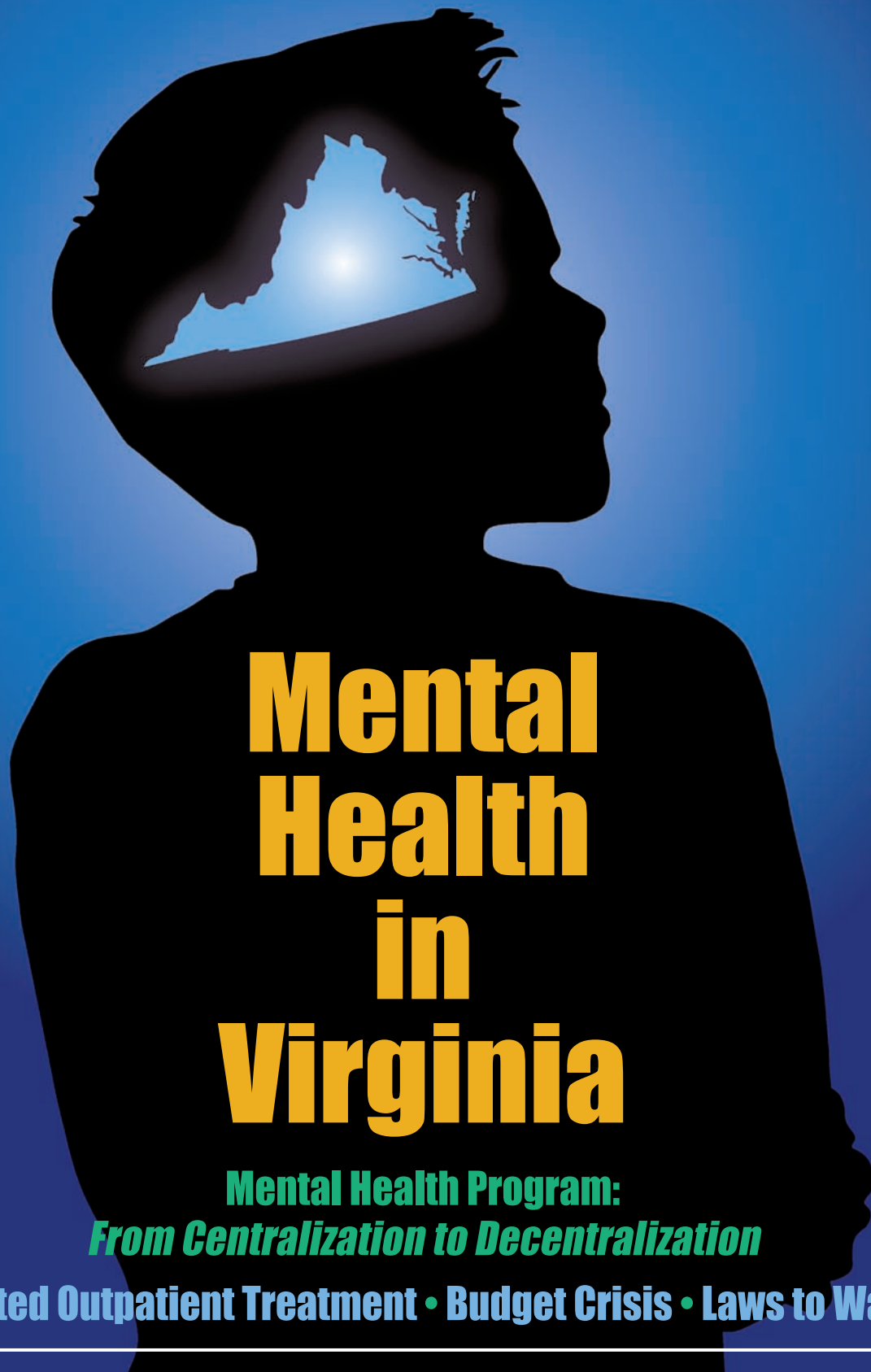


VIRGINIA
**CAPITOL
CONNECTIONS**
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE



**Mental
Health
in
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**Mental Health Program:
*From Centralization to Decentralization***

Assisted Outpatient Treatment • Budget Crisis • Laws to Watch

Fall 2007



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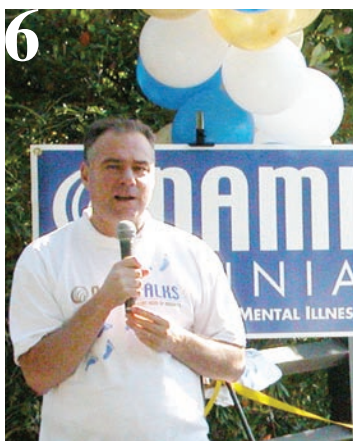
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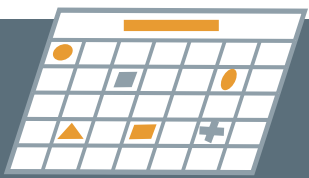


Governor Kaine speaks
at the NAMI VA Walk



Kristen Bailey Hardy,
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VIRGINIA CAPITOL CONNECTIONS

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

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Virginia's Mental Health Program: From Centralization to Decentralization



By GOVERNOR TIMOTHY M. KAINE

The current mental health system is dramatically different than it was 40 years ago. Before 1968, mental health services were provided predominantly in over 11,000 state psychiatric hospital beds. Today, individuals receive services from an array of mental health professionals in private and public programs and facilities, through 40 Community Service Boards, and in approximately 1,400 state psychiatric hospital beds.

This "mainstreaming" of mental health services previously provided by state mental health authorities in large state hospitals into a patchwork of more integrated settings in the community has had both positive and negative results. On one hand, individuals who were once relegated to overcrowded, gloomy institutions now have the hope of recovering from even the most serious and chronic mental illnesses. Thanks to breakthroughs in psychiatric medication, provision of disability incomes, better health insurance programs and housing opportunities, thousands of individuals now have the opportunity to be active and live in their communities; something that could not have been imagined years ago.

On the other hand, there have been some negative outcomes from the de-institutionalization of our state mental health facilities. The vision of money following individuals out of the state hospitals and into the community has not been realized. Too many people remain untreated or under-treated in the community. There are many individuals with mental illnesses who are homeless, and too many with severe mental illnesses have ended up in our jails and prisons.

The quality of mental health services in the Commonwealth has come a long way, but it has far to go. I am proposing new initiatives and supporting previous General Assembly efforts to infuse much-needed resources into community mental health programs. Programs for Assertive Community Treatment, which research has demonstrated are effective in reaching out to individuals in the community who do not always adhere to their treatment plans, are being established across the state. Crisis stabilization units are being built as a way to provide immediate, short-term respite for people who would otherwise end up in state facilities for long periods of time. We are rebuilding and renovating state mental health facilities. We are helping ensure the viability of partnerships between our state facilities and private psychiatric hospitals.

While the 40 Community Service Boards are a critical piece of the public mental health safety net, it has become increasingly important to have a more clearly defined set of expectations for how those services are delivered. For example, emergency services should be more readily available and easier to access. Additionally, when a crisis subsides and the individual returns to the community, more intensive case management and outpatient services need to be available so that the individual gets the necessary services in a timely manner.

The Virginia Tech tragedy reminds us that we must not ignore the mental health needs of our children, our neighbors, our college students, our senior citizens, those on the streets, those in our jails, indeed any and all Virginians. Whereas 6% of Virginians have a *serious* mental illness (one that interferes with their ability to work or care for themselves), about one of every four citizens of the Commonwealth has a diagnosable mental illness of some type. Most of

Continued on next page

Mental Health in Virginia

By PHILLIP HAMILTON

Ever since the April 16, 2007 tragedy at Virginia Tech, the public's attention has focused on Virginia's mental health system. Like far too many public policy issues which face government, it often takes a tragedy to bring an issue to the point where real action is taken.

Over the years, one of the major issues facing Virginia has been how to best meet the needs of its citizens in need of mental health services. This is not a new issue. Since 1949 there have been thirteen major studies of Virginia's mental health system. These studies have often emphasized the same issues over and over again that need to be addressed.

Many, if not all, of the recommendations from these studies identify funding as a major deficit in our current system. To address this deficiency, over the past two years, the General Assembly and the Governor have supported a state budget that included a 23% increase in funding for mental health services. Even so, the tragedy at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007, highlighted the need to do more.

It should be noted that prior to the Virginia Tech tragedy, Chief Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court, Leroy Hassell, convened a commission in October 2006 to review the state's current mental health laws. The 26-member commission includes officials from all three branches of state government as well as consumer and family representatives, service providers, and the legal community. It has been more than 30 years since the current mental health statutes were adopted and more than 20 years since the last time legislative attention was focused on this topic.

To focus on the issues facing the mental health system, the Commission divided its extensive review into five task force areas:



access to services; the commitment process; children and adolescents; consumer empowerment; and the criminal justice system.

Besides a lack of funding for services, complaints about the system include a lack of due process for mentally ill offenders, unclear statutory requirements, and little uniformity in how judges interpret and apply those requirements.

In addition, many are dissatisfied by the lack of services for children and adolescents, the lack of short-term alternatives to hospitalization, the absence of effective means to mandate outpatient treatment, the unrealistic statutory time requirements for evaluating offenders, and the increasing number of individuals with mental illness who are populating Virginia's jails and prisons.

Like most other states, Virginia must deal with the unnecessary criminalization of people with mental illness. Last year, the Virginia General Assembly increased by \$26 million the funding to 40 community service boards that administer crisis intervention and case management services in an effort to provide more community-based services to address this issue.

An objective of that funding is a better community mental health infrastructure that can divert mentally ill citizens to treatment prior to becoming offenders that end up in jail. Hopefully, through the development of more regional Crisis Stabilization Centers, such services will become more available throughout the Commonwealth.

If successful, Virginia can reduce the numbers of mentally ill people who are sent to jail and prison. More importantly, more short-term alternatives will improve citizens' access to needed care in a more timely and community-based manner.

These short-term Crisis Stabilization Centers combined with additional resources for case management offer an opportunity to address the community-based effort that began thirty-seven years ago with the creation of the Community Services Board system throughout Virginia.

As Virginia grapples with how to better serve those with mental illness, it will require a long-term commitment to providing the necessary resources to make available the services and policy changes that facilitate better access to such services in an environment that does not stigmatize those needing assistance.

In light of the budget shortfall projected for 2008, the Governor and the General Assembly should undertake a strict review of all budget expenditures to ensure that the essential core services of government are being adequately funded with the limited resources that are available.

Until recently, funding for mental health services has lagged behind the rate of inflation and utilization. As a result, there is much that still needs to be done to build the mental health infrastructure to increase access to such services for children, adolescents, and adults in Virginia.

After thirty-seven years, it is a challenge that must be addressed to improve the quality of life for many citizens and their families across Virginia.

The Honorable Philip Hamilton is a member of the House of Delegates representing the 93rd District. Hamilton chairs the House Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee. ▮

Mental Health. Important issue.

