

Senior Lawyer NEWS

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Frank O. Brown Jr., Editor

Virginia State Bar Annual Meeting Edition



The Honorable Robert F. Hagans Jr.

A Remembrance by Linda L. McCausland, Esquire

On January 17, 2019, at age 66, the Honorable Judge Robert F. Hagans Jr. died after being hospitalized due to a traffic accident. Judge Hagans is remembered

for his great integrity, his purpose-driven life, and his wonderful sense of humor. He was a cherished and devoted husband of 34 years to his wife Peggy Emerson

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The Honorable Kenneth N. Whitehurst Jr.

A Remembrance by Carrollyn C. Cox, Esquire

On the morning of All Saint's Day, I was standing at the altar of Eastern Shore Chapel Episcopal Church in Virginia Beach, suited up to assist with the serving

of the wine during communion, while the priest quietly intoned the names of those parishioners who had died during the last year. My knees buckled when I



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The Honorable Ralph L. "Bill" Axselle Jr.

A Remembrance by Reginald N. Jones, Esquire

We have all made lifelong friends while in law school. It is an experience that lends itself to developing strong bonds with people with similar interests. Such is the

case with my friendship with Bill Axselle over the past 50-plus years. Bill passed away on January 24, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer. Bill and I first met as

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The Honorable Robert Eastwood Glenn

A Remembrance by John D. Eure, Esquire

When the Honorable Robert Eastwood ("Bob") Glenn passed away, in the presence of his children, on October 18, 2018, the Virginia bar lost a masterful

and dedicated lawyer whose work quietly but profoundly touched the professional lives of most currently-practicing Virginia lawyers. Bob served on the



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From the Chair of the Senior Lawyers Conference

Carrollyn C. Cox, Esquire

Here you are, a lawyer with about 20 to 30 years under your belt, just getting to your most productive years. You've worked hard, and you've earned a reputation that makes you feel really good about yourself.

Then you receive a letter from the Virginia State Bar. "Congratulations," it says. "Now that you have reached the age of 55 years, you are automatically a member of the Senior Lawyers Conference."

"What?," you exclaim. "I'm not old enough to be a *senior* lawyer. I've built a good practice, I have family, friends, and clients who love and respect me, and I'm not ready to sit around telling war stories of my earlier practice!"

You are so right. But, you haven't been a member of the Young Lawyers Conference for almost 20 years and, at age 55, you now have new honors and opportunities. And whatever your areas of practice, you are now in the majority. As of April 2019, the YLC membership was 9,674, while the SLC had 20,267 members. And the board of governors of the Senior Lawyers Conference anticipates with great expectation that you will take some time out of this most productive time of your life and join with other lawyers in serving seniors, lawyers and non-lawyers, as a portion of our purpose states, "to apply

the knowledge and experience of the profession to the promotion of the public good..."

The board of governors of the Senior Lawyers Conference serves the members of the SLC in honoring that commitment. During this 2018-19 bar year, the board, meeting together four times in Charlottesville, has continued its promotion of pro bono services by members of the conference, the planning and participation in Senior Law Day presentations to assist the general public in understanding legal and administrative matters, and support of the Virginia State Bar. Following this article are several photographs of the SLC board of governors hard at work at the board meeting in Charlottesville on April 23, 2019, discussing the foregoing and other matters, as well as the matters described in the following two paragraphs.

Also, during the 2018-19 year, the SLC board has enthusiastically undertaken two additional projects for which we will need the support and assistance of the Senior Lawyers Conference membership. The first will require the expertise of many senior lawyers who are experienced and respected in their major fields of legal practice – the complete edit/update of the 2013 edition of the Senior Citizens Handbook, which numbers 113 pages of information and resources for understanding

the laws and programs affecting senior citizens in Virginia. We plan that the completion and printing date will be as soon as is possible, based upon quality work supported by the knowledge and experience of many volunteers. We are told by Virginia State Bar staff that this handbook is their most requested publication, surpassed only by the Divorce in Virginia pamphlet.

Secondly, understanding the Supreme Court of Virginia's well-founded concerns about lawyer wellness and in collaboration with the Young Lawyers Conference, the board is creating a program to provide for lawyer-to-lawyer mentoring. The plan is to create a private list (by circuit) of individual lawyers who are willing to answer specific questions for other lawyers who are less experienced in the field or are newcomers to the courts and judges in their circuits. Recruitment of mentors, keeping and disseminating of the list, and other particulars remain to be established. The SLC is a sponsor and participant in the VaCLE presentation of the first ever mentoring seminar, scheduled as a live and filmed CLE presentation on August 27, 2019. To answer a few questions, to share our hard-earned knowledge and skills at confronting complex questions of the law or how to anticipate the demeanor and personality of a jurist, are opportunities that should take on a short time out of our busy schedules. And as

Buddha is quoted as revealing, “If you light a lamp for someone else it will also brighten your path.”

The upcoming meetings of the SLC Board will be held on a to-be-announced Tuesday, at locations to-be-announced, in Charlottesville or in Richmond, in September 2019, November 2019, February 2020, and April 2020.

The 2019 SLC annual business meeting will be on Saturday, June 15, 2019, at the VSB 81st Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach, in the Capes Ballroom in the Sheraton Oceanfront, 3501 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA, at 9:45 a.m. The 2019-2020 slate of officers for the board of governors is:

Chair: John D. Eure, of Roanoke

Chair-elect: Margaret A. Nelson, of Lynchburg

Secretary: Peter C. Burnett, of Leesburg

Treasurer: Gary C. Hancock, of Pulaski

It has been a great privilege and honor to serve as chair of this enthusiastic and forward-looking board of governors. I have been proud to see the great depth of interest and responsibility in the members of the VSB Council and in our Senior Lawyers Conference. Mine has been a lifetime of love, law and little ones, beginning with my life and law partner’s enrollment in Duke Law School in 1960 as I began my junior year in the undergraduate school. My younger great grandson sat in my lap as I wrote part of this report. Being part of the Senior Lawyers

Conference is a part of that continuum, thanks to this opportunity to work with fellow board members from across the state. Over the next year and hopefully beyond, I anticipate the opportunity to collaborate with many senior lawyers,

including our new slate officers. If you are willing to be a part of these endeavors, please let me know! Call me on my cell phone: 757-285-6607, or you can reach me at Carrollyn@coxandcox.com.



Hagans and a beloved father to their three children. His family misses this dynamic man in many ways. He maintained a healthy balance among his family, faith, community and profession. He was known for his grilled steaks and ribs, his baking of sweet potato pies, and his “critically-acclaimed” gumbo. He was a man who loved the outdoors as a skier, a snowboarder, and avid golfer.

He enjoyed “reading the Bible and many historical books, watching documentaries, James Bond movies, and classic westerns, and solving complicated jigsaw puzzles ... [He] enjoyed working around the house and completing various home-projects. He loved planning family road trips and visiting various historical sites around the country,” according to his memorial at church. He was a gifted judge, which was demonstrated to those who appeared before him – members of the bar and the public – all of whom who were treated by Judge Hagans with respect, competence, and fairness. Over 1,500 people paid their respects at Judge Hagans’ funeral. More than 40 state court judges came in support of this a remarkable man.

Judge Hagans began his life during a difficult time in this Hampton Roads area. His hard work and dedication to doing the “right” thing inspires all who knew him and those who will follow in his footsteps.

Judge Hagans graduated from Bayside High School in 1971 as one of the first African American students to attend the newly integrated school. His undergraduate

college was Howard University in Washington, D.C. He earned his Juris Doctorate at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary in 1979.

The Honorable Jerrauld C. Jones, a current Norfolk Circuit Court Judge, grew up with Judge Hagans and remembers him fondly. Judge Jones remembers that when Judge Hagans was a practicing attorney, he was a friendly adversary in the courtroom, and he was a fierce advocate for his clients. Judge Jones said that Judge Hagans’ name was considered for a judgeship long before Judge Hagans decided to become a judge. In 2015, Judge Hagans had the honor of being the first African American male to become a judge on the Virginia Beach General District Court.

His comprehensive legal career enhanced his experiences and prepared him to be the caring and competent judge that he became. He began his legal career as an assistant commonwealth’s attorney for the City of Norfolk and left to join his godfather, J. Hugo Madison, a pioneering African American lawyer, in a criminal law practice.

Later, Judge Hagans was a general counsel for several banks, and a Norfolk Circuit Court divorce commissioner for 20 years before becoming a Virginia Beach General District Court judge. He held organizational offices and contributed professionally to many legal and governmental organizations. His honors included being president of the Old Dominion Bar Association where he received the

organization’s community service project leader award in 2009 for his work on the Election Protection project the previous year. His accomplishments and dedication to improving the communities were noted by his involvement as the president of the Virginia Beach Bar Association and the president of the South Hampton Roads Bar Association. Judge Hagans contributed to the community by serving as a chairman of the Virginia Beach school board from 1996-1998. His skills in being a consensus builder on that board and his abilities to solve problems by bringing folks together changed the school board. He was a member of the National Bar Association Judicial Council, Virginia State Bar Special Committee on Attorney Trusts Accounts, Norfolk/Portsmouth Bar Association, Norfolk State University Foundation Board, City of Norfolk Employee Grievance Panel, the board of trustees of the Norfolk Marine Institute, commissioner of the Virginia Beach Industrial Development Authority, a chair of the Virginia Beach Community Services Board, and chair of the City of Virginia Beach Public School Board. Judge Hagans kept involved in other areas of his life as a member of the Bachelor-Benedict Social Club and the Hiawatha Social and Beneficial Association. He was a past president of a regional ski club, Ski Breeze. He was also a trustee of Grace Episcopal Church.


