parking lot; Linda Waitkus of Great Dogs of Great Falls is leading the Pet Parade starting at the Gazebo. Look out for the Great Falls Volunteer Firefighters in the Safeway parking lot.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

we ask that you try to attend regularly. RSVP Naama.Gold@jccnv.org.

Smoke Free Bingo (with breaks for smoking friends). 7 p.m. Every Friday. Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Free coffee, entertaining callers, \$1,000 jackpot. www.fairfaxvd.com. 703-273-3638.

English Conversation Groups weekly at George Mason, Burke Centre, and Lorton Libraries Practice and improve your English. Day and start times vary. Visit: <https://va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp>

First Sunday Jazz Brunch 11 - 2 p.m. Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday at **Bazin's on Church** 111 Church St N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit: <http://www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/>

Stories From Strawberry Park 10 - 11 a.m. Tuesdays in **Mosaic - Strawberry Park** 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Enjoy a live interactive performance each week taught by a group of unique storytellers. For ages 10 and under. Held outside in Strawberry Park. In inclement weather and October through April, storytime will be held in Angelika Film Center. Recurring weekly on Tuesday. Visit: <http://www.fxva.com/listing/mosaic-district/2326/>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

that increase cost the typical homeowner \$184.81. Such a further increase could be staved off by shifting a small portion of the tax obligation from property owners to other taxpayers (including those from outside Fairfax County).

Finally, the meals tax would be a small burden. It would amount to 20 cents on a \$5 meal and \$2 on a \$50 meal. Most of the

TUESDAY/OCT.25 & OCT. 26

INOVA Fair Oaks Hospital Auxiliary Handbag and Luggage Sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hospital Atrium 3600 Joseph Siewick Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033 Karen Almquist, IFOH Auxiliary Publicity Chair

THURSDAY/ OCT. 27 - OCT. 30

Mason Musical "The Threepenny Opera" at George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax. October 27, 2016 - Oct. 29 at 8:00 p.m. October 29 at 2:00 p.m. Oct. 30 at 4:00 p.m. Who can get ahead? Those with money do in Brecht and Weill's landmark twentieth century musical, The Threepenny Opera. Set in gritty 1920's New York City, where prohibition is in effect but speakeasies are open and corruption abounds, the story follows the charismatic antihero Macheath and his exploits for power and wealth.

THURSDAY/OCT. 27

Special Blood Fairfax Screening 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Rave Motion Pictures Fairfax Corner 14 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax. Tickets Available: www.tugg.com/events/special-blood-80-v

other jurisdictions neighboring Fairfax County have a similar meals tax: Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax City, and the Towns of Vienna and Herndon. Yet most of us patronize restaurants there. Thus, the meals tax would not threaten the businesses of the restaurants in Fairfax County. That's why I support the proposal.

Sean Barnett
Annandale

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