Everyone wants mental health for their extended family and now, so it seems, for anyone whose path they might cross who could do them harm. No matter the cost, mental health is worth the price. Right? **Stay tuned.**

Virginia Capitol Connections

Virginia's Mental Health Program from previous page

us are directly impacted by mental illness among friends, families, or co-workers.

The Virginia Tech Review Panel's report and other similar analyses tell us that Virginia's mental health system is complex and that improving services will not be a quick or easy task. We know that there will always be a challenge in balancing an individual's civil liberties, their need for treatment, and public safety interests. We started transforming the mental health system prior to the Virginia Tech tragedy, and I am pleased to see that all branches of state government are taking up the challenge. The Chief Justice's Commission on Mental Health Law Reform has been in place for nearly two years, working

on critical issues related to our civil commitment process and access to mental health services. In addition, General Assembly Committees, such as the House's Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee conducted a series of meetings this summer to begin tackling these tough issues.

While there are no easy solutions or quick fixes to the provision of timely and quality mental health services in Virginia, I am committed to seeing that Virginia treats the mentally ill in an effective and compassionate way. I am confident that we have the capability, resources, and willingness to make this reform happen in the Commonwealth. ▮

The Need for Assisted Outpatient Treatment

By JOHN SNOOK



Obtaining treatment for someone with a severe mental illness in Virginia is a monumentally difficult task. As the law is written now, unless someone is well enough to voluntarily participate in treatment, little can be done until they hurt themselves or someone else. And when an individual finally deteriorates to the point they are eligible to receive care in an inpatient facility, Virginia's provisions for ensuring they maintain treatment in the community once discharged are similarly lacking.

Virginia's standard for involuntary treatment fails to reflect the advances science has made in our understanding of severe mental illness—especially in regards to lack of insight (anosognosia). For a small portion of individuals with a severe mental illness, their illness makes them physically unable to understand that they are sick. This is much more than denial. Their disease renders them unable to attribute their symptoms to the illness. This condition is also seen in stroke victims and people with Alzheimer's. The bottom line—for individuals who aren't able to understand their need for care, no amount of voluntary treatment programs will ever be enough.

Unfortunately, Virginia's treatment system focuses community services almost exclusively on voluntary care. Individuals who cannot participate voluntarily are left untreated until they end up in our jails or emergency rooms. The events surrounding the Virginia Tech tragedy provide us a glimpse into what treatment looks like for someone who isn't voluntarily participating in their care. Even after Sueng-Hui Cho was court-ordered to treatment, follow-up was conditioned on his participation. The Virginia Tech Review Panel noted, "It was the policy of the Cook Counseling Center to allow patients to decide whether to make a follow-up appointment."

The state should not be allowed to ignore people simply because they are too sick to voluntarily seek treatment. When they are ignored, their care falls to the systems that cannot refuse them—our jails, emergency rooms, and inpatient facilities.

One way to effectively provide treatment for those who cannot understand they are sick is to use assisted outpatient treatment (AOT). AOT allows a court to order an individual to participate in community treatment, typically with inpatient hospitalization as a consequence of noncompliance. These laws are carefully crafted to affect only the most severely ill—that small portion that cycles in and out of jails, hospitals, and the streets because they cannot voluntarily maintain their treatment in the community.

Providing care to this group benefits the system as a whole, as they are taking up a disproportionate amount of Virginia's limited mental health resources, without receiving any real benefit. In 2002, 3,514 patients in Virginia had three or more local psychiatric hospitalizations at a cost of about \$111 million. These individuals made up less than 10 percent of the total number hospitalized, but were responsible for approximately 26 percent of hospitalization costs statewide. A survey conducted by a Virginia Planning District task force found that the most common reasons cited for not seeking or being unable to access treatment in the past six months were "refusal of treatment" (15%) and "no impairment" (10.3%).

AOT has been shown to be an effective means of providing care to this most difficult-to-treat population. Effective use of AOT increases treatment compliance during the course of the court order and promotes long-term voluntary treatment compliance. Increasing treatment adherence in this manner reduces the severe consequences associated with nontreatment.

That has been the experience of treatment systems throughout the world. In New York, participants experienced dramatic reductions in incidences of psychiatric hospitalizations, arrests, homelessness, and incarceration. In a study at Duke, participants experienced similar reductions in hospitalizations, victimization, violence, and arrests. Interestingly, the Duke researchers found that these benefits were not replicated for participants who received enhanced services without an AOT order. The researchers determined, "Receiving frequent services in the absence of AOT was not associated with improved treatment adherence."

The key to providing this small, extremely ill population with effective care is recognizing the reality of their illness. Virginia must enact effective AOT provisions to ensure that individuals receive consistent care in the community, regardless of their ability to participate voluntarily. Until that is done, Virginia families and their loved ones will continue to needlessly suffer as our system continues to neglect the most severely ill.

John Snook is Legislative & Policy Counsel for the Treatment Advocacy Center.

Mental Health and the Budget Crisis

By BRIAN TURNER

The events of April 16 at Virginia Tech raised a variety of public policy concerns, including even constitutional issues regarding the Second (gun ownership laws) and Eleventh (sovereign immunity) Amendments.



The highest profile issues are those about the mental health care system and laws governing involuntary commitment and patients' privacy rights. Policy changes are often driven by crises, and the next session of the General Assembly is likely to see a flood of legislative proposals to address the perception of crisis in Virginia's mental health care system

revealed last spring in Blacksburg.

Intersecting with these mental health services issues is the unrelated problem of the projected \$641 million budget shortfall. The Republicans in the General Assembly argue that now is not the time to promote new spending programs as they attempt to warn off Governor Kaine from pushing his "Start Strong" pre-kindergarten initiative. The governor has also proposed more spending on mental health services. The ironic twist is that Kaine's proposed reduction in state positions to cover the shortfall hit the Commonwealth's mental health services and Virginia Tech the hardest! Twenty-three positions are to be eliminated at mental health treatment centers, and nineteen are to be eliminated at Virginia Tech. Of course, the positions at Tech are not

necessarily related to mental health, but the irony is striking.

Legislative proposals from the Republican leadership in the General Assembly have focused on strengthening the ability of state authorities to order involuntary commitment for treatment of individuals who may present a danger to themselves or others, even if that danger is not "imminent," which is the state's current strict standard. Another idea has been to expand the number of "crisis stabilization units" around the state in order to enhance the ability of mental health service providers to assure short-term treatment, but these would cost nearly one-million dollars per unit according to the Newport News *Daily Press* and would not address long-term care. Recall

Continued on next page

Virginia's Mental Health Laws: Areas to Watch

By ALLYSON K. TYSINGER

Virginia's mental health laws will be high on the agenda during the 2008 General Assembly session. The Commission on Mental Health Law Reform, established by Chief Justice Leroy Rountree Hassell, Sr. and co-chaired by Attorney General Robert McDonnell, has been considering reform of our mental health laws for more than a year. The tragedy at Virginia Tech has focused greater attention on a mental health services system that many believe to be fragmented and broken. Civil commitment criteria and the civil commitment process are two areas of mental health law that will be examined by the General Assembly.

Civil commitment criteria

Virginia law has a stringent standard for civil commitment. Before entering an inpatient civil commitment order, a judge or special justice must find that an individual has mental illness and presents an imminent danger to himself or others or is so seriously mentally ill as to be substantially unable to care for himself.¹ Proposals will be introduced to make Virginia's criteria for inpatient commitment less rigorous.

Virginia's outpatient commitment criteria are the same as the inpatient commitment criteria.² Expected legislation would replace the finding that an individual presents a danger to himself or others with a finding that an individual is in need of treatment to prevent deterioration that would result in dangerousness. This would be similar to "Kendra's Law" in New York.³

The civil commitment process

Under Virginia law, an individual who is believed to be mentally ill and dangerous to himself or others may be detained for an evaluation under an emergency custody order (ECO) issued by a magistrate for up to four hours.⁴ If the evaluator finds that the person has mental illness and is a danger to himself or others, a magistrate may issue a temporary detention order (TDO) permitting a facility to detain the person for up to 48 hours.⁵ A hearing must be held before a general district court judge or a special justice within this 48-hour period.⁶

Virginia's four-hour and 48-hour detention periods are among the shortest in the country. Many argue that they do not allow men-

Budget Crisis

from previous page

that there is a projected budget shortfall. Add to this mix that candidates in both parties, but especially Republicans, are running this fall on promises of tax cuts.

The specifics of legislation will be shaped by the recommendations from the Supreme Court of Virginia's Commission on Mental Health Law Reform, due for release in October. The political will to adopt reforms is there, but finding resources to fund proposals will be the major challenge. Providers worry about "unfunded mandates" that could come in the form of mandatory civil commitments without new monies being provided to the Community Service Boards that provide treatment. Mental health professionals argue now is not the time for half-measures such as only adding new crisis stabilization units; that the moment is ripe for a full reform. Some legislators will seek to shift existing resources, such as state aid to localities, in order to avoid expenditure on new or expanded programs, triggering the always difficult politics of redistribution. The one certainty is that the tragedy at Virginia Tech will be invoked by all to raise the political pressure for adoption of each one's preferred solutions.

Brian Turner is Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science at Randolph-Macon College.

tal health professionals adequate time to obtain an individual's past history and conduct thorough evaluations. Thus, proposals are expected to lengthen the ECO and TDO detention periods.

Prior to a commitment hearing, a community services board (CSB) employee or designee must prepare a preadmission screening report that states whether an individual meets the commitment criteria and makes recommendations for the individual's placement, care and treatment.⁷ If a judge or special justice enters an order for outpatient treatment, the CSB also is responsible for recommending a specific course of treatment and monitoring the individual's compliance with the treatment ordered.⁸ Although many CSBs currently send personnel to commitment hearings, the law does not require attendance. There is a concern that without attending, a CSB will not know of an outpatient treatment order and will not be able to fulfill its duties to recommend a specific course of treatment and monitor compliance. Proposals to require attendance of CSB personnel at all commitment hearings would address this concern.

Proposals to tighten outpatient commitment compliance are also anticipated. Although Virginia law currently gives the CSBs responsibility for monitoring compliance with outpatient treatment orders, the law does not direct CSBs to report noncompliance to the court. Similarly, the law does not provide a clear statutory procedure for court oversight of individuals who are noncompliant with outpatient orders. Legislation to clarify the monitoring and oversight of outpatient commitment orders is likely during the upcoming session.

Conclusion

In the aftermath of the tragedy at Virginia Tech, Virginia's mental health system has come under increasing scrutiny. The areas outlined above are most likely to receive immediate attention. Other aspects, such as a possible increase in the array of mandated services and funding, are likely to be considered as well. The 2008 legislative session should prove to be one of the most active in Virginia's history with respect to mental health law.

Allyson K. Tysinger is currently an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia, where she specializes in mental health law, forensic mental health law, disabilities law, and health policy and planning. She serves as agency counsel for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services, the state training centers, Central State Hospital, Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute and the Virginia Center for Behavioral Rehabilitation.

¹ Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-817(B).

⁴ Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-808.

⁷ Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-816.

² Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-817(C).

⁵ Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-809.

⁸ Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-817(C).

³ See N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law § 9.60.

⁶ Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-814(A).

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NAMI Virginia Walk

Every journey begins with one step. On October 13, 2007 mental health advocates took a journey towards a better mental health care system in Virginia when they joined the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Virginia (NAMI VA) at its annual Walk in Richmond. The walkathon—part of a string of Walks in cities around the country—raises money and awareness about Virginia's need for a better treatment and recovery system for people with mental illness. The walkathon also created visibility for mental illness issues and people with mental illness, and reduced the stigma that is often associated with mental illness. The Walk was timed

to coincide with Mental Illness Awareness Week, established by Congress in 1990 to raise mental illness awareness. About 600 people attended the event from all over the Commonwealth. Governor Kaine attended to deliver opening remarks, noting that people with mental illness are productive and meaningful members of society, and drawing attention to the fact that mental illness touches nearly everyone's life in some way, whether through a friend, family member, neighbor, or oneself.

NAMI VA is a statewide organization that provides education, support, and advocacy for people with mental illness and

their families. NAMI VA has 26 local affiliates working in communities throughout the Commonwealth to organize support groups, meetings and educational classes for people with mental illness and their families; participate in local task forces and committees; and work towards policy changes to improve the mental health care system. The Walk is an important fundraiser for these all-volunteer affiliates that work tirelessly on the grassroots level to promote change and awareness.

The Walk took place merely six months after the horrific and sad events at Virginia Tech in April. In the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy there has been increased attention on gaps in the mental health care system and calls for mental health reform. The Virginia Supreme Court Commission on Mental Health Law Reform is expected to release a preliminary report prior to the 2008 Virginia General Assembly with suggestions for mental health reform for the legislature to consider. The Virginia Tech Panel released its report in September; about two-thirds of the recommendations issued by the independent panel related to mental health law reform.

"Our hope is that each step that the walkers took on their 3-mile walk is one step closer to an improved mental health care system that Virginians need and deserve. Virginia has been moving in the right direction by reinvesting resources into the community and we need to see this continue if we are going to have a truly effective system. This is a walk for hope and change and recovery," said Mira Signer, Executive Director of NAMI VA. To learn more about NAMI VA visit www.namivirginia.org



The Way I See It

By DAVID L. BAILEY

Years ago in Evergreen Elementary School on an unsupervised playground a little fat boy was bullied. It wasn't the first time, but on this day the bully succeeded in throwing the little boy down and in the ensuing fight dislocated his right shoulder. Later while attending Warwick High School, the older little fat boy was pushed, shoved and often intimidated. He was not the only one bullied, that's just the way it was *back in the last century*.

None of my contemporaries who were bullied contemplated collecting weapons and going on a rampage killing classmates and teachers. Nobody talked about it. It did not happen. Also while most rural children grew up with BB guns and .22s, we knew what they were for, and we did not misuse them.

Fast forward to this millennium and *bullied in school* appears as the explanation de jour for deviant adult behavior. Not the bully, but the bullied. Go figure.

Recently when the Queen visited Virginia, three generations of Baileys came to the Capitol to see her. Holding a granddaughter up to get her glimpse of the Queen, I relished the memory of one of my father's favorite stories.

A young American man was traveling in England, and while there he visited Windsor Palace in hopes of seeing the royal family, and he did. Eagerly he called home to say that he had seen the Queen. His mother was so excited with the news and she went throughout the neighborhood telling everyone, "The Queen saw Johnny."

I love this story. Every time I recall it I get a warm feeling, remembering my parents who instilled confidence and courage in their little boy. Their parenting enabled me to see more (or less) than what the mirror reflected. Sure the bullying hurt, but it never seriously injured my self-esteem.

Great parenting is why this bullied little fat boy and many others survived childhood and thrived as adults.

The Way I See It, mental health begins at home. [V]



The Way It Is— The Next Generation

By KRISTEN BAILEY-HARDY

Editor's Note: We welcome Kristen Bailey-Hardy to Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine. Her view adds a significant dimension to her father's column. In the January issue we anticipate an expanded column from The Next Generation.

Today, as a part-time school counselor, I read *The Bully Blockers Club* by Teresa Bateman to kindergarten and first grade students. The objective of this lesson is to help students recognize what bullying is and to teach them anti-bullying strategies. This book's main character is a raccoon named Lotty who begins the school year excited about her new teacher, new backpack, and new shoes. However this enthusiasm is soon diminished when Grant Grizzly begins bullying her. As the story continues it provides a variety of strategies for dealing with bullies, such as, using humor, ignoring the bully, asserting yourself, walking away from the situation and telling an adult. Lotty also realizes other kids are being bullied by Grant and she encourages everyone together to form the Bully Blockers Club. When Grant tries to bully someone, the other kids speak up and that gets an adult's attention and Grant stops his bullying.

See *The Way It Is*, continued on page 11



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Preparing Teachers to Promote Resilience Following Crises

By PHIL WISHON

Shortly after the tragic events that transpired on the campus of Virginia Tech University on April 16, 2007, the two professional organizations representing institutions that prepare Virginia's education professionals, VACTE (Virginia's AACTE affiliate) and ATE-Virginia members affirmed their strong desire to help clarify and seek insights into questions regarding the role educators might play in helping to prevent crises and violence, and to aid individuals and communities victimized by violent or catastrophic events. In an effort to facilitate greater understanding of the role that educators might play in helping school communities respond effectively to loss and suffering, VACTE President Dr. Brenda Gilman (Randolph Macon College) and ATE-VA President Dr. Sandy Brownscombe (Eastern Mennonite University) and members of their respective executive boards decided to dedicate their organizations' 2007-08 annual fall and spring conferences to discussion and examination of this critical issue.

The theme of the fall conference held on October 4 & 5 at Sweet Briar College was *Preparing Teachers to Promote Resilience Following Crises*. Dr. Mary Slade of James Madison University, Beth Stombaugh, a former teacher in New Orleans, and Ms. Jenn Schraw, a James Madison University teacher education graduate and National Relief Network intern led off the conference by sharing personal accounts of the hurricane Katrina crisis. Ms. Stombaugh described the personal toll that hurricane Katrina took on individuals, schools, and communities in New Orleans and her personal journey in search of personal agency and empowerment—a journey that continues to this day and is likely to present her with challenges for some time. Dr. Slade and Ms. Schraw emphasized the value of including teacher education candidates and faculty, high school students, and others in service learning projects focusing on community relief. With enough participants to fill three large buses full of student and adult volunteers, Dr. Slade and Ms. Schraw will be escorting their seventh week-long relief mission to the Gulf Coast region this upcoming Thanksgiving week.

Perspectives on the Virginia Tech tragedy were shared by Ms. Heidi Miller, one of the student survivors, her parents Lolly and David Miller, and Dr. Sue Magliaro, Director of Virginia Tech's School of Education. Each recounted her/his experiences with the April 16th events, as well as the days and months after from a personal perspective, and for Dr. Magliaro, from the perspective of one in a leadership position. Ms. Miller, a student in international studies, shared her story of amazing resilience, and set the stage for the conference theme of hope. Mr. and Mrs. Miller's experiences as

parents helped conference participants understand the critical role that professionals have in supporting loved ones in such a crisis. Dr. Magliaro traced the university's immediate response to the Virginia Tech tragedy, and helped conference participants understand the scale and impact of events on administrative decision-making during and after the crisis. While describing a number of the actions taken in the weeks and months following that fateful April 16, Dr.

Magliaro outlined the range of human/interpersonal considerations which impacted (and continues to impact) all facets of day-to-day operations. Lessons learned from the tragedy, as well as the subsequent response to the internal and external review panels, new security measures, examination of the information sharing policies and practices, and professional and personal development initiatives, were also discussed. James Madison University professors of Graduate Psychology, Drs. Anne Stewart and Lennie Echterling, introduced teacher educators to an evidence-based model that describes pathways for student resilience in troubled times, such as acts of violence and terrorism, and in the aftermath of natural disasters and other crises. Entitled *Training Teachers to Promote Resilience in Crisis*, Drs. Stewart and Echterling emphasized that the role of teachers is not to treat students as helpless victims, but to help them reach out to others, make meaning, take heart, and rebuild their lives. They reminded participants that teachers play a crucial role in fostering a psychologically secure learning environment in which students can explore, discover, and learn.

Dr. Dewey Cornell, a forensic psychologist in the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia shared with conferees his views about the value of incorporating a model for assessing threat as a violence prevention strategy. Dr. Cornell cautioned against allowing fears and misperceptions about extremely violent acts to overrule facts and reason when searching for effective ways to mediate and reduce the prevalence of violent events perpetrated in and around schools.

Dedicating our professional conferences this academic year to the idea of individual and community resiliency in the face of crisis, states Dr. Phil

Wishon, (fall conference chair and James Madison University Dean of Education), "helps us think critically and creatively about events and circumstances that imperil our relationships with others, and about how we might prepare students who will take whatever action they can to help make our relationships with others more civil."

Dr. Phil Wishon is the Dean of the College of Education, James Madison University.

Reactions to Presentations

"Throughout...I found myself thinking about how this information can be incorporated into our teacher education program in order to prepare every teacher to help children in crisis."

Sandi Cohen, University of Virginia

"Attention to the negative and positive emotional experiences is critical to preparation of teachers and to teacher development, including preparation for crises."

Cathy Erb, Eastern Mennonite University

"The time has come to ensure that all teachers in today's schools are exposed to crisis management and response strategies in their teacher preparation programs."

Carole Grove, Mary Baldwin College

"Mary Slade (the teacher educator who organized Katrina-relief service learning missions) did something. Exemplary!"

Herb Thompson, Emory and Henry



What IS A Social Worker Anyway?

By DEBRA RIGGS

Generally speaking, the public's conception of who social workers are and what they do is unclear, and often inaccurate. Professional social workers are found in every facet of community life—in schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, senior centers, elected office, private practice, prisons, military, corporations, and in numerous public and private agencies.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), professional social workers are the nation's largest group of mental health services providers. There are more clinically trained social workers than psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric nurses combined. Federal law and the National Institutes of Health recognize social work as one of five core mental health professions. More than 40% of all disaster mental health volunteers trained by the American Red Cross are professional social workers.

In a profession dedicated to orchestrating positive change, it should come as no surprise that there are over 170 social workers in national, state and local elected office, including two U.S. Senators and four U.S. Representatives. Today, 48 special interest social work organizations contribute to the vitality and credibility of the social work profession.

Professional social workers assist individuals, groups, or communities to restore or enhance their capacity for social functioning, while creating societal conditions favorable to their goals. Social workers help people overcome some of life's most difficult challenges: poverty, discrimination, abuse, addiction, physical illness, divorce, loss, unemployment, educational problems, disability, and mental illness. They help prevent crises and counsel individuals, families, and communities to cope more effectively with the stresses of everyday life.

The practice of social work requires knowledge of human development and behavior, of social, economic and cultural institutions, and of the interaction of all these factors. Social workers are uniquely trained to help people overcome the obstacles that impact their personal circumstances and quality of life.

A professional social worker holds a, BSW, MSW or DSW degree from an accredited school of social work, has received extensive



training in standards and ethics, and must demonstrate competency and complete (minimally) 400 hours of supervised field experience. What consumers need to understand is that not all caseworkers are social workers.

