

SENIOR STATESMEN

of Virginia

<http://www.seniorstatesmen.org/>



MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next meeting of the

Senior Statesmen of Virginia will be held on
Wednesday, August 12, 2009, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
at the Senior Center, Inc., on Pepsi Place

Virginia House of Delegates Candidates Showcase

The Senior Statesmen of Virginia and The Senior Center, Inc., will cosponsor the **CANDIDATES SHOWCASE** featuring the candidates for the House of Delegates seats serving the Charlottesville-Albemarle area: **Rob Bell, Steve Landes, Greg Marrow, Cynthia Neff, Brandon Smith** and **David Toscano**. The candidates will make brief statements of their positions on various issues and then the session will be open for questions from the attendees. Please note that the meeting has been extended to two full hours in order to provide more time for questions from the audience. The program will be moderated by SSV board member **Sue Liberman**. The public is invited to this free program. Please attend and bring guests.

25th House District: Counties of Albemarle (part), Augusta (part), Rockingham (part) and the City of Waynesboro



Steve Landes (Republican) is the incumbent delegate representing the 25th House District. Steve is serving his seventh term in the House. He is a member of the House Education Committee; and Appropriations, Rules, and Privileges and Elections Committees, and is vice chairman of the House Education Committee. He is the first non-attorney to serve as chairman and as a member of the Virginia Code Commission. Steve is also past president of the Weyers Cave Ruritan Club. He serves on the Board of Trustees of the Center for Rural Virginia and is vice chairman. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia. Steve is a member of both the American Legislative Exchange Council and the National Conference of State Legislators' Education Committees.

From 1988 to 1992 he served as legislative assistant to his predecessor, former Delegate A.R. "Pete" Giesen, Jr., and from 1993 to 1995 served as Congressman Bob Goodlatte's district director and district representative.

Steve is the community relations coordinator for DuPont Community Credit Union, which is headquartered in Waynesboro, Virginia. He served as executive director of NewBiz Virginia, the Shenandoah Valley's small business incubator, for five years. Steve was a life insurance agent and registered representative with Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. Steve also worked at Davis & Davis Marketing, Inc.—a Staunton based marketing and advertising firm as a media buyer and then as an account executive.

Steve is a graduate of Buffalo Gap High School in Augusta County, and he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. He and his wife Angela, who is an assistant commonwealth's attorney for Augusta County, live in Weyers Cave with their son Roth. Steve and Angela are both members and elders of Mt. Horeb Presbyterian Church.



Greg Marrow (Democrat) is a candidate for delegate for the 25th House District. Greg is a local optometrist who practices with his wife in Harrisonburg. He graduated from the University of New England, top in his class, with a bachelor's degree in Marine Biology before earning a doctorate of optometry at the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, TN. Greg is also a decorated US Navy veteran with over a decade of service on ships, in the Mediterranean Sea, and at the end of his military career, as the department head of the Optometry Clinic at the Naval Hospital at Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station. Here he was awarded the prestigious Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal for fiscal responsibility in stream lining efficiency in the clinic, support of troop readiness, and saving taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars each year. Greg has been involved in politics for several decades and has worked for candidates on both sides of the aisle. He has worked tirelessly to improve the health and prosperity of his community and in 2006 was awarded a civilian medal of merit by the Valley Voice Reading Service for outstanding support and contribution to Virginia's blind and visually impaired. In addition to this effort, Greg and his wife Christi have donated thousands of

dollars to local libraries, needy charities, churches and schools. Greg and Christi were drawn to the Valley years ago and have been in love with it ever since, learning very quickly that this is a great place to raise a family. In addition to managing a successful business, Greg and Christi are raising two wonderfully bright children, Cami, age 4, and Cade, age 2. In his spare time Greg enjoys hiking the Appalachian Trail, and raising alpacas and chickens on his small farm, and riding his Harley.

57th House District: County of Albemarle (part), and the City of Charlottesville



David Toscano (Democrat) is the incumbent delegate representing the 57th House District. David Toscano was elected to his first term in the Virginia House of Delegates in November 2005. David was born in Syracuse, New York in 1950, the first of five children. He was educated in the public schools, received a bachelor's degree from Colgate University in 1972, a Ph.D. from Boston College in 1979, and a law degree from the University of Virginia in 1986. He has taught at various colleges and universities, including Boston College, the University of Maryland (European Division), Piedmont Virginia Community College, the University of Virginia, and James Madison University. He is an attorney with Buck, Toscano & Tereskerz, Ltd., specializing in family law and real estate. David served on the Charlottesville City Council from 1990 to 2002 and as mayor from 1994 to 1996.

David is a resident of the City of Charlottesville, where he lives with his wife of 30 years, Nancy A. Tramontin, and their son, Matthew.

David serves on the Courts of Justice, Transportation, and Science and Technology Committees in the House of Delegates. He is also a member of the Disability Commission, the Joint Commission to Study Math, Science and Technology Education in the Commonwealth, and the Joint Subcommittee to Study Land Use Tools in the Commonwealth. He is also a member of the United Way Board and the Chamber of Commerce.



Robert Brandon Smith III (Independent) is a candidate for delegate for the 57th House District. Brandon lists the following qualifications and experience:

- A Virginian (Alexandrian)
- Episcopalian
- Carpenter and Drywall Mechanic
- United States Marine Corps brat
- Graduate of Princess Anne High School
- Tested first in Senior Class in 1965 in knowledge of Current Events and World Affairs (Time Magazine-Certificate of Excellence)
- Attended Randolph-Macon College—studied history; played lacrosse
- 2nd twenty-five years in Richmond
- Resided in Charlottesville and Nelson County since 1994
- Long time community, pro-choice, environmental, historic preservation, etc. citizen activist/volunteer
- Founding Member (1975) Cornucopia Natural Foods Co-op Richmond.
- Convened Richmond Greens in 1989
- Led same Greens in successful fight against proposed medical waste incinerator, for New York medical waste
- Actions in Charlottesville include: for bike lanes, for Living Wages, on Population and Ethics Committees of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Sustainability Council.
- Bicycle, no car
- Follow the Iroquois, in public decisions account for impact on the seventh generation

“My country? Sir, my country is Virginia!” John Randolph of Roanoke

58th House District: Counties of Albemarle (part), Fluvanna (part), Greene, and Orange (part)



Rob Bell (Republican) is the incumbent delegate representing the 58th House District. An honors graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of Virginia Law School, **Rob Bell** served as a state prosecutor for five years. He prosecuted over 2,400 cases, working with the police and crime victims to bring criminals to justice.

Representing the 58th House District Rob has written laws that crack down on drunk driving. He was named the 2005 Outstanding Legislator by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)-Virginia. He is also interested in school safety. In recent years, he has written laws to ban criminal sex offenders from school property during school hours and to require additional background checks on school personnel. In 2008, Rob helped overhaul Virginia's mental health laws in light of the tragedy at Virginia Tech.

An Eagle Scout, Rob was an active volunteer with the Boy Scouts and with the public schools prior to his election in 2001. Rob's wife, Jessica, is a schoolteacher. She is currently staying home to raise their children, Robbie and Evelyn. The Bells live in Albemarle County and are members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church.



Cynthia Neff (Democrat) is running for delegate to the General Assembly from the 58th District. After a long career in business she has decided to turn her time and talents to public service and an opportunity to bring a common sense, practical business approach to state government.

Cynthia grew up in a military family, moving often throughout her childhood. After spending her high school years in Oklahoma, she left home at 17. While attending college and working full time at the Post Office, in doctor's offices and convalescent hospitals, she began her interest in public service, and served with the Flying Samaritans to provide medical care for those who could not afford it. After school, Cynthia opened a gift store with a friend and served on a number of merchant and small business associations, even testifying to members of the legislature on the needs of small business. She then went to work at IBM, starting in sales and operations. Throughout the next 25 years, she worked in a number of managerial and executive capacities for the company. From sales, to marketing, manufacturing, public policy, personal privacy, and human resources, she saw how most every aspect of the company's decisions affected the lives of the people working there. She retired from the executive ranks at IBM.

Cynthia left the business world in 2006 and looked for the ideal spot to call home. As the sole caretaker of an elderly parent, she looked for an area close to her family; one with excellent health care resources; and one with the cultural events of a college town with the rural setting and sense of community. Albemarle County was the natural choice. Cynthia puts all of her experience to work as the chair of the AIDS/HIV Services Group Board of Directors, the Advisory Council of the Legal Aid Justice Center, as Court Appointed Special Advocate working with abused and endangered children and other volunteer organizations focused on helping the most vulnerable members of the community.

Gene Ecton Smith Davis Receives Award as “Honored Independent Senior”

BRANCHLANDS CELEBRATES SENIOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

In the spirit of the Governor’s proclamation of May as Older Virginians Month, Charlottesville proclaimed the last Friday in May as Senior Independence Day. The first annual Senior Independence Day was celebrated on Friday, May 29, at Branchlands independent living community. City Councilor Satyendra Huja presented the proclamation.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at which time Branchlands recognized Charlottesville’s own **Gene Ecton Smith Davis** as an “**Honored Independent Senior.**” She was further honored with a reception following the ribbon cutting and then another reception in the afternoon. Mrs. Davis has long been involved in causes supporting the older segments of the population. Mrs. Davis is a well-respected advocate and activist for senior rights, both locally and nationally, and has held appointed and elected positions in organizations focusing on seniors’ issues. Gene is a founding member and past president of the Senior Statesmen of Virginia.

