

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT & GIFT GUIDE



Fairfax Station CONNECTION Clifton & Lorton

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL DANCER/ART FOR THE SKY

Volunteers from around Fairfax County came out to not only donate food but pack it in colorful bins that formed the outline for a giant human graphic of a sunrise. The volunteers filled it in themselves, wearing T-shirts of different colors, at the end of the project and were photographed by Daniel Dancer and Art for the Sky.

Completing Circle of Giving

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NOVEMBER 17-23, 2016

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AREA ROUNDUPS

Solarize NoVA Reaches 100th Contract for New Solar

The Solarize NoVA campaign, a partnership between the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) and the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP), reached a significant milestone with the signing of its 100th contract. Solarize NoVA has been in existence since the Fall of 2014. Over the past two years more than 2,700 families signed up expressing an interest in the program, 619 families received free home energy checkups, and 100 entered into contracts. To date, the rated power of new solar installed is 776.5 kW with a construction value of \$2.6 million. The new solar represents a 7 percent increase statewide as compared to 2013.

“We are excited to be working with our local government partners in the region and LEAP to help take the mystery out of solar,” said NVRC Chairman and Mayor of the Town of Vienna Laurie DiRocco. “And, for those families not interested in solar the home energy checkup helps save families real dollars in terms of reduced energy costs at home.” To further assist residents and business owners considering solar, NVRC created the first regional map in Virginia to help property owners see how a solar array may fit on their home/building and to estimate the associated dollar value of the energy savings created. This free tool can be found at www.novasolarmap.com.

Fairfax Girls to Complete Girls on the Run 5K

On Saturday, Nov. 19, girls from nine Fairfax City schools will complete the Girls on the Run 5K, presented by Cigna. The 5K is the culminating event for these girls who have spent the fall season participating in a curriculum which integrates running to help increase confidence, create positive connections with peers and coaches, and help girls contribute to their communities. Girls on the Run teams from


SEE ROUNDUP, PAGE 5

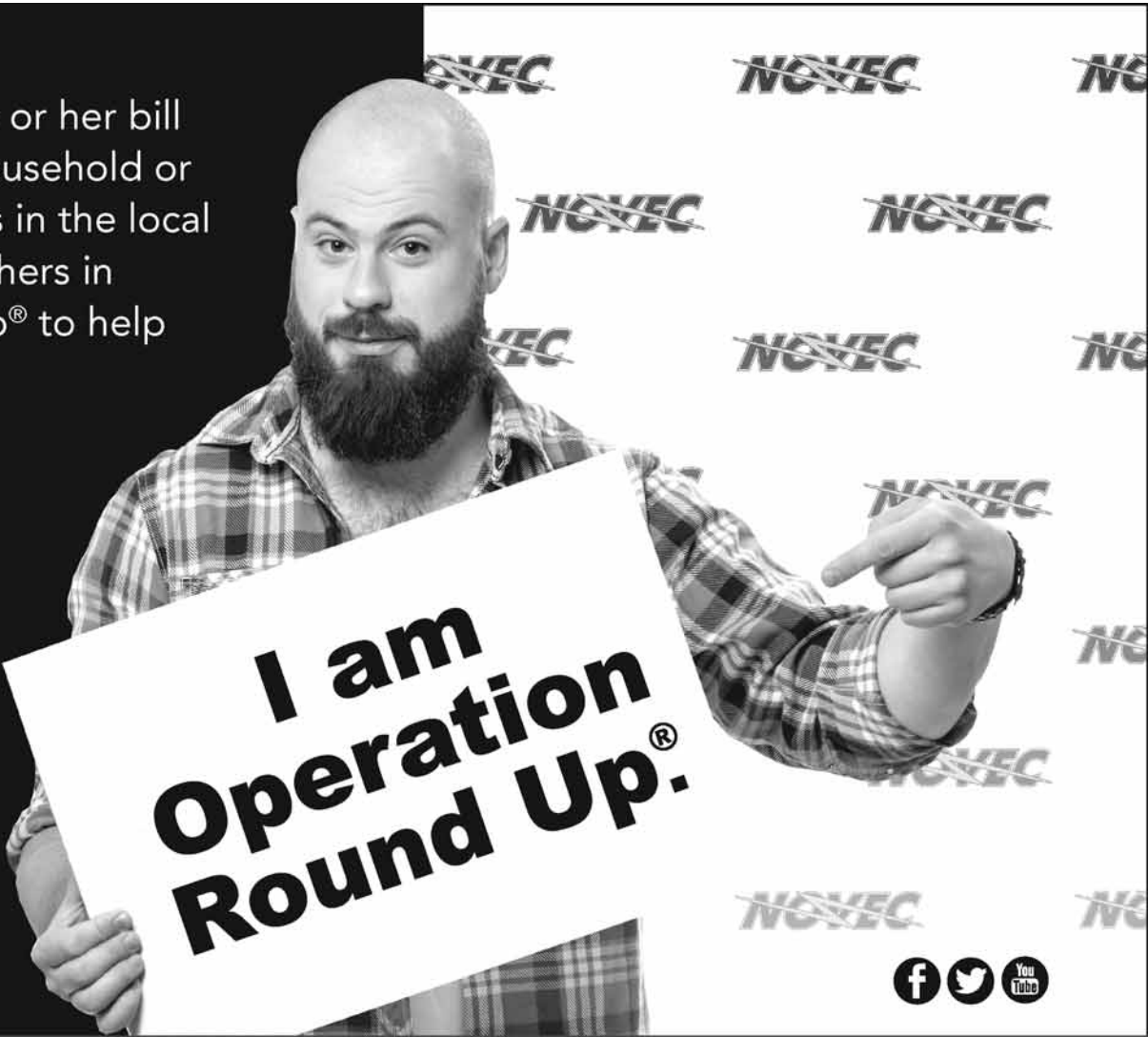
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That’s the Power of Operation Round Up[®].







Volunteer today at NOVEC.com.

Several hundred Sangster students, parents, teachers and veterans gathered to observe Veterans Day at the school's annual outdoor assembly.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/
THE CONNECTION



Remember Veterans, Thanking Families

Sangster Elementary hosts annual Veterans Day assembly.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

For about a third of the families at Sangster Elementary School in Burke, military and mobility is a way of life.

"Most people don't know what military families do; it feels like moving every three years," said sixth-grader Parker Smith of Burke. Veterans Day he said is also a "good day to recognize these people, who sacrifice their lives, and their families."

Of the 970 students and 665 families at Sangster, which serves parts of Burke, Fairfax Station and Springfield, Principal Lisa Reddel said 175 families are associated with the school's Military Spouses Group that welcomes newcomers and supports new to the area military families getting settled.

Reddel adds 242 students total are identified as part of a military family.

For Parker's brother Warner, in fourth grade, another important part of Veterans Day is learning more about their country.

"One day, people my age will become great leaders," he said, "and we couldn't do that without knowing our history."

The Smith boys were among several hundred Sangster students, parents, teachers and veterans to observe Veterans Day, Nov. 11, together at the school's annual outdoor assembly.

Col. Jason Hayes, U.S. Army, gave a brief history of Veterans Day, beginning with President Woodrow Wilson's declaring Nov. 11 in 1919 Armistice Day honoring American heroes who died while serving in World War I.

On June 1, 1954, Hayes said, Congress approved Nov. 11 as a day to remember and celebrate American veterans of all wars.

Capt. Jennifer Blazewick, U.S. Navy, recited the poem "I am the Flag" by Lawrence



From left, Sangster parents Col. Jason Hayes, U.S. Army; Capt. Jennifer Blazewick, U.S. Navy; Major Will Marcantel, U.S. Marine Corps; Cdr. Justin Jacobs, U.S. Coast Guard; and Lt. Col Brian Vlaun, U.S. Air Force, were presenters at Sangster Elementary School's 2016 Veterans Day assembly.

Members of the Sangster Elementary School choir perform on Veterans Day 2016.



M Jones.

"I am a composite being of all the people of America; I am the union if you are united," Blazewick began.

"I stand for greater and more glorious achievement than can be found in recorded history, but you must be my inspiration," she read in conclusion.

Blazewick commented additionally:

"Thank you to the children and teachers who welcome military kids, who've had to move every two years.

"And... military kids are just awesome," Blazewick said.

The Sangster choir and handbells performed "On Veterans Day" by Karl

SEE SANGSTER, PAGE 16

VIEWPOINTS

Why is Veterans Day important to you?

