

THE  
**SHARON D. VIRTS**  
FOUNDATION

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**FCi Federal Founder and Chairman Sharon D. Virts Launches Family Foundation with Virginia Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-VA); Presents Initial Grant to the Land Trust of Virginia**

**Loudoun County, VA – August 15, 2016** – From the steps of Selma Mansion, [FCi Federal](#) Founder and Chairman Sharon D. Virts today announced the launch of her family Foundation, the Sharon D. Virts Foundation.

The Sharon D. Virts Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) established to focus on the fundamental pillars required to support a thriving community – Education, Culture, Healthcare and Opportunity.

“I was born and raised in Loudoun and have lived here most of my life,” said Virts. “I established my Foundation to focus on preserving the culture and history of our county while embracing economic progress that improves access to cutting-edge healthcare, education and transportation systems. I am fortunate to have achieved success in building my business, affording me the opportunity now to give back to our community. I formed this Foundation to do just that...make a difference in people’s lives by promoting opportunity for individual success without sacrificing our culture or our history.”

Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-VA) joined Virts for the launch. Comstock represents the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Virginia, an area comprising a suburban core in the East to expansive farmland in the West.

“We appreciate Sharon’s commitment to preserving the history and culture of Loudoun County and her family history rooted in our community,” said Congresswoman Comstock.

“Sharon has fully committed to preserving this legacy for future generations and has understood how critical continued economic growth is to our region, growth that is balanced and keeps Loudoun as one of the most culturally and historically rich, as well as one of the happiest counties in the nation. Sharon’s foundation will work to strike the necessary balance between growth in Loudoun and the continued preservation of the culture that makes Loudoun an exceptional place to call home.”

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In its first award to reflect one of the Foundation's core missions -- assisting with historical and cultural preservation -- Virts presented a \$10,000 check to The Land Trust of Virginia Board Member James E. "Jim" Rich.

The Land Trust of Virginia partners with private landowners who voluntarily protect and preserve properties with significant historic, scenic and ecological value to benefit the community through conservation easements. Founded nearly a quarter century ago, the organization is a non-profit organization that relies upon the generosity of the community and landowners to fulfill its mission.

"The Land Trust of Virginia is honored to receive the first grant from the Sharon D. Virts Foundation," said Rich. "Sharon's devotion to preserving the fabric of the land and our Loudoun communities is unparalleled; we are proud to stand shoulder to shoulder in the important work of saving land and history."

"Having recently begun the two-year renovation of historic Selma Mansion here in Loudoun County," said Virts, "I feel a deep connection to the many historical properties in need of support. Maintaining our cultural heritage is important to today's residents and future generations."

Ms. Virts is active in the Loudoun community, serving as Chairman of the Loudoun Economic Development Commission; Member of the CEO Cabinet for the Loudoun County Chamber; Board member of the Dulles Corridor Rail Association; Director of Loudoun INOVA Hospital Foundation; Advisor to the Board of Trustees of the Hill School in Middleburg, Virginia; and member of 100WomenStrong. She lectures nationally on leadership development and small business growth.

#### **About the Land Trust of Virginia**

The Land Trust of Virginia (LTV), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, was founded in 1992 to receive voluntary donations of conservation easements. An accredited private land trust, LTV holds easements on 144 properties, conserving 14,770 acres of open space, farmland, forests, wetlands and historic properties in Fauquier, Loudoun, Clarke, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Madison, Greene, King George, Stafford and Hanover Counties and in the City of Fredericksburg. For more information about how to donate a conservation easement, please visit [www.landtrustva.org](http://www.landtrustva.org).

#### **About The Sharon D. Virts Foundation**

The Sharon D. Virts Foundation was created to support what Virts refers to as the pillars of a thriving community: Education, Culture, Health and Opportunity Development, particularly in economically depressed and rural communities. The Foundation's initial focus is on Loudoun County as it executes its multifaceted mission to reinforce cultural significance and assist in the preservation of historical sites; ignite initiatives that fuel business and economic growth; strengthen and enhance access to healthcare facilities available to the community; encourage and bolster educational institutions for economically disadvantaged students and mentor and develop the next generation of up and coming leaders. For more information on the Sharon D. Virts Foundation or grant information, please visit: [www.sharondvirtsfoundation.org](http://www.sharondvirtsfoundation.org) or email: [info@sharondvirtsfoundation.org](mailto:info@sharondvirtsfoundation.org)