

EDA News

This newsletter is published quarterly by
The Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority
PO Box 445 . Front Royal . VA . 22630
540.635.2182 . www.wceda.com

Volume 18, No. 1

September 2016

IN THIS ISSUE:

Toray Expansion	2
Business Excellence	2
AG Laser Technology	3
Optimum Impact	3
Virginia Build Works	3
B&G Goods	3
Taste of the Town	4
Brew and Blues	4
Small Business Retreat	4

Welcome, Rural King

Rural King, a home and farm goods store based in Illinois, will open in the vacant Kmart building in the Royal Plaza Shopping Center this September.

The Front Royal store, which will hire about 70 employees, will be the 90th location opened by the company and the first one in Virginia. Other stores are located in Florida and the Midwest, according to a news release and Rural King Marketing Director, David Bailey.

“We chose the Front Royal location because of the rural community and the people that live there,” Bailey stated in an email.

“We have the best value everyday pricing strategy...,” he noted. “The Front Royal market will be good for Rural King because it is already filled with our customer base. Hardworking, price-conscious, and loyal people, just like us.”

Rural King sells a variety of goods, from animal feed and power equipment to clothing and home goods. The company has leased the entire 84,000-square-foot building. “It is my understanding that they are using the entire footprint of the former Kmart building,” said Town Manager, Steve Burke. He noted that the other stores in the shopping center would not be affected.

“The Town is excited that the Royal Plaza appears to have found a long-term tenant to replace Kmart,” Burke said. “We are excited that ... Rural King is coming to the area and it should provide both shopping opportunities for the town residents and the surrounding areas.”

“It’s a big deal,” said Store Manager, Shaun Amrine. “It’s a big deal for Rural King to get into Virginia; first store there; flagship store. It’s definitely not going to be our last ... I’m real excited to be with Rural King.”

“We are so pleased that Rural King will utilize the vacant space at the Royal Plaza shopping center,” said Jennifer McDonald, Executive Director of the Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority. “Their presence will revitalize the shopping center.

“And, they’re creating 70 new jobs. This is a win-win for our community. Rural King has a great reputation and will bring great products and value to the citizens of Front Royal.”

Source: Nathan Budryk, Northern Virginia Daily, May 23, 2016.

Fall



“This is a win-win for our community.”

Toray Plastics America Announces Expansion

Governor Terry McAuliffe announced that Toray Plastics America, Inc., a subsidiary of Toray Industries, Inc., headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, will invest \$45 million to expand its Front Royal facility in Warren County. Toray Plastics America is global leader in high-performance films, synthetic fibers and textiles, carbon fibers, plastics, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals. The company will add extrusion capability and a new production line to meet growing customer demand. The project will create 30 new jobs.

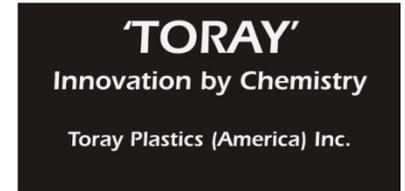
“Toray Plastics America has been a valuable corporate partner to Virginia since 1996, and is a wonderful example of the Commonwealth’s thriving advanced manufacturing sector,” said Governor McAuliffe. “Toray’s decision to expand its operations in Front Royal and create 30 new advanced manufacturing jobs speaks to Virginia’s pro-growth operating environment, and demonstrates the strong partnership Virginia enjoys

with this global company. The manufacturing sector continues to be a cornerstone of our efforts to build a new Virginia economy, and my administration is committed to supporting Toray’s continued success in Front Royal.”

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with Warren County to secure this project for Virginia. Funding and services to support employee training activities will be provided through the Virginia Jobs Investment Program.

“We are so happy to see Toray Plastics America expanding,” said Linda Glavis, Chairwoman of the Warren County Board of Supervisors. “They have been a good corporate neighbor to Warren County and their success is our success as well.”

“Toray was one of the very first industries sited in Warren County when we began our aggressive



recruitment back in the late 1990’s,” said Patty Wines, Chairwoman of the Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority.

“We applaud them for their expansion, additional investment in Warren County and creation of new jobs. That’s what you always hope for when new industries locate in your community.”

Congratulations, Passages Travel, Ben’s and Fork’d!

The Economic Development Authority and the Chamber of Commerce announced the 2016 *Business Excellence: Business Appreciation Awards*.

The winner of a \$500.00 cash award is Katie Tewell of Fork’d – a new food truck business. The money will go toward a convection smoker for her business. An award of \$750.00 was made to Hope Satyanithben of Ben’s Family Cuisine who will use the money to add cook top burners for her restaurant business. The largest award, \$1,000.00 was made to Maria Dutton of Passages Travel who will use the money to enhance Passages’ computer system.

Business Appreciation month is celebrated every year in Virginia

with state-issued proclamations, breakfasts, luncheons and dinner events designed to thank the business community for all it does to better life in Virginia. The Front Royal-Warren County EDA celebrates by holding a “Business Excellence” contest and awarding cash prizes to local businesses.

