

# CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

Sept. 11 Candlelight Vigil  
at St. Timothy's Episcopal  
Church in Herndon.

## Gathering To Remember

9/11 PAGES 3, 5

OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

### Canine Pandemonium

DOG DAZE, PAGE 12

### Many Ways to Vote

NEWS, PAGE 8

### Friends Matter

A+, PAGE 11

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

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 16

Open House. 7 p.m. At Compass Classes, 520 Herndon Parkway, Suite D, Herndon. They are a group of volunteer adults and youth dedicated to supporting the community through Aerospace Education, youth leadership development and emergency rescue/disaster relief. At the open house, the cadets and adult volunteers will have several displays highlighting the missions. To include Aerospace and Technology displays, Cadet activity presentations and Emergency Services tools and demonstrations. Visit <https://vawg.cap.gov/units/william-p-knight> and theFacebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/knightcap007/>

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 18

Art Space Lawn. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. At 750 Center Street, Herndon. Native Plant Sale for fall planting season. All plants are native to the area. Free. Visit the website: [www.frpweb.org](http://www.frpweb.org)

## VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES DISTRICT CANDIDATE FORUMS

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area invites the public to join Virginia House of Delegates

District Candidate Forums, to be held online in September and October. These events are free and open to the public. Register and address questions to candidates at: <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/2021-candidate-forum>. The Candidate Forums are nonpartisan. The League never supports or opposes any party or candidate. They invite all certified candidates competing for office in their respective districts. Direct any questions about the event to: [pr@lwv-fairfax.org](mailto:pr@lwv-fairfax.org)

Schedule:  
September 21, 2021:  
Virginia House of Delegates District 49

Candidates:  
Alfonso H. Lopez (D)  
Timothy E. Kilcullen (R)  
Terry W. Modglin (I)  
September 23, 2021:  
Virginia House of Delegates District 53  
Candidates:  
Marcus B. Simon (D)  
Sarah White (R)

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 22

Talk on "The Social Secretary." 7 p.m. At Sterling Library, 22330 S. Sterling Blvd., Suite A117, Sterling. Local playwright Ellen Price of Reston will share her process for writing "The Social Secretary." She will share how she created her

piece and the two lead actors will provide a short vignette from the show which opens October 15 in Sterling. Talk back time to follow after the scene and the event is free to the public. Visit <http://www.sterlingplaymakers.org>.

## FREE CYBER TRAINING

The Virginia Cyber Skills Academies (VCSA) is a state-sponsored training program for NOVA residents financially impacted by COVID-19 that provides free cyber training to residents ready to start or boost a career in cyber. VCSA was recently launched to help current cybersecurity professionals with upskilling and those wanting to enter the sought after cybersecurity field with reskilling. The program is only open to citizens who are stationed in or permanent residents of Northern Virginia and is only funded for this year, so applicants should apply as soon as possible. Applicants can earn certifications from the SANS Institute, a highly regarded and well-recognized cybersecurity learning platform. Visit the VCSA website at [www.vacyberskills.com](http://www.vacyberskills.com).

## 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/>

## SUPPORT DULLES SOUTH FOOD PANTRY

Help Support Dulles South Food Pantry. They need potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, garlic, cucumbers, squash, apples and oranges. Drop off items on Mondays from now to April 12, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (except for March 29) at Arcola Fire Department Annex, 24300 Stone Springs Blvd., Dulles Or give: <https://www.dsfp.org/donate-money/>

## RESTON HOSPITAL HELPS THE UNINSURED

Reston Hospital (HCA Virginia) is working to assist those who find themselves without health insurance coverage for their families. The company has established a free hotline to assist those who have lost health insurance coverage to secure temporary coverage while they are unemployed. Call the hotline at 833-867-8771, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## GRACE GOES VIRTUAL

Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) announces the release of the virtual edition of its Explore More program. Explore More, typically offered in the gallery located in Reston Town Center, provides the opportunity for families to learn about artists and artworks featured in the organization's exhibition programming. Each edition offers context into a specific exhibition accompanied by a digital gallery of artwork images. Kids and families will walk away learning more about art concepts, how to view art

## Legal Notice

### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC., FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND A SYSTEM EXPANSION PLAN PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 28 OF TITLE 56 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA CASE NO. PUR-2021-00144

On August 9, 2021, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA" or the "Company"), filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to § 56-610 *et seq.* of the Code of Virginia, an application ("Second Application to Amend") to amend the Company's System Expansion Plan (or "Plan") approved by the Commission on February 19, 2016, in Case No. PUE-2015-00056 ("Original Approval Order"). The Plan is a natural gas infrastructure expansion plan designed to deliver natural gas service to customers located in unserved areas within the Company's service territory by providing an alternative method of collecting the uneconomic portion of the investment related to infrastructure expansion projects ("eligible expansion investment" or "EEI") from the beneficiaries of the investments ("Affected Customers") through a fixed monthly rider (the "MAIN Rider").

In its Second Application to Amend, the Company states that it provides natural gas service to over 279,000 customers in Central and Southern Virginia, the Piedmont region, and most of the Shenandoah Valley, as well as portions of Northern and Western Virginia and the Hampton Roads region. The Company further states that, in the Original Approval Order, the Commission authorized a maximum level of investment of approximately \$3.57 million with the ability to exceed this amount by no more than 10% over the Plan's five-year investment period. The Company also states that the Original Approval Order established the MAIN Rider at \$6.63 per month to recover the eligible system expansion infrastructure costs ("Plan Cost of Service") associated with the EEI.

In December 2020 in Case No. PUR-2020-00149, the Commission approved the Company's first application to amend the Plan as needed to complete 71 existing projects contributing EEI to the Plan and to recover the related costs from Affected Customers ("Amendment Order"). In the Amendment Order, the Commission approved only the first step of the Company's proposed two-step increase to the MAIN Rider. The Company states that, in the Amendment Order, the Commission approved the Company's request to (1) increase the maximum level of investment under the Plan to \$5.1 million; (2) increase the estimated Plan Cost of Service from \$8,476,655 to \$9,503,506; (3) increase the MAIN Rider from \$6.63 to \$8.63 effective January 1, 2021; and (4) decrease the projected Affected Customers from 5,319 to 3,301. The Amendment Order denied the Company's request for a second step increase in the MAIN Rider and directed the Company to file additional information in support of any future request to increase the MAIN Rider.

