

The Democrat

The Newsletter of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee

July 2014 Volume 1, Issue 5



Inside Washington: Student Loan Debt and Access to Post-Secondary Education Report from Senator Tim Kaine

On June 4, my colleagues on the Senate Budget Committee and I listened to the sobering testimony of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) alumna and aspiring teacher Brittany Jones. After recounting her experience with burdensome student loan payments, Brittany shared the long-term effect her debt has had. "Student loan debt has been the driving force of my decisions for the last eight years," she said. "It is projected to be for the next 25 years of my life, well into the years in which I should be planning for retirement."

No student should have to go through that.

Unfortunately, many young people in Virginia and across the country face similar challenges in pursuit of an education. The financial difficulties facing students coming out of college these days require serious

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Message from the FCDC Chairman Sue Langley

Independence Day is and always will be the perfect time to reflect on our forefathers and foremothers who had the dream to establish a land where freedom is held above all; who had the courage to set aside individual differences to fight for a common goal; and who demonstrated the spirit of compromise to establish a form of government that remains the envy of the world.

While we renew our own commitment to work tirelessly to protect our democratic principles, we must still remember that more needs to be done so others can enjoy the freedom that we have fought for.

Sadly, the Republicans have taken the opportunity to deny 400,000 Virginians the independence that comes with having access to health care. They have denied these 400,000 people the freedom to live their lives to the fullest. Worst still, some of these people will actually die, simply because the Republicans want to make a political point.

Let's come together and do all we can do to keep freedom ringing.

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Inside Washington: Report from Senator Tim Kaine

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action from lawmakers.

In the Senate, I'm proud to support a number of bills and initiatives that seek to address this problem in new and diverse ways.

Measures such as the Net Price Calculator Improvement Act would provide students with early estimates of total college costs before they even apply. By offering more accurate cost estimates, we can help families plan ahead and find affordable ways to pay for school.

The Supporting College Access Through Dual Enrollment Act would greatly expand programs in which students take college-level classes as part of their high school curriculum. Students who take college classes in

high school, as I did, can often save by graduating from college early.

We should also embrace alternative paths of study outside of higher education degrees. Growing up in my Dad's ironworking shop, I learned that career and technical programs can help students acquire skills for employment. That is why I cofounded the Senate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Caucus, to support efforts that provide access to high-quality career and technical education.

I believe it's innovative and outside-the-box solutions such as these that will really help us tackle the soaring costs of a college education, as well as meet the workforce demands of our 21st-century economy.

Statewide Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner in Richmond by *Bruce Neilson*

On Saturday, June 21, the Richmond Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner marked a turning point for Democrats in Virginia. This was the first JJ Dinner in a generation where all five statewide elected officials were from the Democratic Party: both U.S. Senators and the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General.

The dinner drew hundreds of Democratic activists, elected officials, and celebrities from around Virginia to the Richmond Marriott for this annual event. At least 30

Democrats from Fairfax County were in attendance.

A feature of the evening was a tribute to retiring Congressman Jim Moran. The Congressman reviewed his career highlights and introduced the keynote speaker, Congressman James Clyburn of South Carolina. Clyburn is Assistant Democratic Leader, the 3rd-ranking Democrat in the House behind Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer. Clyburn is liaison to the

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Inside Richmond: Delegate David Bulova (37th District)



Delegate David Bulova
Virginia House of Delegates,
37th District

“ Governor McAuliffe signed my HB1072, which will prevent retailers from scanning and storing the personal information from your driver’s license and then using it for marketing purposes. “

While Democrats in the General Assembly fought hard to provide health care for 400,000 Virginians, Republicans took every opportunity to block even the most modest of proposals. Despite our efforts, the adopted budget failed to expand Medicaid, leaving \$5 million a day of our tax dollars on the table. Providing basic preventive care is not only the right thing to do—it is the fiscally responsible thing to do. Sadly, the consequences are very real: too many Virginians end up in the emergency room because they can’t get preventive care, and too many Virginians are just one health crisis away from bankruptcy. As Democrats, we will not rest until everyone has the dignity of adequate health care.

