

NEWSBRIEF



American Planning Association
Virginia Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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#APAVA15 in Norfolk A Huge Success!

The American Planning Association Virginia Chapter's 35th Annual Conference was a huge success. For 2015, the City of Norfolk was the host community and offered a variety of sessions, mobile tours, and local hospitality that drew in over 400 professional planners! #APAVA15 kicked off with a reception on the Battleship Wisconsin, included Keynote Presentations from Andrew Salkin from 100 Resilient Cities, and Nick Donohue, Deputy Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The theme for Norfolk 2015 was "Resiliency," not just in response to sea level rise and climate change gripping Virginia's coastal communities, but building resilient, sustainable communities around the State.

The Chapter would like to again thank our generous sponsors, exhibitors and the Norfolk Waterside Sheraton for making this Conference memorable. Presentation's from the Conference's concurrent sessions can be found online and are available to all chapter members. Finally, if you did attend #APAVA15 and are a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Certified Maintenance (CM) credit's are now available for select sessions and can be recorded online through the American Planning Association webpage.

Are you looking forward to the 2016 Conference? APA Virginia Chapter's Annual Conference returns to peaks of the Wintergreen Resort, with enhanced program offerings, the skill-building sessions and networking opportunities for planners of all levels of experience.

See you July 17-20, 2016!



Photo by Blake Barnes



Photo by Elite Photography



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Give All & Expect Nothing

A few years ago, I found a quote in an e-book from author and humorist, Jarod Kintz: *When you give every-thing and expect nothing in return, only then will you be in a position to gain anything. When you love loving, you give because giving is getting. Giving is a gift unto itself, and when you realize this you understand that you can't network if you can't love.*

So, what is the most effective way to create and sustain great relationships with others? It's by taking full responsibility for the relationship, expecting nothing in return. This does not exclusively apply to relationships of long standing or deep meaning; any relationship worth having is worth investing in.

Implementing this is not natural for most of us. It takes real commitment to each relationship and a good dose of self-discipline to think, act and unconditionally give 100 percent—even when not reciprocated in full, or in part.

We all need to take responsibility for those relationships—both personal and organizational—in life that are too important to react automatically or judgmentally. Each of us must determine those relationships to which we need to take full responsibility. But, for most of us, it includes our family, friends, fellow planners, work colleagues, customers, clients, suppliers, and probably others as well. Indeed, it likely includes all the people and organizations in our life beyond the most casual acquaintance.

So, how do we do this?

First, determine what you can do to make the relationship work—and then just do it. You should demonstrate respect and kindness to the other person, whether s/he deserves it or not.

Second, expect nothing in return. Truly, have zero expectations. Do not allow anything the other person says or does (no matter how annoying, inane or hurtful—and no matter how “wrong” you may perceive their take on a topic to be) to affect you. In other words, don't be baited into a confrontation.

Finally—and most importantly—be persistent with your graciousness, good humor and kindness. Don't give up too soon, when others don't respond in kind. Remember you expect nothing in return. And smiles are as much a comfort to the person smiling as the one being smiled at.

When you take real responsibility for a relationship, more often than not the other person quickly chooses to take responsibility as well. Consequently, the one-way relationship can quickly transform into a full two-way partnership. When that occurs, true breakthroughs can and do happen for the individuals involved, their teams, their organizations and their families.

And what does any of this have to do with planning? Well-conceived planning processes entail considerable involvement of colleagues, advisory groups, interested parties, citizens and, at least occasionally, opponents. Consider each of these interactions as a relationship and, while nothing is expected, great outcomes are entirely possible.

This summer, the APA Virginia Chapter Conference was one of the most successful we have ever had and forms a template of sorts for the conferences to come. For example, we will continue to provide mobile workshops along with longer-form deep dive and participatory sessions on Sunday followed by our opening reception. Next year's conference will be back at Wintergreen and, for our opening reception on Sunday 17 July 2016, we are planning an “All Nelson” theme featuring beverages and food created in Nelson County showing that sustainable agricultural practices and economic development can go hand-in-hand. The conference team has lots of other thoughts as well to make our 2016 conference memorable and worthwhile in every way—but please share any of your thoughts and ideas too; the earlier you bring them forward, the better the opportunity to make them happen.

APA has recently launched the Planners' Advocacy Network (www.planning.org/advocacy/) as a grassroots continued on Pg 10



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

NATIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH

WHEREAS, changes in economic and population growth affect all Virginia cities, towns, and counties; and

WHEREAS, community planning and plans can help manage these changes in a way that provides better choices for how people work and live; and

WHEREAS, community planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully involved in the decisions that shape the future of their community; and

WHEREAS, the full benefits of planning come through public officials and citizens who understand, support, and demand excellence in planning and plan implementation; and

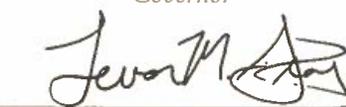
WHEREAS, each year, members of the American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, celebrate National Community Planning Month to highlight the value of sound planning and implementation to our communities; and

WHEREAS, National Community Planning Month is an opportunity to recognize the Commonwealth's planning commissions and other citizen planners whose efforts improve the lives of all Virginians;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terence R. McAuliffe, do hereby recognize October 2015 as **NATIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth

APA National Update



Rodger Lentz, AICP
APA Board Directors,
Region II

Sadly summer has come to an end. While fall is one of my favorite seasons, I really love the family time during summer. I hope you enjoyed your summer and are getting ready for the chapter conferences and the APA Policy and Advocacy Conference that come each fall.