The Company states that the existing MAIN Rider is not sufficient for the Company to recover the Plan Cost of Service. In its Second Application to Amend, CVA is requesting: (1) an increase in the MAIN Rider from \$8.63 to \$10.94 effective December 30, 2021, which is the first billing unit of January 2022; (2) a decrease to the Plan Cost of Service from \$9,503,506 to \$8,816,951; and (3) an increase in projected Affected Customers from 3,301 to 3,437.

The Company also requests that the Commission approve the associated amendments to the Company's Terms and Conditions. CVA states that, as of May 31, 2021, MAIN Rider revenues have been less than Plan costs by \$267,944. CVA also states that it does not currently project a need for any other future bill increases.

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

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Comment that, among other things, directed the Company to provide notice to the public and provided interested persons an opportunity to comment or request a hearing on the Company's Second Application to Amend.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should 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. 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 the Commission's 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 Second Application to Amend may be viewed on the Commission's website or obtained, at no charge, by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: T. Borden Ellis, Assistant General Counsel and Katherine C. Creef, Senior Counsel, NiSource Corporate Services Company, 1809 Coyote Drive Chester, Virginia, 23836, or [tbellis@nsource.com](mailto:tbellis@nsource.com) and [kcreef@nsource.com](mailto:kcreef@nsource.com).

On or before October 8, 2021, any interested person wishing to comment on the Company's Second Application to Amend may file written comments with the Clerk of the Commission by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/SubmitPublicComments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/SubmitPublicComments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00144.

Any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing a notice of participation, on or before October 8, 2021, with the Clerk of the Commission at: [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the 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 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00144. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment.

On or before October 8, 2021, any interested person or entity may file, with the Clerk of the Commission at the address above or [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/), and in accordance with the Rules of Practice, a request for hearing on the Second Application to Amend. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a request for hearing electronically may file such request for hearing by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Any request for a hearing shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00144, shall include the email address of the filer or its counsel, if available, and shall include: (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 a hearing should be conducted in this matter.

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.

The Second Application to Amend, the Order for Notice and Comment, and the Commission's Rules of Practice may be viewed at the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/CaseInformation](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/CaseInformation).

COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.

## 20 Years after 9/11, We Still Remember



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Each Sept. 11, firefighters from West Centreville Fire Station 38 – which also responded to the Pentagon on 9-11 – place 343 flags on their station’s front lawn in memory of the 343 firefighters who lost their lives that day in New York. A white tag atop every flag contains the name and unit of one of those firefighters.

— BONNIE HOBBS

## Two Local Firefighters Look Back at 9/11

**At the Pentagon, ‘You were a part of history.’**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

*This story originally appeared in the Sept. 8, 2011 Centre View.*

**T**he morning of Sept. 11, 2001, B-shift firefighters from Fire Station 15 in Chantilly were scheduled to hold a fire drill at the NRO building in the Westfields Corporate Center.

“They were going to simulate a plane hitting the building, and we were going to monitor how fast and effectively they evacuated,” said Technician John Stetter, now a firefighter at West Centreville Station 38. “Before we left the station, we heard on the news that a plane had hit the World Trade Center.”

Initially, he said, they thought it was just a little, single-engine plane, so they headed to the drill. “We were on Conference Center Drive when an Air Force person came out from the NRO to meet us,” said Stetter. “He said, ‘A second plane’s hit the World Trade Center, we’re under attack and I think the drill’s going to be cancelled.’”

Then over the fire radios came an order for any units out to return to their sta-



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW  
(From left) are Ray Tricarico and John Stetter of West Centreville Fire Station 38.

tions. “That was Priority One – lights and sirens – which never happens,” said Firefighter Ray Tricarico, who’s served off and on at Station 38 since it opened in 1995. “I was outside refueling the fire truck when one of the guys yelled out, ‘A plane hit the World Trade Center.’ I thought he was joking.”

Meanwhile, when Stetter got back to his station, he and the others watched the news on TV. “Then we heard about the Pentagon and another plane crashing in Pennsylvania, and it sunk in that it was a terrorist attack,” said Stetter. “We turned on our fire radios to



Station 38 firefighters hung the American flag over the Pentagon after the 9/11 attack.

tagon that evening. The Chantilly station had one of three, specialized telesquirt pumpers – with an elevated water nozzle – in the county. We relieved the Mount Vernon crew that was already there with its pumper, and they used ours at their station.”

First, though, he called his wife, mother and sisters to tell them he was OK and was going to the Pentagon. “My son wasn’t even a year old,” he said. “They told me to be careful. Ten years ago, nobody had digital cameras, so I took a disposable camera with me.”

“We all tried to get in touch with our families,” said Tricarico. “I had relatives in New York, so we were worried about them. And my wife, parents and sisters in Culpeper worried that we were in the line of fire, if something else were to happen, since we’re so close to [Washington], D.C. and all the government buildings.”

One of his wife’s relatives worked in building 7, near the towers, but he’d evacuated and was all right. However, said Tricarico, “It took almost a day to get in touch with him; all the phone lines were jammed. But my mom’s cousin worked for Cantor-Fitzgerald on one of the upper floors, and he died.”

Tricarico didn’t get to go to the Pentagon, himself, but Station 38’s C-shift did, the next morning. Disappointed, Tricarico said, “I wanted to be there; that’s what I’m here for.”

SEE LOOK BACK, PAGE 4

pick up the radio traffic at the Pentagon – which units were there and what was going on.”

“Route 28 in Centreville was bumper-to-bumper gridlock from everybody going home,” said Tricarico. “I grew up here and, living near an airport, it was weird to have no planes flying, once they closed the air space.”