In the six years that the awards have been presented, cash totaling \$11,550.00 has been granted to eighteen deserving small businesses licensed in Front Royal or Warren County. They include: Loving Arms, Main Street Daily Grind, Linking You Designs, The Apple House, Royal Broadcasting, Liberty Tax, The Kiln Doctor, Culligan, Bearfoot Enterprises, L’il Rugratz, J’s Gourmet, Weathervane Graphics, Joe’s Steakhouse and Backroom Brewery. The

Award money has been used for everything from software, to remote broadcasting equipment, to new instructional programs, to a fork lift, to landscaping and new ovens.

“We look forward to continuing the award program,” said Jennifer McDonald, executive director of the EDA.

“This seems a great way to celebrate our business community and we encourage every small business in Front Royal or Warren County to participate next year. We would like to thank Rappahannock Electric Cooperative for being a sustaining sponsor of this remarkable program.”

AG Laser Technology, LLC “Transforming Metal Into More...”

George and Angie Williams have been solid members of the Front Royal business community for decades now. They opened Williams Brothers Corporation of America in the 1990’s at the Happy Creek Technology Park where they manufacture and distribute access doors, roof/floor hatches and security doors.

In 2015, they opened a new business, AG Laser Technology, where they perform sheet metal fabrication, design & engineering, manufacturing, laser cutting and powder coating. AG Laser uses computer-aided design, state-of-the-art robotics, machining and precision laser cutting creating 3-D fabrication from concept to product-ready parts and materials.

Angie Williams is Owner and CEO of the company and brings more than thirty years of experience to the industry.

Angie’s background in productivity, inventory management and architectural specification in the access door/floor door industry has built the foundation for the new business and her relationships with the architectural community inspired this new venture.

George Williams is the President of AG Laser and has worked for fifty-two years in the construction and architectural industry. He decided that they needed to incorporate the best machines in the market in order to produce the highest quality product.

Together, Angie and George Williams bring many years of practical experience and insight into the construction and architectural subcontracting world. Their newest venture, AG Laser Technology, is a welcome addition to Front Royal-

Warren County’s vibrant and diverse business community.

“We are happy to welcome Angie’s and George’s new business,” said Patty Wines, Chairwoman of the Economic Development Authority. “They are well-respected business owners/operators and their presence here makes us a better community.”

*For more information:
800.255.5515
aglasertechnology.com*



Announcing Optimum Impact, the training solution for business owners and their teams! Optimum Impact’s (OI) weekly workshops provide hands-on personal and professional development training to ensure that businesses function optimally from the inside out! With learning opportunities ranging from Leadership to Sales to Team Building and Finance, every business in every industry is afforded the knowledge and application needed to facilitate their success!

Optimum Impact LLC
540.551.3521
www.OptimumImpactLLC.com

VIRGINIA BUILD WORKS 501 E. MAIN STREET



Congratulations, Mac McIntyre, on your Main Street shop offering custom-made, inspired furniture!

www.facebook.com/Vabuildworks/



B&G Goods is a grocery store, garden center, hunting and hiking supply shop.
Stop in and check out the goods!



506 E. Main Street
www.facebook.com/BG-Goods-379542462207168/

The
Economic Development Authority
Post Office Box 445
Front Royal, VA 22630
www.wceda.com |
www.facebook.com/frwceda
T 540.635.2182 | F 540.635.1853

Jennifer R. McDonald, DFCP
Executive Director
mcdonald@wceda.com
Missy Henry
Administrative Assistant
mhenry@wceda.com
Marla Taylor Jones
Editor, Director of Marketing
jones@wceda.com

Board of Directors
Patricia S. Wines, Chairwoman
Greg Drescher, Vice-Chairman
William M. Biggs, Treasurer
Jim Eastham, Secretary
Ron Llewellyn, Director
William Sealock, Director
Bruce Drummond, Director

Economic Development Authority
PO Box 445
Front Royal, VA 22630

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Front Royal, VA
Permit No. 39



Save the Date...
Friday, September 23rd,
6:30-9:30pm is the next Taste
of the Town in Downtown
Front Royal, Virginia~

*Local food
auto show
moon bounce
music and more!*

info@frontroyaliba.org



Fun abounds in downtown Front Royal,
Virginia on Saturday, September 24, 2016!
Bring your family and enjoy a day of fun,
delicious food, great live entertainment, and
of course, beer tasting. The festival gates
open at 11 a.m. with activities (including corn
hole and yard games) and live entertainment
all day until 7 p.m. For more information:
<http://brewandblues.com/>

Come spend the day with us in Front Royal
for the Brew & Blues Festival, and if you like
you can always stay an extra day to enjoy all
that we have to offer!



Join us on October 14, 8:00am
for the Small Business Retreat

Great day planned ...
specifically for small business owners!
Breakouts include: Fraud Prevention . HR for
Small Business . Social Media . Cyber
Security . Insurance . Networking
And more!

www.facebook.com/events/143937489363916/

