

VIRGINIA CAPITOL CONNECTIONS

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE



INSIDE

Women and Leadership—page 4

Reports from the Cabinet—page 11

Importance of Women's Political Representation—page 24

*Women
of the 2011
General Assembly
of Virginia*

Summer 2011

WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?

Sports? Service? Faith?
Medicine? Music? Justice?
Teaching? Business? Art?

At Bluefield College,
we believe passion makes
life worth living, and the
pursuit of passion allows
for the accomplishment
of goals and dreams.

Whether it is to perform,
compete, learn, lead,
worship, serve, or
simply belong, you
can find your passion,
nurture it, even live it
at Bluefield College.

Bluefield



BLUEFIELD
COLLEGE

Live your passion!



MOBILE USERS

To Our Readers

I arrived in Richmond and began contacting women in the VA Senate, asking them to write articles. I met Susan Clark Schaar, the Clerk of the Senate. A few days later, I found myself driving to meet Eva Scott, the first female member of that same Senate.

In Amelia, I found a woman passionate about the well being of her people. She inspired me, and that inspiration led to a story intertwined by my own.

Emails were friendly, and I often was laughing after phone calls. And, thankfully, when I asked for articles from senators and delegates, I was met with a positive response.

The articles flooded in and I saw a unified message: women dedicated to a cause they believe in. I found myself crying and laughing and loving each article I received.

I have learned much about politics, writing, editing, and organization. But what sticks with me, what I hope will always stick with me, is how seriously each woman takes her role as a political leader.

As you read their stories, I hope that you see what I saw. Instead of colors, districts, "D" or "R," I see Delegate Herring fighting to win a game of King of the Hill. I see Eva Scott slapping my knee as she laughs loudly. I see Delegate McClellan being compared to Barbie. I see Annie B. saying, "but, more important, I was born a woman. I can do the job." I see Jeannemarie Davis deciding to run a fourth time.

These women are brave. I may not run for public office, but I will remember the lessons I have learned. I am so thankful for each person who has chosen to contribute to our magazine. Their stories and insight will stick with me, and I hope they will stick with our readers as well.

"But, more important, I was born a woman. I can do the job."

The same is true for all of us who were also born women.

Lydia Freeman attends Bluefield College, and she interned with David Bailey Associates as the summer editor for the Capitol Connections Magazine.

On the Cover

Women of the 2011 General Assembly of Virginia

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28				

1. Delegate Robin Abbott
2. Delegate Mamye BaCote
3. Delegate Kathy Byron
4. Delegate Betsy Carr
5. Delegate Barbara Comstock
6. Delegate Anne B. Crockett-Stark
7. Delegate Rosalyn Dance
8. Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn
9. Delegate Charniele Herring
10. Delegate Kaye Kory
11. Delegate Paula Miller
12. Delegate Brenda Pogge
13. Delegate Roxann Robinson
14. Delegate Beverly Sherwood
15. Delegate Roslyn Tyler
16. Delegate Jeion Ward
17. Delegate Vivian Watts
18. Delegate Deloris McQuinn
19. Delegate Jennifer McClellan
20. Senator Janet Howell
21. Senator Mamie Locke
22. Senator Mary Margaret Whipple
23. Senator Yvonne B. Miller
24. Senator Toddy Puller
25. Senator Patsy Ticer
26. Senator Jill Vogel
27. Senator Louise Lucas
28. Clerk of the Senate Susan Schaar

VIRGINIA CAPITOL CONNECTIONS

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2011 ISSUE

Women and Leadership in the Virginia General Assembly (Past, Present and Future)	4
Women in Virginia Politics Conference	5
Together We Stand	6
Something to Burn For	6
To Make a Difference	7
What I Learned from Barbie	8
Intensely Practical	9
First Woman Major in Virginia State Police	9
Virginia's Record of Results	10
Reports from Members of the Cabinet	11
Reflections of My Political Path	15
Interview with G. Paul Nardo: Clerk of the House of Delegates	16
A Guardian of the Senate: The Honorable Susan Clarke Schaar	17
From a Mountain Laurel Trail to a Dogwood Trail to Richmond: My Personal Political Journey through Virginia—Anne B. Crockett-Stark	19
My Journey As A Politician	19
Making Sarah Lee Fain Proud	20
Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Delegate	20
Whipple: A Pioneer	21
Jeannemarie Davis: Creating a Legacy	22
What is the most difficult aspect of balancing your political career with your private life?	23
The Importance of Women's Political Representation and Why It Will Have a Vital Impact on Public Policy	24
Where Are They Now?	25
Women of the 2011 General Assembly	29
The Power of Public Media in the 21st Century	30
Virginia DCP Critical Incident Team Association and Business Directory	32
	35

On The Web www.vccqm.org

Volume 17 Number 3

Summer Editor—Lydia Freeman

Editors—Kristen Bailey-Hardy and Shirley Pappalardo

Publisher—David Bailey; Art Director—John Sours

School Distribution—Kristen Bailey-Hardy

Advertising—Ads@CapitolSquare.com; Printer—Clinch Valley Printing

Published for: Virginians For Integrity In Government, Inc.

Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine

(ISSN 1076-4577) is published by:

David Bailey Associates • 1001 East Broad Street • Suite 215

Richmond, Virginia 23219 • (804) 643-5554

Copyright 2011, David Bailey Associates. All rights reserved.

The views expressed in the articles of *Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine*, a non-partisan publication, are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.

Women and Leadership in the Virginia General Assembly

(Past, Present and Future) By SUZETTE DENSLOW

Women have been an intricate part of the political fabric in Virginia for over 140 years. As early as 1870, women sought the right to vote in Virginia. It is because of the courage and determination of the women that we read about in history books, that the women of the Virginia General Assembly—past, present and future—will contribute to new chapters in our history books. The gentlewomen of the Virginia legislature bring a different quality to the State Capitol. And it is that sense of poise and resolve that will continue to engage and inspire current and future political generations.



For anyone who has watched the Virginia General Assembly, it is not surprising to learn that about 20% of the legislature are women—19.3% to be exact, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. So, where do we rank nationally? Number 13 from the bottom of the 50 states. We rank higher than several of our Southern colleagues: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia. (We are also higher than American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.)

Since 1923, when Sarah Lee Fain, of Norfolk, and Helen Timmons Henderson, of Buchanan County became the first women elected to the Virginia General Assembly, the representation of women in the legislature has steadily increased. In modern times, the numbers have risen over the past few decades from 6 women out of 140 legislators in 1975, to 15 of 140 by the end of the 1980s, 22 by the late 1990s, and the highest - 27 in 2010 (19 women in the House; 8 in the Senate).

But in my estimation, the most interesting aspect of women in the Virginia legislature, is the account of women with positions of leadership—a phenomenon with some history. So, for those of you who have watched the General Assembly for some time or for those interested in the importance of women in Virginia politics, let me throw out a couple of names: Dorothy McDiarmid and Mary Marshall.

Dorothy McDiarmid (D-Fairfax) served from 1960 to 1989, and served as Chair of the House Appropriations committee (1986–1989), and was also the Chair of the Education committee (1982–1985). She held a B.S. in Political Science from Swarthmore.

Mary Marshall (D-Arlington) served in the House from 1966 to 1991, and served as Chair of the House Counties, Cities and Towns committee from 1988 to 1991. She, too, held a Bachelor's degree from Swarthmore.

When I think of these gentlewomen, I remember them visually—white hair and pleasant demeanor, with nerves of steel and no fear. To me, they epitomized the “velvet glove [with a steel fist]” type of leader. My recollection is that Delegate McDiarmid once described herself and the two other budget conferees as “a pussycat, a bulldog and a weasel.”

Prior to these two female chairs, the records show that Delegate Kathryn Stone (D-Arlington) served as chair of the committee on Institutions from 1960 to 1965.

Committee Chairs

In today's General Assembly, the list of female legislators in positions of power has grown.

In the House, two women serve as committee chairs. Delegate Kathy Byron (R-Bedford) is chair of the House's newest committee, Science and Technology. Delegate Byron has served in the House

since 1998, and is known for her even-handedness in running her committee. In her time as a legislator she has become well-versed in several complex issues, including telecommunications.

Delegate Beverly Sherwood (R-Frederick) is chair of the Militia and Police committee, following two other female chairs—Gladys Keating (D-Fairfax) and Mary Christian (co-chair, D-Hampton). The committee is known as the killing field for bills that attempt to restrict gun rights. Sherwood runs the committee in a well-respected orderly fashion, and displays a strong sense of fairness.

In the Senate, all women in the majority party are committee chairs.

The Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources committee is chaired by long-time leader Patsy Ticer (D-Alexandria). Senator Ticer is graciousness personified. Prior to her work in the legislature (1996-2011), Ticer was the Mayor of Alexandria. The legislature will miss Senator Ticer in 2012, as she steps down from her elected role.

Senator Mamie Locke chairs the General Laws and Technology committee, and like Senator Ticer, she also is a former Mayor (Hampton). In her “day job” Locke is the Dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Education at Hampton University. Despite her engaging smile, you underestimate her intellect at your own peril.

Senate Local Government is chaired by still another former Mayor (Portsmouth), Senator Louise Lucas. She runs the committee in a disciplined manner, punctuated by good-natured humor and, of course, her style. Lucas's tenure in the Senate began in (1992).

Senate Privileges and Elections, a powerhouse committee especially in a redistricting year, is chaired by Senator Janet Howell (D-Fairfax). Senator Howell also chairs the Senate Finance committee's Public Safety sub-committee, where she displays her astute sense of balance between fiscal reality and human compassion. Howell was the first woman to be appointed a Senate budget conferee—in 2008.

Rehabilitation and Social Services is chaired by Senator Linda “Toddy” Puller (D-Fairfax). Puller began her service in the General Assembly in the House of Delegates (1992-1999). Puller encourages a full dialogue on all complex issues, and she is an attentive listener to all.

Senator Yvonne B. Miller (D-Norfolk) is the General Assembly's longest serving woman. In addition, she is the first African American woman to be elected to the Senate and the first woman to chair a senate committee. She served in the House of Delegates from 1984 to 1988, and in the Senate from 1988 to the present. Like Senator Locke, Miller holds a Ph.D. She is a professor emeritus at Norfolk State University, where she was a professor in the Department of Early Childhood/Elementary Education. She is the chair of the Senate Transportation committee, and has the unique ability to balance technical and engineering details, with complicated financial information.

Last, but by no stretch of the imagination, least, Senator Mary Margaret Whipple (D-Arlington). Prior to her current service in the legislature, she served on the Arlington School Board and the Arlington County Board. Senator Whipple is the Senate Democrat Caucus leader, and chairs the Senate Rules committee. She is the first woman to hold a leadership position in the Virginia General Assembly. During the floor speeches that praised her upon her announced retirement, a phrase that described her style well was “quiet persistent power.” Senator Whipple aptly painted a vivid picture of her leadership ability by leading the Democrat Caucus—she was able to lead the Chamber's Democrats, which is like herding cats—“wild cats.”

Legislators Who Moved to Other Leadership Roles

There are other measures of leadership, in addition to committee and subcommittee chairs. Four women legislators became Cabinet Secretaries, and used their skills in the Executive branch. Delegate Vivian Watts was the Secretary of Transportation and Public Safety in the Administration of Governor Gerald Baliles, after serving in the House from 1982 to 1985. She then returned to the House in 1996 and is still a member.

In the administration of Governor Mark Warner, Jane Woods was Secretary of Health and Human Services, after serving in the House of Delegates from 1988 to 1992, and the Senate from 1992 to 2002.

Viola Baskerville served as the Secretary of Administration for Governor Tim Kaine, after serving in the House from 1998 through 2005. She was a member of Richmond City Council and Vice Mayor from 1994 to 1997.

Terrie Suit currently serves in Governor Bob McDonnell's cabinet as Secretary of Veterans' Affairs and Homeland Security. Suit was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 2000 to 2008. During the 2008 session, she chaired the General Laws committee and was Deputy House Whip.

Another female Delegate, Mary Sue Terry, moved from the House to be the Attorney General of Virginia. She holds the distinction of becoming the first woman elected to statewide office in Virginia. She was a Delegate from 1978 to 1985, and Attorney General from 1986 to 1994.

Leslie Byrne was a Virginia Delegate from 1986 to 1992. She was the first non-lawyer appointed to the prestigious Courts of Justice committee. In 1992 she became the first woman ever elected to Congress from Virginia. After her term in Congress, Byrne was elected to the state Senate and completed her term in 2003.

Thelma Drake served in the House from 1996 to 2004. She was later elected to the United States Congress in 2004 and served until 2008. Drake is currently the Director of Rail and Public Transportation.

Jeannemarie Devolites Davis was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1997 and served until 2002. She was the first woman to serve as the House Majority Whip. She was a member of the state Senate from 2003 to 2007. Devolites Davis currently serves as the Director of the Virginia Liaison Office in Governor Bob McDonnell's Administration.

Other New Frontiers

And new times bring us new women legislators who are rising leaders.

Jennifer McClellan (D-Richmond) has been a member of the Virginia House of Delegates since 2006. She is one of the youngest members of the legislature and she is the first member to balance the challenges of pregnancy and the high-demand of the General Assembly. As if the legislature and a growing family are not enough, McClellan is a well-respected attorney in Richmond.

Similar to Delegate McClellan, Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel (R-Winchester) has to balance the demands of a family, work and the Virginia Legislature. Jill was elected to the Senate in 2007 and was elected Deputy Whip in 2011. As a nationally recognized attorney, she brings expertise and skill to her role as an elected official.

Other Women Legislators of Note

Edwina P. "Eddy" Dalton of Henrico County was elected state Senator in 1987, a year after her husband, former Governor John Dalton (1978–1982) died from lung cancer. As Governor, he appointed the first African American and first woman to serve in a Virginia governor's cabinet—Dr. Jean Harris (Secretary of Human Resources).

Emily Couric was a Virginia State Senator from Charlottesville, elected in 1995 and re-elected in 1999. Although her political

career was cut short because of pancreatic cancer, she was a rising star in the Virginia political landscape.

As a Richmonder, who can blame me for wanting to briefly highlight the phenomenal women of the Richmond Delegation?

Delegate Delores McQuinn (D-Richmond) has served in the Virginia General Assembly since 2009. McQuinn was a member of the Richmond School board from 1992 to 1996. She served on the Richmond City Council 1999 to 2008, with a stint as Vice-Mayor and Vice-President of Council. She is a strong advocate for the people in her community.

Delegate Betsy Carr (D-Richmond) was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 2010. After serving on the Richmond School Board from 2006 to 2010. Delegate Carr is heavily involved in the faith community and serves as outreach director at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Richmond.

Although the list and accomplishments of the women legislators that I have briefly described is impressive, there is one woman at the Capitol that deserves mention in the scope of this discussion, Susan Clarke Schaar, the Clerk of the Senate of Virginia. Clarke Schaar has served as Clerk since 1990—over twenty years. Earning the respect of men and women alike, she has ensured that the Senate functions as effectively and expeditiously as possible. Clarke Schaar started her career at the Virginia General Assembly in 1974 as an engrossing clerk. She is a wealth of knowledge, a woman worthy of respect and gratitude.

So many women have contributed to the legislative and executive branches of the Commonwealth of Virginia. So many women have had the courage to be the "first." So many women have had the strength to lead despite hindrances. So thank you for your vision, thank you for your determination and most of all thank you for your service. We look forward to the new leaders who will come to Richmond in 2012 and beyond.

Suzette Denslow worked in the Kaine, Warner and Wilder administrations, currently serves as Chief of Staff to Mayor Dwight Jones of Richmond. [V]

Women in Virginia Politics Conference

July 29th brought women together for a common purpose—celebrating, honoring, and learning from the women who have served in the Virginia political schema. Sponsored by the University of Virginia Center for Politics, the *Women in Virginia Politics* conference was held in Virginia's own Capitol Building as *The 13th Annual Virginia Political History Project*. Panel discussions, keynote speakers, and a special session of practical breakout sessions led to an excellent conference. During the first panel, The Honorable Eva Scott, The Honorable Mary Sue Terry, Judy Peachee Wason, and The Honorable Eva Teig Hardy shared their experiences as pioneers in Virginia politics. After the lunch, The Honorable Thelma Drake, a woman who has participated in both state and national politics, shared the story of her journey. The next panel held The Honorable Jocelyn Elders, Dr. Bob Gibson, The Honorable Jennifer McClellan, Kate OBenshain, and The Honorable Terrie Suit. The Jennifer Byler Institute and The Farm Team allowed for conference attendees to discuss ways they could be effective participants in politics. Finally, Patti Solis Doyle concluded the conference.

The stories, advice, and experience these women shared were unique in their ability to inspire. Quotes from the event will be included throughout the rest of the magazine. The speaker's name and WVP standing for *Women in Virginia Politics* will be included with the quote. [V]

Together We Stand

By SENATOR JANET HOWELL

In the fall of 1991, I was doing a lot of door knocking for my very first race for elected office. Women kept asking the same question: "How many women are in the Virginia Senate?" "Three," I would say. "I'm voting for you—even though I am a Republican," would be the frequent response. Women were very angry that fall because of the bitter Clarence Thomas/Anita Hill hearing before an all-male US Senate Judiciary Committee. Women thought Anita Hill was being badgered by a gang of insensitive men. Gender politics was truly beginning.

I won, against all odds, and have always thought the disgust of women over being under-represented was part of the reason.

Four women were sworn into the Senate in January 1992: Yvonne Miller, Jane Woods, Louise Lucas, and me. Only Senator Miller had been there previously. Our first term was tough. Freshmen of both genders were advised to speak rarely. As a result, we had to ration our floor speeches. One of us would make a statement on something of extreme importance to women, and frequently no one would stand to back her up. It could be lonely and frustrating.

"How is it dealing with the Good Old Boys?" women asked. Frankly, that was never a problem for me. Some older legislators were not used to working with women as equals. But they were earnest in trying. Twenty years later it is a total non-issue.

As a group we started to break glass ceilings. I was selected the first woman and second non-lawyer on the Courts of Justice Committee. Soon thereafter I was the first woman to preside over the Senate. And, then, the big prize: selection as the first woman on the Finance Committee.

In 1996, two more women, Patsy Ticer and Mary Margaret Whipple, were elected. In 2000, Toddy Puller joined us. Mamie Locke was elected in 2004 and Jill Vogel (the only Republican woman currently in the Senate) was elected in 2007.

Now we were in better shape. We could speak up and support each other on the floor. And, since all of us are workaholics who take our responsibilities seriously, we were gaining respect in the whole General Assembly. Each of us has developed an area of expertise, and we back each other's efforts.

One vivid memory I have from the 1990's concerned my bill to make stalking a serious offense. We were able to get the bill through the Senate without much problem. The House Courts Committee was a different matter. Some of the Delegates actually believed a stalker was harmless and was showing love for the victim. The stalking bill was in serious jeopardy.

So we did something that has not happened before or since. Every female legislator in the House and the Senate stood behind me when I presented the bill in committee. Most glared at the committee members. Suddenly the bill was reported and soon passed!