“We called A-shift and let them know we might need them to come back,” said Stetter. “Our battalion chief said we needed to rest up because we were going to the Pen-

# Whose Choice?

BY DELEGATE KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM



Recently the almost totally male and white members of the Texas legislature passed a law that would effectively end abortions in that state. The decision to end a pregnancy has been taken from the woman who is pregnant and made instead by a group of older men who with no knowledge of the circumstances or reasons decide for the woman in advance. A woman in Texas who is carrying a fetus with major fetal abnormalities or who had been raped by a stranger or family member would have her fate decided by a legislature who has no knowledge of the necessity or reasons that an abortion might appropriately need to be performed.

The Texas law provides that persons who assist anyone in getting an abortion after just six weeks can be sued by a neighbor, distant relative, abusive partner, or even a stranger and

collect \$10,000 for each successful claim. It puts enforcement of the law in the hands of vigilante bounty hunters. With the Supreme Court upholding the law we can expect such laws to be introduced in other states including Virginia depending on the outcome of elections in November. A case from Mississippi is now before the Supreme Court, and it could lead to the decision in *Roe*

*v. Wade* being overturned.

Most telling in the debates over the right to end an unintended pregnancy is the lack of any understanding or compassion for the woman facing such a complex and crushing decision. Up until the changes in Virginia law last year there were a number of roadblocks and barriers intended to make it as difficult as possible for a woman to access counseling and medical advice about an unintended pregnancy or one that is medically inadvisable. The laws that have been passed over the years have treated all situations as being equal when the facts are that the cir-

cumstances are very complex and personal.

Distressing to me in the debates in which I have participated in the Virginia legislature and that I have read about in other states, is that there seems to be little or no compassion or concern about the child who is born. First, there need to be sex education programs that reduce the number of unintended pregnancies. There needs to be greatly expanded childcare and nutrition programs for the children once they are born.

Polling in Virginia has found that 82% of those in the polling sample feel that decisions about pregnancy should be made by the woman with the support of those she loves and trusts. The poll found that 79% of Virginians believe that abortion should be legal and that the government should not prevent a woman from making that decision for herself. The decision as to which way Virginia goes on this issue is of utmost importance by the voters in the current election for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general and House of Delegates members. I trust the election outcome will make it clear that it should be the woman who makes the choice.

# #CallTextLive is for Everyone

## September is suicide prevention month.

BY JOSEPH GETCH  
CEO, PRS



We are not post pandemic. We are not post pandemic-related stress and anxiety either. And if our current state is the "new normal," then my job and those of my colleagues and peers will continue to grow. As the head of a local behavioral health nonprofit, that is not our goal.

COVID-related anxiety, depression, loneliness and decreased stress tolerance has made suicide prevention efforts more important than ever. In fact, 36% of callers to PRS' CrisisLink Program—Virginia's crisis intervention and suicide prevention hotline, text and chat service—identified COVID-19 as the primary stressor in their lives with a third of those experiencing

acute suicide thoughts.

Our PRS staff report seeing younger children with increasingly aggressive behaviors and teens with increased hospitalizations, suicide ideation, risky behaviors and drug use.

We all have a role to play. September is suicide prevention month, and throughout the month, we have activities as part of our annual #CallTextLive Campaign to help everyone be part of the solution. The campaign works to create awareness about preventing suicide and calling or texting a hotline to receive help and support.

On our website, we have information designed to support populations at a higher risk for suicide behaviors; facts and data about understanding the problem of suicide; resources about identifying when someone is in crisis; and invitations to PRS supported events including NAMI NoVa Walk and AFSP Fairfax Walk. Social media is an important

part of the campaign, used to engage people in sharing stories and photos on PRS Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Suicide, a serious issue locally and nationally and exacerbated by the pandemic, claims the lives of more than 47,000 people annually and is the second leading cause of death for people aged 10-34. A simple call or text to a crisis hotline—(800) 273-TALK [8255]—and the textline—"CONNECT" to 85511—provides the empathetic, trained voice that someone in crisis often needs to reduce their pain and provide alternatives and connections to care.

We know that prevention works. For every death, 278 people manage to move past thoughts of suicide and survive. That's why we need to continue reducing the stigma around discussing issues that contribute to suicide and encourage people to seek help. By participating in #CallTextLive, our community can find simple ways to effect change. Visit our campaign site at [www.prsinc.org/calltextlive](http://www.prsinc.org/calltextlive) to discover how to get and give help so that more people can adapt and live in our new and changing normal.

# Two Local Firefighters Look Back at 9/11

FROM PAGE 3

Stetter, however, did go there, Sept. 11, and helped extinguish the flames. "We were briefed about what happened, what to expect and what our job would be," he said. "They

told us that – because of what was burning at the Pentagon – once we left there, our turnout gear would be decontaminated and replaced or destroyed. So if we had special gloves or tools we wanted to keep, they said not to take them with us."

He and the other firefighters rode together to the Pentagon on a Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy bus. Stetter said, "We took Route 50 to I-66 and, on our way there, on every overpass, there were American flags and people honking their horns,

flashing their lights and waving to us, the whole way in there. It made you feel proud to be working for the department and be doing that – you were a part of history."

SEE LOOK BACK, PAGE 10



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/  
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS



Sen. Jennifer B. Boysko during the Sept. 11 Candlelight Vigil at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Herndon.



Sept. 11 Candlelight Vigil at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Herndon

## Fairfax County Observances for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The events of 9/11 hit Fairfax County hard, being so close to the Pentagon. Parts of the tragic day unfolded in our backyard. On Saturday, the 20th anniversary of 9/11, communities around the county held remembrances in different manners. Some were

like the keystone County Remembrance held at 2 p.m. at Bailey Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department in Falls Church. Many first responders from there were deployed to the Pentagon on 9/11. A video of the remembrance can be viewed on the Fairfax County Government Facebook Page.

Others were ceremonies like the one held at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial featuring keynote speaker LTG (R) John R. Wood of the U.S. Army.