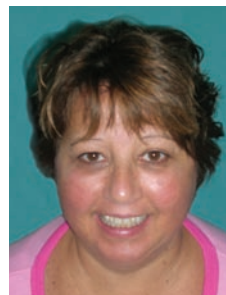
Currently, anyone in Virginia can use the title "social worker", and claim to be engaged in social work practice, even if they do not have nationally recognized standards of education and experience. Would we allow someone to call him or her self a physician if they had not graduated from medical school or a pilot if they had not taken flying lessons and logged many hours at the controls of a plane? Licensing and regulation instills a level of public safety that is essential.

At present, Virginia does not require licensure for social workers other than those in private practice. Due to exemptions in the law, there is no protection afforded to consumers of other services that may be provided by a social worker such as home health care, case management, nursing home services, group home care, hospital services, etc.

The National Association of Social Workers Virginia Chapter (NASWVA), supports licensure for ALL social workers to assure accountability, and thereby the utmost protection for social work clients. NASWVA has worked diligently, along with other stakeholders in the field of Social Work, to promote legislation which would ultimately result in greater protection for the public at large.

Don't we owe it to our most vulnerable citizens to ensure that the service providers with whom they work are competent, ethical professionals?

Debra A. Riggs is the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers—Virginia. [E]



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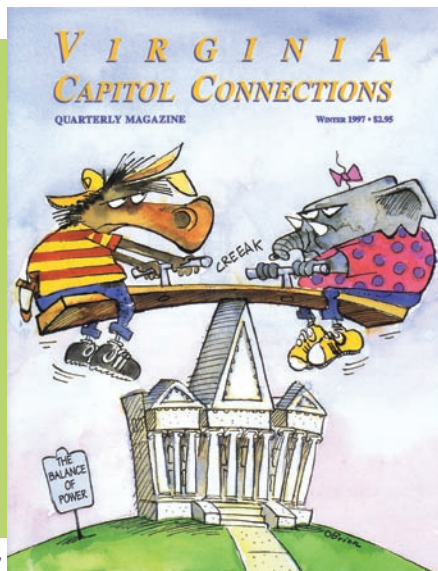
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10 Years Ago in Virginia Capitol Connections

Winter 1997



Editor's Note: From time-to-time, Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine reprints from past editions material of significance related to current events. We thought that this article from ten years ago might offer a worthwhile perspective of how far Virginia has progressed on mental health issues over that time period. Charles Richman is the President of SOC Enterprises in Arlington, VA.

Improving The Virginia Public Mental Disabilities System

BY CHARLES RICHMAN, PRESIDENT, VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

Last year the Virginia legislature appointed a joint subcommittee (HJR 240, 1996) to evaluate the future delivery of publicly funded mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services. The Subcommittee co-chaired by Senator Joseph Gartlan and Delegate "Frank" Hall has been involved in fact-finding hearings and visits to state mental health facilities since July 1996. In late 1997 they will make their recommendations for improving the public mental disabilities system in time for the 1998 General Assembly session.

The Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse reports comparative data which ranks Virginia against other states (The Continuum of Care Study, Va. DMHMR-SAS, January 1996). This study ranks Virginia 36th in expenditures for community-based MR services with the general revenue portion ranking 40th. Overall Mental Health and Mental Retardation services are significantly underfunded as compared to other states. Furthermore, Virginia ranks 2nd highest in the percentage of public funds spent on state MH facilities and 6th highest on state MR facilities. The trend of increasing community care in the United States has been fueled largely by state government financing both to save money and to improve the community integration of persons with disabilities. According to the American Association on Mental Retardation, "it is government at the state level that raises most of the revenue and allocates the funds that drives the community services agenda." (The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities, David Braddock et al, AAMR, 1995). Much of the impetus for state action has come from "right to habilitation suits" requiring states to develop community-based alternatives to institutional care.

In an effort to provide information and input to the HJR 240 joint subcommittee, the Virginia Association of Community Rehabilitation Programs (VCRP) testified on October 30, 1996 on the cost-benefits of community rehabilitation. The costs of jobs programs offered by community rehabilitation programs are far outweighed by their benefits. The price of inaction is in unemployment, increased income transfer costs, and dependency on long term governmental support. During the last round of subcommittee hearings VCRP joined with the Virginia Network of Private Providers (VNPP), representing providers of residential services and the ARC of Virginia, an advocacy organization representing persons with mental retardation

in providing joint testimony. Our focus is on a unified set of high priority positions for improving Virginia's service system for people with mental retardation. These are as follows;

- **Assure local control of services and supports**—the community service Boards should retain their current role as service allocators at the local level; authentic service/support choices should be offered to consumers and their families; community service boards should not act as direct service providers except where no other qualified community providers are available.
- **Adequate community-based services are essential**—additional resources which are not tied to the state Medicaid match are needed to achieve minimally adequate community-based care; assertive case management and service coordination which is responsive to consumer and family choices should be available to all consumers and not just to Medicaid beneficiaries.
- **The role of Medicaid should be reevaluated and balance restored to the mental retardation system**—Medicaid represents only a small part of the system with non-Medicaid eligible persons having legitimate service needs requiring state funding; Medicaid eligibility should be made less restrictive and additional Medicaid Waiver slots should be sought; state funding of new matching requirements should halt the diversion of local funds away from the non-Medicaid eligible; Medicaid reimbursement rates should be indexed for inflation and reflect the actual costs of residential and supported employment services.

The HJR 240 subcommittee will have a difficult task in coming up with ways to bridge the current gap. This gap is between the needs and expectations of consumers and their families for publicly supported mental retardation employment and residential services and the inability of state economic growth and program priorities to support these needs. The programs offered by community rehabilitation are investments in alleviating hardship, promoting the work ethic and supplying society with valuable products and services. President Franklin D. Roosevelt in defending depression era New Deal jobs program improvements said it best, "Better the occasional faults of a government that lives in a spirit of charity than the consistent omissions of a government frozen in the ice of its own indifference." [1]

Some in Congress are Out of Touch on Illegal Immigration

By LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BILL BOLLING

Illegal immigration is one of the most important issues currently facing our country.

Unfortunately, the recent debate in Congress over proposed amnesty for illegal immigrants shows just how out of touch some in Washington, DC have become with the American people.

The American people want something done to stop the flow of illegals coming into our country, and they want the law enforced as it relates to illegals that are already in our country.

We want people to come to our country for legitimate purposes, like getting an education or finding a job. We want everyone to enjoy the American dream, but the American dream must be earned, it cannot be stolen.

If we are really serious about dealing with the problem of illegal immigration, here is what we need to do:

First, we must secure our southern border to stop the flow of illegals into our country, and we need to do this immediately. The border must be secured by whatever means is necessary—a physical fence, a virtual fence, more border patrol officers, the National Guard—whatever it takes.

Second, we must reform our immigration system to make it easier and quicker for people to come to our country for legitimate purposes. The current system is too complex and time consuming, but that is no justification for turning the cheek of indifference to the willful violation of our laws.

Third, we must take away the incentives that encourage people to come to our country illegally. We must stop providing the benefits of citizenship (that means no Medicaid, welfare, public housing, or any other form of public assistance) to illegal immigrants. These are the benefits of citizenship, and they are intended for American citizens not people who come to our country illegally.

Fourth, we must do more to hold employers accountable for knowingly hiring illegal workers or failing to confirm their legal immigration status before hiring them. We must do everything we



can to make it as difficult as possible for illegal immigrants to find jobs in our country.

If we take away the incentives that encourage people to come to our country illegally, like public services and jobs, they will be discouraged from committing illegal acts and encouraged to comply with the law, like millions of other legal immigrants have done before them.

And finally, we must actively enforce the immigration laws that are already on the books. We need to be more aggressive in our efforts to find illegals and remove them from our country. We may not be able to deport all of the 12-20 million illegals who are in our country today, but we can remove those we encounter along the way.

Does this sound reasonable to you? It does to me. If so, why can Congress not do these things and put the immigration debate behind us? Unfortunately, some in Congress appear to be more interested in the politics of immigration than they are in solving the immigration crisis that faces our country.

While Congress fails to act, states are forced to do what we can to address the illegal immigration issues on the state level. While the primary responsibility for immigration rests with the federal government, there are things we can do in Virginia to help address this problem.

First, we can require the Governor to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) to allow state and local law enforcement agencies to enforce civil immigration laws. This would enable our state and local police to arrest and detain illegals when they encounter them, rather than releasing them.

Second, we can make sure that illegals in Virginia are not receiving the benefits of citizenship. While we have already acted to take most of these benefits away, we still allow the children of illegal immigrants living in Virginia to pay in state tuition at our colleges and universities. That should be stopped.

And finally, we can pass our own laws holding Virginia employers accountable for knowingly hiring illegal workers or knowingly failing to confirm their immigration status prior to hiring them.

I understand that illegal immigration is complex, but it is not as complex as the politicians in Washington, DC want to make it appear. We support legal immigration. We oppose illegal immigration. And if they can not understand that, we need some new leaders in Washington. █

Mortgage Crisis

By ATTORNEY GENERAL BOB McDONNELL

It's not news that the mortgage foreclosure crisis is drastically impacting homeowners and the broader economy.

Nationwide, the number of homes in foreclosure has increased more than 30 percent in the past year.

Fortunately, Virginia is 47th among the states in the percentage of outstanding mortgages currently in foreclosure.

Yet Virginia foreclosure filings have increased significantly in recent months.

With a high number of Adjustable Rate Mortgages (ARMs) resetting to higher interest rates in October, the problem may get worse before it gets better, and more borrowers may face difficulty keeping pace with increasing mortgage payments.

It is surely upsetting to face the risk of losing a home. But it is a mistake to not communicate with your mortgage lender or servicer if you fear falling behind in your payments.

I encourage Virginia homeowners facing difficulty to have a dialogue with their lender or servicer. Given the chance, many lenders will work with borrowers to avoid foreclosure, often by modifying



mortgages to make individual payments more affordable.

Homeowners facing possible foreclosure should be wary of unsolicited offers to refinance. Scammers like to prey on desperate individuals, offering refinancing terms that seem too good to be true. Some may even suggest that it is necessary to deed your home to a third party to secure such new financing.

If you choose to refinance, be sure to obtain independent advice and information and refinance with a reputable lender.

For more tips, check out the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Web site, www.hud.gov, which also features a list of local nonprofit home finance counseling agencies. █

The Way It Is from page 7

"The most recent and compelling research indicates we need to intervene on many levels simultaneously. In other words, bullies, victims, peer bystanders, school personnel and parents all have a role to play in preventing and reducing bullying" ("The Buzz on Bullying," John and Rita Sommers-Flanagan, <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?contentid=282>).

I agree that mental health begins at home. I have read this book with my children and have had many conversations about bullying. As a parent, I will provide confidence and courage and teach the skills needed to stop the bullying. █

State Senator Russ Potts Honored At Tribute

A crowd of nearly four-hundred friends and admirers and Virginia political figures and national sports personalities gathered at the Best Western Lee-Jackson Banquet Room in Winchester Virginia on October 18, 2007 to pay tribute to a native son on the event of his retirement after serving four-terms of office in the Virginia Senate; Very few seats were empty and few eyes were not moist before the event honoring Senator H. Russell "Russ" Potts ended.