With the Democrats taking control of the Senate four years ago, the women really gained power. Listening to the advice of Senator Yvonne Miller and following the caucus custom that the senior member of that committee is selected chair, all seven Democratic women became chairs of major committees. In addition, Mary Margaret Whipple was elected the Senate Democratic Caucus Chair and I was selected the first female Senate budget negotiator. More recently, Mamie Locke was elected chair of the Black Caucus. Clearly, women have never before had such clout in Virginia.

We have made huge progress over the past two decades. Lamentably, there are still very few women in our legislature. Our band of eight in the Senate is only 20% of the total. Virginia has among the fewest female legislators in the nation. We still have a long way to go.

Senator Janet Howell represents Senate District 32. 



Something to Burn For

By LYDIA FREEMAN

I'm on the way to interview Eva Scott, the first woman on the Virginia Senate. I have gotten lost 3 times with a GPS. I brush my hair at a red light because I know that I don't have any free moments left.

I notice the men in the truck beside me staring. They wave, and I offer a slight smile in return. I keep my eyes on the road, refusing to look back over. Until they pull ahead, holding a white sheet of paper with an explicit meaning.

The message is too short, Too clear. I reach for my phone; Call my best friend. Leave a voice mail.

"I just feel. I just feel."

It cuts me off. The word left ringing in my head. *Cheap*. I just feel cheap.

I drive the rest of the way to Amelia. Maybe I shouldn't be shaken up by the words, but I am. I don't want to interview anyone. I want to wander into the middle of a cornfield and stare at the clouds until I replace the memory of those words with images of dancing hippopotamuses and smiling puppy dogs.

But I don't. Instead I get lost again. Call Mrs. Scott. She directs me and is waiting outside her house when I arrive.

She introduces me to her husband, sister, and an old family friend. We sit down for the interview. Soon, I am so drawn in by her stories of a newspaper and her views on the Tea Party movement that I struggle to ask the list of questions I have lain beside my steno pad. There is passion in her voice for politics and for her people.

"What classes do you take at college?" she asks me.

"English and Communications with a minor in Business."

"Are you involved in politics?"

"I want to learn more."

And I do as I sit with her, listen to her, and write answers to questions I haven't even asked.

"I was a pharmacist, and I owned my own drug store," she explains. "I am a real conservative. Conservative first, Republican second. When the Republican member of the House had a stroke and couldn't run, I decided to. I ran in six weeks and won by 121 votes."

She was a member of the House of Delegates until 1981, when redistricting struck again.

"I would have lost my district," she said. "That would have made it impossible for me to win. I decided to run for Senate."

No woman had ever won in a race for Virginia Senate, but Eva Scott did. And while Scott may have been the only woman in the Senate, she never gave thought to discrimination.

"Did you face discrimination because you were a woman?"

She laughs and reaches out to slap my knee. "I knew you were going to ask that question. They used to ask me that all the time. I'm sure I was, but I went into politics with a purpose in mind. It didn't bother me one way or another. As an independent, I had friends on both sides of the aisle. We stopped a lot of legislation we were opposed to, and I never let it bother me."

She laughs again. "But I did have a key to my own bathroom."



EVA SCOTT

See *Something to Burn For*, continued on page 8

To Make a Difference

By THELMA DRAKE

It was never on my "to do" list to serve in public office. I was not from a political family. I was the mother of two, a successful Realtor and actively involved in the community, participating in Little League, neighborhood watch, civic league, and the Republican Party.

When the Chairwoman of the Republican Party asked if I would run for the House of Delegates, my immediate answer was no. I didn't run for office; I helped others who did. I thought about it for a month and decided that people must be involved in government. If I didn't run, I would always feel that there was something more I could have done. I taped my granddaughter's picture to my dashboard, and every time I got in the car I reminded myself that I was doing this for her.

I came very close, but lost. It took a great deal of soul searching, but I decided to run again and balance my real estate career with the duties of campaigning and serving.

I was the second Republican elected to represent Norfolk since the Civil War, the first Republican woman from Norfolk, and the fourth Republican woman serving in the 1996 session. Serving in Virginia was an honor. Delegates put aside party lines and worked together to serve the Commonwealth. Some of the major issues that I was involved in were property rights, housing issues, transportation issues, and the Chesapeake Bay.

In 2004, I received another phone call, this time to ask if I would run for Congress. After a quick decision and election, I became the 203rd woman to serve in the US House of Representatives and the third woman from Virginia. Serving Virginia's 2nd District from 2005-2008 was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Serving on the Armed Services Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee allowed me to be involved in national policy discussions and decisions that affected all citizens. Supporting our military members and their families and all the constituents was a great honor.

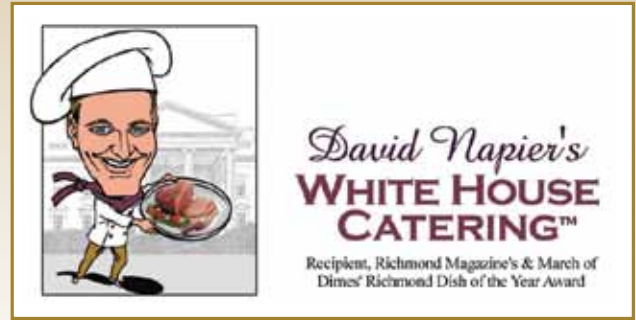
Now as the director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the relationships I have created over these 18 years are invaluable. Understanding the legislative process and my way around both capitols is an incredible asset. I view transportation as a function of government and enjoy helping the agency accomplish the mission of providing transportation choices and increasing mobility. The answer to reducing peak congestion and maximizing our transportation assets is providing transportation choices that move people to their destinations in a timely, efficient, and reliable manner.

My time in office taught me valuable lessons from which any woman considering running for office can benefit.

- Women possess many strengths and talents that make us excellent elected officials. The ability to multitask, build a consensus, work tirelessly until the job is done, and not seek credit for our work are characteristics that make women successful leaders.
- A strong support system is key. My husband was essential to my success. His help and support allowed me to serve.
- Male counterparts value a woman's perspective.
- You can have it all, just not all at once. Prioritize your life and run hard after what is the most important.
- Last, but not least, one person with a passion can make a difference.

I didn't know that day in 1993 when I decided to run for the Virginia House of Delegates the course that my political life would take. I look back now and can say with confidence that it was one of the best decisions of my life.

Thelma Drake serves as Director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. [V]



When it comes to events no one throws a party like David Napier.

Known throughout Central Virginia for his wonderful food and hospitality, David is delighted to have opened his catering facility in the heart of Shockoe Bottom. No event is too small or large. Delicious Box Lunches delivered.

One of Richmond's most elegant dining rooms is now exclusively available for your private parties and special events. Our award winning chefs produce an array of dishes from steaks and seafood to vegetarian and international masterpieces that will satisfy the most discriminating palate. The Old City Bar is the perfect place to celebrate.



Parking available adjacent to building

Phone 804-644-1702

FAX: 804-644-1703

E-Mail: david@whitehousecatering.org

Web Site: www.whitehousecatering.org

What I Learned from Barbie

By JENNIFER MCCLELLAN

Whenever I'm asked what it is like being a young, African American woman in the Virginia House of Delegates, I often respond with a couple of stories from my first session:

One evening at a reception during the General Assembly session, a middle-aged male colleague said to me, "Oh, I was just talking about you earlier today."

"Good or Bad?" I asked.

"Good," he replied. "I was saying that you are like the Barbie of the House of Delegates."

There was awkward silence, which ended with a lobbyist saying, "But not the kind that says 'Math is hard' when you pull the string."

"No, no," said the other House Member, trying to salvage the conversation. "I mean you're always dressed nice, your jewelry always matches your office, your hair is always perfect...."

"Thank you," I said, recognizing the attempt at a compliment before walking away.

Some people may have been offended by the Barbie remark. But, I could not help but think of what the first women in the General Assembly faced, and just shrugged it off. Besides, having grown up playing with Barbie Dolls, I knew it was anatomically impossible to look like her, and that I was not a plastic ideal. Instead, I took to heart the lesson Barbie taught me: a young woman in America can be anything she wants to be, from a Malibu surfer to President of the United States.

During the first week of session, a representative from Planned Parenthood asked if I would be willing to speak on the House Floor for the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Being pro-choice, my initial instinct was to say yes. But then I thought about it. This would be my first speech on the House Floor. If I spoke on the issue of reproductive rights, would I pigeon-hole myself into the stereotype



expected of a young, woman, African American Delegate from the most Democratic District in the state? I politely declined. Instead, my first floor speech was about pay-day lending, an issue the General Assembly struggled with for several years.

Of course over the years I have spoken on reproductive rights and other so called "women's issues" such as education and health care. And, after becoming the first member of the House of Delegates to give birth to a child while in office, those issues took on a new perspective as I learned all the ways "anti-abortion" legislation could also impact the day-to-day decisions faced by women with planned pregnancies, and parents of children in our schools and health care system. But I have gone out of my way to speak on issues that are not traditionally viewed as "women's issues" such as energy policy, economic development, corporate governance, and transportation.

The fact is that every issue facing the General Assembly is a woman's issue because all of the decisions we make impact the day-to-lives of every woman—and man—in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Sadly, while women make up slightly over half of the Virginia population according to the last U.S. Census, we make up only 19.5 percent of the General Assembly. Only 9 of the 25 standing General Assembly Committees are chaired by women; one is a budget conferee. Only one woman has ever been elected statewide, two to Congress. Virginia has never had a woman Governor or Speaker of the House. We need more women to run for office and get involved!

Delegate Jennifer McClellan represents House District 71. [V]

	Susan S. Gaston President
	205 Par Drive Williamsburg, Virginia 23188 tel: 757 871 1445 fax: 757 565 4988 susan@gastongroup.com www.gastongroup.com

Something to Burn For from page 6

She continues the story. Telling me about driving home at night, so that she could be with her family. She tells me about her husband's support, but lack of appearances at meetings. ("I brought him to a dinner once, and I introduced him to people and told them, 'See, I do have a husband!'") She tells me that she put a limit on how much people could contribute to her campaign because she never wanted to feel so indebted that she compromised her beliefs. She tells me that if the people trusted her enough to elect her, it was her duty to continue in public service even after she finished her time in office.

"You need to burn for something," she tells me. "Deep inside. And you should for a cause: that the people are taken care of. That they have their freedom."

Scott grew up as the daughter of the Republican County Chairman.

"My friends weren't Republicans," she tells me. "I remember arguing with them on the school bus!"

"Why do you think women should be involved in politics?" I ask her.

"Because there's a difference between men and women," she answers. "Women sincerely believe in a cause. Women go down with a cause, and they conscientiously believe in that as the reason for election and service. Women run a household and spend time with their children and with education."

Scott points out that once women were not even involved in local government. With time changing, more and more women choose to be

involved. But with involvement in politics, challenges must be faced.

"You must have the support of your family and husband," says Scott.

She advises honesty. "Do what you say you'll do and do it. Not everyone will agree with you. Fulfill what you say you'll do for the people. Work hard. Read bills. Know what's coming out of the committees and think about the effect on the economy and the people. Ask yourself, 'Is it right?'"

She ends the interview with this statement:

"I think that we who have been here should contribute to the political process. Everything comes down to being decided. What is it going to cost to protect the economy and the people at the county, state, and national levels."

She hugs me three times as we walk out, invites me to hear Jamie Radtke on July 12, and asks for my cell phone number.

I get in the car and drive, passing the same cornfields. The memory of those words pressed against the truck window.

I am a woman. I don't know if I caught the eyes of the men in that truck through my red car, the brush through my hair at the red light, or my slight smile. But it doesn't matter.

There are times when we must overlook discrimination for a cause. Whether that cause be monumental or the act of keeping our word, we can choose to continue or walk away. We must burn for something so deeply that all thoughts of discrimination are able to slip away. [V]

Intensely Practical

By DELEGATE KATHY BYRON

In September 1975, just seven months after she became the leader of Britain's Conservative Party, Margaret Thatcher made her first visit to the United States as Parliament's Leader of the Opposition. As was—and still is—customary for British opposition leaders, Mrs. Thatcher made a few speeches and participated in some interviews on television programs while in the U.S.



Perhaps her most memorable appearance during that visit was on *Firing Line*, a Public Television panel show on political topics hosted by William F. Buckley, Jr. Addressing Mrs. Thatcher, the program's liberal panelist Jeff Greenfield remarked, "There's a feeling among some of the electorate, distressingly high in fact, that women tend to think more emotionally; they're somehow less hard-nosed."

Having first run for office in 1950, Mrs. Thatcher had heard comments and queries like this many times before, and was clearly prepared to respond. Addressing Greenfield directly, she said, "Now, I've heard this argument frequently, that women are really rather more emotional than men. Really, women are intensely practical. Again, I don't mean that flippantly. We are an intensely practical sex. We often get on with the job; we don't always talk about it as much as men; but we get on doing it."

As she had so many times before and would so many times later, Mrs. Thatcher set the standard. She made it clear that being a woman in elected office was not a liability to be overcome but an asset to be capitalized. During my 14 years in the Virginia General Assembly, I have found Mrs. Thatcher's perspective repeatedly borne out.

On both sides of the aisle and in both chambers, the women of the Virginia General Assembly often distinguish themselves not by being high profile, but by being steadfastly results oriented. Even when delivering a speech on the floor of their respective chambers, women legislators will give remarks that are largely devoid of rhetorical flourishes. Their comments are invariably on point, limited to the matter at hand, and always on the merits as they see them.

More than just being effective in discussions over legislation, the perspectives offered by women legislators are often rooted in real world experience. When participating in discussions on legislation in committees or on the floor, women legislators are highly likely to question the potential effects of proposals on citizens. And, they often cite real world examples or speak from personal experience.

This no-nonsense approach extends to women in leadership capacities. One of the things that has changed quite a bit during my 14 years in the General Assembly is the number of women in leadership positions. In both the House and the Senate, women legislators are increasingly in leadership roles, chairing committees and active and influential in their respective caucuses.

Of course, a greater number of women in public office does not necessarily mean there are not still challenges. Every woman legislator can undoubtedly recount some story or event involving a snide comment or inappropriate atmosphere. And almost all have experienced some situation where their concerns were dismissed with condescending indifference. But these rare occurrences only serve to strengthen one's resolve to accomplish the task, ultimately increasing the effectiveness of the woman legislator.

For most women in politics, effectiveness is the goal. It's not that women aren't competitive or ambitious; they are. But in my experience, women who seek elective office do so with a purpose in mind. They come prepared to accomplish legislative results, not necessarily to generate headlines or publicity. In short, they are, as Mrs. Thatcher so aptly put it, "intensely practical."

It is that very practical approach that makes the future for women in politics, and in the Virginia General Assembly, very bright indeed.

Delegate Kathy Byron represents House District 22.

First Woman Major in Virginia State Police

RICHMOND—With more than two decades of law enforcement experience, Captain Tracy S. Russillo is advancing to the rank of major and assumes the deputy director position within the Department's Bureau of Administrative and Support Services (BASS). Russillo's promotion, which is effective July 10, 2011, makes her the highest-ranking female in the Department's 79-year history. She replaces Major Robert L. Tavenner who retired last month.



"Tracy Russillo has proven to be an effective, skillful and respected leader within the Department," said Colonel W. Steven Flaherty, Virginia State Police Superintendent. "Her extensive field and management experience exemplifies the qualities needed in the position she is about to lead. Tracy's hard work and dedication will be of great benefit to the Department as it continues to advance its public safety role in this new decade."

A native of Fredericksburg, Russillo joined the state police May 16, 1989. After graduation from the state police academy, she was assigned to patrol in Spotsylvania County for six years and then an additional two years in Culpeper County.

During the last 22 years of her career, Captain Russillo has moved through the ranks of state police serving as an academy sergeant, area commander in Winchester and field lieutenant for the Culpeper Division. For the last three years, she has overseen the day-to-day operations in the Northern Virginia region as the Department's Fairfax Division Commander.

Russillo holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration from George Mason University and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Criminal Justice Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. She has also attended the "Institute for Leadership in Changing Times" at Virginia Tech's Pamplin School of Business and the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University.

She is currently pursuing an M.A. in Homeland Security at the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

The Bureau of Administrative and Support Services (BASS) consists of civilian personnel as well as sworn members. The bureau includes a director and deputy director and houses the divisions of Communications, Criminal Justice Information Services, Information Technology, Personnel, Property and Finance, Training, and the Statewide Agencies Radio System (STARS) program. Employees who work within this bureau provide essential services through their technical and professional expertise in order to assist troopers and special agents in the field.

KEN JESSUP & ASSOCIATES
POLITICAL CONSULTANTS

MEMBER
VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL LOBBYISTS (VAPL)
AMERICAN LEAGUE OF LOBBYISTS (ALL)

P.O. Box 1407 SEA PINES STATION, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23451
Phone: 757-513-3967 / Fax: 757-962-4551
WWW.KENJESSUPANDASSOCIATES.COM EMAIL: KENJESSUP@COX.NET

Virginia's Record of Results

By LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BOLLING

The McDonnell/Bolling Administration's top priority remains getting the Commonwealth's economy on track and creating jobs for Virginia families. In the past 18 months, we've made significant strides toward expanding economic opportunity for all Virginians, while restoring the Commonwealth's financial foundation.

We have featured exciting announcements about new job-creating projects getting under way from ABB Inc.'s expansion in Halifax County to Cadence, Inc.'s expansion in Staunton; from Northrop Grumman's new corporate headquarters in Fairfax to Meadwestvaco's new facility in Covington. The message is clear: Virginia is wide open for business.

The policy decisions we make on the state level matter. We have always looking for ways to improve and reform Virginia government and to implement policies that will help the private sector to create new jobs. We will remain focused on finding innovation solutions that will achieve results for all Virginians.

With broad bi-partisan support from the General Assembly, we implemented the "Top Jobs" higher education reform package. In order to get a good job, you need a good education. This program increases access and affordability of higher education, creating a pathway towards awarding 100,000 more degrees over the next 15 years.

We believe that tourism is economic development. Tourism is an important industry in Virginia, generating \$17.7 billion in revenue annually and supporting 204,500 jobs. New programs will allow certain locally-approved tourism projects to temporarily retain a portion of local and state sales tax to complete financing for a project, helping expand assets in our tourism industry to bring more visitors to Virginia and have them stay longer.

The Administration's new "Building Collaborative Communities Program" seeks to assist regions in creating and sustaining new economic opportunities across Virginia. This program will help create dynamic, regional partnerships capable of attracting jobs and private investments from across the world.



We have focused on creating jobs and growing the economy. As a result of these and other initiatives, we have created 67,400 net new jobs and reduced our unemployment rate from 7.2% to 6%. From the beginning of the Administration to May 2011, the number of unemployed Virginians decreased for 15 consecutive months and by a total of 16%. This is the lowest levels since January 2009.

