



www.seniorstatesmen.org



The mission of SSV, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational and advocacy organization, is to enable seniors to identify and articulate their viewpoints on the issues affecting all citizens of Virginia, to encourage knowledge of and active participation in the legislative process of government, and to disseminate information about the social, governmental, and educational institutions that offer support and assistance.



## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next meeting of the **Senior Statesmen of Virginia** will be held on **Wednesday, August 9, 2017, 1:30 – 3 p.m.**

**Piedmont Virginia Community College — Dickinson Auditorium**

## Lieutenant Governor Candidates Forum

We are very pleased to announce that, in conjunction with Piedmont Virginia Community College, we will be hosting a forum of the two candidates for Lieutenant Governor of Virginia from 1:30 to 3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 9.

The forum will be held at **Dickinson Auditorium on the PVCC campus, 501 College Drive, Charlottesville 22902**. Ample free parking is available and we are reserving three rows of seats for SSV members (two rows up front and one in the back). We expect the auditorium to be completely full so we strongly urge you to arrive at least half an hour before starting time. We have reserved 90 tickets for SSV members (as you enter the lobby of the Dickinson auditorium, you will see a sign reading, "Senior Statesmen of Virginia members — Check in here." Your tickets for reserved seating will be at that table).

The candidates are Republican **Sen. Jill Holtzman Vogel** of Fauquier County and Democrat Mr. **Justin Fairfax** of Fairfax County.

**Mr. Justin Fairfax** was raised by a single mother and her parents. He is a graduate of DeMatha Catholic High School, Duke University and Columbia Law School, where he was a member of the *Columbia Law Review*. He later served as a federal prosecutor in Virginia. He currently practices with the Tysons Corner office of the prominent law firm Venable LLP where he focuses on white-collar criminal-defense matters and complex civil litigation.



**Sen. Jill Holtzman Vogel** is serving her third term in the Virginia Senate. She is a graduate of the College of William & Mary and DePaul University School of Law. She is a senior partner in Holtzman Vogel Josefiak Torchinsky PLLC, a firm that specializes in election and ethics laws. In the Virginia Senate she chairs the Privileges & Elections Committee and is a member of numerous other committees and subcommittees, including the Senate's "money" (taxation and spending) committee, Senate Finance.



The forum will be moderated by **Bob Gibson**. Bob is a long-time political writer, columnist and editor at *The [Charlottesville] Daily Progress*. He is now with the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service.

The format will be: introductions by the moderator; opening statements by the candidates; questions submitted in writing by members of the audience; and closing statements by the candidates.

## FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## *In case you missed the June 14 Meeting:*

The announcement leading up to this program emphasized that this would be an opportunity for the SSV members and general public to learn about Albemarle County's preliminary plans for the Rio and 29 corridor and to let Albemarle County know of the attendees ideas for the future of this corridor. Albemarle County is actively working to transform the Route 29/Rio Road area, work that started with the new grade separated interchange project and is continuing with a small area plan that will reimagine how people live, work, shop and play in this critical area of the County. The County is looking for the thoughts and ideas of seniors as it begins to finalize the plans for this vital area of the county.

**Rich DeMong**, SSV vice president, opened the program by saying that the way the program will be conducted is to have the senior folks at the county speak about some of the visions they have to transform the Route 29/Rio Road area and will begin with a general presentation and then move into three particular topics, each with time for discussion and Q & A: (1) economic development (attracting new businesses and helping current businesses grow, led by Albemarle County Assistant County Executive for Community Relations **Lee Catlin**; (2) a discussion of transportation in that area concerning cars, bikes, pedestrians, and transit led by Albemarle County Transportation Planner **Kevin McDermott**; and (3) a discussion of amenities, land use, urban forms and future of the area, led by Albemarle County Senior Planner **Rachel Falkenstein**.

Mr. DeMong introduced **Diantha McKeel**, chair of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, and **Brad Sheffield**, supervisor for the Rio District for introductory remarks. They were also available toward the end of the program to respond to questions on any topics.

A PowerPoint presentation was utilized during the program and you can view the entire PowerPoint as a PDF file on the Senior Statesmen website ([seniorstatesmen.org](http://seniorstatesmen.org)). You can listen to the entire program on the Charlottesville Podcasting Network at: <http://www.cvillepodcast.com/category/senior-statesmen/>.



**Rich  
DeMong**

**Rachel  
Falkenstein**

**Lee  
Catlin**

**Kevin  
McDermott**

*Photo courtesy of Dan Gould  
Charlottesville Podcasting network*

### **Mark your calendar**

**Wednesday, September 13: Candidates Forum:** the major-party nominees for the two **House of Delegates** contested seats in Districts 25 (Steve Landes and Angela Lynn beginning at 1:30), and District 58 (Rob Bell and Kellen Squire beginning at 2:30).

**Wednesday, October 11: Candidates Forum:** candidates for local (city and/or county) elected offices contested seats in November.

Membership in the SSV is open to all past and present citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. **Join now!** Annual dues are just \$20.00. Mail your check in the amount of \$20.00 (payable to "SSV") to Senior Statesmen of Virginia, P.O. Box 6591, Charlottesville, VA 22906. Telephone: 434-806-4474. E-mail: [jimp@videoprovirginia.com](mailto:jimp@videoprovirginia.com)

**Please visit our website at:** [www.seniorstatesmen.org/](http://www.seniorstatesmen.org/)

### **Senior Statesmen of Virginia**

P.O. Box 6591  
Charlottesville, VA 22906



# **LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS?**

## **WHAT DO THEY DO?**

## **HOW DO I ASSESS CANDIDATES' QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE JOB?**

One of the offices up for election this November 8 is Lieutenant Governor. That's a pretty obscure office. Many people don't know what the Lieutenant Governor does or how they should evaluate the various candidates' suitability to hold that position.

Here is our effort to help you address those questions in a nonpartisan, nonideological way.

Under Virginia's Constitution, the Lieutenant Governor ("LG") has two duties: He or she "shall be President [presiding officer] of the [Virginia] Senate" and may vote "in case of an equal division."

So a voter assessing LG candidates might want to inquire into those candidates' positions on issues likely to come before the Virginia Senate and, concerning their presiding over the Senate, their respect for the rules and traditions of that body.

In addition, the LG becomes Acting Governor should the Governor become temporarily unable to perform his or her duties, and Governor should the Governor be removed from office, disqualified, die or resign. An inquiry into the LG candidates' suitability to be Governor might therefore also be part of voters' deliberations.

The Governor of Virginia is one of the most powerful governors in the United States. He or she is the Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth, an entity that, if it were a corporation, would rank 64th among the Fortune 500; he or she is charged with taking care that the laws be faithfully executed; he or she is the commander in chief of the state militia; and he or she has unparalleled power to veto and amend every bill, on every subject, that comes to his or her desk.

Also to be considered is the oath of office every LG and Governor takes. He or she solemnly swears that he or she "will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and . . . will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties incumbent upon me . . ." (Article II, Section 7).

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Article V, Section 14. Other provisions of the Virginia Constitution limit the types of legislation on which the Lieutenant Governor may vote. For example, he or she may not vote on budget amendments or budget bills (Article IV, Section 11); tax bills (Article IV, Section 11); proposed constitutional amendments (Article XII, Section 1); or whether to override a Governor's veto of a bill or to accept or reject a Governor's amendment to a bill (Article V, Section 6).