Carter Smith,
Burke, first grade

"We learn about the history of America and the veterans who served the country and who are still working. If they weren't working in the armed forces, our country wouldn't be that safe."



Warner Smith,
Burke, fourth grade

"The teachers, students and community get to enjoy the ceremony at Sangster. It's important to help and support who's served and is currently serving."



Parker Smith,
Burke, sixth grade

"Most people don't know what military families do, it feels like moving every three years. It's a good day to recognize these people, who sacrifice their lives."



Kyla Luna,
Springfield, fifth grade

"I like the colors of the flag. I wear my headband to support and remember the veterans."



Gigi Luna,
Springfield, third grade

"I like the stars on the flag. Veterans helped there to be all these stars. It's important to celebrate people who fought in the wars and sacrificed for our freedom."



Jonathan Delano, Fairfax Station, sixth grade

"We remember people who defended our country, from other people, who protect us, sacrifice lives for us. It's sad to leave all my friends and move because of the military, but I know it's so my dad can help our country more."





PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

On Sunday, Nov. 6, Lorton Community Action Center and Britepaths brought nearly 1,000 participants together for a sixth annual Complete the Circle food donation event.



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Volunteers carry bins of donated food to trucks bound for food pantries.

Completing Circle of Giving

Volunteers compile more than 7,500 pounds in donated food for Lorton Community Action Center and Britepaths.

Wanda Jeter of Lorton has been a volunteer with the Lorton Community Action Center for 20 years. As a single mother who's struggled to provide for herself and four children, she's also been a client.

Jeter said she's received support in the form of emergency financial assistance, food, counseling, nutrition and computer classes.

"It helped save my son from the streets," Jeter said. Rather than continuing to run with a dangerous crowd, he got involved with an LCAC job training program called Job Corps and later enlisted in the U.S. Army.

"They've done so much for me," said Jeter. "There are any number of things in life you're going through. They've been very caring, supportive and helpful."

Nonprofits LCAC and Britepaths (formerly Our Daily Bread) are trying to help provide clients like Jeter opportunities to better themselves. On Sunday, Nov. 6, the two organizations brought nearly 1,000 participants together for a sixth annual Complete the Circle food donation event.

Lorton Community Action Center executive director Linda Patterson put the nearly 8,000 pounds of donated food in perspective.

Around 28,000 children, among 63,000 Fairfax County area residents, are "food insecure," Patterson told everyone gathered in the field next to South County Middle School in Lorton.

"Which means they will not have dinner tonight," Patterson said.

Volunteers from around Fairfax County came out to not only donate food but pack



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL DANCER/ART FOR THE SKY

Volunteers from around Fairfax County came out to not only donate food but pack it in colorful bins that formed the outline for a giant human graphic of a sunrise. The volunteers filled it in themselves, wearing T-shirts of different colors, at the end of the project and were photographed by Daniel Dancer and Art for the Sky.

it in colorful bins that formed the outline for a giant human graphic of a sunrise. The volunteers filled it in themselves, wearing T-shirts of different colors, at the end of the project and were photographed by Daniel Dancer and Art for the Sky.

Supervisor Dan Stock (D-Mount Vernon) told the volunteers their work "is making a critical difference in the community, in so many people's lives today."

Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova acknowledged, "we do have struggling families in Fairfax County. These are our neighbors, people we care about."

Complete the Circle donors raised a total of 7,648 pounds of food, Patterson said.

For more information, visit lortonaction.org and britepaths.org.

—TIM PETERSON



Wanda Jeter of Lorton has been a volunteer with the Lorton Community Action Center for 20 years. As single mother who's struggled to provide for herself and four children, she's also been a client.



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

The volunteers filled in the image themselves at the end of the project and were photographed by Daniel Dancer and Art for the Sky.



PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED
**Historic
Stempson
House is
located on
Furnace
Road in
Lorton.**

Stempson House Applications Sought For Resident Curator Program

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) is accepting applications for the rehabilitation and long-term maintenance of the historic Stempson House, located on Furnace Road in Lorton. The Resident Curator Program provides the opportunity for individuals, non-profit and for-profit organizations to enter into long-term lease agreements in public park settings such as Laurel Hill Park in Fairfax County. The curator leases are without charge in exchange for a financial commitment and approved rehabilitation of the Park Authority's underutilized historic properties. The deadline for submitting applications for Stempson House is Feb. 17, 2017. Stempson House will be shown by appointment only. For an appointment or more information contact Project Manager Denice Dressel at Denice.Dressel@FairfaxCounty.gov or by calling 703-324-9569.

The circa 1937 Stempson House is a vernacular style residence with Colonial Revival style elements. The house is significant due to its association with the Occoquan Workhouse and Reformatory, later known as Lorton Prison, which incorporated Progressive Era reform ideals, and for its association with the Women's Suffrage movement of the early 1900s. In 1910, the land on which the Stempson House is located was purchased by the United States federal government for the prison. In 1937, amongst the Lorton Reformatory orchard trees, prisoners constructed a residence for

a prison officer. It is likely that prisoners constructed the house, under the direction of prison engineers, using bricks manufactured at the prison brick kiln. Ultimately, the residence was converted for use by the prison security office.

The three bay by two bay frame house measures approximately 1,500 square feet with a garage of approximately 400 square feet. It has three porches. The basement walls, chimneys, portico floors, walkways and basement areaways are of brick construction. The construction materials and methods used are typical of residential housing construction in the early 1930s. The home has a living room, office, kitchen, dining room, 3 bedrooms, 1 full bath, 2 half baths and an unfinished attic.

To qualify as a potential lessee in the Resident Curator Program, FCPA is seeking proposals for the rehabilitation of the Stempson House and garage outbuilding in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Curators will be determined through an open and competitive process, based on a number of criteria, including a formal proposal, demonstrated experience and competency in historic preservation techniques, financial capabilities, and the incorporation of public benefits.

For application forms and additional information visit online at Resident Curator Program.

AREA ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 2

Bonnie Brae, Daniels Run, Greenbriar East, Little Run, Navy, Oak View, Providence, Silverbrook, and Wakefield Forest Elementary Schools will complete the 5K at Pfitzner Stadium in Woodbridge. The entire community is invited to share in this celebration, whether running alongside the girls, volunteering, or simply coming out to cheer. Two 5K runs will be offered over one weekend: Saturday, Nov. 19 at Pfitzner Stadium in Woodbridge and Sunday, Nov. 20 at Freedom Park in Rosslyn.

Homeless Animals Rescue Team Receives Emergency Medical Grant

Homeless Animals Rescue Team, Fairfax Station, has received a \$1,000 Emergency Medical grant from the Petfinder Foundation. The Petfinder Foundation Emergency Medical grant program is used to assist Petfinder members who are caring for a pet that needs special life-saving veterinary care in order to become adoptable. The Petfinder.com Foundation assists the 12,000+ animal shelters and rescue groups that post their adoptable pets on Petfinder.com. A nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the Petfinder Foundation helps adoption organizations find homes for the pets in their care through its Sponsor A Pet, Disaster Fund, Quality of Life and other programs. Since its founding in 2003, the Petfinder Foundation has given more than \$20 million in cash and product grants to shelters and rescue groups in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Homeless Animals Rescue Team posts its adoptable pets at www.petfinder.com/shelters/VA56.html.

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OPINION

Holidays Are for Giving

Give thanks and share locally; tens of thousands of families in Fairfax County are in need.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks. The holidays are about children and family. The holidays are about sharing, about joy. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation. The holidays are about alleviating suffering for others.

Northern Virginia is among the wealthiest areas in the country. Many if not most of us go through our daily and seasonal routines without encountering evidence of the needy families among us.

More than 52,000 children who attend Fairfax County Public Schools are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty. That's 28 percent of students in Fairfax County Public Schools. (Nearly 7 percent of students in FCPS live below the poverty line, a harrowing \$24,000 for a family of four.)

All of these are children who are living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical bills, car repair, heat and food. Some of these are children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school.

School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger, a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

Many nonprofits in the county need your help to provide a holiday meal for Thanksgiving or Christmas, to provide children with gifts.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas. We will rerun this list again after Thanksgiving, so please let us know what we have missed.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Where to Give Locally

❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva.org.

Nonprofit providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. Sign up by Nov. 17 for Gifts for Kids, Alacia Earley at 571-323-9568 or alacia.earley@cornerstonesva.org.

