

Fairfax VOTER

October 2023

Volume 76, Issue 2

GET OUT THE VOTE - NOW IS THE TIME!

By the time you receive this issue of the LWVFA *VOTER* there will be a month or less until Election Day! What are your plans to GET OUT THE VOTE?

This issue includes League tools to assist you in your efforts. Check them out.

- What's On Your Ballot – Share copies with family, friends, and neighbors.
- Candidate Forums – Please attend or even better, hold a watch party. Get to know the candidates.
- School Bond Referendum – Learn about the bond and LWVFA's positions on school bonds as it appears in "Here We Stand."

Let's encourage all citizens to vote in this very important election. Their vote is their voice. The results of this election will have an impact on all our lives.

Calendar

Note: LWVFA Unit Meetings will meet in October

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- 1-7 Banned Books Week
- 1 International Day of Non-Violence
- 2 Candidate Forum, Fairfax County Chair of the Board of Supervisors, 8 p.m.
- 2-6 National Voter Education Week
- 2 Fairfax Voter Deadline for the November 2023 issue
- 5 Candidate Forum, Fairfax County School Board Member-At-Large, 7 p.m.
- 10-13 LWVFA Unit Meetings at various locations around Fairfax County
- 11 Candidate Forum, Soil and Water Commission, 7 p.m.
- 16 Candidate Forum, Clerk of the Court and Sheriff, 8 p.m.
- 16 Voter Registration Deadline for the November General Election unless using same-day registration
- 18 LWVFA Board Meeting, Virtual, 10 a.m.
- 27 Last day to request mail-in ballot

Inside This Issue

Presidents' Message	2
What's on <i>Your</i> Ballot?	2
LWVFA members share their thoughts about voting	3
Monthly Program Changes & Topics	4
School Bond Referendum	4
<i>What's On Your Ballot</i> Insert	
Candidate Forums	5
Be an Informed Voter	5-6
Domestic Violence	6
Unit Discussion Meetings Locations	7

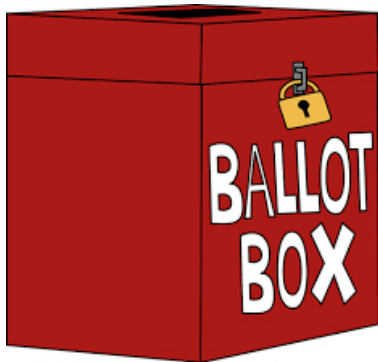
Presidents' Message

Dear Fellow Leaguers,

Now that fall is underway and pumpkin spice is everywhere, we hope the school year is off to a good start for everyone. The election season is definitely in full swing and Leaguers are busy everywhere. A huge thanks to everyone who stopped by the office on September 10 for our Get Out The Vote rally. It was so nice to see you. Keep up the good work in encouraging everyone to vote in this critical election. As you will see elsewhere here, we are sponsoring or helping with a number of candidate forums and are getting out information on the elections to as broad an audience as we can. Even if you can't volunteer at events, you can always help spread the word to friends, family and neighbors, which has been shown to be the most effective action of all!

Next month we can all take a deep breath, just in time for the holiday season! Meanwhile, we are starting to think of some exciting new events for the spring, and will review our activities from this election season to develop more best practices. As always, we welcome your ideas and suggestions.

Pat and Katherine



Fairfax County 24-hr.
Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline:
703-360-7273; 711 TTY

LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2023-2024

This newsletter, partially funded by the League of Women Voters of Fairfax Area Education Fund, is published 10 times each year from September to June by:

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Subscriptions to the *Fairfax VOTER* are available to non-Fairfax League members for \$15 per annum. Send your check to the above address and request a subscription.

Please e-mail address corrections to the office
or call 703-658-9150.

What's on YOUR Ballot?

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Cindy Kalkwarf and the eagle eyes of proofreaders and fact checkers, Ronna Pazdral, Sidney Johnson, and Arina van Breda, *What's on YOUR Ballot* is now available. This popular, helpful publication provides a great deal of information that is condensed into four pages. It is included in this issue of the *VOTER* for LWVFA members.

Voters can obtain a copy at local libraries or District Governmental Centers, and it is being distributed by LWVFA volunteers at community events. It is also available on our website under the Publications tab.