In the Town of Vienna, organizers held the 20th Anniversary Remembering 9/11, on the Freeman House Lawn, with keynote speaker Anne Dellinger, former digital content editor at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum.

In the Town of Herndon, an evening candlelight vigil at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church gathered people in remembrance. These are only a few of the observances.

In Reston, two trees, now part of the landscape, grow in memory of Norma Cruz Khan and Leonard Taylor of Reston, who died aboard American Airlines flight 77 when it crashed in the Pentagon.

Six trees are planted at the Freedom Memorial in Great Falls to remember the residents they lost.

### LOCALS LOST ON 9/11

<https://pentagonmemorial.org/explore/biographies>

LTC Dean E. Mattson, 57, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]

Eddie Dillard, 54, of Alexandria, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]

Capt. Robert Edward Dolan, 43, Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]

Diane M. Hale-McKinzy, 38, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]

SEE OBSERVANCES, PAGE 6



PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK

At Freedom Grove, Brown's Chapel Park in Reston, two Sweetgum trees with star-shaped leaves flourish. They were planted 20 years ago in the memory of Norma Cruz Khan and Leonard Taylor of Reston, who died aboard American Airlines flight 77 when it crashed in the Pentagon. Below each tree is a rock with their name engraved.

19th Annual

# ALEXANDRIA OLD TOWN

(Outdoors, formerly on King St.)

## Art fest

September 18th-19th  
Sat./Sun. 10am - 5pm

John Carlyle Square @ Duke St.  
Old Town Alexandria, VA

FREE ADMISSION

From the folks that bring you fine art shows in:  
Aspen | Las Olas | Arlington

Bill Herb

Howard Alan Events  
ArtFestival.com  
561-746-6615

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Since 1933, the Safety Inspection Program has helped keep Virginia's motorists safe, with affordable annual checkups that ensure your car - and all those around you - are roadworthy, reliable and ready to go. Learn more at [vasafetyinspection.com](http://vasafetyinspection.com).

# Observances for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11

FROM PAGE 5

Maj. Wallace Cole Hogan, 40, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Bryan Creed Jack, 48, of Alexandria, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Steven D. "Jake" Jacoby, 43, Alexandria, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 MAJ Stephen V. Long, 39, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National

9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Terence M. Lynch, 49, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 MAJ Clifford L. Patterson, 33, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 CDR Robert Allan Schlegel, 38, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 LTC Gary F. Smith, 55, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]

Norma Lang Steuerle, 54, of Alexandria, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Sandra Carol Taylor, 50, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Meta L. Waller, 60, of Alexandria, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 LTC Stephen Neil Hyland, 45, of Burke, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Charles E. Sabin, 54, of Burke, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11

Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Stanley R. Hall, 68, of Centreville, Va. (American Flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Karl W. Teepe, 57, of Centreville, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Col. Canfield Boone, 54, of Clifton, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 CAPT Jack Panches, 51, of Clifton, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/  
 CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

**Nate Cissel, 11, of Reston, with his father, Scott Cissel. Nate got up and shared his thoughts about 9/11 at the vigil in Herndon.**

Pentagon Memorial]  
 Khang Nguyen, 41, of Fairfax, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Michael L. Selves, 53, of Fairfax, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Sandra Teague, 31, of Fairfax, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Mary Jane "MJ" Booth, 64 of Falls Church, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Brenda C. Gibson, 59, of Falls Church, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 1st Lt. Richard P. Gabriel, USMC, Retired, 54, of Great Falls, Va. (American Flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Ann Judge, 49, of Great Falls, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Barbara Olson, 45, of Great Falls, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Lisa J. Raines, 42, of Great Falls, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Diane M. Simmons, of Great Falls, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 George Simmons, of Great Falls, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Capt. Charles "Chic" Burlingame III, 51, of Herndon, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Mark E. Schurmeier, 44, McLean, Va. (World Trade Center) [Legacy.com]  
 TC Kip P. Taylor, 38, of McLean, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Norma Cruz Khan, 45, Reston, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Leonard Taylor, 45, of Reston, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Rosa Maria "Rosemary" Chapa, 64, of Springfield, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 LCDR Charles Droz, 52, of Springfield, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 CDR Patrick S. Dunn, 39 of Springfield, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Ada L. Mason, 50, Springfield, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Patricia E. "Patti" Mickley, 41, of Springfield, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Marjorie C. Salamone, 53, of Springfield, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Janice Scott, 46, of Springfield, Va. (Pentagon) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]  
 Vicki C. Yancey, 43, of Springfield, Va. (American flight 77) [The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial]

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC., FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND AND EXTEND ITS SAVE PLAN PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE § 56-604, AND FOR APPROVAL TO IMPLEMENT A 2022 SAVE PLAN RIDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 20 OF ITS GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS CASE NO. PUR-2021-00145**

On August 12, 2021, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA" or the "Company"), filed an application ("Application") pursuant to Chapter 26 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia, known as the Steps to Advance Virginia's Energy Plan (SAVE) Act (the "SAVE Act"), for (1) approval to amend and extend its SAVE Plan pursuant to the SAVE Act; and (2) for approval to implement a SAVE Plan Rider ("SAVE Rider") for calendar year 2022.

The Company requests to extend its SAVE Plan for two years (calendar years 2022 and 2023). CVA proposes that during this two-year extended term, the Company would be authorized to spend up to \$63 million on SAVE-eligible natural gas infrastructure and recover such costs through its SAVE Rider ("Phase 4 SAVE Plan") during calendar year 2022 and up to \$72 million on SAVE-eligible infrastructure during calendar year 2023. The Company requests authorization to exceed this investment by 10% on an annual basis and 10% on a cumulative basis, for a Phase 4 SAVE Plan maximum spend of \$148.5 million. The Company also requests approval to implement its 2022 SAVE Rider, which is based on a \$63 million projected SAVE-eligible capital program for 2022 and the true-up of the recovery of the actual SAVE cost of service for the calendar year 2020, in accordance with Section 20 of its General Terms and Conditions, to be effective with the first billing unit of January 2022 through the last billing unit of December 2022.