“Moving Beyond Homelessness”

Housewarming Baskets: Last year Cornerstones helped 52 families and 84 individuals leave the Embry Rucker Shelter and homelessness. A housewarming basket is a welcome gift for a family moving beyond homelessness as they settle into their new home. Baskets can be delivered to the Cornerstones administrative office during business hours.

Include any of these new items in a laundry basket or large box to help our neighbors on their path to stability: Inflatable air mattress with pump; twin size, and double size “bed in a bag;” pillows; laundry basket; hangers; bathroom towels; vacuum; broom/dust pan; pot/pan kitchen starter set; silverware, cooking utensils, and glasses/cups;

kitchen towels; dishes; cookbook; can opener; toilet paper; paper towels; cleaning supplies (Clorox wipes, toilet brush and cleaner, disinfecting spray); tool kit; fire extinguisher; First Aid kit; standing floor lamps; light bulbs; gift cards (Grocery store, Target, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Home Depot, gas station, etc.) For more information, contact Nate King at 571-323-9569 or Nate.King@cornerstonesva.org.

Hunter Mill District Winter Coat Closet

distributed over 5,500 winter coats and jackets last winter, plus over 4,000 hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to individuals and families in need of winter gear. Bring coat donations to the North County Governmental Building, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190 through Feb. 16, 2017, 24 hours a day.

The Closet is accepting donations of new and clean, gently used coats and jackets, as well as new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. Deliver any time to the 24-hour drop box at the Community Room of the North County Governmental Building, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190.

❖ **SHARE** of McLean operates a food pantry; provides assistance to families to avoid eviction, keep utilities on and meet other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families (630-plus people) this year. Each family will receive a grocery gift card in November along with a bag filled with pantry staples and traditional items. In December, our families will be welcomed to a festive party, served a light meal, and Santa will travel all the way from the North Pole to take photographs with the children. Each person will receive a “wish” gift and families will be given a grocery gift card, a bag filled with toiletries, and a jug of laundry detergent. Help us help our neighbors in need by fulfilling a wish or donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Contact Chris Wilbur at ShareWishes@gmail.com for more information. Visit www.shareofmclean.org for more info about Share.

❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 herndonrestonfish.org Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short term crises by since 1969. FISH provides Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help by responding to emergency requests for rent, transportation, utilities, medical prescriptions and other needs. FISH operates The Bargain Loft, a thrift store, which needs donations of good quality saleable items, accepting and selling art, furniture, jewelry, household linens, dishes, pots and pans, books, women's designer clothing (clean and on hangers), puzzles, games, collectibles, small electronics and much more. If you have store questions, call 703-437-0600. Herndon-Reston FISH also provides Holiday Food & Gift Baskets during the November and December season.

❖ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, and needs volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. Every year the goal is to provide each family with a week's worth of non-perishable food in November and again in December. When funds allow, grocery gift cards are also included. In November, clients also receive a voucher for coats and warm clothing. In December, children 16 and under receive gifts. holiday@linkagainsthunger.org. 703-437-1776 www.linkagainsthunger.org.

❖ **Committee for Helping Others** (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Last year 450 children had a special Christmas through the annual Christmas Store. 703-281-7614, www.cho-va.com

❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**. Just \$50 provides a complete holiday meal to a family of four. Donate online or via check payable to “NVFS” with “Operation Turkey” on the memo line, or send grocery store gift cards. Northern Virginia Family

Service, attn: Holiday Initiatives, 10455 White Granite, Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124. Gifting for Families was able to bring some extra holiday cheer to more than 2,000 children in Northern Virginia last year. Monetary contributions and online donations help the most at www.nvfs.org. www.nvfs.org/holidayprograms. Or donate toys. New toys for children of all ages are needed to stock our Toy Closet. (If possible, shop for infants/toddlers or teens, as these age groups can be overlooked.) Drop off on Monday, Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 13939 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151

❖ **Alternative House** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. Alternative House provides shelter and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Requests for food and clothing are up more than 50 percent. www.thealternativehouse.org.

❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. www.touchingheart.com, 703-901-7355.

❖ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in efforts to end homelessness in Fairfax County. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or volunteer@facetscares.org. www.facetscares.org. 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030

❖ **Britepaths** will have 3,000 individuals and families in need of holiday assistance list this fall. Sponsor a family or donate to provide a family with a Thanksgiving meal, December holiday meal and/or gifts for their children. Join Britepaths at Wine & Wonderment, Nov. 30, at 2941 Restaurant britepaths.org

❖ **Fairfax City Area FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help) helps local people who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 <http://fairfaxfish.org/>

❖ **Lamb Center**, www.thelambcenter.org, day center for homeless, Fairfax 703-691-3178.

❖ **Food for Others** provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. 2938 Prosperity Ave. info@foodforothers.org Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. www.foodforothers.org

❖ **Ecumenical Community Helping Others** (ECHO), 703-569-9160. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families, helping more than 5,000 people last year. www.echo-inc.org.

❖ **Lorton Community Action Center** (LCAC) will provide Thanksgiving and Holiday assistance to more than 450 families this year. Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets along with fulfilling gift wishes for more than 1,000 children and teens will help low-income families during this holiday season. Consider making a basket or “adopting” Christmas wishes this year to help a neighbor. More information about LCAC's holiday program can be found at <http://lortonaction.org/seasonal-assistance/>. Volunteers are needed for these events as well. Register online at <http://lortonaction.org> or call 703-339-5161, ext. 140.

❖ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. Assistance League's philanthropic programs touch the lives of thousands of children at 11 Title I schools in Northern Virginia, serving children most in need at selected schools in Fairfax and Prince William

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Fairfax Station,
Lorton & Clifton
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

**Published by
Local Media Connection LLC**

**1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

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NEWS

After the Polls Closed

Parker Davis, right, unpacks a precinct chief's kit as Bill Norton, left, logs sealed envelopes containing provisional ballots and other election forms around 9 p.m. Nov. 8 by the loading dock of the Fairfax County Government Center. In the background, other Office of Election staff Lisa Hogle and Pat Hart oversee the unloading and check-in process after the polls have closed.



PHOTOS BY BY MARTI MOORE/
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax City Holiday Craft Show

Saturday, November 19, 2016
10 AM-5 PM

Sunday, November 20, 2016
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Give Locally

FROM PAGE 6

counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more about volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact alnorthernva@gmail.com or visit <http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org>

❖ **Comfort for America's Uniformed Services** (CAUSE) ensures that recuperating service members have opportunities for recreation and social interaction and receive concrete signs of appreciation for all that they have done. 4114 Legato Road Suite B, Fairfax, VA 22033, 703-591-4968, cause-usa.org

❖ **Shelter House** provides crisis intervention, safe housing and supportive services to promote self-sufficiency for homeless families and victims of domestic violence in Fairfax County. <http://www.shelterhouse.org/get-involved/>

❖ **National Capital Food Bank**, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, 703-541-3063. www.capitalareafoodbank.org

❖ **Homestretch** is the largest provider of transitional housing in Fairfax County and offers a services to help the homeless better their lives through education. Email: jhenderson@homestretchva.org; 703-237-2035 x125; <http://homestretchva.org/volunteer/>

❖ **Pathway Homes** focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, with the mission to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives. They offer both in-home programs, semi-independent houses and assisted living facilities. 10201 Fairfax Boulevard, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22030. 703-876-0390 info@pathwayhomes.org <http://www.pathwayhomes.org> <http://www.pathwayhomes.org/support-pathway/>

Volunteer Locally Through Volunteer Fairfax

❖ **Britepaths (formerly Our Daily Bread):** Sponsor individuals and families in need who live throughout the Fairfax County area for Thanksgiving meals, December holiday meals and/or gifts for children in December. Britepaths will send you information on a person/family who meets your criteria, and you will contact them and arrange to deliver food and/or gifts. You may also donate funds to help us assist those who are not sponsored. To sponsor a family or make a donation, visit <http://volunteerfairfax.civcore.com>

The Holiday Project: Share the spirit of the season with The Holiday Project, a non-profit organization that organizes visits to patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities during the holiday season. Bring the spirit of a holiday to those who might not otherwise have a celebration. Visits occur throughout the metropolitan area. Dates and times of visits vary by location; for more information visit <http://volunteerfairfax.civcore.com>

