

News from...

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July 2016

The Board Corner: Perspectives from Penny – Happy Fourth of July! Now that summertime is completely upon us, attention also turns to warm weather pests – like mosquitos. Discovery of the ZIKA virus in North America has prompted a lot of discussion, and sometimes fear, as more information about the disease, how it is spread, and potentially serious health consequences, becomes available from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). What's the likelihood of ZIKA in my neighborhood? How can I protect my family from ZIKA? What else do I need to know?

In conjunction with the Fairfax County Health Department, I am hosting a **ZIKA Information Town Hall** meeting on **Monday, July 18, at 7:30 p.m.**, at the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale. Representatives from the Health Department will be available to discuss ZIKA, what is known about the virus, and what you can do to prevent it, and other mosquito-borne diseases. I hope you will plan to attend the **ZIKA Town Hall on July 18**.

Come a bit early, and enjoy the gallery show of oils and watercolors by local artists Bill and Stephanie Firestone, and Stephanie's late father, Peter Haikalis. The art show is presented by the Art in the Mason District Governmental Center program, which features talented local artists in a variety of mediums. Regular hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Next year's art shows (each show is up for about three months in duration) are being planned now, so please notify my office if you, or someone you know, would like to be considered for participation.

Green Spring Gardens Features Art Show and Reception – On **Sunday, July 10, 2016**, from 1 - 3 p.m., Green Spring Gardens will host a reception at the Horticulture Center for artists Ruth Ensley (watercolor, mixed media and photography), Stanley Nartey (photography), and Kathy Ko (oil paintings), who will have their works on display at Green Spring Gardens through August 28, 2016. Meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments. The art display and event are free. Green Spring Gardens is located at 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria. For more information about this and other upcoming events, call 703-642-5173, or visit the Web site www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

Temporary Relocation of the Bailey's Community Shelter – The Planning Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, July 20, 2016**, regarding the 2232 application for the proposed temporary relocation of the Bailey's Community Shelter. The 2232 application proposes moving the shelter to a temporary location in an area adjacent to the Lincolnia Senior Center on North Chambliss Street. The existing shelter must be relocated in advance of the redevelopment of a property known as the Southeast Quadrant in Bailey's Crossroads. In the meantime, the search for a permanent site for a new shelter continues.

ULI Technical Assistance Panel to Develop Revitalization Strategies for Annandale – The Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) is sponsoring a study of the Annandale Commercial Revitalization District (CRD) with a concentration on the "downtown" core along Columbia Pike. A mix of industry experts (urban designers, planners, real estate professionals, etc.) from the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Washington Chapter will convene a Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) for Annandale on **Wednesday, July 20** and **Thursday, July 21** to discuss potential strategies, and **present their recommendations to the public at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 21, 2016**. The TAP will provide short- to medium-term revitalization strategies that concentrate on the appearance, economic vitality, and awareness/promotion of Annandale. Information about ULI Washington can be found at <http://washington.uli.org/>.

Prior to the TAP meeting, Fairfax OCR is interested in hearing from the community about their experience in Annandale, and receiving their ideas about the CRD's future enhancement. Contributions will be forwarded to the experts for consideration during their panel discussion. **Please visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/FairfaxCountyULITAP to share your thoughts and ideas. The survey will close on Tuesday, July 12.**

For more information about the TAP and to stay up to date about the initiative, please visit Fairfax OCR's website www.fcrevite.org/annandale/revitstrategies.html, call OCR at 703-324-9300; TTY 711, or contact the Office of Supervisor Gross by e-mail at mason@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call 703-256-7717.

The Annandale and Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Departments Invite You to a Crab Legs and Spiced Shrimp Feast – An all-you-can-eat crab legs and spiced shrimp feast fundraiser is set for **Saturday, July 30**, 2 to 5 p.m. at the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department, 7128 Columbia Pike in Annandale. Enjoy steamed crab legs, spiced shrimp, corn-on-the-cob, coleslaw, hush puppies, hot dogs, and much more. Proceeds will assist the Annandale and Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Departments with ongoing apparatus and station costs. For more information and to purchase tickets, or be a sponsor, visit www.avfd.org, or www.bxrvfd.org, or send an e-mail to crabfeast@avfd.org. The Annandale and Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Departments are non-profit 501c (3) organizations, and all donations are tax deductible. Donations may be mailed to: AVFD, P.O. Box 806, Annandale, VA 22003; and to the Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 1159, Falls Church, VA 22041-3609.