LWVFA Members Share Their Thoughts About Voting

A Family Tradition - Elizabeth Vanderberg

My mother, Kay Gardey Vandenberg, joined the League of Women Voters Fairfax City in 1966 when I was six. She was a stay-at-home mom, but the League quickly became her full-time job. Instead of teaching me to cook and sew, she recruited me to collate, staple, stuff envelopes and best of all, run the mimeograph machine. We even had a voting machine in our garage for voter education activities. Registering to vote for the first time was more exciting than celebrating my birthday. When I found out that people didn't vote I was incredulous. Not voting? Wasn't that against the law? I'm profoundly grateful for having grown up at the feet of League members and to carry on the family tradition. Registering voters—especially high school students-- is a blast!

Perfect Voting Record – Kathleen Pablo

My father, the son of immigrants, was – like his parents – intensely patriotic. He enlisted in the Army, and never once in his life missed voting in an election. On his deathbed, he realized it was an election day. Too late to apply for an absentee ballot, I went to the local Registrar. She dispatched an election officer to their Alexandria home, and the precinct worker brought a ballot to his bedside. When the officer left, we said, “Dad, you've kept your perfect record!” He smiled and responded, “Now I'm square with my God and my country.”

Example speaks more eloquently than exhortation. His children (and now his grandchildren) never miss voting, many served in the military, and we laugh about “voting for Dad.”

Voting Every Time - Natalie Lorenz Anderson

I turned 18 several months after the 1980 general election, so I could not vote in this important presidential race. However, as a college freshman in Massachusetts, I enjoyed working actively canvassing for John Anderson's campaign, who by then was running as an Independent candidate. I felt like I was at least part of the democratic process even though I could not vote. I haven't missed a major primary/presidential election since then. Once I moved to Virginia in 1999

and learned that we have annual elections and ballot items, I have voted every year.

Why I Vote - Donna Schutz

Voting is a privilege and a responsibility. It is also the way to make your voice heard and help create any changes you think are needed. So many times, I have heard folks say, “I don't like what is happening. I am not going to vote.” I feel that this attitude does not promote democracy. When we are most discouraged, we must step up and be part of the solution. Voting is an important way to do this. Not everyone is comfortable being outwardly politically active, but voting is what we can do privately to support our country. Every vote REALLY does count.

Voting in Every Election - Karen Gatz

I am always astonished and also somewhat dismayed when citizens say they don't vote. When I ask why, they often say they only vote for president or voting doesn't matter or they don't want to be called for jury duty. Amazing. I was lucky enough to be raised in a family that stressed the importance of voting. I've voted in (almost) every election but only gradually came to realize the importance of every election.

Like many people, I focused on presidential and congressional elections, thinking federal offices were most critical to the country and to my life. Gradually and as times changed, I came to see the crucial importance of voting in state and local elections, both primary and general elections. Elected officials at the state and local levels decide the mundane and the critical – paving roads and education policy, health initiatives and environmental protections, and expanding or restricting voting rights. It all happens at the state and local level. Those are the actions that affect daily life much more than what the president or the Congress does. State and local elections often include important ballot measures, even constitutional amendments, as well that could be in effect for generations. It is critical that strong and thoughtful candidates are chosen in primary elections and are carefully considered in the general election. Those are some of the reasons I vote in every election.

Monthly Program Changes and Topics

By Julie Jones and Judy Helein

Topics for member unit discussions will be implemented with a different model this year. There will be no Saturday morning briefing for discussion leaders. Instead there will be an all member virtual presentation featuring “experts” on the monthly topic. The program will be broadcast at the first of the month before regularly scheduled unit meetings. The broadcast will be recorded so it can be viewed at anytime. Additional background information will be in the monthly Fairfax *VOTER*. Prompts for discussion will be included and unit reports will be shorter than before. It is hoped that members will find ways to take action after the discussions.

Participation from many League members will be necessary to implement these changes. Any contribution would be most helpful!!

Among other tasks, we need individuals or groups to:

- Research and identify areas for finding pertinent information
- Write a background paper for the Fairfax *VOTER*
- Identify “experts” to interview
- Conduct interviews and write a report
- Help produce video or live discussion for all members to view
- Edit the final product - video or document
- Develop questions or points for discussion
- Plan social gathering: Rank Choice Voting of wines or beers
- Visit to Supreme Court

Can you help? We need you!

Our proposed topics that pertain to the Fairfax Area are:

- Food Waste - How can it be reduced?
- Library Book Selection - What are the processes in Fairfax Area schools and libraries for book selections and challenges?
- Reading a banned book - Help select our list of choices
- Restoring Felons’ Right to Vote - What is the process?
- Virginia Courts - How many are there and what do they do?
- LWVUS Moon Shot - Elimination of the Electoral College
- LWVFA and LWVUS Positions - Review for retention or update

School Bond Referendum

Fairfax County voters will see a \$435 million bond for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) on their ballots this fall. A bond allows Fairfax County to borrow funds and spread the cost over years similar to a mortgage on a house. By law, the funds must be used only as stated on the ballot.

If approved by a majority of voters, FCPS will use the funds to:

- Renovate seven elementary schools.
- Plan and design renovations of eight elementary schools and one middle school.
- Complete three modular relocations.
- Install school security vestibules at more than 25 schools.

The renovation projects will upgrade the safety, environmental, electrical, security, and telecommunications systems of school buildings, and bring aging school facilities into full compliance with legal requirements.

Our stated position on school bonds in Here We Stand (lww-fairfax.org/league-positions) is as follows:

The LWVFA believes that the sale of bonds by political jurisdictions is an appropriate method of financing capital improvements, including the construction and renewal of school facilities. (1980; 2008) Factors to be considered when evaluating proposals for bond funding include:

- Whether the project is included in the Capital Improvement Program.
- Whether the project addresses a high-priority need.
- Whether the cost is greater than can be financed from the General Fund.
- Whether the life of the facility is at least equal to the payback period of the bonds.
- Whether it is appropriate for future users to share the cost of the facility.
- The fiscal impact of the bonded indebtedness on the County/City budget. (1991)

For specific information about this FCPS bond referendum, go to fcps.edu/Bond2023. For more information about Fairfax County bonds, go to fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/bonds-frequently-asked-questions.



WHAT'S ON YOUR BALLOT

Tues NOV 7, 2023



CHECK/UPDATE YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION NOW!
vote.elections.virginia.gov



- ✓ **VIRGINIA:** VA Senators and House of Delegates
 - ✓ **FAIRFAX COUNTY:** Chairman and Board of Supervisors, School Board, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Soil and Water District Directors, Bond Referendum
 - ✓ **TOWN OF CLIFTON:** Mayor, Town Council Members
 - ✓ **TOWN OF VIENNA:** Mayor, Town Council Members
 - ✓ **CITY OF FAIRFAX:** Commonwealth's Attny, Sheriff, Clerk of Circuit Court
- Nothing on ballot for federal or Town of Herndon offices*

For information on the general election, voter registration, or polling places:

Fairfax County General Registrar
(703) 222-0776
fairfaxcounty.gov/elections
voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

City of Fairfax General Registrar
(703) 385-7890
fairfaxva.gov/vote
registrar@fairfaxva.gov

Virginia Dept of Elections
(804) 864-8901
vote.elections.virginia.gov
info@elections.virginia.gov

How to Vote On Election Day, Nov 7

Polls open **6 AM to 7 PM** On that day, you *must* vote at the polling place where you are registered to vote. To find your polling place go to Dept. of Elections Citizen Portal: vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation

TAKE A VALID ID TO THE POLLS. Examples of Acceptable ID:

- *Virginia driver's license
- * Valid student ID
- * Gov't issued ID e.g., Passport, Military ID
- * Current utility bill
- * Current pay stub
- * Current bank statement*(See <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/voterid/> for complete list)

~VIRGINIA~

Virginia Senate		
33rd District Mike L. Van Meter-R Jennifer D. Carroll Foy-D	36th District Julie Anna Perry-R Stella G. Pekarsky-D	39th District Sophia C. Moshasha-R Adam P. Ebbin-D
34th District Mark A. Springman-R Scott A. Surovell-D	37th District Kenneth D. "Ken" Reid-R Saddam Azlan Salim-D	
35th District Mark B. Vafiades-R David W. Marsden-D	38th District Matthew J. "Matt" Lang-R Jennifer B. Boysko-D	