Cornerstones: Volunteer to accept gifts from donors and get them ready for distribution to local families, or assist families that are picking up gifts with getting items to their car. Several shifts are available. Good for adults, families and corporate groups. Dec. 8-10, Dec. 15-17. Times vary. To sign-up or learn more please contact us at <http://volunteerfairfax.civcore.com>

New Hope Housing: Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday, New Hope Housing provides nearly 200 food baskets to clients living in our community housing programs. Volunteers ensure that families are able to have a special and memorable holiday. Volunteers can sign up to help by hosting a Thanksgiving or Christmas food drive, donating a food basket for a single adult or family, donating grocery store gift cards for clients to purchase turkeys (grocery stores along Route 1 are best), signing up to drop off Christmas dinner at one of our Permanent Supportive Housing sites. <http://volunteerfairfax.civcore.com>

Sign up to help ensure that children in those families receive holiday gifts this year. You can volunteer to help by adopting a child and fulfilling his or her holiday wish list. Wish lists are available now. Donating gift cards for parents to purchase their children new clothing. Stores along Route 1 are best. Hosting a special program for the children, such as holiday card and gift making for their parents. To sign up, fill out the following form and a member of the New Hope Housing team will respond as soon as possible <http://volunteerfairfax.civcore.com>

Richard Byrd Library: Semi-annual Holiday used book sale at Richard Byrd Library in Springfield. Pre-Sale: (Nov. 28 - 30) volunteers will set up tables, organize sale area, post signs, lift/move crates of books, sort books. During Sale: (Dec. 1 - 4) volunteers will assist shoppers; restock sale items, clear sale area as necessary. For information visit <http://volunteerfairfax.civcore.com/index?section=volunteerNOW&action=viewOpportunity&fwID=22536>

OPINION

Keeping Neighborhood Clean

BY DAVE ALBO
STATE DELEGATE (R-420)

On Saturday, the newly combined West Springfield and Burke Rotary Clubs went out and cleaned our neighborhood of trash on the Fairfax County Parkway. I joined them to help out. (No, it was not Court Ordered! We were just doing it because it is one of Rotary's local philanthropic projects.)

I am probably approaching 100 volunteer trash pickups, and every time I do it, this question comes to mind: What kind of person throws trash out of a car window? I don't get it.

Here is a list of the things I had to pick up:

- ❖ Cigarettes, Cigarettes, Cigarettes (So these cigarettes are so wonderful that people suck them into their lungs, but as soon as they are finished, the butts are so smelly and disgusting that they can't stay in the car?)
- ❖ Aluminum soda cans
- ❖ Beer bottles
- ❖ Fast food meal bags



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

West Springfield – Burke Rotary members joined forces to clean neighborhood trash around the Fairfax County Parkway.

in order here. Most people don't know that Littering is a Class One Misdemeanor, and there are Fairfax Judges who will literally give people jail.

Thanks to the West Springfield – Burke Rotary members! You all help make Springfield the best place to live.

- ❖ An American flag
- ❖ Medical face mask
- ❖ Frozen dinner packages
- ❖ Airline bottle liquor (Empty — Guess they did not know drunk driving was against the law.)
- ❖ Vote for meals tax sign (Guess they did not know that Supervisor Herry and I made these road signs illegal about 5 years ago.)
- ❖ Pittsburgh Steelers flag (Redskins fans would never litter.)
- ❖ Halloween candy wrappers
- ❖ Fast food wrappers
- ❖ Spit filled water bottle with chewing tobacco slime
- ❖ Latex gloves
- ❖ Box of fine wine (Probably not Châteauneuf-du-Pape, or a Wine Spectator rating of 95.)
- ❖ A used adult diaper! I am not kidding. Sorry to vent, but I just don't get it. Maybe a reminder is

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Term Limit Needed for Members of Congress

To the Editor:

President-elect Trump engineered an unprecedented political upset by highlighting Washington's two sets of rules. One set is for career politicians and their donors. The other set is for the rest of us.

For politicians and donors there's pay-to-play wealth, special access to powerful decision-makers, and a lenient FBI. We get a Congress that exempts itself from its own Obamacare rules, national debt growing \$1 million every 60-seconds, and no special breaks from the G-men.

Trump pledged to change D.C., for instance by supporting Congressional term limits. But Republicans and Democrats in Congress are bipartisan on this: no term limits for them! Senate Majority Leader McConnell's reply to Trump was predictable: "We have term limits. They're called elections."

Well, Mr. Majority Leader, if that's true why didn't President Obama run for a third term?

❖ Obama did not only because he cannot. He's term-limited.

❖ The Constitution sets that limit only because previous Republican leaders realized that combating entrenched political power requires Constitutional amendments.

Let me explain. Democrat Franklin Roosevelt was elected to four consecutive Presidential terms between 1932 and 1944. But then came the 1946 Congressional election, wherein the GOP defeated Democrat majorities in both the House and the Senate. The new Republican-controlled Congress immediately proposed the 22nd Amendment limiting future Presidents to two terms. Enough states had ratified the proposed amendment a few years later, and ever since no President could serve a third term.

Despite Trump's support for Congressional term limits, even a President cannot fundamentally reform Washington. That's not how our Constitution works.

So how can we reform Congress, since it will not reform itself?

The Framers placed the ultimate "check and balance" on Federal power in the hands of the sovereign people acting through their state legislators. Under Article V of the U.S. Constitution the states can both propose and ratify Constitutional amendments without interference from Congress.

The mechanism for proposing amendments—the first step—is called a Convention of States. When 2/3rds of the states agree on what topics to consider—like term limits—the Convention is

called.

A Convention of States resolution (House Joint Resolution 3 or HJ3), which passed in Virginia's lower House in February, is stuck—and about to die—in the Senate Rules Committee. It has already passed in eight other states, so momentum is building.

HJ3 provides the path to Constitutional amendments imposing term limits on members of Congress and other federal officials, fiscal restraints that end run-away deficit spending, and rebalancing federal jurisdiction and power with that of the states.

We're down to the wire and need your active support now, when it can make a difference in Richmond. Please contact State Senator George Barker's office (email to district39@senate.virginia.gov or call either 703-303-1426 or 804-698-7539) and ask him to support HJ3.

Together we can change his mind on that.

For more information go to www.cosaction.com or email me at warren.wheeler@cosaction.com

Warren Wheeler
Virginia Convention
of States Project
Northern VA Grassroots
Coordinator
Springfield

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT & GIFT GUIDE

'A Christmas Carol' Comes to Lorton

A one actor performance on Dec. 3 at Workhouse Arts Center

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Nationally known John Hardy will be performing his one-actor adaption of Charles Dickens' iconic "A Christmas Carol" at the Workhouse Arts Center. The production features Hardy playing over forty characters that are true to the Dickens book. Hardy has a thirty-five year career both acting and as a playwright in professional theater.

The play follows the book, scene by scene. "It is a loyal adaptation of the book," said Hardy. "A Christmas Carol" is one of the best known stories in the world and I wanted to retain, as much as possible, the essence of the book in its original form.

"Even though it is the same story as the book, the experience of actually watching an actor move through the events of a play is vastly different than simply hearing the story or reading the book. I get entirely caught up in the story as I am doing the play, and the audience goes right along with me."

Hardy never leaves the stage and the audiences'

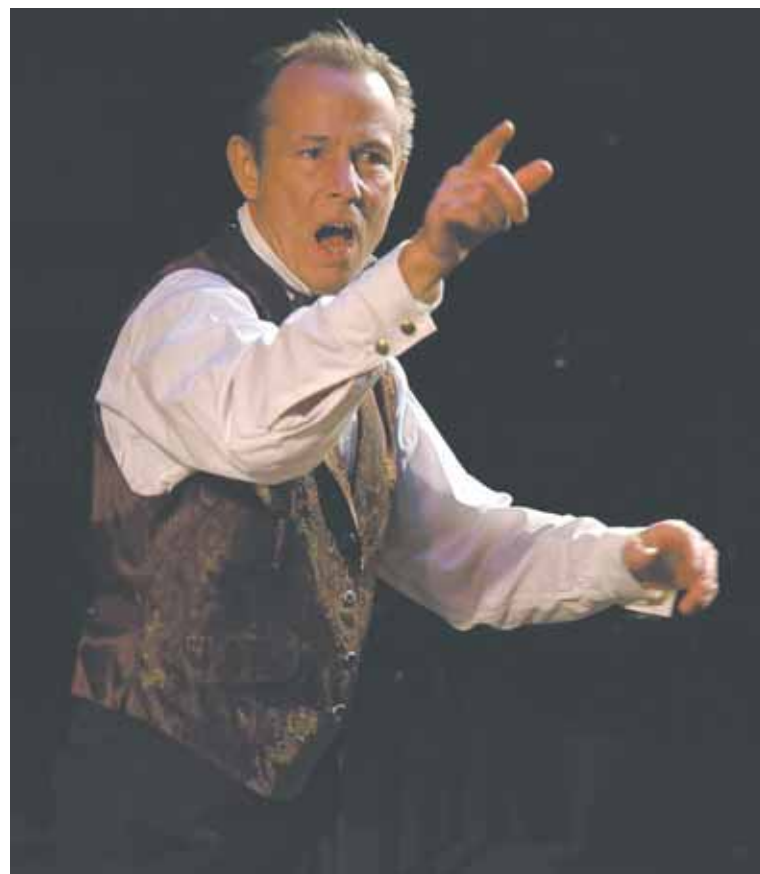
eyes and ears as he performs in "A Christmas Carol." Each of the forty characters will have their own distinct accents, speech patterns and physical traits.