In its Application, CVA states that its SAVE Plan is a program designed to accelerate the replacement of certain components of its gas distribution system infrastructure to enhance system safety and reliability. The Company proposes to amend and extend its SAVE Plan for an additional two-year term by undertaking additional identified projects the Company expects to complete in 2022 under the proposed Phase 4 SAVE Plan; the Company states such projects will enhance safety and reliability and will positively impact the environment. CVA has proposed a total SAVE revenue requirement of \$19,756,447 which, if approved, would increase residential customers' bills by \$1.60 per month, for a total proposed monthly SAVE Rider rate of \$4.70.

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 exhibits for the details of these proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Application and supporting documents and may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents.

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

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should 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. 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 Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's 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 viewed on the Commission's website or obtained, at no charge, by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: T. Borden Ellis, Assistant General Counsel, and Katherine C. Creef, Senior Counsel, NiSource Corporate Services Company, 1809 Coyote Drive Chester, Virginia, 23836, or [tbellis@nisource.com](mailto:tbellis@nisource.com) and [kcreef@nisource.com](mailto:kcreef@nisource.com).

On or before October 15, 2021, any interested person wishing to comment on the Company's Application may file comments with the Clerk of the Commission by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00145.

Any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing a notice of participation on or before October 15, 2021, with the Clerk of the Commission at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the 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 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00145. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment.

On or before October 15, 2021, any interested person or entity may file, with the Clerk of the Commission at [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/), a request that the Commission convene a hearing on CVA's Application. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a request for hearing electronically may file such request for hearing by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Requests for a hearing shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00145, shall include the email address of the filer or its counsel if available, and shall include: (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 a hearing should be conducted in this matter.

A copy of any notice of participation or any request for hearing simultaneously shall be sent to counsel for the Company electronically at the email address set forth above.

The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice, and the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment may be viewed at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

**COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.**

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



U.S. Ambassador (ret.) Scott DeLisi Executive Director of the nonprofit organization, Engage Nepal talks with family about the art show held at Reston Art Gallery and Studios, Lake Anne Plaza and how funds from sales will support COVID Relief in Nepal.

## Retired U.S. Ambassador Still Serves

An effort to carry out dreams and fulfill his wish for children.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

On Wed. Sept. 1 and Thur. Sept 2 retired career diplomat and three-time U.S. Ambassador Scott DeLisi, Executive Director of the nonprofit organization, Engage Nepal, presented an art show and sale of more than 50 original paintings donated by artists of Uganda and Nepal. Held at Reston Art Gallery and Studios, Lake Anne Plaza his goal was to raise funds for Covid Crisis Relief efforts in Nepal.

“For the past year and a half, that’s all we’ve done,” DeLisi said. He explained that the nonprofit provided oxygen concentrators, PPEs, testing kits, diagnostic equipment to read the tests, and all sorts of other things. They also sought to build partnerships with other like-minded organizations. “Always, one way or another, you try to move forward,” DeLisi said.

He told of a community hospital in Thimi, outside Kathmandu, Nepal’s capital, and how its people inspired him. DeLisi questioned how best to help the community, determine who was most vulnerable and help children at risk. DeLisi said he realized that the same as many places in the United States, they saw the number of COVID pediatric cases increasing considerably.

“We’re seeing the same thing starting in Nepal,” said DeLisi. Recalling a report he saw from 2018, DeLisi noted there were only 93 pediatric intensive care beds in the entire country of Nepal.

“Ninety-three, and there are nine million children 14 years of age and under,” said DeLisi. You do the math. You know it’s not a good picture.”

“If we work with one community hospital and build a pediatric intensive care unit and show what they can do.”

DeLisi said Engage Nepal funded the first dozen beds for the intensive care unit. Now they are looking for the equipment. They are [www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



Pat Macintyre and U.S. Ambassador (ret.) Scott DeLisi Executive Director of the nonprofit organization, Engage Nepal hold the book he authored, “The Ambassador’s Dog,” illustrated by Jane Lillian Vance. It is the true tale of small pup who entrusted his wish in DeLisi’s heart, knowing “that there is courage and compassion and hope to be found in the world if our hearts are open to seeing them.” The book is for sale on Amazon.

developing some great partners, but he had learned from experience, “raising money is tough. ... It’s reaching out every day,” DeLisi said.

DeLisi was thrilled and grateful to receive grants. The organization has survived for five years and grown “because so many good people have not only opened their hearts but their wallets.”

Looking back over his 35 plus years in service to the United States, DeLisi joined as a young man fresh out of law school because he needed a job and didn’t want to practice law. He quickly learned that this was about service to the nation and service to a set of values and beliefs that mattered.

“That service defines you... It doesn’t go away...It becomes that question, how do we engage the world. Every one of us, every day, has a choice,” said DeLisi. “A lot of this is about making an effort; it’s about trying. You hope for the best, but if it doesn’t work out, you try again.” Engage Nepal <https://www.engagenepal.org/>



### Cardiac Surgery Team

Front Row (L-R) Michael Fiocco, MD, Abeel A. Mangi, MD, Ezequiel J. Molina, MD, Back Row (L-R) Jeffrey E. Cohen, MD, Ammar S. Bafi, MD, Christian C. Shults, MD, Brian T. Bethea, MD, Ricardo O. Quarrie, MD, Hiroto Kitahara, MD

## MedStar Health opens Cardiac Surgery Office in Reston

Cardiac surgeons with MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute are now accepting patients in Reston, offering convenient, seamless care for patients in the region.

