

**A** *Tribute*  
**TO**  
**ALAN AND BEVERLY**  
**DIAMONSTEIN**



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THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1999  
*The Hellenic Center, Newport News, Virginia*



THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1999

Alan and Beverly Diamonstein  
c/o Warwick Group Limited  
The Warwick Building  
P.O. Box 1039  
Newport News, Virginia 23601

Dear Alan and Beverly:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to write and offer you my personal best wishes as you are honored for 30 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Certainly, I am glad to add my congratulations to those of your family, friends and associates at this special time.

I applaud both of you for devoting yourselves to public service. In particular, I want to thank you, Alan, for your dedicated service on the Board of the National Housing Partnership. The citizens of Virginia truly are fortunate to have people of your caliber working on behalf of their interests. Tipper joins me in sending our warmest hopes for you at this time and in the months and years to come. Please be assured that our thoughts will continue to be with you.

Once again, please accept my congratulations. I wish you every possible success in the future.

Sincerely,

Al Gore

AG/kew

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As of May 8, 1999

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 Harvey Weinstein  
 Lewis Wood

As of May 8, 1999



# ALAN'S AND BEVERLY'S FRIENDS ARE SAYING...

I'm sorry I can't join you and the family and many friends of Beverly and Alan Diamonstein as you honor these two fine people for their many contributions to the Old Dominion.

"I had the pleasure of serving with Alan in the Virginia General Assembly for 9 years. We both served on the House Appropriations Committee, so I've seen firsthand his hard work and total commitment of service to the great State of Virginia. He and Beverly both are to be commended for their total devotion to their constituents and to the Commonwealth.

"Yet when you look at that partnership — Beverly and Alan — does anybody have to ask who got the best of that deal? Well, I'll tell you — Virginians did.

"Congratulations, and please accept my best wishes for an outstanding and well-deserved evening."

**NORMAN SISISKY**  
Member of Congress  
United States House of Representatives

As my father would say, 'Beverly is a person you would go to the well with.' In the early 1800's, in the Texas hill country, going away from the safety of your home was dangerous — and only someone you trusted would go to the well with you.

"She may look like she just stepped out of the pages of Vogue, but Beverly is the kind of friend who would charge into a burning house for you or 'go to the well with you' — and she has symbolically done that for me."

**LYNDA JOHNSON ROBB**

Alan Diamonstein is the Merlin of the State Legislature. With a sprinkling of magical semi-colons, a dash of whereas, a capital-sized wink, a wit sharpened barb thrown across the aisle more accurately than a John Elway spiral downfield, and parliamentary maneuvers that leave his colleagues searching the book of rules long after the motion has passed, he commands in chambers that are not easily led. And yet, he is moldable kindergarten clay in the hands of one special, singular person — Beverly Diamonstein. Her sure footed grace and easy savvy disarm the most savage of beasts. Her commitment to the arts is the best thing since Matisse discovered scissors. Together they are formidable, indefatigable, and the caring champions of their communities. Like Han Solo and Princes Leia, the Force is definitely with them — and for all our benefit."

**JOHN B. HIGHTOWER**  
President and CEO  
The Mariner's Museum



# A *Tribute* TO ALAN AND BEVERLY DIAMONSTEIN for 30 years of COMMUNITY SERVICE

## EVENTS OF THE EVENING

**6:30PM**

Reception Under the Tent

**7:15PM**

Call to Dinner

Gathering for Dinner and Celebration

The National Anthem

Invocation — **RABBI DAVID BOOTH**

Introduction of Special Guests

Greeting

**7:30PM**

Dinner is Served

**8:15PM**

The Celebration Begins

Introduction to Film Tribute by **SENATOR CHARLES S. ROBB**

Introduction of Speakers

**EVA TEIG**, Virginia Power, Speaker for Beverly H. Diamonstein

**GERALD L. BALILES**, Former Governor, Speaker for Alan A. Diamonstein

Film Tribute to Alan and Beverly Diamonstein

Response by **BEVERLY H. DIAMONSTEIN**

Response by **ALAN A. DIAMONSTEIN**

Benediction — **REVEREND LOUIS NICHOLSON**

## MENU

Field Green Salad with

Petite Mandarin Oranges, Almonds, Gorgonzola Cheese, and  
Topped with Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing

Poached Salmon with Champagne Sauce on a Bed of Sautéed Leeks

Pinwheeled Chicken of Spinach, Feta, Roasted Red Peppers, Shallots,  
Accented with a Curried Pineapple Ginger Chutney

Potatoes Esplanade

Fresh Steamed Broccoli with Accents of Lemon Zest

Rolls and Butter

Iced Tea and Coffee

Dessert

Chocolate Decadence

“No couple could have individually and collectively done more for our community.  
To say more would be ‘gilding the lily.’ Together, they richly deserve our accolades.”

**HERBERT V. KELLY, SR.**

Jones, Blechman, Woltz & Kelly, P.C.

