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# Contain yourself! The Container Store debuts in the Highlands

Submitted by [Zack Maxwell](#) on Sun, 03/04/2012 - 13:54 [News](#) [Business](#)



Arlington residents just got a whole lot more organized. Hundreds of shoppers flowed through the doors in the opening hours of Arlington's newest retailer, The Container Store. Located in The Highlands in south Arlington, The Container Store occupies the former Borders location, The new store features over 10,000 multi-functional container and storage products.

With 64 locations nationwide, The Container Store offers storage and convenience solutions that fit the needs of any homeowner, college student, or business professional. With seemingly endless aisles of crates, shelves, boxes, containers, trash cans, and other storage products, this retailer gives tidy a new meaning.

"The original idea, which is still the idea today, is to provide the ultimate resource for people who want to organize stuff in their lives, save space, and save time," stated co-founder Garrett Boone in an interview with the Arlington Voice. Mr. Boone is one of three co-founders who launched the first Container Store in 1978.

"We started out by opening a handmade furniture store, but as it developed, it didn't turn out to be a very good economic idea," Mr. Boone explained, "It was fun only if you wanted to be in a dusty shop the rest of your life."

"Then one day, I went into a home improvement store and saw a couple of products that happened to hold and store things. It was thinking about those products and other commercial products that help organize and store stuff that gave rise to The Container Store concept."



With the opening of each new location, The Container Store partners with a local non-profit to give back to the community. Five non-profit organizations were interviewed for Arlington's grand opening. In the end, the Junior League of Arlington was selected for partnership.

Kelly Shadt, marketing director for The Container Store and member of the Junior League of Dallas, was thrilled about the partnership. "The Junior League of Arlington is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism and improving the community through the action and leadership of trained volunteers," Ms. Shadt explained. "What makes this especially nice, is that Junior League of Arlington is celebrating its 30th anniversary."

The Container Store will donate 10% of all sales from its opening weekend to the Junior League of Arlington. But the partnership won't end there. "The Container Store is a very charitable organization," stated Ms. Shadt, "We partner with many non-profits and schools in the markets where we have stores. We donate gift cards, participate in fundraisers, and send employees into the city to volunteer."

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The Container Store boasts a highly enthusiastic and satisfied staff. Store associates are well-versed in the line of products offered by The Container Store and are happy to assist customers at any given moment.

David Gregory, who has been with The Container Store for 18 years, spoke with the Arlington Voice about his tenure as a salesperson.

"Every time I have been in the store I just loved how much fun it was. It's a great company with great people," said Gregory. "Whatever you want to do they support you. It's a very flexible work environment."

The Container Store offers a variety of career options with room to advance and develop a career. Many employees have been with the company for over 10 years and in that time advanced through multiple positions.

Mr. Boone understands that the success of The Container Store is contingent on cultivating a happy and knowledgeable staff.

"The key to our business is to provide an environment where people love to come to work every day," explained Mr. Boone, "We provide a culture that puts our people first. If we take care of our people, then they will take care of our customers."

Arlington residents hoping to jump on board the Container Store team might not find it an easy task. According to spokesperson Nina Smith, over 2000 applications were received to fill the 60 positions offered at the Arlington location.

The Container Store offers a unique shopping experience for the pack rat in us all. With its second launch in Arlington, The Container Store will be ready any time you need to "contain" yourself.

"We're thrilled to be back in Arlington," finished Mr. Boone, "We look forward to a long and happy relationship with its residents."

Spread the wealth!



**Zack Maxwell** | Publisher

I am a polished young professional with a diverse background which includes graphic design, web development, and branding solutions. I am involved in civic activities and enjoy public speaking.

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