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### Office location

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Reston, VA

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F: 202-877-3503

[MedStarHealth.org/CardiacSurgery](https://www.MedStarHealth.org/CardiacSurgery)

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## Public Notice

### Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Structure ID	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
AMELIA	1247	615	NAMOZINE RD	DEEP CREEK	8/27/2021
PATRICK	13246	103	DRY POND RD/ROUTE 103	BACK CREEK	8/26/2021
PATRICK	13245	103	DRY POND HY/ROUTE 103	SANDY CREEK	8/24/2021
MONTGOMERY	12292	663	WALTON ROAD/ROUTE 663	CRAB CREEK	8/19/2021
LYNCHBURG	20519	9	NINTH ST	KANAWHA	8/19/2021
PITTSYLVANIA	13623	686	MARKHAM RD	GEOGES CREEK	8/18/2021
WYTHE	19710	649	ATKINS MILL RD	SPILLER BRANCH	8/17/2021
GRAYSON	8910	732	LAUREL CREEK RD	LAUREL CREEK	8/16/2021
SCOTT	16635	611	LOWER GRASSY CREEK	GRASSY CREEK	8/15/2021
AMHERST	1451	631	STONEWALL CREEK RD	STONEHOUSE CREEK	8/10/2021
BLAND	3048	604	WALKERS CREEK RD	BIG WALKER CREEK #3	8/9/2021
WYTHE	19714	653	GREASY CREEK RD	STUFFLE RUN	8/5/2021
LEE	10768	421	ROUTE 421	STONE CREEK	8/3/2021

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit [www.virginiadot.org](http://www.virginiadot.org) and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact, [haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov).

*The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.*

# Early Voting

## Secure drop box option joins curbside voting for contactless voting.

By SUSAN LAUME  
THE CONNECTION

elections/sample-ballots.

As calendar pages turn toward the Nov. 2 election day for Virginia's State-wide offices nears, voters have several voting options. Driven by COVID-19 work around considerations, Virginia's legislature has authorized new contactless voting options, including in person early voting, voting by mail and voting by dropping your completed ballot in a secure drop box.

County voters may wish to begin thinking about, not just their candidate selections, but also about how they will place their votes.

On the ballot: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, your member of the House of Delegates, and a School Bond Question for Fairfax County Public Schools.

Sample ballots are posted <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/>

**DROP BOXES** will be available at Fairfax County early voting locations, and on election day, at all polling places, during voting hours. Voters may return their completed, sealed "mail in" ballots to a secure drop box, without involving the U.S. Postal Service. The drop boxes, located either outside of regular voting rooms or near building entrances, provide a quick, contact-free way to assure one's ballot is received, and without need to affix postage to return it. The Fairfax County Government building also has a secure drop box installed outside, permitting voters to drop off their ballots there 24/7; providing a return option when early voting sites are not open. Drop boxes are available for use on election day at all polling places from 6 am - 7 pm.

SEE EARLY VOTING, PAGE 9

## THESE FLOWERS HAVE A LOT OF FIGHT IN THEM.

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is full of flowers, each carried by someone committed to ending this disease. Because like flowers, our participants don't stop when something's in their way. They keep raising funds and awareness for a breakthrough in the fight against Alzheimer's and all other dementia.

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Great Falls, VA • 703-759-3309 • [www.oldbrogue.com](http://www.oldbrogue.com)



# Early Voting Options Expand

FROM PAGE 8

Those wishing to vote early, by mail, can request a ballot starting now. Ballots are sent to requestors as received, beginning 45 days before the election; that's beginning mid-September. Once marked and sealed, ballots may be returned by mail, or to the special secure drop boxes at the early voting locations outside of the mail stream.

Details on voting by mail are available here: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee-voting-mail>

**EARLY IN-PERSON** voting locations are open Sept. 17 - Oct. 30 at three government center sites: Fairfax County, Mount Vernon, and North County.

Any registered Fairfax County voter may vote early at any Fairfax County early voting location.

Early in-person absentee voting is available for the November 2021 General & Special Elections at the following three locations from Sept. 17 through Oct. 30.

Fairfax County Government Center  
12000 Government Center

Pkwy, Conference Rooms 2/3, Fairfax 22035

Mt. Vernon Governmental Center

2511 Parkers Ln, Alexandria 22306

North County Governmental Center

1801 Cameron Glen Dr, Reston 20190

Thirteen additional early in-person voting sites are open Oct. 21 - Oct. 30. The list of early voting sites, their addresses, and days/hours of operation can be found on the Board of Elections website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections).

Another early option, in-person curbside voting is available at every early voting location for people 65 or older or with a physical disability. But the elections website

warns: curbside voting doesn't put you at the front of the line, and voters should expect to wait. Voters are recommended to go to the Fairfax County Government Center which has 20 curbside spaces set aside. Curbside voting also is available on election day, Nov. 2. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/disability-services>

On Election Day polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are in line by 7 p.m., you will be able to vote.

Questions about early voting, including voter registration, voting options, damaged ballots, and ballot tracking may be addressed to the Board of Elections at [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov), or by calling 703 222.0776, Monday- Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 2

and art production! Designed with accessibility in mind, each activity is guided with easy direction and requires only a few materials that families likely already have on hand. For more information and to stay updated on GRACE's education programs, visit:

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Summer Art Camp: [restonarts.org/education/summer-art-camp](https://restonarts.org/education/summer-art-camp)

Emerging Visions Program: [restonarts.org/education/explore-more-home-edition](https://restonarts.org/education/explore-more-home-edition)

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Legals

**ABC LICENSE**

Matsutake Reston Inc. trading Matsutake Sushi & Sake Bar, 1492 N Point Village Center, Reston, VA 20194-1190. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a WINE & BEER On Premises / Mixed Beverage Restaurant licenses to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Heesook Chun/President. 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.

Employment

Amazon Web Services, Inc. seeks candidates for the following (multiple positions available) in Herndon, VA: Database Administration Professional Services II (Database Migration Consultant) (Job Code150.7035.5).

Collaborate with our customers and partners on key engagements and develop and deliver proof-of-concept projects, technical workshops, and support implementation projects in order to migrate Applications from Oracle/SQL\*Server databases to Aurora-PostgreSQL/MySQL or other Open Source platforms. Domestic travel required up to 50% of the time. Telecommuting benefits available. Mail CV to: Amazon, PO Box 81226, Seattle, Washington 98108, referencing job code.