This summer, the APA Board's Development Plan and Budget Committee has been working on the updated strategic plan for our organization. We have revamped the way we are doing this process and I hope you

have had an opportunity to participate. First, the Board had a strong desire to hear from members as well as chapter, student, and division leadership. As a result, we sought direct input from those leaders and used surveys and other electronic means to receive input from a wider audience. Several hundred people par-

ticipated in various ways and that input drove the direction of the organization's strategic plan. The second change has to do with the plan itself. The initial document is long-term oriented and looks beyond the two year window that had been the time horizon in the past. To complement this work, we have also developed an implementation document that lays out projects and initiatives for APA to take on over the next 1-2 years. As

this is implemented, we will be able to track what we have accomplished and report back so members can see what has been achieved.

The other part of this work is developing a budget to implement the plan. The change members will see here is a more detailed and accessible budget document so you can see how APA financial resources are used to benefit members. We are also looking at the development of a dashboard tool so members can track progress on issues important to them.

The APA Policy and Advocacy Conference is coming up at the end of September. If you have not made your plans to attend, I hope you will consider it. If you cannot attend, I encourage you to contact your legislative delegation at both the state and federal level to introduce yourself, simply reconnect with them, and share one or two issues of concern that you hope they can address. Please also consider joining the Planner's Advocacy Network (www.planning.org/advocacy/). By joining the network you can:

- Learn about policy issues that affect planners
- Write letters, emails, make phone calls to, and engage legislators on social media
- Get special training and resources
- Post about the network on social media
- Share action alerts and information with your friends and colleagues
- Join calls and meetings with State Chairs and District Captains at state and national conferences
- Join in-district meetings and other events

As planners it is up to us to advocate for policies that will have a positive impact on the communities we serve. I hope you will consider joining the network. ■



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Talking About Planning: Jack Stodghill, FAICP The Making of a City



Angela Harper, FAICP

A. Jack Stodghill, FAICP, long-time planning professional and first president of the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association, recently published a book that offers a rare glimpse into the management style and personal life of his one-time boss, Newport News City Manager Joseph C. Biggins. As the first Planning Director of Newport News after its consolidation with the City of Warwick (formerly Warwick County) Jack prepared the new city's first comprehensive plan and long-range planning program.

The Making of A City: Joseph C. Biggins' Newport News, 1925-1965, tells the tale of a young engineer from an immigrant family who was chosen at age 26 to head the Newport News city government. Biggins led the city through the Great Depression, WWII, and the consolidation of the then separate cities of Newport News and Warwick. Cited by the American City Managers

Association as the longest-serving city manager of a single American city, Biggins earned the oft-quoted title, "The Legend."

Jack's book covers strategic events in the early formation and expansion of Newport News, detailing events such as: how C&O Railroad magnate, Collis P. Huntington, founded the city; the clashes early Newport News' leaders had with neighbors over efforts to expand the city's boundaries; and the long crusade during the mid-20th century to establish a more workable peninsula government through consolidation. The latter was an achievement that paved the way for a wave of city-county consolidations throughout the Hampton Roads region during the 1960s and 1970s. A final chapter tells the story of the creation of Newport News Park – the second largest municipal park in America – and Jack's leadership in that project.

City Manager Biggins hired Jack in 1961 to prepare a comprehensive planning program that would enable Newport News to manage the unprecedented growth of the late 20th century. After 14 years with Newport News that saw the planning department grow from a staff of 4 to 23, Jack left the city job to establish a professional practice that continues today as PMA Architecture located in Hilton Village. In 2014, Jack was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). In so-called retirement Jack continues to do

what he did for most of his professional career, write, but no more planning reports. Before his current book, Jack authored the memoir, *Rubber Bands and City Plans*, (2012).

In September, Angela Harper interviewed Jack and asked him to talk about what it was like working with a tough city manager like J. C. Biggins, and a city that had no prior experience with modern urban planning.

The Conversation

Angela: Since you inspired me in the 1980s to become a leader of our professional organization, I was honored that you asked me to read an early draft of this book. Now that it's published, tell me "What motivated you to write a book about Biggins in the first place?"

Jack: First, thanks for routing out my many mistakes and extra words to make the text more readable. There have been several official chronicles written covering the history of Newport News. While Biggins' name appears in most of

continued on Pg 23



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Will Cockrell
TJPDC
Director of Planning
& MPO Coordinator

TJPDC Prepares Rural Communities for Changing Transportation Environment

There is a changing environment of state statutes and dwindling resources that will present growing challenges to rural communities, as they attempt to meet the transportation needs of their citizens. At the end of September, the State will accept the first applications under the new House Bill 2 prioritization system; a process intended to prioritize transportation funds. While this bill passed in 2004, the subsequent requirements are just now coming into play for funding decisions. The underlying impetus, dwindling resources for mounting transportation needs, is a persistent challenge for the State and Nation. As a result, Virginia's new legislation is intended to improve the transparency and accountability of project selection, to get the biggest "bang for the buck."

(TJPDC) is reworking an older document, the 2010 Rural Long Range Transportation Plan (RLRP). The 2015 update will be an innovative approach to preparing for the new and ever-changing environment of laws and resources. The new plan will serve as a roadmap for the rural areas: defining priorities; establishing implementation strategies; justifying future State investments; setting expectations; and, supporting future applications with data and analysis. All of this will come from a previous plan that went mostly unnoticed by local officials.

The first version of that plan came together 5 years ago, when VDOT partnered with the 20 Planning District Commissions with rural transportation programs. The effort focused on developing Long Range Transportation Plans for rural areas of the State, to complement the transportation plans in urbanized areas (MPOs). Overall, the RLRP was intended to serve several functions, including to:

- Identify transportation deficiencies and recommendations;
- Assist with comprehensive plan updates and traffic impact studies (Chapter 527);
- Evaluate the effects of land use and development on the surrounding network;
- Establish programming of transportation improvements; and,
- Provide content and guidance for statewide transportation plans.