We have strengthened the Commonwealth's financial foundation by turning budget shortfalls into surpluses by cutting spending, restructuring government and rejecting tax increases. In July Governor McDonnell and I announced that for the second straight year, the Virginia finished the fiscal year in the black, with a \$311 million revenue surplus. Total revenue collections rose by 5.8% in FY 2011, well ahead of the revised revenue forecast 3.5% growth. The main drivers of the revenue increase were growth in individual income tax receipts from both payroll withholding and non-withholding, key economic indicators.

The FY 2011 surplus, in addition to last year's budget surplus, means that we have enjoyed total budget surpluses of more than \$700 million during the first two years of our Administration. This is a very positive result and significant improvement over the previous two fiscal years that positions Virginia on much better financial standing than most states.

More good news arrived when Virginia was named America's "Top State for Business" by CNBC. The Commonwealth took the top spot in the extremely competitive yearly study, receiving the highest point total in the history of the rankings. Virginia finished in the top-half of every category. The "Top State for Business" recognition comes on the heels of Virginia receiving the highest ranking of any state east of the Mississippi in the American Legislative Exchange Council's economic competitiveness ranking of the states.

It's a huge honor for Virginia to be ranked #1 in CNBC's annual list of America's Top States for Business and we are very proud of the recognition. Virginia worked hard to attain this status through efforts including reducing spending, investing in job creating programs, improving workforce development programs and selling Virginia around the world.

All of these successes are proof that all our efforts are paying off. The Administration is off to a solid start, but many challenges remain. If we continue to exercise fiscal discipline and focus on creating jobs and growing our economy, I am hopeful that we will continue to experience positive economic news in Virginia despite challenges at the national level.

Bill Bolling is the 40th Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, serving since 2006. He is President of the Virginia Senate and Virginia's Chief Jobs Creation Officer. 

"You need to find out what it is that makes you happy, productive, and successful. I've been asked to run for office about one thousand times. I turned it down every time. It's not for me."—Eva Hardy WVP

An advertisement with a dark blue background. At the top, the text "Put Children First" is written in large, white, sans-serif font. Below the text is a photograph of three young children of diverse backgrounds (two boys and one girl) smiling. To the right of the children is a white rectangular box containing the "VIRGINIA UCANHELP KIDS FIRST" logo. The logo features the word "VIRGINIA" in multi-colored letters, "UCANHELP" in large blue letters, and "KIDS FIRST" in red letters. There are also two red handprints. Below the logo box, the website "vakidsfirst.org" is written in white.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

A BRIGHT FUTURE

Martin Kent
Chief of Staff



Eighteen months ago Governor McDonnell took Office and instituted a strong management style for the Executive Branch in Richmond. That style is one of open access to top administration officials by Virginians. We have strived to receive input and obtain feedback from local, state and federal officials, decision leaders and concerned citizens. I believe that philosophy has paid dividends in not only our success on both legislative and administrative initiatives, but is reflected in articles, reports and surveys of Virginia's ranking nationally in key areas such as business, transportation, healthcare and education to name a few. Our employment figures continue to improve, businesses are increasingly looking to Virginia to move or grow, infrastructure is being built and repaired to meet the demands of all citizens, and government is working smarter to perform its core mission at a lower cost with fewer burdens and more opportunities for all. The Governor's Cabinet and Agency Heads have been and continue to be actively engaged in these efforts through all facets of state government.

While Virginia has enjoyed success during this time, real challenges remain. The Governor is committed to continuing to improve our educational system at the primary, secondary and higher education levels; making sure Virginia's multifaceted transportation system is up to the ever increasing demands placed upon it; ensuring our citizens are safe and secure, providing for a healthcare system that offers choice but manages costs; and doing our part to ensure energy independence as a nation, all while we continue to protect our hard earned reputation of being a well managed and fiscally responsible state. These challenges are not unique to the Commonwealth, but we believe the Commonwealth is uniquely situated to continue to lead on some of the most pressing issues of our time. Our strong laws promote growth and individual freedom, our vast natural resources which, if managed properly, will return both economic and cultural benefits to many future generations, our vibrant private sector and its ever increasing partnership with our top tier colleges and universities will ensure future growth and jobs, and most importantly, Virginians at large, with their unparalleled resolve to protect our freedoms and provide for the greater good can and should set the example for others.

In the end, Virginia's history is rich, our present is strong and our future will be bright. It is this Administration's turn in this short window of time to do our part to preserve the past, strengthen the present and build for the future. Governor McDonnell is determined to make the most of it.

"People go out of their way to recruit women. The number one reason why people say no is 'my job won't let me' or 'my family needs me.'"—Jennifer McClellan WVP

A GROWING ECONOMY

James Cheng
Secretary of Commerce and Trade



Governor McDonnell is focused on economic development and the continued growth of our economy. It has been a productive yet busy year as we have sought to expand opportunity for all Virginians. Once again Virginia has been named the top state for business by CNBC.

In May, Governor McDonnell and members of our economic advancement team embarked on an 11-day economic development marketing mission to Japan, China, and South Korea. The marketing mission provided the Governor and other state officials a unique opportunity to strengthen Virginia's relationship with foreign companies that already have a Virginia presence, and share Virginia's story with prospective corporate investors and importers. I, along with Todd Haymore, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, and senior officials from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Virginia Tourism Corporation, and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services accompanied the Governor on the mission. While in Asia, we aggressively encouraged business investment and job creation initiatives for the Commonwealth. Asia is an important market for Virginia businesses, China and Japan rank second and eleventh, respectively, on Virginia's list of export markets, while South Korea ranks in the top 30. China has shot up to second after ranking 14th just 11 years ago in 2000. In China, the Governor participated in an investment seminar, promoting Virginia's business location advantages to approximately 100 key business executives. Other highlights from the trip included the opening of the Commonwealth's new marketing office in Shanghai, furthering the advancement of Virginia's international economic development. China is Virginia's 2nd largest export destination. Virginia exports to China grew eight percent in 2010 to reach a value of \$1.2 billion. This economic development marketing mission will boost job creation opportunities for those within Virginia. This fall, the Governor will lead a marketing mission to Israel and India.

Governor McDonnell recently announced the production of Academy Award-winning filmmaker Steven Spielberg's new motion picture based on Abraham Lincoln, which will be filmed in the Commonwealth. The film is based on the book "Team of Rivals" by Doris Kearns Goodwin and will be shot in the Richmond and Petersburg areas. Filming will begin in the Fall and the movie is slated for release in 2012. This is especially notable during the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and Emancipation.

A new effort designed to assist regions in creating and sustaining new economic opportunities across Virginia was announced this year. Governor McDonnell introduced the Building Collaborative Communities program, which aims to promote regional economic collaborations in economically-distressed areas and stimulate job creation, economic development, and build community capacity and leadership. Building Collaborative Communities is a broad-based program that combines resources from a number of state entities,

See Reports from Members of the Cabinet, continued on page 12

including the Lieutenant Governor's Office, Senior Economic Advisor to the Governor, Department of Business Assistance, Virginia Tourism Corporation, Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Department of Housing and Community Development, Virginia Community College System and other agencies. The Commonwealth is providing \$200,000 to support this program in FY2012, and this initial commitment is expected to leverage significant local and private resources.

The entire Commerce and Trade team is dedicated to providing all Virginians with opportunity and continued growth. Throughout the remainder of 2011, I will remain committed to achieving the economic goals set before our Commonwealth as we work to increase future opportunities for those in Virginia.

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

Janet Polarek
Secretary of the Commonwealth



The Secretary of the Commonwealth's office recently completed our second major round of appointments to boards and commissions. Each year, Governor McDonnell makes approximately 1,000 appointments to the regulatory, policy-making and advisory boards and commissions in the Commonwealth. A majority of these appointments come open on June 30th each year. The Governor, in keeping with this theme of "A Commonwealth of Opportunity" is looking for service-minded Virginians to appoint.

During the 2011 General Assembly session, there was legislation passed as part of the Governor's Government Reform effort that eliminated 49 boards or commissions effective July 1, 2011. Many of the duties of these boards are being handled within the appropriate state agency. Additionally the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office had legislation passed which clarified code language on boards, set term limits for the selection of board chairs and staggered the term of some boards. These changes help create a better-managed boards process.

Our new online application system, OASYS continues to increase our efficiency by allowing interested citizens to submit an application online for boards on which they are interested. OASYS also accepts nominations for board appointments which many of our elected officials and stakeholders continue to utilize. We appreciate continued cooperation and utilization of the new online application portal.

With a number of the board seats having specific requirements, we welcome interested parties to visit our website at www.commonwealth.virginia.gov to review the appointment openings for 2012 and 2013. Our list shows the name of the board, when the current term expires and any specific requirements that must be met in filling that particular seat. We hope that many in the business and government relations community will continue to review the lists and submit applications and nominations to us for consideration. April 1st is the desired deadline for input on nominations or applications for that year's appointments.

We appreciate the advice, recommendations, and support from our stakeholder community regarding board and commission appointments and look forward to continuing to collaborate with them. Our goal is to serve the Commonwealth's citizens with excellence and assist the Governor in putting the most qualified candidates on our Commonwealth's boards and commissions.

BETTER HEALTH, BETTER LIFE

Bill Hazel
Secretary of Health and Human Resources



In January of 2010, I was appointed Secretary of Health and Human Resources and began the journey of overseeing twelve state agencies that are committed to ensuring access to appropriate health and social services and improving the quality of life for all Virginians. Under the direction of the Governor and through the leadership of the cabinet, key strategic initiatives have been identified: The creation of an efficient and automated social services portal, strengthening community capacity for individuals with disabilities, expanding care coordination throughout the Medicaid program, strengthening families/children's transformation, job creation, and the Virginia Health Reform Initiative. While not a comprehensive list, the previous mentioned initiatives offer the breadth of what the secretariat is aiming to achieve, in addition to the day to day work carried out by the dedicated staff of the agencies.

Within the Department of Social Services, there is a vast array of programs available for qualifying Virginians. With the advancement of technology, Virginia now has the opportunity to automate, streamline, and enhance efficiencies through the social services portal. Workers will be able to work efficiently through a web based portal that facilitates access to and data sharing with multiple legacy systems, spending more time providing quality service, case management, and accurate determinations of eligibility.

Virginia's Medicaid program provides health care coverage to some of the Commonwealth's most vulnerable individuals. It is critical to the wellbeing of Virginians that their care is coordinated to ensure comprehensive care is being delivered. Expanding coordinated care across Virginia and across the diverse Medicaid populations will result in better health delivery while offering cost savings to the Commonwealth. While the concept is certainly not new, there is a desire to "round out" the work of the Department of Medical Assistance Services in taking the care coordination concept statewide.

The Strengthening Families Initiative, which focuses on a holistic approach that looks beyond clients as individuals and focuses on strengthening the family unit as a whole, requires a fundamental shift regarding how systems work with families. Staff is working diligently with state and local agencies, as well as with private and non-profit providers to ensure that children are receiving the services they need in an appropriate environment.

One of the top priorities of this administration is job creation. The health and human resources secretariat has a significant role in not only in the creation of jobs through improving the health delivery system, but also through work programs that help to train and equip individuals with disabilities to enter and sustain employment. Additionally, we have a keen interest in ensuring that Virginia is capable of competing in the global market, providing a sound atmosphere to encourage large businesses to move and operate in Virginia.

There is an abundance of initiatives that are being coordinated and carried out through the health and human resources secretariat. In tough budget times, we have remained true to our agencies core missions, while seeking to implement key strategies for ensuring our

government is running in an efficient, streamlined and reliable manner. I have a trusted team that works tirelessly to ensure that the secretariat is positioned to support low-income working families, children, caregivers, individuals with disabilities, the aging community, and the provider network throughout the Commonwealth. While the opportunity to improve is always present, the effort put forth by state, regional, and local employees exemplifies the commitment we have to ensuring Virginians have access to appropriate services and an improved quality of life.

PROTECT, PRESERVE, PROMOTE

Doug Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources



As Secretary of Natural Resources, I manage the six agencies and their dedicated staff that continue to preserve and restore Virginia's natural and historic resources. In a collaborative effort, the secretariat advises the Governor in order to manage his top environmental concerns. The administration is making a concerted effort to *conserve open space and land, restore the Chesapeake Bay, and make Virginia the "Energy Capital of the East Coast", while continuing to increase job creation and economic development.*

Even in today's tough economic climate, over 62,000 acres have been conserved in Virginia since the Governor has taken office. The Chesapeake Bay Executive Council meeting took place at the Maymont Nature Center in Richmond on July 11th, with the purpose of continuing to evaluate how to accelerate the progress of restoring the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay Executive Council meeting was a great opportunity for Virginia to discuss the progress towards meeting milestones developed in 2009 and ways to maximize the efforts to complete the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plans. This was the first time that the meeting was held in Richmond and the first time in five years that all of the Executives from the signatory jurisdictions attended the meeting. Attendees included the Governors of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania as well as the Administrator of EPA, Deputy Secretary Of USDA, the Mayor of Washington, D.C. and representatives from West Virginia, Delaware, and New York.

There is no single silver bullet for meeting Virginia's energy needs and the Governor takes an "all of the above" position, promoting development of a diverse portfolio of energy assets. Just recently, legislation was signed to promote the use of alternative fuel vehicles and promote renewable energy industry in Virginia.

The six Natural Resource agencies are making great strides in protecting the Commonwealth's natural resources. The Department of Historic Resources (DHR) has successfully initiated one of the nation's first electronic systems for considering historic resources on public works projects, enabling an increase in both efficiency and transparency. DHR has even provided artifacts and technical assistance for 48 historical museum exhibits, sponsored frontline tourism/hospitality, and supported both conservation and tourism

See Reports from Members of the Cabinet, continued on page 14



LET US CATER YOUR NEXT EVENT!

11129 Three Chopt Rd
(Three Chopt & Cox)

Fri-Sat 11:30am-11:59pm
Sunday Noon-8pm

Pulled Pork • Ribs • Brisket • Chicken

Full Service, Pick-up
or Drop-off Catering!!

On-site Catering & Banquet Facilities
Richmond's Newest Listening Room



Virginia State Championship BBQ

(804) 270-RIBS

GrandpaEddiesBBQ.com

goals through Civil War Battlefield Conservation. *Most recently, the Secretariat joined in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War.*

The Virginia State Parks have continued the year-long celebration of their 75th anniversary and are on track to break last year's attendance record of 80 million visits. A highlight of the celebration was the Governor's participation in formal recognition of the occasion at Hungry Mother State Park.

The Virginia Museum of Natural History has achieved reaccreditation through the American Association of Museums. The museum acquired the gold standard for excellence in research and education—a status afforded to only about 5 percent of all North American museums.

The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (MRC) has achieved a sustainable and abundant population of blue crabs, with help from Maryland, which provides for a growing annual harvest. Recent population sizes have approached levels not seen since the mid-1990s.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) maintains 39 management areas totaling more than 201,000 acres, providing a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities. The Mattaponi Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is the newest VDGIF land acquisition and latest addition into VDGIF's WMA system. It was opened to the public on March 30, for hunting, fishing, wildlife watching and the other wildlife-oriented recreational activities.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) continues to work to achieve and preserve a clean Virginia. DEQ has been working on the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, having just aided in the completion of the Phase I of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan which received both EPA approval and the support of the business and environmental communities. DEQ further aims to meet Bay nutrient reduction goals, while maintaining point source nutrient caps, with the signing of the Water Quality Improvement Fund Grant.

With the outstanding contributions of the over 2,200 employees in the Natural Resources secretariat, we are well on our way to achieving many of the Governor's goals. While there is still significant work to do, Virginia has many reasons to be proud of its efforts to protect, preserve, and promote our abundant natural resources.

SETTING THE STANDARD

Jim Duffey, Jr.
Secretary of Technology



When I accepted the position of Secretary of Technology, I promised Governor McDonnell I would maximize Virginia's technology potential by cultivating a landscape that rewards game-changing research and development (R&D), promotes public-private collaboration, and incentivizes innovation and commercialization. A lofty goal? Absolutely.

The Commonwealth is uniquely positioned to develop a new and exciting innovation economy built on scientific discovery, intellectual property and entrepreneurial talent. Virginia is home to 15 public and 32 private colleges and universities; 23 community colleges, 15 federal R&D facilities and 11 university and private R&D centers.

We also have one of the largest information technology (IT) workforces in the country – measured both by the total number of

workers employed in IT occupations and by the concentration of workers in IT jobs relative to total employment.

R&D assets and a skilled workforce are all integral variables in the economic development equation. To date, we have made significant progress toward implementing legislation to bolster technology-oriented business development and job creation.

These legislative initiatives include: a Capital Gains Exemption; a Small Business Jobs Grant Fund; the availability of Temporary Business Licenses, which make it easier to open a business in Virginia; a Green Jobs Tax Credit; a Major Business Facility Tax Credit; Enterprise Zone Job Creation Grants; Data center tax exemptions; and an R&D tax credit for qualified investments that provides firms with a refundable credit for research done in conjunction with a public or private college or university in the Commonwealth.

In addition to these tax exemptions, credits and grants, the McDonnell Administration provided new capital to the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF). The CRCF research and technology investment program represents a significant commitment to funding the acceleration of the Commonwealth's innovation ecosystem and strong collaboration between state entities including the offices of the Governor, and Lt. Governor; Secretaries of Commerce and Trade, Technology and Education; the General Assembly; and private sector organizations including the Northern Virginia Technology Council and Virginia Biotechnology Association.

There are three key components to the CRCF legislation - the Commonwealth Strategic Research Plan (or the strategic roadmap), the Commonwealth Research and Commercialization Program, and the GAP Seed Stage Investment Fund.

The **Commonwealth Strategic Research Plan** will unify the strategic R&D planning process of our universities to enable state and federal legislators, entrepreneurs, investors, research focused companies and the public to understand the vision and direction of research programs in the Commonwealth.

When completed, the roadmap will position Virginia to effectively compete for national collaborative research programs, and establish new entrepreneurial ecosystems. This initiative is being facilitated by the Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) (<http://www.cit.org/programs/cit-rd/crcf>).

The second component, the **Research and Commercialization Program**, builds on the Strategic Research Plan by providing funding opportunities for research programs identified in the strategic plan. This program will allow our universities to expand their research talent base by recruiting top-performing researchers. It will also permit them to allocate funding for translational research and provide matching funds for federal research grants.

The **GAP Seed Stage Investment Fund** (<http://www.citgapfunds.org/>), the third and final component, is structured to establish new companies through seed stage capital.

This broad-based focus on attracting, retaining and developing industries has resulted in national recognition for our efforts from media outlets such as *Forbes* and *CNBC*. This is strong, third-party validation of Virginia's pro-business environment.

While it is important to recognize accomplishments, we must remain diligent and continue to set a solid foundation for the next generation of economic growth and job creation in areas such as cyber-security and modeling and simulation.

Now is the time to increase our national and global innovation leadership. But, as we all know, achieving Virginia's true economic potential requires support from more than the legislature or Governor. We all must think creatively and seek out every opportunity to collaborate across industry, institutional, and geographic boundaries to cultivate intellectual property into applications capable of supporting and benefiting emerging markets.

The Governor and I are serious about making Virginia the go-to state for innovation and entrepreneurship. As the Governor said:

"The future of Virginia's economy depends upon the ability of entrepreneurs and business owners to grow their operations, innovate, experiment and create, free from government interference and impediments. Government must be a partner, not an obstacle."

We want to be the catalyst that ignites the unharnessed potential of the Commonwealth. We must maximize our assets through responsible and practical programs designed to leverage private investment and build sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystems.

If we all work together Virginia won't be just a competitor, we will set the standard.

BETTER ROADS, BETTER LIVES

Sean Connaughton
Secretary of Transportation



Thus far, the Secretary of Transportation's Office has had a busy summer serving the people of the Commonwealth. Following on the heels of Governor McDonnell's successful 2011 General Assembly Session, we have been working hard to implement the Governor's transportation legislation and continue to look for more cost effective and efficient ways to get Virginia moving again.

In June, the Commonwealth Transportation Board adopted the Fiscal Years 2012-2017 Six Year Improvement Program. This year's program includes almost \$3 billion in additional construction funding to fund the 900 projects associated with Governor McDonnell's successful transportation legislation. The additional funding amounts to a 36 percent increase over the FY 2011- 2016 Program, bringing the total program to \$10.6 billion, which will fund vital transportation projects all across the Commonwealth. The program also includes \$1.4 billion for major public-private partnership projects including the Downtown/Midtown Tunnel-MLK Extension, I-95 HOT Lanes, the Route 460 Corridor Improvement Project, and the Coalfields Expressway. This dedicated funding for PPTA projects will potentially help leverage an additional \$4 billion from the private sector.

More, recently, Virginia has taken steps towards advancing some of the Commonwealth's major PPTA projects. In July, Governor McDonnell announced that the Virginia Department of Transportation and Elizabeth River Crossings have come to an agreement on the major business terms for advancing the Downtown/Midtown Tunnel-MLK Extension Project. This \$1.9 billion project will provide critical congestion relief for the citizens of the Hampton Roads area. Further, The National Capitol Region Transportation Planning Board approved plans to move forward with the re-scoped I-95 HOT Lanes Project and the I-395 HOV/Transit ramp at Seminary Road. Both of these projects are currently working their way through the environmental process, and the Commonwealth hopes to begin construction next year.

In the months ahead, we will be continuing our efforts to find cost effective solutions for tackling our difficult transportation challenges. While Governor McDonnell's recent successes provide a significant jump start in addressing these challenges, we still must do more to identify innovative solutions to address the gap between our available funding and needs. Over the course of the next several weeks, VDOT will be soliciting local government and stakeholder input on addressing the challenges facing the Commonwealth's secondary and local roads.

Reflections of My Political Path

By DELEGATE CHARNIELE HERRING

"Truth is powerful and it prevails."— Sojourner Truth. I am honored to share my reflections on my path to politics. Hopefully, my blatant candor will persuade others that they have what it takes to run for office, win, and make their mark on policies that affect our lives.

Your Demeanor As A Child Is Telling of Your Adult Personality. Admittedly, being an elected official is nothing that I seriously envisioned until recently. Although, when I was 7 years old, I told my family that one day I would be President. Many of my male classmates were proclaiming their stake in the American political scene at the highest level, so why not I? I enjoyed competitive games on the school ground. In 5th grade, I was the only female who joined my male classmates in a game called "King of the Hill." One of us would stand on a high hill while each took turns rushing the hill to push the other off. I often came home covered in dirt. The first time I came home in disarray, my mother asked, "What happened to you?" When I told her about the game, a small glimmer appeared in her eye. She never told me to stop playing "King of the Hill," but did suggest that I may want to stop wearing dresses. I thought to myself—not a chance.

Our Past Experiences Inform Our Future Actions. The defining moment in my life was becoming homeless when I was in high school. When we arrived at the shelter, I prayed and promised to focus on protecting children from the plagues of poverty. I studied Economics at George Mason University to gain an understanding about the market and how it affects individuals and spoke as often as possible on homelessness. This led me to become a Volunteer in Service to America until I enrolled in Catholic University's law school.

"If you don't have a seat at the table, it probably means that you are on the menu." I became an associate at Leftwich & Ludaway where the managing partner, a woman, was my mentor. Working with her I realized that the best way to affect policy on important issues is to have a seat at the table. I became president of my local business association and served on commissions where I remained true to my commitment.

I joined my local Democratic Party in 2005 and was accepted to UVA's Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership. There I learned about Virginia politics with individuals from varied political affiliations. By then, I knew that I wanted to serve in the General

See *Reflections of My Political Path*, continued on page 18



For far too long these roads, which are vital to our economic prosperity and every day quality of life, have been ignored. Further, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport located on Wallops Island has the potential to become a major economic driver for Virginia. Over the next several months, we will be developing recommendations regarding Virginia's aviation and aerospace programs to promote these valuable industries and increase their economic competitiveness.

Finally, we will continue to implement programmatic reforms to deliver valuable transportation projects as cost effectively, efficiently, and in as timely a manner as possible. The challenges remaining are great, but by continuing to work together in a bi-partisan way, we can enhance and retain our economic competitiveness, improve our citizens quality of life, and make Virginia's transportation network the best in the nation. [Z]

Interview with G. Paul Nardo: Clerk of the House of Delegates

By MIKE BELEFSKI

In your vast governmental career— What prepared you the most in taking on this responsibility as Clerk of the House?

Two things relatively jump to mind:

One was from my college formative experience. I went to William & Mary, which has a very good reputation. It gave me a sense of the policy and the possibilities that an individual can influence. William and Mary is steeped in history and tradition much like Richmond is, and this institution, and certainly this office, and the House of Delegates, and The House of Burgesses. I think a particular awareness of the history and the incredible honor you have—not just for me—but the opportunity that you have to serve people. I think the heart of what makes this place work is serving people and trying to solve problems and improve their lives and livelihoods.

The second one would be my experience on Capitol Hill, which is similar to the Speaker's Office in terms of policy. I always thought of what keeps me in the game as the policies, procedures, and routines, and way of doing things that can be protocol. But also, there's a right way of doing things and a wrong way of doing things. Being in the Speaker's Office for the last nine years, and on Capitol Hill, and watching the legislature's work, I think that has very much helped shaped my outlook. I am not sure if I have all of the answers to every problem, but I think I've been around enough at this point to know how to approach them. I know who needs to be pulled into this or that meeting to help solve an issue. It's an incredible honor, a neat, special and humbling place, and an opportunity to serve people.

You have the respect of every House of Delegates member. What gave you that reputation as The Speaker's Chief of Staff?

I think the Speaker is a very influential person around here. How I have tried to conduct myself is with a belief in individual integrity. I also try to believe that I want to be treated in the same way that I treat others. I'm an open person, pretty straight up, and I don't like to play games.

The other thing I tried to do is be a listener. So much of this place is person-to-person, relationship-to-relationship. I know we're passing laws; bills are passed and are carried by individuals who have to go to committee and get them passed. It's a lot of relationships. I always tried to be more of a listener. Legislators are human just like everyone else. I tried to be open, a listener with respect, and have a little bit of a laugh when I could. Bill Howell has a sense of humor which helps. A little bit of wit can go just as far sometimes as a deep penetrating piece of wisdom. I wish I had more wisdom, but I like to keep a little bit of sense of humor and wit about me.

Speaker Howell said that being Clerk has long been your ambition. Now that you are Clerk of the House, what are your thoughts about the office and your long-range goals?

I'm a Rotarian. What I like about the Clerk's position is the opportunity of service above self. This is a healthy, well-run, well-



"I have worked fairly closely with Paul while he was the right arm of the Speaker for quite a good bit. I have found him to be one of the finest workers I've ever met. Doesn't make any difference the hour of the day if the work is to be done, Paul is going to be there. He's thorough in what he does. He's a gentleman in every respect. I could not imagine that we could have found an individual with more knowledge of the operation of the Clerk's office which of course includes the demands of all of us in the House. I have found that he is a gentleman's—gentleman and very knowledgeable. I think he has an unusually good grasp of the political arena, and I believe that both sides of the aisle are going to be very, very pleased with Paul's performance."

Delegate Lacey E. Putney (I-19th)

managed operation with a lot very talented people who do a very good job. My immediate goal is not to muck it up.

My goal is to change, adapt, innovate, and improve. I respect and revere the history of this institution. It is a working, functioning legislature that's trying to accommodate and address the real world needs of people in the 21st Century. We need to modernize and make

sure our approaches to technology are up-to-date, and that we're using technology effectively in delivering the services that the citizens, and also the members, want in terms of the iPad Project. My long-range goal is trying to make sure that we are functioning as effectively and efficiently, not just for the members, but for the public. We are the doorway to Virginia.

One of the things that I am fascinated by is the opportunity to be here in 2019, which will be the 400th Anniversary of the founding of the House of Burgesses and representative government. So making sure the people truly understand and thereby hopefully

appreciate the vital role that the House of Delegates plays in the life of the Commonwealth.

Will the Clerk's office be open and accessible?

One of the first things I wanted when I first came in here was to keep open the door of the Clerk's Office. I want people to realize that there are people in here working.

Will there be any changes or additional personnel in the Clerk's Office?

At my first staff meeting, I said to them that I divide things into phases. The immediate theory stage is to talk, think, and re-examine between now and January. During session, the rubber hits the road, and we'll see how it all works. Then, this time next year, we'll see if we have to make some modifications or changes to the structure or to duties and responsibilities. I'm not making any immediate changes because it's a very well running institution. No major or minor staff changes in the Clerk's Office.

Speaker Howell called you his right-hand man— Do you have a right-hand man at this time?

I don't have a right-hand person at this point. I have three deputies who have been here for many years, and they are consummate

See G. Paul Nardo, continued on page 18



A Guardian of the Senate: *The Honorable Susan Clarke Schaar* By BONNIE ATWOOD

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

—Robert Frost

The choice could not have been easy for the young girl from Brunswick County, but she made the right one. Susan Clarke, now The Honorable Susan Clarke Schaar, was the oldest child in her family of five. She had just graduated from college, her mother had retired from teaching and her father had been diagnosed with cancer.

But her parents did what parents do: they nudged their daughter out of the nest.

Schaar had attended Westhampton College of the University of Richmond. At first, her major was English. Then she switched to history and found out about the oral exams, which were “not for me!” Political science became her field. She did student teaching, looking at becoming a history/government teacher, but found out that most school systems wanted those teachers to be football coaches, too. Another “not for me” moment.

“Coaching football wasn’t exactly my strong suit,” says Schaar dryly.

Still, political science was a good fit. She loved studying civil rights. She wrote a paper on the rights of the Native Americans, never dreaming that one day she would have a big role in Virginia government and tributes to Native Americans, women, and minorities.

Her interest in Native Americans stemmed from a cross-country trip when she was just a fifth-grader. She traveled with her uncle and his family, making their way out west, they stopped to visit Indian reservations. She talked with Native American children her own age, and these interactions made a lasting impression.

After graduation from college, she was offered a teaching job with Brunswick County. And she would have taken it. But her parents said not so fast.

“I don’t want you to take the job,” were the words Schaar remembers from her parents. Why? “We want you to see the world and then if you want to come home that is fine.” Her parents wanted her to spread her wings and see it for herself. Again—the choice could not have been easy.

It was off to Richmond. She shared an apartment with three other young women. They say that success is the intersection of preparation and luck (and a lot of hard work). Her preparation was that year of typing class; her luck was Dortch Warriner.

Schaar (then young Susan) had signed up for a study hall her junior year of high school. Early in the semester, she was called in to the principal’s office. Mr. Jefferson Jones, the principal, reminded her that he knew her parents well. He knew everything. He knew, for example, that the family television was shut down very night at 6:30 p.m. for homework time.

“Walter Cronkite was it,” recalled Schaar. And the wise Mr. Jones knew, too, that this student need not spend an hour in study hall. She should get a practical skill like typing under her belt.

“Whenever I saw him after high school,” she said, “I thanked him for that advice.”

Typing came in handy when Dortch Warriner (then a lawyer, later a federal judge) called to send her down to an interview with a

political campaign he was involved with. She interviewed to work typing contribution letters for the Mills Godwin campaign for governor of Virginia. She saw the typing class as her “foot in the door.”

That door opened to a winning campaign, and then to a job in the transition office.

From there, Schaar made her own transition—to the Senate, working under Senate Clerk Louise Lucas (no relation to the current Senator). She was assigned quite suddenly when a predecessor resigned.

“I survived under fire not knowing a single member of the Senate when I started” she remembers. Her title was “Engrossing Clerk.”

That was back in the day of cut-and-paste—quite literally. (For you younger readers—that means we revised documents using scissors and glue.)

After Ms. Lucas’ tenure, Schaar was administrative assistant to the Clerk of the Senate, the legendary Jay Shropshire. Mr. Shropshire was Clerk until Schaar succeeded him when he became Governor L. Douglas Wilder’s Chief of Staff.

In her role as Clerk, Schaar has countless responsibilities including records management, human resources, facilities management, technology management and other administrative duties for the Senate. She is working on the Women’s Monument, the Native American Monument, and the Public Safety Memorial. She was a key driver in the Capitol renovation project.

“The Capitol project was the project of a generation,” she says. She has traveled the world representing not only the Commonwealth of Virginia, but the United States of America. She has met Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. (They didn’t shake hands because the Queen did not initiate a handshake.)

Schaar, in short, has a front-row seat to history, and gives it the importance and dignity that it requires. Does she love each and every minute?

“There are days,” she confesses honestly, “when it’s just the nitty gritty.”

Schaar’s honesty extends to her heartfelt expression of her grief for the late and The Honorable Bruce Jamerson, the Clerk of the House of Delegates.

“Bruce and I were together 38 years,” she says. “It was like a working marriage. We knew what the other was going to order for lunch.” Between them, they had 78 years of institutional knowledge.

She said it took six weeks for her to drive home without crying, and she was honest enough to say that some of those tears were in anger.

But meanwhile, her job, which is “a job I love,” she says, goes on. She continues to enhance the Capitol, particularly the Senate staff offices, decorating the walls with work of Virginia artists. She has artfully placed a quill pen on a Senate conference table. She has personally collected an extensive collection of china decorated with cardinals and dogwood that she plans to leave with the office one day.

And she enjoys work outside of the Senate, too. She served on the University of Richmond Board of Trustees from 1990 to 1994. She spends time with her grandchildren. She goes kayaking (“not

See *A Guardian of the Senate*, continued on page 18



G. Paul Nardo from page 16

professionals and also two wonderful assistants. I'm trying to engage everyone because everyone contributes, and I'm trying to understand that more clearly.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Reform Initiative—to reform state government—Is there anything in the Clerk's office that you intend to improve?

The members are citizen-legislators that have a lot of demands on them from a legislator's side also from a business side and a personal side and one of the ways we're trying to use technology is to help manage that caseload. This past year we had a pilot project of iPads for 15 members. The tablets are cheaper, lighter, and more dynamic than a laptop. We're trying to go with that improvement. I want to improve the ability of members, whether they're on the floor with the chamber automation program that lets them access dockets and the calendar easily, or trying to replicate that type of experience in the committee and sub-committee where a lot of them do the bulk of their work. I would like to improve the members' experience and how they are able to do their job with the technology.

The other thing in the office that I would like to improve amongst the personnel is a collaborative experience. I really want to have everyone involved in the office to do more collaborating, helping, cross-training and solving problems, so that if something happens to someone, others can step up and make sure that the critical functions are performed.

As a member of the Virginia Mentoring Partnership, are there any future programs that you have in mind as Clerk of the House to mentor children and youth at risk to help them understand our state government?

We're looking into that right now. Civics education is something that I believe in. I'm a government major in political philosophy. I

"I have known Paul for a number of years. He is steady and has an almost perfect demeanor for being the Clerk. He is fair and has depth to him. He is well-educated. He has all the qualifications to be an outstanding Clerk. I'm sure that he will do a job as well as we had in past Clerks. He will be there for a long time. I think we're talking about somebody who will be extremely fair even though he worked for Republicans for a number of years. He will be very level headed in this position."

Delegate Robert "Bob" Tata (R-85th)

Reflections of My Political Path from page 15

Assembly. While many members of my local Democratic party suggested that I run for City Council, I remained committed to serving at the state level where I have most of my policy experience. I wanted a seat at the Commonwealth's table.

"When the door of opportunity opens – rush through!" When my predecessor announced his resignation, I had a little over a month to campaign. I won with a 16-margin vote, yet remained unseated. Instead of retreating home, I stayed in Richmond and attended each day of session sitting in the Chamber's guest section in the back. Sensing that the door was closing, like the 5th grader on the school ground, I stayed focused and "charged up the hill" until I was seated.

I am humbled to be the first African American woman from Northern Virginia elected to the General Assembly in its nearly 400 year history. I am grateful for the trust of my constituents, and I continue to eagerly serve this great Commonwealth.

Delegate Charniele Herring represents House District 46. ▮

"Paul Nardo is a real professional. He has strong administrative skills working for the Speaker of the House. He has indicated that he recognizes the importance of the work of the House beyond any partisan considerations. I believe he will make a fine Clerk of the House."

Delegate Kenneth "Ken" R. Plum (D-36th)

would like to find out ways that we can try to engage younger people. We have a legislation education development section of the agency.

We have programs. I was out at Boys State last month, and we were trying to engage young men (and women at Girls State as well). I certainly believe in the value of engaging people at a young age because at some point in time, we're not going to be here. I want people to care and have the same kind of passion, and believe in the value of this place, and the work we do.

Former Clerk Bruce Jamerson had Bruce-isms, Do you have any GPaul-isms?

You know, I don't know. I have attention to detail and grammar. I tend to be more grammatically focused sometimes. I guess that is the speechwriter coming out in me.

I like to have a little bit of fun. This is very important serious work, but having a little bit of laughter goes a long way to help get the job done. If we can have a little bit of fun, so be it. So I try to have a quip here and there and help them to do it.

What Richmond restaurants do you eat at most often?

I'm not an eat-out person, and I very rarely go out that often during session. I like *Lemaire* for drinks, and I like *Millie's Diner* for the food and the atmosphere. It's a little boisterous sometimes. I like *Perly's* for a sandwich, which reminds me of *Tune Inn of Capitol Hill*. I enjoy going to *The Dining Room* at the Berkeley Hotel. They have a wonderful menu. I've gone there with the Speaker and some other friends about four times in the last six months.

What kind of soft drink do you prefer?

I am not a soft drink drinker. I like fizzie water. But if I drink a soda, it would be a non-caffeinated Sprite or 7-UP.

What auto do you drive?

Do you have a W&M sticker on it?

I have a 2001 Mercedes-Benz, and it has a William & Mary sticker on.

You have a Twitter account—gpn 740—

Why haven't you tweeted yet?

Frankly, my position has changed now. But when I signed up a year or two ago when we updated the Speaker's Web site, I didn't think that tweeting was needed. I would like to do more of that. I have got to find the appropriate things to tweet about. I should have something to say.

See G. Paul Nardo, continued on page 27

A Guardian of the Senate from page 17

whitewater"). And she rescues animals. Last year, she and her sister found homes for 18 kittens. She has three rescue cats and one rescue dog of her own.

All the players in Schaar's life, from her parents, to her high school principal, to Bruce Jamerson, and all the good people in between, have left the Senate of Virginia in good hands.

Bonnie Atwood, a freelance writer with Tall Poppies Freelance Writing LLC, is the winner of 24 national and state writing awards, and represents legislative clients with David Bailey Associates. She can be reached at BonAtwood@verizon.net. ▮

From a Mountain Laurel Trail to a Dogwood Trail to Richmond:

My Personal Political Journey through Virginia— Anne B. Crockett-Stark



I was born in Wythe County, Virginia, a county rich in history formed in 1790 out of Montgomery, formed from Fincastle, formed from Augusta. The Fincastle Resolutions, a forerunner of the Declaration of Independence, were penned here. I was born into a strong, patriotic family of men and women. Walter Crockett signed our Charter and was Wythe County's first Clerk of Court. Since then, there has usually been a Crockett in our Local or State government. My Granddaddy, Samuel Crockett served in the House of Delegates. My Father, James Crockett, was the Wythe County Clerk for over thirty years; my sister Susan was the Clerk of Wichita, Kansas; my brother, Dr. James Crockett was on the Board of Supervisors and my brother Sam has been Wythe County Treasurer for twenty-four years. My husband, Dr. Carl Stark, was Wytheville Mayor for twenty-eight years. I started working the polls at age eight. It was inevitable that I would serve.

In 1977, I was a teacher with a child in my class with a major physical disability. I actually ran for the Wytheville Town Council interested in getting handicap-accessible ramps for her. I was the first woman elected to serve and the Council was not sure what to do with me. I quickly learned how multi-faceted local government is. During my term, I served on the Virginia Municipal League Executive Board as Chairperson of the Town Section of the League. In 1999 I put back on my hiking boots and ran for the Wythe County Board of Supervisors. Once again, it was so exciting that I eventually became the first woman Chairperson in Wythe County and also represented my region on the Virginia Association of Counties. Midway through my second term, I was approached by a number of friends to run for the House of Delegates. This time I put on purple tennis shoes and headed down the political trail to Richmond. My fellow hikers and great mentors were Morgan Griffith and Dave Nutter.

I am an advocate for women of all ages of wisdom to be active in politics at all levels. I grew up watching women serve. They served the meals at events and refreshments at meetings. They worked phone banks and typed minutes and news reports. Whereas these are important jobs, there are those women who can stir the pot and serve up policy and law that is "seasoned" from a perspective gained by being an active citizen. Like many women before and after me, I have served as chairwoman in many church and civic groups. I have seen needs and desires in my community that groups of women have spearheaded to change. In fact, I, with three other women, started a Chautauqua Festival twenty-seven years ago that is still going strong. It has been women who have spoken infrastructural and academic needs to our School Board. It was usually a mom who came to me in her child's stead when I was a counselor. Women are the largest group of consumers of retail merchandise and of medical services. Women are the leaders in the fight against drugs and crime that affect our communities. Who then is better qualified than a woman to make policy for quality-of-life in our communities, states or nation?

There have been challenging moments as a legislator. I have had to learn to balance state-wide concerns with local and regional

See *My Personal Political Journey*, continued on page 22

My Journey As A Politician

By DELEGATE BEVERLY SHERWOOD

My journey as a politician is really a journey as a public servant and a desire to be part and give back to the community in which I live. My activism started in childhood and was encouraged by my parents (both police officers) who were very much engaged in our local town. I was a girl scout, volunteer at the local hospital, member of the junior ambulance corps and as a young adult I was a Sunday school teacher and a girl scout troop leader. My public speaking debut was in front of over five hundred boys, asking that they allow the state-wide ambulance corps organization to allow young ladies to participate. Our club allowed girls and until I made the request at the State level, we were not considered members at the State level. This was a successful endeavor and was perhaps the first time I realized that one person can make a difference for many.

After moving to Virginia and working for the local government for three years, I became involved as a citizen activist to facilitate the building of Route 522 North of Winchester as a four lane divided highway (a project that had been on the six year plan, but was dropped). We were told that we would never see this safety improvement in our lifetime. That was not quite true, although it did take almost ten years. During this time, I was asked to serve on the local Planning Commission. I accepted, as this was another way to give back to my community. During all of this time, I was active in the Frederick County Republican Party and involved in finding responsible candidates for local offices. The Gainesboro District Board of Supervisor position became open and (as you might guess) I considered running for the first time, I still did not think of this as a political position, but an additional way to serve my neighbors and community. I absolutely loved representing the citizens on the Board of Supervisors and with this added responsibility learned that most individuals only wanted, a representative who was approachable, willing to listen and had integrity.

This is what I hoped to take to a new level when I threw my hat in the ring to run against Delegate Al Smith eighteen years ago, I did not know when I announced that Delegate Smith was retiring, and it was my honor to be elected to represent the Twenty-Ninth House District. As the senior woman in the House, it is my hope that my service has demonstrated to other women that public service is both rewarding and necessary. Women wear many hats and have much to offer at the State level. Our life experiences as wives, mothers and caretakers give us additional perspectives and when coupled with other life experiences such as running a business, or in my case running a farm, we bring a wealth of varied knowledge to the General Assembly.

I must admit that I could not have served this long at the State level without the support of my husband and family. There are times when our schedules are not family friendly. I take great pride in knowing that members of my family think that what I do is very important for our community and the Commonwealth. This is; perhaps, why I still think of myself as a public servant not a politician. I love what I do and cherish the opportunity to make a difference.

Delegate Beverly Sherwood represents House District 29. ▮



Making Sarah Lee Fain Proud

By DELEGATE PAULA MILLER

Eighty-seven years ago Sarah Lee Fain, a Norfolk native, was one of the first two females (both Democrats) ever seated in the Virginia House of Delegates. She was nominated for office when Norfolk gained two seats through reapportionment. Fast forward to 2011 and ironically, I find myself the only female Norfolk legislator, and one of two women in the House (both Democrats) losing their current seats in the House due to reapportionment. I'm also the only female House member from Southside Hampton Roads—an area of more than a million people.



While I sometimes wonder what Sarah Lee Fain would think of the gains and losses, I prefer to think of the accomplishments made in Virginia, and how we're still fighting many of the same battles that helped launch Ms. Fain's initial campaign—better schools and better roads.

I never had a grand plan for politics. Although, my husband, George Schaefer, is the elected Clerk of Court in Norfolk and has successfully run numerous political campaigns, I was busy with my own career and raising one pre-teen and one young teenager when I was approached to run for my seat. Little did I realize that all my community, church, and civic-related activities were viewed by others as the perfect bullet points for a political resume. My moderate viewpoints also helped for the 87th district, I believe.

Once elected, I surrounded myself with talented people (Richmond aide, Fred Hartnett, who taught high school government for 30 years in Norfolk, and Emily Zak, my full time district aide, who previously served as a legislative aide to the late Congressman Owen Pickett).

Our goals were steadfast: Carry legislation of importance to our district and never lose sight of constituent service. It's what I'm most proud of. While some might argue that legislative accomplishments of minority party members do not change the course of Virginia, still I see the importance of having voices at the table, from both sides of the aisle. Every day, I can see the obvious contributions I've made—from the Surf Rider Foundation license plate—which I spot on Virginia roadways (it's also the first bill, requested by a constituent, that I got passed)—to several pieces of legislation of daily importance to sheriffs' departments across the Commonwealth, that may not be so obvious to the public.

Plus, I got to Richmond the same way every other ranking or minority member did—my voters put me there! And, like them, I've had a vote on some of the most important legislation to come our way in recent memory, including improvements to the Chesapeake Bay, new investments in transportation and a deeper commitment to public education. I can be proud of my votes for decades to come.

Sarah Lee Fain would be pleased with the role women have played in Virginia government since her groundbreaking tenure, but we must continue to grow (not shrink) the ranks. There are now younger women serving, with even younger children than mine, at the time. And, they too, will adapt, quite nicely.

My son is a Dean's List, Division I college baseball player majoring in Political Science who plans to attend grad school after graduating next May. My daughter is a Division II freshman college lacrosse player who hated politics when I entered the field (because it took Mom away from her, briefly), but who today loves to talk politics and help out on political campaigns. They've had a front row seat on Virginia history. What an honor and privilege it has been to serve!

Delegate Paula Miller represents House District 87. [M]

Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Delegate

By DELEGATE ROSALYN DANCE

Prior to July 1, 1992, I was just a wife, mother, grandmother, and a Healthcare Administrator pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Administration. My ultimate goal then was to receive a Doctorates Degree in Public Administration and teach at one of my Alma Maters; John Tyler Community College, Virginia State University, or Virginia Commonwealth University.



This dream was deferred one evening in March 1992. I arrived home from work to find a gentleman seated comfortably in my family den with my husband. He had come to my home armed with all the filing forms for me to apply to fill the vacant Petersburg City Council seat for the 6th Ward. The gentleman had been phoning me for more than a week, and each time he was met by my hesitation. Now he had garnered the support of my husband and a list of citizens willing to distribute petitions to the voters in the Ward to allow my name to be placed on the ballot.

On July 1, 1992 I was sworn in as a member of the Petersburg City Council and less than 5 minutes later, I was appointed by the men of that City Council to become the 2nd Female, and 3rd African American to serve as the Mayor of the City Petersburg. My life has never been the same.

I simultaneously served 3, four year terms as a City Councilwoman and 6 consecutive 2- year terms as the Mayor of Petersburg. I had to quickly figure out how to excel in two very demanding and difficult new roles, while still maintaining my job as a Healthcare Administrator, pursuing my Master's Degree, still being a wife, mother, and grandmother, and maintaining my sanity!

In May of 2004 I lost my election for a 4th term to City Council by 43 votes to another woman who used a strategy in which she agreed that I was a good Mayor for the whole City, but my Ward needed a full time Councilwoman. Her message was that if asked, she would not serve as Mayor. I underestimated the power of her message and learned a valuable political lesson. As an elected official you must always keep your constituent base informed. Effective communications can be the major difference between winning and losing an election. It was my belief then and now that taking care of the whole city ultimately meant I was taking care of my Ward. Many of my supporters thought they were giving me the opportunity to just be the Mayor instead of holding down two jobs! After the loss of that election, I knew that was the end of my political life, or so I thought.

While I thought I was out of politics for about 6 months, it didn't take long for a local clergyman called and asked whether I would consider running for the 63rd District House of Delegate's position. My answer was a resounding no! I must tell you that while serving as the Mayor of Petersburg I ran for this position as an Independent and lost by 5%. That race was pretty brutal, and I think I still may have a few bruises to prove it. Having lost two elections throughout my political career, I was not anxious to step back into the world of politics. I remember asking the clergyman, "If the Lord told you to ask me to run for the House seat, did he say whether or not I would win?" I don't remember receiving an answer to that question. However, he said that he had talked with my husband just like the first gentleman who got me started in politics and he too, like the first gentleman, had all the filing forms I would need for the position and the names of those who would support me.

On April 6, 2005 I was sworn into the Virginia House of Delegates as the first female from Petersburg to represent the 63rd

Continued on next page

Whipple: A Pioneer

By DR. MARGARET TSENG & NICHOLAS PAPADAKIS

Long time Virginia resident Heejung Burns calls State Senator Mary Margaret Whipple “A pioneer.” Although Senator Whipple holds many titles, it is her constituents she seems to hold in highest esteem. She has dedicated over thirty-five years of her life to public service. Senator Whipple recently announced that she will not be running for a 5th term and has no intentions of seeking higher political office. Her absence in the Senate will create a deep political void.

Whipple accomplished much both before becoming a State Senator as well as after. Even before being elected to the (General Assembly of Virginia) VGA as a representative of the 31st District in 1996, Whipple showed a strong commitment to education while serving as an instructor at NOVA. Her passion for education eventually vaulted her into a public service role: Whipple was elected to the Arlington School Board in 1976, became its chairman in 1978, was elected to the Arlington County Board in 1983 (where she served until 1995), and became its chairman in 1986.

Whipple became a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) in 1988 and still holds this position. Residents of Northern Virginia are all familiar with WMATA as the standard-bearer for public transportation in the region, thanks to its Metrobus and Metrorail services. Whipple would later parlay this post into a position as Vice-President of the Virginia Association of Public Transit Officials, a position she still holds. Since becoming a State Senator, Whipple’s primary focus has been a public policy triage, which includes the environment, education, and health. While she has certainly addressed other problems facing the state, Whipple’s voting record and list of sponsored legislation makes clear her priorities: of twenty-four bills introduced by Whipple in 2011, fifteen have involved the environment, education, or health (63%).

On the environmental front, Whipple has introduced bills aimed at exploring alternative energy sources by establishing various environmental funds, incentivizing alternative energy use, and

setting up state commitments to alternative energy. SB975 (2011), for example, establishes a Solar Resource Development Fund, which will use income to lend money to residences, nonprofit organizations and commercial groups who wish to acquire solar technology. SB1058 (2009), meanwhile, authorizes lower-level governments to reduce taxes and/or lower permit fees for the construction of residential and commercial buildings, which have “green” roofs. Finally, SB269 (2010) requires that driver’s education programs include fuel efficient driving practices as part of their curriculum. All of the above bills have passed and are now part of Virginia law.

As a former educator, meanwhile, Whipple has voted to expand the rights and capacities of educators across Virginia. In 2008 alone, for example, she voted for bills which mandated that local school boards develop policies to deal with sexual harassment, which require that the average teacher’s salary for Virginia is competitive with the national average, and which allows local school boards to establish after-school programs for at-risk students. Whipple has also consistently introduced or voted for bills aimed at expanding health insurance coverage and promoting the general health of Virginians. SB1144 (2009) established the ‘Every Woman’s Life Breast

and Cervical Cancer Fund, which uses its income to help prevent and treat breast and cervical cancer in underserved regions and/or uninsured women across Virginia. Famously, Whipple’s proposal to establish a statewide ban on smoking in public restaurants was incorporated into SB1105 (2009), a bill, which later passed.

Whipple capped off her impressive record of service—both inside and outside government—by becoming the Chairman of the Senate Democratic Caucus. This makes her the first woman to hold this leadership position in the history of the VGA.

Dr. Margaret Tseng is a professor at Marymount University, where she specializes in the presidency, voting behavior, elections, and minority politics.



Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Delegate

from previous page

House District. This was and still is a humbling experience. I came to the Capitol armed with a lot of well wishers and a truck full of skills, knowledge, and a network of people resources gained over my 12 years in Petersburg Government and my 34 years as a Professional Healthcare Administrator. Each element has been invaluable to me as I have tried every day to be the best voice I can be for the people who sent me to represent them.

My first orders of the day upon becoming a member of the House of Delegates was to meet with the Speaker of the House and share with him my skills, knowledge and abilities in the hopes to secure committee assignments that will allow me to best represent my district and maximize the skills and expertise I bring to the legislative process. I must say Speaker Bill Howell has been an excellent leader in attempting to give us at least one or two committees that are best fits for our district and skill sets.

Each legislative session is met with its unique set of issues and it might surprise some to know that we as legislators generally work together and agree on most things. It is just that 5 or 6 percent of issues that we find we have ideological differences on that separate us as parties. But, as the voice for a diverse district, I pride myself as one to never “just say no” without giving an idea its’ due diligence. Each issue or piece of legislation must be weighed on its own merit. Sometimes “red flags” go up for legislators and citizens alike just

at the mention of certain words. This needs to happen but we must review what specifically the legislation is attempting to do, then improve upon what is seen as bad, remove the issue that caused the “red flags” and ultimately, make an informed decision.

During my almost 20 years in Virginia politics I consider it an honor to have had the privilege to work directly with the last five Virginia Governors and now with the current Governor, Bob McDonnell. Throughout the years, I have watched as the faces of Virginia’s Government and the Virginia General Assembly have changed; there are more women actively involved in governing. According to Bruce Jamerson, our former House Clerk: “This Virginia General Assembly Session has had more women serving in the House of Delegates than ever before in Virginia’s history.” This is the season for women in government.

My position as a woman in government is an opportunity to serve as a role model and to mentor other women who aspire to become involved and are hesitant as I was. In this seemingly men’s world, it was men who sought me out and encouraged me to run for office and it has been men who have supported and allowed me to grow into this ever changing role. However, I encourage all women currently in an influential government position to begin to seek out other women to transition into their role, and prepare them to take their place when

See *Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Delegate*, continued on page 23

Jeannemarie Davis: Creating a Legacy

By LYDIA FREEMAN

What do women and community service have in common?

According to Jeannemarie Davis, it may be an elected office.

"I think for stay at home moms, there's that question of 'what am I missing in the working world,'" said Davis. "I was at home with children all day, and then I volunteered. I was a school organizer and a Girl Scout leader for 14 years, and with that I managed 52 troops in 13 schools. This is the kind of volunteer work that prepared me. I gained tremendous skills being a leader."

A visit to a Frank Wolf's campaign office in '92 changed the kind of service that Davis would do.

"His campaign manager was so good that I left with a sign to put in my yard. After that I volunteered with other campaigns. Eventually, I thought, 'Oh, I can do this. I'll run for office.'"

She was a stay at home mom with four daughters, busy working her way to becoming a member of the Va. House of Delegates. But running for office was not easy. Davis ran four times in 24 months.

"My husband jokes that I was on the ballot so much that they thought I was an incumbent," Davis said.

Election led to unexpected challenges. During her first session, another delegate compared her to Monica Lewinsky.

"He thought it was funny and acceptable," said Davis. "That told me all I needed to know, while I wondered what I was doing there."

Following that came more challenges. Eventually, Davis became the Majority Whip, but even so, she wasn't invited to many events. Discrimination due to her gender proved to be an unending affair.

"There were only eleven women out of the one hundred," Davis explained. "The men seemed to get the best legislation, the most complex legislation. Most lobbyists were men, and they generally built relationships with the men rather than the women. In the Senate, I was the only Republican woman. It was difficult. However, with so many women chairing committees in the Senate, that has probably changed some."

Challenges were also presented in Davis's personal life. As a single mother with four daughters, she says that the support of her daughters was an essential element.

"I hired my oldest daughter as a nanny," Davis said. "She made sure baths were had and dinner was cooked. Of course, now that they

are all grown I hear stories.... But I think that I was a good example for my girls that a woman can grow up to do anything they want to do. Also, while I was in session, it forced them to be independent. Now, as grown women, they have common sense."

As a public figure, Davis lacked a private, personal life. After leaving the Senate in 2007, she was appointed by Governor McDonnell as the Director of the Virginia Liaison Office.

"I happen to love public policy and detest politics," said Davis. "Politics are ugly and mean spirited. I love working for the governor. I can pursue my interest in policy and not have to be in politics. It's better to be appointed than to be elected. I can focus on what I enjoy."

As a woman who has seen public policy as a community service volunteer, delegate, senator, wife of a former congressman, and now, from the Governor's cabinet, Davis offers advice to other women who want to make a difference.

"Make sure you are professional in the way you handle yourself," Davis said. "Be strong, but not overly aggressive or competitive. People don't like those qualities in a woman. You must walk a fine line. Have a professional demeanor. Spend a tremendous amount of time networking. You must raise an intimidating amount of money, but you will be able to do that through your relationships."

"Most of the women I worked with had a similar story. The PTA, Scouting, or Homeowners led to the public arena. The women from northern Virginia who are in the House and Senate were community activists who became public officials."

Davis explained that a single issue can light a fire that leads you from lobbying to running for office.

Davis began her life wanting to work in a lab doing research. From there she found a love for mathematics. And finally, surprisingly, she was led from volunteering to an elected office.

"A woman can grow up to do anything she wants to do," says Davis. And with those words she has left a legacy for women far beyond her four daughters. ▮



My Personal Political Journey from page 19

needs. I have had to learn to read "legal" language and be able to explain our actions to my constituents. I have had to learn to read and comprehend the budget. (That continues to be a work-in-progress.) I believe that women often process bills with a different understanding and compassion than men. Their combined efforts probably produce a more comprehensive policy. I have been challenged to bite my tongue on many occasions. One that comes to mind happened when I knocked on a door and had a woman say, "I'll tell my husband where you stand and see if he will let us vote for you."

I had a man once ask me what made me think I had earned the right to run for office. I answered, "I am an American citizen, a mother and grandmother, and a working member of society; but, more important, I was born a woman. I can do the job."

My political trails have taken me up and down mountains. I have struggled with some decisions and votes, but been just as certain that I was absolutely right about others. I have also known the joy of being able to help my constituents on personal matters.

I have enjoyed my political journey.

Delegate Annie B. Crockett-Stark represents House District 6. ▮

Memoirs,
Profiles,
News Events
High Quality
Writing of
All Kinds

**Bonnie
Atwood**

atwood@tallpoppiesfreelance.com

TALL POPPIES
Freelance Writing LLC

What is the most difficult aspect of balancing your political career with your private life?

By SENATOR L. LOUISE LUCAS

"The most difficult aspect of balancing my political career with my private life is having more responsibilities than time. My responsibilities to my constituents don't stop when the General Assembly is out of Session. They have problems and concerns year round and I have to be responsive to them year round. If they need to talk to me or see me, I have to be available. If they need me to introduce or support legislation that would make their lives better, I have to be there for them. If I don't have time, I make time."



"My professional life is just as demanding. As the Executive Director of a family owned business, I have the responsibility to make sure that quality care is provided to the many individuals who depend on us for care. I also have a responsibility to our many employees who depend on us for income, and who also have needs beyond the scope of their employment."

"My political career and professional career are both full time jobs, so my private life is part-time. This may be the most difficult aspect of balancing my careers but it is also very gratifying and I am privileged to be able to do it."

Senator L. Louise Lucas represents Senate District 18. [V]

Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Delegate from page 21

the day comes, and they are no longer able to serve. Women must continue to seek an active role in our government to provide a balance and diverse perspective on issues.

Today, I have agreed to mentor a young African American woman who will enter into a university this year, with a goal in mind of becoming a Supreme Court Justice one day. I see it as an honor that she has selected me as one to encourage and guide her over the years as she reaches for her dream and catches it! Being selected as a role model for me is one of the highest honors one can obtain; a true validation that someone out there thinks you are doing a good job.

Delegate Rosalyn Dance represents House District 63. [V]



RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

BERNIE HENDERSON
Director for Family and
Community Relations

PARHAM CHAPEL
1771 Parham Road
(804) 288-3013

HUGUENOT CHAPEL
1020 Hueguenot Road
(804) 794-1000

ATLEE CHAPEL
9271 Shady Grove Road
(804) 730-0035



Alpha Natural Resources
RUNNING RIGHT.

- America's 3rd largest coal company
- More than 6,400 dedicated employees
- A leading supplier and exporter of coal used to produce steel
- Investing resources to keep our environment clean and safe



www.alphanr.com

"When I became Party Chairman I didn't think anything of being the first woman. I had a shocking experience; older women would come up to me with tears in their eyes saying, 'I thought I would never see the day.'"

—Kate Obenshain WVP

The Importance of Women's Political Representation and Why It Will Have a Vital Impact on Public Policy

By MARK RUSH

Women comprise more or less half of the electorate in every country. Yet, women lag behind men in political representation. To a certain extent, this can be attributed to the ongoing battle to overcome cultural and historical barriers to women's political participation and empowerment. For example, until the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920, women could be denied the right to vote in the United States. Systemic restrictions such as this on women's political empowerment clearly had an important and deleterious impact on the political influence of women.

Nonetheless, despite the enfranchisement of women and the liberalization of electoral law around the world, women's political representation remains quite low. According to the National Foundation for Women Legislators, women currently hold 89 of 535 seats (16.6%) in the Congress. Seventeen of those seats are in the Senate and 72 are in the House of Representatives.¹ In the state legislatures, women hold 1,718 of 7,382 (23.3%) seats. In global perspective, these numbers are quite low. In Nordic countries, women's representation averages about 40%. In the rest of Europe the average is about 19%. Around the world, levels of women's representation vary, but are generally much lower than the 50% figure which, based on demographics, one would expect.²

The literature on women's low levels of electoral success and political representation is quite diverse and offers a host of explanations for why it is so low. There are clear indications that making particular changes to electoral rules and laws will have a positive effect on women's electoral success and increase their presence in legislatures. There are two suggestions in particular that have been proven to increase the percentage of women legislators.

The first is simply to move away from the single-member district electoral system that we use in Virginia and the United States. It has been demonstrated time and again that this electoral system caters to and amplifies the power of political majorities at the expense of minorities and women. In the United States, we have chosen to solve the problem of minority representation by engaging in the costly, controversial practice of gerrymandering district lines to ensure that minority voters comprise a majority of the voting age population of legislative districts.

This practice is quite controversial because it perpetuates the same process of manipulating voters that was used in the middle of the 20th century to deplete minority voting power. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 (and its subsequent amendments) forced states to abandon the process of discriminating against minority voters. In response, the states ironically chose to use the same process of manipulating district lines that had been employed to discriminate against minority voters to create districts that would ensure minority representational opportunity.

It would be impractical (perhaps impossible) to draw districts that would ensure women's political representation because women, unlike racial minorities, do not live in particular geographic areas. A simpler solution that would enhance minority and women's representation would be to use multimember districts or a form of proportional representation.³ Unfortunately, there remains great resistance to any such electoral reform in the United States.

A second practice that has enhanced women's representation throughout the world has been to require that political parties balance their nominations between men and women. This practice is used in countries that use the party-list form of elections in which voters vote for entire slates of party candidates instead of voting, as Americans do, for one candidate in one district. So, imagine a situation in which we Virginians voted for the entire slate of 11 congressional candidates every two years instead of voting only for the representative of our particular district. The ballots for the Democrats, Republicans and

any other party would list the names of all 11 candidates for office and 5 or six of those candidates would be women. We would, therefore, just vote for the political party we preferred.

While some criticize this process (because it essentially imposes a "gender quota" on the electoral process), others note that it simply provides an incentive (which is now lacking) for political parties to seek out and nurture prospective women candidates. Nonetheless, a small change such as this would have clear and important positive impacts on women's representation.

Regardless of how or whether a particular nation or state (in countries such as the United States) chooses to promote women's representation, there is no question that women's issues (and those concerning gender more broadly) will play an increasingly prominent role in politics in the United States and around the world. Accordingly, it is vital that nations work to ensure that women have a presence in our legislatures and government.

It is actually a bit of a misnomer to refer to these as "women's" or "gender" issues. In fact they are issues of demographics and political and economic development. As I write, for example, the political controversy surrounding New York's redefinition of marriage to include homosexual couples continues as opponents are now seeking to overturn the law in court. How a nation defines marriage, how it therefore conceives of parental rights, divorce, inheritance, etc. all will entail a reconceptualization of the role of gender.

As well, if developing nations wish to make transitions to democracy and more liberalized economies, the role of women will have to change. It has been demonstrated time and again that a key factor in the liberalization of a nation's politics and economy is the education and professionalization of women.⁴

Finally, and perhaps most ominous, the pensions crisis in Europe (which is spreading around the world) is perhaps the greatest threat to the world's economic well-being.⁵ Debates focus on the so-called "social contract" and the entitlements of retirees (concerning age of retirement, the amount of their pensions, etc.). Yet they overlook a key fact: much of the pensions crisis can be attributed to demographic changes brought about by the rise of women's political power, corresponding changes in economic habits and, perhaps most ominously, changes in the size of families.

The welfare state is now under enormous stress because the one key demographic assumption on which it was built no longer holds: population growth in Europe and the United States has slowed remarkably. As a result, there are fewer young people to pay into the retirement system. One does not receive one's pension strictly from the funds he or she pays into the system. That money supports current pensioners. A nontrivial amount of one's pension therefore comes from the workforce—collectively, the children and grandchildren of the pensioners. If family sizes decrease (as they have) then the welfare state will come under tremendous pressure.

The redefinition of marriage (and by extension, the family), the capacity of nations to develop economically and politically, and the looming pensions crisis all clearly involve and have an impact upon the economic and political roles of women. Accordingly, it is vital that women have a prominent (or, at least a proportional) presence in legislatures and governments. At present, they do not. We imperil our future if we fail to remedy this situation.



See *Women's Political Representation*, continued on page 26

Where Are They Now?

We contacted former female members of the Virginia General Assembly with the following three questions: What are you doing now? How closely do you follow VA politics? And do you have any advice for women considering a public office? Here are the responses:

Bonnie Paul

(House of Delegates of Delegates 1976-1979)

I graduated from Washington & Lee Law School in 1983, following my tenure in the House of Delegates. I am a sole practitioner in my hometown, Harrisonburg, Virginia. My practice emphasizes Trusts and Estates. I am also active in community organizations; the Historical Society Museum is my favorite at the moment.

I was very active in the local political scene, helping with campaigns, etc. until about 10 years ago. Now I attend some functions and openly support some candidates. I do follow the Virginia political scene. I was the only Republican woman in the House during the terms that I served and the Republicans were in the minority—real minority. I believe that the growth of two-party competition has been healthy for Virginia, and I take pride when I see leadership from Virginians in the U.S. Congress.

Since it is not as unusual for women to achieve elective office today as it was years ago, the electorate has recognized the talent, hard work, and leadership shown by women. Women are just as important as men in government. It would be good to see elected officials who have vision, who keep in touch with the people who elected them and who are not afraid to give an honest opinion.



Mary Sue Terry

(House of Delegates 1985 Sp. 1985; Attorney General 1986-1993)

I am a corporate consultant working with a client with the State Attorney General. My sisters and I have a farm, and I own a commercial Angus beef herd. I am involved with Farm Team, which is an organization that develops women for political roles that share our democratic values. And I am also involved with not-for-profit endeavors.

I follow public policy issues very closely. Our public schools are underfunded, higher education has gone out the roof in recent years, and public higher education tuition has increased dramatically in the past several years. We're having trouble maintaining the roads, and we need to be taking care of the transportation needs of Virginians.

Women tend to undervalue themselves and their potential to make a real difference. My advice for women is to start early, visit representatives, learn about issues, visit broad based sector of the community, and make good hiring decisions. And all of this assumes that a woman has done her own homework on her party.



"I ran because I knew that I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I was lazy or comfortable or afraid."

—Mary Sue Terry WVP

Joan H. Munford

(House of Delegates of Delegates 1992—Sp. 1993)

I am retired and living a happy life in Blacksburg with my husband of 59 years and my two cats.

It is with great interest that I read the Roanoke Times each day and follow closely the news from Richmond. It brought tears to my eyes when I received the call to tell me of Brice Jamerson's recent death.

My advice to women who seek public office is to first study the problems and challenges in your district. Over the years, the responses from my constituents' surveys were helpful. Hope and health must be a working partnership. The challenge is clear: to make a difference in the lives of your constituents. Words, reports, or meetings as usual will not meet the challenge. Actions, leadership, and teamwork will.



Marian Van Landingham

(House of Delegates 1982-2005)

I'm involved in a lot of different things. I have been pulled into all kind of volunteer and community activities. I have been going back to my studio, The Torpedo Factory Arts Center. I have retained the studio, and I am there 3-4 days a week. I am also the Chair of ALIVE, which helps the neediest in Alexandria, as well as the Vice President of Alexandria's Living Legends, which honors citizens who have given much to the community. After a battle with metastasized colon cancer I was forced to retire early, but now I am in good health and am enjoying being busy.

I read the Whipple report each morning, it's an addiction, I suppose. I'm interested in local politics, of course. I also support Libby Garvey to replace my good friend Patsy Ticer.

Women are a major part of our population, and there needs to be a balanced representation. There isn't. I don't know what has caused this, but I think it has something to do with the cost of campaigning. When I was elected, we used volunteer staff. We didn't use polls, and I went door-to-door. That kept elections affordable. Now, if the person is not personally wealthy, it puts a lot of pressure on friends and family.



Phoebe Orebaugh

(House of Delegates 1983—1985; 1988-Sp. 1991)

One of the most enjoyable activities that I'm engaged in at this time is serving as manager of (and a singer with) the May Family Singers, a group consisting of siblings and cousins (and their spouses). My brother Delegate Joe May, who represents Leesburg and adjacent areas in the General Assembly, is one of the members. Because I check several newspapers throughout the state on a daily basis on Joe's behalf, I follow the Virginia political scene fairly closely. For the past 10 years, I have worked closely with a refugee family from Sudan who were sponsored by my church. They required quite a bit of assistance because they arrived with nothing but the clothes on their back and with limited proficiency in English. Teaching the father of the family how to drive proved to be a hair-raising experience!



See *Where Are They Now?*, continued on page 26

Where Are They Now? from page 25

I've been active in many church activities and in the establishment and operation of the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center in Harrisonburg. Because visitors come from all over the United States and the entire world, I find the experience of guiding tours very interesting and gratifying.

My advice to women seeking public office is to be prepared to give a tremendous amount of time and energy to the office they hold. At the same time, I'd urge them to run if they have the time and energy, because it's good to have diverse groups of people and different viewpoints involved in making decisions for the public.

Julie Smith

(House of Delegates 1983)

I have moved to Northwest Florida where I was born and raised. I am presently substitute teaching in the local school system (6-12th grades). In 2012 I will be running for Superintendent of Schools in Calhoun County, Florida.

My daughter still lives in Chesapeake and keeps me up to date what is going on in state government. I also talk often with Delegate Robert Tata of Virginia Beach.

First, I would tell them that they must have confidence in themselves and believe that they are prepared for the office that they will be seeking. They should know what they are talking about or they will have trouble convincing others that they are the best candidates for the office they are seeking. They should know for sure that they have the financial support they will need and the right people who will support them. Running a campaign is hard work, seven days a week, 24 hours a day talking with people and seeking support for your campaign. I have already begun my initial phase of my campaign to seek the superintendent's office here 17 months ahead of other candidates, and that is what you must do. Get out as early as you possibly can and give it 100% to the very end. I do not believe gender matters as much now as it did when I first ran for office in Virginia



Mary Christian

(House of Delegates 1986-2003)

I am involved in three main types of activity. First, because of my membership with First Baptist Church, I am involved as a member of our Christian Fellowship Choir, the chair of both the Constitution Committee and the women's ministry, and I am involved in the social action committee. Secondly, I work as a consultant for the Patient Advocate Foundation, which is a part



Alpha Natural Resources

Donald L. Ratliff

VP-Virginia Government and External Affairs

Alpha Natural Resources
One Alpha Place • P.O. Box 2345
Abingdon, Virginia 24212
276.619.4479 (office) • 276.623.2891 (fax)
276.275.1423 (cell) • dratliff@alphanr.com
www.alphanr.com

of the National African-American Outreach Program (NAAOP), and I am on the Board of Directors for Insight Properties—Independent Living. And finally, my third type of activity is my community involvement. I am the president of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs (NACWC). I am a coordinator for the Restoration of Historic Cemeteries. I am on the Hampton Branch of the Education Committee, and a Co-Chair for the Coalition of the Deaf, Blind, and Multi-Disabled. I am a founder of the Joshua Patrick Service Dog Fund. And I am a member of both the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the George P. Phenix Alumni Association.

As a member of the Hampton Democratic Committee, an attendee of forums and political events, and someone who often confers with local representatives (Delegates, Senators, Congressmen), I consider myself very attuned to the (local and state) Virginia political scene. I am also an avid reader of books, journals, and newspapers, furthering my knowledge.

If a woman is considering public office she needs to get involved in community activities before she declares that office. Beyond that she needs to establish a diverse planning committee, identify financial supporters, become educated and informed on issues at levels, and be prepared for gender bias and tough decisions. Finally, she needs to join a local political committee, and be sure to attend public forums.

Gwen Cody

(House of Delegates Sp. 1988; 1984-Sp. 1985)

I decided to enter the field I knew the most about: moving. So I have been a realtor for about 25 years. As a former military wife, we moved around the world within the Continental U.S., Europe several times and the Far East living in military housing when available, but on the economy otherwise. We purchased properties in California, Florida, and Virginia with good and not so good representation. So "service" is my motto.

Do I follow politics? Yes. Local, regional, state, national, and international. I read many publications (not the Washington Post very often), attend rallies, advise candidates often, listen to debates, fill-out questionnaires (which often is another way of fundraising), and find my auto radio a good source of political info while real-estating. Living so close to the nation's political center and in a state that has at least one election a year, my world is politically tinged.

Advice to women considering a run for political office. Get prepared and do not be or become a single-issue candidate. Women have contributed much in so many areas. I served and I am proud to have been associated with so many fine men and women who wear the political uniform of service. It is a very time consuming calling.



Women's Political Representation from page 24

Mark Rush, of Lexington, is Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates.

(Endnotes)

¹ <http://www.womenlegislators.org/women-legislator-facts.php>. Last accessed 26 July 2011.

² Ibid. See also "Women's Representation Worldwide." <http://archive.fairvote.org/index.php?page=413>. Last accessed 26 July 2011.

³ See generally, the literature on this topic at www.fairvote.org.

⁴ See, e.g., "Women and Development" <http://www.copenhagenconsensus.com/The%2010%20challenges%20OLD/Women%20and%20development.aspx>. Last Accessed 26 July 2011.

⁵ See, e.g., Peter G. Peterson (1999), *Gray Dawn*. New York: Times Books. [Z]

Emilie Miller

(Senate 1988-Sp. 1991)

I have been asked to do an oral history of my time in the Senate and other political related events in my life. The George Mason University has all my Senate papers and has an Emilie F. Miller Collection in their library. I donated it in the 1990's. This is used in the Women's Studies Programs. I run the GOOD OLE GIRLS, which Lynda Robb started in Richmond and when she came back to NoVa, she asked me and 3 others to start here. I am the only one who has continued to work on it since. We hold 3-4 brunches a year to promote women candidates and get women involved in supporting Democratic women. It has been very successful and the next one is July 31st. In 1993 and 1995 I was sent to Russia to give Business Workshops for Russian Women on Business, as they were now leaving Communism. I also did impromptu and unscheduled workshops on running for office since the men did not want the women to run. I also was invited to speak, the only American woman asked, at an international Woman's Conference in St. Petersburg. In all I was in Moscow, Nizhny Novgorod, Novgorod, St. Petersburg, and Pushkin. Some of the women came to the states and we got together several times, and I am still in contact with one. And I must tell of my being invited to speak last September to my Granddaughter's second grade class in Orlando. She goes to St. Andrew's Catholic School. Her 2nd grade social studies class was studying government and laws. I was visiting the family. And my granddaughter told her social studies teacher that her grandmother had been a State Senator, and the next thing I know I am speaking before 50 second graders. They were attentive, knew more than most adults, and asked very good questions. I still am asked to speak before many adult groups, but this was the most fun. And I am honored that my granddaughter is so proud of me. I have done independent consulting and worked at a consulting firm in DC.

Not only am I closely following the VA political scene, I am still a part of it. I have chaired the Fairfax County Democratic Committee, the largest in VA, and then chaired the 11th Congressional District Committee. I am still an active member of FCDC. I was the statewide Chair for Women for Warner on his recent Senate campaign. I am still asked to endorse candidates from not only Northern VA but all over the Commonwealth and to give advice.

Be active in your community. Be active in Your Party. Do not be afraid to ask for money.



Jane Woods

(House of Delegates 1988-1991; Senate 1992-1999)

I am consulting and lobbying for several clients at the state level through my own small company. Additionally, I am volunteering with several community groups whose missions I embrace.

I do follow the political arena, both for my work and through personal interests.

Go for it!! It is gratifying to see more and more women taking on running for elected office. Advice would be:

Catalogue those issues of the greatest interest to you and those in which you bring expertise. Using these, determine what it is you want to do in elected office. To run successfully for office, you need a vision of what you want to accomplish...and with these steps, you are on your way.

Seek out someone willing to mentor you (hope it can be a woman in elected office) through the campaign and once you take office.



Surround yourself with folks whom you trust and who will enhance your understanding of the "landscape" and issues.

Enjoy one of the most rewarding pursuits and honors...serving the public.

Karen Darner

(House of Delegates 1991-2003)

I retired from teaching in Arlington during the 40th year of my professional work, in 2008. I still live in Arlington, but am with my parents the bulk of the time in Cherokee Village, Arkansas because my mom has been ill and both parents need my help. Fortunately, when I need a little break, my sister in Tacoma, Washington takes leave and comes to help them, too. Between the two of us, and our two brothers, we have spent a little time together, and much time with Mom and Dad. Someday I'll be better at expressing how difficult it has been to experience role-reversal with parents. I have found great comfort in suggestions, counsel, and help from others who are their parents' caregivers. I also have spent a little time in Liberia working with schools, teachers, and students through a great program—the Liberia Orphan Education Project (LOEP). My 2011 highlight was joining a UVA Travel & Learn Civil Rights Tour with Julian Bond. Intense, emotional, self-reflective, instructive, and memorable. Try it!

I am very grateful to Tom Whipple who shared his Whipple VA News for many years: a daily compilation of news, issues, concerns from Virginia, and nearby papers. Thanks, VPAP for continuing this service. I also read the Arlington County Democratic Committee's newsletters. Interestingly, I see old comrades from the General Assembly in the national news these days—people really do change, don't they? They used to know how to work across-the-aisles and get along. No longer, unfortunately for the country, and for children who seek higher standards in their role models.

Learn as much as you can about the community you live and work in, and the people who are in every neighborhood. Treasure the multitude of cultures, and speak positively, optimistically, and be a good example of someone who *truly* wants to work for the common good. It isn't happening enough with female or male candidates. Believe that good things can happen when people work together, even if that thought is in the minority.

See *Where Are They Now?*, continued on page 28



G. Paul Nardo from page 18

What would you consider as your legacy as the 21st Clerk of the House?

I hope that the nice things they say on the floor, or at my funeral down the road, or after I retire are that, "he was a serious, hard-working, diligent and dedicated Clerk. That he loved the place, and what he has contributed to the place. He wanted to make people appreciate just how wonderful Virginia is, and more importantly, the Capitol and the House of Delegates. He had a sense of optimism and an appreciation for the opportunities that the position and the House offers people who are lucky enough to work in, or around it. While he did a very serious and important job, he could laugh a little bit and try to help along the way." I think that would be a fine legacy.

Michael E. Belefski, is President of CPC CORPORATION, a Communication and Marketing Firm specializing in Performance Management Analysis in Business, Law and Political Systems. He can be contacted at cpccorp@verizon.net. ■

Where Are They Now? from page 27

Panny Rhodes

(House of Delegates 1992 Sp. 2001)

I have just completed my 8-year Board of Visitors term at VCU, the last 2 as Rector. Needless to say, that has taken quite a lot of time, with a new President and all the financial difficulties of higher education in Virginia. I have remained involved in community activities and organizations as I was before my stint in the General Assembly. Jim and I have also traveled quite a bit and I have been spending as much time as possible with my family—which includes 5 awesome, terrific grandchildren!



I do follow VA politics fairly closely. After leaving the General Assembly I co-chaired (with Jimmy Hazel) Leadership for Virginia, a bi-partisan organization that supported GA candidates of both parties who were centrist and reasonable, willing to govern in the best interests of all Virginians. I am now supporting Tim Kaine for the US Senate (who I believe will be best for Virginia) and will be working for his election.

My advice for women considering running: While fund-raising is daunting, with community support/connections and friends who support your positions, it's very doable. Be yourself and be willing to work with others first to win election and then to govern. Women bring a unique perspective to public office, particularly as mothers and with respect to women's health issues, but also in other areas. Above all, competence, honesty and integrity are absolutely fundamental and necessary—male or female!

Michelle McQuigg

(House of Delegates 1998-2007)

Currently I am the Clerk of Circuit Court, Prince William County. After having served in legislative positions on the Board of County Supervisors and House of Delegates, it's exciting to be able to be in an executive/administrative position where I can implement the performance management concepts I advocated as a legislator.



I keep up with my local delegation and, of course, take an interest in friends from my days in the legislature. The demands of managing the Clerk's Office keep me from getting too deeply involved beyond that.

It's an honor to serve. It's one of those lifetime experiences where you hope you can make a difference. Make sure you stay true to whom you are and what you tell citizens you'll do. Be sure it's right for your family. Knock on doors and stay in touch with your constituents.

"Those who validate you mean more than bad press."

—Jennifer McClellan WVP

Kristen Admundson

(House of Delegates 2000-2009)

I'm now heading the communications team for an education think tank called Education Sector. It allows me to focus on education full-time—the issue that has been the focus of so much of my life's work.

If I admit that my day still starts by reading the Whipple Clips (now the VPAP Whipple Clips) that will probably say all that needs to be said about my continuing interest in Virginia politics!

Public service is an enormous privilege, and women who want to serve their community are badly needed in public life. Running for office is unquestionably hard work, but it is a step more women should take.



Melanie Beale (Rapp)

(House of Delegates 2001-2007)

I am the Dominion Virginia Power External Affairs Manager for the Eastern Region.

I follow state and local politics very closely.

Go for it! My advice to women who desire to run for public office is:

- a. Be Honest
- b. Stick to Your Principles
- c. Work Hard
- d. Run a Positive Campaign
- e. Keep a Sense of Humor
- f. Make Time to Spend with Your Family
- g. Always Thank Your Volunteers
- h. Know the Campaign Will Be Over...At Some Point in Time



Winsome Sears

(House of Delegates 2002-2003)

Since stepping away from politics I have been the CEO of an organization, written a motivational book, "*Stop Being a Christian Wimp*," and traveled on my first missionary trip. I was recently appointed to Virginia's State Board of Education, do motivational speaking, and lead Bible Study at a local men's detention center, and am the owner of Shenandoah Appliance, Plumbing & Electric. That's a lot to keep me busy!



FutureLaw, L.L.C.

John G. "Chip" Dicks
Martin K. Johnson
Susan S. Gaston
Sarah D. Dicks
Timothy S. Reiniger
Roger G. Bowers

823 East Main Street • Suite 1801 • Richmond, Virginia 23219
Phone: 804-836-1980 • 888-252-6299 • Fax: 804-225-5508
Website: www.futurelaw.net • E-mail: martin@futurelaw.net

I've only recently begun to pay attention to politics again. For much of the time since I've been away, I've concentrated on my family, my work, and my volunteer activities. As a result, my citizen-perspective of the political has taught me, again, that politics is meant to help not hurt. Yet, there is even worse distrust and backbiting. Truth is the only antidote--and yet even the truth is wielded as a weapon by self-seeking politicians.

Know why you want to be in office. I don't mean that to be patronizing, but you need to know that you will find that others will try to define you, your campaign, your vote, and your message. Seek others' advice but remember: you are the one in the ring--it's your name, your reputation. Stand strong on your principles. And do not fear what man may say about you. Be purposeful in what you do.

Shannon Valentine

(House of Delegates 2006-2010)

Like most women, my life is filled to the brim. With three teenagers, my oldest heading off to the University of Virginia in the fall, and a foreign exchange student joining our family in only a few weeks, my husband and I feel as though we are living in such a wonderfully vibrant time in our lives. We laugh each and every day and try very hard not to blink—the moments seem to pass so quickly. Professionally, these past eighteen months have been a time of great transformation. Doors have been opened that I never expected, many of which I continue to discern. Yet I am grateful to be able to work on issues that matter to me—education, youth violence, housing, autism and serving the poor. To my surprise, I have been given extraordinary opportunities to speak across Virginia on topics such as ethics, leadership, integrity, and open, honest government. I can remember telling my father I was invited to speak at an event, “Women of Courage and Truth.” He laughed, “It is very hard to be against courage and truth!”

Whether I am addressing colleges and universities, community organizations, business forums, political groups or advocacy coalitions, I have been struck by the desire of so many throughout our Commonwealth seeking personal insights to better understand Virginia politics. From my days at UVA, I have been a loyal student of Virginia politics, a passion that has never wavered. And while I have great enthusiasm for following the issues, I candidly admit that I, like many Americans, shake my head and question the politics of those who demonize, divide, and disregard the truth for the sake of winning elections.

For women considering public office, I would first convey a very simple truth...our Commonwealth needs you. If one can be firmly grounded in who she is, win or lose, and speak with clarity and integrity about what she believes and what she is willing to fight for, I believe her voice and her presence can have a significant impact in our political system. From the moment I arrived in Richmond in January 2006 until today, the question that has been posed to me most often is, “How do you do what you do when you have three children?” My response has always been, “I do what I do **because** I have three children.” It is a very honest statement that has tied every facet of my life together, and I hope, offers others whose lives are also filled to the brim, a little glimmer of light that serving in public office is not only possible but important to our future. 

“I don't think anyone ever wants to be criticized, but you have to listen and learn to accept it that it's not about me; it's about the issues.”

—Joycelyn Elders WVP



Women of the 2011 General Assembly

Senator Yvonne Miller

“Virginia is a very progressive state in many ways and a very regressive state in other ways. We are not as progressive as I'd like to be when it comes to electing women. We need to work to make Virginia a more comfortable environment for women. Women's groups especially should set aside time to recruit and train women for public office. More problems could be solved in more ways if more women were elected for public office.”



Senator Toddy Puller

“I am delighted to see the increase in the number of women running for elected office now. When I was first elected to the General Assembly almost 20 years ago, there were not that many women candidates, especially for state office. Most women ran for local office such as the board of supervisors or town council rather than for the General Assembly because that required them to go to Richmond for two months a year. That's why the majority of women are a bit older when they run for state office especially if they have children. They may not feel they can leave them for that extended period of time.

All eleven Senate committee chairmen were white males until after the Democrats gained control of the Virginia State Senate in the 2007 election. Now, there are seven women (3 African American, 4 white) in the Senate and each one chairs a committee. Also, there are three committee chairmen who are white men and one who is African American. This is much more representative of the state population at large.”



Delegate Roslyn Tyler

“The General Assembly is dominated by men and probably will always be. However, right now women are 27 members strong among 140 member Virginia General Assembly. The first female was elected to the state legislature in 1924. We have come a long way as political leaders, but still have a long way to go. It is a pleasure and a honor to serve with my fellow female legislators for I believe we are the conscience of the Commonwealth.”



See *Women of the 2011 General Assembly*, continued on page 34

Timmy T. Nelson
Vice President
State Government Affairs



1200 Ward Avenue
West Chester, PA 19380
610.430.6704 Tel
610.430.6770 Fax
610.517.6821 Cell

tnelson@ups.com

The Power of Public Media in the 21st Century



The home of the best programming in public affairs, the arts, science and history. Creators of award-winning local productions that address issues of regional and statewide concern. The source of innovative, intellectually rigorous children's programs that treat our youngest Americans as citizens rather than consumers. A daily provider of educational services to Virginia's schoolchildren and their teachers, including state-of-the-art learning resources online and in the classroom.

Welcome to public media in the 21st century!

What began as a bold experiment with the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967 has evolved into one of the nation's most important public-private partnerships. In fact, to this day there is still nothing like public television and public radio anywhere else in the world.

Their original hallmarks—offering viewers and listeners free access to enriching, non-commercial content—remain the core strengths of today's public media endeavors, and the public has taken notice. For eight consecutive years, polls have shown that Americans rank PBS as the nation's most trusted institution. Further, parents rate PBS Kids—including series like *Curious George*, *Dinosaur Train*, *Arthur*, *Clifford*, *The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That* and the always-impressive *Sesame Street*—as the nation's top educational media brand.

At Blue Ridge PBS, headquartered in Roanoke, VA, we are proud to be part of a national treasure that contributes every day to a well-educated, well-informed, civilized and cultured citizenry. We serve viewers living in a 26,000-square mile area that includes the western third of Virginia, the Tri-Cities and bordering counties





in Kentucky, North Carolina and West Virginia. We know from our own surveys that viewers count on the quality programming created and shared by the nation's public television stations—such as *The PBS NewsHour*, *Great Performances*, *NOVA*, *Nature*, *Frontline* and *American Experience*.

A unique aspect of public television—and one often overlooked—is the ability of local stations to address local needs and interests. By devoting extended time to a single subject, a local public TV station fulfills a vital role for its own citizens, a role beyond the reach of a national series and beyond the flexibility of a local commercial station.

As the region's storyteller, Blue Ridge PBS is demonstrating that viewers and partners are deeply interested in high-quality local productions. A stellar example is *JobQuest*, a 15-month series launched at the beginning of the recession that matched job openings with job seekers, offered job-hunting tips, and featured live call-in advice from human resource professionals. Ten regional partners provided financial and in-kind support for the project and helped promote the series to those in need. *JobQuest* episode segments and employment advice remain available at BlueRidgePBS.org. The impact of the series has been recognized by our broadcasting peers, with Blue Ridge PBS named winner of the Regional Emmy Award for Community Service for *JobQuest* in both 2010 and 2009. It is the only Emmy presented to an entire station rather than an individual.

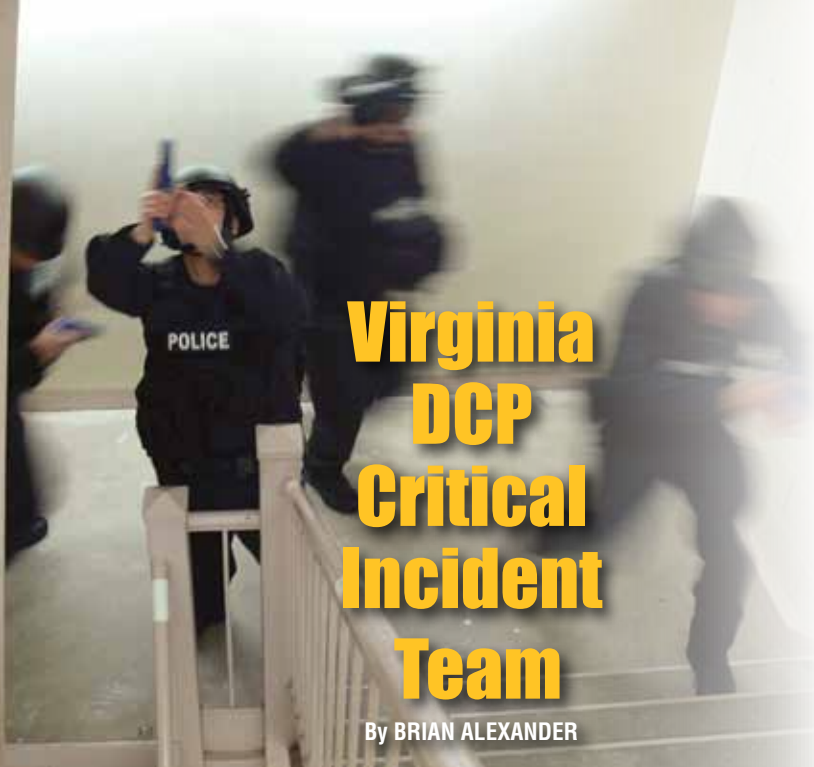
Other recent award-winning local productions focusing on matters close to home include *HealthQuest*, with in-depth conversations about medical issues that matter most to viewers and a showcase of medical expertise available in the region—and *Positive Parenting*, an educational program produced in partnership with Smart Beginnings of Roanoke. The one-hour special features interviews with local experts in the infant and child care field, who work to improve the readiness of kindergartners for first grade. *This Week in Richmond*

remains a popular program, offering insight and analysis of vital issues affecting our viewers. As with *JobQuest*, episode segments and additional resources for all three programs reside on our website.

Outside the studio, Blue Ridge PBS documentaries take viewers into and beyond the immediate region. *Virginia State Parks: 75 Years and Still Growing* premiered in June, a stunning high-definition exploration of the natural and cultural history of Virginia State Parks and the recreation they offer. Given its statewide appeal, other Virginia public TV stations shared the program with their viewers. Our 2009 documentary, *Virginia in the Civil War: A Sesquicentennial Remembrance*—produced in conjunction with the Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and the Virginia Tech Center for Civil War Studies—was designed for and sent to every school in the state. It also proved to be compelling on-air content for our viewers. And just entering our broadcast stream are short vignettes in a series entitled *On The Crooked Road*, sharing the music and stories along Virginia's Heritage Music Trail.

Since its inception, Virginia public media's most vital ongoing project has been our commitment to K-12 education. From instructional programs aligned with SOLs, to thousands of videos and images suitable for classroom use, to professional development resources, we offer educational services to schools at a lower cost than would be available in the marketplace. Blue Ridge PBS alone serves over 200,000 students and their teachers in 42 school districts, at a time when school budgets are under extraordinary pressure. The well-being of our youngest citizens lies at the soul of our mission, as it has from our first day.

The Commonwealth and our country face major challenges in this century. Our shared success will rely partly on our ability to engage in sustained thought about ideas that matter. If you haven't watched public television recently, we hope you will investigate a variety of programs and rediscover the power of public media. ▮



Virginia DCP Critical Incident Team

By BRIAN ALEXANDER

The Virginia Division of Capitol Police (DCP), located in Richmond, VA, has the distinct honor and privilege of being recognized as the first organized police agency in the nation. Its historical roots originated with the first permanent English settlement in Jamestown, Virginia. In 1618, the Guard, consisting of 10 men, was formed to protect the Governor from the hostile Indian population. By 1663, the Guard was expanded to a force of 20 men and assigned to protect the Governor, the Council, and the Colonial Assembly. The Capitol was then moved to Williamsburg, Virginia in 1699, where the Guard remained an important part of the executive and legislative process. In 1780, the Capitol of Virginia was again relocated moved to a safer location; it's present home in Richmond, Virginia. In 1801, the General Assembly enacted legislation creating The Public Guard, which was responsible for actively protecting public property in Richmond until 1869. In 1884, the Division received its statutory authority as a full service law enforcement agency. The Capitol Police has steadily expanded in size and remains in service to this day. Presently, the Division, which consists of 76 sworn and 15 civilian positions, provides law enforcement services for approximately 7,000 state employees and 100,000 annual visitors to our state Capitol and surrounding properties.

The Division of Capitol Police is a multi-faceted and a Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) accredited agency with varied responsibilities. The agency is frequently called upon to provide police and protective services to state agencies, state employees, Supreme Court judges, elected officials and the Attorney General of Virginia. Uniformed Operations consists of Uniformed Patrol and Special Operations personnel. These sections are comprised of patrol personnel, bike team, k-9 unit, emergency medical technicians, investigations, dignitary protection unit, and the crowd response team.

With such a diverse mission, the Division faces a variety of challenges, some of which have magnified as a direct result of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Virginia Tech tragedy, and the DC Sniper Incident. In late 2002, the so-called "DC Snipers" were filmed on a security camera procuring maps at the visitor's center located in Capitol Square. The 2003 follow-up investigation for this event stated that Mohamed's reason for not striking in the Capitol was "that were too many cops walking around." This testimonial demonstrates the Division of Capitol Police's dedication to being an active presence within the Capitol Complex.

Immediately following the Virginia Tech Tragedy, the Division dramatically enhanced its primary role of providing security, adopting

a change of attitude in the face of increased threats from both active shooter and "death threats" to elected officials. It is not uncommon for a disgruntled or emotionally disturbed member of the community to threaten violence on a state government official or even the governor. As a result, Colonel Kim Lettner, Chief of Police and major driving force behind the Division's rapid transition, initiated an enhanced level of readiness to meet the increasing threats faced by the Division and the public it protects.

Some of the Chief's many new initiatives were to implement "active shooter response" training to patrol officers and develop a response to other critical incidents such as hostage situations and high threat protective details. She realized that the threat posed to the Capitol Complex by the possibility of an active shooter was a matter of "when." Lettner once stated, "This is the type of incident that keeps me up at night." She wanted to make sure that the officers would be adequately trained and equipped to respond to such an incident.

The Virginia Tech Tragedy has given many individuals in law enforcement the impression that this kind of horror is confined to schools and universities. However, such incidents happen in state and federal buildings across the country, including the U.S. Capitol building (1998), Tyler Courthouse (2005), and the Colorado State Capitol (2007).

Team History

Realizing the threat of a critical incident was very real to the political nature of our jurisdiction, Chief Lettner sent Lt. Steve Robinson and Officer Brian Alexander to Tallahassee, FL in order to research the FDLE Capitol Police Special Operations Team (SOT) as a model.

The FDLE Capitol Police SOT was created in 2003, and the team's mission is to bridge the gap between the occurrence of a critical incident and arrival of state and local tactical teams. FDLE Capitol Police proved gracious hosts by granting DCP access to overall department operations and after attending a three-day tactical training session, Robinson and Alexander created a proposal for the Virginia Division of Capitol Police. After the proposal process, Officer Andrew Bruot from the U.S. Capitol Police CERT served as a tactical advisor and on the first selection interview panel.

In December 2008, FDLE sent Lt. David Henderson and Officer Lee Damitz to Richmond as instructors for the first Critical Incident Basic Tactical School. The Critical Incident Basic Tactical School is a 40-hour course that consists of legal updates, active shooter, hostage rescue, tactical shooting, physical conflict resolution, mechanical breaching, team movement, and room entries. The team conducted multiple force-on-force scenarios involving role players and was constantly challenged by Hanover HRET Deputy Paul Hope who served as the "bad guy" and created most of the scenarios based on his vast "real world" experiences.

In January 2009, the Division established a Critical Incident Team (CIT). The purpose of the team is to provide the Capitol Complex with a quick response to any critical incident or event which would require an immediate tactical deployment. The team is comprised of six sworn members, from various operational areas of the Division. CIT missions are active shooter response, barricaded suspects, hostage situations, riots/civil disturbance, infra-structure force protection, dignitary protection CAT, citizen/officer rescue, and conducting in-service tactical training courses for patrol personnel.

Selection and Training

All prospective applicants go through an extensive selection process which includes: submitting a letter of interest, Law Fit fitness test, obstacle course, firearms qualification, and an oral interview. Upon selection, applicants must complete a 40-hour basic tactical course in order to be assigned to the critical incident team.

The team has 8-16 hours of in-service training per month and conducts one 40-hour training session each year. Team in-service

training consists of active shooter, hostage/citizen rescue, counter assault team tactics, force protection, and tactical shooting. CIT serves as a force multiplier during active shooter scenarios. The team can respond together or individually supplemented by patrol. The CIT member is trained to act as a contact team leader and is armed with a patrol rifle. The CIT conducts joint training with federal, state, and local tactical teams so that it will operate on the "same sheet of music" in the event of a real critical incident. When not in training or deployed for special or critical events, the team members perform their normally assigned duties.

Closing

Since January 2009, the CIT has performed twenty utilizations and was assigned to provide counter assault team protection along with the Virginia State Police (VSP) Tactical Operations Team, for the 2010 Inauguration of Governor Bob McDonnell. In December, 2009 the team added one member and hosted a Singleton International Hostage Rescue course taught by Phil Singleton at Fort Pickett, VA. In 2011, CIT selected a new member, conducted the first basic tactical school, and will serve as Co-Hosts for the 28th Annual N.T.O.A Tactical Operations Conference. Currently, the Division falls under the strong leadership of Major Anthony Steve Pike due to Chief Lettner's retirement. Major Pike is committed to enhancing the capabilities and the professional standards of the Division CIT.

In our increasingly dangerous world, the ability of a police agency to provide a rapid tactical response to a critical incident can mean the difference between life and death. With the development and deployment of the Division's first Critical Incident Team, the Division has positioned itself to more fully fulfill its mission of providing progressive law enforcement and security services for Virginia's government officials, employees, citizens of the Commonwealth, and its visitors.

About the author

Officer Brian Alexander has nearly twenty years of combined service in military, law enforcement and corrections. He is a U.S.M.C. veteran now serving with the Virginia Division of Capitol Police where he is assigned to the K-9 Unit and serves as the DCP Critical Incident Team Leader. Past assignments include patrol, bike unit, and





ELDON JAMES & Associates, Inc.
CONSULTANTS

Government Relations, Project & Program Management, Strategic Planning

President L. Eldon James, Jr.
(540) 907- 2008
Eldon@EldonJamesAssociates.com www.EldonJamesAssociates.com



COMMITTED TO RUNNING RIGHT...

- To protect the safety and health of employees
- To help improve the communities where employees live and work
- To operate in an environmentally responsible manner
- To help our customers succeed



www.alphanr.com

crowd response team. Prior to starting his civilian law enforcement career in 1996, he served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps as a military policeman and on the Special Reaction Team.

Officer Alexander has been an instructor at the DCP In-service Academy, Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy and the Virginia Center for Policing Innovation (VCPI) for a variety of use of force topics, including k-9 operations, advanced officer survival, active shooter response, and tactical firearms. He has trained numerous local, state, and military law enforcement agencies. He is a certified instructor through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, (DCJS), HK, Team One Network, ASP, and the U.S. Training Center. 

Senator Jill Vogel

"Women bring a great perspective to the legislative process. Generally, they are thoughtful policy makers and skillful negotiators. I have come to appreciate that there is a unique skillset that comes with managing complex family, professional and legislative responsibilities, and it is an advantage. That said, women have extra challenges as candidates and policymakers and certainly, it has been more difficult for women to enter the political arena. I regret that more women do not run for office. However the dynamic of women candidates is quickly changing and it has had a significant impact on the opportunities for women candidates.

I have to add that I have learned so much from my female colleagues. They are a talented, thoughtful, but tough-as-nails group, who have taken on unique leadership roles during their time in office. It has been a great honor to serve with the very accomplished women of the Senate."



Delegate Kaye Kory

"I absolutely believe that our Commonwealth needs more women in the General Assembly. Currently less than 1 in 5 members of the House of Delegates are women. Given that more than half of our state population is female, women are clearly underrepresented. During the 2010 and 2011 sessions, the House of Delegates repeatedly threatened women's rights by proposing even more hostile legislation than the very restrictive laws already enacted. We need more women Delegates and Senators in Richmond. We need strong advocates to raise their voices in support of women's rights; and the rights of other underrepresented minorities."



Delegate Roxann Robinson

"It is a great honor to serve the citizens of the 27th District as their voice in the House of Delegates. The learning curve of introducing and passing legislation is tremendous as much effort is needed to take an idea and turn it into legislation and get it passed into law. It also took some time to find the right balance between my obligation and duties as a member of the House of Delegates, as a full time optometrist, and as a wife so that I can perform all three responsibilities to the best of my ability."



Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn

"One of the most surprising things I found when I joined the General Assembly was how few of my fellow members were women. Even more surprising was that I was one of only 2 women in the House of Delegates that had school aged children. With so many issues that we faced this past session such as education, child-care options and the safety of our children, I believe women and moms can add an important perspective to the discussion."



Delegate Vivian Watts

"Persons thinking about service in the General Assembly not only need to strive to be professionally competent, but they need to get involved in depth in challenges outside their profession or their family's benefit.

Deep involvement in any profession, prepares a person to grapple with the complexities of public policy issues. Governing's tough. There are no easy answers. However, if the person is a woman, professional credentials also help to quickly bridge uncertainty that still exists among men about how to work with her. The more she can initially prove her metal, the more opportunities will open for her to be effectively involved.

The second element—looking beyond one's own life experiences and self-interest—is where I believe women typically shine. The traditional role of nurturer, prepares women well to hear what is driving the concerns of others and to shape solutions.

Young women also need to make sure they embrace athletics so they can learn to handle competition and defeat, as well as find what's inside themselves to go the extra mile.

Finally, women should not hesitate to share their unique and relevant life experiences as females in public policy debate. Often the female perspective cuts to what the real effect will be on people's lives." ▣



Virginia's
Best-Kept Secret

www.crabtreefalls.com
Reservations: 571-291-9370

ASSOCIATIONS

AARP VIRGINIA

David DeBiasi, *Associate State Director-Advocacy*—(804) 344-3059

ACE (ALLIANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE)

Andy Porter, *Chairman*—(703) 658-4383

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Keenan Caldwell, *Dir. Government Relations*—(804) 527-3726

Ann Vaughan, *Grassroots Manager*—(804) 527-3714

www.acscan.org/virginia

APARTMENT AND OFFICE BUILDING ASSOCIATION

Brian Gordon—(202) 296-3390

BON SECOURS HEALTH SYSTEM (VIRGINIA)

James W. Dunn—(804) 281-8235

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, VIRGINIA STATE LODGE

Marty Williams, *President*—(800) 367-0317

INOVA HEALTH SYSTEM—(703) 289-2037 • (804) 644-8807 during GA

Donald L. Harris, *Vice President, Government Relations*

NATIONAL PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION—(202) 347-8009

Ashley.Schelske@npaf.org & Donna.Adkins@npaf.org

OUTDOOR ADVERTISING ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

Stephen W. Hughes—(804) 784-0501

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL PROFESSIONALS OF VIRGINIA

Laurie Crigler, *Lobbyist*—(540) 948-6230

QUALIFIED GAS CONTRACTORS—PENINSULA—www.QGC-VA.org

Richard Hibbard, *President*—(757) 229-8806

QUALIFIED GAS CONTRACTORS—SOUTHSIDE—www.QGC-VA.org

George Fordyce, *VP & Secretary*—(757) 436-5490

QUALIFIED GAS CONTRACTORS—SUFFOLK—www.QGC-VA.org

Ray Cobb, *Chair*—(757) 539-7484

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

Aubrey W. "Buddy" Hyde, Jr.—(434) 532-5994

SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA (SHAV)

Seijra Toogood, *President* • www.shav.org

Cornelia Long, *Vice President of Government Affairs*

VIRGINIA AFL-CIO

Doris Crouse-Mays—(804) 755-8001

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

www.vamft.org

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF MORTGAGE BROKERS

Steve Baugher—(804) 285-7557

VIRGINIA COALITION OF POLICE AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS

Chip Condon, *President*—(800) 913-2727

VIRGINIA CREDIT UNION LEAGUE

Richard D. Pillow, *CLE, President*—(800) 768-3344, x601

VIRGINIA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Kitty Boitnott, *President* • Rob Jones, *Government Relations*—(804) 648-5801

VIRGINIA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Jack W. Jones, *President*—(540) 587-0700 ext. 1233

VIRGINIA FIRE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

Frank Teevan, *President*—(703) 257-8455 • (888) 668-8372

VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICE COUNCIL

Stephen P. Kopczynski, *Chairman*—(757) 890-3612

VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Lois Keenan, *Executive Director* • David Boling, *Gov. Rel.*—(800) 394-1960

VIRGINIA LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Lisa Guthrie, *Executive Director*—(804) 225-1902 • www.valcv.org

VIRGINIA MOTORCOACH ASSOCIATION, INC.

Doug Douglas, *Government Affairs*—(434) 376-1150

VIRGINIA PETROLEUM COUNCIL

Michael D. Ward—(804) 225-8248

VIRGINIA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Jason Knorowski, *President*—(800) 233-3506, x431

VIRGINIA PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Mike Mohler, *President*—(703) 591-9271

VIRGINIA PUBLIC MEDIA ASSOCIATION

Curtis Monk, *Chairman*—(804) 560-8114

VIRGINIA RETAIL FEDERATION

Margaret Ballard—(757) 406-9431, George Peyton—(804) 334-2932

VIRGINIA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

John W. Jones—(804) 225-7152

VIRGINIA STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Gary Allred, *President*—(888) 640-5655

EATERIES

CHEZ FOUSHEE

203 North Foushee Street • (804) 648-3225

www.chezfoushee.com

DAVID NAPIER'S WHITE HOUSE CATERING

Historic Shockoe Bottom • (804) 644-4411

GRANDPA EDDIE'S ALABAMA RIBS & BBQ

11129 Three Chopt Road • (804) 270-RIBS

MERIWETHER'S AT THE ASSEMBLY

(804) 698-7438 • The Capitol • (804) 698-7692, GAB

HOTELS/RESORTS

COMMONWEALTH PARK SUITES HOTEL AT CAPITOL SQUARE

(804) 343.7300 • 901 Bank Street, Richmond

DOUBLETREE HOTEL RICHMOND DOWNTOWN

(804) 644-9871 • 301 West Franklin Street, Richmond

HAMPTON-INN RICHMOND AIRPORT

(804) 226-1888 • 421 International Center Drive, Sandston

HILTON GARDEN INN RICHMOND DOWNTOWN

(804) 344-4300 • 501 East Broad Street, Richmond

OMNI RICHMOND HOTEL

(804) 344-7000 • 100 South 12th Street, Richmond

RICHMOND MARRIOTT-DOWNTOWN (*newly renovated*)

(804) 643-3400 • 500 East Broad Street, Richmond

THE BERKELEY HOTEL (*Per diem rates offered, restrictions apply*)

(804) 780-1300 • 1200 East Cary Street, Richmond

SERVICES

CONNIE'S SHOE REPAIR

110 N. 8th Street • 804-648-8896

BENNETT

FUNERAL HOME

Charles D. Morehead, Sr.

Funeral Director & General Manager

3215 Cutshaw Avenue

Richmond, Virginia 23221

(804) 359-4481



Settle and Associates LLC

Richard L. Settle

Settle and Associates LLC

288 Clubhouse Drive

Abingdon, Virginia 24211-3839

Phone: 276-676-4444

Mobile: 804-240-1850

Richard@settleandassociates.com

"I don't think anyone ever wants to be criticized, but you have to listen and learn to accept it that it's not about me; it's about the issues."—Joycelyn Elders WVP



Providing compelling public service media for Central and Southwest Virginia

This Week in Richmond, hosted by Virginia Capitol veteran David Bailey, features discussions with Virginia elected officials. Many episodes originate from the Capitol in Richmond, with the rest from the Blue Ridge PBS studio in Roanoke. In addition to WBRA (Roanoke), WMSY (Marion) and WSBN (Norton), ***This Week in Richmond***, will be seen on WVPT (Harrisonburg), WCVE (Richmond), WHTJ (Charlottesville) and WHRO (Norfolk) providing virtually statewide coverage.



This Week IN RICHMOND

This Week in Richmond may be seen weekly during the session, January–April, and monthly May–December. Programs are available on demand at www.blueridgepbs.org/html/local/richmond_archives.html.

Funding for ***This Week in Richmond*** is provided by:

**Thelma White, CEO and author of
*The Race for the White House 2008***

Ultra Pipeline, LLC, Oakwood



Additional support is provided by:

M. E. Marty Hall, Jr.
Bluefield College, Bluefield, VA
Clinch Valley Printing, Tazewell
Danny's Pawn & Auto Loans, Christiansburg
Sandra C. Davis

AARP–Virginia
Nuckolls Drug, Inc.
Omega T. Long
Virginia State Firefighters Association
The Doctor's Inn, Galax
The Members of Blue Ridge PBS



Blue Ridge PBS is proud to bring you a new health program that will delve deeply into medical issues—to help you take charge of your healthcare. Each episode will focus on a different health topic, such as heart health, cancer, Alzheimer's, or diabetes. The program will also showcase some of the top-notch medical facilities and practitioners in our region.

Julie Newman, Blue Ridge PBS executive producer, will host ***HealthQuest*** from our high definition studio in Roanoke, VA. During each

episode, she will engage medical professionals in frank conversations about issues that matter most in our region.

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM on Blue Ridge PBS, serving all of SW Virginia.

**Covering many aspects of
modern health: prevention,
treatment, research,
administration and
medical technologies.**



Visit BlueRidgePBS.org for broadcast schedules and more information.