

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

A Perfect Day for The Pedal-Happy

NEWS, PAGE 7

On Saturday, May 15, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Jeffrey G. McKay (D-At-Large) and Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon District) gather with others in front of the Reston Community Center for the first-ever Tour de Hunter Mill.

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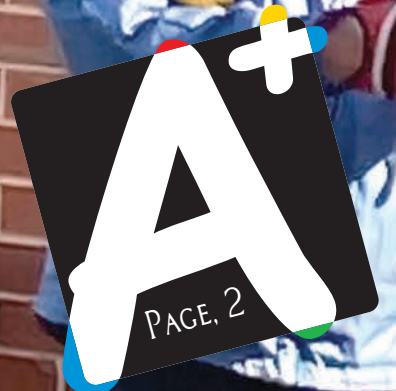
PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Memorial to Suffragist Women Dedicated

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Meet New Sully District Police Commander

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Celebrating Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Importance emphasized in context of recent discrimination and hate crimes.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Educational videos and on-line trivia questions, organized by the school's Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Committee, are giving Montgomery College students an opportunity for reflection, while food, music and film offer students at Marymount University in Arlington a glimpse of a different culture. These experiences are in observance of Asian/Pacific Islander American Heritage Month, celebrated each May.

"It's a time to reflect and celebrate the contributions of the Asian Pacific American community who shaped and influenced the history and culture of the United States," said Tait Brooks, Associate Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Marymount University.

The importance of this year's observances, in emphasized by growing evidence of discrimination and hate crimes targeting Asian Americans. Educators are using the month to address and work toward solutions to some of these current issues.

"The recent violent actions are steeped in xenophobia. Education and learning their history and its

significance to American history is the solution," said Brooks. "Once we know more Asian history, we will understand their plight."

"Schools and universities can pursue inclusive curriculum that fully integrates the experiences and contributions of Asian Americans," added Dae Young Kim, Ph.D., associate professor of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University. His message: "Educate on Asian American history and experience and show support to the Asian American community by standing against racism."

For Kim O'Connell, author of "Echoes of Little Saigon," a booklet on the Vietnamese immigration to Arlington, May is a monthlong opportunity to use education as a vehicle for reconciling some of the wounds incurred through recent racial turmoil.

"I hope that people will realize that Asian Americans are as diverse as any other group," she said. "They can't be characterized in one simple way and they definitely should not be subject to the racism that we've seen in recent months."

For some in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander



COURTESY OF MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

Marymount University's first Cultural Graduation Reception acknowledges the accomplishments of first-generation college graduates from underrepresented groups in an intimate and inclusive environment. Graduate Anna Moon, center, receives her Cultural Graduation certificate alongside Dean Brooke Berry, right, and Associate Director Tait Brooks.



Dae Young Kim

"Educate on Asian American history and experience and show support to the Asian American community by standing against racism."

— Dae Young Kim, Ph.D.,
George Mason University

community, celebrations this year's observances are accompanied with fear.

"It is clear that many Asian Americans are feeling that they are not immune to acts of violence and bias and social media is helping to increase awareness of such incidents, which is prompting more conversation and action," said Kim. "We are feeling fearful of violence directed against us. This is what makes this month different from previous years."

In recent weeks, Kim has engaged in dialogue and outreach aimed at helping others understand the experience of Asian Americans now. "I've participated in a roundtable conversation with Governor [Ralph] Northam and Asian American community leaders about hate crimes against Asian Americans," he said. "I was on a panel organized by Inova ... to talk about the Asian American experience."

"Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed to American culture, society and history in immeasurable ways and I encourage everyone to learn more about these contributions," said O'Connell.



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/CONNECTION

Pit stops like this one from years' past will not be as social this year.

Biking and Trail Use Continues to Grow

Pit Stop gathering is out, but Bike to Work Day is Still on for May 21.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION



It's been 20 years since Bike to Work Day began, and it grows each year showing that there is another side to commuting that uses no gas, has health benefits and is fun, even if it's only one day a year for many.

As with everything else in the covid year of 2021, it's going to be a little different this year but a good thing nonetheless. There will be tee shirts with the skyline logo, like years past, but at the pit stops, it will be a quick stop for the tee shirt, and onto points beyond - no convoys, no chit chat at the pit stop or a local mechanic checking the brakes as seen in previous years. Since many are working from home still, it will be grab the tee shirt and head back to the home office. The Bike to Work organizers are fine with that, it says on the website.

One change is the "pit stop," name, it's now called "tee shirt pickup point." At the stops, there will be a strict covid policy, which includes a mask requirement, no hanging out and socializing, any food is required to be pre-packaged and not consumed on the premises, and no live raffles. "The emphasis will be on bicycling for exercise and mental well-being," the Bike to Work website said. Cyclists will travel on a one-way path to pick up the tee shirt and each rider will be socially distanced.

Hitting the Trail

According to Colin Browne, Communications Director at the

Washington Area Bicyclist Association, Bike to Work Day is run by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Commuter Connections program. WABA is part of the steering committee and manages the registration process. Although it was cancelled last year to comply with CDC recommendations about gathering, participation has grown every year. In 2018, about 17,000 people signed up for the event and in 2019, just under 20,000 people signed up. This year is impacted by the pandemic with offices closed and many working from home, although people working from home can still ride up and get a tee shirt. "We're expecting 10,000 or so riders this year, as many people are still working from home, and pit stop activities have been scaled back," said Browne.

Trail Use and the Pandemic

The Capital Trails Coalition looked into trail use, and found that across the nation, trails are seeing more users than ever before. According to data provided by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, nearly every week in 2020 saw an increase in trail users compared to numbers of the same week in 2019. Several weeks in March and April even saw as many as 1.5 - 2 times the number of trail users as the year before. In Arlington at the W&OD Bon Air Park counter, there was a 37 percent increase in bike use, and a 23 percent increase in people running and walking.

Memorial to Suffragist Women Dedicated

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

To educate, inspire, empower present and future generations.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

For more than seven decades, millions of American women sought the right to vote. On May 16, the first monument in the country to commemorate their struggles, to tell the lengthy story of the suffragist movement, and to celebrate suffragists' accomplishment - the passing of the 19th Amendment - was dedicated inorton. Located on the grounds of Occoquan Regional Park, not far from where suffragists were incarcerated and tortured for peacefully picketing on the sidewalk in front of the White House, the Turning Point Suffragists Memorial was dedicated in a small ceremony, live streamed across the country, in advance of its public opening.

Jane Barker, Vice Chair/CoFounder of the memorial association, shared the early humble vision, first discussed by League of Women Voters with NOVA Parks staff, to tell the local story of the suffragists imprisoned at the nearby Occoquan Workhouse. They discussed "a brick wall with a few picture plaques of the women, ...on a small brick-paved area that would be called the Turning Point Plaza; the projected cost was \$25,000."

They soon realized "telling just part of the 72 year long struggle wasn't enough - we needed to create a national memorial that was befitting their sacrifices and accomplishments." The nearly \$3 million dollar memorial, designed by Robert E. Beach Architects, LLC, is the culmination of that needed recognition.



Re-enactrist Lynne Garvey-Hodges, as Mrs. Robert 'Mimi' Walker who was arrested for picketing and served 60 days at the Workhouse, poses with the statue of Carrie Chapman Catt, a leader in the suffrage movement and founder of the League of Women Voters.

