

## PROCLAMATION

Whereas,

On October 15, 2013, the Fairfax Chapter, of The National Federation of the Blind of Virginia will observe White Cane Safety Day; and

Whereas,

The purpose of White Cane Safety Day is to make the public aware of the white cane as a symbol of independence and freedom of blind people, and to promote public awareness of the blind as equal and productive citizens; and

Whereas,

During this time the Fairfax Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Virginia will remind all citizens that persons carrying a white cane or using a dog guide are legally blind and have equal rights under the law to housing; to all places to which the public is invited including, but not limited to, places of lodging, amusement, and recreation; to all modes of public transportation; and to all the streets and byways of our communities; and

Whereas,

At this time motorists are to remember that the law requires drivers to exercise appropriate care when approaching blind persons; and

Whereas,

It is also at this time that the Fairfax Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Virginia reminds employers that when blind persons receive proper instruction and genuine opportunity, they compete on equal terms with sighted persons and are, in fact, employed within the broad spectrum of competitive labor and within the professions.

Now, Therefore, I, R. Scott Silverthorne, Mayor of the City of Fairfax, Virginia, in concert with the City Council, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2013,

## White Cane Safety Day

in the City of Fairfax and commend the Fairfax Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind on its fifteen years of effort to achieve security, equality, and opportunity for all blind people in this city and the nation, through education, advocacy, and consultation, and urge the community to be cognizant and supportive of the events arranged for this time.

Dated this 8th day of October 2013.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor