

# The Alexandria Democrat

## Dear Alexandria Democrats:

This is an extraordinarily exciting time to be an Alexandria Democrat.

Alexandria's own **Mark Warner** will announce his candidacy for the United States Senate during the first week of May. On Monday, May 5, he will begin his "**Very Excellent Announcement Tour – Results for a Change!**" in Roanoke, and travel to Norfolk and Richmond before ending up here in his hometown.

You are invited to join him at the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle Street, at 7:00 PM for a festive evening and a preview of what national leadership should and can be. Make plans now to join Mark and to make a commitment to work for his victory. The event is free and will include a cash bar. The Carlyle Club is located in the PTO area and is a very short walk from King Street Metro. So that we can make proper plans, please RSVP to [www.markwarner2008.com/announcement](http://www.markwarner2008.com/announcement).

(A special plea from me to you – PLEASE click on the link above and let the campaign know that you are coming. Planning an event like this is exciting, fun and totally nerve wracking. One of the most nerve wracking parts is when you don't know for sure how many people are coming. Imagine if you were planning a dinner party and you had to guess how many people to cook for. Please click. Thank you from the bottom of **Joe Abbey's** heart.)

**And**, because we are fortunate enough to have a hometown candidate for US Senate, we are asked to go the extra mile. We still need a few people to hand out fliers at Metro on Monday morning and to help at the event. Please respond generously with your time. Email [WarnerKickOff@alexdem.org](mailto:WarnerKickOff@alexdem.org) if you can be a part of making this marvelous evening work.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, Alexandria will host **the Eighth Congressional District Democratic Convention** at Hammond Middle School, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Our own **Marian VanLandingham** is running to be the Elector for the Eighth District. As a member of the Electoral College, she would travel to Richmond in December and cast a vote on your behalf for the next DEMOCRATIC President of the United States. In 2008, for the first time since 1964, Virginia WILL vote Democratic in the Presidential Election, because YOU are going to make it happen.

The keynote will be given by Senator **Jim Webb**. A lively discussion of Resolutions will be followed by what promises to be an even livelier vote to elect National Delegates. By the time the filing deadline passes, we expect that more than 80 people will have filed to run for either an **Obama** or **Clinton** National Delegate.

Guests are welcome at the Convention and volunteers are needed. If you could help at any time between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM, please email me at [SusanBKellom@aol.com](mailto:SusanBKellom@aol.com).

I want to commend the supporters of both of our Presidential candidates for their "America First" attitude. No matter who wins our nomination, he or she will be the best person to lead our country out of the abyss that W has thrown us into.

Susan Kellom  
Chair, Alexandria Democratic Committee

## Alexandria Democratic Committee

May 2008



**May ADC Meeting,  
Tuesday, May 6, 8:00, at  
Patrick Henry School,  
4643 Taney Avenue,  
Alexandria. Note: this  
is a date change.**

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# Alexandria Democrats' Results-Watching and Unity Party in Action



Conversations in the kitchen  
Andre Rogers and Sandra Bell



From left Ben Kellom, Dorathea Peters, Susan Kellom, Lucelle O'Flaherty, Janet McMahon



Charniele Herring, Host, and Paul Friedman

## A Democratic Unity Event that Delivered

by Marianne Anderson

Alexandria Democrats—most or all with strong beliefs in one or the other of their presidential hopefuls—came together on Tuesday evening, April 22, to watch the Pennsylvania Primary returns at the home of Charniele and Carolyn Herring. This “returns watching” party was billed as a Democratic Unity Event – a problematic concept given the strong beliefs and tireless efforts of many Alexandria Democrats on behalf of their favored potential Democratic presidential nominee.

No matter the differences at this unity event; the atmosphere was convivial, not competitive. This was a group of friends and colleagues who joined together in what they all knew was their common cause: being a part of the Democratic party and electing a Democratic President of the United States.

### Delegates to 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and Virginia State Conventions:

Dorathea Peters and Paul Friedman report that all of the available delegate (35) and alternate (18) slots for Barack Obama from Alexandria have been filled.

Hazel Rigby reports that all of the available delegate (19) and alternate (9) slots for Hillary Clinton from Alexandria have been filled.

These delegates, and alternates if needed, attend both the 8th Congressional District Convention in Alexandria on May 17, at Hammond Middle School in Alexandria, and the Virginia Democratic Party State Convention in Hampton Roads, Virginia, on June 13 and 14.

