

# A message from Kathy Smith

I hope you can join me tomorrow at the Clifton Giant (5740 Union Mill Road, Clifton, VA 20124) for the Stuff the Bus event that will benefit Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM). WFCM operates a food pantry in the Sully District that provides food for families in need in western Fairfax County. More information is below in the "Reminders" section.

In this week's newsletter you will find an update on the Chantilly Wegmans, information about the 2018 Teen Job Fairs, and resources to assist you during tax filing season.

Have any suggestions or comments for the newsletter? Are there any topics you would like to read more about? I would love to hear from you! I can be reached by email at <a href="mailto:sully@fairfaxcounty.gov">sully@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

# **Reminders!**

## Stuff the Bus Event -

Date: Saturday, January 27 Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Clifton Giant - 5740 Union Mill Road, Clifton, VA 20124

Benefitting Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM)

# Sully District 2018 Paving & Restriping Meeting -

Date: Wednesday, January 31

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Sully Governmental Center: 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Frank Room,

Chantilly, VA 20151

The Virginia Department of Transportation and Fairfax County Department of Transportation will host a community information meeting to discuss this year's paving and restriping efforts in the <u>Sully District</u>. The meeting provides residents with an opportunity to speak directly with road engineers and transportation planners about the repaving program, proposed striping changes and general traffic safety concerns. Information about repaving and restriping in the Sully District will be on display in an open house format, with a presentation at 7:30 p.m.

# 2018 Dog License & Renewal Due January 31 -

The deadline to purchase and/or renew dog licenses is Wednesday, January 31. The dog license fee is \$10 per dog and is good for one year (excluding service dogs, which receive licenses free of charge). All dogs four months old and up must

be licensed. You will need to provide the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) with a current certificate of rabies vaccination. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact DTA at 703-222-8234 (TTY: 711), or by email at <a href="mailto:dtadog@fairfaxcounty.gov">dtadog@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>.

# **Chantilly Wegmans Update**



The Wegmans in Chantilly is scheduled to open on June 3 of this year! Watch this video from NBC4 about jobs, Fairfax County's low unemployment rate, and the impact of a new Wegmans coming to Chantilly. The new Wegmans, near the intersection of Route 28 and Westfields Boulevard, will be the first in Virginia to feature the company's new Burger Bar and will bring 500 new jobs to the area.

Wegmans is the anchor store for The Field at Commonwealth which will also include: Chipotle Mexican Grill, Gusto, The Habit Burger Grill, Mellow Mushroom, Cava Mezze Grill, MyEyeDr., Pacific Dental Services, and more. For more information about The Field at Commonwealth, please visit <a href="https://www.regencycenters.com/property/detail/60669/The-Field-at-Commonwealth">https://www.regencycenters.com/property/detail/60669/The-Field-at-Commonwealth</a>.

# Community Meeting to Discuss Allowing Suburban Office Buildings to be Converted into Other Uses



Following a recent change to more easily allow <u>empty office buildings in mixed use</u> and industrial areas to be converted into other uses, Fairfax County officials are looking to expand this flexibility to offices in suburban neighborhoods.

To introduce this proposal, the county will hold a community meeting on Monday, January 29, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center, conference rooms 9 and 10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035.

At this meeting, county planners will seek public feedback on what kinds of conversions to allow and the criteria and conditions for offices to be eligible for conversion, such as ensuring they are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods.

The proposal would allow vacant or partially vacant offices to be turned into other uses without requiring a site-specific change to the land use plan, known as the <a href="Comprehensive Plan">Comprehensive Plan</a>. This could give these offices new life as apartments, schools, co-working spaces, maker spaces or food incubators. As an example, a former, five-story brick office building across from the Seven Corners Shopping Center was converted into Bailey's Upper Elementary, the county's first "high rise" school.

Even if this proposal is adopted, most eligible office buildings would still need to go through a rezoning process. This process offers many opportunities for community input, including public hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

Officials want to expand the conversion provisions to suburban office buildings as a way to deal with the more than 18 million square feet in vacant office space countywide.