SEVERAL SPEAKERS spoke of the effort that went into making the bigger vision come to completion. The site is seen as an apt location due to its historical setting near where the horrible treatment of suffragists led to the important "turning point" in public opinion, from which the memorial draws its name.

Cate Magennis Wyatt, Chair of the NOVA Parks Board, said thousands who stroll by will have the opportunity to learn the story of the right to vote struggle in America which is not taught in history books; to learn



Association members, NOVA Parks Board members, State legislators, and County Supervisor cut the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial ribbon in front of the entrance replicating the White House gates where suffragists maintained their "silent sentinel."



In period dress attending the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial dedication at Occoquan Regional Park, Dave Williams, Debbie Glaser, Julieanne Smith, Quinn Jones and Michelle McCall.

history and "herstory." And through international tourism, "for people world-wide to aspire to suffrage in their own countries."

NOVA Parks will steward the care and upkeep of the memorial on its grounds.

Executive Director/CEO of the memorial association, Pat Wirth, who oversaw completion of the project, spoke of her expectation that the Turning Point Institute to follow will inspire girls to leadership roles and train

young women in the skills of the suffragists: public speaking, political candidacy, social awareness, civil and equal rights.



Girl Scout Troop 1600 members Hannah Smith, Katelyn Sullivan, Kasey Petrie, and Rory Gilles stand with the statue of Alice Paul, author of the Equal Rights Amendment.

SEE MEMORIAL. PAGE 8

Relief Is on the Way!

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



COMMENTARY

Relief seems to be on the way for some of the drastic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic with the discovery and manufacturing of several vaccines and the incredible rate at which the vaccines are being administered. There has been some easing of regulations of everyday life, but caution is in order to ensure that we do not ease ourselves back into high rates of incidences. It is safe to be hopeful, but caution is the smarter way to go. Over time with continued public encouragement the hard-core opposition by a small minority to vaccinations will gradually become less. How much evidence is needed as to the dangers inherent in the pandemic and the successes that vaccinations are having to change the minds of the very hard-core remains to be seen.

On the economic front there is very good relief. President Biden signed into law in March the American Rescue Plan from which Virginia will realize nearly seven billion dollars for state and local government. That is a lot of money by

any measure but especially when compared with the \$3.2 billion from the CARES Act funding last year. The American Rescue Plan provides \$4.3 billion to the Commonwealth of Virginia and an additional \$2.7 billion going directly to counties and cities.

While this huge chunk of money coming to Virginia will go a long way to offset some of the economic losses from the pandemic, it also will provide a jump-start to programs that have long been needed but never funded or funded at less than a sufficient level. It will not be necessary to wait for the money as it is being immediately distributed by federal agencies.

Last week Governor Ralph Northam and leadership of the House of Delegates and the State Senate announced "shared priorities for American Rescue Plan Funding" that will be considered in a special legislative session this summer to formally allocate the funds. Those priorities read like a wish list for those familiar with the operation of the Virginia government

Eligible state, metropolitan city, and county governments may now request their allocation through the Treasury Submission Portal.

New Charitable Event Kicked Off Mental Health Awareness Month

Kicking off Mental Health Awareness Month, a new golf tournament hosted by Alliance Executive Search and CBRE on May 3 raised more than \$26,000 to benefit PRS, a leading behavioral health nonprofit serving Northern Virginia. "In our new normal, it was great to be outside meeting new people and introducing them to PRS. We appreciate Alliance and CBRE's generosity in hosting this great tournament that benefited those we serve," said Joseph Getch, CEO, PRS. "Bringing business executives and community leaders together to show support for those experiencing mental health issues was the perfect way to kick off Mental Health Awareness Month."

More than 72 golfers participated in the tournament. Held at Westwood Golf Club in Vienna, the event featured 18 holes, a cocktail reception, and speakers, including a PRS client, who discussed his struggle and recovery. Alliance and CBRE plan to make this an annual event that supports PRS. As a nonprofit providing mental health, crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to thousands across Northern Virginia, PRS and its services are needed more than ever during this period.

"Breaking the stigma around mental health issues is the way forward. By hosting this tournament, we were able to introduce more business leaders to PRS and the critical issues

but now with the understanding that funding will be available to meet these priorities.

The priorities include upgrading state and local health services that were shown to be inadequate during the pandemic. Funding will be provided in addition to that appropriated in the last legislative session to help people with the cost of housing and utilities. The new money will help to fully fund the "Rebuild Virginia" small business recovery plan and provide relief dollars for the hardest-hit industries.

The Unemployment Trust Fund will be replenished after the historically high demand for relief by unemployed workers. Technology and staffing in the Virginia Employment Commission will be upgraded to better meet employment demands.

The pandemic made us aware of the need to rehabilitate and upgrade existing public school facilities to make them healthier, safer, and more conducive to learning. The additional money coming to the state will permit the acceleration of the ten-year plan to bring broadband to all of the cities and rural areas in the Commonwealth.

If you hear a big sigh of relief coming from the direction of the State Capitol in Richmond it is because relief is on the way!

they are solving in our community," said Brian Meadows, Partner, Alliance Executive Search, and PRS Board Member.

Along with Alliance and CBRE, nearly 20 organizations sponsored the event, including Cassidy & Company, Sage, Intacct, McGriff, IntelliBridge, TriNet, SpeedPro Northern Virginia and Ridgeline International. Hole sponsors included: DPR, OTJ Architects, Hungry, AB, Bognet, Estatespace, WashREIT, SemiFin, GradFin, Rob Sturm, and the PRS Board of Directors.

How to Keep Children, Teens Safe Online

With children and teens spending so much time online, parents and caregivers need to know how to help them be safe from predators. So this Thursday, May 20, at 7 p.m., the Fairfax County Police Department's Major Crimes Bureau and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children will present the latest trends in online victimization of children and what can be done to prevent their online exploitation. Join the discussion via <https://bit.ly/3vWQQrC>.

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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AREA ROUNDUPS

Treasury Launches State and Local Covid Relief Funds

U.S. Senators Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine applauded the Treasury Department's launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act.

"We welcome the \$7.2 billion in relief for Virginia and are pleased the Biden Administration has listened to our calls to give states, localities, and tribes significant flexibility in determining how best to use these emergency funds," said the Senators. "These funds will allow the Commonwealth and localities to recover from the economic harm of COVID, promote public health, invest in broadband, make up for lost revenue, and address many of the other impacts of the pandemic. We will keep working with the Commonwealth and local governments to ensure Virginians receive this much-needed relief."

The Virginia state government will receive nearly \$4.3 billion from these funds. An additional amount of approximately \$2.9 billion will be allocated to municipalities the following way for local areas:

Alexandria: \$59,633,833
Arlington County: \$46,003,782
Fairfax County: \$222,894,638
Fairfax City: \$4,665,409
Falls Church: \$2,839,181
Non-entitlement funds: approximately \$633,000,000

Allocations for non-entitlement local governments will soon be released and will provide an additional \$633 million in relief to Virginia cities and towns. Tribal governments will receive their allocation amounts after submitting their requests for funding to the Treasury.