# Annual high-calorie, high-information Legislative Wrap Up

by Julie Jakopic

On April 7, our state delegation, led by Majority Leader Saslaw and House Caucus Chair Moran, shared their legislative results and stories of the recent session in Richmond. Despite the transportation issues that were not resolved, it was a very productive session. We owe many thanks to Senator Dick Saslaw, Senator Patsy Ticer, Delegate Brian Moran, Delegate Adam Ebbin and Delegate David Englin for their dedicated, substantive work on our behalf, including:

- repeal of the abusive driver fees
- passing Alicia's law which will increase law enforcement capacity to crack down on internet child sex predators
- passing major legislation improving the Virginia mental health system
- preserving the Air Pollution Control Board which enables us to continue to work with the Board regarding pollution from the Mirant plant;
- passing a \$1.4-billion bond package which will fund higher education construction projects, mental health facilities and parks projects. The package is crafted to allow projects to begin as soon as the bill is signed into law, serving as an immediate economic stimulus for the Commonwealth. Many of the projects included in the package focus on research and high-tech workforce development, which are critical investments that will produce long-term economic growth.

The other good news from last week is that the General Assembly returned to the tradition of honoring judges selected by the local House and Senate delegation by elevating Judge Nolan B. Dawkins to the Circuit Court and electing Donald M. Had-dock, Jr. to the General District Court.

In keeping with the ADC Legislative Wrap-up tradition, members and friends feasted on 27 kinds of chocolate, an amazing bread pudding, berry pie and scrumptious other goodies! Special thanks to all the fine folks who provided desserts for our enjoyment. And, many thanks to those who contributed dollars to fund our ADC work:

## Super Sweets Givers

### **Donation for Door Prize—\$70**

Mayor and City Council

### **Decadent Devourer of Desserts—\$50**

Tim Lovain

Margaret Williams

### **Chocoholic—\$25**

Russell Bailey

Jerry Bernier

Pat Butler

Michael Cook

Patty Donmoyer

Mark Feldheim

Paul Friedman

Pam Goodell

Jean Jensen

Mary Lyman

Hazel Rigby

Greg Roberts

### **Cookie Monster—\$15**

Lenny Harris

Phil Hocker

Lynn Humphries

Marjorie Niehaus

Thomas Parry

Del Pepper

F.J. Pepper

Richard Smith

Max Stolper

Jim and Joan Wamsley

Laura Mandala

## Raising Voter Awareness can be Fun in Alexandria

by Holly Wallace

Do you know how many Alexandria residents have registered to vote since Mark Warner left the Governor's office? About 12,417. How about how many voters are new since Jim Moran last ran for Congress in 2006? About 7,362. And the number grows each month!

How many Alexandria registered voters don't know that there is a race for Virginia Senate this year? Or that Warner, **Mark**, is a different person and party from Warner, **John**?

To help close the voter education gap, we need Democratic visibility! And the easiest, most fun way to participate is to sign up to volunteer at one of the many public social events that take place in Alexandria during the warm weather. All you need to do is arrive at the site, talk to anyone who comes by the Alexandria Democratic Committee table, offer literature, sell some buttons and bumper stickers, offer volunteer sign-up forms, and enjoy the festival. Easy! Fun! [Just sign up for a two hour shift to try it out.](#) The ADC needs 2 people for each 2 hour shift, plus one person to pick up materials from the office and return them after the event.

The list of events can be found at [alexdem.org](http://alexdem.org), look on the left menu for Festival volunteers or go directly to: <http://alexdem.org/festivals2008.shtml>. Just click on the event of your choice, and send the email with your contact info. Or email to Amanda Ruff, Volunteer Coordinator, at [amanda.ruff@verizon.net](mailto:amanda.ruff@verizon.net), or call the ADC office at 703-549-3367.

Here is a sampling of this year's events - something for everyone:

May 3 - Town of Potomac/Del Ray Anniversary

May 18 - Wilson Bridge Walk

May 26 - Jazz Festival

July 12 - Alexandria's Birthday Celebration

July 26 - African American Heritage Festival

August 2 - Irish Festival at Waterfront Park

Sep 13-14 - Alexandria Festival of the Arts on King Street

October 4 - Art on the Avenue in Del Ray

First Thursdays in Del Ray

Saturday Farmer's Markets in Market Square, Alexandria

Check your spring and summer schedule and sign up — it's never too early to plan!

### While you're checking your calendars:

Please note that we will have a **Primary election in Alexandria, June 10**, for the Democratic nomination for the U. S. House of Representatives from the 8th District. Matthew Famiglietti is challenging incumbent James P. Moran for the House seat.

Also in June, date, speaker, and location to be announced soon, the Alexandria Democratic Committee will hold its annual **Jefferson-Jackson Dinner**.

Also in June, **Precinct Captains "Retreat"**, tentatively set for Saturday, June 28. (See item from Matt Harris, Deputy Chair, Precinct Operations, East, on page 5 regarding precinct captain meeting plans.)

## Brian Moran Hosts Breakfast at T. C. Williams

Boosters of Brian Moran came out in record numbers to join in the camaraderie of the Saturday morning breakfast bash. Moran took this opportunity to connect with his constituents and report to them on the legislative problems and progress from the recent session in Richmond—a successful community connection event for local and regional Democrats.



Brian Moran



and Friends



### Precinct Captains...Precinct Captains...Precinct Captains

by Matt Harris

Our May ADC meeting has been moved to Tuesday night, May 6, due to Governor Mark Warner's "Very Excellent Announcement Tour" which culminates on Monday evening, May 5, at the Carlyle Club, in Alexandria, at 7 PM. It should be a fantastic event, and as Gov. Warner's hometown Democratic Committee, we are expecting a great turnout among our members and friends.

Because of this additional event next week, Charniele Herring (Deputy Chair, Precinct Operations, West) and I have decided to postpone our previously scheduled precinct captains' meeting to a future ADC meeting. In the meantime, we are planning to host a precinct captains' retreat, and we would appreciate your input regarding topics to be discussed. Please send suggestions to either or both of us at [matsharris@hotmail.com](mailto:matsharris@hotmail.com) or [cherringlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:cherringlaw@yahoo.com).

### Democratic Victory Party

by Paul Friedman

Congressman Jim Moran (D-8) and Governor Tim Kaine (D-VA) teamed up on Sunday afternoon, April 6, to encourage house parties all over the Eighth District. Cong. Moran and Gov. Kaine spoke via a conference call about Democrats working together to ensure victory in November no matter who our ultimate nominee is.

Jim Moran made a personal appearance and called in to be part of the conversation with Tim Kaine at a party organized by ADC Precinct Captain Paul Friedman at Generous George's Positive Pizza and Pasta Place. Over 40 new faces, some with kids in tow, showed up on a rainy Sunday afternoon to learn about the Democratic National Committee's new approach to party-building with an eye towards winning big in November. The folks who attended saw a short DVD describing how the DNC wants us to network with our neighbors to improve turnout for the presidential election.

Pizza and soda were enjoyed, courtesy of Congressman Moran. Over \$100 was also raised and donated to the Alexandria Democratic Committee.

Many of the party-goers signed up to stay involved and participate in the program when the fall campaign begins. Among the local political officials to attend were Fairfax Democrats' Chair Margo Horner, Alexandria Vice Mayor Del Pepper and our own Alexandria Democratic Committee Chair, Susan Kellom.

## For Our Planet and our Neighborhoods

### Q. Should I Use Paper or Plastic? A: Neither

by Carolyn Cason

Both types of bags use up natural resources, have negative impacts on wildlife, pollute our environment, create significant toxic by-products during their lifetimes and neither is effectively recycled. Only 10-15% of paper bags and 1-3% of plastic bags used are recycled.

In 1999, 14 million trees were cut to produce the **10 billion** paper grocery bags used in the U.S. Thousands of gallons of water along with chemicals, electricity, and fossil fuels are used to produce them.

While producing plastic bags may have less environmental impact, plastic is a petroleum-based product. And, more than 100,000 birds and marine life die each year due to an encounter with plastic debris, mainly plastic bags. Plastic bag debris is one of the most often found items in coastal cleanups, according to the nonprofit Center for Marine Conservation. More than **380 billion** plastic bags are consumed in the U.S. annually.

**Q. What's the best answer? A. Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB):** Whole Foods, MOM's (My Organic Market) and Giant give a rebate for every bag you bring. Trader Joe's has drawings for free groceries. Hopefully, these examples will spread. And, for great gift ideas, visit the locally-owned [www.carrotseed.net](http://www.carrotseed.net). Reuse and reduce waste. Make a difference now.

