

Senior
Statesmen of
Virginia

www.seniorstatesmen.org



The purpose of SSV, 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.



MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next meeting of the **Senior Statesmen of Virginia** will be held on **Wednesday, May 8, 2013, 1:30 – 3 p.m.** at the **Senior Center, Inc., 1180 Pepsi Place**

Charlottesville Mayor Satyendra Huja and Albemarle Board of Supervisors Chair Ann Mallek REPORT ON CITY/COUNTY ISSUES

As has become a tradition at our May meeting, the Senior Statesmen of Virginia will welcome our Charlottesville Mayor, **Satyendra Huja**, and **Ann Mallek**, the Chairman of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, for their reports on the "state of our community" and any plans in the works for new and exciting projects that will affect residents of our area.

The program will be moderated by SSV President **Sue Liberman** and is free and open to the public.



Satyendra Huja is the president of Community Planning Associates, and is also adjunct faculty at the University of Virginia School of Architecture and teaches Urban Planning courses on a regular basis. He was director of Strategic Planning for the City of Charlottesville from 1998 to 2004. Prior to that he was director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Charlottesville for 25 years. He received his Masters Degree in Urban Planning from

Michigan State University.

He was elected to the Charlottesville City Council in 2007 and is currently serving as mayor. His experiences are in the area of downtown revitalization, housing, historic preservation, transportation planning, art and culture activities, and neighborhood revitalization.

He has received honors from the Virginia Society of American Institute of Architects, recognition from the PEW Foundation for downtown revitalization, and a special recognition award from Piedmont Council for the Arts for his outstanding contribution and support for the arts. He also has been a consultant to the City of Pleven, Bulgaria, for Economic Development and Tourism Marketing.

Ann H. Mallek, chairman of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, represents the White Hall District. She is an educator and program coordinator for Central Virginia for the Virginia Museum of Natural History. She received her B.A. in Zoology from Connecticut College, New London CT.



Ms. Mallek was elected to the Board in January 2008 and is currently serving as chairman. She serves on the following standing committees: Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission; Piedmont Workforce Network Council; Acquisition of Conservation Easements; Property Committee; Rivanna River Basin Commission; Charlottesville/Albemarle/UVA Planning and Coordination Council Policy Committee; LEAP Governance Board; CIP Oversight Committee; and the Crozet Community Advisory Council.

She is a member of the following organizations: League of Women Voters; Albemarle County Farm Bureau; Charlottesville-Albemarle Chamber of Commerce; Piedmont Environmental Council; Southern Environmental Law Center; Rivanna Conservation Society; Ivy Creek Foundation; and the League of Conservation Voters.

In case you missed the April 10 SSV meeting



Delegate David Toscano

The program for the April 10 meeting of the Senior Statesmen of Virginia was a report from the Virginia delegates on the 2013 General Assembly. Delegates **Rob Bell**, **Matt Fariss**, **Steve Landes** and **David Toscano** were all invited to participate, but Delegates Bell and Faris declined due to scheduling conflicts. Delegate Landes was hopelessly ensnared in a traffic jam on the way to the program, so Delegate Toscano provided the report. He is finishing his eighth year in the Assembly and second year as Democratic leader in the Virginia House.

Delegate Toscano opened his remarks by highlighting what he saw as the things that were important and that were discussed in this session of the General Assembly. He noted that this was the “short” session (45 days instead of 60 days) which occurs every other year and originally set up to just tweak the two-year budget, but over the years has morphed into a totally new session with all these new bills being introduced. This session will be remembered for the transportation plan. For years he has said that if we get some leadership we could get a transportation plan that would raise enough money to fix our roads and bridges, build new roads, speak to our transit problems and provide a dedicated source for passenger rail. The approved plan raises over a billion dollars a year. By necessity, localities have been diverting local funds for road maintenance, but now money will be coming to the localities and also a dedicated source of revenue to fund passenger rail.

The second big thing for this region was the debate about Helen Dragas and the Board of Visitors. As it eventually turned out, she was reappointed on a split vote, and several bills that were introduced related to the governance at UVa but these largely failed.

A third major item was the debate about Medicaid. Governor McDonnell took a strong position opposing the expansion of Medicaid where the feds would pay 100 percent for the first three years and then eventually decline to the present level of 50 federal/50 state. Delegate Toscano was concerned about the uninsured as well as the status of our major teaching hospitals that are required to serve the uninsured. The expansion could serve 300,000 Virginians, provide 30,000 jobs, and \$9 billion in revenue coming to the Commonwealth. A compromise was arrived at establishing a special joint commission which would recommend the expansion only if certain reform measures were met. So, we don't have the expansion, but rather a road map to getting it and it will depend upon the next governor and everything may change.

You can listen to the entire presentation on the Charlottesville Podcasting Network at:

<http://www.cvillepodcast.com/category/senior-statesmen/>.

Mark your calendar (all to be held at the Senior Center, Inc., 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, June 12: Dr. Pamela Ross, Associate Professor in UVa Emergency Medicine, speaking on **national health care issues**.

NOTE: as has been the practice over the years, **there will not be a program in July**.

Wednesday, August 14: John Whitehead of the Rutherford Institute will speak on **the use of drones** for law enforcement and other purposes.

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

Please visit our website at: www.seniorstatesmen.org/

Senior Statesmen of Virginia

P.O. Box 6591

Charlottesville, VA 22906