The <u>Planning Commission</u> is currently scheduled to hold a public hearing on the proposal on March 22, and the <u>Board of Supervisors</u>, which must ultimately approve it, plans to hold its public hearing on May 1.

Last December, the board directed county planners to move forward with this proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment.

For more information, provide input or request reasonable ADA accommodations, call the <u>Department of Planning and Zoning</u>, at 703-324- 1232, TTY 711.

# **Events at E.C. Lawrence Park**



## **Making Ice and Ice Cream**

Saturday, January 27 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Crank ice cream as you discover how ice was harvested and stored in this 19th century farm. Try using ice tongs. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered in the program. Ages: 2 and up. Cost: \$10 (County resident); \$12 (non-resident).

# Feeding Day

Saturday February 3 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Join a naturalist and youth volunteers as we demonstrate how we feed our site display animals. Make a birdfeeder to take home and use. Search for worms and insects and assist in serving dinner. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Ages: 2 and up. Cost: \$7 (County resident); \$9 (non-resident).

## Historic Survival Skills Workshop

Monday, February 19 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Would you have survived living at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park in the past? In this immersive, day-long workshop, jump through three centuries in one day. Learn about the Native Americans who lived here, make butter and ice cream to learn the ins and outs of a dairy farm, and drill like soldiers. Download camp forms from website. Ages: 8 to 14. Cost: \$65 (County resident); \$80 (non-resident).

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park is located at **5040 Walney Road in Chantilly, VA**. For more information, visit Ellanor C. Lawrence Park or call 703-631-0013.

# 2018 Fairfax County Teen Job Fairs

You are invited to attend the 2018 Fairfax County Teen Job Fairs and Resume Building Workshops. First jobs are important and these events help connect teens and employers face to face and prepare our youth for the workforce.

These events will focus on student job seekers (approximately ages 16 to 18) looking for full time employment, after-school employment, seasonal positions, internship opportunities, or volunteer experiences. It is open to all teens in Fairfax County looking for employment or wanting tips to build their resume. Volunteer opportunities and resume building workshops will be available for younger students looking to begin to build their resume. We ask that students click here to register.

Businesses and organizations have the opportunity to showcase their companies, brand their business in the local community, and advertise the positions they have available. It does not cost to participate. Businesses and organizations seeking to secure space at the job fair should <u>click here</u> to fill out the application form.

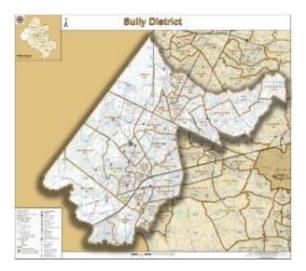
During our four job fairs last year, over 2000 Fairfax County teenagers and 120 employers attended all events combined. These job fairs provided hundreds of teenagers the opportunity to get in front of employers and for employers and volunteer organizations to find talented, driven Fairfax County students to fill their positions.

Saturday, April 7 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Chantilly High School

Co-sponsored by Supervisor Kathy Smith, Chantilly HS STEM Academy, and Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

The full schedule is available online.

# **Sully Land Use Spotlight**



## **Recent Sully Cases:**

# RZ 2017-SU-025/SE 2017-SU-022-JSF Management, LLC. (PC Hearing) -

Application Summary: This was a multi-component rezoning and special exception application. The rezoning was to move the subject property from the C-7 to C-8 zoning classification. The associated special exception application was to enable a) a mini-warehousing facility on the C-8 zoned site and b) to increase the Floor Area Ratio from 0.50 to 0.70. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the application on January 24, 2018.

## **Upcoming Meetings:**

# **Development Process Committee -**

The Board of Supervisors Development Process Committee will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 30 at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in conference room 11. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/board-development-process-committee-meeting-jan-30-2018">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/board-development-process-committee-meeting-jan-30-2018</a>.