CALENDAR

NOW THRU JUNE 26

Ken Britz, Artist of the Year. At VAS Gallery in the Village Green, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society is thrilled to present a collection of "Favored Subjects", artworks by Artist of the Year Ken Britz. The exhibition is open April 12 through June 26, Mon. - Sat., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Discover more about Ken on the website: www.ViennaArtsSociety.org

NOW THRU MAY 31

Dinosaur Drive-Thru Experience. The Dinosaurs are ready to return from extinction. The drive-thru dinosaur exhibit is the first of its kind at the Bull Run Events Center in Centreville. The Museum quality exhibit, with more than 75+ animatronic and static dinosaurs, runs May 14 through May 31. Tours are available Wednesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Visit www.drivethrudinos.com or call 800-830-3976.

SATURDAY/MAY 22

Art Walk on Main. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Main Street, Fairfax. A hyper-casual event on Main Street to reclaim our sense of community post-pandemic. Artists demos and installation art on view. This is a no sale/no fee event meaning visitors will not be charged admission and artists will not have works for sale. We hope everyone will support our local shops instead by enjoying the various foods, beverages and items they have to offer. Please support our local shops instead. Visit the website: www.debrawrightstudio.com

SATURDAY/MAY 22

The Quander Family. 1:30-3 p.m. Rohlamin Quander speaks about the Quanders of Fairfax County, one of the oldest and most notable African-American families in the country. This Burke Historical Society sponsored talk will be presented online by Pohick Regional Library. Registration required. Visit the website: <https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/777952>

SUNDAY/MAY 23

Life After Breath. 2-4 p.m. Online. At the age of three, Jacob contracted a dangerous disease which caused him to suffocate and leave his body. Jacob will shed light on his experienced from the other side and share lessons learned during his NDE. Cost is \$10. Visit the website: <https://www.meetup.com/LANDS-Northern-Virginia/events/278022887/>

SUNDAY/MAY 23

Milling Class. 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. At Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The "Run of the Mill Class" at Colvin Run Mill is anything but run of the mill. This unique class offers family groups a firsthand look at the old-fashioned process of milling grain from beginning to end. Colvin Run's hands-on program teaches you how grain is sifted using antique equipment and what it takes to clean the mill. You even get to take home a sample of the grain that is ground during the program. Classes run from 11 a.m. to noon and from 3 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$60 per family group of up to nine people, age 6 to adult. Call 703-759-2771.

MONDAY/MAY 24

Artifacts of the Past. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. This program is one of the Park Authority's new "Field Trips for All" that is geared toward specific age levels. Artifacts of the Past takes prekindergarten children and their parents on a trip back in time. It offers parents a unique opportunity to supplement their child's learning with real world experiences. The program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park runs from 10 to 11 a.m., and the cost is \$6 per person. All attendees, parents and children, must register to control group size. Call 703-631-0013.

MONDAY/MAY 24

Field Trip for All. At Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Bring history to life for your elementary school students with a private "Field Trip for All" to Sully Historic Site. The Park Authority's Field Trips for All offers parents a chance to supplement their child's school lessons with real experiences and the application of concepts in the Virginia Standards of Learning. Sully Historic Site joins in with programs on "Life in Historic Virginia" four Mondays in May. On Monday, May 24, the field trip topic will be Textiles in 1794. The 45-minute programs at

Sully Historic Site run at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The cost is \$40 per family. Call 703-437-1794.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 26

Partial Lunar Eclipse. 4-6 a.m. At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Join the park's astronomical naturalist at 4 a.m. to view the partial lunar eclipse before the moon sets. Enjoy a late-night/early-morning view of the stars and constellations, too. A limited number of telescopes will be available to use, but it's also a good idea to bring binoculars along to get the most out of this viewing experience.

This event is designed for participants age 16 to adult. The cost is \$10 per person. Call 703-323-6600.

SUNDAY/MAY 30

Cowboy and Western Music. 7:30 p.m. Online. Hear authentic, heart-felt singing about the vanishing American West in a free, online concert. After the concert, join in a sing-around with the performers. Free; Suggested donation: \$20 per listener. (If you feel generous, a higher amount will help support the performers.) Contact Charlie Baum, cbaum@fsgw.org. Register at <https://www.fsgw.org/Concerts> to get the concert link.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC., TO AMEND AND EXTEND ITS NATURAL GAS CONSERVATION AND RATE-MAKING EFFICIENCY PLAN CASE NO. PUR-2021-00027

On April 19, 2021, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application ("Application") for authorization to amend and extend its Conservation and Rate-making Efficiency Plan ("CARE Plan") pursuant to Chapter 25 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia. According to the Company, its current CARE Plan includes a portfolio of programs that promote conservation and energy efficiency among CVA's residential customers and a decoupling mechanism that adjusts actual non-gas distribution revenues per customer to the allowed distribution revenues previously approved by the Commission. In its Application, the Company proposes to extend its CARE Plan, along with certain modifications and amendments, for an additional three-year period, through December 31, 2024 ("Amended CARE Plan").

The proposed Amended CARE Plan would only be available to residential customers, including a specific program for low-income and elderly residential customers. The proposed Amended CARE Plan would extend three current conservation and energy efficiency programs and add one new program, for a total of 29 measures. Specifically, the Company requests approval to extend the following three conservation and energy efficiency programs, with certain modifications, for an additional three years: (1) Web-Based Home Audit Program; (2) Home Savings Program; and (3) Residential Income and Age Qualifying Program. The Company also requests approval of a new program, the Home Energy Report Program, which is intended to encourage customer engagement with home energy management and energy efficiency to reduce energy consumption.

The Company expects to invest \$5.3 million over the three years of the Amended CARE Plan. According to the Company, the proposed Amended CARE Plan is designed to recover the incremental costs associated with its conservation and energy efficiency programs, as incurred, by means of a surcharge mechanism described in Section 12.4 of the Company's General Terms and Conditions (the CARE Program Adjustment ("CPA")). The Company estimates that the proposed Amended CARE Plan's CPA will cost the average residential customer, using 63.6 dekatherms annually, approximately \$6.74 in 2022. In its Application, CVA requests authority to implement the CPA effective with the first billing unit for the Company's January 2022 billing cycle (i.e., December 31, 2021). The Company's proposed Amended CARE Plan also includes a performance-based incentive mechanism and a decoupling mechanism.

The details of these and other proposals are set forth in the Company's Application. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Company's Application and supporting testimony and exhibits for the details of these proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may set any associated service, rates, terms, and conditions in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents and thus may adopt service, rates, terms, and conditions that differ from those appearing in the Company's publication and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Comment in this case that, among other things, directed the Company to provide notice to the public and provided interested person an opportunity to comment on the Company's Application.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, and the declarations of emergency issued at both the state and federal levels. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. For the duration of the COVID-19 emergency, any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: T. Borden Ellis, Esquire, and Katherine C. Creef, Esquire, NiSource Corporate Services Company, 1809 Coyote Drive, Chester, Virginia 23836, or bellis@nsource.com and kcreef@nsource.com.

On or before June 21, 2021, any interested person may file comments on the Application by following the instructions on the Commission's website: sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Commenters are urged to submit comments electronically, though comments also may be sent to the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118.

