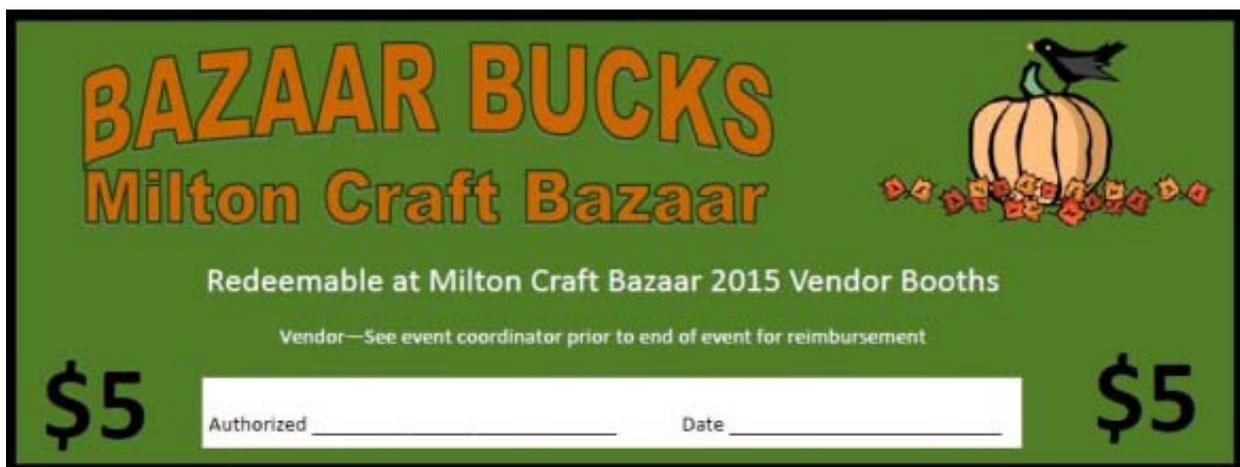


It's that time of year again – Bazaars and Budgets!



We will be estimating the anticipated revenue for the City, as well as anticipated expenditures, at the same time as we're planning for our 25th Annual Craft Bazaar. The bazaar is a welcome distraction in the middle of all this paperwork. I can't wait to paint pumpkins with the children – truly one of my favorite things all year! I have to say, though – estimating the number of pumpkins I need is a lot easier than balancing the budget.

The Event Committee has amped things up this year for our 25th annual Craft Bazaar. To start off, we will stay open until 7:30 on Friday night, giving people a chance to come and shop after work. Don't worry about dinner for the family, either – we thought of that. Bring everyone along – we will have food trucks and folk music to keep everyone entertained! Another fun new twist, FREE raffle tickets! Yes, I said FREE, because the Milton Event Committee loves a good raffle. When you enter the doors you will receive a free raffle ticket, and we will draw a raffle every hour for FREE Craft Bazaar Bucks. You can use these Craft Bazaar Bucks to purchase anything you desire at the Bazaar. And not just Bucks, but at the end of everything, we will raffle off a beautiful quilt made by our own quilters who meet in our Activity Center. Pumpkins, free raffle tickets, food trucks, crafts, AND the Event Committee's Famous Bake Sale – you just don't want to miss the 25th Annual Craft Bazaar. It is going to be fun!



The Event Committee over the last 5 years has done an incredible job with the community events. With the help of your donations, this has allowed the City to

concentrate during budget season On Essentials. At the October 5th Council meeting, we will be presenting the revenue and expenditure forecasts for 2016. In my proposed budget, which will be presented at the November 2nd Council meeting, I will have a greater emphasis on public safety. In the past, we have done what we needed to do to balance the budget, but it is always been a serious concern of mine to ensure that our police officers would never be alone, and that they have adequate equipment to do their job in the safest manner possible. This has always been my number one priority, but it has been difficult during the economic downturn. The City of Milton has great safe neighborhoods, and I would like to keep it that way.



Lastly, I would like to reflect on the 9-11 Memorial parade in which our three cities, Fife-Milton-Edgewood, participated. I saw so many emotions that day – everything from patriotism to broken hearts. Every time our three cities get together like that, my heart is extremely proud to be living here at this time, and honestly, my mind was full with the arrangements of the day. And then I saw him, one man, standing alone with his hand over his heart, and time and all the festivities came to a stop in my mind. For me, from that moment on, I was back to the emotions of that historical day.



Fall is definitely a time of reflection, as well as a time to plan for the coming new year. I hope you will have a chance to join us in both.