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Veterans Day ceremony slated at City Dock

Annapolis Branch 24, Fleet Reserve Association, will host the City of Annapolis' Veterans Day ceremony at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Memorial Circle at City Dock.

Veterans groups, youth organizations and the Annapolis Police Department will parade the colors before opening ceremonies. The Annapolis High School Band will play the national anthem.

Annapolis Mayor Ellen Moyer will be the speaker. A member of the Naval Academy Band will play Taps.

Information: 410-267-0621 or 410-533-7113.

Historical society to raffle airline tickets

The Ann Arrundell County Historical Society is holding a raffle for two Southwest Airlines tickets to anywhere the carrier flies.

Chances are \$5, and the winner will be drawn at the holiday open house Dec. 7 at the Benson-Hammond House in Linthicum.

Information: 410-544-8473.

Kipke named to panel to help senior citizens

Republican state Del. Nic Kipke of Pasadena has been appointed by House Speaker Michael Busch to the state commission focusing on keeping older senior citizens independent and in their own homes instead of in institutional care.

The Statewide Empowerment Zones for Seniors Commission was authorized Oct. 1, 2007, to offer incentives to

communities to create "aging-in-place" services and engage seniors in civic and social activities.

"No one wants to live in a nursing home, but many elderly people and their families sometimes feel as if this is the only alternative," Kipke said. "The truth is, many times they just need a little extra help managing their medications, with bathing and with transportation to the grocery store or to a doctor's appointment. By providing a little extra support at home, in many instances we can prevent them from taking the premature or unnecessary step of entering a live-in nursing facility.

"This is good public policy because it improves the quality of life for the individual," he said. "Additionally, most people do not realize that the cost of care in a government-subsidized nursing home is much higher than if we redirect those same dollars and support our elderly in their homes. My goal is to focus the attention of this commission on ways to identify communities where they are densely populated with older residents like in northern Anne Arundel County."

The commission is required to develop and implement the plan jointly by state and local governments, local businesses, and senior citizens.

Information: 410-841-3421.

Residents honored for service to state

The Maryland Department of Agriculture recently recognized eight residents of Anne Arundel County for their employment service and dedication.

Those honored with 25 or more years of service were Shelly Hicks and Clifford Jones, 25 years; Deanna Baldwin, Richard Bean and Joseph Harrington, 30 years; Sandra Mills and Sally Terry, 35 years; and Ronald Rogers, 40 years.

In all, 61 MDA employees from around the state were recognized.

Volunteer Center names officers for new year

The Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County has announced its new board and officers for 2008-2009.

Officers are Chera Howey, president, Loews Annapolis Hotel; Pattie Nolton, vice president, Anne Arundel Community College; Jeff Griffith, treasurer, Toal Griffith & Ayers LLC; Noah Kegley, secretary, Phillips Seafood Restaurants. Susan Wyckoff of Council, Baradel, Kosmerl & Nolan P.A., is past president.

New board members include Jeremiah Chiappelli, Leslie Hunt, Cindy Meyers, John Schneider and Karen Wentworth.

Returning board members are John Frenaye Jr., Jessica Giandomenico, John Hepler, Mary Lynn Johnson, Kris Kohlmann, Michael N. Russo Jr. and Susan Zuhowski.

The mission of the Volunteer Center For Anne Arundel County is to connect people and resources through volunteerism to create a vibrant community of service in Anne Arundel County.

County gives award for disability awareness

Lorraine Sheehan of Edgewater, a former secretary of state of Maryland and former member of the Maryland House of Delegates, has received the 2008 Disability Awareness Day Award at the Anne Arundel County Disability Awareness Day ceremony.

County Executive John R. Leopold presented the citation and others.

Employers of the Year awards went to Coffee News, Pasadena; Edgewater Mower Shop, Crownsville; EPA, Crystal City, Va., which has a county resident as an employee; Giant Food Store, Festival at Riva, Annapolis; Greenstreet Gardens, Tracy's Landing; Mooreland Chartland Corp., Pasadena; Pizza Hut, Severn; Scrapbooks Forever, Deale; Towne Park, Annapolis; and Wal-Mart, George Klaus Blvd.

The Accessibility Award went to these Annapolis-area companies: Baltimore Coffee, Borders, Burger King, and HighStarr Copy Services.

The Disability Friendly Award went to Maryland Inn's Starbucks in the historic district, Maryland Inn's Treaty of Paris restaurant, and Chick & Ruth's Deli.

Leopold received a Governor's Citation for his efforts to celebrate Make A Difference Day and hosting the Disability Awareness Day.

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