

VIRGINIA'S NEWS LEADER

Richmond Times-Dispatch

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McEachin's work for his district endures

He helped secure funds in \$1.7T bill for 15 projects in 4th

BY MICHAEL MARTZ
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Rep. Donald McEachin, D-4th, was laid to rest earlier this month, but his work on behalf of Virginia's 4th Congressional District remains alive in an omnibus spending bill that the

U.S. House of Representatives passed on Friday.

McEachin, who had just won a fourth term weeks before his sudden death on Nov. 28, won the inclusion of almost \$38 million in funding for 15 community projects in the district — from replacing a section of decaying water main in Petersburg to boosting innovative programs at Virginia Union University and Virginia Commonwealth



McEachin

continue operating through the rest of the fiscal year, but it also includes \$2 million he sought to rehabilitate the former Central Gardens school building

University in Richmond.

The \$1.7 trillion spending bill ensures that the federal government will continue operating through the rest of the fiscal year, but it also includes \$2 million he sought to rehabilitate the former Central Gardens school building

in Henrico County to become the headquarters of the Henrico Police Athletic League; \$3 million to extend a north-south line for Richmond's Pulse bus rapid transit system; and \$3.2 million to upgrade Petersburg's emergency public safety communications system.

"I am so pleased my husband's work will be reflected in the congressional district for years to come

as his community project funding proposals were all included and funded in the Omnibus bill that just passed," said McEachin's widow, Colette, in a statement.

"I know how very important improving the lives of his constituents and communities was to him so I am glad to see this final reflection of his work and efforts."

MCEACHIN, Page A2



LOOK: See more photos through the years of Rep. Donald McEachin, who died Nov. 28 at 61. Point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link.

Youngkin calls for stepped-up economic development

Va.'s future 'stands at an inflection point,' he says

BY DAVE RESS
Richmond Times-Dispatch

A 40-plus-step plan to boost Virginia's economic development includes Gov. Glenn Youngkin's call for a tighter focus on target industries to woo and to retain, as well as a new fund to finance transportation projects.

The governor's economic development strategy released Thursday said a recent \$230 million grant from the U.S. Treasury will fund state efforts to help small businesses with loans and early-stage purchases of their stock, through an effort managed by the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity and the Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation.

Youngkin said he wants to ease regulatory and tax burdens for Virginia small businesses and startups. For this, he pointed to the cost of registering new businesses with the state as well as local governments' business, professional and occupational license tax and property taxes.

He said this burden-easing effort will also involve reform of the state's unemployment insurance tax.

"The Commonwealth's economic future stands at an inflection point," Youngkin said.

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READ: See Gov. Youngkin's economic development plan for yourself. Point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link.



A HANUKKAH PARTY FOR EVERYONE



DANIEL SANGJIB MIN/TIMES-DISPATCH

Rabbi Patrick Beaulier (center right) lighted a menorah with Kaiden Jones, 9, and his mom, Trina Jones (right), at Gather on Friday during Kehillah and Diversity Richmond's Short Pump Hanukkah Party.



DANIEL SANGJIB MIN/TIMES-DISPATCH

David and Tiffany Hoylman reached out to Worthdays, whose founder came up with the idea for the Joyful Battle of Lights.

Foster care children benefit from Joyful Battle of Lights

BY COLLEEN CURRAN
Richmond Times-Dispatch

When David and Tiffany Hoylman were deciding who to help with their Chesterfield County holiday light display this year, they had no idea they would set off a local trend that would raise thousands of dollars for children in the foster care system.

In the past, they have raised



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money for pediatric care and collected over 400 toys for tots at their brightly lit home at 12001 Dunnottar Drive.

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