



June 5, 2018

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Free Summer Concert Series: Springfield Nights

I'm thrilled to announce the inaugural summer season of Springfield Nights with a wide array of bluegrass, pop, rock and R&B music with opening acts by talented Fairfax County high school musicians. Mark your calendars now - Burke Lake Park every Wednesday from July 11 to August 15 at 7 pm.

Congratulations: Springfield District's 2018 Lord and Lady Fairfax

Congratulations to Harold Pyon and Lori Stillman and thanks for all you have done for our county.

Congratulations to Justin Laiti on the Distinguished Celebrate Fairfax Community Spirit Scholarship

This outstanding young gentleman, a 2018 graduate of WT Woodson High School, is a great example of our young student leaders.

Nearly Half of All Structure Fires In County Caused by Improper Disposal Of Smoking Materials

So far this year, over 40 percent of the structure fires in the County have been caused by the improper disposal of smoking materials. One day last month we had three major fires on the same day that displaced a large number of people. These fires are 100 percent preventable!

Other Happenings

- Document Shredding at West Springfield Government Center - Jun 16
- Burke Road Community Meeting Set - June 18
- Attend the "Made in Fairfax" Forum - June 18
- Travel on I-66? Park for Free and Ride Select Fairfax Connector Routes for \$1
- Traffic Alert - Graduation Season at GMU has Begun

Progress on Pension Reform

After over three years of pushing for another round of pension reforms, the Board finally appears poised to make additional changes to the County's unsustainable pension plan. A number of options have been put on the table for the Board to consider at its June 26th Committee meeting. There has been some support for adopting the entire package, but the outcome is far from certain. If the entire package is adopted, it will reduce pension costs for new employees by 19 to 25%, but still leave them with a pension plan better than any of our surrounding jurisdictions. While I believe the Board missed the opportunity to develop an overall compensation plan that would provide a mix of salary, pensions and benefits that would attract the best employees and teachers, these changes are meaningful and I support all of the changes to the general county employee pension plan and most of the changes to the public safety plans.

Currently, employees that begin employment with the County right out of school can retire as early as age 55 with a full pension benefit that is higher than those of surrounding jurisdictions. On top of that pension benefit they get a benefit unheard of today - a pre-social security supplement - as early as age 55. The pre-social security supplement is an additional county paid supplement that equals the social security payment they would have received if they were 67. Unlike real social security payments that increase with cost of living (less than 1% last year), this county paid benefit increases at a guaranteed 3%. These retirement benefits are far in excess of what is typical in today's work environment - even in the public sector.

Fairfax County currently has an unfunded pension liability in excess of \$5.5 Billion. Pensions alone currently cost the County 30 cents on top of every payroll dollar (about 70 cents if you include all benefits). Funding our pension liabilities competes with employee and teacher salary increases and our ability to fund the high quality of services our County residents have come to expect.

At our May 22 Personnel Committee meeting, the Board of Supervisors reviewed the options left on the table by the Retirement Working Group (consisting of most of the employee organizations and unions and two supervisors). The staff did an outstanding job of simplifying this very difficult material. [Here is a link to the details.](#) The changes are anticipated to take effect for new employees hired after July 1, 2019

and because they appropriately impact new employees only, the savings will be in future years.

The proposed changes are summarized below:

- Increasing the Minimum Retirement Age from 55 to 60 and set it at 50 for public safety employees
- Increasing from the Rule of 85 to the Rule of 90 - full retirement at salary plus age for general county employees
- Increasing the Salary Averaging Period from 3 years to 5 years
- Eliminate the Provision that increases the retirement annuity by 3% annually
- Increase the Employee Contribution Rate by approximately 1%

Retirement System Review
Personnel Committee – May 22, 2018

	Potential Change for New Hires	3/13/18 Package
1a	MINIMUM RETIREMENT AGE: Increase Minimum Retirement Age in ERS from 55 to 60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1c	MINIMUM RETIREMENT AGE: Establish a Minimum Retirement Age of 50 in URS/PORS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY: Increase from Rule of 85 to Rule of 90 in ERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3a	SALARY AVERAGING: Increase Salary Averaging Period from 3 Years to 5 Years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	ELIMINATE PRE-SOCIAL SECURITY SUPPLEMENT: Eliminate Pre-Social Security Supplement in ERS/URS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	ELIMINATE 3% FORMULA INCREASE: Eliminate the provision that increases the calculated retirement annuity by 3%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	INCREASE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION: Increase the employee contribution rate from 5.33% to 6% (ERS), from 7.08% to 8% (URS), and from 8.65% to 10% (PORS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Employees' System Percent Change in Employer Normal Cost	(24.68%)
	Uniformed System Percent Change in Employer Normal Cost	(20.41%)
	Police Officers System Percent Change in Employer Normal Cost	(18.63%)
	Total Projected GF Savings when Fully Realized based on Current Payroll	\$16.38m

While this package delivers some real pension reform and some very real future budget savings, I am disappointed we lost yet another opportunity to look at overall compensation comprehensively with the goal of a package of salary, health and retirement benefits that allows us to recruit, retain and reward the best employees and teachers in the region. Today's employees are different and motivated by differing elements of compensation and work environment. Along those lines, I did

ask the Board to consider giving the employees an option of a hybrid plan that would include options, like portability, to attract some of these younger, and even older, employees.