“The Peninsula is singularly fortunate to have a lady and gentleman — Beverly and Alan  
Diamonstein - to represent us in the House of Delegates for thirty years; young and vigorous.  
Let us hope they have thirty more years of outstanding service.”

**HUNTER B. ANDREWS**

Member, Virginia Senate, 1964-1996



#### DINNER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MARGARET O. YANCEY, *Chairman*

James S. G. Davenport  
The Honorable Thomas N. Downing  
Mayor Joe S. Frank  
Jane Susan Frank  
Shirley Hatten  
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#### FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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#### SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE

Bill Baker  
Kristen Binns  
Alice S. Franklin  
Nancy B. Goodwyn  
Sumira Kawashimo  
Cynthia "Cindy" Lord  
Tiffany McCoy  
Judy Napier  
Selma "Bebe" Petock  
Nima Pirzadeh  
"Bud" Ramey  
Lee Vreeland

"Beverly and Alan are a formidable team of advocates to have on your side. As a community volunteer and as a legislator, each has made an unparalleled contribution to the quality of life in Newport News and throughout the Commonwealth. No one in the General Assembly has done more to assure all Virginians the opportunity to attend the best public colleges in the country than Alan. And, Beverly's work on behalf of the Virginia Museum and other organizations has affected people across the Commonwealth. But, nowhere is their dedication and commitment more tangible than here in Newport News. There is not a single institution in this community that has not benefited from their contributions. I am pleased to join you in honoring my friends, Beverly and Alan, for their hard work and their dedication to Newport News and to the Commonwealth."

**THOMAS W. MOSS, JR.**

Speaker of the House of Delegates  
Virginia General Assembly

"Beverly was appointed a Trustee of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and during her ten years of service, she served on the Collections, Education & Programs, Exhibitions, Legislative, Planning, and Executive Committees. She later was elected to the Board of Directors of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation. Throughout all of those years, and continuing today, she took on any task that was assigned and brought to our policy discussions a statewide viewpoint and great political insight. Beverly, with her very self-assured manner, has been a tireless advocate for the arts and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in particular.

"Alan has been generous with his counsel on how the Museum should communicate its accomplishments and needs to the General Assembly. In addition, we continue to be deeply grateful for his budgetary support and advocacy, especially during the difficult years when the Commonwealth was faced with difficult economic issues. His wise and direct advice has proven to be effective and successful.

"Aside from the above serious stuff, they are simply a great couple who have given generously of their time in furthering the cause of good government. For that, I thank them personally."

**DAVID B. BRADLEY**

Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation

Thank You's

**"I** am honored to express my appreciation to our friends Beverly and Alan Diamonstein celebrating their first thirty years of public service to the Commonwealth.

"Beverly and Alan, as a team, have made – and are making – a magnificent quality contribution to our city and state. We are always sincerely proud to point them out as our civic and political leaders in whom we have great confidence knowing that they will never let us down.

"They have served us diligently for over thirty years and we thank them. We can only hope and pray that they may continue to serve us for many years to come."

**THOMAS N. DOWNING**

**"I** have known Alan as a mentor when he served as my Scout Master, my representative in his role as Delegate, an ally as we've worked through our respective positions to fight for Newport News' interests in the General Assembly, and cherished friend over many years. No one has done more to give of himself, his many talents, and his energy to serve this community which he loves so much."

**JOE S. FRANK**

Mayor  
City of Newport News

**"B**everly is a woman friend whom I admire on several levels. She is a person who is secure in herself. She's confident and strong, but not one to come on too strong! She is strong in her commitments, strong in her loyalties. Beverly has a strong sense of family; a strong sense of community, and certainly, this is where we have all benefited. Beverly is one of my friends that I consider to be beautiful, not only on the outside, but where God meant for beauty to come from...inside the heart. Charlie and I will be with you all in spirit and we will lift a glass of bubbly to you both."

**MARI ANN BANKS**

**"A**lan Diamonstein has long been a champion of the Virginia shipbuilding industry and Newport News Shipbuilding. Most recently, he played the instrumental role in our efforts to obtain Virginia General Assembly passage for the Virginia Advanced Shipbuilding and Carrier Integration Center. In large part due to his efforts, Virginia will maintain its leadership role in the design and construction of aircraft carriers for the U.S. Navy."

**BILL FRICKS**

Chairman and CEO  
Newport News Shipbuilding

## FROM OUR COMMONWEALTH'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

**"N**o two people have contributed more to the success of Christopher Newport University and our community and Commonwealth than Alan and Beverly Diamonstein. Their leadership and enthusiasm for higher education and the arts have enriched the lives of all Virginians."

**PAUL S. TRIBLE**

President  
Christopher Newport University

**"T**he College of William and Mary is close-knit. Few members of that university family have contributed more to our prosperity than Alan and Beverly Diamonstein.

"Their devotion to higher education has strengthened our College; their dedication to public service has inspired our students and their commitment to excellence has enhanced our institution.

"Our lives are richer for the role Alan and Beverly Diamonstein have played in shaping the College and the students whose trust we inherit."