While the 2010 plan is only 5 years old, new laws and programs have rendered it outdated, if not obsolete. Localities need more information at their fingertips and supporting documentation, than the list of deficiencies that make up the previous version of the RLRP. At the same time, while localities are intended to be the main audience for the plans, those stakeholders had little influence on the 2010 process. In 2015 the TJPDC is starting with local officials. Before staff moved forward with the plan, the cornerstone of the process was a series

continued on Pg 24



Unfortunately, rural counties and small towns, already at a disadvantage for funding and influence, will continue to struggle for resources in a competitive process, where the majority of funds will likely go to urban projects. While the new laws (HB 1887) are intended to create a more level playing field, the project submission process will present new challenges to local departments. Localities will need to present substantially more data and justification at submittal, threatening to strain town halls and county office buildings that are already overburdened. Consequently, rural communities need to be more prepared than ever before, in order to compete for limited resources and handle the extra complications from the HB 2 process.

To ease the additional burden on local officials and departments, the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission



Request for Potential Planning Projects for UVA Urban and Environmental Planning Capstone Course

In the Spring Semester of 2016, graduate students in the Urban and Environmental Planning program at the University of Virginia will be formulating and undertaking applied planning projects in a required course known as PLAN 6010. This course is intended to serve as a final capstone to their graduate school experience and should give our students "real world" experience in conceiving, planning, and implementing a community-based planning project. In 2016, the course will be co-taught by Ellen Bassett and Kathy Galvin.

To assist students in identifying good community-based projects, we would like to invite expressions of interest from our alumni, neighborhood groups, planning organizations, and the community-at-large.

- 1) A brief description of the project - a project is appropriate for the capstone if it is problem-centered, has a geographic aspect, and includes components of applied research, development and evaluation of alternatives, a recommended course of action, and community consultation and participation.
- 2) Identification of the "client"- that is, the party with which the students will work. We encourage clients that represent organizations or neighborhoods, not simply individuals.
- 3) A brief description of the potential (or envisioned) product that would result and how it addresses an identified community need.
- 4) Contact details (name, telephone number, email address) for the person submitting the request. We will acknowledge receipt of the proposed projects and students will follow up with the requestor to gather more information and parameters for the work. However, final decisions on project selection are left up to the students and those decisions will be made during the first week of December 2015.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or want more information.

Sincerely, Ellen Bassett and Kathy Galvin

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Virginia Downtown Development Association Reboot and Membership Campaign



The Virginia Downtown Development Association (VDDA) is kicking off its 2015/16 membership campaign. Formed in 1982, VDDA has provided leadership in downtown advocacy and policy, as well as provided a forum for the dissemination of best practices. This advocacy has included the founding of the Virginia Main Street program at the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development in 1985.

After more than 30 years, VDDA is retooling to provide more tangible benefits for its members. A new website, www.VaDowntown.org, is up and running and will soon include a blog featuring new articles of note and examples of downtown projects underway or just opening. Eventually, VDDA hopes to build its capacity to offer a clearinghouse, on its website, of white elephant buildings in Virginia's downtowns.

All of this speaks to VDDA's role as a connection point for all of those interested in the health of Virginia's downtowns, small and large. Through its happy hour receptions at statewide conferences and its Hot Topic Luncheons, VDDA works to bring developers, planners, contractors, Main Street and other downtown organizations, architects and design professionals, and downtown businesses together to learn about what's new and find out about unique opportunities across Virginia.



VDDA offers three membership levels ranging from an individual membership (\$75) to a small organization membership for up to three people (\$125) and a large organization membership for up to eight people (\$250). VDDA has set a goal of 150 new members and is looking forward to hearing ideas from its membership as to how it can better serve their needs.

For more information or to sponsor an event, contact Jeff Sadler at VaDowntownDevAssoc@gmail.com or 804-400-6872. ■

Give All & Expect Nothing *cont.*

opportunity for planners to become advocates for great planning. Free and open to all APA members, the Planners' Advocacy Network will help members learn about policy issues, initially at the federal level, but rolling out to states over the next couple of years. There are benefits to belonging to the Planners' Advocacy Network—please check them out. Nick Rogers, AICP with Fairfax County has accepted the challenge of being the inaugural Virginia state coordinator for the Planners' Advocacy Network; he will be soon asking for volunteers to serve as coordinators for each Congressional district.

Another of the ways to be an advocate for great planning is to lead by and with examples. That is one of the benefits of the Chapter Awards Program. The Chapter Board recently decided to reassign responsibility for the awards program jointly to the FAICP Committee and the Young Planners Group. Please consider submitting your plan, your process, your citizen planner that have made a difference in your community for recognition by your peers. The 2016 awards will include faculty recognition as well as

an enhanced group of award categories for planning commissions and planning commissioners. Be on the lookout for the call to submit award nominations.

A new member service from APA is a royalty-free searchable image library of planning-related photos to assist planners with presentations, reports and the like. Please check out the library at conference.planning.org/imagelibrary/. APA is performing a complete refresh of their website so keep your eyes open for the announcement on the launch.

In the recent APA/AICP elections, two of our Chapter members, Glenn Larson, AICP and Denise Harris, AICP were elected as AICP President-Elect and AICP Commissioner from Region II respectively. Virginia continues to provide exceptional leaders to APA and is among the most respected chapters within APA.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as Chapter President and please do not hesitate to contact me with comments or suggestions.

George



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Abbey Ness, YPG Co-Chair
Garett Prior, Former YPG Chair
Mario Wells, YPG Co-Chair

YPG Corner

Since the July conference, the YPG co-chairs have been plotting out activities for the upcoming year. We are thrilled to be expanding our regional events to Charlottesville and Fredericksburg this year, and building upon relationships with partner organizations to offer more diverse events. We will also be working with other Chapter members to offer an AICP test preparation session this fall and to pursue the creation of a YPG mentorship program. In the spring, we are looking forward to a field trip that will expose young planners to Virginia-specific planning challenges. Stay tuned for more info.

If you would like to receive regular updates on YPG events, please join our newsletter by emailing apavirginiaypg@gmail.com with your name and position (student status or job title). You can also join our Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/apavaypg/. We also welcome volunteers at any point during the year.