On or before June 21, 2021, any interested person or entity may participate as a respondent by filing, with the Clerk of the Commission at the address above or sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/, a notice of participation in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. Pursuant to Rule 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice.

On or before June 21, 2021, any interested person or entity may file with the Clerk of the Commission, in accordance with the Rules of Practice, a request that the Commission convene a hearing on the Application. All requests for hearing must include the email address of the filer or its counsel, along with (i) a precise statement of the filing party's interest in the proceeding; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; (iii) a statement of the legal basis for such action; and (iv) a precise statement why the issues raised in the request for hearing cannot be addressed adequately without a hearing. Filers are urged to make their requests electronically via sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/, though requests for hearing also may be sent to the Clerk of the Commission at the physical address above.

A copy of any notices of participation and requests for hearing simultaneously shall be sent to counsel for the Company electronically at the email address set forth above.

All documents filed in this case shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00027. Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice and the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment may be found on the Commission's website: sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.

'Do the Right Things for the Right Reasons'

Meet Capt. Jason Allegra: Sully District police commander.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Attending Old Dominion University, Jason Allegra followed in his brother's footsteps by majoring in criminal justice. And those courses led him to a career with the Fairfax County Police Department and his new position as commander of the Sully District Station.

"Once I started the classes, I became interested in it," he said. "While in college, I did ride-alongs with the Chesapeake police, and that's when I decided this is what I wanted to do."

Graduating in 1994, Allegra was hired by Fairfax County in 1995, attended the Criminal Justice Academy and has now been with the FCPD for more than 26 years. He began at the McLean District Station, serving on the Neighborhood Patrol Unit (Bike Team).

"It was a joy," he said. "I absolutely loved fighting crime and arresting bad guys while, at the same time, helping their victims." He was promoted to sergeant in 2003 and became patrol supervisor at the Mason District Station. On the front line of the action, he oversaw a patrol squad on the street, responding to serious, major incidents.

ALLEGRA was transferred to the Department's Internal Affairs Bureau in 2007 and, the following year, was promoted to second lieutenant. "It's not a job you ask to go to, but it plays a significant role in the Department," he explained. "And a lot of times, it ends up that the officer you're investigating did the right thing. So I was glad to do it."

After two-and-a-half years, he went to the Reston District Station as the Criminal Investigations Section (CIS) supervisor. There, he was mainly in charge of burglary, street robbery and larceny investigations.

"It was probably my favorite job because you're going after some serious criminals, while giving satisfaction to people who've had their homes burglarized and things taken – or had their valuables stolen during a robbery," said Allegra. "It's about bringing

the criminals to justice and trying to recover those items."

He did that job for five years, from 2009-14. "There were a lot of serial burglaries during that time, mostly involving jewelry," he said. "So we did many operations where we were proactive in catching the burglars in progress. And we incorporated our Neighborhood Patrol Unit in it. I needed the entire station, and CIS, to do my job. And that's my role now, too – making sure the Sully District Station functions well."

Promoted to first lieutenant in 2014, Allegra then became the police liaison commander at the Dispatch Center, acting as the link between dispatch and patrol units. He assisted the duty officer by getting the resources the patrol officers required, such as Major Crimes detectives, a helicopter, crime-scene detectives and/or K-9s to respond to a track.

"It was good to sit with the dispatchers and see what a great job they do looking after our officers," said Allegra. Afterward, he served from 2015-17 as assistant commander of the McLean District Station.

"I learned a lot there," he said. "I learned how to run a station from a command standpoint, plus what front-line officers need to do their jobs and how best to help them. We need to listen to what they tell us about what they see and need, because they're doing the work."

Next, Allegra became commander of the Inspections Division of the Internal Affairs Bureau. "I made sure proper procedures were followed regarding evidence, chain of command, policies, files and records," he said.

After that assignment, he went to the Criminal Intelligence Division as its assistant commander. There, he oversaw both the Criminal Intelligence Unit and the Gang



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Police Capt. Jason Allegra at his desk at the Sully District Station.

Intelligence Unit. "As you move through the Police Department, you learn something every step of the way and become a more well-rounded commander," said Allegra.

Then in 2019, he was promoted to captain and transferred to the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division. He was the commander of undercover, narcotics, money-laundering and street-crimes investigations and also headed the Opioid Unit.

"That unit had just started, and I reorganized it to bolster the officers' investigations," said Allegra. "I got them the resources they needed to do their investigations – which are so complex and difficult. These included equipment, people and partnerships with federal investigators and other local jurisdictions in the Metropolitan Washington area and Baltimore – because drugs come from all over."

HIS NEXT MOVE was in January, when he became commander of the Sully District Station. "It feels good; I feel fortunate to be here," he said. "There's such a great foundation at Sully that I walked into a wonderful situation. There are great supervisors here

and many senior master police officers that help steer this station."

"They really provide great support and guidance to the younger officers and are important to the success of this station," continued Allegra. "We're also extremely lucky here to have the community's support and trust. And I plan to build off of it and continue that relationship between the community, its businesses and the police."

The station has 109 sworn officers, eight auxiliary officers, plus civilian staff to cover 70 square miles. Generally, larcenies from vehicles are the most prevalent crimes here. The officers also focus on DWIs and preventing crashes, especially along the Routes 28/29 Corridor. "Due to COVID-19, we had lots of

virtual meetings," said Allegra. "But more than 70 percent of the Police Department is vaccinated now, so we're moving along."

He said the toughest part of his job during this pandemic is not being able to get out and meet residents in small groups in a relaxed forum. "When things go well, it's because of the troops," said Allegra. "When they're bad, it's on me. So I do everything I can to listen to the officers, guide them and give them all the tools they need to be successful. The same goes for the community members – they want to be heard."

"If you learn from your mistakes, incorporate good values and do the right things for the right reasons, you're going to be fine," he added. "A lot of people care more about how they were treated by a police officer than about how they were adjudicated in court."

So what gives Allegra the most satisfaction in his new position? "I love the station environment and interacting with the officers, on both a personal and a professional level," he said. "I enjoy watching them grow and achieve their goals – whether it's getting to a specialty unit or getting promoted. It's a commander's job to help them."

AREA ROUNDUPS

Child Car Seat Inspections, May 20

Police officers will inspect car seats, Thursday, May 20, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Seats should already be installed so they're ready to be inspected and properly reinstalled, if necessary. Parents will also learn how to properly install the seats, themselves. Inspections are done first-come, first-served. Wear a mask and adhere to social distancing.

Online Military Service Academy Night

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) will host an online Military Service Academy Night, on Wednesday, May 26, at 7 p.m., for students interested in attending one of the

U.S. service academies. This event will help them in their overall preparedness.

The Zoom program will include presentations from Academy Liaison Officers, plus a detailed explanation of the Congressional nomination process. Service Academy Liaisons will also be available to answer questions. Register in advance at <https://ushr.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIs-duigqD0qE1zVeV4GZTDfr5n-ThxQCCw>.

I-66 East Access from Route 29 Changes

The previously closed, left-turn lane and ramp from Route 29 North to I-66 East in Centreville reopened May 16. Now, for the next three weeks, the ramp from Route 29 South to I-66 East will be closed. During that time, drivers on Route 29 South will access I-66 East a short distance farther south on Route 29 by turning right at the traffic signal to the ramp

from Route 29 North to I-66 East. Trucks, trailers, and other multi-axle vehicles are encouraged to use Route 28 North to access I-66 East while this change is in place.