According to Andrew A. Protogyrou, an attorney who knew Judge Hagans both before and after Judge Hagans was elevated to the bench, attorneys who practiced

before Judge Hagans felt assured that Judge Hagans had made the correct legal decision after listening to Judge Hagans explain why he ruled the way that he did. Mr. Protogyrou explained that Judge Hagans made you feel comfortable to go before him because he would listen intently, as if your case were the only important item on the docket. He never rushed anyone. Mr. Protogyrou said that Judge Hagans made everything seem so easy, and it almost embarrassed the attorneys to realize they should have just done what the judge said. “*Why didn’t we think of that?*” The consensus among attorneys who practiced before Judge Hagans was

that he was a good judge, always calm, and that he would weigh the facts and the law, and would make the right and wise decision.

Here is a short sampling of other remembrances of Judge Hagans by members of the public, the bar, and the judiciary which were said and written about him after his death “He was always very professional and gentle man.” “Robert was a gentle spirit, steadfast in his love for the law and justice in its administration and implementation.” “I had the pleasure of appearing before him as a judge and also having cases with him as an attorney. He was always

a true professional.” “He was highly respected by local attorneys...and was known for his calm demeanor, fairness, and ability to move the docket quickly.” “I always knew both my client and I had been heard and treated fairly and with respect. That’s what makes a good judge.” “Robert was a valued colleague, a wonderful friend, and a dedicated public servant that we’re going to miss very much.” “He was the kind of person you wanted as a neighbor, as a friend, and as a judge.”

Judge Hagans was and is truly inspirational to the public and to the profession. 



heard him say one last name that wasn’t printed in our bulletin, “Kenneth N. Whitehurst Jr.”

I’d known Ken since I was nine and we went to the same school in Princess Anne County. He in the 6th grade and I in the 4th, and we sang together in the Charity Neck Methodist children’s choir. I knew him as a high school student of distinction, a young man with many friends among both students and faculty. I knew him as a young delegate of 29 years when he was elected to the House of Delegates of the Virginia General Assembly. I knew from mutual friends that he had lost his wife, Martha, left his political career behind, entered a law practice with the Honorable Robert Cromwell, and had met and married the beautiful Lillie Laderberg. I read the news that he had been appointed as a Virginia

Beach Juvenile Court Judge in 1972, that he was elevated to the Circuit Court of City of Virginia Beach in 1979, and learned that he had a son and daughter, of whom he was justly proud.

I next knew Judge Kenneth N. Whitehurst as judge. I learned, as did all the attorneys who appeared before him, that he held the secret to being a good Judge – the ability to truly listen to the litigants and counsel before him, understanding their perspective of the issues and the facts that made up their case, and having the firm conviction that his job was always to follow the law of the case. Finally, I knew him as a man who loved his family, who never lost his wonder and enjoyment of beaches around the world, who quietly accepted brain cancer and its inevitable outcome, and who left this earth all too

soon. When he died on November 3, 2018, he was 80 years of age.

What I didn’t know was what his son, Kenneth N. Whitehurst III, assistant United States trustee, in the Office of the U.S. Trustee in Norfolk, shared with me today: I hadn’t realized the importance of the photo of Judge Whitehurst’s swearing in to the General Assembly, side by side with to Dr. W. Ferguson Reid, the sole African American in the 1968 class of new delegates and the first since reconstruction, a place which other delegates had refused.


What I also did not know, but should have known, was that he never looked to see whether or not his judicial rulings had been overturned. Nor did I know what I learned from my law partner, that Delegate Whitehurst

could raise his voice in passionate argument during his two short years as a politician.

What the bar at large knows is that Ken Whitehurst was a good man and true, quick to recognize the abilities and accomplishments of others, with a dogged

determination to do his very best to fulfill his responsibilities and an ability to mentor young lawyers. His close friends know how he loved to laugh. His family knows how great his capacity for love was. And people who claim a childhood in Tidewater know

how he would do his best to find some family connection.

Those of us who encountered him over time realize what an empty place is left upon his death. That place will be filled with his generous, inspirational example to members of the bar, the judiciary, and the public. 



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first year students at University of Richmond's T.C. Williams School of Law. We worked together as officers of the student bar association, and I saw his dedication to a task and his resourcefulness to determine how to handle challenges.

Following law school, both of us practiced in small firms in suburban Richmond and regularly got together to discuss cases and life as young attorneys. Bill joined the Cole Wells firm led by Marvin Cole who became one of the three mentors in his life. Bill credited Judge Cole with helping him to build a solid foundation for his legal career.

Bill's father was his first mentor, whom Bill credited with being his own role model as a father, a man of faith and a good citizen in his community. When Bill was in high school and showing interest in government and politics, his father, who had been active in Henrico County politics, introduced him to State Senator Bill Parkerson of Henrico, who became Bill's political and public service mentor. It wasn't long after Bill began practicing law that Senator Parkerson encouraged him to run for the

Virginia House of Delegates. When Bill was considering running, Bill asked me if I would serve as his campaign manager. I got to see first-hand how he was a quick study on the issues, which, when combined with his determination, led Bill not only to defeat an incumbent, but to lead the entire ticket with three incumbent delegates running for three seats representing Henrico County. After that, he never had a serious election challenge over the 16 years that he served in the House. He was dedicated to serving the people of his district and was not afraid to cast a controversial vote if he thought it was the right thing to do. For example, after several years of the bill being defeated in the House committee, Bill cast the critical deciding vote in support of a bill introduced by then Senator Douglas Wilder to establish a state holiday in memory of Martin Luther King Jr. Bill's vote dislodged the bill from the committee and allowed it to proceed to final passage and long-sought-after recognition in Virginia of the assassinated civil rights leader.

While in the legislature, Bill quickly became known for his

intellect and hard work. Bill was asked to lead major studies and to patron complex legislation. He developed a reputation for being a legislator who could bring people with divergent opinions on a major policy issue together and hammer out a compromise. Bill's reputation for being fair and non-partisan were frequently called upon while he served in the legislature and continued once he was no longer serving in an elected capacity. One such legislative effort led to the passage of a bill in the 1977 General Assembly to place a moratorium on cities annexing land from counties. He hoped that would lead to more cooperation between counties and cities to develop projects of mutual interests. He served as chairman of the Virginia Crime Commission and led a study that resulted in legislation intended to make rape trials less intimidating for victims and to provide a hotline for victims. He was also a champion for full disclosure by lobbyists of their activities and contributions to legislators.

Bill grew up in the rural Hunton area of northern Henrico County. Bill's interest in civic engagement can be traced back to his days at

Hermitage High School where he served as president of his class every year in high school while playing football for the highly successful and legendary coach Chester Fritz. Bill was recruited to play football for the University of North Carolina. In his senior year at UNC, he married his high school sweetheart, Anne Maiden. Bill and Anne have three children: Ralph L. "Rally" Axselle III, Anne-Marie Axselle and Laura Axselle Schmidt, and four grandchildren.

In 1989, after having served for sixteen years in the House of Delegates, Bill decided to not run for re-election. Shortly after his tenure as a delegate ended, he left his longtime friends at the firm of Axselle, Hundley, Johnson and Harris to join Williams Mullen Christian and Dobbins, now Williams Mullen, for the opportunity to practice land use law and to represent clients before the legislature and agencies of state government. Our paths crossed once again as Bill recruited me to join Williams Mullen to assist him in developing the government relations practice at the firm. From 1993 until his retirement in 2018, I had the pleasure of working with Bill on a daily basis in adjoining offices. His influence in establishing one of the leading and most respected government relations practices in Virginia cannot be overstated. Bill was recognized as a leading real estate and land use attorney as Richmond's Land Use & Zoning


"Lawyer of the Year" three times and Government Relations "Lawyer of the Year" twice. He was honored as one of Virginia Lawyers Weekly "Leaders in the Law."

It was Bill's work ethic and love of representing his clients' interests to the fullest extent possible, with civility and respect for all parties, that stand out in my mind. To him compromise was not a dirty word; he saw it as a way to make things happen and reach a reasonable solution in the best interests of his client. He was always well prepared for any meeting or hearing, and to everyone's amazement, he would often send to all parties to a meeting a full written review of the meeting with action items that would arrive at the client's office before they had returned from the meeting.

Bill served and improved his community in many ways over his lifetime. Through his land use practice, he was instrumental in the development of Henrico Doctors' Hospital, Short Pump Town Center, White Oak Village, Staples Mill Square, and Rocketts Landing. He served as Chairman of Richmond Region 2007 Celebration of the 400th anniversary of the landing of Christopher Newport at the site of what would become Richmond. That celebration led to the establishment of the annual Richmond Folk Festival. He served as chairman of the Board of Deacons at Second Baptist

Church, where he taught Sunday school for more than 40 years. He also served as chairman of the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce and as vice chairman of the Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors.

His was a life well lived. We were fortunate to have had a law school class with a lot of great friends who have accomplished much in their lifetime. Bill's legacy is not in the bills that he passed, the positions that he held, the developments that he assisted in bringing to the Richmond area, nor in the years that he was a lay leader in his church. His legacy is one of leading by example. He led a good life and taught others how to lead with integrity. One fellow lobbyist said that, when he was faced with an ethical issue, he would ask himself, "what would Bill Axselle do?" Another said, "I don't know that I know anyone who has ever said a bad thing about Bill Axselle." I knew Bill as a man of faith who had a tremendous work ethic, was of the highest integrity, and who loved his family. He wanted to make life better for his fellow citizens and wasn't afraid to make the tough decisions, regardless of how it would impact him. Our friendship was a friendship forged during law school that would last a lifetime, and I am forever grateful.

Bill's personal and professional qualities and actions remain inspirational to the legal profession and to the public whom we serve. 

Virginia Board of Bar Examiners for 32 years, from 1982-1993 as a member and from 1993-2014 as its President. Those essay questions that gave you fits? Bob had a hand in them. When word finally came that you had passed the Virginia Bar, Bob had a hand in that, too.