C'Ville Happy Hour Kickoff



Thanks for Coming Out!

About 25 planners came to the YPG-UVA Student Planning Association-Piedmont Section happy hour last week. This event is the first YPG event in Charlottesville. Keep an eye out for more Charlottesville events this year!

New Work Plan: REFRESH!

YPG WORK PLAN



The Mission of YPG is to engage passionate young professionals working in the community development field by providing educational training, social networking events, and professional development opportunities to aid in career advancement and improve planning practices in Virginia's communities. To address this mission, we have developed a series of goals and activities (we are planners!) as detailed in our new work plan! Want to help us meet our goals? We can find something that meets your busy schedule! Email us to let us know how you can help.

2015-2016

Young Planners Group, APA Virginia



Jonah Fogel, PhD
Land Use Education
Program (LUEP)
Director

Building on Traditions

This year LUEP was a proud partner of the APA Virginia Annual Conference. We worked closely with the Chapter board and their administrative team to add value to the conference planning process. In a way, this year was just reinvigorating the long standing relationship Virginia Cooperative Extension has had with Virginia's professional planning community. We are very pleased that we have been invited to enhance the bond Virginia Tech has with professional planners, in addition to our core audiences of planning commissioners, BZA members, and interested residents across the Commonwealth.

Land Use Education Program

education that brings Virginia's future into the present

LUEP, a partnership between Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) and the Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP), is committed to providing

cutting edge educational programs that inform the discretion of all Virginians with regard to land use decisions. We could not achieve our mission without our connections to talented professionals, serving as trainers, both from campus and across Virginia. Our upcoming "advanced learning opportunity", called

Director of Education, Mike Chandler, will be among the presenters. *See advertisement in this issue of the Newsbrief!*

The APA Virginia partnership works the other way too. LUEP audiences benefit from the social network and experience gained by interacting with APA Virginia Chapter members. Moving forward, planning commissioners and BZA members alike will note our rekindled relationship with APA Virginia. The 2016 APA Virginia conference will build on the 2015 experience for planning commissioners.

More attention will be paid to providing skill-building sessions for planning commissioners during the annual APA Virginia conference. APA Virginia appreciates, as we do, the need to supply advanced learning opportunities for those already graduated from LUEP's Certified Planning Commissioner and Board of Zoning Appeals programs. We'll be working closely with the Chapter Affairs VP and other board members to work effectively across organizations.

Whatever the challenges, we're sure the benefits will outweigh the costs. Virginia's community planners, whatever their planning experience or background, deserve access to affordable and enriching educational opportunities. In closing, we invite planning commissioners, BZA members, and APA Virginia Chapter members to get to know one another. LUEP is committed to building on Virginia's long tradition of community planning by bridging all planning experience and background levels, collectively resulting in a stronger Commonwealth.



Funding the Future (October 29-30) serves as a great example. This hands-on seminar will focus on the critical role a well-articulated capital improvement program plays in making the future happen. Experts such as Neil Morgan (York County Administrator), VT faculty member Stephanie Davis (CPAP Professor of Practice and Local Government Certificate Program Director), and our own

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Christina Finch, AICP,
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Manager of Transit
Planning and
Programming

RVARC Wins TPEA

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) jointly announced the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) as one of this year’s eight Transportation Planning Excellence Award (TPEA) recipients

“Building a world-class transportation system doesn’t happen overnight, and never by accident,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. “These important awards recognize the critical role planning plays in meeting America’s future transportation challenges.”

The RVARC’s “Bus Stop Accessibility Study” was recognized as a national example of addressing the link between pedestrian and transit, and developing new ways to determine, evaluate and compare bus stop activity. It used survey

data to identify the most active bus stops and those with the greatest number of mobility impaired riders.

The study’s results led to more accessible bus stops with better over-all system efficiency. “Given the limited funds available for infrastructure improvements, data-driven tools like this one help to prioritize local transportation investments,” said Acting Federal Highway Administrator Gregory Nadeau. “Thanks to pioneering work like theirs, the transportation community is now able to specifically pinpoint the areas needing improvements, and why they are needed.”

Selected by an independent panel, the awards are a biennial recognition by the FHWA and FTA of outstanding transportation planning practices performed by planners and decision makers in communities across the country.

This year, eight winners were selected of 35 TPEA submissions from around the nation. Criteria for selection included: community, public involvement and partnerships; context sensitive solutions; innovation and effectiveness; equity; implementation and strategy; multi-modalism; and potential for long-term benefits.

“It’s important to recognize the creative efforts of the nation’s transportation planners,” said Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese W. McMillan. “The future of our infrastructure system begins with their vision. RVARC’s innovative evaluation process led to a major bus route adjustment and pedestrian enhancements to bus stops along a high-activity, low-income corridor.”



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission



BUS STOP ACCESSIBILITY STUDY

Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
September 2013



Local Government Attorneys Honor Greg Kamptner

Awarded Cherin Award for Outstanding Deputy or Assistant Local Government Attorney



Greg Kamptner (center), Albemarle County Deputy Attorney, receiving the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. Cherin Award for Outstanding Deputy or Assistant Local Government Attorney. Pictured

with Kamptner are members of the Albemarle County Attorney's Office, from left to right, Richard DeLoria, Andy Herrick, County Attorney Larry Davis, John Blair and Heather Coe.

Albemarle County Deputy County Attorney Greg Kamptner was honored by the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. (LGA) with the 2015 Cherin Award for Outstanding Deputy or Assistant Local Government Attorney at LGA's recently concluded spring conference in Reston.

Kamptner was selected for the LGA's prestigious Cherin Award because during the course of his legal career he has "demonstrated distinguished public service that reflects a personal commitment to the highest ethical and professional principles and enhanced the image of local government attorneys in the Commonwealth."

While representing Albemarle County, Mr. Kamptner has become a recognized leader in the specialized area of land use law. He is

highly regarded by County staff and the development community for his land use expertise and his willingness to share his knowledge with others.