Help WFCM's Food Pantry

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) helps feed families in need in the local area, and the most-needed items in its food pantry this month are: Sugar (1-2 pounds), vegetable oil, pasta sauce and canned pasta, spaghetti sauce, mashed potatoes, canned pineapple, juice and canned spinach, collard greens, beets and mushrooms. Also needed are toiletries including shampoo, conditioner, feminine pads, shaving cream, toilet paper, deodorant and baby wipes. For information on how to donate these items to WFCM's food pantry in Chantilly, call 703- 988-9656.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON /THE CONNECTION

The first group of cyclists heads off on the Tour de Hunter Mill organized by the Hunter Mill District, Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling (FABB), and Reston Bike Club (RBC).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Linda Colbert, Mayor of the Town of Vienna prepares to meet the Tour de Hunter Mill cyclists and welcome them to discover the cultural and environmental treasures of the town.

A Perfect Day for the Pedal-Happy

Two-wheeling' Unity in our Community' at the Inaugural Tour de Hunter Mill.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Cyclists of all abilities gathered early Saturday morning, May 15, at Reston Community Center for the inaugural Tour de Hunter Mill. Organized by the Hunter Mill District, Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling (FABB), and Reston Bike Club (RBC), the event showcased "Unity in our Community."

Gulu Gambhir and Rhonda Van Diest of Vienna readied themselves for the ride and appeared delighted to be there. "I'm super excited to join everyone on this beautiful day for this bike ride through the Hunter Mill area," said Gambhir.

"We think this is a great way to celebrate the end of the pandemic lockdown. Today's our day to go out and play and enjoy being with other people...This is the first time we've ever done this. We've never done organized riding ever together," added Van Diest.

Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill District) welcomed riders, including Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon District) and Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Jeffrey C. McKay (D-At-Large) to the "first-ever Tour de Hunter Mill."

"Some of you may know that every year there is a Tour de Mount Vernon. "Okay, so we borrowed the idea. This is not completely an original thought," said Alcorn. "Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Jeff McKay is also here. I have to say that actually before there was a tour to Mount Vernon, there was a Tour de Lee District when he [McKay] was the district supervisor. So, thank you for starting the tradition."

According to McKay, in 2014, as the Lee District Supervisor, he brought a Board



MERCIA HOBSON /THE CONNECTION

Shyamali Hauth, Hunter Mill District Staff, holds up one of the route marker signs sited on paths and trails throughout Vienna and Reston, cueing cyclists where to turn on the Tour de Hunter Mill.



MERCIA HOBSON /THE CONNECTION

Ride Marshal Jeff Gauger of Alexandria is Vice President of Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling and served during the Tour de Hunter Mill, ready to respond to emergencies and incidents and help make the event a positive and fun experience for cyclists.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Cyclists Fairfax County Supervisor Walter C. Alcorn (D) and his wife, Kristen board the Metrorail as part of the 15-mile route option of the Tour de Hunter Mill, held Saturday, May 15.



MERCIA HOBSON /THE CONNECTION

Shyamali Hauth, Hunter Mill District Staff, hands volunteer Bob Evans, senior W&OD Trail patroller and Tour de Hunter Mill ride marshal a colorful pair of 'Unity in Our Community' cycling socks, sure to step up the style of his cycling game.

Matter before the Supervisors to create the first-ever Bicycle Master Plan for all of Fairfax County. He said, "This is exactly the reason why we needed that because what frustrated me is that most people in the County didn't know all the awesome biking opportunities that existed in Fairfax County. And because they didn't know them, they weren't trying [them out]."

McKay added that the County wasn't learning where trail extensions were needed to complete a bicycling network." We're making progress on that...making Fairfax County a much more safe, pedestrian and bicycle-friendly community," he said.

Jeff Gauger of Alexandria is Vice President of Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling (FABB). Gauger said he would serve as one of the many ride marshals. "I just want to make sure that everything's okay on the ride if anyone's pulled over with a flat tire or something," he said.

Cyclists set off together on mapped adventures of 5-, 15-, and 20-mile routes, discovering or revisiting the many hidden treasures, cultural and environmental resources in the Reston-Vienna areas in the Hunter Mill District of Fairfax County. In the Town of Vienna, Mayor Linda J. Colbert prepared to greet riders on the W&OD Trail. "I love the collaboration between Vienna and Supervisor Walter Alcorn's office. The Vienna Bicycle Advisory Committee and I will welcome the riders with water and refreshments as they enter Vienna. I hope they will want to come back and enjoy more of our town," she said.

Alcorn and his wife Kristen chose the 15-mile tour route with a partial Metrorail option. They avoided 475 feet of climbing over six miles and experienced how to bring a bike on Metrorail.

Food, fun, and prizes awaited cyclists at Reston Community Center. "The Tour de Hunter Mill was a tour de force. Great job by Kelley Westenhoff [Reston Bike Club] and Supervisor Alcorn," said Roberta Gosling of Reston. "The route was well thought out, well-marked, and easy to follow. Best of all, we discovered many new routes and paths to and through Tyson's Corner," she said.



Dr. Thelma Daley, Past President, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, poses with a statue of Mary Church Terrell, an honorary member of the sorority and co-founder of the NAACP. The Sorority contributed \$100,000 to the Memorial's \$2.7 million dollar funding.



Jane Barker, Vice Chair/Co-Founder of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association, extended an invitation to all to "come here and learn this history and enjoy our beautiful memorial in this gorgeous park."

Memorial

The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial uses a significant number of stations, 19, to tell the suffrage movement story from 1848 to 1920. Its cost was funded through contributions of thousands of donors from 45 states and the District of Columbia, Fairfax County, the Virginia Commonwealth, foundations, corporations, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, women's associations, and non-profit organizations. Three life-sized bronze statues, donated by the National Suffrage Centennial Commission, reflect the images of Alice Paul, co-founder of the National Women's Party; Mary Church Terrell, co-founder of the NAACP and an organizer and honorary member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; and Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the National Woman Suffrage Association.



Contractor Terry Dubeau, Culpeper, works on completing columns last week for the memorial's central rotunda in preparation for the dedication.



Peri and Page Schiavone sit taking in the memorial's grounds and 19 history information stations with other visitors

Also included in the memorial is an actual section of the White House fence, on loan from the National Park Service; the first section to be given.

THE FENCE was a backdrop for the quiet picketing the suffragists carried on in front of the White House, the first ever to protest there, to gain President Wilson's attention, earning them the name, "Silent Sentinels".

The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits the United States and individual states from denying the right to vote to citizens on the basis of sex. The first women's suffrage amendment was introduced in Congress in 1878, but not passed until 1919; it was ratified by the required 36 states and was certified on Aug. 26, 1920.

To learn more about the memorial and the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association, see www.suffragistmemorial.org

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event.