Bob was 88 years old at the time of his death. He had practiced law in Roanoke for 59 years, from 1957 until 2016. He was born in Catlettsburg, Kentucky, and graduated from Radford High School in 1947, W&L University *cum laude* (B.S.) in 1951, and W&L University School of Law (J.D.) *cum laude* in 1953.

After law school, Bob served in the United States Air Force as a Judge Advocate in San Antonio, Texas, and Frankfurt, Germany, and for many years thereafter in the Air Force Reserve, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. In 1957, he began the private practice of law in Roanoke with the firm of Eggleston & Holton, predecessor to the current firm of Glenn Feldmann Darby & Goodlatte – and practiced full-time until his retirement in 2016. The firm had a strong commitment to public service. The Holton in the firm name was future Governor A. Linwood Holton, the first Republican Governor of Virginia in the 20th Century. Another partner, the late M. Caldwell Butler, served 10 years in the Virginia House of Delegates and 10 years in the United States Congress. Mary Ellen Goodlatte, a current partner, is married to recently-retired

Congressman Bob Goodlatte. Bob Glenn’s commitment to the community, to the public, and to the profession was evidenced by the depth and breadth of his service.

Bob was highly regarded both personally and professionally by his peers, his clients, and his many friends. He had a rare ability to grasp the whole of a situation faced by a client while tackling the details and working towards a practical solution. Though he presented a formal, reserved, and very professional image to the world, he would often erupt in infectious laughter in the privacy of his office, and that sense of humor was always close at hand.

One of the firm’s lawyers recalls that, as a new associate, he helped Bob close a bond deal. Bob clapped him on the back and said, “Let’s go celebrate!” The young lawyer envisioned martinis at Bob’s downtown club, but instead Bob led him to the Roanoke Weiner Stand, a long-time fixture in the City Market area, where they each had two hot dogs and a Budweiser.


In addition to his 32 years of service on the Virginia Board of Bar Examiners, Bob served his profession as president of the Roanoke Bar Association; emeritus member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference; fellow of the American Bar Foundation; and fellow of the Virginia Bar Foundation and Roanoke Law Foundation.

In the community, in addition to his long political involvement, Bob served as president of the

Roanoke Kiwanis Club, member of the Radford University Board of Visitors, including service as its rector, chairman of the Roanoke Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, member of the State Council of Higher Education, president of the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, member of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, director of the United Way of Roanoke Valley and the Roanoke Symphony Society, and president of the Shenandoah Club.

While Bob enjoyed traveling, visiting all of the 48 contiguous United States and over 40 countries, he was most at home while enjoying lunch and a game of bridge with friends. To his children, he was an exceptionally attentive and affectionate father. To many in the community, he was a warm friend.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Pauline Eastwood Glenn and Albert Sidney Glenn, and by his wife, Clydenne Reinhard Glenn. He was survived by his children, Pauline Glenn O’Brien and her husband Paul Edward O’Brien of Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and Robert Eastwood Glenn Jr. and his wife Amelia Strobel of Nashville, Tennessee; and four grandchildren, Robert Francis O’Brien, Ellin Carley O’Brien, Patricia Sidney Glenn, and Elizabeth Braden Glenn.

Bob’s legacy is inspirational and is felt in his family, among his clients and colleagues, in the community, and at the Virginia Bar. 

Senior Lawyers Conference's Senior Law Day

By Bruce E. Robinson, Esquire

The first Senior Law Day Program was presented by the Alleghany-Bath-Highland Bar Association on May 24, 2005, to an audience of about 100 senior citizens in the Circuit Courtroom by a panel of lawyers and a General District Court judge. In September 2005, upon the suggestion of William T. Wilson, a former chair of the Senior Lawyers Conference (SLC), the SLC adopted the Senior Law Day Program as one of its primary projects. Since then, Senior Law Day programs have been presented across the commonwealth with great success.

Whatever the venue in which a Senior Law Day is held, those who attend Senior Law Day programs are sincerely interested in obtaining information about the complex issues that affect their daily lives, and each attendee is genuinely appreciative of the time and effort local attorneys take to deliver the programs.

In addition to introducing the Senior Citizens Handbook and briefly reviewing its contents and resources, four to five topics fill up the time. Either the local bar association or a sponsor covers the cost of lunch for those who attend.

William T. Wilson was clearly right when he stated in his article published in the spring 2008 issue of the Senior Lawyer News titled "The 'Senior Law Day Program' – A Win-Win-Win Program" that senior citizens "win" because they receive information about legal



issues affecting their lives; the lawyers and their bar associations "win" because it is impossible to be a part of one of these programs and not see the enormous good that is being accomplished; and lawyers in general, the bar associations, and the legal profession "win" because the programs raise their image in the eyes of the public.

I encourage local bar associations to consider seriously presenting Senior Law Day programs every year as part of their project plans, or certainly once every other year. I further suggest that they work with their judges at all levels and consider joining with surrounding bar associations to give these programs. Please call me at my telephone number shown at the end of this article.

In the meantime, before you call me, consider the following.

The mission of the Senior Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar is to uphold the honor of the profession of law, to apply the knowledge and experience of the profession to the public good, to encourage cordial discourse and interaction among members of the Virginia State Bar and to serve the interests of senior lawyers and promote the welfare of seniors generally.

The SLC deals with matters of interest to senior lawyers and senior citizens in our communities. A core program is Senior Law Days. The pro bono initiative encourages local bar organizations to present Senior Law Day programs. These community-based programs are designed to educate and empower seniors and their caregivers regarding their legal affairs. Each program is uniquely tailored for the target audience and usually includes legal, social services, personal and property safety and security, and funeral information. It is a community event soliciting support from lawyers, law enforcement, social services, community leaders and businesses. Senior Citizens Handbooks for participants are free and are available from the Virginia State Bar.

I provide these recommendations for successful Senior Law Day programs – a three-step process using the memory aid S.L.C.:

Sponsor – Find a sponsor such as a bar association, law firm, local bank or business to finance the

program. Provide a meal, refreshments and handouts. Recognize the sponsor in notices and programs. Give the community: business, financial, funeral, health, legal, and social services, the opportunity to participate. Publicize the program. (For an example of a flyer publicizing the program which we presented in Victoria on June 11, 2018, see the photo at the beginning of this article. It is warm, inviting, and welcoming.)

Location – Find a free location, preferably with handicap access, such as a church or community center. Set it up to enhance interaction and check the HVAC and acoustics in advance. Have a backup plan in the event the space becomes inaccessible (storms, flood, and blackout).

Coordinator – Find an energetic community organizer to do the ground work such as

advertising the event, gathering volunteers, facility set up, arranging meals, clean up, etc.

Please call me, and I will do my best to help you to make your Senior Law Day a success.

SLC Coordinator: Bruce E. Robinson, bruce.robinsontr@gmail.com (434) 447-7922

CLE: “How to Close, Sell, or Buy a Law Practice”

The Senior Lawyers Conference, in conjunction with Virginia CLE, presented a 3 hour live/webcast/phone seminar titled, “How to Close, Sell, or Buy a Law Practice” on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. The seminar was held live at the Virginia CLE studio in Charlottesville and was accessible anywhere via the webcast and phone options. James McCauley, Frank O. Brown Jr., Robert E. Hawthorne, and Robert T. Vaughan Jr. were the presenters. The program covered in detail the ethical

and practical aspects of closing, selling or buying a law practice. On Tuesday, December 5, 2017, there was a repeat recorded webcast with Live Q&A, and a repeat recorded telephone seminar with Live Q&A from 10:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Both the November 8, 2017, and the December 5, 2017, seminars qualified for 3 hours of live-interactive MCLE credit, all 3 hours of which are Ethics credit. **The program is available as an online seminar, viewable on the Virginia CLE website (www.vacle.org) through November 30, 2020.**

Let's Build Your Practice Together.

We take the calls, and you take it from there.

www.vsb.org/vlrs

Celebrating 40 Years of Service



VA Lawyer Referral Service



VSB Senior Lawyers Receive Prestigious 2019 Law Awards

The Senior Lawyers Conference congratulates the following senior lawyers who have received prestigious law awards in 2019.

VSB William R. Rakes Leadership in Education Award: **THOMAS A. EDMONDS** of Richmond

VSB Conference of Local and Specialty Bar Associations' Local Bar Leader of the Year Award: **BARBARA ANDERSON** of Alexandria

VSB Diversity Conference's Clarence M. Dunnville Jr. Achievement Award: **MICHAEL HUYOUNG** of Richmond

VSB Betty A. Thompson Family Law Section's Lifetime Achievement Award: **PETER A. BUCHBAUER** of Winchester

VSB General Practice Section's Tradition of Excellence Award: **JOHN RANDOLPH NELSON** of Lynchburg

VSB Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award from the VSB Criminal Law Section: **HON. M. HANNAH LAUCK** of Richmond

Antonin Scalia Law School Dean's Medal for Judicial Excellence: **HON. DANIEL S. FIORE II** of Arlington

Antonin Scalia Law School Dean's Medal for Judicial Excellence and Teaching: **HON. JONATHAN C. THACHER** of Fairfax

Join us for the VSB 81st Annual Meeting!



The meeting offers a variety of CLE programs, luncheons, receptions, banquets, athletic events, and awards – all in the relaxed setting of Virginia Beach. Join old friends or make new ones this summer.

Events include:

Thursday, June 13

- Opening Reception

Friday, June 14

- Eleven CLEs
- Family BINGO
- Clarence M. Dunnville Jr. Diversity Achievement Award
- Annual Banquet & Installation of President Marni E. Byrum

Saturday, June 15

- 50-Year Awards Brunch
- “Judicial Squares” CLE
- Tennis Tournament

More information and registration at www.vsb.org/annualmeeting

SLC dedicated issue of the *Virginia Lawyer Magazine*

The Senior Lawyers Conference is responsible for a dedicated issue of the *Virginia Lawyer* magazine each year. The most recent Senior Lawyers Conference Dedicated Issue was the April 2018 issue. The next Senior Lawyers Conference Dedicated Issue of the *Virginia Lawyer* magazine will be the February 2020 issue. Please call Frank O. Brown, Jr. (804) 673-7545 if you are interested in writing an article for a future Senior Lawyers Conference Dedicated Issue.



Induction as Fellows of the Virginia Law Foundation

The Virginia Law Foundation announced its 2019 Class of Fellows. Nominated confidentially by their peers, Virginia Law Foundation fellows are recognized for leadership both in their practices and their communities. The Class of 2019 joins a group of nearly 500 of the best and brightest legal practitioners in Virginia who are committed to the highest ideals of the law and to the concept of citizen lawyer.

The members of the 2019 Class of Fellows are:

Ralph L. Axselle Jr.
(Richmond) – *in memoriam*

Thomas E. Cabaniss (Richmond)

Polly Chong (Newport News)

Hon. Rodham T. Delk Jr. (Smithfield)

Lisa C. Germano (Midlothian)

Robert E. Hawthorne (Lunenburg)

Hon. Louis Robert Lerner (Hampton)

George A. McAndrews (Vienna)

John D. Padgett (Norfolk)

Eric M. Page (Richmond)

Bruce E. Robinson (South Hill)

Hon. James Randolph Spencer (Richmond)

Theo K. Stamos (Arlington)

Virginia Lawyers Hall of Fame Class of 2019

The Virginia Lawyers Hall of Fame honors Virginia lawyers age 60 and older. Criteria for inclusion in the hall include career accomplishments, contributions to the development of the law in Virginia, contributions to the bar and to the commonwealth at large and efforts to improve the quality of justice in Virginia.

The Class of 2019 honorees are:

Thomas L. Appler, Dunn Loring

Terrence R. Batzli, Richmond

Jeffrey A. Breit, Norfolk

James E. Brydges Jr., Norfolk

Peter C. Burnett, Leesburg

Richard Cullen, Richmond

Lawrence D. Diehl, Richmond

Jeanne F. Franklin, Arlington

Allen C. Goolsby, Richmond

Larry Harley, Marion

Blair D. Howard, Warrenton

La Bravia J. Jenkins,
Fredericksburg

Chief Justice (ret.) Cynthia D. Kinser, Pennington Gap

R. Peyton Mahaffey, Fairfax

John D. McGavin, Fairfax

Henry W. McLaughlin, Richmond

S.D. Roberts Moore, Roanoke

Sharon D. Nelson, Fairfax

J. Lee E. Osborne, Roanoke

Dale W. Pittman, Petersburg

Sandra Rohrstaff, Alexandria

Stephen M. Smith, Hampton

Robert J. Surovell, Fairfax

Judge Janice J. Wellington,
Manassas

John E. Zydron, Virginia Beach

In addition to these individuals, five members of the Class of 2019 are being honored posthumously:

Everette G. “Buddy” Allen, Richmond

David P. Bobzien, Fairfax

Richard S. Glasser, Norfolk

James C. Roberts, Richmond

Betty A. Thompson, Arlington

A Baker's Dozen: Thirteen Cybersecurity Questions Lawyers Ask

By Sharon D. Nelson, Esquire and John Simek

As many readers know, we lecture a lot. A whole lot. So, we thought it might be interesting to relate the questions we have been asked most often in the past several months. Always fascinating to see what is “top of mind” at conferences and CLEs.



suspicious links/attachments, going to sketchy websites, giving information over the phone (duped by social engineering), and many other easy-to-make mistakes. A solid hour of good training each year is a small price to pay for educating your employees and creating a culture of cybersecurity.

“I’ve been thinking about cybersecurity—what’s most important? A security assessment, penetration testing or employee training?”

Well . . . let’s start with penetration testing. For most solo/small law firms, this is probably overkill unless you have major league clients or extremely high value data. In pen testing, you are asking a company to pretend they are the “bad guys” and attack you – it is scary stuff and tends to be expensive. The company will generally require a “get out of jail” free agreement, saying that they are not liable for any damages resulting from a successful compromise of your network.

A security assessment (sometimes also called an audit) is far less expensive. The assessment is usually done using software tools and involves a thorough review of your network. The result is generally a report identifying your critical vulnerabilities, medium-level vulnerabilities, and low-level vulnerabilities. As a rule, it tends to come with a proposal for (at least) remediating the critical vulnerabilities along with the estimated cost. We believe it is wise to do these assessments, using a certified third-party cybersecurity company, annually. Many clients and cyberinsurance companies are beginning to require these assessments as well.

There is no getting around the absolute need for annual employee cybersecurity training. It is generally fairly inexpensive and covers the basics of current threats and how to avoid such things as clicking on

“What is the best password manager?”

In our opinion, the best password manager is **one you actually use** – because most of you don’t use one. Seriously, any good password manager is fine and the selection is largely a personal one. What features do you need? Does the password manager have to automatically fill in website forms for login? Can the password manager store all the various types of data (passport, credit cards, prescriptions, etc.) you need? Is the password database stored in the cloud or locally on your own device? Can the password database be replicated and synchronized across multiple devices, including your smartphone?

If you want a little neutral help, check out PC Magazine’s review of the best password managers of 2018: www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2407168,00.asp. The two highest rated are Dashlane and Keeper, but you should review the feature sets and pricing to see what works best for you.

“Is it really safe to move my law firm data to the cloud – and is it ethical?”

Virtually all cybersecurity experts now agree that the cloud will protect your data better than you will. Is the cloud absolutely secure? Of course not. But do law firms, especially solo/small firms tend to be woefully insecure? Yes, they do.

Continued on page 14 >

Most lawyers are using the cloud these days – perhaps for email, perhaps to share files, perhaps because they have Office 365. There isn't a single state bar that has a problem with cloud computing – provided that you take reasonable precautions to comply with your ethical duties. This means asking questions such as:

- Where will my data be stored?
- Is it encrypted at rest and in transit?
- Who holds the master decryption key? (preferable if you do)
- How long has the provider been in business?
- Is the provider accustomed to working with law firms and familiar with legal ethics?
- What happens to your data if the provider declares bankruptcy?
- What happens to your data if you change providers? What format is your data provided in? Is there a charge?
- If law enforcement appears with a search warrant for your data, will your provider notify you right away so you have the chance to file a Motion to Quash?
- Who has responsibility for reporting a data breach should information be compromised?

As you might imagine, there are a lot of questions that you might ask. You can find many useful expert tips for moving your firm to the cloud at www.attorneyatwork.com/tech-tips-making-move-cloud/.

“How can I keep up with legal technology? It moves so fast!”

Trust us – we have the same problem. We each read about two hours a day – and we still can't keep up. We have a couple of resources to recommend. We didn't want to recommend a long list, but here's our favorite two resources:

Bob Ambrogi's LawSites blog at www.lawsitesblog.com
Bob keeps up at the forefront of legal technology.

Attorney at Work blog, which offers a good tip each day which may be found at www.attorneyatwork.com. Not all of the tips are legal tech, but all the tips are interesting and many involve technology.

If you sign up for these free resources, you will receive an email each day. The vetting process is very simple – just look at the subject line – you'll know right way if this is a topic you're interested in. If not, hitting the “delete” button is simple.

Beyond these two resources, there are plenty of legal tech podcasts at Legal Talk Network. <https://legaltalknetwork.com>. If you are driving to work every day or taking a train/plane/bus, listening to a podcast is a perfect way to learn – and it makes travel time pass faster!

Don't forget CLEs – and ask your colleagues for recommendations regarding speakers who both inform and entertain. Legal tech is hard enough for most lawyers – a few entertaining stories along with the legal tech education is always a good mix.

“Is it safe to open emails as long as I don't click on a link or attachment?”

Generally speaking, yes. You are unlikely to have any malware installation if you use a browser to access your email. The majority of lawyers use Outlook as their email client, which also has safeguards against automatically running scripts. As with all technology, things can change so be sure you are especially careful when opening a suspicious email.

“What is the security software you recommend for smartphones?”

ALL smartphones should have some security software, even iPhones. Many of the major desktop security suites (e.g. Symantec, Trend Micro, Kaspersky, etc.) also have agents for mobile devices. The advantage is that the same centrally managed administration console can monitor desktops, servers and mobile devices. We would suggest investigating Lookout or Sophos for stand-alone installation of security software for mobile devices.

“How do I recognize a phishing email and what should I do with a suspicious email?”

- There are obvious red flags to pass on to employees:
- You don't know the sender
- You do know the sender but if you look closely, the address is one letter off (this one happens a lot)
- Nothing in the note seems personal to you
- You weren't expecting the email
- Reference is made to a bank/product/service you don't use
- Words are misspelled
- The grammar is poor
- The email doesn't address you by name
- The message asks for personal information
- There is an attachment which seems suspicious in conjunction with other factors or a link to a website (and no, hovering over the link doesn't necessarily ensure that you will go to the address shown – drive-by malware infections from visiting malicious sites are quite common)

The list goes on and on – you need to advise your employees to be on the lookout for anything suspicious and not to be click-happy! If something about the email doesn't feel “right,” you should have them forward the email to your IT or cybersecurity folks.

“What's the most important security tip for 2019?”

Beyond a doubt...DO NOT reuse passwords! The bad guys are now using computer bots to brute force attacks using passwords revealed from past data breaches. If you continue to reuse passwords, there is a high probability that the password will be used against other systems. This is another great reason to use password managers so that you can have unique passwords for every system.

One password you should NEVER reuse is the password you use to log into your law firm network.

“I've heard that Office 365 and Windows 10 are not inherently secure – what can I do to make them secure?”