## **Planning Commission Meeting -**

The Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in the Board Auditorium. There are no Sully cases on the agenda at this time. You can view the agenda online.

# **Volunteer Opportunity in Sully**



Program Leader at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

Teach kids and adults about the wonders of our cultural and natural history at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Visitors learn all about the local environment, nature and history during our series programs and on field trips. This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone with a passion for the outdoors and a drive to help instill it in a new generation.

#### **Duties:**

Program leader facilitates indoor and outdoor programs offered at the park or in the community. The program leader aids with program planning and development which may include producing visual aids, using AV equipment and room set-up. May also help with other program or park activities including leading trail walks.

## **Qualifications:**

Volunteers should have a strong interest in nature, history, farm life or horticulture as well as an interest in the stewardship of the county's natural and cultural resources. Patience with young children and the desire to communicate effectively with children is essential. Experience in working with groups of children is helpful. Must attend site orientation and on-the-job training as required. Mandatory Volunteer, Facility Based Safety, Outdoor Safety and Interpretive Training will be provided.

Minimum Age to Volunteer: 18

**Time Commitment:** You will be expected to volunteer 4 hours per month for 1 year.

#### Location:

Walney Visitor Center 5040 Walney Road Chantilly, VA 20151

## Contact:

Alli Hartley 703-631-0013

Allison.Hartley@fairfaxcounty.gov

# Resources to Help You During Tax Filing Season



It is time to start thinking about filing our federal and state taxes. But there is some good news, we can make your life a little easier with free county resources to help you get through the tax season.

## **Free Income Tax Preparation:**

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA): If you worked in 2017, and earned less than \$54,000, then you may qualify for this free service provided by community volunteers who are designated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as certified tax preparers. They will ensure that you receive the maximum tax refund and help determine if you are eligible for tax credits. You will need to <a href="mailto:bring">bring</a> photo ID and other documents.

Families throughout Northern Virginia received over \$10.7 million in federal refunds last tax season through this free service.

Get VITA Dates and Locations

Income Assistance for Older Adults: Our county <u>Library branches</u> also host the AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program, which provides free help in preparing and filing state and federal income tax returns. Offered in cooperation with the IRS, the Tax Aide Program provides free tax assistance services for low- and middle-income taxpayers, with special attention given to those age 50 and over.

Get AARP Tax Aide Program Dates and Locations

**State Tax Filing Assistance:** The county's <u>Department of Tax Administration</u> offers general assistance in completing Virginia state income tax returns. Call 703-222-8234 (TTY: 711) or visit the office at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 261, Fairfax, VA 22035, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Free Tax Information:

Doing your taxes can be overwhelming and complicated. There are a number of free information resources to help you through the process:

- <u>Tax Tips</u> and <u>Tips for Choosing a Tax Preparer</u> From Our Consumer Affairs
   Division
- <u>Tax Forms and Information From the Library</u>
- Information for People with Disabilities

#### **Customer Service Phone Numbers:**

## Federal Income Tax

(Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) 1-800-829-1040

## Virginia State Income Tax

(Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) 804-367-8031

## Fairfax County Taxes

(Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) 703-222-8234 TTY 711

## Tax Relief Workshops Schedule:

On the local tax front, the Board of Supervisors will host a series of free tax relief workshops at the end of February through March at several locations throughout the county. Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications. You may also be eligible for car tax relief and tax relief for renters. County staff from the Department of Tax Administration will be on hand to assist with filling out the application forms and to answer questions. Learn more about tax relief in Fairfax County.

Get Tax Relief Workshop Dates and Locations

# **AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program Schedule**

The <u>AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program</u> provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to taxpayers of all ages. The program runs from **Thursday, February 1 to Tuesday, April 17, 2018.** Below is the 2018 site schedule for the program.

Their counselors are trained to prepare Virginia, Maryland, and DC as well as Federal returns. They handle most forms of income, and work to ensure that taxpayers receive applicable credits and deductions.



#### AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Locations in Northern Virginia

#### Mason District Government Center

6507 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30 am - 1 pm
Monday & Thursday 1 pm - 8 pm
Saturday 9 am - 1 pm

#### Sherwood Regional Library

2501 Sherwood Hall Lane Alexandria, VA 22306 Monday - Thursday 10:15am - 2pm & 5pm – 8pm Friday & Saturday 10:15am – 2pm

#### SunTrust Bank of Vienna

515 Maple Avenue East Vienna, VA 22180 Monday - Friday 10 am - 2 pm

#### Arlington Central Library

1015 North Quincy Street Arlington, VA 22201 Tuesday 10 am - 7 pm Thursday 10 am - 4 pm

#### Centreville Regional Library

14200 St. Germain Drive Centreville, VA 20121 Tuesday 4 pm - 8 pm (Closed Feb 13<sup>th</sup>) Wednesday 1 pm - 5 pm

#### Columbia Pike Branch Library

816 South Walter Reed Drive Arlington, VA 22204 Tuesday 1:15 pm - 7:45 pm Friday & Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

#### James Lee Community Center

2855 Annandale Road Falls Church, VA 22042 Tuesday & Thursday 1 pm - 4:30 pm

## **Bull Run Regional Library**

8051 Ashton Avenue Manassas, VA 20109 Mon 10am - 5pm (Closed Feb 19<sup>th</sup>) Thurs 10am - 7pm (Closed Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> & Mar 29<sup>th</sup>) Sat 10am-2pm (Feb 10&24, Mar 10&31, Apr 7&14)

#### Providence Community Center

3001 Vaden Drive Fairfax, VA 22031 Saturday 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

#### Mott Community Center

12111 Braddock Road Fairfax, VA 22030 Thursday 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm (Closed Feb 17<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Reston Community Center**

2310 Colts Neck Road Reston, VA 20191 Tuesday 9 am - 2 pm Thursday 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm Saturday 9 am - 3 pm

#### Chinn Park Regional Library

13065 Chinn Park Drive Woodbridge, VA 22192 Tues & Thurs 10:30 am – 3 pm (Closed Mar 6<sup>th</sup>) Sunday, March 4 & March 18 12 pm - 3 pm

- Available Feb. 1 through April 17, 2018
- · For taxpayers with low and middle income
- All ages, with special attention to seniors
- FREE, quality, and confidential service
- Federal, Virginia, Maryland and DC tax returns prepared & electronically filed FREE
- Travel Team available for Shut-Ins, call 703-594-6576
- · Tax questions can be answered
- · Provided by dedicated IRS-certified volunteers
- AARP TaxAide is a program of the AARP Foundation, offered in conjunction with the IRS

Bring your photo ID(s), Social Security Card(s), tax documents, and your prior year tax return.

# **Fairfax Alerts**



Have you signed up for Fairfax Alerts? Signing up keeps you informed! Choose up to 10 delivery methods like home phone, cell phone, email, text messaging, and more. The types of alerts you can choose are: weather, traffic, public safety, County tax deadlines, and more. For more information and to register online, please visit <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts</a>.

# Flu Season: What You Should Do/Know



The <u>Fairfax County Heath Department</u> is reporting a lot of cases of flu in our community. Even if you got the flu shot, you should still make sure you are washing your hands. Read below for more tips and information from the Health Department to keep you and your family healthy this flu season.

An annual <u>flu vaccine</u> is the best way to fight the flu. The Health Department recommends getting vaccinated as soon as possible. The flu vaccine is available at <u>Health Department clinics</u>. Use the Flu Vaccine Finder on this page to locate other vaccination centers near you.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that everyone six months and older get vaccinated against the flu every year, especially people who are at high risk.

Learn more about all types of flu from CDC.

### 2017-2018 Flu Season:

Seasonal flu viruses can be found year-round; however, seasonal flu activity can begin as early as October and continue to occur as late as May. Flu activity most commonly peaks in the United States between December and March.