Albemarle County Attorney Larry Davis nominated Mr. Kamptner for the award, describing him as "the epitome of a true public servant" who has served the citizens of Albemarle County and the legal profession over the last 20 years "with great distinction."

Kamptner received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of California, Irvine, in 1979 and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1982. He resides in Albemarle County with his wife of 30 years, Cynthia Ferreira. They have a daughter, Erika, who resides in New York City, and a son, Wil, a student at Virginia Tech.

The Award was established in 1994 and renamed in 2000 to honor the memory of Bob Cherin, an outstanding local government attorney who served in the Fairfax County Attorney's Office for 25 years. ■

Land Use Education Program

education that brings Virginia's future into the present



~~UNPREPARED~~



Planning Commissioners| BZA Officials| Planners

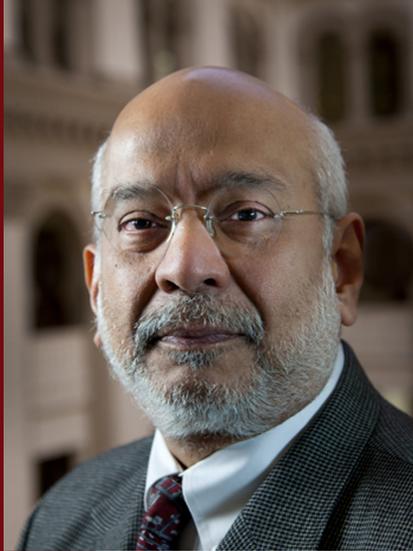
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Dhiru Thadani to Present Third Annual Gulak Lecture at VCU

Dhiru A. Thadani, AIA, an award-winning consultant, architect, urbanist, and educator, will present the third annual Morton B. Gulak Urban and Regional Planning Lecture on Thurs., Oct. 8, at 7 p.m. at Virginia Commonwealth University. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Thadani is the former principal and director of urban design and town planning at Ayers/Saint/Gross, a well-respected Maryland-based architectural firm. He is the author of “The Language of

Towns & Cities: A Visual Dictionary,” considered a landmark publication that clarifies how we talk about urban planning and design. Since 1981, Thadani has maintained a diversified practice in architecture and urban planning design, working on projects in Asia, Europe, and North and Central America. He is a board member of the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) and the recipient of several awards, including four CNU Charter Awards and three AIA Chapter Awards.

The Gulak Lecture was established at VCU’s L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs as a continuing memorial to the late Dr. Morton B. Gulak, associate professor emeritus and co-founder of the VCU Master’s in Urban and Regional Planning program. Gulak served VCU and the Central Virginia community with excellence and distinction for nearly four decades.

This year’s lecture will take place in the University Student Commons at 907 Floyd Ave. A question-and-answer and book signing will follow Thadani’s talk.

For more information, please contact Shirley McDaniel at (804) 828-0867 or srmcdani@vcu.edu or Greg Wingfield at (804) 827-3514 or gwingfield@vcu.edu.



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Joseph Curtis
Vice President of
Sections

Potomac Yard Tour

Presentation and Walking Tours

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Pulte Homes office - 2400 Main Line Blvd, Alexandria, VA

9:00am *networking & coffee*
9:30am *kickoff presentation*
10:00am *walking tours depart*

With the DC region's first BRT line (Metroway), a new Metro station in the works, and over 7 million square feet of new transit-oriented development in the pipeline, Alexandria's Potomac Yard is one of the most exciting smart growth mega-projects in the DC region today.

Join **APA Virginia, Young Professionals in Transportation DC Chapter**, and the **Coalition for Smarter Growth** for a special joint tour of Potomac Yard. We'll mingle over coffee and pastries, then hear an overview from City of Alexandria and WMATA officials about the area.

After the presentation, choose your own adventure! We'll split up into two walking tours. Join APA and the Coalition for Smarter Growth for a broadly-focused walking tour of new development, transit infrastructure, and stormwater management in the area. Or, join YPT for a tour of the Metroway BRT, focusing on the technical infrastructure, service planning, and operations of the transitway.

To sign up, visit:

http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/2041/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=83020



Photos By: BeyondDC.com



Earl W. Anderson, AICP
Professional Development
Officer

AICP Update - Upcoming CM Opportunities

Have you added your CMs to your AICP Log, yet? What about those conference credits you earned? No! Then [follow this link to sign in and add your credits](#). If you have questions about adding them, let me know. Here are some additional opportunities to earn your credits and expand your professional knowledge.

Planning Webcast Series

October 16 – Private Practice Division

[APA's New Aging-in-Community Programs](#)

Ramona Mullahey, Jennifer Raitt, Brad Winick, Alyssa Norwood

While aging in place enables older adults to live at home independently, Aging in Community promotes social capital; a sense of social connectedness and interdependence with systems of support and caring to maximize one's ability to remain at home in their community. Aging demographics challenges the shape of our policies, planning, and physical environments. A 2010 Metlife survey of 1400 local governments revealed that limited progress has been made in undertaking a comprehensive assessment to create a livable community for all ages. Planners play a key role in the provision of structures and services that support or hinder resident well-being, productivity, and prosperity. APA has developed a toolkit to help planners and public officials to address the unprecedented challenges of aging communities: a web portal of resources on "Aging and Livable Communities"; a policy guide on Aging in Community; a multigenerational planning framework for decision-making; and a new Planning Advisory Service report, "Planning Age-Supportive Communities", with practical guidance to help communities develop aging-supportive programs. Leading players share the back stories behind the documents.

Click on the title links to register. You can see the current listing of all webcasts on our new web location at www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast.

APA Signature Webinar Series

The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission will be hosting the webinar series again this year at their office located at 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320. Information about the series can be obtained from the APA website.