Default configurations are never good – and Microsoft acknowledges that, though users seem blissfully unaware of it. Microsoft has developed a program called Secure Score. Microsoft first introduced Office 365 Secure Score to help to understand your security position by giving you advice on what controls you should consider enabling, and helping you understand how your score compares to other organizations. As an example, enabling multi-factor authentication is worth 50 points. The higher the score the better the security posture. The program was so successful that it has been expanded to include Windows Secure Score since there are also options and features you can enable in a Windows environment. As a result, the program is now called Microsoft Secure Score and includes Office 365 and Windows. Just do a search for ‘Microsoft Secure Score’ and you'll see information on how to grade and improve your Secure Score.

“What is the most common cause of data breaches and who is behind them?”

Every year, the Verizon Data Breach Investigations Report gives us the most current answer to that question. You can download the report at <https://enterprise.verizon.com/resources/reports/dbir/>. Hacking is the most common threat, with 81 percent of the hackers using stolen credentials (ID/password).

More stats that are useful:

- 73 percent of the breaches were perpetrated by outsiders while 28 percent involved internal actors (this could mean simple error as well as malicious actions).
- 50 percent of breaches were carried out by organized criminal groups.
- 12 percent of breaches involved actors identified as nation-state or state-affiliated.

“What should I do when I get an email with wiring instructions from a client or one of the law firm partners?”

There should always be a verification process – a written policy is a very good idea. If you can walk down the hall to see the person in your office who actually sent the instructions, that’s a good way to get verification – and a little exercise. You can also pick up the phone and call the partner or client – but never use a phone number contained in the email about the wiring instructions. Use a number you know to be that of the partner or client.

The same advice applies to requests for W-2 information – this scam tends to peak every year around tax time.

“What are new rules for making passwords?”

New Digital Identity Guidelines were published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology in June of 2017 and may be found at <https://pages.nist.gov/800-63-3/sp800-63b.html>. First, passphrases are recommended – they are much easier to remember. “Breaker19,you’vegotabearintheair” is a perfectly good choice (for fans of *Smokey and the Bandit*).

While the guidelines call for a minimum of eight characters, most experts are recommending fourteen. NIST says passwords should be allowed to be as long as 64 characters, which we know isn’t something lawyers are going to do. Passwords should allow all printable ASCII characters, including spaces, and should accept UNICODE characters too, including emojis. We note with a chuckle that we saw emoji passwords demonstrated on *The Today Show* and no one could remember them just a couple of minutes after making them.

Every time you make a new password, it should be checked against a database of known compromised passwords, so you can’t choose one of those. This is slowly being automated as we write. Very soon, this will be standard.

Also, for those of you with security fatigue (and isn’t that all of us?), you don’t need to have passwords expire without reason. Passwords should only be reset when they are forgotten, if they have been phished or if there is reason to believe that they may have been compromised.

“I do work from home – how do I secure my wireless network at home?”

First, change the default settings of the wireless router. You should change the settings for the network name (SSID), IP address range, administrator ID, password, etc. Next, configure the Wi-Fi to be encrypted. Currently, there are three types of Wi-Fi encryption - WEP, WPA, and WPA2. WEP and WPA have been cracked and there are free tools available to break the rather weak encryption. WPA2 has also been cracked, but vendors have developed patches to improve the security. That means that you should be configuring your wireless router to use WPA2 encryption at this time. The good news is that the WPA3 standard has been approved. We should start seeing products supporting the new standard in 2019, perhaps even by the time this column is published. Keep an eye out and upgrade/replace your wireless router to one that supports WPA3.

The authors are the president and vice president of Sensei Enterprises, Inc., a legal technology, information security, and digital forensics firm based in Fairfax, VA. 703-359-0700 (phone) www.senseient.com

Pro Bono Activities By Senior Lawyers

The SLC actively encourages individual pro bono activities by senior lawyers. To find out how you can become involved in providing pro bono services, please call John Oakey at (804) 775-4336.

Be a Mentor!

The Young Lawyers Conference Mentorship Network (in partnership with the Senior Lawyers Conference) helps newer lawyers learn from experienced lawyers (retired lawyers, too). Take a quick survey at <http://bit.ly/YLCSLC> if you are willing to help.

FREE CREDIT REPORTS

from The Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

How do I get a copy of my credit reports?

You are entitled to a free credit report every 12 months from each of the three major consumer reporting companies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion).

You can request and review your free report through one of the following ways:

- Visit AnnualCreditReport.com
- Call (877) 322-8228
- Download and complete the [Annual Credit Report Request form](#). Mail the completed form to:

Annual Credit Report Request Service
P.O. Box 105281
Atlanta, GA 30348-5281

You can request all three reports at once or you can order one report at a time. By requesting the reports separately (for example, one every four months) you can monitor your credit report throughout the year. Once you've received your annual free credit report, you can still request additional reports. By law, a credit reporting company can charge no more than \$12.50 for a credit report.

You are also eligible for reports from [specialty consumer reporting companies](#). We put together [a list of several of these companies](#) so you can see which ones might be important to you. You have to request the reports individually from each of these companies. Many of the companies in this list will provide a report for free every 12 months. Other companies may charge you a fee for your report.

You can get additional free reports if any of the following apply to you:

- You received a notice that you were denied credit, insurance, or employment or experienced another "adverse action" based on a credit report, you have a right to a free report from the credit reporting company identified in the notice. To get the free report you must request it within 60 days after you receive the notice. Other types of "adverse action" notices you might receive include notice of an unfavorable change in the terms or amount of your credit or insurance coverage, or unfavorable changes in the terms of your employment or of a license or other government benefit.
- You believe your file is inaccurate due to fraud.
- You have requested a credit report from a nationwide credit reporting company in connection with the placing of an initial fraud alert (you may request two free copies for an extended fraud alert).
- You are unemployed and intend to apply for employment within 60 days from the date of your request.
- You are a recipient of public welfare assistance.
- Your state law provides for a free credit report.

Tip: Be cautious of websites that claim to offer free credit reports. Some of these websites will only give you a free report if you buy other products or services. Other websites give you a free report and then bill you for services you have to cancel. To get the free credit report authorized by law, go to AnnualCreditReport.com or call (877) 322-8228.

VirginiaNavigator/GWEP Community Outreach Training for Older Adults, Caregivers, and Service Programs

by Adrienne Johnson and Kim Tarantino

Educational Objectives

1. Demonstrate how VirginiaNavigator (VN) can support self-care and connecting with community resources.
2. Discuss how VN can assist service providers who work with older adults and their families.
3. Explain how VN relates to six focus areas of the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) to improve the well-being of older adults.

Background

VirginiaNavigator (VN) is a special and unusual resource. It is a Virginia-based, public/private partnership that is non-profit; it maintains a vast array of free health and community support information and guidance to older adults, people with disabilities, veterans, families, and caregivers, through its one-of-a-kind family of websites (SeniorNavigator.org; disAbilityNavigator.org; VeteransNavigator.org).

VN has been partnering with the Virginia Geriatric Education Center (VGEC) at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) since 2015 in the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP). Supported by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and administered by the Virginia Center on Aging at VCU, the VGEC's GWEP initiatives concentrate on creating an interprofessional geriatrics workforce through such activities as its 200-hour September through June Faculty Development Program, its 24-hour Evidence Based Practice Falls Prevention program for healthcare providers, its virtual case study training of pre-clinical healthcare students, and other programs for professionals. Collaboration with VN has provided the complementary opportunity to extend the reach of GWEP training to consumers in local communities across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

As a key member of the Plenary, which is the all in, interdisciplinary body that oversees all GWEP programs, VN helped identify topics that would strengthen the capacities of older adults to remain in their communities and age well; in addition, VN identified practical strategies to offer community-based training to older adults, families, caregivers, and aging-related service providers (e.g., case managers, health providers, home health staff, hospital and rehabilitation discharge planners) that would enhance their knowledge and skills in improving consumer health outcomes and quality of life. VN maintains community portals at hundreds of sites across Virginia, in senior centers, libraries, agencies, etc., where community members can gain access to relevant content on VN's websites. So, VN undertook a robust agenda of coordinating and deploying over 20 community-based training events annually in high priority geographic areas.

The GWEP Plenary recognized that several issues have significant impact on the abilities of older adults to remain in their communities and to maintain their highest possible functioning as members of those communities. For example, falls are a "sentinel event," meaning that their occurrence likely indicates the presence of a number of risk factors or reasons for the fall, and falls tend to predict further untoward events in the older adult's life. So, the GWEP Plenary implemented an array of training programs to equip healthcare providers to recognize risk factors in later life, institute practices that draw in interprofessional geriatrics care, and engage the older adult and family caregivers in activities that can improve health literacy, understanding of medications, familiarity with available community resources, and more. VN undertook the important role of translating these efforts to benefit those not specifically working in healthcare, that is, older adults, family caregivers, and direct service workers. VN adapted training topics that have focused on common geriatric conditions

and concerns. These have rotated over time but regularly include six issues: Medication Management, Falls Prevention, Alzheimer's disease and Dementia, Caregiver Health, the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit, and Chronic Pain Management and Opioids.

Partnering with the VGEC GWEP in offering community training enabled VN's community training participants to: gain critical information on important caregiving and aging topics; see a live demonstration on how to conduct an individualized search for services on the SeniorNavigator website; learn how to access specific topic landing pages on the website for additional resources; and improve their skills for technology usage. Participants lacking technology capacity received information on how to access the web-based resources through VirginiaNavigator's 744 Navigator Centers (community-based portals).

To ensure project success, VN utilized its grassroots-based community relationships and local government partnerships. VN is well connected in the community, with access to a group of dedicated partners and professionals, as well as older adult community leaders and caregivers. Moreover, the VN-GWEP partnership purposefully targeted several medically underserved regions in Virginia, areas where the number of available healthcare providers falls short of the population's needs. By focusing on these areas, VN sought to bolster the knowledge and skills of the older adults there, as well as that of family caregivers and direct service providers.