**TIMOTHY J. SULLIVAN**

President  
College of William and Mary

**"I** have lived in six states, and Alan Diamonstein is the most effective legislator I have ever met."

**JAMES V. KOCH**

President  
Old Dominion University

**"I**n 1992, following the economic downturn of Virginia's economy, the college and university presidents were very concerned that the future of Virginia higher education was in a dangerous position because of its funding level....As president of The Council of Presidents, I made an appointment with Alan Diamonstein...for advice on what course of action we should take...With his usual high energy level, Alan bounded into the room, greeted us, and then got down to business. I inquired about developing a strategy...that would be acceptable to both Democrats and Republicans...I shall never forget Alan sitting at the table, looking sternly at the presidents, and saying: 'Gentlemen, this is not a Democratic nor Republican question. The future of higher education is a question of concern for all Virginians. Now let's decide on a course of action and get on with it.'

"Alan has always been a friend of higher education and has never let his party affiliation stop him from supporting what he thinks is in the best interest of all Virginians."

**WILLIAM M. ANDERSON, JR.**

President  
Mary Washington College



**"D**elegat Alan Diamonstein has earned a richly deserved reputation as one of Virginia's foremost champions of higher education. The State's entire university and community college system shares my appreciation for him as one of its most potent allies and most effective advocates. An astute, respected political leader, he is likewise sensitive to the educational needs of our students, as well as the vital and essential role our institutions play in enhancing the quality of life in the Commonwealth.

"His strong commitment to public service is reinforced and complemented by that of his wife, Beverly. She not only represents a primary source of inspiration for her husband, she is a most able and proven leader in her own right.

"I certainly owe them both a huge debt of gratitude for their tireless efforts on behalf of Radford University and, indeed, all of higher education."

**DOUGLAS COVINGTON**

President  
Radford University

**"A**lan Diamonstein's career exemplifies the highest ideals of public service in the Commonwealth. His commitment to extending the benefits of education and his long-standing support of cultural endeavors have made life more meaningful for countless individuals. He is a tireless champion of Higher Education. A true leader, he is not hesitant to challenge us to become more responsive to the needs of the Commonwealth, and he is not afraid to carry our banner when the cause is right, regardless of the odds. Alan Diamonstein's efforts have enriched his community and state. We are honored to pay tribute to his indomitable spirit of service and commitment to education at all levels."

**PAUL E. TORGENSEN**

President  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

**"N**otwithstanding Alan's relationship with the flagship institution in Charlottesville, he has been committed to the entire system of higher education in the Commonwealth. His leadership in overseeing the restructuring of higher education during the 1990's will ensure an efficient operation in the years to come. His compassion for the state's college students, exhibited in his drive to provide them affordable higher education and adequate financial aid, has touched thousands of our brightest citizens. More importantly, he has understood that an investment in young people is an investment in Virginia's future. Alan's vision to provide the resources for the best technology infrastructure in higher education also will have a tremendous impact on education and economic development for generations. He is a true public servant. He is a true statesman. We at Virginia Commonwealth University are grateful for all that he has done for VCU and higher education."

**EUGENE P. TRANI**

President  
Virginia Commonwealth University

Beverly Diamonstein's devotion to this community is evidenced by her involvement over the past 30 years in countless projects that benefit all of us. At Christopher Newport University, we consider ourselves extremely fortunate that we have Beverly working with us to make the Center for the Arts a reality. Her commitment to causes such as ours will mean so much to future generations. Beverly Diamonstein is a treasure in our midst!"

**NORMA BROWN**

Director, Gift Planning  
Christopher Newport University

"As President of Longwood College and as a citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I consider it an honor and a privilege to know and work with one of our state's great citizen leaders, Delegate Alan Diamonstein. As the past thirty years have proven, he is one of our preeminent public servants and a staunch believer in the right of every Virginian to have access to a high quality education at an affordable price. Much like a faithful spouse, he has supported education through good times and bad, through sickness and health, for richer or poorer - and always with an unfailingly wonderful sense of humor! Through his dedication, caring and creativity, Alan Diamonstein has benefited not just those who attend Virginia's educational institutions, but also all of those who call Virginia home."

**PATRICIA P. CORMIER**

President  
Longwood College

## A LETTER TO BEVERLY DIAMONSTEIN...

Dear Beverly,

"This occasion provides the perfect opportunity to publicly thank you for selflessly sharing yourself with so many to make our world a better place, for this and for future generations.

"During the past three years that we have worked together at the Fine Arts Center you have been the guiding force I needed, and the Center needed. It is impossible to envision this time without you. Whether out in front or behind the scenes, you have always done what it took to guarantee the best possible visual arts opportunities for the largest number of citizens, within a balanced budget!

"Your intellect, decisiveness, and personal resolve, and your sensitivity, insight and compassion are a powerful combination utilized constantly to solve problems and to achieve excellence. The Fine Arts Center and the Peninsula are fortunate to be beneficiaries of such talents.

"Thank you for doing more than others, and for caring more than others."

**LISÉ C. SWENSSON**

Executive Director  
Peninsula Fine Arts Center