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## Letter: Ask Any Soldier

Tuesday, June 03, 2008

To the Editor:

Today I am reflecting on Memorial Day and our booth at Viva!Vienna! I sponsored a booth for Fairfax Realty, I was not seeking to secure new clients, my mission and message was AnySoldier.com. I had a 4 x 6-foot poster board, with photos and letters written in May 2008 from soldiers serving in harm's way.

My booth, was located next to Build the Tunnel! On Sunday, [Democratic Party candidate for the 11th District Congressional seat] Leslie Byrne visited the Build the Tunnel booth and spent several minutes talking with the sponsors. Byrne walked right past my booth and billboard, never once even looked at our signs.

My thought is this, a Fairfax Realty sign supporting AnySoldier.com just was not inviting, no matter what our mission was for Memorial Day. And it was not just Byrne, we were not noticed or visited by Del. Steve Shannon (D-35), [Byrne's opponents] Doug Denny (D), Keith Fimian (R) and Gerry Connolly (D).

Now you would think, Realtors know a few people. We have a lot of connections. And God knows, we know how to put a sign in the ground.

We asked many visitors to stop and take the time to Honor and Remember those who are serving our country in harm's way, 80 percent of those asked, were not interested.

Byrne was one of first to speak out against war. No one likes war. No one wants war. And Freedom, is not just a word, and it is not free. Ask any Soldier.

After all, it was Memorial Day.

**Sandy Leaf**

Fairfax Realty

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