Virginia House of Delegates

4th District Charniele L. Herring-D	10th District James A. Thomas, Jr-R Dan I. Helmer-D	15th District Marcus T. Evans-R Laura Jane H. Cohen-D
6th District Kristin L. Hoffman-R Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan Jr.-D	11th District Almira Mohammed-R David L. Bulova-D	16th District Paul E. Krizek-D
7th District Luellen Hoffman Maskeny-R Karen A. Keys-Gamarra-D	12th District Holly M. Seibold-D	17th District Mark D. Sickles-D
8th District Max B. Fisher-R Irene Shin-D	13th District Marcus B. Simon-D Dave A. Crance Jr.-L	18th District Edward F. McGovern-R Kathy K. L. Tran-D
9th District Nhan C. Huynh-R Karrie K. Delaney-D	14th District Curtis L. Wells Jr-R Vivian E. Watts-D	19th District Rozia A. "J.R." Henson, Jr.-D

~FAIRFAX COUNTY and CITY OF FAIRFAX~

Commonwealth's Attorney	Office of Sheriff	Clerk of Court
Steve T. Descano -D	Stacey Ann Kincaid -D Jerry L. McMillian -I Christopher F. DeCarlo-I	Gerarda Marie Culipher-R Christopher J. Falcon-D

~FAIRFAX COUNTY~

Chairman - Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Arthur G. Purves-R	Jeffrey C. McKay* -D
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Board of Supervisors - Listed by District

Braddock James R. Walkinshaw*-D Carey C. Campbell-IG	Dranesville Puneet Ahluwalia-R James N. "Jimmy" Bierman-D	Hunter Mill Indira S. Massey-R Walter L. Alcorn*-D
Franconia (Lee) Paul F. Beran -R Rodney L. Lusk* -D Mark T. Welch -I	Mason Andres F. Jimenez-D Terry W. Modglin-I	Mt Vernon Richard T. Hayden-R Daniel G. "Dan" Storck*-D Christopher T. Morgan-I
Providence Brian R. Murphy-R Dalia A. Palchik* -D	Springfield Patrick S. "Pat" Herrity*-R Albert Vega -D Corazon S. Foley-IG	Sully Keith S. Elliott-R Kathy L. Smith*-D

Soil and Water Conservation District Directors (vote for not more than 3)

Debra O. Maddrell	Rhonda J. Bitterli	Christopher E. Koerner
Mary Ellen "Mell" Flynn	Edward W. Monroe Jr.	Mary E. Strayhorne
Dana H. Barakat		

Fairfax County School Board At Large - (Vote for no more than 3)

Saundra T. Davis ~ Cassandra R. Aucoin ~ Linda A. Pellegrino ~ Ilryong Moon ~ Ahmed Mahdi Hussein ~ Maureen T. Brody ~ Robert K. "Kyle" McDaniel ~ Peter C. Gabor ~ Ryan L. McElveen
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Fairfax County School Board Vote for 1 in your District

Braddock Rachna Sizemore Heizer Priscilla M. DeStefano	Dranesville Paul M. Bartkowski Robyn A. Lady	Hunter Mill Harry R. Jackson Melanie K. Meren
Franconia (Lee) Marcia C. St John-Cunning Kevin R. Pinkney	Mason Ricardy J. Anderson Kristin F. Ball	Mt Vernon Mateo Dunne Stori M. Zimmerman
Providence Karl V. Frisch Anthony A. "Tony" Sabio	Springfield Debra A. Tisler Sandy B. Anderson Peter J. Bixby-Eberhardt	Sully Seema Dixit Cynthia L. Walsh

BALLOT QUESTION – FAIRFAX COUNTY ONLY

PUBLIC SCHOOL BONDS: Shall Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money, and issue capital improvement bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$435,000,000 for the purposes of providing funds, in addition to funds from school bonds previously authorized, to finance, including reimbursement to the County for temporary financing for, the costs of school improvements, including acquiring, building, expanding and renovating properties, including new sites, new buildings or additions, renovations and improvements to existing buildings, and furnishings and equipment, for the Fairfax County public school system? YES/NO

~Town of Clifton~

Mayor	Town Council (Vote for no more than 6 candidates)		
William R. Hollaway-I	Darrell D. Poe - I	Stephen R. Effros- I	
	John L. Davis III- I	Regan P. McDonald- I	Lynn M. Screen- I