The changes were presented as a package and there was some support for enacting the entire package of reforms; however, the Board may advance a more limited package of reforms at its meeting on June 26. Unfortunately, it appears as though the public will not have a formal opportunity to weigh in on the reforms until after the package has been selected and it comes to public hearing in September or October this year. It is important that Supervisors hear from residents before the Personnel Committee meeting on June 26th with their opinions on the package.

Free Summer Concert Series: Springfield Nights



I'm thrilled to announce the inaugural summer season of [Springfield Nights](#)! I am very excited to offer this series in conjunction with our sponsors and the Park Authority Foundation. These free concerts will feature a wide array of well-known bluegrass, pop, rock and R&B music and artists.

I am especially proud to showcase the talented Fairfax County high school musicians who will open each show! Our setting is beautiful Burke Lake Park every Wednesday from July 11 to August 15 at 7 pm. The atmosphere is informal so bring a picnic dinner, blankets and lawn chairs and relax with friends and family. Please mark your calendars now - more information to be released shortly. Volunteers are always welcome! For more information, please contact my office at 703-451-8873. I look forward to seeing you this summer.

Congratulations: Springfield District's 2018 Lord and Lady Fairfax

Congratulations to Harold Pyon of Clifton and Lori Stillman on being named our 2018 Lord and Lady of Springfield District! Since 1984, Lord and Lady Fairfax aims to recognize extraordinary community leaders and volunteers.



Harold Pyon has a long history of public service to the Springfield District, Fairfax County and the Commonwealth of Virginia, including serving on the Fairfax County Economic Recovery Commission, the Annandale Chamber of Commerce, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, Fairfax County Small Business Commission and the Asian American Coalition. At the state level, Harold has served on the Board of Visitors for VCU and the State Board of Elections. Harold has also served extensively at the community level with his local PTA, and numerous charities and civic associations. He served over 4 years as Chairman and 18 years as a Board member of the Korean Community Service Center and is a Deacon of the Korean Central Presbyterian Church. Harold continually strives to make Fairfax County a better place to live with his unselfish desire to give back to the community.

Lori Stillman is passionate about helping people and has worked tirelessly to breakdown the negative stereotypes and discrimination that harm individuals with intellectual disabilities, mental health issues and substance abuse disorders through public information and education. As the Springfield District appointee to the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Service Board she used her leadership position to advocate for programs that support and improve their lives. Lori is currently the operational

chair of the newly created Welcoming Inclusion Network (WIN). In this position Lori has been given the leadership role of redesigning our critical programs to advance employment and day services for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Through her enthusiasm, leadership and drive, Lori has made Fairfax County a better place for all of our residents to call home.

Congratulations to Justin Laiti on the Distinguished Celebrate Fairfax Community Spirit Scholarship

Congratulations to Justin Laiti on being awarded the Celebrate Fairfax Community Spirit Scholarship! This outstanding young gentleman, a 2018 graduate of WT Woodson High School, believes in providing joy for others through his service to his communities. He is a leader in the Young Hearts organization, a community service group for which he was nominated for the Student of the Year for raising more than \$25,000 in a six-week time span for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. He also spends his time volunteering for the Salvation Army, the Raccoon Run, and Giving Tutoring, for which he organizes a group of 20 students to tutor at a Fairfax County Library.

He has been involved with WT Woodson High School's Student Government, is on the Superintendent's Advisory Council, is a National Honor Society officer, and is captain of the tennis team. Justin was named the Woodson Homecoming King this year and has received the William and Mary Leadership Award and the Rotary Award. Justin will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall, and majoring in Civil & Environmental Engineering.

Historically, around 325 students around the County apply for this scholarship, and only ten are chosen. Congratulations Justin.

Nearly Half of All Structure Fires in Fairfax County Caused By Improper Disposal of Smoking Materials

So far this year, 40 percent of the structure fires that firefighters and paramedics have responded to have been caused by the improper disposal of smoking materials. One day last month we had three major fires on the same day that displaced a large number of people. These fires are 100 percent preventable! Please consider public safety and remember how to safely smoke and dispose of smoking materials. Never dispose of cigarette butts in potted planting soil. The soil, when it gets too dry, can become highly flammable. Also, never flick cigarettes into mulch or shrubbery. Dispose of them in a suitable ashtray or bucket with sand, and ensure designated outside smoking areas have an appropriate fireproof container, ashtray or bucket. [Read more on the fire and rescue blog.](#)

Document Shredding at West Springfield Government Center - Jun 16

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program will be having a secure document shredding event on June 16 from 8 Am to noon at the West Springfield Government Center. These events are only open to Fairfax County residents along with residents of the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Documents from businesses will not be accepted.

