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AARP Virginia Announces First Diversity and Aging Forum Governor Tim Kaine Keynote Speaker

RICHMOND, VA – November 1, 2007 - Knowing that every Virginian has the right to age with dignity regardless of ethnicity, gender, economic or disability status, AARP Virginia announces its first Diversity and Aging Forum, 8:00 a.m., November 19th in Richmond.

Governor Tim Kaine will address the Forum in a special afternoon session. The Forum will be held at Sheraton Park South Hotel, 9901 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, 23235.

The unique ways that aging issues – health care, long-term care, financial security and livable communities – affect diverse communities across Virginia will be the focus of the AARP Forum.

Business and government leaders, educators, human resource professionals, community activists and citizens concerned with diversity and aging related issues have been invited to attend.

“We all need to understand the issues faced by older adults in diverse communities,” said AARP Virginia’s State Director, Bill Kallio. “This forum is a great opportunity to learn about unique challenges and better prepare ourselves to create an aging friendly environment that is inclusive of all our citizens.”

A conversation on diversity and aging will be led by Richmond Mayor L. Douglas Wilder. Linda Nablo, Commissioner of the Virginia Department for the Aging, will be the Forum luncheon speaker and Dr. Percil Stanford, AARP’s Chief National Diversity Officer will open the Forum with an address.

Important subjects to be addressed in mini breakout sessions include; Issues Impacting Non-Traditional Households; Having Financial Security in Retirement; New Aging Demographics; Creating Livable Communities; We’re Getting Older – Who’s Going to Take Care of Us and Empowering Diverse Volunteers.

Forum registration is \$25.00, which includes all meals, refreshments and workshop materials. To register call 1-877-926-8300.

AARP Virginia’s Diversity and Aging Forum is being sponsored by its Diversity Advisory Committee which includes representatives from; Asia American Society of Central Virginia, Department of Rehabilitative Services, Equality Virginia, League of Women Voters, Northern Virginia Urban League, Senior Connections – The Capital Area Agency on Aging, Urban League of Greater Richmond, Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Virginia Poverty Law Center. The committee advises AARP Virginia’s executive council to insure policies are implemented to include and serve the diverse populations that are Virginia’s senior community.

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to either political campaigns or candidates. We produce AARP The Magazine, published bimonthly; AARP Bulletin, our monthly newspaper; AARP Segunda Juventud, our bimonthly magazine in Spanish and English; NRTA Live & Learn, our quarterly newsletter for 50 + educators; and our website, www.aarp.org. AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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