Nov. 4, 2015 – “Do-It-Yourself Program” 1.5 CM

Dec. 2, 2015 – “Planning, Economic Development, and the New Normal” 1.5 CM

Jan. 20, 2016 – “Technology, Data, and Engagement” 1.5 CM

Mar. 2, 2016 – “Do-It-Yourself Program” CM Pending

Apr. 4, 2016 – “Parks that Reshape Cities” 1.5 CM

Apr. 20, 2016 – “Do-It-Yourself Program” CM Pending

May 11, 2016 – “Translating the Plan Into Implementation” 1.5 CM

May 25, 2016 – “Do-It-Yourself Program” CM Pending

Jun. 29, 2016 – “2016 Planning Law Review” 1.5 CM Law

If you have questions, please [email](#) Ben McFarlane at the HRPDC for further information. They also have the previous years series, if you are looking for additional CM credits.

If anyone is offering the APA webcast series from their office or has CM opportunities they would like me to announce, email me at PDO.APAVirginia@gmail.com and I'll get the word out.

Land Use Education Program

education that brings Virginia's future into the present



Virginia
Cooperative
Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

Funding the Future: Improvement Planning Workshop

October 29-30th, 2015 [Richmond Marriott West]

This two-day workshop will be a hands-on advanced learning opportunity aimed at helping you kick start and enhance your capital improvement planning process (CIP). Individuals and teams will work together to develop action steps to take back home. Space is limited to the first 40 people. Special pricing is available for those attending as a team.

Over the course of this workshop, attendees will benefit from a combination of lecture and small-group work. Day one we will cover the what, why, and how of capital improvement planning. Attendees will engage with the presenters as they cover the best-practices for CIP, legal foundations, and navigating the politics of the process. Day two, begins with an evaluation and analysis of attendee's existing CIP (read: bring it with you!). We'll then engage in a series of roundtable discussions to help enhance attendees' CIP process and create actions steps to complete "back home". After the conclusion of the event attendees are encouraged to continue their work through our CIP mentorship network...get advice, make new connections, stay abreast of current events.

Thursday Oct. 29th, 2015

Virginia Tech's Richmond Center, Room 333

1:30pm Welcome and Introductions - *Jonah Fogel Director, LUEP*

2:00pm Legal Foundations of CIP - *Michael Chandler Director of Education, LUEP*

2:30pm Structuring a CIP - *Stephanie Davis Professor of Practice, CPAP, VT*

3:30pm CIP Administration - *Joe Casey, Henrico County Asst. Administrator*

4:30pm CIP Best Practices - *Neil Morgan, York County, Administrator*

5:30pm Discussion and Conclusion

Friday Oct. 30th, 2015

Richmond Marriott West

8:00am Discussion and CIP Diagnostic

8:30am Roundtable #1: Structural Improvements

10:30am Roundtable #2: Process Improvements

1:00pm Roundtable #3: Procedural Improvements

3:00pm Advanced Topics in Capital Improvement Planning

4:00pm Conclusion and Evaluation



Register Online at www.planvirginia.com

Registration Fee(s)

\$ 175.00 (One Person Only)

\$ 150.00 (per Individual, 2 People in the Group)

\$ 125.00 (per Individual, 3 Or More People in the Group)

Land Use Education Program

education that brings Virginia's future into the present



THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION and POLICY



Virginia Cooperative Extension

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Certified BZA Program

35th Training Session

Opening Session: November 16, 2015

Closing Session: January 25, 2015

(Richmond Marriott West)

The Certified Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) Program is designed to provide each registrant with a comprehensive overview of zoning in Virginia and the critical role the BZA plays in deciding issues involving zoning and zoning decisions. The course covers the legal foundations of zoning as well as the duties, powers and responsibilities of the BZA. The program also reviews the role of procedural and substantive due process in

BZA deliberations as well as principles of meeting management and decision making. The course is especially valuable for newly appointed BZA members as well as zoning practitioners. Veteran members of local BZA's have also found the course to be of great value.

This event is composed of two training sessions (opening and closing sessions) and a self-study component lasting 10 weeks. The self-study component includes required readings and homework assignments. Attending and critiquing a BZA meeting is also required.

Group and individual event registrations are made online. Payment can be made via credit card online or using a paper check by mail (select the "Pay Later" option). The event registration deadline for this event is Friday October 30th, 2015 at 5:00pm.



Get Involved!

Come join us!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR LOCAL SECTION?

For more info, visit the APA-Virginia Sections website: www.apavirginia.org/member-resources/sections **First**, use the map on the website to locate your section. **Next**, contact your section director to receive notices about activities planned in your area. Section activities are a great way to meet other planners and earn CM credits.



Roger Blevins, AICP
From the Eulogy of Phil
Clark, FAICP

In Memory: Phil Clark, FAICP

Phil Clark, FAICP passed away 22 January. Many of us knew Phil as the “Program Manager for Air Force Comprehensive Planning” and a great friend. He received his degrees in Architecture and City Planning from Cornell University (BArch. and MRP). His accomplishments were much more.

I would like to take a moment to reintroduce Phil. In conversations with federal planners I have come to realize several of us may not really know what role Phil played in our business.

Phil served in the US Air Force as an engineering officer and conducted urban planning on military bases. After his discharge as an Air Force Captain, he worked as an Airport Planner for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, DC. Phil was very active in the American Planning Association (APA), and one significant accomplishment was convincing APA to give professional planning credit for military planning toward AICP credentialing. He was instrumental in the formation of the Federal Installation Planning Division (FIPD) which was later altered for today's Federal Planning Division (FPD).

Phil and likeminded professional planners had a vision – a vision that military planning would be based on sound,

proven, professional best practices. A vision that one's toil as a military/federal planner would be viewed by APA as having equal value to our state and local planning counterparts.