Despite these setbacks, thanks to Democratic leadership, we were able to move the ball forward on much needed SOL and mental health reform. But there is still much work to be done. On mental

health reform, we need to remember that a quarter of those in our local jails have mental health issues. This month we also made progress on the environmental front as Governor McAuliffe joined with other regional leaders to sign a new Chesapeake Bay Agreement. The bay is worth more than a billion dollars to Virginia’s economy; the agreement sets measurable targets for restoring water quality in the Chesapeake Bay, as well as new goals for restoring aquatic resources, reducing toxins, increasing environmental literacy, and protecting the small streams where the bay begins.

Finally, on June 13, I was pleased to join Governor McAuliffe as he signed my HB1072, which will prevent retailers from scanning and storing the personal information from your driver’s license and then using it for marketing purposes. I was proud to team up with Senator Dave Marsden on this common-sense legislation.

FCDC Red to Blue Event—July 27, 2014

Save the date:

Help us turn Fairfax’s entire Congressional delegation blue for the first time in over 50 years!

Let’s elect John Foust to the 10th Congressional District and re-elect Mark Warner to the Senate!

Location:

Home of Alan Krishnan

Date & Time:

July 27, 2014 at 3:00 PM

Address:

12607 Franklin Farm Road
Herndon, VA 20171

Reserve Your Tickets Today:

To RSVP, please visit :

<http://fairfaxdemocrats.org/redtoblue>

The Fairfax Report : Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins, Hunter Mill District

The Silver Line Arrives!

Louise Archer became principal of a Vienna elementary school in 1922 and served until 1948. She commuted daily, first by trolley car and train, and later via automobile. Commuting patterns have since changed, but the need for alternative and multiple commuting modes of transportation is as critical today as in the 1920s.

Today's Metro system plays a major role in the region's transportation network. We are on the precipice of opening the Silver Line—July 26 is almost here! This Metrorail expansion goes deep into the western suburbs of the Metropolitan Washington region. The Silver Line expansion is the largest in the history of the Metro system, opening a whole new world of jobs, opportunities, and recreation to Fairfax and Loudoun counties and the entire region.

Metro is a network of trains, buses, and paratransit vehicles that ties together the national capital region. Besides commuters, schoolchildren, and those with disabilities, the regional economy is bustling with people riding Metro to sporting events, concerts, shopping centers, restaurants, and theaters. Visitors are drawn to the capital region—and to Metro by its ease, cleanliness, and safety. Yet like most things that inevitably age, the core of the Metro system has faced growing challenges to its infrastructure given its intensive daily ridership.

In June 2013, the WMATA Board of Directors approved a strategic planning document called Momentum, which lays out system-wide goals to improve our overall transit network into 2040. This document establishes short- and long-term goals, such as increasing the number of eight-car Metrorail trains, expanding the Metrobus fleet, building new maintenance facilities, and constructing new rail infrastructure. Fairfax County has already rehabilitated hundreds of bus stops to make them more accessible to the community

Economic development and reliable transportation options are the underpinnings of world-class communities. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has been working to coordinate these new transit and pedestrian improvements in support of transit-oriented development.

Transportation is about access to opportunity. The communities developed since the 1920s were made possible through advances in transportation. One hundred years later, Fairfax County and the entire region will experience further enhanced and diverse communities as we once again stretch our boundaries.



*Catherine M. Hudgins,
Supervisor, Hunter Mill District,
Fairfax County Board of
Supervisors*

People in the News

Congratulations to Del. Robert H. Brink (D) in his new position as deputy commissioner for aging services in the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services. Del. Brink represented north Arlington, Crystal City and part of McLean in the Virginia House of Delegates for 17 years before he resigned on June 30 in order to accept a position with Gov. Terry McAuliffe's administration.