According to Joseph Wallen, director, Workhouse Performing Arts, the Workhouse worked with the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA) to bring "A Christmas Carol" to Workhouse audiences. "We are thrilled to invite John Hardy to our stage and know that this will be a magical experience for families in our neighborhood."

"Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' is firmly embedded in our collective as a story of a question of personal loss and redemption that transcends any singular faith. When we discovered John Hardy's one-man adaptation of this classic story, we learned that it harkens back to Charles Dickens' own public readings, who performed his own text in London a century or so ago, wherein the author himself read and played all of the roles, it seemed a natural fit.

"While our own Workhouse campus has its own roots in history, and we look forward to transporting families to Victorian London to experience what it might have been like to attend one of Charles Dickens' original experiencea," added Wallen.

Inviting audiences to the performance, Hardy noted that "even if an audience member has seen a previous production of 'A Christmas Carol,' they have not seen it done like this." It is all to celebrate the spirit of Christmas.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

John Hardy performing in 'A Christmas Carol.'

Where and When

Workhouse Arts Center presents "A Christmas Carol" adapted from the original story by Charles Dickens. Performed at Workhouse Arts Center, Theater W-3, 9518 Workhouse Rd, Lorton. Performance on Dec. 3, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15 to \$25. Call 703-584-2900 or visit www.workhousearts.org. Note: Runs approximately eighty minutes in one act. Appropriate for audiences of any age but best suited for ages ten and above.

THE NUTCRACKER

presented by

The Burke Civic Ballet

Come share in the magic of the holiday tradition!

Featuring 3-year-old miniature dolls to professional dancers courtesy of Colorado Ballet, this production will enchant all ages. Be mesmerized by a growing tree, magic tricks, leaping mice, toy soldiers, falling snow, authentic costumes made in the Ukraine, seventy-five dancing flowers and delectable confections from the Kingdom of Sweets. Treat yourself and friends to a wonderful entrée to the spirit of the season. Makes a perfect holiday gift! Order your tickets online at www.buffas.com



Saturday, November 19th at 2:00 & 6:00 p.m.

& Sunday, November 20th at 2:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater • NVCC Annandale Campus

Adults – \$28 • Children/Seniors – \$20

For organized groups (10+) and
handicapped seating, burkeciviballet@gmail.com



Guest-Ready Home for the Holidays

From organizing to decorating, a guide for getting a house ready for visitors.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Ready or not, the holidays are coming. For many, this means a flurry of overnight guests. With three weeks before Thanksgiving, many to-do lists are more involved than choosing turkeys and decking the halls.

Some homeowners will be sent into states of cleaning frenzy by spotting crumbled Cheerios lost in the corners of dining chairs or guestrooms piled high with papers and boxes. From the reality of cleaning and tending to repairs to the frivolity of fanciful holiday decorating, local experts offer suggestions for getting organized and ready to welcome company.

"For my out-of-town guests, I love to make them feel special and welcome," said interior designer Gretchen Fuss, of Gretchen Fuss Works of Art and Interior Design. "The whole house will be clean and sparkling."

Consider dispersing flowers, candles and greenery throughout the home in all public areas, including bathrooms and guest bedrooms, suggests Katie McCarthy, senior designer and project manager at Marika Meyer Interiors. "Adding lush throws and cable knit pillows can give the family space that cozy feeling we all look for during the holidays."

Clear the clutter before purchasing holiday decorations and before guests arrive. "Clear out any clutter that's accumulated in your main living areas," said Anne M. Walker, Anne Walker Design LLC in Potomac, Md. "If your dining room is host to a pile of papers, make sure those get filed away or thrown away soon. A clean, organized home makes a perfect palette for any holiday décor."

The kitchen is often the central hub of a household, especially during the holidays. Make sure the pantry and refrigerator are well stocked and consider leaving out a bowl of fresh fruit guests can help themselves to, advises Fuss. "Breakfast is always a meal that seems to make everyone happy," she said. "My husband starts the bacon and everyone finds his or her way to the kitchen table. I feel it is important to have both comfort food and healthy choices for everyone."

Cleaning out the pantry and cabinets will help ensure there is plenty of room for the additional supplies and food necessary for Thanksgiving and other holiday meals.

When preparing that holiday dinner, the last thing that a person with a house full of guests wants is to realize that their oven is broken. "Inspect your appliances to be sure they are all in working order," said Chuck Khiel, vice president, FRED Home Improvement. "If the refrigerator or oven has been acting up, get them repaired or replaced before guests arrive. ... Check the garbage disposal, too, to be sure it's working efficiently so it doesn't back up during dinner prep."

Another high priority — the highest, ac-



PHOTO BY ANNE WALKER

Holiday guest preparation should include organizing and making extra space in closets, such as this one by interior designer Anne Walker.



Ensuring that major appliances are in proper working order should be on a guest-readiness checklist, advises Chuck Khiel of FRED Home Improvement.



PHOTOS BY FRED/CASE

For a fresh look with minimal effort, Chuck Khiel of FRED Home Improvement suggests replacing kitchen or bathroom faucets.

ording to Fuss — is the guest bedroom. This means "fresh bed linens adorning a 'photo shoot-ready,' beautifully made bed" and bath towels wrapped with ribbon and sage," she said. "Put a luggage rack out and make space in the closet for hanging clothes."

Place fresh flowers on the dresser and, "if time allows, frame a picture of your guests and hang it on the wall in the guest room," said Fuss. "Everyone really gets a kick out of this one."

From soft lights for reading to a small mirror for applying make-up, practical touches can go a long way toward comfort. "These touches, although they may seem small, can make all the difference," said McCarthy. "Small bud vases on bedside tables, plush bathrobes and towels, and fresh, white bedding can give guest spaces

a very inviting feeling."

Guest bathrooms should be stocked with extra towels, toothbrushes and toothpaste. "If your guest bathroom has a vent fan with a nightlight, make sure it is working," said Khiel. "If not, repair or replace it. If the fan does not have this feature, install a plugin nightlight. There's nothing worse than guests stumbling in the dark trying to find the bathroom light."

"Make the powder room fun and festive by updating the towel rack and toilet paper holder, mirror and light fixture," said Khiel. "Think about replacing the kitchen or bathroom faucet to a new, more efficient model or one with a water filter. And get any leaky faucets fixed."

A slow-burning fire is another way to create a sense of comfort and warmth. "Inspect your fireplace to be sure it's in working or-



Small bud vases on bedside tables and fresh bedding can give guest spaces a very inviting feeling, advises designer Katie McCarthy of Marika Meyer Interiors.

PHOTO BY
ANGIE SECKINGER
MARIKA MEYER

der and no debris is blocking the flue," said Khiel. "Consider building or adding a storage box for wood next to fireplace for easy access or add a permanent and decorative accent box nearby for the remote if a gas fireplace."

"Check that the dryer vent is clear, adding guests may mean more laundry," he added. "Make sure the heat vents are not obstructed. Since guests often stay in rooms that are not frequently used, make sure stored items are not in the way of airflow."

Electrical outlets that are infrequently used are often forgotten until guests arrive. "Fix nonworking electrical outlets that you might need with more people in the house. Everyone will have electronics to plug in," said Khiel. He said this is also a good time to take care of other simple projects like painting or putting in a new backsplash.

"Oil those squeaky interior and exterior doors so they don't wake up guests during the night," said Khiel. "Think about replacing broken or worn door knobs and locks."