THURSDAY/MAY 20

Virtual Scavenger Hunt. 6-7 p.m. The Reston-Dulles Section of the National Council of Negro Women is hosting a virtual scavenger hunt. Purchase tickets at <https://ncnwrestondulles.org/virtual-scavenger-hunt>. Tickets \$5

THURSDAY/MAY 27

Speaker Dr. Lauren Bell. 7 p.m. At Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation. Dr. Lauren Bell is a Professor of Political Science and Dean of Academic Affairs at Randolph-Macon College. She is an accomplished author and a former Congressional Fellow and Supreme Court Fellow. She

will speak on the topic, "In the Shadow of the Capitol Dome: Virginia Politics in National Context." Website to register: <https://nvhc.shulcloud.com/form/speaker-series-5/27.html>

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Oak Hill Elementary School, 3210 Kinross Circle, Herndon. Children who are age 5 by September 30, 2021 are eligible to enter kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year. You will need to register your child at the school he or she will attend. To confirm Oak Hill Elementary School serves your particular address, go to the FCPS website, www.fcps.edu and click on Registration.

You will see the boundary locator where you can type in your address and confirm which FCPS school you are zoned for. Registration packets are available online. Visit the Kindergarten Registration page on the FCPS website: www.fcps.edu/registration for steps to register your student. If you're within Oak Hill boundaries, contact Oak Hill ES registrar, Katherine Dillard, at KJDillard1@fcps.edu or by calling 703-467-3500 to schedule an appointment to register your child or if you have any questions.

FREE MESSAGES TO NURSES
White H.A.R.T. Holistic And Relaxation Therapy of Herndon, Northern Virginia's provider of massage

therapy for injury and pain relief, wishes to thank local nurses in honor of National Nurses Week with a free 30-minute massage. To book a free 30-minute massage, call 703-869-9601 or visit <https://whitehartmassage.janeapp.com/#/nurses-special> to book an appointment in advance.

NOW THRU OCT. 2

Winedown Weekends in the Tea Garden. 12-7 p.m. At Elden Street Tea Shop, 714 Pine Street, Herndon. Enjoy the new wine bar in the tea gardens with music (mostly live) every Friday and Saturday. Will have seasonal wine selections, snack items, and food trucks (coming soon). Local caterers and

more available for purchase. Visit the website: <https://www.eldenstreettea.com/>

AUSA GOLF TOURNAMENT JUNE 14

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Fairfax-Lee Chapter Golf Tournament to Benefit the LTC (R) Ken Britt Scholarship Program will be held on Monday, June 14, from 12 to 6 p.m., at the Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave in Clifton, Virginia. Early bird registration ends April 15. To register online visit <https://bit.ly/2PUHy0U> or contact erika_laos@yahoo.com or 571-330-3101.

(From left) John T. Frey, the Fairfax County Circuit Court clerk swears in Kevin Davis as the Chief of Police Fairfax County Police Department on Monday, May 10, 2021.



PHOTO BY FCPD

Ceremonial Swearing-in of Police Chief Davis

BT MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Monday, May 10, Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) tweeted, “This morning, Chief Davis was surrounded by family, senior staff, and members of the Board of Supervisors for his ceremonial swearing-in as Chief of Police.” Davis was sworn-in by John T. Frey, the clerk of the Fairfax County Circuit Court.

Davis became the police chief on May 3 following his appointment by the Fairfax County Board of

Supervisors on Friday, April 23. As chief, Davis holds the top rank in the agency formed 80 years ago. Headquartered in Fairfax, FCPD employs 1,402 police officers and 368 civilians covering a jurisdiction of 407 square miles.

On May 4, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved the following appropriations to the General Fund for the police department beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022: Compensation-\$186,374,506; Operating Expenses- \$34,770,258; Work Performed for Others-(\$697,406); Capital Outlay-\$381,600- Total \$220,828,958 according to Fairfax County.



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

The First Cicada Find at Laurel Hill Park

Laurel Hill Park volunteers Lauren Struble and Tom Wrzywicki had different reactions to finding their first cicada during invasive daylily removal.

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Obituary



Ballet teacher and true original **Julia Cziller Redick's** legacy lives on, though she has passed. Julia, or Mrs. Redick as she was lovingly known, died on April 18th, 2021 in Arlington, Virginia after a courageous fight with health issues. Her artistic spirit continues to remain vibrant in the hearts and lives of thousands of dancers whom she nurtured, trained, and empowered through her love of ballet.

Julia's mother, Alicia Kish Reisz, was a Prima Ballerina with the Hungarian State Opera Ballet before she abandoned her career to flee the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 with then eleven-year-old Julia. They came to the United States as refugees, where Reisz rebuilt her life and supported her young daughter as the head of the dance program at Wykeham Rise School for Girls in Connecticut. Following a brief career as a professional ballet dancer, Julia went on to forge her own path as a teacher, founding the Conservatory Ballet in 1972 in Columbia, Maryland. After moving the school to Reston, it rapidly grew and was soon recognized as a premiere ballet school in the Washington D.C. area. It was through her deep passion, artistic spirit, and tenacious nature that families were drawn to entrusting their children in her studios. She became a second mother to her students, always looking after them as if they were her own children.

Speaking of her students and the impact of ballet training on their lives, Mrs. Redick once said, "I love the dance and I love teaching it to children. . . The metamorphosis is utterly amazing." She remained Artistic Director of the Conservatory Ballet, a treasured institution in Reston, for close to 50 years, fostering a deep appreciation and love of the artform in everyone she touched. She is deeply missed.

Julia Redick is survived by her three children, Darren Redick, Jared Redick, and Alexia Redick Bartlett. She was a proud grandmother to Alana, Oliver, and Hugh.

A memorial service will be held at Lake Anne and Washington Plaza in Reston, VA on Sunday May 23rd at 3pm.

Obituary

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Employment

The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc. has a position open for a volunteer for our non-profit thrift shop in downtown Herndon VA. A brief description of the job is as follows: The Volunteer Coordinator ensures that the interests of volunteers are served and that the volunteer force remains well staffed. The Volunteer Coordinator will work to actively recruit volunteers for The Closet Thrift Shop. The candidate must be skilled at using various marketing tools, including electronic databases, social media, e-mail, written communications of various types, and outreach events. The candidate must be detail-oriented and organized, requiring work on several projects at once. The Volunteer Coordinator must be outgoing and communicate effectively with a variety of people. The full job announcement is available on-line at our website:

<http://theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/job-openings/>
Interested applicants should email a resume and cover letter to:

Mr. Gene Wiley, President
The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc.
gwiley106@gmail.com

Employment

SQL SERVER DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

Specialists On Call, Inc. d/b/a SOC Telemed seeks an SQL Server Database Administrator at our office in Reston, Virginia responsible for designing, implementing and migrating databases and systems hosting database services.

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Employment

Project Manager - Manage commercial & residential projects. B.S. Civ Eng & 24 mo exp. Job at A Capital Electric Contractors Inc., Herndon, VA. C Itr & cv to acapitalelectric21@gmail.com

Legals

ABC LICENSE

Little Beast Reston LLC trading as Little Beast, 12100 Sunset Hills Rd Ste R6, Reston, VA 20190-5894. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Aaron Gordon, Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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Michael Stephen Horwatt of Reston, Virginia, died on Friday, August 14, 2020, just shy of 79 years old, with his daughters by his side and the rest of his family holding vigil on Zoom. Ultimately, it was severe spinal stenosis that killed him, but Covid-19 was a cruel collaborator, keeping him isolated at his assisted living facility. Michael called it "emotional malnutrition."

