

News From Congressman Ben Cline



## Sixth District Perspectives *with Congressman Ben Cline*

As I traveled across the Sixth District this week, I was reminded once again of the wisdom and common sense of its residents. Having the ability to meet with business leaders and hear directly from constituents make these district work periods valuable. While it is an honor to serve on your behalf in Washington, I always enjoy connecting directly with the folks I am blessed to represent.

### **Lynchburg Area Veterans Council:**

Every Friday at noon, the Lynchburg Area Veterans Council gathers at Monument Terrace to pay tribute to those who have served our Nation. Earlier this year, I recognized the group for marking 1000 consecutive weeks of coming together to honor our country's veterans. Their dedication to the cause is admirable, and on Friday, I presented them with a copy of the Congressional Record honoring their commitment.





### **Congressional Art Competition:**

This week I was pleased to announce the winner of the Sixth District's Congressional Art Competition. The winning artist is Staunton High School student Madison Helmick. Her piece, *In the Works*, will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol alongside other pieces from across the country and will also be featured on [House.gov's Congressional Art Competition page](#). The many submissions to my office truly highlighted the artistic talent of our District's youth, and I was pleased to review each individual piece. I congratulate Madison for being named this year's winner, and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet with her this week in my Staunton office.



### **Dynovis:**

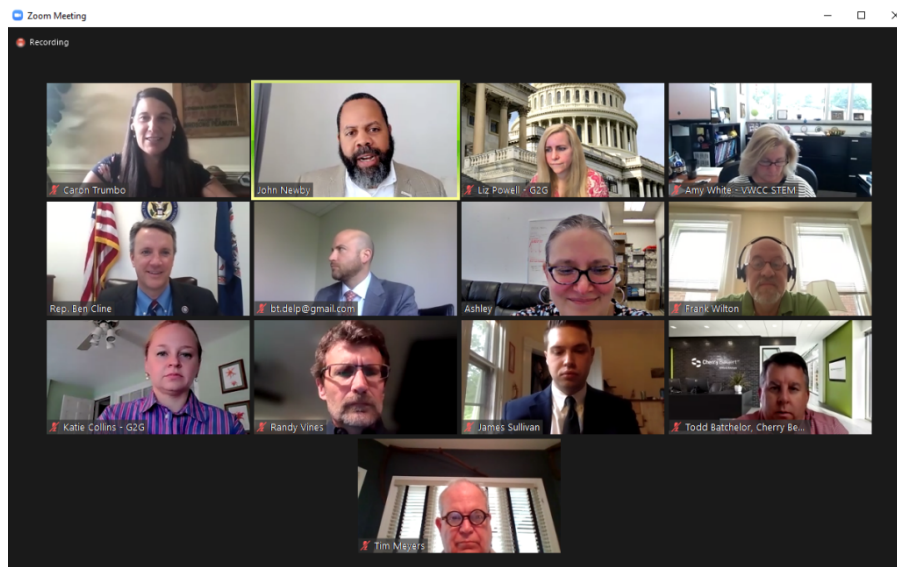
Dynovis in Fairfield seeks to solve real problems for its defense and industrial partners through innovative technology, expert product development, and quality manufacturing. The company supports our military and relief agencies by producing shelters, generators, and support trailers meant to handle hazardous environments. This week, I enjoyed the opportunity to tour the facility and see their operation first-hand.





### Virginia Bio Roundtable:

Virginia is home to 1,451 life science companies that employ 26,540 people, and the industry contributes more than \$8 billion annually to the Commonwealth's economy. During my time in the Virginia General Assembly, I was proud to sponsor legislation creating a Research and Development Tax Credit that helped grow this sector of Virginia's economy. This week, I participated in a virtual roundtable with the Virginia Biotechnology Association to hear from members about the issues impacting their work. The association describes itself as a network of leaders that drive bioscience to eradicate disease, save lives, and feed the world one innovation at a time.



### Community Connections Trailers:



Access to reliable internet remains a struggle in many rural areas like ours, and currently, 19 million Americans lack sufficient broadband services. I have cosponsored legislation in Congress to encourage broadband deployment in areas of the country like Page County, where local officials recently set up eight mobile hot spots throughout the area to help facilitate public access. Each hot spot trailer can accommodate 25 users at a time, and I enjoyed visiting one of the sites while in Luray this week and learning about their efforts.



### Luray Meadows:

I was pleased to join folks in Page County this week to break ground on Luray Meadows Apartments. This project has been in the works for years and is the result of efforts across all lines of government. The community will offer over 50 new apartments to help address the rising costs of housing in Page County.





### **Amherst County Virtual Chamber Chat:**

Chambers of Commerce serve as vital resources to small businesses in our communities and will be ever more important as we rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic. This week, I participated in Amherst County Chamber of Commerce's virtual "Chamber Chat" to give an update on my work in Washington and hear from our area's business leaders. As restrictions and mask mandates begin to lift, our business community is hopeful that a true economic recovery is on the horizon.



### **Neighbors Helping Neighbors:**

Neighbors Helping Neighbors of Amherst County not only feeds the hungry but also promotes self-sufficiency and improves the lives of those in need. In an effort to aid their mission, I volunteered with the group this week and learned more about their impressive operation. Our community is fortunate for the selfless work of organizers and volunteers like former Amherst County Treasurer Garry Friend, all of whom make their vision of providing nutritious meals to those struggling throughout the County a reality.





### **D-Day Remembrance:**

The invasion of Normandy was a turning point in WWII and ultimately led to an Allied victory in Europe. As we commemorate the 77th Anniversary of D-Day, we remember the 4,000 Allied soldiers who gave their lives to rid the world of the evil being perpetrated by the Axis Powers.





**COVID-19 Update:**

As of June 6, 2021, Virginia has had 676,586 total cases of COVID-19, including confirmed lab tests and clinical diagnoses, according to the Virginia Department of Health. The current death toll in the Commonwealth stands at 11,229. Further, according to the VDH's COVID-19 vaccine data dashboard, as of June 6th, 4,747,901 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 3,871,196 people are fully vaccinated.



Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Congressman. If my office can ever be of assistance, please contact my Washington office at (202) 225-5431.

For the latest updates from Washington and across the Sixth District, please follow my [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Clive".

**Washington D.C. Office**  
2443 Rayburn  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
**Phone: (202) 225-5431**

**Harrisonburg Office**  
70 N Mason St  
Suite 110  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802  
**Phone: (540) 432-2391**

**Lynchburg Office**  
916 Main St  
Suite 300  
Lynchburg, VA 24504  
**Phone: (434) 845-8306**

**Roanoke Office**  
10 Franklin Rd SE  
Suite 510  
Roanoke, VA 24011  
**Phone: (540) 857-2672**

**Staunton Office**  
117 S Lewis St  
Suite 215  
Staunton, VA 24401  
**Phone: (540) 885-3861**

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