

Serving all Current and Retired Federal Civilian Employees, Spouses and Survivor Annuitants

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MEETING: Monthly on First Tuesday – Except July & August
WHERE: American Legion Post 177 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax
TIME: Social Hour – 11:30 AM Lunch – 12:00PM
 Cost – \$15.00
 Speaker / Program – 12:30 PM
MEETING SCHEDULE: September 6, 2022
 October 4, 2022
 November 1, 2022
 December 6, 2022

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Members of the Chapter 737, summer is about to end with the beginning of a new school year. Chapter 737 will begin the new program year on September 6th with a presentation of <<<<<< Fairfax County Sheriff Stacy Kincaid at the American Legion Post. Sheriff Kincaid is the first woman to lead the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office in its history. The chapter picnic in June was well attended. Since then, summer activities have naturally drawn our attention from NARFE affairs. However, remember to vote by August 31 for NARFE National President and Region X Vice President. Our colleague and member of Chapter 737, Bill Shackelford is running for National President of NARFE.

Please mark your calendar to attend the September 6th program.

Charles "Mike" Fleming – Chapter President

FOOD FOR OTHERS

We will continue our collection of non-perishable food to donate to "Food For Others" (FFO) at the September meeting. Bob Sottile and Ted Pasek will be collecting food donations in the American Legion parking lot before and after the September 6th meeting. The collection at the June Picnic totaled 208 pounds. Keep up the good work!! There are still many Fairfax County residents in need. With school resuming there are special student assistance provided by FFO. From the www.FoodforOthers.org/give-food web site, here is more information. Most needed items include:

- Fresh fruits (oranges, apples, bananas, tomatoes, avocados, grapes, berries)
 - Fresh vegetables (cucumbers, celery, peppers, lettuce, eggplant)
 - Oil
 - Cereal
 - Canned tomato products (crushed, peeled, diced, etc.), 4oz – 1 lb
 - Canned meat (chicken, turkey, or seafood), 2oz – 15oz
 - Rice, 16oz packages
 - Spaghetti sauce, 14oz – 1 lb (ideally in cans instead of glass)
 - Canned fruit (packed in fruit juice instead of syrup) 11oz – 20oz
 - Dried or canned beans (black, kidney, pinto, etc.)
 - Pasta
 - Fruit juice (100% juice) 32oz – 64oz
- Non Food Items:**
- New or Clean Reusable Grocery Bags 8 ½ x 14 x 15
 - Can openers

We are also happy to accept perishable items including meat and dairy products that are sealed, in their original packaging, and **UNEXPIRED**. We are unable to accept donations of items that are more than 3 years expired, opened items, food that is not labeled, homemade items, or cooked food.

Ted Pasek – Immediate Past Chapter President

PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 2022

Our regular face-to-face meeting location, American Legion Post 177, is **OPEN** now and we have resumed meeting in-person. So, COVID-19 willing, we will be meeting in person if all goes well in the Fall. Chapter meeting begins at 12:00 noon and the program will begin at 12:30 PM. If you have program requests or if you have any comments on the programs, please feel free to contact our Program Chair Sharon Leniussa at a Chapter meeting, or at 703-801-2551 by e-mail at leniussa@gmail.com.

September 6	Fairfax County Sheriff Stacy Kincaid will provide guidelines to avoid scams directed at seniors and guidelines to make seniors more aware of frauds directed at seniors. Sheriff Kincaid will also answer questions from Chapter members
October 4	Ms. Mary Lipsey, Burke Historical Society, speaking about Clara Barton and her work with Civil War soldiers and formation of American Red Cross
November 1	Presentation of the Colors by American Legion Blue Cross / Blue Shield Representative will provide updates in 2023 Health Insurance Program Donna Shackelford, Virginia Federation Alzheimer's Chair, will provide updates on Alzheimer's Research and National, Federation and Chapter contributions
December 6	Holiday Celebration

Sharon Lenius – Program Coordinator

TREASURER’S REPORT

As of July 1, 2022, the Chapter account balance was \$8,914.79. Our income was \$239.64 in July and in August \$106.14 from dues money dispensed from Headquarters. There have been no other transactions during the month. Our balance as of August 31, 2022, was \$9,260.57. Please remember that the cost of our luncheon has gone up due to new management at the Legion. You will now have to pay \$15.00 for your meal. It is still a bargain because we still get a yummy dessert with the meal and your tea/coffee is also included.

Donna Shackelford – Treasurer

SCHOOL SAFETY

Schools are starting back in session across the Commonwealth this week and in the next couple of weeks. Sheriff’s offices are reminding folks to please be cautious and patient when traveling during school hours. Delays are expected in our school zones for the first few days of school as parents drop off and pick up students. Be cautious throughout your travels as school buses will be back on the road transporting students as well.