- Frequently Asked Flu Questions 2017-2018 Influenza Season (CDC)
- Toolkit for Long-Term Care Employers (CDC)

#### Flu Prevention:

Get an annual flu vaccine.

- 1. Wash your hands.
- 2. Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Stay home when sick.

#### Learn About Seasonal Flu:

- Key facts about flu.
- Stay informed by visiting <u>Flu.gov</u>.

#### Flu Vaccine:

- Flu vaccine is safe and effective.
- Flu vaccine cannot cause the flu.
- Use the <u>Flu Vaccine Finder</u> to locate a provider near you. Cost for vaccine may vary by location.
- Flu vaccine is available through all of the traditional flu vaccine providers which include:
  - o Your doctor or health care provider.
  - Local pharmacies and grocery stores.
- Flu vaccine is available at <u>Fairfax County Health Department clinics</u>.

# Economic Indicators: Home Sale Prices Up; Unemployment is 2.9 Percent



The latest economic indicators report is out so you can see what's up and what's down in our economy. This new report shows positive news for home sales and our unemployment rate in Fairfax County.

These monthly <u>economic indicators</u> serve as one of the tools used by the Board of Supervisors, county executive, and budget staff to make decisions on the county's budget. The <u>FY 2018 Budget</u> became effective on July 1 and the county executive will present his proposed <u>FY 2019 Budget</u> to the Board of Supervisors on **Tuesday, February** 20.

# Read the Latest Report

## What's Up in Economic News -

▲ Home Prices: The average sales price of homes sold in our county in November was \$568,027, an increase of 9.6 percent over the November 2016 average sales price of \$518,452. Also of note, the average November price was up 4.3 percent compared to the annual 2016 average home sales price of \$544,416.

	NOV 2017	NOV 2016	% Change
All Homes	\$568,027	\$518,452	9.6%
Detached Homes	\$756,498	\$686,843	10.1%
Attached Homes	\$372,664	\$361,894	3.0%

▲ **Jobs:** The October unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage point to 2.9 percent. The number of unemployed residents decreased over the month from

18,938 to 18,438. The county's unemployment rate was down 0.4 percentage point from October 2016.

- ▲ Commercial Office Market: The mid-year 2017 direct office vacancy rate decreased to 15.4 percent, down from 15.8 percent at year-end 2016. The vacancy rate has been gradually declining for three straight years and is at its lowest level since 2013.
- ▲ Tax Receipts: Through the first five months of FY 2018 (July November), Sales Tax receipts are up 3.2 percent over FY 2017.
- ▲ Home Sales Volume: In November, 1,114 homes were sold in Fairfax County, an increase of 4 percent over the 1,071 homes sold in November 2016.

#### What's Down -

▼ Inventory of Homes for Sale: The number of active listings in our county in November was 2,245, a decrease of 16.7 percent from the 2,693 listings in November 2016.

#### Learn More:

The county has a strategic roadmap to grow and expand our economy. Learn more about the <u>Economic Success Plan</u>.

# INOVA Partnership Expands Rehab Services to County RECenters



Thanks to a new partnership between our <u>Park Authority</u> and <u>Inova</u>, medically-based rehabilitative services, along with community-based exercise programs, are all available under one roof at select county facilities.

A pilot program at <u>Audrey Moore RECenter</u> in Annandale has been so well-received, it is being expanded to <u>Cub Run RECenter</u> in Chantilly and <u>Spring Hill RECenter</u> in McLean.