Many of the speakers spoke movingly, and often amusingly, about their experiences in working with Senator Potts either in the Virginia General Assembly or during his lifetime of sports promotion and administration with the University of Maryland, Southern Methodist University, the Chicago White Sox Professional Baseball Club, or a host of other athletic activities.

Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine gave the welcoming address for the event and opened by commenting that the one thing that Senator Potts always had foremost on his mind was his beloved Handley High School and the City of Winchester. Kaine noted that Potts served in the Virginia Senate while he {Kaine} was Lieutenant Governor and had presided over that body and also that Potts had been one of his opponents in the 2005 gubernatorial election. Kaine emphasized that "[m]y relationship with Russ has been very, very enjoyable. Being Lieutenant Governor, I worked very closely with all 40 senators, and one year we went 117 days rather than 60, so we spent a lot of quality time together, and Russ just got to be a really dear friend." Kaine stated that "[w]e also campaigned against each other for governor. The other opponent for governor [Republican Jerry Kilgore] would never appear with Russ on a stage, but I did three debates with just Russ and me. During that time, we got to be even better friends."

Former Governor Mark Warner was the first tribute speaker of the evening and praised Potts for his "courage, conviction, and determination." Warner wryly noted that most people who retire get roasted, but Potts had instead managed to get a tribute. Warner commended Potts' wife, Emily, "for keeping him straight most of the time."

Warner also commented about the unusual nature of that evening's event by asking the attendees to "...take a moment and look around this room. I have been in a lot of banquet halls and have been involved in a lot of events [over] my ten-years in public life and I can not think of a room like this for anyone else in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We have people who are Republicans, Democrats, Independents, Libertarians, and vegetarians; we have people here who are national and local folks, and people from all over the Commonwealth, and current and past colleagues of the Senator; It is really remarkable!"

John Thompson, former Georgetown University men's basketball coach, followed Warner and praised Potts for having stood by him when he [Thompson] was named to head the Georgetown basketball program in the 1970s. Thompson noted that Potts' support came at a time when many colleges were reluctant to hire a black man to coach a team at a university that was not a traditional black school. Thompson went on to exclaim that "[t]here were few people who went out of their way to try to help me, and one of the things he [Potts] did was that any time I was in trouble, he called me up and always said this to me—from a man you can't get to shut up—the first thing he would say to me was, 'Shut up!'"

Tom McMillen, former University of Maryland All-American basketball player and Rhodes scholar, who later would serve in the U. S. House of Representatives, said Potts had changed college athletics, by serving as the first college sports promotion director and teaming with then-Maryland coach Charles "Lefty" Driesell on promotions to make the Terrapin basketball program more popular than any other college basketball program in the Washington, DC Metro area by filling the old Cole Field House.

University of Connecticut Athletic Director Jeffrey Hathaway, who served as a sports administration intern under Potts at the University of Maryland, described how Potts had helped him develop a career in sports administration. He also noted how emotional Potts could get over a sports-related event by depicting Potts as likely to cry over the loss of a game as over the loss of a sponsor for an athletic program.

Stephen Schanwald, another University of Maryland sports administration intern under Potts, and former Chicago White Sox executive and now Chicago Bulls' Executive Vice President, for Business Operations, recounted his amusing sports promotion experiences with Potts and expressed his appreciation for Potts' mentoring skills.

University of Oklahoma Director of Athletics Joe Castiglione, a third sports administration intern under Potts at the University of Maryland, spoke eloquently about the mentorship and friendship that Potts had bestowed upon him thus contributing to his own success.

Continued on next page



Senator Potts, John Thompson, Lefty Driesell & Tom McMillen

Governor Mark Warner and Senator Russ Potts



Russ & Emily Potts, John Thompson



Senator John Chichester, Senator Russ Potts

Photos by Corey Sullivan—www.sullivans-studio.com



Capitol Connections *On The Scene*



Chris Nelson, Land Use Expert



Teresa Altemus, President of the Virginia Association of Counties



Pierce R. Homer, Governor Kaine's Secretary of Transportation



Lunch break at a conference attended by over 300 from around Virginia in Henrico County on July 24th —“Using the Transportation Bill of 2007 to Make Growth Work”

Potts Honored from previous page

Lefty Driesell recalled his doubts when Jim Kehoe, then Maryland Athletic Director, first introduced Potts to him as the university's first sports promotion director. Driesell also mentioned some of the promotion activities started by Potts, including convincing Driesell to continue to lead his team onto the court [with Driesell] giving the “V” victory sign with his two extended fingers.

U. S. Congressman Frank Wolf (R-10th District) praised Potts as the first person in the Shenandoah Valley to approach him [Wolf] after the 1991 redistricting of congressional seats to introduce him around the Valley.

Sen. John H. Chichester, President Pro-Tem of the Virginia Senate (R-Fredericksburg) commented that no member of the Senate had more passion or was a better orator than Potts, whose ability to make a contemporaneous speech was legendary. He also noted that the members of the Senate could tell the level of passion or topic of a Potts' speech by the number of hot dogs he consumed before the speech. He claimed that his [Potts'] digestive system was so finely tuned that he could “turn hot dog buns into sugar” in a flash.

Senate Minority Leader, Richard L. Saslaw (D-Springfield), noted Potts' sympathy for the common man who needed the help of govern-

ment and how Potts always tried to meet that need. “Russ,” said Saslaw, “realized that you couldn't run this state for free; We would love to do that, “but we can't, and there are a lot of people —not in this room— but there are a lot of people who need help from the state of Virginia. Those services cannot be provided for free, and Russ knew this.”

State Senator Janet Howell (D-Reston) mentioned how she had learned to appreciate and value Potts' political courage, determination, and wisdom and how he became a very good friend and respected colleague.

The closing speaker for the event was Senator Potts' childhood friend, Graham Nelson, who not only attended elementary school with Potts, but also played football at Handley High School as well as attending college with Potts. In, perhaps, one of the most amusing, of many humorous, stories about Potts during the evening, Mr. Nelson described one of Potts' early automobile driving experiences when Potts, driving a vehicle owned by the father of a friend, crashed into a truck carrying pigs which then escaped from the truck and wandered around Winchester until Potts and his friends were able to catch them.

All-in-all, it was one of the most memorable tributes to an unforgettable and courageous leader that one could have hoped to attend. **13**

Good Richmond Schools

By CHARLES TODD

Education is a state responsibility set by the Virginia constitution, and a local school board is necessary as the policy-making body for the operation of a school division. It has not been determined that elected boards are more effective than appointed boards, and the physical location of a school board's offices probably has little or no bearing on student learning. Both issues are Richmond news and provide the media with stories and some lawyers with fees, but neither makes good schools that will have a positive affect on student learning.



So what does make a good school or a good school system? It may be surprising to hear from someone who has spent his career in education that it's not good school boards or good superintendents or good principals that make good schools. Even good teachers, who should be adequately compensated for the responsibility and risk they take in caring for other people's children, are not the answer. In the final analysis, it is GOOD STUDENTS who make good schools!

Richmond has many good students, although some of the best have moved with their families to surrounding counties. The best of the remaining students may have been selected to go to the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School while others attend a variety of private or parochial schools. For whatever reason, these schools, which parents select, are apparently good schools. Students with handicapping conditions may go to special schools, both public and private.

The drain of the best Richmond students has left a large number of the less able students in the public schools. Test scores of these students have often below state averages at all levels. Because so many Richmond public school children receive free or reduced lunches as determined by state and federal guidelines, it is obvious that a large majority of Richmond public school students come from poor economic situations.

The adequacy of these children's homes as defined by income levels may also include single parent homes (for a variety of reasons); homes in publicly subsidized housing; and homes where unemployment is high, drugs are used, and the crime rate is the highest.

In many of these homes, basic English is often not readily used and the cultural experiences available consist largely of many hours of television. Obviously, preschool experiences under such conditions are less than satisfactory by most standards. Activities during these pre-

school years do not encourage good language skills which are so valuable for academic training, and this may handicap students for employment later. Teachers must try to teach students lacking good preschool preparation. Instruction in phonics is nearly impossible if students do not already speak an acceptable level of English and know only a minimum number of words.

Reduced pupil/teacher ratios through federal programs such as Head Start and Title I-which began in 1966-have not achieved significant academic results. Schools do not usually report the addition of federally funded teachers and aides as a reduction in the regular teacher's load. The reduced classroom size has not proved to be the solution to pupil achievement.

Although progress may have been shown on the No Child Left Behind federally-mandated program, it is well known that there are many ways, legal and otherwise, to raise test scores. Few teachers believe that teaching to the tests is true education, and had they known this would become the goal of public education, they would likely have chosen some other career.

So, how does Richmond get better students? Because there is no great influx of young families and annexation laws prevent the incorporation of neighboring counties, the answer lies with the ability of the City to improve the competence of the students it has.

In recent publications about elected versus appointed school boards and about the Public Square forum, no generally accepted proposal has been suggested to remedy the Richmond Schools' problems. None of the 37 persons pictured and quoted in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* (September 16) following the Public Square forum suggested Governor Tim Kaine's early childhood education initiative.

What Governor Kaine campaigned for and has continued to speak on across the state is his **Start Strong** program for pre-kindergartners, which would tend to produce better students. It begins with 4-year olds, although he would like to see it start even earlier.

The program is based on research that shows that brain development is greatest in the preschool years and similar programs have met with success in other states. Governor Kaine says that by beginning earlier, it will increase the likelihood that children will not have to be retained in the elementary grades, an expensive solution, with no guarantee of success.

In an address to early childhood educators at the Jefferson Hotel in August 2007, Governor Kaine said **Start Strong** will build on the existing network of public and private providers, removing barriers such as geography and family income.

While the Governor is proposing this program for the entire state, its emphasis is to help children who have already been identified as

Continued on next page



Put Children First

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American Nativism Redux

By CHARLES L. WADDELL

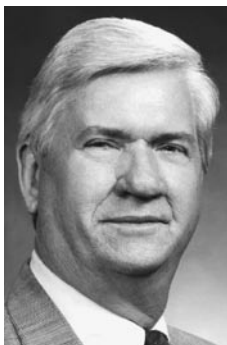
While some of the current public furor over immigration may be based upon narrow legitimate concerns over such significant matters as overcrowding in housing and schools, use of public assistance services for indigent and disabled immigrants, street-based social patterns, competition for low-skill jobs, and cultural differences, much of that furor can be attributed to good, old-fashioned American Nativism (Xenophobia) and current political opportunism.

In the mid-1700s, many Americans feared the supposed effects of Jewish immigration upon their communities; others were so worried about the German immigrants to the extent that some Germans pretended to be Dutch. In the early 1800s, concern was expressed about the Scotch-Irish and later Irish Catholics—indeed those self-same Irish of the “lace curtain” class worried about their purported inferiors known as the “shanty” Irish. By the mid-1850s, Chinese immigration became a subject of concern. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, concern was expressed about Eastern and Southern European immigrants.