Congratulations to Rip Sullivan of Fairfax County, who emerged as the winner of the 48th House of Delegates Democratic Caucus after five rounds of Instant Run Off. Rip won 53% of 2121 votes. The Special Election is scheduled for August 19th.

Congratulations to Lamont Harrell who has been offered and has accepted the position of Assistant Executive Director of FCDC.

Point/Counterpoint

A Fairfax County Meals Tax . . . Yes? No?

by Michael P. Fruitman



The issue of a new tax gets most everyone riled up, and the first instinct is to say, No. Right? Yet many in Fairfax County have well-reasoned views on both sides of this argument.

The issue of a meals tax last came up in 1992; at that time, Fairfax County voters defeated the tax in a referendum, 58%–42%. Between April and June of this year, a task force appointed by Fairfax Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova considered whether to proceed with another referendum and, if so, when (year), and how any generated revenue should be used. The group had 42 members, and was chaired by former Board of Supervisors Chairmen Tom Davis and Kate Hanley. Its report was issued June 17.

The task force generally avoided specific recommendations, choosing, instead, to discuss the pros and cons of various options. The report is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax/meals-tax-referendum-final-report.htm>

Beyond the basic question of whether a meals tax should be instituted, auxiliary issues arose, including the timing of a referendum (special election? 2014? 2015? 2016?), and whether funds generated should be dedicated to a specific purpose (and if so, which one) or go to the General Fund. Finally, how much of a tax? A county can levy a tax of up to 4 percent.

What do our neighbors do? Existing meals taxes include Vienna (3%), Herndon (2.5%), and 4% levied by Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park. Loudoun and Prince William counties do not levy a meals tax. (According to state law, a meals tax would not apply to towns that have their own meals taxes, so a Fairfax County tax would not apply in Vienna or Herndon.)



What kind of revenues might be generated? According to county experts, a 4% tax would yield approximately \$90 million.

[The following is not an exhaustive list, but a representative one.]

WHY YES?

- The county needs more revenue due to a growing population (including student); important services have been cut during the recent recession; county and school salaries have stagnated; and many needs of the county's most vulnerable citizens are going unfunded.
- A meals tax would diversify the revenue stream and include funding from nonresidents (estimated at 28%). At present, almost 2/3 of the county's funding comes from real estate taxes.
- A referendum would give county residents a direct opportunity to decide the issue.

WHY NO?

- The county does not need more revenue; the county needs to manage its funds better, and residents are already overtaxed. The county already has sufficient mechanisms to fund county services.
- A meals tax would unfairly target lower income residents and seniors, who eat out more often.
- The tax would unfairly target one industry, and would send an anti-business message.

What do you think? We invite you to weigh in with your thoughts; letters to the editors will be published in future issues of *The Democrat*.

The Fairfax Report : Supervisor Gerry Hyland, Mt. Vernon District



Gerry Hyland, Supervisor, Mt. Vernon District, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

“ While there doesn’t appear to be enough Board support for a referendum this year or next, we should not eschew setting the table for service in 2016. A referendum campaign should include a menu of things the Board will do if the voters support a meals tax...”

Support the Meals Tax

On June 17, former Congressman and Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Tom Davis and former Chairman Kate Hanley presented the Board of Supervisors with the Task Force to Consider a Meals Tax Referendum’s report. The report did not recommend whether the Board should put the meals tax to referendum; it listed the pros and cons. The task force reflected the deep divide between supporters and opponents of the tax. In fact, when the Great American Restaurant Group catered a dinner to recognize our Lords and Ladies Fairfax, they laid a sumptuous spread—along with plain bologna sandwiches for supervisors who support the meals tax. I alone took the bologna sandwich. I support a meals tax, and so should the residents of Fairfax County.