Born in Washington, D.C. and raised in McLean Virginia, Michael learned to stand up for his beliefs at an early age. Michael always fought for others, too. He believed racial integration was good for everyone and rallied the local SCA

Presidents to go to Richmond to advocate for such in front of the Virginia General Assembly.

In 1961, Michael was an organizer of the first march on Washington as a leader of the Grinnell 14 to support President Kennedy's reluctance to resume atmospheric nuclear testing. President Kennedy, who was in California at the time, heard that the group was picketing and on a hunger strike at the White House and directed United States National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy to admit the group. Telling them that even Gandhi drank juice during the hunger strike, McBundy offered them orange juice. The group rejected the offer staying true to their fast. They also collected signatures and delivered a petition to the Soviet Embassy to request that the Soviets stop nuclear testing. This was the first modern direct action on arms control. One hundred twenty other colleges and universities followed.

Michael said to communicate that the danger of nuclear testing affected everyone, it was important to speak a language they could hear-- to "open their ears." The students cut their hair and wore suits and ties so as not to look like "beatniks." In 2014 at a panel discussion about this event, Michael said, "Consciousness about getting your message heard is the challenge of the modern age. The problem is not in a repertoire of solutions, the problem is in getting a political consensus to implement them. We are now at a point where there is such a cleavage in thinking that people have a sense of reality that is totally at war with others that disagree with them. When you're angry and you're feeling self-righteous and 'how could they be so stupid', you are sure to do nothing. [The task is] finding creative ways to shape a policy that falls unevenly on people." Michael was exemplary at that.

In 1977, Michael was appointed chairman of a committee to advise the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors whether to relocate the county's judicial and administrative complex from Fairfax City to Fairfax County. The Board of Supervisors named representatives of the many divergent interests in the county. As Michael put it, "The members looked at the same clock and saw a different time." Despite the controversial and highly divisive issue of relocating a local government's headquarters, the committee reached virtually unanimity.

At one point, the committee was divided on one provision. Michael voted against his own position because he felt that there needed to be more of a consensus for the endeavor to be successful.

He served as chairman of two more committees on relocation of the county government. One involved recommending specific sites for the new county complex while the other involved a master plan for the new government center. Again, as Michael said, "these committees started far apart and ended one vote short of unanimous." Michael met Sally Singer as a freshman at Grinnell College, and they married the day after graduation. He graduated with bachelor's degrees in political science and voice. He then went on to law school at the University of Virginia.

Upon graduation, he went to work with his mentor, antitrust lawyer H. Graham Morison. Morison was United States Attorney under Truman. From 1968 to 1970, Michael worked as an assistant commonwealth's attorney under Robert F. Horan. Eventually, he opened the first law firm in Reston, Horwatt and Kenny (on Lake Anne Plaza), which ultimately became Horwatt, Kenny, Glennon, Goodman, and Shultz. From 1978 to 1984, he served as a substitute judge for the General District Court. He joined Odin, Feldman, and Pittleman and then was recruited by Dickstein, Shapiro, and Morin as managing partner. In 2000, he became managing partner of Buchanan Ingersoll. Finally, he left to open his own law office as a solo practitioner. During his career, he practiced First Amendment law, representing the Loudoun Times-Mirror, among other newspapers, and practiced land use and zoning law. Michael also shaped internet law in Virginia. He spearheaded the Virginia Electronic Signatures Act. He garnered support for the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act in Virginia.

His substantial background also includes extensive experience in economic development, first with the Economic Development Administration of the United States Department of Commerce and later in many other contexts. He also excelled in his practice of business strategies and implementation, civil rights law, and criminal defense law. His career spanned five decades, over which he helped countless people. Mr. Horwatt became vice chairman of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. He was named 1981 Citizen of the Year by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and received the Washington Post/Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association Citation of Merit for service to the community in 1983. In 1991 he ran for the Democratic nomination for Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors against Audrey Moore.

Michael was predeceased by his parents, Saul and Lillian Horwatt of McLean Virginia. He is survived by his former wife and dearest friend, Sally Brodsky (Bob); his daughter Karin Horwatt Cather, of Scottsdale, AZ and his daughter Elizabeth (Beth) Horwatt Marks (Greg Pepus) of Leesburg, VA; His brother, David Horwatt (Jean) of Los Angeles, CA; his grandchildren, Jalyn and Jacob Marks and Gabriel and Noah Cather; His nephews, Joshua and Elijah Horwatt, and his great nieces and nephews. Michael was active in Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, participating in the choir and in Torah Study. In lieu of flowers, please direct donations to the Humane Society of the United States and the Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation choir fund.

A memorial service will be held for Michael on June 9, 2021 at 9:30AM. It will take place, rain or shine, outdoors on Lake Anne Plaza in front of the Washington Plaza Baptist Church adjacent to the lake and the Bob Simon statue. If you will be able to attend, please RSVP by June 2, 2021 to Michael.Horwatt.Memorial@gmail.com so there will be enough chairs. If you would like to say a few words, please let the family know at that email address, as well.

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A True Sense of Insecurity



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

From the moment you hear the word cancer spoken in your direction - from your new best friend, an oncologist with whom you've had zero previous interaction, you are transported to a new reality. A reality that a few of those moments before, was nowhere on your radar. Whatever innocence, expectation of normalcy and/or predictability you anticipated experiencing in your life, is now completely gone. Not only are you not in Kansas anymore, you are nowhere to be found, emotionally. All your hopes, dreams and presumptions about your life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are back-burnered by your life-changing diagnosis. A diagnosis which will require some kind of treatment, side effects notwithstanding, which will likely dampen your enthusiasm for living and affect all your decisions. Figuratively speaking, there's a new sheriff in town and if you're not compliant and attentive to your doctor's orders, you'll become a prisoner to your disease.

Even if you are compliant, a cancer diagnosis, however curable, is the kind of news that sticks with you no matter how long into your remission you are or how encouraging your diagnostic scans appear to be. Since I've not experienced being cancer free - after having received an initial diagnosis/prognosis, I can't imagine the relief and rebirth one might feel after learning their cancer has been beaten into submission. It's really too much to even contemplate when you've been given a sort of death sentence. Practically speaking, how does one go from being constantly under threat of a worsening outcome to one which is completely free from the emotional and physical tentacles of a cancer diagnosis?

You can't really unwring the bill, to coin a phrase. Moreover, hearing "You have cancer" sticks with you like Gorilla Glue. It's hard to even imagine ever hearing anything worse. Then one day, hearing your oncologist say "no sign of cancer" to you. To quote my late mother: "It's too much for anybody's nerves." And it's almost too much to ever consider. Your reality is that you have a very serious medical condition/disease, and once again, to quote my late mother: "No one gets out of this life alive." Thinking, even contemplating a miracle cure is a tease most unhelpful, to invoke the syntax of Hercule Poirot. Somehow one must learn to live with their disease or else you'll die having been unable to lock it away in your vault, so to speak. Somehow having cancer can't be the predominant consideration in your life. Yet, when every waking moment is nearly consumed by your less-than-ideal circumstances, it's an emotional battle, most royal. If you win your share of skirmishes, you'll likely be rewarded with more life to live. However, nothing is guaranteed, except you know what: death and taxes.