As students and teachers are headed back to school, so are our wonderful School Resource Officers. SRO’s work diligently to help protect, mentor, and teach the students, teachers, and staff during the school year and beyond.

Virginia Sheriffs’ Institute wishes everyone a happy, healthy, and safe 2022-2023 school year!

Back to School Safety Reminders for Drivers.

Here are 4 easy ways to stay alert:

- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school’s drop off procedure.
- Make eye contact with children crossing the street.
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children.
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus.



LEGISLATIVE NEWS

(As of August 24, 2022)

NATIONAL LEGISLATION – On August 16, President Biden signed a long-awaited bill meant to reduce health costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and raise taxes on corporations and wealthy investors, capping more than a year of on-again, off-again negotiations.

The bill, which Democrats named the Inflation Reduction Act, invests \$370 billion in spending and tax credits in low-emission forms of energy to fight climate change. It extends federal health-insurance subsidies, allows for the government to negotiate prescription drug prices for seniors on Medicare and is expected to reduce the federal deficit by about \$300 billion over 10 years.

The legislation would increase taxes by about \$300 billion, largely by imposing new levies on big corporations. The law includes a new tax on certain corporate stock repurchases and a minimum tax on large firms that use deductions and other methods to reduce their tax bills. It also bolsters funding for the Internal Revenue Service in an effort to crack down on tax evasion and collect potentially hundreds of billions of dollars that are currently owed to the government but not paid by high earners and corporations. It passed the House and Senate earlier in August entirely along party lines, as Democrats employed a legislative process to bypass a Republican filibuster.

For months, President Biden had been unable to bring his party together on a final bill using only Democratic votes, but a last-hour compromise between majority leader Senator Chuck Schumer of New York and holdout centrist Democrat Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia paved the way for the agreement to go forward. **(New York Times)**

The Senate has followed the House in recessing until after Labor Day, leaving to September, and likely later, decisions on a number of key issues affecting federal employees. When legislators return, they plan to be in session for only three weeks before recessing at the end of September, the end of the current fiscal year. This raises the need to enact funding to head off a possible government shutdown when current funding lapses. That almost certainly would be a temporary measure rather than full-year funding.

The House has passed only six of the 12 regular appropriation bills, and the Senate has not moved any through the committee level. An extension likely would continue until sometime in late November or even into December, since Congress will again stand in recess in October through the week after the November elections.

Along with the issues of agency spending, and therefore staffing levels for the new fiscal year, the appropriations process determines the federal employee raise for 2023. Both chambers have moved to allow President Biden's recommendation for a 4.6 percent increase to take effect by default by taking no position on the raise. **(FEDweek)**

VIRGINIA LEGISLATION – A compromise two-year \$165 billion budget passed by a divided Virginia Assembly that took effect July 1 authorized nearly \$4 billion in tax relief, increased pay for teachers and other public employees, a K-12 education spending boost and funding for a wide range of projects from roadwork to school construction.

On August 19, Gov. Glenn Younkin, speaking to the General Assembly money committees, laid out his political agenda for "Day Two" of his new administration, more tax cuts, especially for businesses; no additional government subsidies for affordable housing; and a "maniacal focus" on creating jobs. Citing a \$1.9 billion revenue surplus in the fiscal year ending June 30, he proposed to set aside \$397 million in a new taxpayer relief fund as "a down payment" on additional tax cuts.

Senate Finance Chair Janet Howell, D-Fairfax, urged caution about additional tax cuts, stating it is probably premature to act quickly. **(Richmond Times-Dispatch)**

SUNRISE SENIOR LIVING

HELPING VETERANS FIND THE CARE THEY NEED – We are proud to have so many veterans and their spouses call Sunrise home. Veterans looking for senior care may be able to take advantage of a valuable benefit through the **Department of Veterans Affairs Aid and Attendance** program. Learn more by visiting www.SunriseSeniorLiving.com/Veterans or calling Sunrise at Fair Oaks at 703-289-0064.



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Postal Service (Time Value) Please Deliver By September 2, 2022

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Please consider receiving your newsletter electronically. Contact your Newsletter Editor at **WShack1951@aol.com** to make the change. By receiving the E-Newsletter, **the chapter saves money** & you enjoy pictures of chapter activities in color. The newsletter is also on the Virginia Federation website at **www.vanarfe.org** as well as the FEDHub platform at **www.narfe.org**. This issue of the Fairfax Chapter 737 newsletter is being sent to 343 members with 208 being sent by USPS & 135 sent via e-mail.

William Shackelford – Newsletter Editor

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Articles for the October 2022 issue of Fairfax Chapter 737 newsletter are due to the editor by e-mail at **WShack1951@aol.com** by **September 20, 2022**.