Every year the Board of Supervisors laments its lack of revenue diversification, yet doesn’t act. Every year without a meals tax, we leave \$80 million in potential revenue on the table—money that could be used to reduce class size, especially in schools with a high percentage of children receiving free and reduced lunches. We could build new

schools, renovate older facilities, preserve parkland, build affordable housing, and achieve other goals, as well as reduce the real estate tax rate.

Shortly after receiving the report, Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova spoke against a referendum before the 2016 presidential election. While there doesn’t appear to be enough Board support for a referendum this year or next, we should not eschew setting the table for service in 2016. A referendum campaign should include a menu of things the Board will do if the voters support a meals tax, including a commitment to lowering the real estate tax rate, hiring more teachers to reduce class size, renovating and expanding schools with new capital funding capacity, listing parkland we will purchase and facilities to build and renovate with this new income stream. Fairfax County Democrats should contact their representatives on the Board, urge them to support a meals tax, and suggest ways to carve up the revenue to make it palatable to voters. I hope the Board will muster the intestinal fortitude to vote on a referendum and that the voters of Fairfax will have the appetite to vote yes.

The Fairfax School Board Report : Jane Strauss, Member, Dranesville



Jane Strauss, Fairfax County School Board Member, Dranesville

Change Is A Win For Students

The School Board has voted to increase elementary instruction for students by 2.5 hours per week by eliminating Monday early closing. Next fall all elemen-

tary schools will have a uniform 6.5 hour day Monday through Friday.

This change is a win for students, teachers, and families. Elementary students will have additional classroom instruction every week. Ele-

mentary teachers will finally be guaranteed the planning time they need. Elementary teachers have struggled with increased work expectations without enough time to prepare and deliver the high quality work they want to do and are expected to do. The motion passed by the School Board guarantees planning time. As the master schedules are developed for the fall, the School Board and Dr. Garza pledge careful oversight to make sure our expectations are met.

The new schedule will help avoid the need to tack on days at the end of the school year because of weather cancellations. To satisfy the state requirements, we will base our school year on 990 hours rather than 180 days. For all school levels, elementary, middle and high, this creates a better,

more stable calendar with additional instructional time throughout the year. I think we can all agree that the last three school days of this year was not the best use of learning time or tax dollars.

Elementary school families will no longer have to struggle with the challenge of child care on Monday afternoons. For years, many parents have told us that short Mondays have been a problem. Most parents strongly support a consistent Monday through Friday schedule.

What has made this change possible for the fall is the recent pledge of financial support from a number of the members of the Board of Supervisors. Without their help we could not move forward – and we are grateful.

8th Congressional District Report—Pixie Bell, Vice-Chair

A Tribute to Mame

The passing of Mame Reiley, Eighth Congressional District Democratic Committee member, member of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), Chair of DNC's Women's Caucus, and founder of the Eighth District's annual Kennedy-King Dinner has been difficult for all Virginia Democrats.

Mame was a powerful presence in the Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA), the DNC, and the Eighth District. Since her passing, much has been said about her determination, her boundless energy and her strength of conviction. These tributes have come from governors, senators, congressmen, and leaders from across our region and across the political spectrum.

The DPVA Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner weekend honored Mame for her vast contributions to the Democratic Party and offered condolences to her family. The Party adopted a Resolution commemorating Mame's life and legacy.

Moving Forward Toward November

The theme of the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner weekend was the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. Long-time community leader Judy Anderson reflected on our progress at the Jefferson-Jackson breakfast sponsored by the Seventh Congressional District Democratic Committee.

At the State Central Committee, Executive Director Robert Dempsey asked for volunteers from each congressional district for the

Voter Photo ID and Voter Expansion Task Force. The Eighth District will be represented by Frank Leone and Susan Kellom.