"Any way you slice it, it's still ham," as my father used to say. Meaning that cancer is a serious business and no amount of joking or obfuscation is going to change that fact. Nevertheless, if one doesn't try and gives in to the disease psychologically, the internal damage may be compounded. Not that I've denied my diagnosis or ever taken it lightly, but I have tried to embrace it and become friends with it; not wanting to be controlled by it anymore than I already am. Given that I'll likely never be free of my cancer, either I learn to live with it or die trying. And I'd rather go down fighting than go down quietly. My situation has not changed or gotten worse. Still my disease is a major part of me and integrating into my program is the best way I know to try and make a molehill out of a mountain. I have been there and have done that. Hopefully, I'm not done being there.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON / THE CONNECTION

Southgate Community Center located at 12125 Pinecrest Rd., Reston may be in for name change according to a Board Matter presented by Supervisor Walter Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill District).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Former Fairfax County Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins

Southgate Community Center May Be Renamed

Board Matter unanimously approved by County Supervisors on naming the community center after Catherine M. Hudgins.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Southgate Community Center in Reston may be getting a new name soon. Fairfax County Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill District) presented a Board Matter at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meeting of May 4 that staff from the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) work with the community to rename Southgate Community Center in recognition of Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

SOUTHGATE COMMUNITY CENTER (SGCC) is located at 12125 Pinecrest Rd, Reston. Fairfax County operates it on land leased for free owned by Reston Association. When reading the Board Matter, Alcorn said that Hudgins “worked tirelessly to negotiate the land lease, ...secure the financing, review the building design, monitor its construction, and support the center’s program activities.

“One of Supervisor Hudgins’ biggest accomplishments and one that is a lasting legacy is the re-creation of the Southgate Community Center as a County-owned facility in Reston in 2006,” Alcorn said.

According to the Connection Newspapers’ July 12, 2006 story, “New Southgate Center Debuts,” the Southgate neighborhood had been without a community amenity for nearly a decade. The \$4.6 million, 7,737-square-foot facility took three years to build. It replaced a rarely used 23-year-old Reston Association (RA) pool and community room. At the Center’s Grand Opening, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) is reported to have said, It is my hope that the programming will give our children a good start in life.”

Andy Sigle, the Secretary of the Southgate Community Center Advisory Council, spoke on behalf of the Council, including Jan Bradshaw, Chair, and Darlena Ricks, Chair-Elect. He said that the Center continues to serve the local neighborhood, Reston, and the surrounding community well.

“Between its summer and school break camps, af-

ter-school programs, teen center, basketball/soccer/cheerleader teams, Southgate’s-Got-Talent performance competitions, and so many more programs, the Center has activities for virtually every interest of our youth,” Sigle said. He added, “Supervisor Hudgins ‘original’ vision, and Center Director Ricardo Cabello’s implementation of that vision, have truly turned the Center into an inter-generational space where every member of our community can truly feel a sense of belonging.”

According to a September 2020 release by Friends of SCC, Reston is one of the wealthiest communities in Northern Virginia, with a median income per household of \$113k. Yet over 7 percent of the population lives below the poverty line. The Center hosts patrons from various backgrounds and ages, such as new immigrants with school-aged children who benefit from federal assistance free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch meals. The Center is also an intergenerational gathering place for making community.

During Covid-19, the Center hosts a School-Aged Children’s program through the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood & Community Services and offers online youth programming created by the Center’s management staff.

IN 2006, Gerald E. Connolly (D), then Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors attended the Center’s Grand Opening. In 2021, U.S. Congressman Gerald E. Connolly (D-11) recalled the work Hudgins put in to secure the Center and his thoughts about renaming it in her honor.

“Cathy Hudgins has been a visionary leader and a steadfast supporter of building community identity, inclusion, and togetherness. The Board’s measure to rename the community center after my longtime friend is a tremendous and appropriate honor for someone who has dedicated so much to Fairfax County,” said Congressman Connolly.

“The Southgate Community Center was a passion project for Cathy Hudgins. She had a vision of a vibrant, active and well-used resource for gathering, learning, playing, celebrating that would support the neighborhoods of Glade Drive and beyond in Reston. She never gave up on her vision and the vitality of that community hub today is testament to the power of safe and welcoming facilities to help build community. There is no one whose name would be more appropriate for this fantastic resource,” said Leila Gordon, RCC Executive Director

The Department of Neighborhood and Community Services will report to the Board about the name change and an implementation plan.

Singer/songwriter Amanda Cunningham of Reston



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Reston Singer-songwriter Releases Single

‘Pattern’ doubles down on the blame game when ‘being ghosted.’

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Emerging singer-songwriter Amanda Cunningham of Reston shares her struggle with personal accountability, power when forming close friendships, and self-esteem in her newest single, “Pattern” (2021). Originally a self-described pop/rhythm and blues [R&B] singer, Cunningham recently admitted her voice and lyrics are turning more country. “I’m currently working on new music now that will reflect this shift better,” Cunningham says on her website.

“Pattern” is best described as a musing, sensitive song. Cunningham’s soulful voice, storytelling, and acoustic guitar chords subtly draw listeners toward an introspective look at the mental health process of holding oneself accountable in failed relationships, learning from mistakes, and not cashing out of growth that leads to peace.

“Amanda’s vocal style and instincts are spot-on as an artist,” said Cari Cole, CEO/Founder, A & R Director / CCVM Label w/o Walls.

According to Cunningham, the lyrics for “Pattern” came about when, in 2019, she joined Cole’s “Signature Writing Circle” program and was teamed up with Miranda Glory, NBC’s 2020 Songland Songwriter. Cunningham recalled her private, co-writing prep session with Glory. Cunningham tapped an emotional pain intertwined with confusion. Cunningham’s authenticity, the topic’s depth

and relevance, mental health, resonated with Glory. “She related to it,” Cunningham said.

What followed were two 60-minute, one-on-one sessions putting truth to lyrics during which Cunningham crafted her song’s message. According to Cunningham, “Pattern” examines her ten-year journey of “being ghosted,” suddenly cut-off from close, female friendships, the other women moving on without providing reasons.

“The common thing is me, something I’m doing. The song talks about maybe I should look inside at myself. There are patterns that I need to break... [and see] there were red flags... in the relationships,” said Cunningham.

Part of the lyrics Cunningham wrote for “Pattern” (2021) reads: “... Didn’t know that I couldn’t cry That it’d scare you outta my life Didn’t know I had to sacrifice And play nice, all the time Is it me or does this always happen Must be something cuz I keep attracting All these people who ain’t here for me All these people who don’t care for me... Gotta break this Pattern Pattern.”

According to Cunningham, when she went to sing the lyrics for the final release, she made a few minor tweaks. “Certain words are easier to sing, but it is pretty much as is,” she said. Cunningham said feedback proved positive.

“Writing this song with Amanda was so much fun,” said Glory. “We both connected over loving soulful music, so this one came very easily. Super excited for this record to be out in the world,” she said.

Visit Cunningham’s website to listen to her singles, “Pattern,” (2021), “Selfish Fool,” (2020), and, “Highlights of Youth,” (2020).