### Adopt-a-Block Programs Work -- with the help of a few friends

by Mark Feldheim

If you were on Duke Street Saturday morning, April 26, and saw Sheriff Dana Lawhorne with a number of people with orange safety vests don't be concerned. They were not inmates but members of our own ADC doing their clean up chores for our Adopt-a-Block activity. Special thanks to Ellen Miles, Micki Feldheim, John Biechman, Matt Harris, John Chapman, Chris Sims, Ben and Susan Kellom and Dana Lawhorne. As promised there was plenty of coffee, water, donuts and conversation, along with a dozen bags of trash.

### "Mom and Pop" Startup

Julie and I are thrilled to announce the arrival of a new member of our family, Miles Jacob Walters! Miles was born on Thursday, April 17, almost 4 weeks ahead of "schedule" at Inova Alexandria Hospital, weighing in at 6 lbs. 3 oz.

Miles and Julie are both doing great. Miles is a beautiful little boy, with a sunny disposition, lots of curiosity, and he's strong as all get-out! I've been explaining the finer points of digestion, quantum computing, college basketball, diaper construction, and other good father-son topics. He's a total joy!

Julie and I look forward to introducing him to you in person soon.  
Warm regards,  
Ed Walters



In addition to proud papa, Ed is Precinct Captain of Precinct 106, Cora Kelly Rec Center

### Political Trivia Quiz

**The April question was:** "Three U. S. Presidents were born in the Carolinas. What else do these three have in common?" **Answer:** All three were elected from a state other than the one in which they were born. Andrew Jackson (born in South Carolina) and James Knox Polk and Andrew Johnson (both from N. Carolina) were all elected from Tennessee. **Winner: Charniele Herring.**

**The May question is:** List the three tallest U. S. Presidents in order, starting with the tallest. The first respondent with the best answer will be acknowledged in our June issue.

Contact F. J. Pepper by e-mail [fjpeppermd@aol.com](mailto:fjpeppermd@aol.com), fax (703)823-2429 or home phone (voice mail) (703)751-0770.

F. J. Pepper, M.D.  
St. Martin Precinct

# Leadership Circle Wants You

by Mark Feldheim

The ADC Bylaws require us to use our best efforts to maintain and staff a permanent office within the City of Alexandria. Notwithstanding the dedicated work of our many volunteers and generous donors, we must raise more money if we are to maintain and staff the ADC office. The funds raised through our annual Leadership Circle campaign are used for the rent, insurance, equipment, utilities and supplies needed to keep our office open and running.

I know that you receive funds solicitations from any number of federal, state and local campaigns and charitable causes, but if we are to continue our support of the Democratic Party and elect Democrats to office, we need your help now.

Please contribute whatever you can and become a part of our Leadership Circle. A list of donors and contribution levels is included in this newsletter, but whatever you can contribute will be acknowledged and most appreciated. In the near future we will also be planning some fundraising events. If you have any questions or suggestions do not hesitate to contact me. May we have your support? Contact me at mark.feldheim@verizon.net.

## *Alexandria Democratic Leadership Circle*

**618 North Washington Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

### **Benefactors (\$1,000 +)**

Bill Euille                                  Jim Moran                                  Matthew Natale

### **Patrons (\$501 - \$1,000)**

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H. Stewart Dunn                                  Pat Butler                                  Bill & Betty Livingston                                  Patsy Ticer

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### **Supporters (\$50 - \$100)**

Karen Hayes	Sarah Stott	Jack Moline	Robert Miller
John Chapman	Jean Raabe	P. Jane Stevens	Mary Giordano
Pamela Goodell			

Please make checks payable to Alexandria Democratic Committee, write Leadership Circle in subject line and mail to: ADC Leadership Circle, 618 N. Washington Street, Ground Floor Suite 2, Alexandria, VA 22314 (703-549-3367)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income taxes purposes. Your contribution may be used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Federal Election Campaign Act. State law requires political committees to report the name, address, occupation and employer of individuals whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$100 in a calendar year. Federal law requires the Alexandria Democratic Committee to use its best efforts to collect and report the name, address, occupation and employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

**Alexandria  
Democratic  
Committee**

618 N. Washington Street  
Ground Floor, Suite 2  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703-549-3367  
www.alexdem.org

**The May meeting of the Alexandria Democratic Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 6, at 8:00 pm, at Patrick Henry Elementary School, 4643 Taney Ave., Alexandria. Please note, this is both a date and location change.**