“As an independent and energetic senior, I recognize how vital and rewarding life can be. I am honored to receive this award and happy to be a part of the renewal of a community that is committed to other active seniors,” said Mrs. Davis.

Senior Independence Day celebrates the vibrancy, talents, abilities, experience and potential of our elders, encourages them in the pursuit of happiness on their terms, and expresses appreciation for their contributions to our society. Exemplifying these qualities, Branchlands residents and their families and friends celebrated the day and the grand reopening of Branchlands’ 19th century Manor House. During the celebration, Branchlands’ newly refurbished facilities were



From the left, Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce President Tim Hulbert, Board of Supervisors Chairman David Slutzky and Supervisor Kenneth Boyd, Delegate David Toscano, honoree Gene Ecton Smith Davis, City Councilor Satyendra Huja, and Delegate Rob Bell.

unveiled.

Branchlands came under the ownership of Cambridge Healthcare in January of 2008. Cambridge undertook major refurbishment following a survey of residents and an assessment of the property by KSA Interiors, a Richmond design firm. Renovations included restoration of the Manor House, enhancements of all common areas, the addition of a home theatre and work-out room, modernization of furnishings, increased energy efficiency and light levels, upgrading of

fire safety systems, and improvement of staff working conditions. Plans have been prepared for more extensive improvements to the properties over the next two years, including accessibility upgrades and utilization of currently unfinished spaces, and apartment remodeling.



Gene receives statuette to honor the occasion from Branchlands Director Sue Liberman.

“We are excited to unveil our gorgeous renovations and pleased that the community shared the day with us,” said **Sue Liberman**, director of Branchlands. “We feel it is important to honor our seniors and to reaffirm our commitment to independent living as we age in Charlottesville.”

IN MEMORIAM: SSV member Peyton Weary, and former SSV members Dorothy Bomar and Wilma Hartung

Peyton Edwin Weary, 79, died suddenly of cardiac arrest on Friday, June 26, 2009, at home in Charlottesville, Virginia.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Janet Gregory Weary; daughters, Terry Melton Robert of State College, Pennsylvania, Conway Weary of Asheville, North Carolina, and Carolyn Brandt Mark of Crozet, Virginia; sister, Leslie Weary Lillis Paul of Winona Lake, Indiana; seven grandchildren, Kathleen and John Melton, Charlotte, Samuel, and Lindsey Taylor, and Martin and Peyton Brandt and one great-granddaughter, Maya McDermott.

He was pre-deceased by a sister, Catherine Weary Fiutko; and an infant son, Lewis Peyton.

Doctor Weary was born in Evanston, Illinois, and was a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, to which he gave credit for establishing his life's values, Princeton University, and the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

He served in the United States Army as a Captain from 1956 until 1958. Doctor Weary was a Professor of Dermatology at the University of Virginia, serving from 1958 until 1999; he was Chairman of the Department of Dermatology from 1976 until 1993, and retired with the title of Emeritus Professor of Dermatology. He held the Edward P. Cawley Chair in Dermatology from the University of Virginia.

Among his many accomplishments, between 1964 and 1976, he organized and served as Chairman of the first year long Senior Medical Student Elective Program in the United States. Between 1969 and 1994, he conducted 35 local and regional skin cancer screening clinics which were the first to be held in the United States and he was instrumental in establishing the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) sponsorship of nationwide screening clinics that have occurred yearly since 1985 with over one million individuals seen since inception of the program.

From 1972 until 1975, he served as Chairman of the Council of the National Program for Dermatology which helped restructure the American Academy of Dermatology, create a central office, establish a governmental liaison function and lay the foundation for Academy activities.

From 1975 until 1982, Doctor Weary chaired the American Academy Dermatology Council on Government Liaison and presented testimony before various Congressional and Agency committees on more than 50 occasions. In 1978 until 1979, he served as a member of a Food and Drug Administration Interagency Task Force and was instrumental in the creation of The Orphan Drug Legislation of 1983. From 1982 until 1990, Doctor Weary served as a trustee of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates and served on the organizing committee for the International Medical Scholarship Program. In 1984, he created the Academic Medical Center Preceptorship Program for Congressional Health Legislative Assistants and other governmental agency personnel, to orient them to the structure and function of academic medical centers. From 1985 until 1990, he assisted in the creation of the Coalition of Patient Advocates for Skin Disease Research.