~Town of Vienna~

Mayor	Town Council (Vote for no more than 6 candidates)		
Linda J. Colbert-I	Howard J. Springsteen-I	Charles "Chuck" Anderson-I	Roy J. Baldwin-I
	Jessica H. Ramakis-I	Sandra D. Allen-I	Ray S. Brill Jr.- I
	Shelley M. Mountjoy-I	Elizabeth D. Korondy-I	

*Candidates appear in the order they will appear on the ballot as determined at the State Board of Elections. Ballot Abbreviations: (D) Democrat; (R) Republican; (IG) Independent Green; (I) Independent; (L) Libertarian; * Incumbent Only candidates for federal, statewide and General Assembly races are identified by political party affiliation on the ballot. The political party affiliation of other candidates is provided here only for informational purposes.*

Disclaimer: The LWVFA is not responsible for any changes or inaccuracies in the listings; the information was current as of August 27, 2023. This is not an official publication for any campaign or candidate, but information only. The LWVFA can be reached at 703-658-9150, www.LWV-Fairfax.org, www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax, twitter.com/LWVfairfax, or at LWVUS www.vote411.org.

The League of Women Voters® is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the public to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state, regional and national levels the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any person at least 16 years old may become a member. The League of Women Voters® never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties.



Please Support Our Work! The LWVFA Education Fund is supported by donations from our members and the public. lwv-fairfax.org/donate

Fall 2023 Voters' Guide: The League sent questionnaires to the candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives. All candidates queried are those whose names were certified for the General Election ballot. Responses can be found at:

- Vote411.org
- LWV-Fairfax.org
- [Twitter.com/LWVFairfax](https://twitter.com/LWVFairfax)
- [Facebook.com/lwvfairfax](https://facebook.com/lwvfairfax)



KEY DATES & VOTING BY MAIL

Any registered voter may vote early, either in-person, or vote by mail

Oct 16

Deadline to register or update your registration, unless using same day registration

Sept 22
Friday

through
Nov 4
Saturday

In-person early voting

5pm, Oct 27
Friday

Deadline to Apply for an Absentee Ballot by Mail (in person or online)

7pm, Nov 7
Tuesday

Postmarked by this date, or hand-delivered in person.
Note: If by mail, it must be received by noon on Nov 13th

Deadline to return Vote by Mail Ballot

VOTE BY MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOTS

****Witness signatures are NOT required on absentee ballots, but the last 4 digits of SSN and year of birth are required ****



- Vote by mail applications available at: Office of Elections, government centers, libraries, or apply online: elections.virginia.gov/voterinformation
- Mail your applications and voted ballot early in case USPS mail is delayed OR return to a monitored Drop Box at an early voting location during opening hours, in front of the Fairfax County Government Center 24/7, or at any polling places on Election Day
- Absentee voters who choose to vote in person or a polling place on Election Day should bring and surrender the ballot received in the mail

Fairfax County Early Voting Locations and Hours

Any registered Fairfax County voter, including Towns of Clifton, Herndon and Vienna may vote early at any Fairfax County early voting location

3 Gov't Centers: Sept 22 - Nov 4 Mon-Fri plus Saturdays Sept 23, Oct 28, Nov 4, and Sunday Oct 29

Fairfax County Gov't Center
12000 Gov't Center Pkwy, Fairfax
Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm
Saturdays 9am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

Mt. Vernon Gov't Center,
2511 Parkers Ln, Alexandria
Mon-Fri 1pm-7pm
Saturdays 9am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

North County Gov't Center
1801 Cameron Glen Dr, Reston
Mon-Fri 1pm-7pm
Saturdays 9am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

13 additional locations: Oct 26 - Nov 4, Mon - Fri 1pm - 7pm
Saturdays Oct 28 and Nov 4 9am - 5pm, Sunday Oct 29 1pm - 5pm

Burke Centre Library
5935 Freds Oak Rd, Burke

Herndon Fortnightly Library
768 Center St, Herndon

Sully Gov't Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly

Centreville Regional Library
14200 St. Germain Dr, Centreville

Lorton Library/Community Center
9520 Richmond Hwy, Lorton

Thomas Jefferson Library
7415 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church

Franconia Gov't Center
6121 Franconia Rd, Alexandria

Mason Gov't Center
6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale

Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library
7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church