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Look Back

FROM PAGE 4

They arrived around 5:30-6 p.m., as it was getting dark. "We came up over the hill and saw the Pentagon with all the searchlights up," said Stetter. "There was smoke and it was still burning. ... There was no saving anyone, by that time; it was just about putting the fire out."

He was amazed by how many different branches of the service he saw there – and with guns. Besides the military, he said, represented were Fairfax and Arlington counties, Alexandria and Washington, D.C., and government agencies such as the Treasury Department. "It was pretty structured," he said. "People knew what they had to do."

"We reported to the Incident Command Post, got our assignment and spent the night in the courtyard in the middle of the Pentagon," said Stetter. "I was the pump operator, and the rest of my crew put out fires wherever they were directed." Throughout the night, he aimed water at the flames until about 8 a.m., some 15 hours later.

"The Pentagon burned for three or four days," said Tricarico. "It has so many void spots that it's hard to get to them."

"At the time, it was like another big fire," said Stetter. "Later, on my day off, I reflected on what happened. At the station, when the towers fell, I was thinking, 'How many firefighters died right then?' because they were going in the buildings, not coming out. And I wondered, if something like that happened here, how would that affect us?"

The next morning, Sept. 12, Stetter was surprised to see Urban Search and Rescue teams from Florida and Tennessee in the Pentagon parking lot. "It shocked me because they got there so fast up I-95," he said. "I worked there 12-13 hours, that day. We searched the offices next to the collapsed section for any possible survivors, but there weren't any."

Tricarico was friends with several New York firefighters. So, he said, "When 9/11 happened, I wondered who was there working. It always affects firefighters because, whenever something happens now, you wonder who'll be in the line of fire."

As for Stetter, Sept. 11 made him realize "life is short. Once you see what happens and hear the stories of the firefighters and people in the office buildings, you have to appreciate every day. You never know – who would have thought it would happen that day?"

"They call firefighters heroes," added Tricarico. "But heroes are people you bury – we're just doing our job."



# Helping Children Develop Healthy Friendships

Positive relationships with peers offer happiness and security.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

After a call from the guidance counselor at her son's school, Amy Lucas, a Chantilly, Va. mother of four, learned that her sixth-grade son sat alone in the school cafeteria and was often afraid to eat in front of other students. "He's overweight and was being teased mercilessly because of it," said Lucas. "We started seeing a therapist because he was so depressed and had very few, if any friends."

From playdates for elementary school students to trips to the mall for middle and high school students, friendships can be a source of happiness, security and comfort. Some children have difficulty acquiring companions and need help developing the social skills necessary to overcome this challenge.

"Making friends and maintaining healthy relationships is a critical part of a child's social and emotional development," says Marta Cohen, an Alexandria-based therapist who specializes in teens with anxiety disorders. "Not only do they help build self-esteem, and self-confidence, they also help a child establish their identity. This is especially true for children in middle school and high school. Knowing that a group of your peers has your back a critical part of their growth"

Recognizing unhealthy relationships is just as important as nurturing those that are positive, says Cohen. "For example, if your child's so-called friend teases or belittles your child, especially at school or in other public settings, you can guarantee yourself that the relationship is toxic. The same is true for a friend who encourages your child to break rules at school or be disrespectful to teachers or other adults."

"Help your child identify the way that they feel after spending time with that friend, continued Cohen. "One thing that you don't want to do is forbid your child to see their toxic friend or criticize that friend. Doing so could cause your child to rebel. Try not to



FILE PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
Children playing with friends on an Arlington playground in June 2020.

**"Making friends and maintaining healthy relationships is a critical part of a child's social and emotional development."**

— Marta Cohen

nag. Instead have a conversation about the consequences of the undesirable behaviors."

Developing and maintaining healthy friendships requires skills that not all children possess, says Laura Maxwell of Bethesda, a former school guidance counselor.

"Modeling healthy friendships by allowing your child to see you interact with your friends is one of the most effective ways to teach a child how to develop those skills," she said. "You can even discuss the characteristics that make your friendship a positive one. It's also important to make sure your child is treating others well and isn't bullying or teasing other children."

Put your children in environments where they are likely to meet children with whom they are compatible, says Maxwell. "If your daughter loves to dance, for example, try enrolling her in a ballet class and she'll meet other children who share her interests," she said. "Encourage your child to make a wide variety of friends, which will also help strengthen their social skills."

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## On My Late Father's Birthday No Less



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

To say I'm looking forward to my next round of scans (CT and bone) on Sept. 23 would be "Geminological." I am, and I'm not. I am not looking forward to the scans because the results, likely emailed to me within day or two - or three if late, will indicate whether my life hangs in the balance or, whether what happened to me in the Houston airport on July 20th was in fact a healing miracle - for which I'm quite eager to find out, or merely the act of a kind-hearted, well-intended soul spreading the gospel that Jesus saves.

As I mentioned in one of the "arc" columns recounting the second degree burns I accidentally inflicted on the soles of both my feet on Crystal Beach (actually it was the pavement I walked across from Crystal Beach to our accommodations) near Galveston, Tx. There, on the way home, I met a woman in the airport named Solange who offered to change my life through the power of healing prayer as practiced/performed at the Dwelling Place Church located in Houston where she is a congregant and devotee. Even though the gate in the airport where I was sitting was extremely crowded, she navigated her way through all the commotion and managed to end up near where I was sitting. It's almost as if she sought us out, somehow. Anyway,

She made her way over to the row of chairs at the departure gate where I was sitting, stretched across two chairs in a meager attempt to lessen the pain in my feet. My wife, Dina, looked at Solange as she sort of looked around for somewhere to sit and apologized for my taking up multiple seats, explaining briefly that I was in pain due to the burns on my feet. Without hesitation, Solange immediately offered up some healing prayers if I were amenable. Looking over at Dina, while sort of snickering, we said "Sure, thank you." And after motioning for a nearby male friend/fellow church member to join her, the two of them soon began praying on my behalf, not in unison, but similar.