VirginiaNavigator Family of Websites

Designed as an innovative service model, VN combines the best practices of information technology with community-building to bring a "High-Tech/High-Touch" approach to connecting Virginians to community programs and services that are most helpful to them based on their unique situation. Keenly focused on meeting the needs of its users, VN connects individuals to comprehensive and robust services and educational information on numerous topics, including: health services, housing options, benefits assistance, transportation, legal and financial matters, caregiver support, and much more.

Launched in 2001, our organization originally focused solely on older adults and their caregivers

when we built the SeniorNavigator website. Now, VN's family of websites (SeniorNavigator.org; DisabilityNavigator.org; VeteransNavigator.org) offers a unique combination of technology and traditional one-on-one personal contact:

- An easy-to-search resource directory of 27,000+ programs and services;
- 1,075+ articles that educate and help guide consumers;
- 765+ links to content-specific websites and resources;
- Features such as Ask an Expert, Community Calendar, and Editor's Pick articles on our home pages; and
- 744 grassroots "Navigator Centers" developed through partnerships with libraries, senior centers, hospitals, and faith communities that serve as community access points for all Virginians.

Leveraging the use of websites and other tech-based programs, coupled with our on-the-ground resources consisting of Navigator Centers and Community Specialists, Virginians turn to us over 1.6 million times annually. Each year our Community Specialists directly reach over 10,000 people across Virginia through more than 550 training events, community functions, and conferences. Partnering with the VGEC's GWEP initiative is a natural extension of VN's community outreach training work across Virginia.

Community Training Development

To prepare for the GWEP community training, VN met with subject matter experts within the Plenary and developed community training materials related to the six topic areas: Medication Management, Falls Prevention, Alzheimer's/Dementia, Caregiver Health, the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit, and Chronic Pain Management and Opioids.

Training resources developed prior to implementation included: 1) PowerPoint Training Slides on: the VN Family of Websites overview and general information; How do to a SEARCH on the VN websites for programs and resources; and slides related to six topic areas (we focused on four priority topics for each year); and 2) Landing Pages

on the VN website to help training participants access relevant resources post-training: Up-to-date articles, tools, links, videos, websites, guides, blogs, and services; and SEARCH box for local services at top of each landing page. The six GWEP topic landing pages can be accessed using these links:

- www.seniornavigator.org/health/medication-management
- www.seniornavigator.org/health/fall-prevention
- www.seniornavigator.org/health/alzheimers-disease-dementia
- www.seniornavigator.org/health/caregiver-health
- www.seniornavigator.org/health/medicare-annual-wellness-visit
- www.seniornavigator.org/health/chronic-pain-management-opioids

Explore the GWEP topic landing pages to find an array of current resources related to each topic.

Our VN community specialists themselves used these training resources to prepare to conduct some 20 local training sessions annually. Before these sessions, these VN community specialists participated in a training orientation to review the GWEP training slides, topic landing pages, and related resources. After the orientation, they participated in additional training through independent activities that included: a) reviewing the content on the six topic landing pages; b) conducting searches using the VN search engine; c) researching and reviewing local services related to the six topic areas; and d) reviewing the final training materials (e.g., PowerPoint slides, handouts, training surveys, demographic surveys).

VN tested the community specialists who would conduct the training. They completed Pre/Post Test Surveys, prior to and after this training orientation, to measure their levels of confidence, before conducting their first community training, on the following: a) providing helpful resources and tools related to the six topic areas; b) effectively delivering the training material to community members, including both family caregivers and service providers;

and c) directing community training participants to VN for supplemental information on local services and programs related to the topic areas. The survey results indicated significant increases in their confidence levels for all variables related to the community training. Once these community specialists began conducting community training events, we also provided ongoing support about content and service questions and any other training issues that arose.

Community Training Implementation

Training Geographic Areas

Over the last four years (2015-2019), we have implemented the VN GWEP community training across

Virginia, with a special focus on three high need priority areas, which the VGEC had identified as Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs) and/or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) as defined by the Virginia Department of Health. To be most effective in these areas, we leveraged the existing VN infrastructure across the regions by coordinating with the local Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), e.g., Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. (MEOC) in Southwest Virginia and Lake Country Area Agency on Aging in Southside Virginia.

The three high need training areas encompass mostly rural areas but also include small towns and larger cities. The map highlights the communities receiving GWEP training from 2015 until the present.

Training Implementation

The goals of the customized training curricula and associated materials are to: 1) increase participant awareness and knowledge of the six GWEP topic areas; 2) have participants demonstrate greater comfort with and use of the web-based services and resources on the SeniorNavigator website; and 3) have participants to demonstrate an understanding of how to use training content to support self-care and connecting with community resources.

This combination was intended to increase knowledge, support decision-making, and help consumers solve problems before they reach crisis level. Also, service providers working with older adults would learn how to use VN's resources to better manage

their caseloads and have a helpful resource to pass on to consumers and their families.

The GWEP community outreach training included several approaches: 1) a PowerPoint presentation; 2) information on VN's Family of Websites; 3) content overview of the GWEP topic areas; 4) engaging real-life scenarios; 5) a demonstration on how to conduct searches for programs and resources; 6) opportunity to walk through the topic landing pages and highlight specific resources; and 7) time for questions.

The annual goal was to reach approximately 300 consumers each year; for the first three years of the

GWEP community training (2015-2018): VN staff conducted a total of 65 GWEP trainings. Of these, 39 (60%) took place in the identified high-priority localities. Some 908 individuals received the GWEP training. Of these, 623 were older adults or family caregivers (69%) and 284 were professional providers (31%).

Case Study # 1

Marie has lived in a small town in Central Virginia for most of her life. She is 84 and lives alone in an apartment. Her husband passed away several years ago; one of her sons lives in Florida and the other in Colorado. She still drives but only short distances, so she is glad that she can walk to nearby shops as well as a pharmacy, library and post office. Marie is very social, enjoys living in an apartment building, and has several friends who live nearby.

Since her sons live out of town, she tries to manage her life as best she can but is always looking for ways to get new health and aging information to meet her needs. One of Marie's concerns has been that she has fallen several times. So far, she's been fortunate to have only minor bruising and aches afterwards; but she was concerned.

Marie attended one of the VN GWEP community training sessions on preventing falls and shared that: I had no idea there were so many resources out there to prevent falls – it was great to get this information and to be shown how to find additional help online. I am so glad I attended this session.

Case Study #2

Fred is the primary caregiver for his widowed father, Tom, who lives with Fred and his wife Barbara in a rural area in Southwest Virginia. As an only child, Fred is the only family member involved in Tom's care. Lately, he and his wife have been struggling with their caregiving responsibilities. At 95, Tom has many concurrent medical needs often requiring multiple health-related appointments a week; this has been a challenge, given that they live in the country. Fred's wife works full time in a neighboring town, and Fred often travels for his work. They've both needed to adjust their work schedules and hours, causing job stresses and less income.

Living in the country also means that getting errands done, finding substitute care, and even getting social needs met have been very difficult for all of them. Fred and Barbara had been feeling very isolated and frustrated when they decided to attend one of the VN GWEP community training sessions being held at their local Area Agency on Aging (AAA). They were especially interested in learning more about Caregiver Health and Fall Prevention.

Fred said that ...Being able to talk with other caregivers and other people in our community really helped us to feel less alone... and to begin to identify some caregiver supports and home-based services for Tom that might meet our needs.

Training Challenges

During the training implementation, we encountered some barriers that proved to be opportunities for exploring ways we could customize or adjust the training experience.

Often the training participants included a mixed group of service providers, older adults, and caregivers, resulting in challenges in customizing the content for each population. We typically addressed this by allowing time for specific questions at the end of the training.

Our training group size varied widely from one to 64 participants; this presented challenges for the community specialists. When we were alerted that the group would be very small, we sometimes opted to reschedule the training to a time when more people could participate. If we knew the group would be larger, an

effective strategy was to enlist the hosting/ sponsoring agency to help with logistics and assisting participants with completing the demographic and training surveys.

For some of the participants, the required paperwork (i.e., demographic survey, training satisfaction survey) was cumbersome. The trainers observed that this was due to many factors, including time to complete the survey, survey readability, questions not applying to participants, literacy issues, low vision, and/or language issues. The community specialists adjusted the training format to provide additional time; however, we did find some inconsistencies in survey completion due to these variables. Based on our recommendations, the demographic and training satisfaction surveys were simplified for Year 4 for all participants.

Now in Year 4 of implementation, we are finding that the community specialists are continuing to network with one another to share strategies and improve the community training. Also, they often call VN with pertinent questions to ensure that the training is successful. The enhanced training seems to be providing a new opportunity for community outreach and has invigorated wider interest among service providers in these topics. Training feedback has been positive, both on the training surveys and anecdotally during the training sessions. As many participants have told us: I wish more people were here to hear this information and learn about your resources.

Training Evaluation and Results

The VN GWEP outreach community training has been very successful in reaching consumers in the identified high priority areas across Virginia, as well as in adjacent underserved areas. VN has exceeded training goals for each year, in number of training sessions and number of participants reached.

For Years 1-3, at the end of each training session, participants completed a Training Satisfaction Survey to rate their confidence in using the VN family of websites and in finding resources and information related to four GWEP topic areas covered (Medication Management, Fall Prevention, Alzheimer's/ Dementia, Caregiver Health). Training participants rated their responses using a 5-point Likert scale where 1 represented "not confident at all," 2 "a little bit confident," 3 "somewhat confident," 4 "mostly confident,"

and 5 "supremely confident." Older adults and caregivers rated their confidence after the training, while we asked the professionals, in addition, to reflect on their knowledge prior to the training in order to obtain a retrospective pre-test and post-test comparison. Overall there was an 84% completion rate for the Training Satisfaction Survey.