The outside of a home should not be overlooked when preparing for guests, either. "Fall is a great time to tackle outdoor projects," said Walker. "If your shutters need a fresh coat of paint, now's the time to do it. Have your windows professionally cleaned so that your holiday decorations will be seen on a pristine backdrop."

Power-washing your porches, walkways and patios offers guests a pristine first impression of your home. Inspect all walkways, especially flagstone and brick walkways and repair loose stones, advises Khiel. "Check exterior light fixtures to be sure they are in working order and that the bulbs are good. If exterior lights operate off a motion sensor, make sure it is adjusted properly."

"The bottom line," said Walker, "is that an organized, clean home, a stocked bar and kitchen, and happy, relaxed hosts will undoubtedly result in happy holiday guests."



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

ONGOING

Bull Run Festival of Lights and Holiday Village

November 23, 2016 - January 8, 2017
7700 Bull Run Dr. Centreville, VA

Every year from Thanksgiving until just after New Year's Day the Bull Run Festival of Lights will be in session. A 2.5 mile stretch will be illuminated by holiday light displays. The festival happens annually at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville, Virginia. Drive the festival route from the comfort of your car; turn out your headlights and just follow the magical glow. After viewing the lights, bring your family and friends to the holiday village to enjoy rides, refreshments, and of course, photos with Santa Claus. The cost of driving through the light show is Mon-Thurs, \$15 per car; Fri-Sun & Holidays, \$20 per car (vans w/ 15-34 people and motorcoaches cost extra - visit website for details) Want to avoid the crowds? Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays are our busiest nights. Please take advantage of the Monday through Thursday discounted price and avoid a long wait.

Children's Theatre: "A Magical Christmas"

Saturdays through Dec. 22, 1 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A children's theatre performance for the holidays. There's something not right in the town of Believe. Santa hasn't stopped there for many years; in fact he doesn't even know the place exists! Joy's grandfather decides to do something about it and make sure that this year's Christmas will be the most magical ever. Appropriate for all ages. Concessions available in lobby before the performance and at intermission. Cost: \$8 children, \$12 adults. workhousearts.org Cost: \$8 children, \$12 adults.

THURSDAY/NOV. 17

Historic Pohick Church Christmas Mart

10 - 2 p.m. 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. The Parish House and the Vestry House will be transformed into a festive Christmas atmosphere with rooms filled with Attic Treasures, a Consignment Shop, fresh baked goods, homemade candy and apple butter, and frozen casseroles made by the women of Pohick Church. Booths will feature the work of artisans showcasing handmade jewelry, stained glass, Christmas decorations and many other crafts. Colonial-attired ladies will serve luncheon at three sittings—11:00 AM, 12:00 noon and 1:00 PM—the cost is \$12.00. The Docent Guild will be leading tours of the historic church and the Golden Dove Gift Shop will be open. Admission: free. www.pohick.org

FRIDAY/NOV. 18

Fairfax County Department of Family Services "We Got the Gold"

Free Family Event 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Annual National Adoption Awareness Month Celebration Event. There will be music, prizes, games family photos, activity stations all Open to the Public. Formal Adoption Ceremony will be 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. RSVP to Ann Kim or call 703-324-7486.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY/NOV 19-NOV 20

Burke Civic Ballet's Nutcracker

shows at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. At Ernst Theater on Northern Virginia Community College's campus 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Founded in 1993, The Burke Civic Ballet, offers its students a professional ballet performance. Dancers from age 3 to professionals present the holiday classic at a professional theater. This event has been an area favorite for over 20 years. For organized groups (10+) and handicapped seating, please email burkecivicalballet@gmail.com

SUNDAY/NOV. 20

N Gauge Model Train Show at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum

1 - 4 p.m. Fairfax Station

Railroad Museum 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Admission: \$4 for adults 16 and over. \$2 for children 5-15. Free for Museum members. www.fairfax-station.org www.facebook.com/FFXSRR 703-425-9225

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 19-20

30th Annual Holiday Craft Show 10 - 3 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030. What started out in 1987 as a very small show has grown to become a premium arts and crafts festival. Artisans from all over the United States, including many local artists, are participating in this year's show and we are delighted to be able to offer you so many wonderful holiday gift choices. There really is something for everyone on your shopping list. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/holiday-craft-show>

SATURDAY/NOV. 26

Fairfax Ballet's Nutcracker 2 - 4 p.m. WT Woodson High School 9525 Main Street, Fairfax. The Fairfax Ballet Company stages the "The Nutcracker" Nov. 26-27, 2016 at W.T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, Va. Three show times include: Nov. 26, 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm, and Nov. 27, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Nov. 27 at 2 p.m. Cost: \$23-26 events@fairfaxballet.com <http://fairfaxnutcracker2016.bpt.me>

Fair Oaks Mall Hosts Pet Parties with Santa

6:30 - 8 p.m. Santa's Flight Academy in Grand Court 11750 Fair Oaks. FairfaxFair Oaks Mall will offer pet parents a chance to celebrate the holiday season and visit with Santa. Pet photos will take place at the interactive Santa's Flight Academy holiday set located in Grand Court West. Please note that pets must be up-to-date on their vaccinations and must either be on a leash or carried in a lightweight, portable pet carrier with harness. www.shopfairoaksmall.com/events

MONDAY/NOV. 28

Turkey Walk 10 - 11 a.m. 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly.

SEE HOLIDAY GUIDE, PAGE 11

FRESH & FLAVORFUL



Thanksgiving breads, rolls, sweets, pies & more!

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Your "Nicely Done" Kitchen or Bath is Right Around the Corner!

A "One-Stop Shop" That Goes Above and Beyond Your Imagination



Are you living with an out-of-date kitchen? Not enough space for your dishes...much less to entertain guests the way you would like? For most people, the main purposes of a kitchen are to cook, eat and socialize. Why not own a kitchen that allows all of that to happen with ease?

Family owned and operated by Evelyn and Kip Nicely, Nicely Done Kitchens is dedicated to making sure each and every client is amazed with

their new kitchen.

Evelyn and her highly professional team of designers strive to make every one of your ideas come true, while offering valuable recommendations from their years of experience. They will also take care of all the measuring, construction logistics and tedious details.

Feel free to stop by their newly-remodeled showroom to browse the gorgeous displays and get ideas for your new kitchen.

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— Also, KitchenLite —

Ask about our KitchenLite program for a cost-effective smaller remodel.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

The National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA)
The American Institute of Architects (AIA)
The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
The SEN Design Group (SEN), Nationally Ranked #5
The National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI)
The Better Business Bureau of Washington, D.C. (BBB)



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703-764-3748

Watch our informative video at www.NicelyDoneKitchens.com



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT & GIFT GUIDE

FROM PAGE 11

Discover the wild turkey's habits and secret ways during a walk in the cedar forest at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Look for wild turkeys and their signs. This program for participants age three to adult. Cost: \$5 per person. 703-631-0013.

THURSDAY/DEC. 1-SATURDAY DEC. 3

Richard Byrd Library Holiday

Used Book Sale 3 - 5 p.m. 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Friends of Richard Byrd Library holiday used book sale is a semi-annual fundraising event. Funds support adult and children's programming and subscriptions at the Richard Byrd Library. rbfriends@gmail.com

FRIDAY/DEC. 2

The Lion, The Witch and the

Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis 6:30 p.m. Dinner with 7:30 p.m. performance. Truro Anglican Church 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Come see the play for a Holiday celebration of the classic C.S. Lewis novel - take a trip to Narnia. <http://www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org>

SATURDAY/DEC. 3

City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols noon - 7:30 p.m. Old Town Square 10415 North Street, Fairfax. Come enjoy live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols> for times and locations.

Lunch with Santa 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive. Children ages 10 and under can enjoy lunch with Santa at Old Town Hall. Two lunch seatings will be offered one at 11:30 a.m. and another at 12:30 p.m. Tickets: \$6 per child on sale at the Parks & Recreation office at City Hall, Sherwood Center, and Green Acres Center. Limit of 10 tickets per person.