The DPVA's Annual Grassroots Luncheon honored Grassroots winners in all eleven congressional districts, including Eighth District honorees from the City of Alexandria: Hazel Rigby, Allen Rose, and Bob Mack. The Arlington County Democratic Committee received the Committee Innovation Award thanks to its use of Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) and its total embrace of Google docs.

The Eighth District will not meet in the month of July. The next meeting will be August 18, 2014, at 8:00 p.m. at TC Williams High School, JROTC Room, 3330 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302.

10th Congressional District Report—Patsy Brown, Vice Chair

Update on Foust for Congress Campaign.

The Foust Campaign has been very busy in the 10th Congressional District attending events and meeting voters. Recently, John has appeared on the Kojo Nnamdi Show, spoke at Leisure World and attended the Congressional Baseball Game. To see John on the Kojo Nnamdi Show visit:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=022563ULVcA&feature=youtu.be&t=29m51s>

John's efforts are getting noticed. Read the Letter to the Editor printed in the June 25, 2014 *Leesburg Today*. http://www.leesburgtoday.com/opinion/letters/letter-joan-kowalski-sterling/article_0626523c-fcae-11e3-996f-0019bb2963f4.html

Next 10 CD Dems Meeting is Saturday, July 12 at 9:00 am at the Sully Government Center.

Book of the Month

No Place to Hide: Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the U.S. Surveillance State by Glenn Greenwald

Review contributed by the National Affairs Committee

In this book, the reporter who broke the story looks at the NSA surveillance scandal that has triggered a national debate over security and information privacy.

For the series of stories that exposed the National Security Agency's (NSA) massive global surveillance programs while Glenn Greenwald was *The Guardian's* lead reporter on the issue, both *The Guardian US* and *The Washington Post* won Pulitzer Prizes, including the prestigious public service medal.

From David Cole's *Washington Post* review:

Greenwald has done the world a service by helping to explain the significance of the disclosures for everyone's privacy. He has helped spark a much-needed national and worldwide debate about how to

preserve privacy when we do so much online, and when the NSA and others have the technological means to track virtually all we do there.

He offers a revealing and disturbing overview, illustrated by dozens of reproduced secret documents, of just how far the NSA has gone.... In one remarkable slide presented at a 2011 meeting of five nations' intelligence agencies and revealed here for the first time, the NSA described its "collection posture" as 'Collect it All,' 'Process it All,' 'Exploit it All,' 'Partner it All,' 'Sniff it All' and, ultimately, 'Know it All.'

Greenwald shows that the scope of the NSA's surveillance exceeds not only our imagination but also the agency's capacity even to store, much less analyze, it all.

The NSA achieves these ends by working hand in hand with private telecommunications and Internet service providers.

Other documents describe X-KEYSCORE, the NSA's most powerful tool, which, as its name implies, enables the agency to track every keystroke on a computer, permitting the agency to monitor in real time all of a user's e-mail, social-media, and Web-browsing activity.

Going beyond NSA specifics, Greenwald takes on the establishment media, excoriating its habitual avoidance of adversarial reporting on the government and its failure to serve the interests of the people. Finally, he asks what it means—both for individuals and for a nation's political health—when a government pries so invasively into the private lives of its citizens, and considers what safeguards and forms of oversight are necessary to protect democracy in the digital age.

Labor Committee

AFL-CIO Prioritizes Immigrant Rights *Virginia Diamond, Chair*

More than 100 area immigrants received assistance in filling out citizenship and DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival) applications at a June 28 clinic co-sponsored by the Northern Virginia AFL-CIO (NoVA Labor). Dozens of trained volunteers wearing their union t-shirts participated in the Saturday event at AFL-CIO headquarters, one of a series of clinics that will take place in northern Virginia. Other sponsors included United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 400, LiUNA (the Laborers' union), and the Ironworkers union. Immigration experts from Casa de

Maryland helped facilitate the program.