Preliminary data analyses reveal consistency across all categories of training participants. Most seniors and caregivers who participated in the training felt "mostly confident" or "supremely confident" in their ability to use the VN family of websites (4.20) and to find helpful information, resources and tools related to the GWEP training topic areas (4.26). Overall, they felt slightly more confident about finding information related to Medication Management, Fall Prevention, and Caregiver Health, than they did for Alzheimer's/Dementia.

Professionals who participated in the training represented a wide array of health and aging disciplines/ roles, including health education specialists, social workers, allied health professionals, direct service workers, support staff, occupational therapists, nurses, and facility administrators. After the training, most professionals felt "mostly confident" or "supremely confident" in their ability to use the VN family of websites and direct seniors/caregivers to the websites for more information (4.36); and to find useful information, resources and tools related to the GWEP training topic areas (4.38). Overall, professionals felt equally confident about finding information in all the topic areas (4.37-4.41).

We have also found that the impact and reach of this training initiative has gone far beyond what we expected. Some key outcomes:

By including topic-related landing pages on the website, our community specialists were able to further their own learning, and the community training participants were able to find additional resources and information through these pages and the VN family of websites.

Community specialists encouraged training participants to share the information and resources they received during the training; we gave trainees a one-page color handout with the topic area landing

page information and links. This resulted in VN's reaching additional community members (older adults, caregivers, professionals) after the training.

The community-based training provided a cost-effective opportunity for VN to provide important information and resources on multiple key topic areas in a short amount of time.

We reached consumers where they live, in rural, urban, and suburban communities across Virginia. We offered community training in an array of settings with varying group sizes, such as area agencies on aging, senior centers, libraries, churches, retirement communities, parks and recreation centers, rehabilitation centers, assisted living facilities, hospitals, community centers, subsidized housing, civic and professional networking meetings, human services agencies, and others. We also reached older adults, caregivers, and services providers involved in diverse aging services, including home care, hospice, behavioral health, assisted living, nursing home care, hospitals, and more.

Some of these training events reached high-need audiences such as military communities and remote rural locations.

An unexpected positive outcome was that, in several instances, training participants shared a connection to other groups or agencies that could benefit from the training in their geographic area, increasing networking and training opportunities. In addition, participants frequently asked for extra materials and handouts to share with others. The training also spurred conversations about improving infrastructure, namely Internet access. A community specialist reported that because of a local training, a participant reported renewed energy and efforts to secure internet service throughout the rural county.

Conclusion

The VN GWEP training initiative has produced positive results, including some that are broader than expected. Because the training included topic-specific content as well as information on how to use the VN family of websites, this approach has helped training participants to use the six topic landing pages and the VN family of websites for further information on topics and issues beyond their original interests. Participants can also ask individual questions by using the VN

Ask an Expert feature. This model has ensured that training participants are connected to the services, resources, and information they need to maintain their own well-being and that and their care recipients. For example, a participant interested in Alzheimer's/Dementia support groups is able to access the VN website to find such a group in the area. The VGEC/GWEP-VN collaboration has reinforced our commitment to deploying a comprehensive, multi-focal approach for community training, one that combines topic-specific training content with supplementary resources like topic landing pages, our family of websites, and available expert support. VN will continue to explore emerging training content on high-need topics in our community outreach and training.

Study Questions

1. What do you find unique about this approach compared to traditional community training efforts?
2. How does community outreach training provide a mechanism for connecting older adults, caregivers, and providers with needed online resources?
3. How might this comprehensive training approach be improved?

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Virginia Center on Aging.*

Fraud Advisory from Social Security Administration: Inspector General Warns Public About Caller-ID “Spoofing” of Social Security Fraud Hotline Phone Number

The Inspector General of Social Security, Gail S. Ennis, is warning citizens about a caller-ID “spoofing” scheme misusing the Social Security Administration (SSA) Office of the Inspector General’s (OIG) Fraud Hotline phone number. The OIG has received recent reports of phone calls displaying the Fraud Hotline number on a caller-ID screen. This is a scam; OIG employees do not place outgoing calls from the Fraud Hotline 800-number. Citizens **should not** engage with these calls or provide personal information.

Callers may use a variety of false scenarios or threats to request personal information or payments, often by means of gift cards or prepaid debit cards. The caller may claim to be from a “legal department,” and they may state that one’s Social Security number (SSN) has been involved in fraudulent activity. They may also accuse citizens of committing crimes and may threaten arrest by federal marshals.

SSA and OIG employees do contact citizens by telephone for official purposes, and they may request the citizen confirm personal information over the phone. However, the calls do not appear on caller ID as the Fraud Hotline number of (800) 269-0271. Also, SSA and OIG employees **will never** threaten you for information or promise any type of official action in exchange for personal information or payment. In those cases, the call is **fraudulent**, and you should **just hang up**.

“This caller-ID spoofing scheme is the latest attempt to use Social Security and the OIG’s trusted name to mislead people into providing information or even money over the phone,” Inspector General Ennis said. “I encourage everyone to alert your family and friends about how common these scams are, and to be extremely cautious when speaking with unknown callers, even if you recognize the caller ID.”

Inspector General Ennis urges citizens not to provide any sensitive information, such as SSN or bank account number, over the phone or internet unless you are certain of who is receiving it. You should also never wire money or add money to a prepaid debt card to pay for any official government service.

If you receive a suspicious call from someone alleging to be from SSA or OIG, you should report that information to the OIG online at <https://oig.ssa.gov/report> or by calling (800) 269-0271, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern Time. You can also report these scams to the Federal Trade Commission through a new site specific to Social Security scams: <https://identitytheft.gov/ssa>.

For more information, please visit <https://oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/scam-awareness> or contact Tracy Lynge, OIG’s Communications Director, at (410) 965-2671.

Elder Fraud Complaints

Elder fraud complaints may be filed with the FTC at www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov or at 877-FTC-HELP. The Department of Justice provides a variety of resources relating to elder fraud victimization through its Office of Victims of Crime, which can be reached at www.ovc.gov.

Annual Costs: Virginia – State Median Costs (2018)

For Homemaker Services, Home Health Aides, Adult Day Health Care, Assisted Living Facility, Nursing Home Care (Semi-Private Room), And Nursing Home Care (Private Room)

Senior lawyers, senior citizens, other members of the bar, and other professionals have needs to keep themselves informed, personally and professionally, about matters such as these.

For 15 years, Genworth has tracked the cost of care nationwide to help families understand long term care costs. Since 2004, the Cost of Care Survey has become the foundation for long term care planning. The 2018 survey covers [440 regions](#) and is based on data collected from more than 15,500 completed surveys was conducted by CareScout®. [View Understand Key Findings and Methodology](#)

The cost of care services varies by location, type of care service, and when the service is provided. These easy to access, view, and download tables show the Cost of Care 2018

national and state median rates for home care and facilities. [View National and State Data Tables](#)

Over the past 15 years, Genworth has uncovered several trends across the long-term care services landscape. Not surprisingly, the cost of all types of care has steadily risen over the years - from homemaker services to nursing home care. [Discover Trends & Insights](#) including the most expensive and least expensive areas for Care in 2018 and get a glimpse into what the cost of long-term care may look like in the future.

For Virginia, the 2018 survey includes statewide median costs, based on hourly, daily, monthly, and annual periods, as well as area median costs for Blacksburg, Roanoke, Lynchburg, Staunton, Harrisonburg,

Charlottesville, Winchester, Richmond, and Virginia Beach.

The Virginia annual statewide median costs are: Homemaker Services (\$45,760); Home Health Aides (\$48,048); Adult Day Care (\$18,200); Assisted Living Facility (\$53,415); Nursing Home Care - Semi-Private Room (\$89,425); and Nursing Home Care - Private Room (\$102,200).

To access the entire survey, including charts and tables, go to www.genworth.com/aging-and-you/finances/cost-of-care.html. This is a commercial website and is not an official U.S. government website.

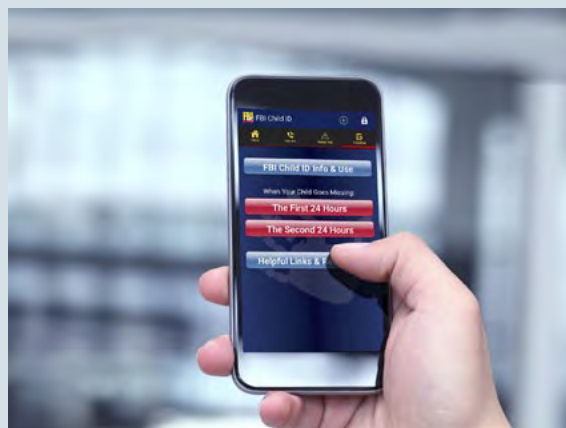
Another helpful resource is U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Long Term Care website at: <https://long-termcare.acl.gov>. This is an official U.S. government website.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Website has information and resources about protecting children

Very often, senior citizens (as parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and other family members and caregivers) may be in need of resources to help in protecting children against threats from many different sources, some of which may be difficult to anticipate. A good basic reference may be found at this website which can be accessed at:

www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/protecting-your-kids



Alzheimer's Disease – 2019 Update

Lawyers need to be aware of the physical, emotional, mental, economic, and other effects of Alzheimer's Disease – as well as other forms of dementia – in order to consider those effects on lawyers' own wellness and planning, and on the wellness and planning of the lawyers' clients and families.