Pre-Registration is required for this event - children 1 years of age and younger may attend at no cost but still must be registered. Parents do not need to purchase tickets. All are welcome - both Fairfax City residents and non Fairfax City residents. Tickets can be purchased online at: https://apm.activecommunities.com/fairfaxcityrecdept/Activity_Search/9853

Holiday Book Sale 10 - 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library 5935 Freds Oak Rd, Burke, VA 22015. Peruse and shop a selection of gently used holiday-themed books collected by the Friends of the Burke Centre Library. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/>



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

(From left) Friends Reese O'Donnell, 4, and Reilly Lewis, 3 1/2, hold hands at the 2014 City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols. This year's festival will be held at Old Town Square 10415 North Street, Fairfax, on Saturday Dec. 3 There will be live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols> for times and locations.

library/branches/bc/ City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols. Time TBA Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Come enjoy live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols> for times and locations.

The Lion, The Witch and the

Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis 2 p.m. performance. Truro Anglican Church 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Come see the play for a Holiday celebration of the classic C.S. Lewis novel - take a trip to Narnia. <http://www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org>

SUNDAY/DEC. 4

Fair Oaks Mall Hosts Pet Parties

with Santa 6:30 - 8 p.m. Santa's Flight Academy in Grand Court 11750 Fair Oaks. FairfaxFair Oaks Mall will offer pet parents a chance to celebrate the holiday season and visit with Santa. Pet photos will take place at the interactive Santa's Flight Academy holiday set located in Grand Court West. Please note that pets must be up-to-date on their vaccinations and must either be on a leash or carried in a lightweight,

portable pet carrier with harness. www.shopfairoaksmall.com/events.

THURSDAY/DEC. 8 - FRIDAY DEC. 9

Tiny Tots Concert at Robinson

Secondary School's Russell Theater Thursday 10 a.m. Friday 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Great holiday fun for "kids from 1 to 92" Robinson High School's Symphonic Band plays holiday tunes and introduces the audience to different types of musical instruments while costumed characters make appearances: Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph and more. For group reservations contact Karen Ingle at markarenin@verizon.net.

SUNDAY/DEC. 11

Fair Oaks Mall Hosts Pet Parties

with Santa 6:30 - 8 p.m. Santa's Flight Academy in Grand Court 11750 Fair Oaks. FairfaxFair Oaks Mall will offer pet parents a chance to celebrate the holiday season and visit with Santa. Pet photos will take place at the interactive Santa's Flight Academy holiday set located in Grand Court West. Please note that pets must be up-to-date on their vaccinations and must either be on a leash or carried in a lightweight, portable pet carrier with harness. www.shopfairoaksmall.com/events.

SEE HOLIDAY GUIDE, PAGE 13



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Simone Dinnerstein, pianist and guest soloist.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Comes to GMU

"Brahms' Great Beginnings" performed by Fairfax Symphony Orchestra with featured soloist Simone Dinnerstein at Center for the Arts, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performance on Nov. 19, at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$39, \$53, \$65. Tickets available online at cfa.gmu.edu or by phone at 888-945-2468. Note: Pre-Performance Discussion at 7 p.m. with David Ginder of WETA 90.9-FM and FSO Conductor Christopher Zimmerman with special guests.



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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT & GIFT GUIDE



Burke Civic Ballet to Present Nutcracker

Burke Civic Ballet's Nutcracker will be held on Saturday - Sunday/Nov. 19 - Nov/ 20 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at Ernst Theater on Northern Virginia Community College's campus 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Founded in 1993, The Burke Civic Ballet, offers its students a professional ballet performance. Dancers from age 3 to professionals present the holiday classic at a professional theater. This event has been an area favorite for over 20 years. For organized groups (10+) and handicapped seating, please email burkeciviballet@gmail.com

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On Tuesday, Nov. 1, Sharon Bulova, the Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay presented Burgundy Farm Country Day School's Head of School Jeff Sindler, a Springfield resident, with a resolution recognizing Burgundy "for its 70th anniversary, noteworthy education of children and inestimable contributions to Fairfax County."

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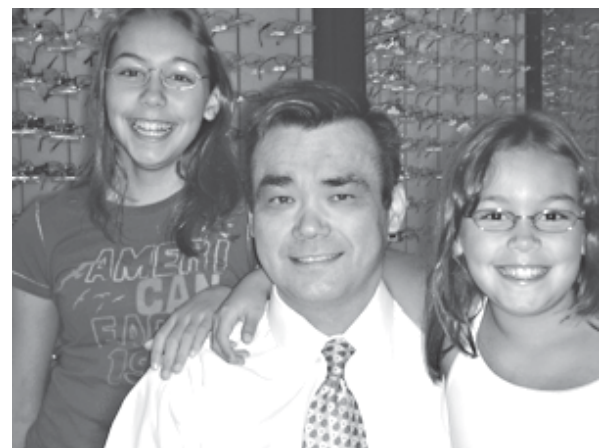
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Decking the Halls, Stuffing Bellies

Local cooking schools offer crash courses in holiday dishes.

Ever since Bernadette Lott can remember, she's had a sweet tooth as big as a sugarcane field. Describing herself as a hard and fast confection lover of the extreme type, she thinks her predilection for all things candy-coated probably started with her grandmother, who pretended not to notice when she devoured spoonfuls of sugar while the two were baking.

"I must have been three or four, standing on a stool in the kitchen, craning my neck to see," said Lott.

In fact, baking was a hobby she honed at her grandmother's hand, which later became a practical skill. She learned that in order to satisfy her ravenous sugar cravings, be they for shiny glazed lemon tarts or gooey chocolate trifles moistened with rum, she needed to learn to bake.

"I think my first word was cake," Lott said. "I love to bake, but I also do my fair share of tasting."

It's no wonder that for Lott and other foodies, the holidays offer a chance to legitimize an obsession with baking marathons that, if done at any other time of the year, might appear to be chocolate-covered-insanity.

In response, dozens of local chefs and culinary enthusiasts are rolling out a slew of holiday cooking classes this season. Want to make your own lemon rugelach? Considering letting your children take over the gingerbread baking? Interested in assembling a buche noel? From the informal classes that Lott runs out of her Alexandria kitchen to formal cooking schools with classes taught by professional chefs, there's instruction for students at both ends of the skills spectrum.

"These cooking classes help people get into the holiday spirit," said Toni Lipe of Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna, Virginia. "They learn to make things that they can wrap in paper and ribbon and give as gifts."

Students at Culinaria enter a holiday cookie paradise of softened butter, vanilla and coconut, and spend hours cutting, rolling and decorating, emerging at the end of class with boxes of rugelach, almond macaroons and other confections.

"The classes are filled with laughter and chatter," said Lipe. "It's like a party, such a wonderful experience."

In Lott's lessons, which she runs informally out of her home – students discover her through word of mouth – she demonstrates tooth-achingly rich buche de noel and fudge-filled, whiskey-soaked chocolate bundt cake recipes. A limited class size allows her to guide students through the process,



Friends Terri Carr and Elaine Agran have a decades-long tradition of baking holiday cookies for friends and family.

Terri Carr bakes, decorates and packages holiday cookies, which she sends to friends and family.

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
TERRI CARR



cess, from melting chocolate over simmering water to adding a good dousing of liqueur to the mixture and beating it into a fluffy batter before sliding it into the oven.

"Some of my best holiday childhood memories were baking with my family," said Lott. "I love being able to share that love with other people so that they can create

their own memories."

During her lessons, students rummage through a treasure trove of cookie cutters in shapes ranging from angels and wreaths to starfish and rosebuds. After mixing flour and nutmeg with lemon zest and vanilla extract, then chilling, rolling and cutting the dough, their effort bursts forth in the form

"The classes are filled with laughter and chatter. It's like a party, such a wonderful experience."

— Toni Lipe of Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna, Virginia

of highly spiced citrus, ginger cookies.

"I still like nibbling the cookie dough as much as I did when I was a little kid," said Claudia Yost, a recent student.

Even the youngest gourmands can add calorie-laden joy to the world this season. Diminutive cooks-in-training use seasonal bounty to create child-friendly versions of traditional Thanksgiving fare at Tiny Chefs cooking school. They use yeast, flour and sweet potatoes to create warm, fluffy doughnuts, encased in sugar that crunch slightly to the bite.

"Cooking during the holidays, and at any time, builds memories and gives them skills that they can use when they're responsible for preparing dinners later on down the road," said Katie Raguindin of Tiny Chefs.

In the gingerbread house-making class, instructors support children's imaginations, encouraging the wackiest, most creative designs, propelled by a rainbow of colored icing and decorative candies. There's even a gift class where they fill mason jars with ingredients for cookie dough. The project becomes present-ready when topped with shiny bows.