**Executive Board:**

**Chair**

Susan B. Kellom [SusanBKellom@aol.com](mailto:SusanBKellom@aol.com)

**Deputy Chair for Finance & Administration**

Julie N. Jakopic [julie@creatingthevision.com](mailto:julie@creatingthevision.com)

**Deputy Chair for Precinct Operations – East**

Matt Harris [matsharris@hotmail.com](mailto:matsharris@hotmail.com)

**Deputy Chair for Precinct Operations – West**

Charniele Herring [cherringlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:cherringlaw@yahoo.com)

**Clerk**

Mary Lyman [mslyman@verizon.net](mailto:mslyman@verizon.net)

**Treasurer**

Elisabeth Campbell [campfair@comcast.net](mailto:campfair@comcast.net)

**Public Information Officer** Marianne Anderson

[marianneanderson@verizon.net](mailto:marianneanderson@verizon.net)

**Technology Officer**

Holly Wallace [hjw@radix.net](mailto:hjw@radix.net)

**Resolutions Officer**

Richard R.G. Hobson  
[rhobson@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:rhobson@mcguirewoods.com)

**Community Outreach Officers**

Diana Bedoya [dbedoya67@yahoo.com](mailto:dbedoya67@yahoo.com)  
H. Scott Johnson [hscottjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:hscottjohnson@gmail.com)

**Volunteer Coordinators**

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Amanda Ruff [amanda.ruff@verizon.net](mailto:amanda.ruff@verizon.net)

**Leadership Circle**

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**Parliamentarian**

Craig Fifer [craig@fifer.net](mailto:craig@fifer.net)

**Legal Counsel**

Jim Lay [jim@laymoore.com](mailto:jim@laymoore.com)

**Young Democrats Liaison**

John Chapman [j.taylor.chapman@gmail.com](mailto:j.taylor.chapman@gmail.com)

**Immediate Past Chair**

Paul Smedberg [SmedbergPC@aol.com](mailto:SmedbergPC@aol.com)

Pct	Name	Precinct Captain	Phone #	Email address
101	Ladrey Senior Bldg	Vacant		
102	City Hall	Hazel & Ron Rigby	703-548-2422	hrigby@aol.com
103	Lyles Crouch School	Vacant		
104	Durant Center	Mark Feldheim	703-739-9772	mark.feldheim@verizon.net
105	The Lee Center	PJ Palmer-Johnson	703-566-0856	drepj@aol.com
106	Cora Kelly Rec Center	Ed Walters	703-863-3278	ed.walters@gmail.com
107	Mt. Vernon Rec Center	Paul Cox	571-332-6474	dragon2eden@gmail.com
108	George Washington	Vacant		
109	Fire Dept. HQ	Marianne Anderson	703.548.0295	marianneanderson@verizon.net
		Trish Curran	703.549.9064	pdclkg@msn.com
201	Maury School	Mark Schofield	703.517.7510	marklynnschofield@gmail.com
202	George Mason School	Pat Butler	703.549.0177	phbraven@msn.com
203	Agudas Achim Cong.	Paul Friedman	703.671.3843	paulfriedman@comcast.net
204	Blessed Sacrament	Barbara Brenman	703.548.9485	bbrenman@netzero.net
205	MacArthur School	Dick Hobson	703.370.1858	rhobson@mcguirewoods.com
206	Chinquapin Rec Cen	Bill Dickinson	703.370.3089	wdickin953@aol.com
207	Temple Beth El	Jack Sullivan	703.370.3039	jack.sullivan9@verizon.net
208	NOVA Arts Center	Vacant		
209	James K. Polk School	Doratheia Peters	703.399-5654	doratheapeters@netzero.com
210	St. James Church	David Colton	703-256-2911	coltonva@verizon.net
302	St. Martin Rec Cen.	Dr. FJ Pepper	703.751.0770	fjpeppermd@aol.com
303	Beatley Library	Jamal Awamleh	703.786.4198	jawamleh@msn.com
		Jacqueline Meeks	703.823.0961	jackiemees@comcast.net
304	Tucker School	Vacant		
305	John Adams School	Vacant		
306	Wm.Ramsay RecCen.	Carolyn Herring	703.658.2305	cherringlaw@yahoo.com
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308	Cameron Station	Derek Hyra	703.751.2725	hyra.home1@verizon.net

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