Today, FPD is a key player among APA Divisions, and federal planners are now recognized professional members. In the 1970's that was not the case for federal planners. The existence of a special group like FPD; the ability of a federal planner being qualified to take the AICP exam; and the ability of a Division to nominate an AICP planner as a Fellow can ultimately be tied to Phil Clark's efforts. He didn't take these actions himself but he was a prime instigator.

Some of you may know that Phil was one of the first FPD members to be a Division sponsored Fellow. As well, he is considered by many to be the father of Air Force comprehensive planning through his work at the Pentagon from the 1970's to 1992.

I am convinced that he did not do his breakthrough planning work for glory, fame or richness. In all of our discussions and collaborative efforts I am convinced his sole interest was building a real professional planning program within the US Air Force. There were those in high and lower positions who strenuously disagreed with Phil's approach, fortunately he had a handful of planners, architects and engineers who agreed with his vision.

We were his extended family; a family of planners. The testimonials of his friends and planning associates are many. To honor Phil tell those stories to your friends and business partners. Remind them of the contributions Phil made to the profession and sustain his legend. Let them know he believed in something larger than himself, and selflessly brought us under his wing.

As well, many of us owe Phil a debt of professional gratitude. He was a friend and mentor, and was not shy about telling you when it could be better. He was outspoken on the need for good planning and respectfully intolerant of mediocrity

continued on Pg 25



Cornell University Glee Club members, former Air Force planners (APA-FPD members) attend the funeral of Mr. Clark in Williamsburg, MA on May 9, 2015.

In Memory: Robert E. Simon



It is with much sadness that the Reston Historic Trust announces the passing of Robert E. Simon, Jr., the founder and soul of Reston. He died peacefully at home on September 21st.

Beloved in his community, Mr. Simon is remembered for his keen intelligence, wonderful wit, and spirited involvement in all aspects of Reston's life. We all will miss him.

Robert E. Simon, Jr., founded Reston, one of the first master planned communities in the U.S., renowned for its innovative architecture, open space, and racial and socioeconomic diversity.

A memorial service will be held later at a date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Cornerstones (www.cornerstonesva.org), 11150 Sunset Hills Road, #210, Reston, VA 20190. The family has requested that all calls be directed to the Reston Historic Trust 703-709-7700 or (restonmuseum@gmail.com).



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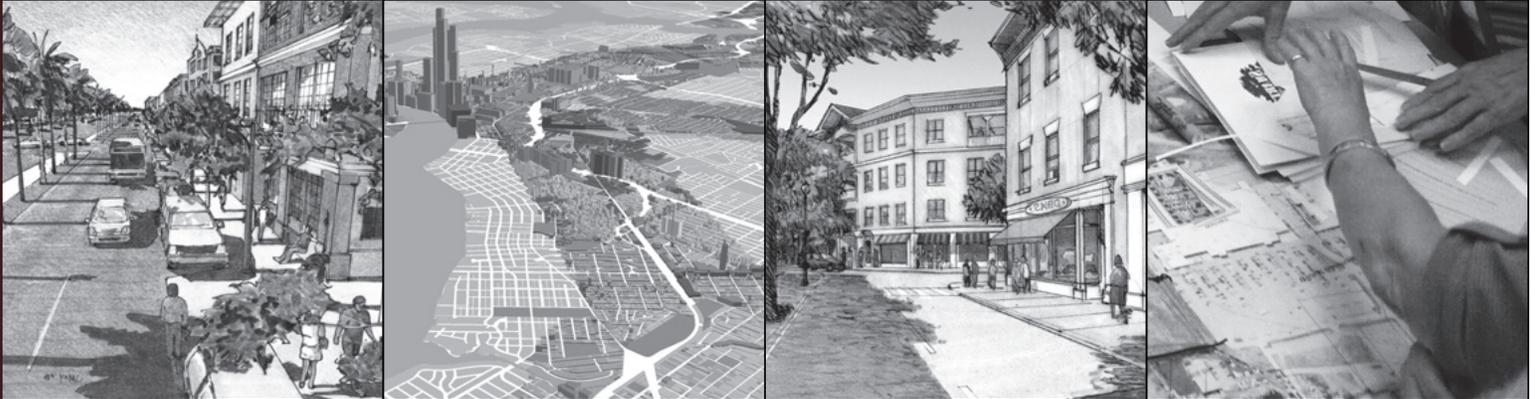
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You can find out right now by typing your address — or any U.S. address, zip code, town or city name — into the AARP Livability Index, a new online tool that calculates a score based on indicators about an area's housing, economy, transportation, community services and more. Since the index is customizable, users (whether elected officials, municipal planners, community advocates, or interested residents) can find scores based on the features that matter to them most. You can also compare scores for up to three locations. Use the tool often by bookmarking aarp.org/livabilityindex.

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Talking About Planning, cont.

J: (cont.) them, I thought that none presented his work in a way that revealed the story of what the man was really like and the enormous contribution that he made by laying the groundwork that shaped modern Newport News. I also wanted to convey the story of the growth of the City during its critical middle years – those of the mid-20th Century - that are not told elsewhere.

A: You were a successful planning consultant, “why did you become the new city’s first planning director?”

J: Quite frankly, it was driven by the urgency of the City’s desire to do urban renewal projects. The late 50s and early 60s saw the heyday of urban renewal, and just about every city wanted to get in on the action. But in order to participate in the program (get federal money), cities were required to meet a long list of requirements; a comprehensive plan was one of them. Large planning staffs didn’t exist in those days, and most cities reached out to

J: (cont.) consultants to prepare comprehensive plans. Mr. Biggins didn’t want a consultant’s plan; he preferred rather to have the work done by his own staff, one responsible directly to him. So he established a special department just for that purpose; I just happened to come along at the right time and was ready to accept the challenges of being the first planning director.