Direct services to the immigrant community are one component of labor's commitment to immigrant rights. Coalitions with worker centers and advocacy groups such as Casa and the Legal Aid Justice Center are integral to labor's strategy. Other components of the AFL-CIO's push for immigrant rights are union organizing; legislative advocacy; and political engagement. LiUNA and Local 400 have achieved major organizing victories recently in Northern Virginia in construction and

retail, resulting in safer working conditions, better pay, and the dignity that comes from having a voice on the job. Legislatively, unions are lobbying nationally for comprehensive immigration reform and at the state and local level for greater immigrant rights. A major focus of labor's engagement in politics is to elect officials committed to reforming our cruel and broken immigration system. Through direct services, organizing, lobbying and political action, unions are fighting to build a just society for all working people.

National Affairs Committee

National Issues of Concern — Part II *Sandra J. Klassen, Chair*

Following is Part II of a series of national issues and questions of concern to Democrats that the National Affairs Committee has researched and compiled for consideration.

Domestic Surveillance and Civil Liberties

Apart from considering the legitimacy of his actions, Edward Snowden's files revealed a number of mass-surveillance programs undertaken by the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) and the British Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ). The agencies are able to access information stored by major U.S. technology companies, often without individual warrants, as well as mass-intercepting data from the fiber-optic cables that make up the backbone of global telephone and Internet networks. The agencies have also worked to undermine the security standards upon which the Internet, commerce, and banking rely. The revelations have raised concerns

about growing domestic surveillance, the scale of global monitoring, the trustworthiness of the technology sector, whether the agencies can keep their information secure, and the quality of the laws and oversight keeping the agencies in check. Additionally, various U.S. intelligence agencies have demonstrated an unwillingness to submit to congressional oversight.

Do the convergence of unprecedented communications surveillance capability, the domestic surveillance revelations, and the institutional secrecy and intransigence on the part of some of our intelligence agencies constitute a cause for concern?

What legislative remedies and forms of oversight would serve to safeguard the civil liberties and privacy of American citizens in the digital age?

Militarization of America's Police Forces

Billions of dollars' worth of military

weapons and equipment is available to local police departments through grants programs administered by federal agencies such as the Departments of Defense, Justice, and Homeland Security. Consequently, many of the police officers on our streets and in our neighborhoods have been armed with tactics and weapons designed for battle overseas.

Until now, this has gone on with very little public oversight. Too little is known about how much military equipment law enforcement agencies have, why they have it, and how they are using it.

Does this constitute a cause for concern? If so, should Congress investigate the scope of the militarization of policing in America and require law enforcement agencies to document the impact of excessively militarized policing on people, families, and communities?

A Special Report: On the Campaign Trail



Over the JJ Weekend, we opened our Richmond Field Office and the room was packed with over 300 new and old friends.

Senator Tim Kaine, Representative Bobby Scott, and Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam, as well as other local elected officials, came out to speak in support of Senator Warner's work to find bipartisan, common-sense solutions.

Senator Warner talked about the need to continue to build our grass-roots team so that we can come together to support efforts that provide every Virginian with a fair shot at success.

In Senator Warner's words, We must keep reaching out, keep working together, and keep understanding that we must leave our kids and grandkids with the same opportunities we had.

Mark Warner for U.S. Senate

Positions on Issues

Senator Warner is working every day to bring people together and reach across party lines to find common-sense solutions that reflect the best values and aspirations of Virginians.

Senator Warner *has broken through the partisan gridlock* to make progress on some important issues:

- Reforming the financial system so we don't have another meltdown like we had in 2008,
- Providing decent housing to our families in military service,
- Helping entrepreneurs get started, and
- Introducing more fiscal accountability in the spending of your tax dollars.

Senator Warner *believes that for everyone to have a fair shot*, we must:

- Balance our books to ensure that we can invest in things such as early childhood education and

job creation,

- Pass student debt legislation to make it easier for kids in Virginia to afford college so that they too can create the next big start-up company,
- Stand up against discrimination against the LGBT community and ensure marriage equality,
- Pass comprehensive immigration reform to ensure that the Dreamers have a shot at the American Dream, and
- Raise the minimum wage for working families and ensure that women get paid the same wages as men.