National Night Out Set for August 2 – Don't be left out on National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 2, 2016** between 6 – 9 p.m. It's an opportunity to enjoy a block party, cookout, or other planned community event. Heighten your awareness about how to keep crime out of our neighborhoods. Fairfax County Police officers will visit many neighborhood activities to support our community commitment to fight crime. For more information, and to invite the police to your event, contact your district police station: Mason Station, 703-256-8035; Franconia District Station, 703-922-0889; and West Springfield District Station, 703-644-7377.

Sales Tax Holiday/Tax-Free Weekend – Mark your calendar! **Virginia's 2016 Sales Tax Holiday** is coming! Starting **Friday, August 5, 2016** at 12:01 a.m. and ending the following **Sunday, August 7, 2016** at 11:59 p.m., consumers can purchase **qualifying** school supplies, clothing, footwear, hurricane and emergency preparedness items, and Energy Star and WaterSense products without paying sales tax. This includes qualifying items purchased online, by mail, or over the phone. For more information, including a list of qualifying items, visit www.tax.virginia.gov/content/sales-tax-holiday.

Study for Lincolnia Comprehensive Plan to Begin this Fall – The Lincolnia Planning District Land Use Study will commence this fall to consider designating a portion of Lincolnia as a Community Business Center (CBC) within the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. Based on its outcome, the study will provide planning guidance, particularly land use and development intensity recommendations. The study also will provide review and update planning guidance for the entire Lincolnia Planning District. A citizen task force would lead the community participation and guide the study. There will be numerous opportunities for public participation through community meetings and other venues. For an interactive map of the study area, please visit the Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/fairfaxforward/lincolnia/interactive-map/lincolniaplanningdistrict.htm. For more information, please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/lincolnia/, or call 703-324-1380 to speak with either planner Faheem Darab or Michael Burton.

Fairfax Animal Shelter Returns to Mason District for Low-Cost Rabies Clinic for Pets – The Fairfax County Animal Shelter and Pender Veterinary Clinic, in partnership with the Office of Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross and the Mason District Station of the Fairfax County Police Department, will host a low-cost rabies clinic on **Sunday, September 11**, 12 to 2 p.m. for dogs and cats in the Main Community Room of the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale. All dogs **must** be on leashes, and cats and ferrets **must** be in carriers. Fairfax County 2016 dog licenses will be sold separately and cost \$10. Cash and checks **only** will be accepted for payment at the clinic. For more information, call 703-830-1100, or visit the Fairfax County Animal Services Division Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal.

2016 Consumer Action Handbook – The 2016 edition of the Consumer Action Handbook is available! This handbook, published by the federal government, is loaded with helpful information about various consumer matters, useful tips, who to contact with problems, and how to file a complaint. The handbook includes a consumer assistance directory of companies, federal, state, and local government agencies, trade associations, and national consumer organizations. The Consumer Action Handbook is free. To order a copy, visit www.usa.gov/handbook or by mail: write to: Handbook, Pueblo, CO 81009. The handbook also is available in Spanish, and English and Spanish versions can be viewed and downloaded from the Web site.

Mason Matters! The Television Show – The mid-July/August edition of *Mason Matters!*, the television show that brings you news and information about our Mason District community, hosted by Supervisor Penny Gross, features John Kellas, Deputy Director of the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program, and Pamela Gratton, Director of Recycling, Engineering and Environmental Compliance for the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program. In recent years, consumers have been encouraged and are motivated to reduce, reuse and recycle whenever possible. As recycling efforts advance, there are changes being made to maintain and improve yard waste and recycling service and costs. Ending the use of plastic bags for yard waste collection is part of this endeavor and a piece of the bigger picture that ultimately benefits all Fairfax County residents. *Mason Matters!* airs on Cable Channel 16 every **Thursday at 7 p.m.**, and every **Friday and Sunday at 6:30 p.m.**, and daily on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mason.

The Quick 411 – Is there a place where I can learn more about the proposed meals tax in Fairfax County? Yes. The Board of Supervisors voted on **June 7, 2016** to place a meals tax referendum on the **November 8** election ballot. Information is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax to enable residents and stakeholders to understand the process and the details of the meals tax referendum.