Doctor Weary held many high offices in his profession and received numerous awards for his public service. Among other things, he served as President of the American Board of Medical Specialties from 1990 until 1992, which during his tenure promulgated standards for all medical specialties; President of the American Dermatological Association from 1992 until 1993; President of the American Academy of Dermatology from 1994 until 1995; and President of the National Association of Physicians for the Environment from 1994 until 1997. He was awarded the American Academy Dermatology Gold Medal in 1990, the Academy's highest award. He also received the Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award from the EPA in 1995, the Walter Reed Distinguished Achievement Award in 2001, University of Virginia Medical Alumni Association, Community Service Award in 2001, Medical Society of Virginia, The Emily Couric Community Advocacy Award in 2004, and The Elizabeth Scott Leadership Award in 2005, The Miller Center for Public Affairs.

Although Doctor Weary was an outstanding contributor nationally and internationally during his professional career, he was most proud of activities he engaged in during his retirement. In particular, he helped to enroll children in the Children's Medical Insurance Program, helped to establish the Community Children's Dental Center, and volunteered as a care provider in the Charlottesville Free Clinic. He enjoyed his involvement with the Miller Center for Public Affairs. He spent many happy and productive hours helping to educate the public about the impact of the environment on health.

Doctor Weary enjoyed the love and caring support of myriad friends and, of course, his family. He will be remembered for his courage, especially toward the end of his life, when he never failed to see the glass as "half full," his soft heart for anyone in need, his care of his family, his quirky sense of humor, and his desire to leave the world a much better place than he found it. His passionate hope was that medical care will continue to be practiced faithfully and responsibly, and that those who follow will protect the earth and the skies above it for future generations.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that charitable donations be made to F.I.R.S.T. Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types, 1364 Welsh Road G2, North Wales, PA 19454; the Community Children's Dental Center www.cadakids.org; The Miller Center for Public Affairs, or a charity of the giver's choice.

A memorial service for Doctor Weary was held on Wednesday, July 1, 2009, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 190 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia.

The Daily Progress, June 29, 2009

Dorothy Burns Bomar, a resident of the Colonnades in Charlottesville since 1991, died peacefully at home on Sunday, June 21, 2009.

Prior to living in Charlottesville, Dorothy had lived in Glendale, California, for almost 50 years. She was born in Venus, Texas, on February 14, 1912, and grew up in Sherman, Texas.

She received a degree in music from Kidd Key College in 1931 and a Bachelors Degree in elementary education from Austin College, in 1933, in Sherman Texas. Married to Ted R. Bomar in Sherman in 1932, she and Ted had two children born in Sherman, Thomas R. Bomar in 1937 and Jane Ellen Bomar Damstra in 1939.

Dorothy became an area director of the Camp Fire Girls in the Los Angeles area of California after her children were of high school age and retired from that position prior to moving to Charlottesville.

Dorothy was active in community wherever she was. In Charlottesville, she was active with the Senior Center, The League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, and other groups at the Colonnades and in the community.

Her husband, Ted Bomar, also died in Charlottesville in 1999. He had retired from the Los Angeles Times where he was a news editor.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter, Jane Ellen Bomar Damstra and son-in-law, Dr. Don Damstra of Prescott, Arizona; son, Thomas R. Bomar and daughter-in-law, Margret Anne Bomar of Mountain Cove in Lovingston, Virginia; grandsons, Robert Thomas Bomar of Nashville, Tennessee, William Thomas Bomar of Lewisburg, Tennessee, Travis Miller of Ottawa, Ontario, Jason Miller of Apache Junction, Arizona, and Parker Miller of Tucson, Arizona; and granddaughter, Jessica Anne Nesseler-Cass and her husband, David, of Portland, Oregon; Jessica and David's children, McCaleb, Evelina and Charlotte.

A memorial service was held at the Colonnades on Thursday, June 25, 2009, with the Reverend David Wayland officiating.

Anyone wishing to make a gift in Dorothy's memory is asked to please make the gift to Hospice of the Piedmont, 675 Peter Jefferson Parkway, Suite 300, Charlottesville, VA 22911.

Friends may sign the guest register at teaguefuneralhome.com.

The Daily Progress, February 29, 2009

Wilma Hartung, 88, died on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at Hospice of the Piedmont.

Wilma was born March 1, 1921, in Rochester, New York. She served in the Army during World War II as a canvasser recruiter.

She received her BA from Hofstra University in 1966, and her MA from Columbia in 1968. She was an instructor at Hofstra University in the Department of Social Science and Religion.