Shredding starts at 8 am and conclude at 12 pm. All cars must be in line by 12 pm These are drive-through events and residents will be asked to remain in their vehicles. For everyone's safety, you will not be able to stand by and watch your paper being shredded.

[Visit the Dept. of Public Works website for the full list of dates and locations.](#)

Burke Road Community Meeting - June 18

Along with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT), I will be hosting a community meeting to update residents on the Burke Road Curve Improvement Project ([project website](#)) and the VRE Rolling Road Parking Lot Expansion. FCDOT staff will also be on hand to discuss traffic concerns shared by citizens at the previous Burke Road Curve Improvement Project meeting. The meeting is set for 7 pm in the community room (off the main lobby) of the West Springfield Government Center located at 6140 Rolling Road in Springfield. The event will begin with an open house from 7-7:15 pm, followed by a presentation at 7:15 pm and Q+A session at 7:45 pm.

Attend the "Made in Fairfax" Forum - June 18

Furniture, custom jewelry, textiles, baking, coffee roasting and 3D printing -these are all examples of the kinds of artisanal manufacturing and craft production that are on rise. Fairfax County is considering how to facilitate this kind of small-scale manufacturing that is becoming increasingly popular in today's "maker" culture.

The County is studying the most appropriate locations for this kind of community-friendly, small-scale production. Based on findings and public input, the County anticipates that it might update its land use and zoning rules to accommodate these kinds of craft businesses.

You are invited to attend a forum on Monday, June 18, 2018, at 6:30 pm at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference rooms 9/10.

Called "Made in Fairfax," the forum features a presentation by Ilana Preuss of Recast City - a national leader in the craft industry movement. It is also an opportunity to participate in a discussion about the opportunities and issues related to this new type of use in Fairfax County.

For questions, feedback or reasonable ADA accommodations, contact Fairfax County Revitalization Manager Doug Loescher at 703-324-9305, TTY 711, or douglas.loescher@fairfaxcounty.gov. More information can also be found at www.fcrevit.org.

Travel on I-66? Park for Free and Ride Select Fairfax Connector Routes for \$1

As construction work is underway to transform 22.5-miles of I-66 outside the Beltway, from I-495 to near Route 29 in Gainesville, Fairfax County travelers are urged to consider alternative commuting options. The construction work will continue until late 2022, when the new express lanes are expected to open. Travelers and commuters along I-66 are able to park for free and ride select Fairfax Connector bus routes serving the Vienna Metrorail Station for \$1. For a complete list of routes that you can take to the Vienna Metrorail Station for just \$1, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/I-66/bus-connections.

Traffic Alert - Graduation Season at GMU is Underway

George Mason University's (GMU) Fairfax Campus will host several high school graduations from now until Saturday, June 16th. Please plan the timing of your trips, allow extra time or look for alternative routes around the beginning and end of the graduations. The graduation schedule can be found below:



EAGLEBANK ARENA

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

2018 High School Graduation Schedule

Day	Date	Time	School
Friday	June 1	2:00p	Forest Park High School
		7:00p	Gar-Field High School
Saturday	June 2	9:30a	Freedom High School (PW)
		2:30p	Hylton High School
		7:00p	Osbourn Park High School
Sunday	June 3	2:30p	Paul VI Catholic High School
Thursday	June 7	9:30a	Robinson Secondary School
		2:00p	Falls Church High School
		7:30p	Chantilly High School
Friday	June 8	9:30a	Oakton High School
		2:00p	West Potomac High School
		7:30p	Centreville High School
Saturday	June 9	12:00p	J.E.B. Stuart High School
		7:00p	Thomas Jefferson High School
Monday	June 11	9:30a	South County High School
		2:00p	Thomas Edison High School
		7:30p	Westfield High School
Tuesday	June 12	9:30a	Lake Braddock Secondary School
		2:00p	Robert E. Lee High School
		7:30p	Herndon High School
Wednesday	June 13	9:30a	West Springfield High School
		2:00p	WT Woodson High School
		7:30p	South Lakes High School
Thursday	June 14	9:30a	Stone Bridge High School
		2:00p	Freedom High School (LC)
		7:00p	Park View High School
Friday	June 15	2:00p	Briar Woods High School
		7:00p	Broad Run High School
Saturday	June 16	9:30a	T.C. Williams High School

