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Wednesday, October 21 2009 17:53

Although we made it clear in our editorial in this space last week, entitled, "No State for Old Prejudices," we wish to make official our endorsement of Democratic State Sen. Creigh Deeds for Governor of Virginia in the upcoming Nov. 3 election.

We also endorse Jody Wagner for Lieutenant Governor and Steve Shannon for Attorney General. In area races for State Delegate, we endorse Del. Jim Scott in the 53rd District, Del. Margi Vanderhye in the 34th District, and Kaye Kory in the 38th District. Further, we strongly urge voters to get to the polls on Nov. 3, hopefully to support the candidates we have determined will be the best to address the pressing needs of Virginians.

In the governor's race, the contrast between Deeds and his Republican challenge, Attorney General Bob McDonnell, could not be sharper. For Deeds, from a humble beginning in rural Virginia, his passion for education is personal, as well as political. He won the debate hosted by the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce last month because of his passion for protecting education from the plan by McDonnell to pay for transportation improvements from the general fund. McDonnell's plan has correctly been called "robbing Peter (education) to pay Paul (transportation)" in his zeal to curb spending.

As for the argument that McDonnell will be better for business in Virginia because of his fiscal discipline, it is important to recall that in 2004, when then Gov. Mark Warner crafted a bi-partisan approach to salvage the state's finances from four years of ruin by his predecessor, McDonnell was one among a handful of ideological right-wingers who voted "no." Had McDonnell's vote prevailed, the state's credit rating would have been ruined, and its legacy, cultivated under Democratic governors Warner and Tim Kaine, as the best managed state in the nation, the best state in which to do business, and the best state to raise a child, would have been wiped out.

McDonnell has a long voting record of denying pay increases to teachers and funding for child care. Not a "mainstream" Republican like those who voted to restore the budget in 2004, McDonnell has run a stealth-like campaign, masking his right-wing social and political agenda that dates to his days at evangelist Pat Robertson's Regent Law School, and his years serving on its board of trustees.

Although we did not endorse Deeds in the Democratic primary last spring, we've come to appreciate his truly human and compassionate commitment to education and good government. In troubled economic times, the state needs a man of his character at the State House.

An even more strident and openly extremist right wing candidate than McDonnell is State Sen. Ken Cuccinelli running for Attorney General. As for Bob Bolling for Lieutenant Governor, the idea he's running for re-election with his record absenteeism in his first term is bemusing.



Comments

# David Kupfer 2009-10-22 03:05
These endorsements make sense. Deeds would be practical, not a pusher of ideology. Jody Wagner would be essential since she knows something about the budget from practical experience. And Shannon likewise would just do his job with competence, unlike the passionate rightwing notions that would color Cuccinelli's service.
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# Casanova Frankenstein 2009-10-23 03:05
You're delusional if you think that Deeds even came close to winning the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce debate last month. What sort of drugs are you on? Seriously, lay off the cough syrup...
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[FCNP.com](#) # **rokay** 2009-10-23 09:25



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Thank you!

Virginian's need Deeds to put an end to McDonnell's promise of a liquor store on every corner and a gun in every hand. Deeds is closing in on McDonnell because:

McDonnell supports privatization of Virginia's liquor industry. As a result, he has received over a half million dollars from the alcohol beverage, hotel, and recreation industries with \$215K alone from alcohol beverage distributors including \$55K from Premium Distributors of Va LLC, \$50 from the Va Beer Wholesalers Assn, \$26K from Silver Eagle Distributors LP, and \$25K from Associated Distributors/The Charmer Sunbelt Group. See [http://www.vpap.org/committees/profile/money\\_in\\_industry2/1581?sector=3](http://www.vpap.org/committees/profile/money_in_industry2/1581?sector=3)

McDonnell also supports a loophole in gun registration that has allowed terrible tragedies in Virginia, most notably at Virginia Tech. The NRA has spent well over a half million dollars on advertising in support of McDonnell's support for the gun regulation loophole.

McDonnell's promise of a liquor store on every corner and a gun in every hand is simply not a good idea.

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[FCNP.com](#) # **dan** 2009-10-25 16:49



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Typical nonsense from Lyndon LaRouche nutcases at the FCNP.

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[FCNP.com](#) # **John Smith** 2009-10-26 01:32



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It is nice to see a newspaper with such high journalistic standards endorsing Mr. Deeds for Governor.

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Every so often, one learns of a really unique and worthy effort that helps address problems that are unimaginable in Fairfax County. Orphanages full of HIV-positive children whose parents succumbed ...

Penny Gross | Wednesday, 16 December 2009

[Editorial: Our 20th Annual Holiday Party](#)

The News-Press' first stretch of its longevity into two decades is being achieved with its 20th annual holiday party this coming Monday night, Dec. 21, to which, as always, all ...

| Thursday, 17 December 2009

[Delegate Scott's Richmond Report](#)



As I suggested in an earlier column, the new Governor and the General Assembly will face some of the most difficult decisions of my years in the General As...

Jim Scott | Wednesday, 16 December 2009

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