Wilma moved to Charlottesville in 1986. She contributed her energy and talents to the community in a number of ways, including many years as a volunteer at Martha Jefferson Hospital's registration desk, and as part of their Palliative Care on-call team, Caring Presence Volunteers. She worked as a volunteer with the Red Cross, the Jefferson Area Board for Aging, and the Alliance of Interfaith Ministries, and was a member of the Senior Statesmen.

Wilma took pride in being part of the Blue Ridge Virginia Chapter of the United Nations Association, and was one of the founding members of this Charlottesville-based chapter.

For many years, she presided over a lively book discussion group held at her home on Sunday mornings.

Her marriages ended in divorce. Her children, Matthew Goldstein and Judy-Ron Goldstein, predeceased her.

Survivors include cousins in the Syracuse, New York, area, her friends at Jefferson Heights and throughout Charlottesville, and especially her book group who she regarded as family.

A memorial gathering was held at Jefferson Heights on Saturday, June 20, 2009.

The Daily Progress, June 5, 2009

IN CASE YOU MISSED THE LAST SSV MEETING...

At the June 10 SSV meeting, three panelists addressed the issue: "Health Insurance: the Problem, the Solution." The primary debate going on in Washington today is the formation of a national health insurance program that has everyone in and no one out. In the early decades of the 20th century, three payment plans were formed. First was the Cross, a nonprofit. During WW II, when wages were frozen, employers got into the act by providing company paid insurance. Also during this period, Henry J. Kaiser developed the Health Maintenance Organization. Then came Medicare for the elderly, and in the 90's came Medicare Part D, a drug plan using private insurance companies under government regulation.

Panelist **Donna Goings** described her experience as a consumer/patient. For 24 years she had paid her own health care premiums with a high deductible. When a skin blemish was diagnosed as cancer, she underwent outpatient surgery, but the cost came to \$10,000. She also spoke of a friend who has worked for many years with a company that provides employee health care,

but now she is on the verge of reaching the \$1 million lifetime benefit limit. Ms. Goings has come to the conclusion that a single payer approach is the solution.

Panelist **Robert Graham**, a medical professional, provided extensive information comparing Medicare to six major private insurance plans. In every case, the Medicare allowances beat all of the private plans and also the patient copays were less than all of the private plans, and none of the commercial insurances came close to the cost control achieved by Medicare.

Panelist **David Shreve**, an economist, addressed the question of how to pay for a single payer system. He suggested a small transaction tax on all stock market sales; a roll back of 2003 tax cuts; a 1.45 percent tax on income; and a gain from economic efficiencies.

The entire presentation to the SSV can be heard on the Charlottesville Podcasting Network at <http://www.cvilliepodcast.com/category/senior-statesmen/>.



SSV member Bob McAdams moderates the panel comprised of David Shreve, Robert Graham and Donna Goings.

The Senior Statesmen of Virginia is pleased to **welcome** a new member: **Phyllis Jackson**, 2420 Huntington Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901, 434-973-5130.

Mark your calendars...

Wednesday, September 9, 1:30 until 3:00 p.m., Senior Center, Inc., on Pepsi Place, "A View From the Hill: Social Security and Medicare, Where from Here?" presented by **Laura Feldman**, grassroots organizer for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security & Medicare.

Wednesday, October 14, 1:30 until 3:30 p.m., "Candidates for Albemarle County Board of Supervisors Forum:" Jack Jouett District: incumbent **Dennis Rooker** (I); Rio District: incumbent **David Slutzky** (D), and challenger **Rodney Thomas** (R); Samuel Miller District: **Madison Cummings** (D), **John Lowry** (I), and **Duane Snow** (R).

Wednesday, November 11, 1:30 until 3:00 p.m., "The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission," presented by **Billie Campbell**, TJPDC chief operating officer.

The purpose of the Senior Statesmen of Virginia, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational and advocacy organization is to enable seniors to identify and articulate their viewpoints on the issues affecting all the citizens of Virginia; to encourage knowledge of and active participation in the public processes of government; to disseminate information about the social, governmental, and educational institutions; and to prepare resolutions stating positions on member-selected issues for distribution to appropriate public officials.

*Membership in the SSV is open to all past and present citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. **Join now!** Annual dues are just \$15.00. Mail your check in the amount of \$15.00, (payable to "SSV") to Senior Statesmen of Virginia, c/o Jim Peterson, 1969 Ridgetop Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22903-8808. Telephone: 434-987-9014. E-mail: jimp@videoprovirginia.com*

Please visit our website at: <http://www.seniorstatesmen.org/>

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c/o Jim Peterson

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