I can't remember if she - or they touched my feet but soon enough they were invoking God, Jesus Christ, God's children, relieve my suffering and one or two other healing-type prayers. When they finished, after 10 seconds or so, we thanked them again. Then thinking to myself, I got greedy. I said aloud to Solange something like "Actually, the burns on my feet aren't my most serious problem: I have cancer." To which she instinctively offered up another round of prayers, with our blessing of course, for good health and future well-being. When she finished she walked away and re-joined her friends. In taking it all in, I felt quite fortunate for the experience and extremely grateful she reached out to someone she didn't even know.

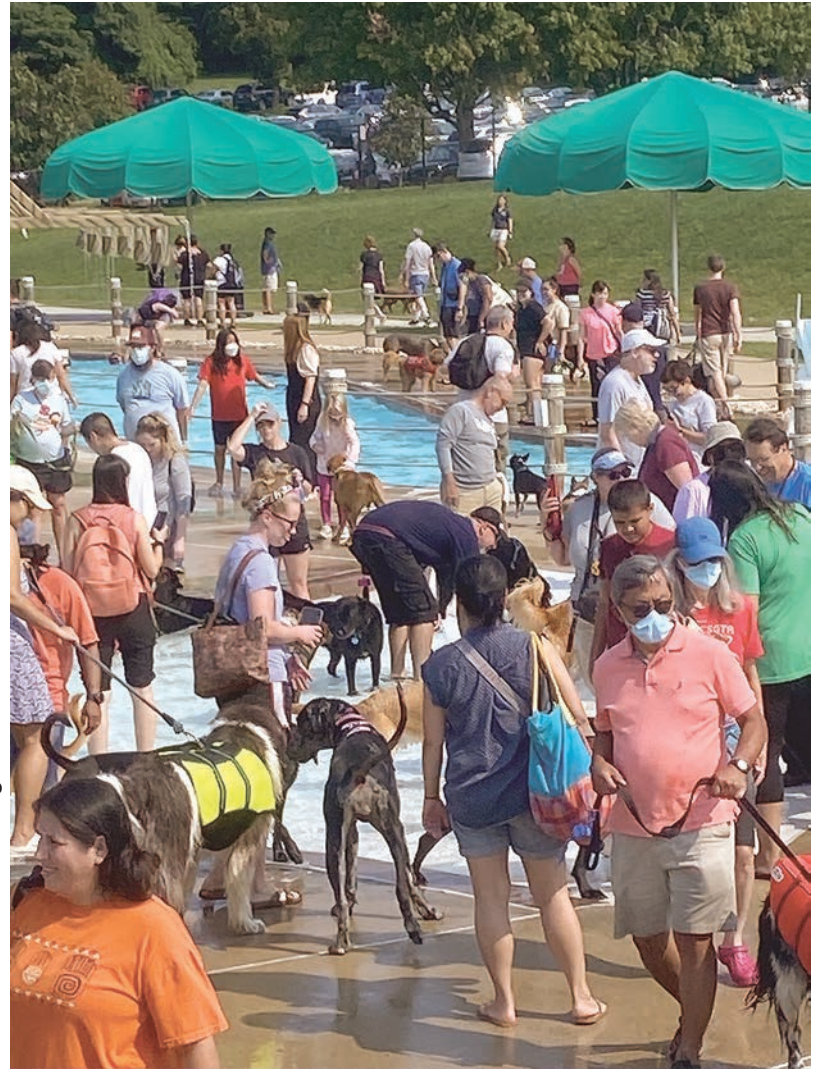
It's been nearly eight weeks since our meeting at the airport. Given the excruciating pain I experienced for weeks upon my return home to Maryland, I can't say with too much conviction that my feet healed any quicker than the "weeks, not months" advisory we got from the Urgent Care doctor I visited back home later that evening. But that was then. This is now.

I have quarterly scans ahead which given the "terminal" nature of my papillary thyroid cancer, I could really use a miracle. So as naive as it may sound, I'm kind of looking forward to these upcoming scans. Certainly it would be a great story/unbelievable turn of events if my oncologist emailed me a "What happened? The tumors are gone." Although, for this kind of totally unexpected result, I imagine he'd probably call. I'm not holding my breath though, but with the combined efforts of Solange, modern medicine, and perhaps my late father pulling a few strings for me on his birthday, maybe, just maybe, I'll have a Paul Harvey-type "rest of the story" to share with you. If not, I'll continue to manage as I always have since I first was diagnosed in late Feb., 2009: I'll remain positive about the negative.

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



Hundreds of people and dogs line up, stretching nearly from the admission gate leading into Lake Fairfax Park to the ticket booth outside The Water Mine pool area, while hundreds of others are already inside the waterpark fencing enjoying the dog-only swimming event.



# The Dog Daze of Summer

The Water Mine hosts canine water pandemonium.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**B**arking, paddling, and running, dogs of all sizes and breeds took over The Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole in Reston on Sunday, Sept. 12. The season-ending event dubbed "Dog Daze" attracted owners and their dogs to the outdoor public pool near the end of the summer operating season, after public use but before the winterization cleaning process.

Fairfax County Park Authority presented the canine dip in partnership with Hunter Mill Supervisor Walter Alcorn (D) and the

Fairfax County Park Foundation, with support from Weber's Pet Store and Aquatic Paws. With an entry fee of \$10 per dog, the event proved a canine water pandemonium of fun that also benefited the parks through

the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

Maryanne and Rob Wilson of Burke brought their two-year-old dog, Ellie. "It was awesome in 2019 when Ellie was a puppy," said Maryanne. "She's obsessed with

water and frisbees; can't get enough," said Rob.

Supervisor Walter Alcorn (D- Hunter Mill District) brought a dog the family fostered a while ago.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



A wet Ellie returns with her people, Rob and Maryanne Wilson of Burke, for what they say will be a good afternoon nap for Ellie, all tucked out after she enjoyed the dog-only swimming event at The Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole in Reston.



A bit unsure of how to get in the pool, an owner gives her dog a little help gently dropping her pet into the water. On the other side of the pool waits the helping hand out.