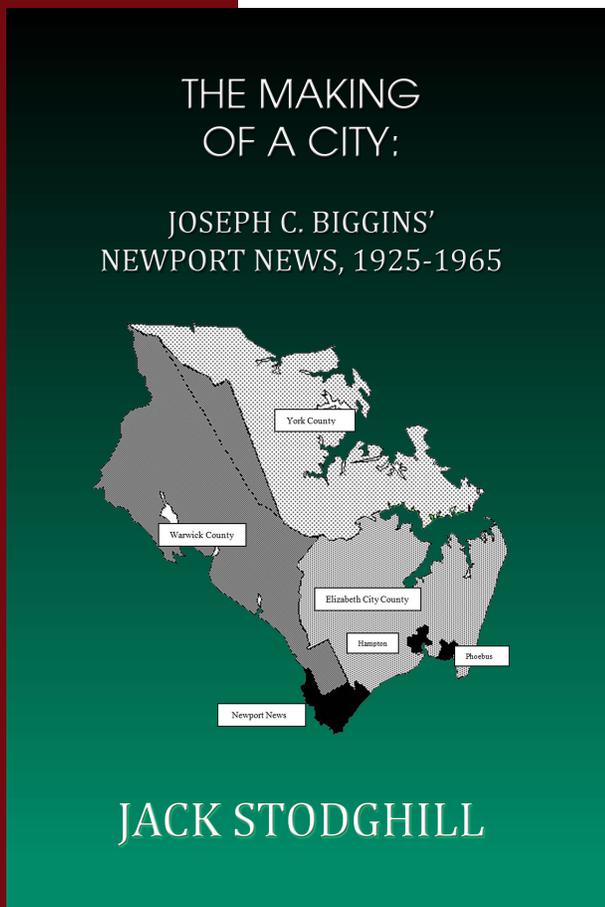
A: “What kind of difficulties did you encounter in preparing the first comprehensive plan?”

J: Mostly, I wasn’t prepared for the interruptions that were constant. As part of a consulting team for the previous five years, I was used to working under contract with specific products. Under that arrangement, I had only to focus on the job at hand. But now, as part of the manager’s staff, Biggins kept sending me new work almost weekly – census tracts, workable programs, and any other tasks that he decided to send my way. Another thing was that the City had a dearth of technology for preparing technical reports. There wasn’t even an electric typewriter in city hall at the time, and no modern printing facilities.

A: “How important was City Manager Biggins to your own success in getting the first comprehensive plan adopted?”

J: I have to say indispensable, because it was a top priority for him. But let me explain that my method did not produce just one document called a “comprehensive plan.” I prepared each segment – land use, major streets, schools, parks, etc., as discrete, but well-coordinated components. By sitting ex-officio on the planning commission, Biggins made sure that each element of the plan got to City Council promptly. And since he controlled the City Council agenda, he made sure that when plans were cleared through the planning commission, they would go directly to the Council. If there were hot-button issues, he would smooth the way for them to be resolved before they ever got to Council and public hearings.

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The Making of a City: Joseph C. Biggins' Newport News, 1925-1965.
By Jack Stodghill.
First Edition Design Publishing; 144 pages; \$12.95.
Available July 25, 2015.

Talking, cont.

A: “How did you manage to get your plan for the immense Newport News Park approved by Biggins?”

J: In the first place, the idea of the park was Biggins; it was his dream, but I don't think that he, being very frugal with the City's money, had any notion of building the park at the scale that I designed.

A: Planners are criticized for not writing, and I was guilty of only writing a chapter for a book and newsletter articles. “Would you encourage other planners to write about their careers and work?”

J: By all means, but not just reports for public bodies. Mark Twain once remarked that “writings prepared for public bodies are received by the few and read by even fewer.” Not many of us have time to write for ourselves while struggling to make a living, but we can keep journals; all it takes is just a few notes once a week. Then when you want to write, you don't have to rely on your memory as I had to do.

A: Jack, thank you for your leadership in our planning profession that led to the formation of the Virginia APA Chapter. Plus congratulations on your selection as an AICP Fellow in the professional practice category! Thank you for setting an example for planners through your writing books about planning topics.

J: My pleasure.

TJPDC, cont.

of meetings with local planning commissions. Staff thought that local commissions would be ideal focus groups, as they are intended to be the deliberators of planning decisions and policies. To best interact with these officials, staff went into local meetings with a blank slate, letting the commissioners dictate their needs. To date, staff met with nearly all of the local commissions at county and town levels. In addition to these meetings, staff will apply online surveys for local planning commissions, boards and staff – to be distributed this fall. Since localities are the main audience for this plan, it is important to collect local guidance before anything else is done.



The update will span another year, concluding in the fall of 2016. Throughout the process, TJPDC staff will continue to work with local officials, who will steer development of outcomes. Staff will also establish a project website, which will provide abundant opportunities for public comment. With this input and guidance, the rural communities of this region will have a customized roadmap, helping towns and counties find their way through challenges in the post-HB 2 environment.

For any questions or comments, please contact Will Cockrell at wcockrell@tjpd.org or by phone at (434)979-7310 x440.



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In Memory: Phil Clark, FAICP, *cont.*

in planning. Indirectly he created the opportunity for many firms to build their military planning businesses. Like many of us I first met Phil at an APA conference, and was thoroughly impressed with his vision, and the skill and ability to bring that vision to reality.

When we lose a good friend or a family member it makes us angry. We want more of what that special person had to offer. We want the opportunity to say goodbye. To let them know they played a special role in our life. But how can we be angry at being blessed with his great plan-

ning skills, the motivating discussions, the exuberant personality, his wonderful poetry and beautiful singing voice. What a great life he lived.

Without question Phil was true to his word; true to his profession; and true to the course. We have been rewarded immensely by knowing Phil. He had a vision – to make it better.

Phil's family has requested contributions in Phil's memory be made to the Cornell University Glee Club, the Sierra Club or Nature Conservancy. ■

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Photo by Blake Barnes



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The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of APA Virginia or its Board of Directors.

 **Get Involved!**

See page 8 to find out how you can
get involved with your local section!