Get Involved by volunteering, inviting your friends to join the team, and staying connected via Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram by visiting the links in the sidebar. Visit the Re-elect Mark Warner for Senate website today:

<http://markwarnerva.com/>

Statewide Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner in Richmond

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House Appropriations Committee, where he fights every day for Democratic positions in a Republican alternate universe. His remarks reminded us that "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

Each of the five statewide elected officials spoke, a real treat

after so many years of Republican dominance. Each speaker's remarks emphasized different Democratic values. The Attorney General spoke of his recent rulings on immigration and marriage equality; the Lieutenant Governor highlighted the rights of women and women's health

care. Governor McAuliffe electrified the crowd with his readiness to keep fighting for Obamacare. Each of the U. S. Senators, Kaine and Warner, stressed how important it is to return Senator Warner to Congress for another term.

A Special Report: On the Campaign Trail

A Message from Don Beyer, Candidate U.S. Congress, 8th District: *Thank You*

On January 28, with the support of my family, I decided to throw my hat into the ring in the 8th Congressional District. We had just gotten back from serving in Switzerland and felt that this was the next, best opportunity to serve the people of the community we love and call home.

Thanks to the hard work and shared ideas of many, many good people, we built a strong campaign, shared our message with hundreds of thousands of people, and we won a very competitive primary.

Along the way, I had the chance to spend time with each of the good Democratic candidates. They taught me so much and pushed me to be better; I am richer for having these friends.

I have been part of over 80 political campaigns, and this one has been the best—challenging, interesting, important, fun, and most of all, replete with good people. I love being a candidate in this district and spending time with our 368 volunteers, our staff, and the thoughtful, challenging voters.

I love having the chance to talk about the things that need attention in our district and our country. But what I love best is the opportunity to talk with great optimism about the way forward.

St. Augustine of Hippo said, "Hope has two beautiful daughters: Anger and Courage. Anger about the way things are, and Courage to change them."

There are too many sad realities about which to be angry. Over the last six months, I have had the opportunity to try to articulate the courage of the myriad change agents of our community, to give voice to all that we, together, are doing and will do to make life better.

As we look to November, we have an even greater opportunity to be courageous. To believe that those things that are wrong can be fixed, that we can fix them, and that we can fix them together.

Thank you for giving me the honor of being your Democratic nominee. I cannot wait to share the next few months with you.

Don Beyer

John Foust for U.S. Congress 10th District (VA)

The Foust campaign is in full swing and with the beginning of summer we are pleased to have a robust field program across the district. Our organizers are already working hard to recruit volunteers, knock doors, and make calls all across the district. Please get involved by calling or emailing:

Fairfax County (FCDC Red to Blue Program):

Dranesville and Hunter Mill: Devan, 703-300-00345
devan@fairfaxdemocrats.org

Sully and Springfield: Ryan, 781-974-3614
ryan@fairfaxdemocrats.org

During the last few weeks, John has traveled across the Tenth Congressional District, from Winchester to Great Falls, from Leesburg to Manassas, meeting voters at fairs and festivals, farmers markets, and First Fridays to hear what's on their minds and to share his vision for a Congress that is efficient, fair, and transparent. We have held several excellent events, including a reception featuring House Democratic Whip, Steny Hoyer, who remind-

ed us that public service, when done well, is a gift to future generations.

If you would like to make a contribution, please go online to our website at <https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/foust14> or mail a check to PO Box 962, McLean VA 22101.

If you would like a yard sign delivered to your house, please call Peter Brophy at (414) 379-8146.

Thank you all for the help over the past few months and for all the help you will give in the coming months!

A Special Report: On the Campaign Trail

Pics from July 4, 2014 Activities