As to home-grown nativism, we have only to look at the steep price this nation and the Commonwealth of Virginia have paid because of black slavery and the imposition of state-enacted black codes (after the reconstruction period following the Civil War) in the former confederate and border states as a means of limiting or denying civil liberties granted to black citizens under the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the U. S. Constitution. In Virginia, the program of state “massive resistance” to public school desegregation, which was mandated following the 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, resulted in the closing of public schools for a number of years in several Virginia counties, often denying free public education to white as well as black students.

As a life-long Democrat and former state and local government elected official, normally the last thing that I would want to do for the Republican Party would be to give them some good political advice. But as a strong believer in the importance of a competitive two-party system and an American who abhors the scape-goating of any ethnic group, I would caution the Republican Party to at least consider the advice of one of their own party spokesmen and one of their major media sources.

Michael Gerson, a Republican political pundit (and former George W. Bush White House speech writer) recently described



the Republican Party emphasis on anti-immigration legislation and public debate as “surfing on a wave of voter resentment...[that] is easier [to promote] than rowing on the calmer waters of inclusion and charity.”

If the Republican Party continues to foster anti-immigrant nativism directed toward the Hispanic community, then it will most likely doom itself to long-term minority political party status in a great many states as well as on the national political level. According to the *Wall Street Journal* (September 15-16, 2007), Hispanics are the fastest-growing minority group in America (now 14% of the total U. S. Population). During the 2002 elections, Hispanics constituted 6% of the electorate; in 2006 elections, they were 8% of the electorate. While the Hispanic support for the Democratic Party has slipped in recent years (from 73 % for Bill Clinton in 1996 to 53% for John Kerry in 2004; the Republican share of Hispanic votes for Dole in 1996 was 21% and increased to 42% for George Bush in 2004).

The *Journal* also noted that “Republican opposition to immigration overhauls could further mobilize Hispanic voters and drive them from the Republican Party...” The *Journal* reported, for example, that in 1994, the state of California enacted a legislative initiative sponsored by the state Republican Party which denied public services to illegal immigrants which was later found to be unconstitutional by a federal court; that measure so alienated Hispanic citizens that “Republican candidates have fared poorly in the state ever since.” The *Journal* further emphasized that Hispanic votes are becoming increasingly important in such swing states as Florida, Colorado, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico, which all voted for George Bush in 2004.

Also, according to a Johns Hopkins University voting researcher, by 2020 four states—Nevada, New Mexico, Iowa, and Ohio—that voted for George Bush in 2004 (and elected Democrats to statewide offices and the U. S. Senate in 2006) would cast their votes for Democratic Presidential electors.

I believe that Gerry Connolly, the Chairman Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has best expressed the appropriate tone toward the issue of immigration in his *Washington Post* op ed on September 23, 2007:

“We can all recognize the challenge posed by illegal immigration. However, we must not allow politicians to engage in the demagogic politics of fear and intimidation that [has] so divided us in Virginia’s past.”

The Honorable Charles L. Waddell is a former Virginia State Senator who represented Loudoun County and a part of Fairfax County. [V]

Senator Marty Williams Launches Political Blog

State Senator Marty Williams (R–Newport News), whose recent bid for reelection to an additional term in the Virginia Senate was thwarted by a primary election loss to a more conservative Republican announced on October 18, 2007 his launching of a new political website named **Reagan’s GOP** where he intends to “look at state and local politics from the perspective of “What would [Ronald] Reagan do?”

According to an article published in the Hampton Roads *Daily Press*, Williams is quoted as stating that this new blog is “a way for him to stay involved in politics without ever having to run for political office again. I hate to say never,” said Williams, “but I can say it: I’m never running for public office again.” Williams also proffered that as a blogger, he would not violate Reagan’s 11th Amendment: “Don’t speak ill of another Republican.”

Williams also offered a critical comment about the failure of the conservative anti-tax Republican majority in the Virginia General Assembly to adequately fund the state’s critical transportation infrastructure needs when he noted that “Reagan couldn’t be the man who he was without raising taxes. We’ve disenfranchised so many people with ‘it’s my way or the highway.’”

The internet address of Williams’ new blog is: <http://blog.reagansgop.com/> [V]

Good Richmond Schools

from previous page

at-risk by their inclusion for free and reduced lunches. This early childhood program would serve inter-city youth the most, those children who are poorly prepared for school.

Richmond must quit the in-house squabbling about elected school boards and space for the bureaucracy and give full support to Governor Kaine’s program which seems designed to help strengthen Richmond children for school and for the world of work.

Dr. Charles Todd is a former Virginia public school, teacher, principal and superintendent. Todd is retired and lives in Chester. [V]

Cyber Security Awareness Month:

Protecting the Commonwealth's Electronic Filing Cabinet

By BONNIE ATWOOD

Not so very long ago the term “security” would immediately call to mind husky bodyguards, old-age pensions, or maybe well-worn baby blankets. We often forget that up until fairly recently, we were all freely bandying our social security numbers and mothers’ maiden names, providing flea markets with our clearly-labeled old army gear, and tossing any old papers into the regular trash. Then new circumstances converged: wider computer use, 9/11, and the horrors of identity theft. We are starting to see the new dangers, and now “security” suddenly means guarding, really guarding, information.

Now most of us live and die by the internet, in our personal as well as our professional lives. In recognition of the power of this technology, Governor Tim Kaine has declared October to be “Cyber Security Awareness Month” in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He wants citizens and leaders to recognize the benefits of the internet, and also the tremendous risk of privacy losses, which can devastate your credit and drain your bank accounts dry.

We need to create a “culture of protection,” said Aneesh P. Chopra, the Secretary of Technology. To that end, the governor issued Executive Order No. 43 last January. It addresses the security of Personally Identifiable Information held electronically by state government by empowering Secretary Chopra to coordinate and oversee all executive branch



efforts to assure compliance with Information Security Policies and Standards.

“Every day, citizens are inundated with fake e-mails,” said Chopra. That inconvenience, along with the risks of identity theft, has made cyber security one of the top concerns of all the states, he said. Building on to Executive Order 43, Governor Kaine has issued Executive Directive 5, which created a Working Group, chaired by Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Robert S. Bloxom, and composed of representatives of a wide array of stakeholders, including business and industry, consumer advocates, and citizens. They met to delve into some complex issues of consumer privacy: “Do Not Sell” list; security breach notifications, and credit report freezes. They examined some of the delicate balances between consumer safety and civil liberties, with an eye to report back to the Governor with some options for improving protections for all.

Cyber security, while growing in importance, is still a persistent problem, Chopra said. “It is often the case that executives defer decision making to CIO’s or related personnel because of a lack of confidence with the subject matter.” However, he said, shoring up security is more than devising a particular technological solution; the topic runs through the entire agency operations, and so different approaches are necessary: (1) Ensuring high standards for information technology (IT) operations, and (2) Elevating the subject of security as a matter of agency operations and decision making.

Take the tricky matters of subcontractors, telecommuting and the new technology of portable disks and thumbdrives, he said. The use of these new models is a complicated business decision. Who’s going to be accountable for all of that information? Can every risk be averted? What is the cost of avoidance of risk? What are the tradeoffs of each scenario?

VITA Assists Agencies

As the Commonwealth of Virginia evolves its records from a massive collection of paper files to an “electronic filing cabinet,” one of the key players is the Virginia Information

Technologies Agency (VITA). Peggy Ward is VITA’s Chief Information Security & Internal Audit Officer.

“I think information security is important to all of us,” she said, “in a public sense and as citizens. We increasingly depend on information technology for communication, shopping, banking, recruiting, research, and selling. And,” she added, “we want everything better and faster.” She recalled the early days (not so long ago) of widespread use of fax machines. At first they seemed such a marvel of speedy



Peggy Ward

communications, but before long, we all complained because they were too darn slow. Never content to rely on the old-timey telephone or note, today’s young adults are hooked on instantaneous correspondence through text message.

But now we have to balance risk and speed, said Ms. Ward, and “Security awareness is now an important thing.” She said there’s no “silver bullet,” but rather, multiple things must be done to minimize risk.

“Some are technical, such as anti-virus, or anti-spyware,” she said, “but some are not,” such as refusing to respond to suspicious e-mails. Her advice for handling all those not-quite-right-looking e-mails: Pick up the phone and call the sender, or simply delete the message.

Ms. Ward helps the agencies of the Commonwealth of Virginia to meet the security policy, standards and guidelines, and to build effective Information Security Programs to protect the information in their systems. She said agencies are making progress. She holds orientation and training sessions continuously at VITA’s new, high-tech offices in Chesterfield County.

Ms. Ward heads up the Information Security Officers Advisory Group (ISOAG), which gathers together agency information security officers (ISO) to attend presentations on relevant topics. She currently is meeting with the Deputy Secretaries to make sure that all agencies are informed and up-to-date. She also represents Virginia in a multi-state information-sharing organization.

The Commonwealth Information Security Council includes a committee dedicated to making security not just “important,” but making it “an executive management prior-



Aneesh P. Chopra, Secretary of Technology, with Judith G. Napier, Deputy Secretary of Technology.

ity.” Shirley Payne of the University of Virginia, and John Karabac, CISSP, of Virginia’s Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), co-chair this committee, which includes Judith G. Napier, Deputy Secretary of Technology; Beth Nelson of the State Board of Elections; and Joe Hubbard of the Virginia Lottery.

Ms. Payne said that her committee is seeing some “really good collaborative efforts” in its goals, such as to develop security awareness events; to take good examples from particularly effective state agencies and provide them as useful models to others; to make security awareness presentations to executives; and possibly to form a speakers bureau. She said the committee recommends the creation of a Commonwealth of Virginia Information Security Officer to lead executive security awareness from the governor’s office.

Security is a High Priority

DMAS is an example of an agency that has made security an executive management priority. DMAS Director Patrick Finnerty set up the Office of Compliance and Security about a year and a half ago, and designated that the Compliance and Security Officer should report directly to him.

He said that DMAS, which oversees all Medicaid and FAMIS payments in the state, needs this level of impact for three reasons: “(1) We serve three quarters of a million Virginians on Medicaid, (2) We interact and share Personally Identifiable Information with 50,000 providers, and (3) We handle \$5 Billion a year. That’s a lot of money transacted. So those three things combined..., I felt we needed a high-level presence” in the agency.

The housing of that much information, and the exchange of all that Personally Identifiable Information, not to mention money, has made security a top priority.

“This is not to say that we weren’t addressing security anyway,” said Finnerty, but those employees responsible for security tasks had many other duties as well. He said he wanted to make sure that security is handled as primary, “not secondary.”

The Governor’s Working Group on Executive Directive Five will report shortly on three topics that could be actualized to improve consumer privacy in Virginia:

“Do Not Sell” List: the feasibility of a “Do Not Sell” registry (similar in concept to the federal “Do Not Call” registry) where Virginia citizens have a single contact point to request that their information not be sold to third parties.

Breach Notifications: would establish the circumstances under which businesses are required to notify customers that a breach of their personally identifiable information has occurred. The initiative seeks to empower consumers to take steps to mitigate the threat of identity theft in the event that a company’s records are breached.