"We're giving them a nice way to participate with the holiday cooking," said Raguindin. "It's a good family activity, and they can remember for years to come that they got to cook with Mom and Dad for Christmas dinner."

Even as adults, life-long friends can relive their childhood sugarplum fantasies. At the start of the holiday season, Terri Carr and Elaine Agran gather in Carr's Potomac, Maryland, kitchen to preserve a baking tradition that spans more than three decades. For four days and four nights, the two friends lose themselves in a shrine of softened butter, flour and sugar, emerging with several thousand sugar cookies that they package and ship to friends, family and colleagues.

"We take turns. One of us sleeps while the other one bakes," said Carr, of Terri's Table, a cooking school she runs out of her home.

This year, Carr's holiday classes are focused on Thanksgiving, teaching students to make both main and side dishes, and ending with a crunchy and deeply nutty pecan pie.

At the end of her classes, Carr sets a festive table around which her apprentices gather and nosh on the fruits of their holiday labor until the last crumb is devoured.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

In Mrs. Char's fifth grade class, (Ret.) Lt. Col. Chuck Albo of Springfield got oohs and aahs when he showed off his winter flight suit and passed around his helmet from serving aboard a B-47 bomber for Strategic Air Command.



Also in Mrs. Char's class, Benjamin Hubert of Burke brought his father Col. Kevin Hubert to talk about his career in the U.S. Air Force. Col. Hubert flew on the AC1-130 Spectre Gunship in Bosnia, Korea, Afghanistan from 1997-2004, then the MC130-H Talon II from 2004-2008 as an electronic warfare officer in Afghanistan, Iraq, Romania, Chad.

Sangster Hosts Veterans Day Assembly

FROM PAGE 3

Hitzemann, as well as the national anthem while the military personnel on hand raised the American Flag on the school's flagpole.

Students in the crowd waved handheld flags while choir teacher Joie Verheul sang solo and conducted the choir in "God Bless America."

Principal Reddel's final message to students was to look beyond sports figures and animated characters for role models.

"We overlook the real heroes," Reddel said. "If you want to know a real hero, get to know a veteran or someone currently serving in the military."

Following the assembly, all Sangster students had that chance. At least one currently serving military member or veteran visited each classroom to share some of their experiences serving in the United States.

In Mrs. Char's fifth grade class, (Ret.) Lt. Col. Chuck Albo of Springfield got oohs and aahs when he showed off his winter flight suit and passed around his helmet from serving aboard a B-47 bomber for Strategic Air Command.

Albo, father of Del. Dave Albo (R-42) and grandfather of Ben Albo in Char's class, was active duty from 1958 to 1978.

He explained that during the Cold War, he and the crew with the B-47s needed to be ready to take off and drop nuclear bombs within five minutes.

"We had to be efficient," Albo said.

Albo later flew B-66 bombers over north Vietnam, and then moved to KC-135 fuel tankers.

Also in Char's class, Benjamin Hubert of Burke brought his father Col. Kevin Hubert to talk about his career in the U.S. Air Force.

Col. Hubert flew on the AC1-130 Spectre Gunship in Bosnia, Korea, Afghanistan from 1997-2004, then the MC130-H Talon II from 2004-2008 as an electronic warfare officer in Afghanistan, Iraq, Romania, Chad.



Clockwise from top right, Springfield residents Maj. Will Marcantel, U.S. Marine Corps and his sons Billy, Tom, daughter Leila and wife Kathryn gather after the Sangster Elementary School Veterans Day assembly program.

Hubert went on to work in squadron command and said he now does airplane purchasing for the military, based out of the Pentagon.

Hubert's more modern helmet being passed around drew a flurry of questions about his skydiving training. He also quizzed the class on some Veterans Day trivia, prompting them to respond how it commemorates "The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month," when World War I ended.

The colonel referenced his wife and son in the room, the latter he said was born overseas.

"I've had to move my family all over the place — it's tough on the families too," Hubert said. "We need to remember [them.]"



Right, Capt. Jennifer Blazewick, U.S. Navy, recited the poem "I am the Flag" by Lawrence M Jones.



Col. Jason Hayes, U.S. Army, gave a brief history of Veterans Day, beginning with President Woodrow Wilson's declaring Nov. 11 in 1919 Armistice Day honoring American heroes who died while serving in World War I.



Students in the crowd waved handheld flags while choir teacher Joie Verheul sang solo and conducted the choir in "God Bless America."

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

VIRGINIA: IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA (ALEXANDRIA) INDIANA LUMBERMENS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, Plaintiff, vs. TIMBER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES, LLC, et al., Defendants. CASE NO: 1:16cv692 CMH-TCB ORDER OF PUBLICATION THE ABOVE styled matter is a Complaint for Declaratory Relief concerning coverage by insurance policies described in the Complaint; AND IT APPEARING by Affidavit filed according to law that Karen M. Slimak is a named Defendant herein who cannot be found, and that diligence has been used by Plaintiff without effect to ascertain the location of said Defendant; NOW, THEREFORE, it is ADJUDGED, ORDERED and DECREED that said Defendant appears on or before December 26, 2016 in the Clerk's Office of this Court and do what is necessary to protect her interests. AND it is further ORDERED that this Order be published once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in the Greenville News, the Star Ledger, and the Springfield Connection, that a copy of this Order be posted at the front door of the courthouse. ENTER: September 13, 2016 United States Magistrate Judge Theresa Carroll Buchanan I ask for this: David D. Hudgins, Esquire, VSB No. 20602 HUDGINS LAW FIRM, P.C. 515 King Street, Suite 400, Alexandria, VA 22314 Telephone: 703-739-3300 Telefax: 703-739-3700dhudgins@hudginslawfirm.com

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News



PHOTO BY TONY DE LA PAZ

**Classical Ballet Theatre
To Present Classic Nutcracker**

Experience the magic of Classical Ballet Theatre's Nutcracker. Performed at the 520-seat Ernst Theater, this holiday classic includes all of the stunning costumes, dancing, and enchantment necessary to bring Clara's dream to life. Join Clara for a mischievously fun family holiday party, an epic battle between the Mouse King and Nutcracker, and a captivating journey with her Nutcracker Prince.

Saturday, Nov. 26 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 27 at 2 p.m. at Ernst Theater, Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. More Information: <http://www.cbntva.org/nutcracker>.

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.

TUESDAY/DEC. 6

Board of Supervisors' Public Hearing: at 4:30 p.m.
To subscribe to other Fairfax County electronic mailing lists, click the link below and follow instructions given: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/email/lists/>

Thank you for your interest in the Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance. Should you have questions, please contact the Zoning Administration Division at 703-324-1314.

ONGOING

Volunteers Needed as Drivers & Office

Workers Drivers are needed for trips Monday - Friday to medical appointments and Companion Shopping within the Fairfax/Burke area. Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke serves those 50+ and who no longer drive. Office Workers are needed to answer phones in the SCFB office (Monday - Friday) of individuals requesting rides and match an available driver for each request. If you can volunteer your time, please contact the SCFB office at 703-323-4788.

Four Free Private Well Owner Webinars to be Held in October one-hour webinars for household water well owners will be held in October on the subjects of addressing methane, iron and manganese, fluoride, and water treatment system maintenance by the National Ground Water Association (NGWA). To register visit: <http://www.wellowner.org/well-owner-webinars/>

Basic Disaster Response Skills Free Training Monday Nov. 7 at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy. There are two sessions each week on Mondays and Wednesdays that run until December 7. The class is 28 hours in length, plus the final practical exercise. CERT training is free of charge and basic gear is provided. The minimum requirements to participate in CERT training at any level is that residents be 16 years of age or older, and either be a Fairfax County resident,

or work in the county. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/cert.htm>

Burke Lake Seniors Golf League seeks members. Interested golfers are invited to join the Burke Lake Seniors Golf League. Must be 55 and older, enjoy playing golf, meeting new people and having an all-around good time. Reserved tee times on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Par 3 Burke Lake Golf Course on Ox Road. Annual dues for the season – April 1 through October 31 – are \$20 plus green fees. For more information, call Charlie Ryan 703-690-4227.

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults** to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Wakefield Senior Center in Annandale needs **Front Desk Volunteers** on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m. and Fitness Instructors. Volunteer instructor positions **could** lead to part-time employment. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Volunteer Fairfax seeks individuals, families, youth and corporate groups for service opportunities at a variety of nonprofit agencies. One-time special events or ongoing activities are available at www.volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.



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