# **Integrating Technology Into Rehab:**

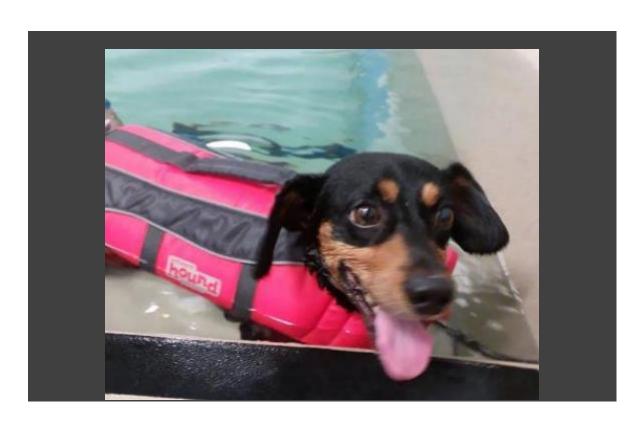
Wayne Arrington of Chantilly is among the first people to take advantage of the new Inova physical therapy services at Cub Run RECenter. The 65-year-old retired database administrator suffers from back pain and is just getting started with his rehab.

In addition to finding skilled therapists at a convenient location near his home, he is impressed with the way the medical professionals use technology to help patients continue with exercises at home.

"They have a real nice system where you go online with a smart phone and an app takes you through the exercise routine," he said. "It's an excellent tool, and as the therapist adds exercises to the list, the app runs through them for you including number of repetitions and duration. It's worth its weight in gold!"

To learn more about Inova's services at Fairfax County RECenters or to make an appointment, call 1-877-604-6682 or visit <a href="https://www.inova.org">www.inova.org</a>.

# **Animal Shelter Corner**



# **Meet Jiggles!**

Age: 8y 1m Gender: Male

Color: Black / Tan

Spaved/Neutered: No

Size: Small

Get your hankies ready (for happy tears). This is the story of Jiggles. This joyful, smiley, adorable little boy was surrendered to the shelter after he suffered an unknown injury that caused him to lose the use of his back legs. He was able to stand on all four legs, but would collapse when he tried to walk, dragging his legs behind him. His owners were already caring for a sick family member and didn't have the time to devote to Jiggles's recovery, so the shelter took him in, sent him to see their vet, and immediately placed him with one of their fosters for some rest and recuperation.

At first, they didn't see much improvement. He was able to get around using a sling, and his foster mom said he was a spunky little dude who didn't care that he couldn't use his back legs. Once you got the sling on him, he was OFF - maneuvering quite speedily with just his front legs. Then the shelter started him on acupuncture, hydrotherapy (swimming), and physical therapy. That's when his whole world changed. In about a week, he was WALKING!! And not just walking. He was CRUISING! He still wobbles when he walks and isn't going to be ready for a marathon anytime soon, but he's definitely improving.

So now it's time to find him a new home where he can continue his recuperation and be rewarded for his progress with love and affection from his very own family. Jiggles has a number of hydrotherapy and acupuncture

sessions left that will be donated to his adopter to keep him on the road to recovery. Jiggles is a special boy - not because of his disability but because of his spirit. Through his whole ordeal, he has had a big, goofy smile on his face and is quick to reward your kindness with love and kisses. He is a lesson for all of us that even when you face some of life's hardest challenges, love and kindness will get you through. Come visit this amazing pup today! For more information, please contact the Animal Shelter and animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.

# "Caring for You, Caring for Me" Program



Fairfax County is offering a **free** "Caring for You, Caring for Me" program for caregivers of older adults. "Caring for You, Caring for Me" is a blend of interactive support and education for caregivers of older adults. The program focuses on advocacy and care for both the caregiver and care recipient. Participants report increased feelings of confidence and competence in their caregiving role after attending the program.

Sessions are held for five weeks every Monday from February 26 to March 26, 2018, and focuses on a different module each session:

- What it means to be a caregiver
- Taking care of yourself
- Building cooperative relationships
- Preventing and solving problems
- Accessing and developing resources

The sessions from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Insight Memory Care Center (3955 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax, VA 22030). Registration is available online.

Respite services are available on a sliding fee scale for caregivers who would like to attend, but are unable to make arrangements for their loved one. Three weeks advance notice is required if respite services are being requested.

For more information about the "Caring for You, Caring for Me" program, or to request respite services, please call 703-324-7577 (TTY 711).