Credit Report Freezes: 39 states and the District of Columbia have enacted legislation allowing their citizens to place what is termed a “freeze” on their credit report. This limits access to the report to certain parties for specific reasons and has been used in other states as a method for eliminating new account fraud/identity theft, which can often go undetected and cause great damage to consumers’ credit reports.

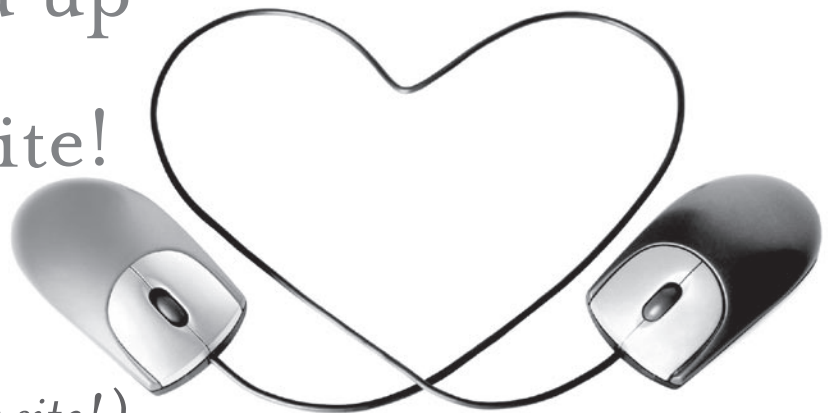
“This is what they do,” he said. “It streamlines things.” He said he wants the DMAS Security Office to be “proactive, rather than reactive. That’s what the job is.”

Bonnie Atwood, J.D., is a writer and works part-time as a Compliance and Security Analyst in Richmond, Va. She encourages all non-spammers to contact her at: BonAtwood@Verizon.net. ■

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Who Will Do Congressional Redistricting in 2011?

By CHARLES TODD

The mission of the U. S. Census Bureau is to provide quality data about the nation's people and economy. The census is taken every 10 years as required by the Constitution and preparations are now underway for the 2010 event.

Census data are used to determine the number of Congressional districts allotted to each state and to draw the 435 district lines. Between 1990 and 2000, Virginia grew by 14.4%, at about the same rate as the United States (13.1%). Virginia neither gained nor lost any of its 11 seats, and no change is expected following the 2010 count. Each district after the last census included about 700,000 persons and new districts may exceed 800,000.

Drawing district lines is an important responsibility of each state's legislature. As early as 1812, boundaries were manipulated for electoral advantage, notably in Massachusetts, where Governor Elbridge Gerry, a member of the Whig Party, signed into law a tortuous senatorial district described as "looking like a salamander." Someone said it was a "Gerrymander," a word that became a part of our language.

Gerrymandering may be used to an advantage or disadvantage based on such factors as race, language, religion, or class groups, and often to favor incumbents. A positive use occurred in Arizona, where it was thought inappropriate that the Hopi and Navajo nations would be represented by the same member of the U. S. House of Representatives, because of historic conflicts between the tribes. Since the Hopi reservation was completely surrounded by the Navajo reservation, it required an unusual configuration that featured a line only as wide as a river for several hundred miles in order to attach two regions.

In another somewhat outrageous example, a California district extends over a narrow coastal strip for several hundred miles, ensuring that a community of interest was represented rather than an area dominated by the inland inhabitants. In North Carolina, a strip several miles long that was no wider than a highway connected parts of a district.

In Virginia, both major parties have been accused of gerrymandering to secure the election or reelection of party members. Such use of power reduces competition: the candidate chose his or her constituents! This isn't the way democracy is supposed to work.

Many elections are uncontested, the real election having taken place in party primaries where only a small percentage of the voters may take part. Under the current system, some incumbent lawmakers have districts where they face no serious opponent. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported in an editorial that in the House of Representatives fewer



than 50 of the 435 seats are at stake in a typical year. The *Wall Street Journal* put the number of contested seats at 33. This tends to produce a quasi-democracy: When elected officials run for reelection with no opposition, it may be a sign that the democratic process is on life support.

The Virginia Republican Party, as the minority party some 15 years ago, introduced a state constitutional amendment to establish a bipartisan redistricting commission. The proposed amendment was killed by the majority Democrats.

Governor Tim Kaine said while campaigning in 2005 that, "Our current system of legislative redistricting is designed to protect incumbents and dramatically reduces competition in legislative races. I believe that a nonpartisan redistricting commission, made up of individuals who are neither officeholders nor party officials, is the best way to draw legislative districts."

During the 2007 session of the General Assembly, the Republican-dominated Senate approved a bill (22-18) to amend the constitution to provide for a 13-member redistricting commission composed of 6 Democrats, 6 Republicans, and one to be agreed upon by the commission or possibly by a court. The proposal died in the House.

No one knows who will control the Virginia General Assembly in 2011 when redistricting will likely begin. It would appear that the "rules of the game" should be determined in advance since party bickering has become tiresome to voters and has resulted in stalemated legislation.

In an interview with former Governor Chuck Robb in April, Robb said, "Computers are largely to blame in redistricting so that there is less competition in elections. The only way to do redistricting fairly is to do it judicially or by a nonpartisan committee or commission."

The introduction of modern computers and the development of elaborate voter databases alongside special software have made gerrymandering a far more precise science. Using these tools, campaign managers can obtain detailed information about every household including political party preferences, previous campaign donations, and the number of times residents voted in previous elections. Using this information with other predictors of voting behavior such as age, income, race, or level of education, those who draw new electoral maps can predict the voting behavior of each precinct and potential district with an astonishing degree of precision, greatly increasing the efficiency of gerrymandering and reducing the chance of accidentally making a district competitive.

The National Committee for an Effective Congress reports that Virginia is covered by Section V of the Voting Rights Act and must obtain preclearance from the Justice Department by showing that the See *Who Will Do Congressional Redistricting?*, continued on page 20

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Governor Kaine Announces Supreme Court Appointment:

Judge Bernard Goodwyn of Chesapeake appointed to the Court

Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced the appointment of Judge S. Bernard Goodwyn to the Supreme Court of Virginia. Judge Goodwyn is a trial court judge in the First Judicial Circuit Court in Chesapeake, where he has served since 1997. The Governor's appointment comes two months after Justice Elizabeth B. Lacy's retirement.

Senator Elect Donald McEachin, a law school classmate, said "When the history of the Court is written I'm sure that Justice Goodwyn will be remembered for his wise decisions and judicial temperament."

"I am pleased that Judge Goodwyn has agreed to serve on the Supreme Court of Virginia," Governor Kaine said. "He approaches the law with an appropriate balance of intellectual insight and an understanding of its real world impact on our citizens. His judicial talent will be of great service to the Commonwealth."

Judge Goodwyn was instrumental in founding Chesapeake's drug court, which opened in 2005. Prior to serving on the First Circuit Court, Judge Goodwyn served on the First General District Court in Chesapeake,

from 1995 to 1997. Before he was appointed to the bench, Judge Goodwyn practiced law at Willcox & Savage for eight years.

A Southampton County native, Judge Goodwyn received his undergraduate degree in economics from Harvard University and his J.D. from the University of Virginia's School of Law in 1986, where he was an editor for the Virginia Tax Review and received the Ritter Award for honor, character and integrity. Judge Goodwyn also served on the faculty of the school during the 1994-95 school year as a Research Associate Professor of Law.

Judge Goodwyn, 46, is married to Sharon Smith Goodwyn and has two children, Samuel Jared Goodwyn and Sarah Elizabeth Goodwyn. ■



Photos by Michael L. White—Governor's Photographer



(center) Governor Kaine (left to right) Justice Goodwyn's mother, Senator Louise Lucas, Justice Goodwyn, Senator Elect Donald McEachin and Senator Harry Blevins.

Congresswoman Jo Ann Davis

Congresswoman Jo Ann Davis, the first Republican woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Virginia, passed away on October 6, 2007 at her home in Gloucester at the age of 57 after a valiant two-year campaign against breast cancer.

Congresswoman Davis was first elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 2000 from the First Congressional District of Virginia and served there until her recent death. She most recently was a member of the House Armed Services and the House Foreign Affairs Committees. Earlier in her congressional career, she served on the House Government Operations Committee as Chair of the Subcommittee on Federal Workers' Benefits. Prior to that service, Mrs. Davis served two terms in the Virginia House of Delegates (from 1997 to 2000) with service on the House General Laws Committee, as well as other committees.

Mrs. Davis was born in Rowan, N. C. and attended Hampton Roads Business College in Virginia. She was the owner/broker at

her own real estate sales firm, Jo Ann Davis Realty prior to her election to the Congress.

As a Congresswoman representing a large federal civilian and military constituency, she played a major role in securing improvements to federal employee and uniformed personnel health benefits and compensation. She also was instrumental in encouraging the federal government to remove most of the aging and dilapidated Second World War reserve fleet ships (often known as the Ghost Fleet) from the James River.

Congresswoman Davis is survived by her husband, Chuck Davis, two sons and a granddaughter. ▮



Marion Gibbs Galland

Marion Gibbs Galland, a Democratic member of the Virginia House of Delegates from Alexandria (1964 to 1970) died of respiratory arrest due to cancer on August 5, 2007 at her home, Goodwin House in Baileys Crossroads.

Delegate Galland was born in Union County, N.J., attended Vassar College and graduated from Barnard College in 1934. She worked as a secretary for law firms in New York and in Washington, DC, after moving to Alexandria in 1941. She also worked for a congressional subcommittee. She was a member and president of the Alexandria chapter of the League of Women Voters and also served on the league's state board. In 1952, she organized a huge barbecue rally for the Democratic presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson; in 1958 she arranged a three-day visit of the entire Virginia General Assembly delegation to Northern Virginia. She also managed several statewide political campaigns before launching her own. In her own first run for the Virginia House of Delegates, she led the four-person field, receiving more than half of the votes cast.

When Delegate Galland served as the director of then Senator Armistead Boothe's campaign for Virginia lieutenant governor in the early 1960s, the front window of her home was punctured by a .22 caliber bullet fired by an unknown person. That event led her to introduce what some believed was the first gun control bill that ever came before the full House of Delegates, where it was narrowly defeated. That bill would have instituted a 72-hour wait-

ing period so that police could bar juveniles, mental patients and criminals from buying guns.

In the General Assembly, Delegate Galland pushed for better funding for education and mental health care, repeal of the poll tax, youth sentencing reform, and ending school segregation. She also urged that Virginia conduct a study of the economic costs of racial discrimination.

After leaving left public office, Mrs. Galland volunteered as a Red Cross driver for handicapped children and with the Alexandria League of Women Voters, the Alexandria Community Health Center, Meals on Wheels for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Goodwin House retirement home and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She served as president of the Alexandria Community Y (now the Campaigna Center) from 1971 to 1974, and was one of the founding members of Senior Citizens Employment & Services. She also chaired fundraising drives for the National Symphony Orchestra, Virginia Theological Seminary and the old Community Chest, among others. In 1990, the Alexandria chapter of the American Red Cross gave her its Burke Award for her work. Mrs. Galland also was an active member of numerous other local public service organizations.

