

National Association of Active and  
Retired Federal Employees  
Virginia Federation of Chapters  
Chapter 595 Colonial Beach, Virginia 22443  
Serving Westmoreland, King George, and  
Colonial Beach

Volume 26, Issue 4 - April 2021

[Chapter 595's FACEBOOK Page](#)

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**MEETING NOTICE**

**April 13, 2021  
12 PM at the Hunan**

**Our Speaker is Mitzi Hamilton Owner of Handy  
Girl.**

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**President's Letter: April 2021**

**Dear Members of Colonial Beach Chapter 595,  
So, it is now April and the weather is warming  
up. Yeah! It is time to start planning for our**

**April meeting which will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. Once again, our 1st Vice President, Jim Lynch, has lined up another interesting speaker.**

**On the news last night, it said that 40% of adult Americans have received their vaccine. Are you one of them? Do you feel safe to come back to our in- person meeting? Every month I have been repeating the precautions for chapter meetings. I know this may sound like a broken record, but here they are again. First of all, we are the only people in the restaurant. The Hunan is not open for in-person dining. The owner, Alan, ensures that all the sanitation guidelines from the CDC are in place. We enter by the back door and no one is allowed in the front door. We must use exact change (cash) or a check to pay for our meal. No credit cards are accepted. Alan would prefer that we order off of the lunch menu. If you do, your lunch, tax, and tip will be \$11.00. If do want something else off the menu, that's okay but you must have exact change. By following all of these procedures and social distancing during the meeting, we can keep each other safe and still enjoy our meeting.**

**Unfortunately, since our last meeting, NARFE Headquarters has announced that NARFE's 100th birthday celebration gala and the National Legislation Training (LegCon21) will now be virtual instead of in person. There will be more information on these events coming soon. However, I would like to propose that we as a chapter celebrate the 100th Birthday at our June meeting. What do you think? How about red, white and blue cupcakes for a start. What are your suggestions? After all, 100 years is pretty big deal!!**

**Speaking of in-person vs virtual, how many of you are on ZOOM? I know that a number of organizations have been using ZOOM as well as many churches. The VFN has been promoting ZOOM and has purchased additional licenses so VFN chapters can continue to meet. Many of our members as they start to get their vaccines are feeling comfortable in coming out to in person meetings but if you are interested in ZOOM, please let me know (804 224-3069). In other words, an in-person meeting, can also be on ZOOM.**

**I know that I have been mentioning our food bank donations in previous newsletters. Last month the food bank donation went to St**

**Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Colonial Beach. They were overwhelmed with our generosity. Let's keep up our good work as food bank donations are still really critical at this time. This month's Food Bank donation goes to King George Dept of Social Services. Looking forward to seeing you on April 13, if you feel safe. But if you do not, we all understand.**

**Leslie Ravenell, President  
Colonial Beach Chapter 595**

**From our 2nd VP**

**Our speaker this month is Mitzi Hamilton. Mitzi is the owner of HandyGirl in King George. As the name implies, the company does small-to-medium sized remodeling projects.**

**Jim Lynch**

**P.S. FOOD BANK, FOOD BANK, FOOD BANK!! Please don't forget!**

**The following is from Fed Week of April 3:  
[Survey Produces Familiar Results at Largest](#)**

## **Departments**

**Results from the government's three largest departments of the 2020 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey show familiar areas of concern, especially with regard to lack of rewards for good performance and lack of management attention to poor performers in their workplaces. Read at <https://www.fedweek.com/fedweek/survey-produces-familiar-results-at-largest-departments/>**

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## **Nearly a Fifth of DHS Employees Express Pandemic Safety Concerns**

**About a fifth of DHS employees expressed negative views regarding safety precautions and other aspects of the department's response to the pandemic in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey conducted last fall. Read at <https://www.fedweek.com/fedweek/a-fifth-dhs-employees-express-pandemic-safety-concerns/>**

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## **Mandatory Vaccination Policy Would Raise Many Issues, Says CRS**

**The Congressional Research Service has said there would be many considerations under anti-discrimination and other laws—which apply in the federal workplace as well as generally in the private sector—to any potential policy mandating that employees be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to come into the workplace. For a closer look, go to <https://www.fedweek.com/issue-briefs/mandatory-vaccination-policy-would-raise-many-issues-says-crs/>.**

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## **Yes It's OK to Spend Your TSP in Retirement**

**A couple of months ago, we used a song by Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons to make a point. In this article, we'll do it again with the song "Let's Hang On to What We've Got." That might have been a good idea for saving the relationship about which the Four Seasons were singing, but it's not such a good idea when it comes to retirement and your Thrift Savings Plan. Read**

at <https://www.fedweek.com/tsp/yes-its-ok-to-spend-your-tsp-in-retirement/>

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## **Does a Roth IRA, or Roth Conversion Make Sense for You?**

**Traditional IRAs have been available to retirement savers who have earned income since 1974. That's 23 years longer than Roth IRAs (introduced in 1997) have been on the scene. The big difference between these two types of individual retirement savings vehicles is when you pay federal (and possibly state) income tax on your savings. Read**

**at <https://www.fedweek.com/tsp/does-a-roth-ira-or-roth-conversion-make-sense-for-you/>**

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## **Our Officers**

### **President**

Leslie Ravenell

### **Vice President**

**Jim Lynch**

540 775-7002

[jplynch@crosslink.net](mailto:jplynch@crosslink.net)

**Secretary** Maria Wendt

540 220-6855

[mwendt@va.metrocast.net](mailto:mwendt@va.metrocast.net)

**Second VP**

Ann Mills  
240 463-5614  
ann.z.mills@gmail.com

**Treasurer/Editor**

Stan Palen  
540 775-7027  
spalen@crosslink.net

**Membership**

Jean Starkey  
804 224-0845  
cbdrifters@aol.com

**Service Officer**

Vacant

**Chaplain**

Richard Ravenell  
804 224-3069

**Sunshine**

Joan Mudd  
540 663-5476  
Joan.mudd@icloud.com

**Alzheimer's**

Lloyd Wright  
804-224-8394  
lloyd.wright@verizon.net

Contact information for these officers is  
located [HERE](http://www.vanarfe.org/595/595.htm) (www.vanarfe.org/595/595.htm)