A useful overview resource is provided by the Alzheimer's Association in a 90-page report, which may be accessed at www.alz.org/media/Documents/alzheimers-facts-and-figures-2019-r.pdf. "2019 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures" is a statistical resource for U.S. data related to Alzheimer's disease, the most common cause of dementia. Background and context for interpretation of the data are contained in the overview. Additional sections address prevalence, mortality and morbidity,

caregiving and use and costs of health care, long-term care and hospice. A Special Report discusses Alzheimer's detection in the primary care setting.

The overview indicates the following statistics in the Commonwealth of Virginia:

- Number of caregivers of people with Alzheimer's or other dementias: 465,000
- Hours of unpaid care: 529,000,000
- Number of deaths and annual mortality rate per 100,000: 2,549 deaths
- Annual mortality rate 30.1
- Projection of total number of Virginians age 65 and older with Alzheimer's dementia: 150,000

You're retiring, but your law degree doesn't have to.



Transition into emeritus status and practice only pro bono.

For questions about the program, contact the VSB Pro Bono / Access to Legal Services department at (804) 775-0522.

To start the application process toward emeritus status, call the membership department at (804) 775-0530.

Protecting Lawyers' and Clients' Interests in the Event of the Lawyers' Disability, Death or Other Disaster

The [SLC website](#) contains the following documents to assist lawyers in their planning: Durable Special Power of Attorney Regarding Law Practice; Agreement Regarding Law Practice; Last Will and Testament provisions with appropriate powers to Executor. In addition, Frank O. Brown Jr. presents a CLE ethics program to local bar associations on this topic. This program is presented as a one-hour, one and one-half hour, or two-hour program, with full ethics credit. This program has been presented at least once in Abingdon, Alexandria, Arlington, Big Stone Gap, Boydton, Covington, Charlottesville, Danville, Fairfax, Farmville, Fredericksburg, Gloucester, Hanover County, Harrisonburg, Henrico, Irvington, Keysville, Leesburg, Luray, Manassas, Mclean, Melfa,

Norfolk, Richmond, Roanoke, Salem, Smyth County, Stratford Hall, Virginia Beach, Warsaw, Williamsburg, Winchester, and more than once in many of these locations. It has also been presented as part of the Supreme Court of Virginia and Conference of Local and Specialty Bar Association's Solo and Small Firm Conferences. Most recently, the program was presented on October 5, 2018, to the Salem-Roanoke County Bar Association in the Roanoke Valley.

If your local bar association is interested in having Frank Brown's ethics program presented, at no charge, please call SLC Liaison Sylvia Daniel at (804) 775-0576. The Checklist on Closing a Law Practice is also available on the SLC website.

Fee Dispute Resolution Program



Now that your work is done, do you find yourself in a dispute with your client over fees and costs? The Virginia State Bar offers another way to settle those disputes, without resorting to costly litigation.

The Special Committee on the Resolution of Fee Disputes oversees the Fee Dispute Resolution Program to provide an avenue, other than litigation, for the expeditious and satisfactory resolution of fee disputes between attorneys and their clients through mediation and uniform arbitration proceedings and works to foster trust and communication among attorneys and clients.

For information on the program, go to our website at www.vsb.org/site/about/resolution-of-fee-disputes.

The Bridge Builder

By Will Allen Dromgoole

An old man going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen tide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

“Old man,” said a fellow pilgrim near,
“You are wasting your strength
with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way;
You’ve crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?”

The builder lifted his old gray head;
“Good friend, in the path I have come,” he said,
“There followed after me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!”

Will Allen Dromgoole (1860-1934) was a prolific writer of poetry and prose. She studied law in her father’s law offices. She wrote this poem in 1900. For years, *The Bridge Builder* has been an inspiration to seniors and to senior lawyers in particular.



Do Not Call Registry

Operated by the Federal Trade Commission, the National Do Not Call Registry allows you to register your home telephone and your mobile telephone against telemarketing calls. The correct address is www.donotcall.gov.



Senior Lawyers Conference Website Resources

The Senior Lawyers Conference website, at www.vsb.org/site/conferences/slc, contains a wealth of Public and Attorney Resources and Links of interest to Senior Lawyers and Senior Citizens.

BRUNCH AND CEREMONY HONORING 50 YEAR VSB MEMBERS

At the VSB Annual Meeting, the SLC sponsors a brunch and awards ceremony at which the lawyers who are receiving their 50-year membership awards are honored. The honorees and their

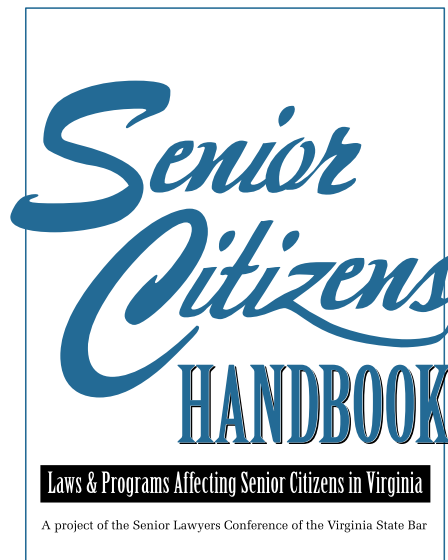
families are invited, and special certificates are given to commemorate this special milestone. The brunch will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sheraton Oceanfront.



Senior Lawyer News Online Newsletters

The *Senior Lawyer News* is published as an online newsletter. Periodically, we publish remembrances of deceased distinguished lawyers or judges whose personal and professional qualities are inspirational to members of the legal profession and the public. Volunteers are needed to write articles for future issues of *The Senior Lawyer News*.

Please call Frank O. Brown Jr., newsletter editor, at (804) 673-7545 if you are interested in writing an article or a remembrance for the newsletter.



Senior Citizens' Handbook

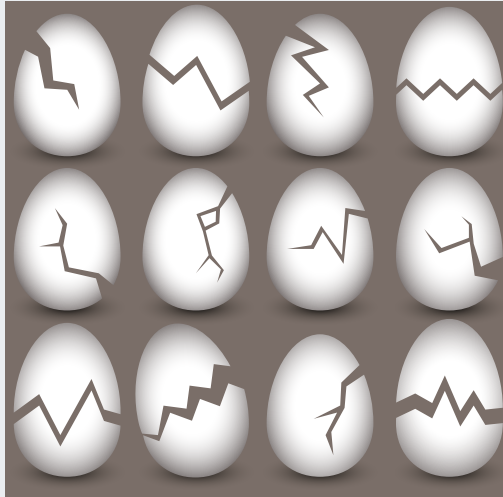
Produced by the SLC, this is the VSB's most requested publication. It is a resource for seniors, their families, and their caregivers to provide an overview of and contact information for opportunities and choices facing senior citizens today, with a summary of how specific laws affect Virginia's older citizens and practical advice on issues such as Medicaid, Alzheimer's Disease, landlord-tenant relations, and much more. There is also an extensive list of community-service organizations that details the various services available to senior citizens. This is available through the VSB Publications Office.

Internal Revenue Service Announces “Dirty Dozen” Tax Scams For 2019

The Dirty Dozen represents the worst of the worst tax scams.

Compiled annually, the “Dirty Dozen” lists

a variety of common scams that taxpayers may encounter anytime but many of these schemes peak during filing season as people prepare their returns or hire someone to help with their taxes. Don’t fall prey.



For a detailed description of each scam, please refer to the list below:

- [Abusive tax shelters, trusts, conservation easements](#)
- [Frivolous tax arguments remain](#) on list
- [Failure to report offshore funds](#)
- Avoid [improper claims for business credits](#)
- IRS cautions taxpayers on scams involving [disasters, charitable causes](#)
- 2019 list highlights [inflating deductions, credits](#)
- Schemes involving [falsifying income, creating bogus documents](#)
- Be on the lookout for [promises of inflated tax refunds](#)
- [Tax return preparer fraud](#)
- [Identity theft](#) remains on list despite progress
- [Be vigilant against phone scams](#)
- [Pervasive phishing schemes](#)

The Forever Tree

With the members of the Supreme Court of Virginia and other dignitaries present, on April 24, 2012, Chief Justice Cynthia D. Kinser dedicated a tree planted in Capitol Square in honor and memory of Chief Justice Leroy Rountree Hassell Sr., who died on February 9, 2011. Funds for the purchase, planting and maintenance of the tree were given by members of the VSB Senior Lawyers Conference, the Virginia Bar Association, and other lawyer donors. The tree will be maintained in perpetuity, and thus is called a Forever Tree. It is a Jamestown Red Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Jamestown'). Appropriately, the dedication ceremony took place at midday of the Chief Justice's Pro Bono Summit which was held at the Supreme Court of Virginia, across the street from Capitol Square.

In her remarks, Chief Justice Kinser said: "It is an honor to be assembled here with justices, lawyers, citizens and friends at this tree that will commemorate the life of Chief Justice Leroy Rountree Hassell Sr. Chief Justice Hassell always offered his leadership, vigor,



Photo credit: Matthew R. O. Brown Photography

and intelligence to encourage lawyers to provide pro bono legal services and to ensure justice in the commonwealth. His consistent dedication to these issues sent roots deep into the bedrock of our

system of justice. A tree – living, vibrant and strong – is a fitting memorial. This tree will remind all of us and all of those who pass it of Chief Justice Hassell's dedication and contribution to the administration of justice throughout the commonwealth. [...] My thanks to the members of the Senior Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association for leadership in organizing this commemoration. And I thank all of you for your participation in this day." After her remarks, Chief Justice Kinser and the other justices each symbolically placed a shovelful of earth around the newly planted tree.

The Forever Tree is thriving in the southwest corner of Capitol Square in Richmond, midway between the Bell Tower and the Capitol Square Fountain, as may be seen in the two photos accompanying this caption, both of which were taken on May 8, 2019. The tree stands and grows in honor and in memory of Chief Justice Leroy Rountree Hassell Sr., and it marks a place of contemplation, commemoration, and remembrance.

Visit the SLC Website at www.vsb-slc.com