Her husband, George F. Galland Sr., died in 1985. Survivors include two children, Anne Chacon of Madison, Wis., and George Galland Jr. of Evanston, Ill.; four grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. ▮

Who Will Do Congressional Redistricting? from page 18

plan does not dilute minority voting strength. No other specific state requirements exist for the drawing of congressional districts. For state legislative districts, preservation of political subdivisions and "communities of interest," as well as compactness and contiguity rules apply.

Seven states-Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana, Nevada, and Washington-have placed redistricting in the hands of commissions. The majority party is always reluctant to give up power, so it is unlikely that the General Assembly will be able to agree on a new redistricting plan.

As reported in *Virginia Capitol Connections*, Summer, 2007, p. 27, the University of Southern California's Annenberg Center for Communication developed THE REDISTRICTING GAME to help people understand how broken our system is. The game may be reached at www.redistrictinggame.org and was described by former independent presidential candidate John Anderson as "A funny and insightful game that sheds light on redistricting and the complexity-yet necessity-of reform." Professor Chris Swain from USC used the game to show Rep. John Tanner (D-TN) and a coalition of reform groups how the crafty

manipulation of district lines can yield skewed victories for either party.

It may be too much to hope that *two* gubernatorial candidates will emerge for the 2009 election that will agree before the election to work to establish a nonpartisan method of determining Virginia's Congressional districts. This would strengthen the possibility that the General Assembly would use redistricting to increase democracy in Virginia and throughout America.

Dr. Charles Todd is a former Virginia public school, teacher, principal and superintendent. Todd is retired and lives in Chester. ▮

Dr. Robert B. Stroube, Virginia Public Health Commissioner, To Retire



Virginia State Health Commissioner Robert B. Stroube, M.D., M.P.H., has announced that he will retire at the end of this year after 34 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia, a decision occasioned by the ill health of his wife.

Dr. Stroube, 61, has held a number of public health leadership positions in Virginia, including a previous term from 1991-1994 as State Health Commissioner. Among the major assignments that Stroube has

performed during his service have been the Virginia Department of Health's response to the September 11, 2001 attack on the Pentagon, the public health response in the aftermath of Hurricane Isabel, and most recently, the oversight and coordination of the work of the state medical examiner in the aftermath of the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Dr. Stroube also is the outgoing president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, a position that required him to meet regularly with senior federal officials on health issues critical to the nation. In that capacity, Dr. Stroube has also testified before Congress on a wide range of significant topics, including pandemic influenza and public health preparedness.

During his many years of service to Virginia, Dr. Stroube received many honors and awards, including, most recently, the 2007 National Governors Association Award for Distinguished Service to State Government. Dr. Stroube earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the College of William and Mary in 1968, a Master of Public Health from The Johns Hopkins University in 1974, and a Doctorate in Medicine from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1974, where he also completed a residency in Preventive Medicine in 1976. Dr. Stroube was board certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in 1983 as a specialist in public health and general preventive medicine.

In announcing his retirement, Dr. Stroube noted that "[t]he practice of public health has evolved considerably during my tenure, and [my own] experience in public health has truly been rewarding. It has been an honor to serve the Commonwealth."

Governor Tim Kaine, in accepting Dr. Stroube's retirement, stated that "Dr. Stroube's commitment to public health has had a positive impact on communities across the Commonwealth. Under his direction, the state has been recognized by national experts as a model for others seeking to protect and promote public health." ■



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VFH Hires First Director of Virginia Indian Heritage Program

Editor's note: In the January 2007 edition of this magazine we promised to feature periodic public policy issues that do not normally come before the Virginia General Assembly. This story is a continuation of the historic heritage preservation and protection issue that we published earlier.

In Virginia, where history and tradition reign, there is one area in which public education is lacking: Virginians grow up and live here knowing almost nothing about Virginia Indians. Despite the fact that Indian ancestors were living here for thousands of years, few non-Indian people in Virginia today have ever met a Virginia Indian; they know little about Virginia Indian history, and most assume that Virginia Indians are people of the past. The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (VFH) in partnership with tribal leaders in Virginia has established a program to address this problem and has hired Karenne Wood as its first director.

Wood, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation and a long-time advocate for Virginia's native communities, previously served as Chair of the Virginia Council on Indians, a gubernatorial appointment. She has studied at George Mason University and the University of Virginia, where she holds a Ford Predoctoral Fellowship. "Our elders have taught us that the history of our people is portrayed inaccurately," she says. "We have an obligation to those who came before us—our ancestors and elders—to correct the stereotypes and misperceptions of the past."

The Virginia Indian Heritage Program will include research and a resulting database that will be housed on-line at a VFH website; summer institutes for K-12 teachers; higher education summits to promote educational opportunities for American Indians in Virginia; and a grant program to provide funds for tribes, intertribal groups, museums, and other organizations to implement or improve their interpretation of Virginia Indian history. The Virginia Indian Heritage Program is funded in part by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Throughout its thirty-four year history, VFH has been telling the untold stories of Virginia, including the story of its indigenous citizens. "The VFH strives to create the most complete picture of Virginia, and of its complex history," according to David Bearinger, Director of Grants and Public Programs. "Karenne was the perfect choice to direct the Virginia Indian Heritage Program because she brings to this work a unique blend of passion, intellect, and experience—an understanding of the past, sensitivity to the issues of the present, and a vision for the future."

Chief Kenneth Adams of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe made numerous visits to the Virginia General Assembly with other chiefs to support funding for this program. He notes: "We now have an opportunity to portray the Virginia Indian in a proper light. We cannot continue to be the forgotten people in the Virginia history books or on the landmarks across this Commonwealth. Our Creator placed us here as the gatekeepers of this land, and our magnificent story can not and will not be buried."

Earlier this year, VFH published *The Virginia Indian Heritage Trail*, a guide to locations which have accurate, culturally sensitive interpretative content on Virginia Indians. The guide provides an



interpretive framework or context in which to understand the sites. The *Virginia Indian Heritage Trail* publication was developed by the Virginia Council on Indians with support from Jamestown 2007, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the Virginia Tourism Corporation, the Virginia General Assembly, and the VFH. The *Virginia Indian Heritage Trail* provides an accessible general introduction to Virginia Indian history, heritage, and contemporary life. Copies of the book are available through the VFH website (www.virginiafoundation.org).

This summer, VFH offered the first state-wide teachers' institute to be taught collaboratively by Virginia Indian tribal leaders and academic experts. Public school teachers spent four days learning about indigenous history and cultures, regional ecology, archaeology, and contemporary experiences of tribal members who were denied access to public education until 1963. Similar institutes will be offered next summer in various

regions of the state.

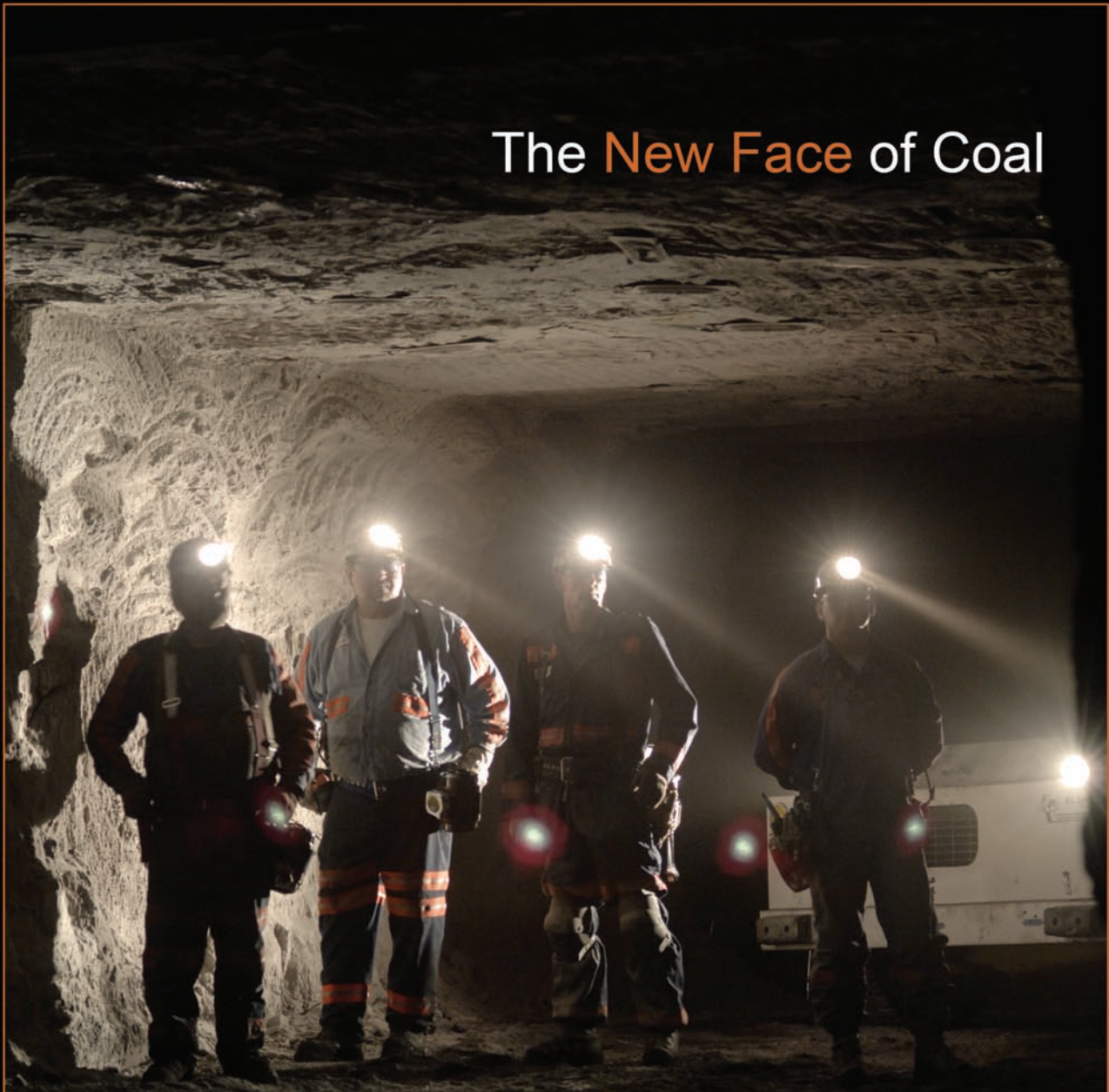
Future plans for the program include the development of web-based lesson plans for teachers and other educational materials, museum exhibits and public programs, a second edition of *The Virginia Indian Heritage Trail*, new publications focused on tribal histories and historic images, and other projects.

The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, based in Charlottesville, is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the humanities, and to using the humanities to address issues of broad public concern.

In all of its programs, the Foundation works to make scholarship accessible; to promote understanding and discussion of enduring and contemporary issues; and to broaden the range of educational opportunities available to all Virginians.

For further information, contact Sheryl Hayes at 434-924-3296 or Sheryl@virginia.edu. ■

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