



Ask the candidate



Join us today at 12:45 p.m. on TimesDispatch.com for a video chat with R. Creigh Deeds, Democratic gubernatorial nominee



A14 Eunice Shriver, Special Olympics founder, dies

Hokies' top RB lost for season C1

Richmond Times-Dispatch

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009

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Matko slaying case could go to jury today

No motive has been presented for Chesterfield teen's killing

BY MARK BOWES
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Cell-phone records, a pair of sneakers, a murder weapon sold four times, and a clinical look at how 16-year-old Ryan Matko died became the focus of Detavis J. King's murder trial yesterday as prosecutors wrapped up their case.

In calling 18 witnesses over two days and stipulating the testimony of three others, Chesterfield County prosecutors laid out what they believe were the circumstances that led to the Chesterfield teenager's death Aug. 22, 2007.

But why Matko was killed remained elusive. Prosecutors may articulate their theory in closing arguments this morning, on the trial's third day.

A gang-related motive pushed by prosecutors was rejected early in the case when Judge Frederick G. Rockwell III blocked any mention of King's gang ties to the Bloods. An admitted gang member, King, now 18, has acknowledged selling small quantities of marijuana to Matko, whom he once described to investigators as a "cool dude" and friend.

At the end of yesterday's proceedings, defense attorney Greg Sheldon told the court he

See **MATKO**, Page **A3**

Health care Rx

Rep. Perriello's health-care meeting is civil

'Public option' was popular at legislator's Charlottesville forum

BY BRIAN MCNEILL
Media General News Service

CHARLOTTESVILLE — More than 1,300 residents packed Charlottesville High School's auditorium last night to deliver their views on health-care reform to U.S. Rep. Tom Perriello.

Unlike similar town-hall meetings held by other Democratic lawmakers, Perriello's forum was not disrupted by opponents of the health-care proposals under consideration by Congress.

If anything, the crowd at Perriello's town hall mostly was in favor of a health-insurance overhaul.

Many asked the congressman to support the "public option" that would allow the federal government to provide health-insurance coverage.

"Will you support a public option?" asked Bob McAdams, who was laid off from his soft-

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Obama defends health-care reform

• Prepared for an unruly reception, the president encountered a friendly crowd. **Page A11.**

Henrico County's 2026 Comprehensive Plan

Amended plan will keep Varina rural



ALEXA WELCH EDLUND/TIMES-DISPATCH

Supervisors follow suggestions to maintain agricultural character

BY KATHERINE CALOS AND BILL MCKELWAY
Times-Dispatch Staff Writers

Henrico County's path to the future will not follow Interstate 295 south all the way to the river with suburban development.

Supervisors unanimously voted last night to adopt the 2026 Comprehensive Plan, with amendments to mollify concerns of Varina residents who want to keep their end of the county rural.

Varina Farm will remain a farm in 2026, instead of a Suburban Mixed Use development, according to

the final version of the plan. The county also will retain separate designations for rural residential and prime agricultural land.

"What we did was sidestep a disaster," said Nicole Anderson Ellis, who has been a vocal proponent for open space as a member of Envision Henrico.

"It's not about who won or lost. It's not about who shouts the loudest," Varina Supervisor James B. Donati Jr. said. "It's a good example of our public democracy."

After the decision was final, Ellis said: "Sometimes when you voice public opinion, you've got to shout."

Gatewood Stoneman and members of her family,

See **VARINA**, Page **A3**

Nicole Anderson Ellis smiled and Virginia Lipford folded her hands in front of her face last night after Henrico supervisors voted to adopt the 2026 Comprehensive Plan.

Henrico's future

• See and hear highlights of the ongoing development in the county at TimesDispatch.com, keyword: slideshow.

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Major adjustments on our presses may cause delivery delays during the next several weeks.

We are doing everything possible to prevent late delivery, but we wanted to alert you to mechanical work that could result in press runs that take longer than normal.

We appreciate your patience during this unusual period.



Mostly cloudy with thunderstorms.
High: 87. Low: 70.
Weather A2

Coming Sunday: Discover Richmond

Your ultimate guide to the Richmond region.

GM claims 230 mpg for Chevrolet Volt

Business B7

Search narrows for choice to lead VITA and fix deal

BY JEFF E. SCHAPIRO
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Computer bosses for a giant charity and federal agencies are prospects for Virginia's information-technology chief, whose first task will be to salvage the state's troubled relationship with Northrop Grumman.

With the search for a new chief information officer winding down

Revisiting VITA

• Read prior coverage on Timesdispatch.com. Keyword: VITA

— perhaps to be completed by month's end — the names of at least three candidates are being circulated in government and industry circles.

"We should have an announcement within the next few weeks,"

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