Great Falls Library
9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls

McLean Gov't Center
1437 Balls Hill Rd, McLean

West Springfield Gov't Center
6140 Rolling Rd, Springfield

Providence Community Center
3001 Vaden Dr, Fairfax

City of Fairfax Early Voting Locations and Hours

Fairfax City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax

Sept 22 - Nov 4 Mon - Fri 8:30am - 5pm plus Saturdays Oct 28, Nov 4 8:30 am - 5 pm

CANDIDATE FORUMS
SPONSORED BY LWVFA

October 2, 8 p.m. - Candidates for Chair, Fairfax Board of Supervisors

View the forum live on Fairfax Public Access, channel 10 or streaming at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/InsideScoopTVShow>.

The show is entitled Inside Scoop.

There is no registration in advance.

The certified candidates who have agreed to attend are:

- Arthur G. Purves (R).
- Jeffrey C. McKay (D).

October 5, 7 p.m. – Candidates for Members at Large, Fairfax County School Board

Register to attend this forum on Zoom by using this link, <https://bit.ly/3sF2WZU>, or this QR code.

Submit questions and receive a Zoom link to view the forum.

The certified candidates who have agreed to attend are:

Saundra T. Davis, Cassandra R. Aucoin, Linda A. Pellegrino, Ilryong Moon, Ahmed Mahdi Hussein, Maureen T. Brody, Robert K. “Kyle” McDaniel, Peter C. Gabor and Ryan L. McElveen.



October 11, 7 p.m. – Candidates for Directors, Soil and Water Conservation Board

Register to attend this forum on Zoom by using the link,

<https://bit.ly/3PqOwFU>, or this QR code.

Submit questions and receive a Zoom link to view the forum.

The certified candidates who have agreed to attend are:

Debra O. Maddrell, Rhonda J. Bitterli, Christopher E. Koerner, Mary E. Strayhorne, and Dana H. Barakat.



October 16, 8 p.m. – Candidates for Clerk of the Circuit Court and Sheriff

View the forum live on Fairfax Public Access, channel 10 or streaming at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/InsideScoopTVShow>.

The show is entitled Inside Scoop.

There is no registration in advance.

The certified candidates for sheriff who have agreed to attend are:

- Stacey Ann Kincaid (D).
- Jerry L. McMillian (I).

The certified candidates for clerk of the circuit court who have agreed to attend are:

- Gerarda Marie Culipher (R).
- Christopher J. Falcon (D).

Candidate Forums sponsored by other non-partisan organizations are listed on the “Additional Candidate Forums” page under the Events tab on the LWVFA website.



Be an Informed Voter

People often make it a priority to vote in Presidential elections; however, fewer people tend to vote in state and local elections, even though these officials have far greater influence over our daily lives and our communities. This fall, Virginia voters will elect the entire General Assembly. Fairfax County and Fairfax City voters will elect the Commonwealth’s Attorney, Sheriff, and Clerk of the Circuit Court. In addition, Fairfax County voters will elect School Board members and vote on a School Bond. The towns of Clifton and Vienna will elect their Mayors and Town Council members.

We need to:

- Share information about League resources to help voters get the facts and make important voting decisions.
- Urge voters to cast their votes.

VOTE 411.org

Vote411 is the premiere source of election information hosted by the League. Here, voters can find information on registering, the location of their polling place, and all the races on their ballot. We have included information on all the local candidates and asked each to provide additional information and answer several

questions on their policy positions. Vote411 allows voters to compare the answers of the candidates as well as see who has declined to provide information. This resource is improving every year, and is one of the few places to see comprehensive information on local candidates in one place.

Candidate Forums

Watching candidate forums is an excellent way to learn more about the candidates and the issues. Consider watching candidate forums with friends and family. Host or attend a viewing party. Discuss the forum and candidate responses with others. Talk about the issues and find out how your views compare with others. Get a range of perspectives on the issues. See previous article for information about the LWV-FA sponsored Candidate Forums. Watch for updates in ENews and by going to the Events tab on our website to view information about additional candidate forums sponsored by other nonpartisan organizations.

The people we elect will make decisions that affect taxes, public education, health care, the environment – and MORE! It is our responsibility as Leaguers to be informed about the candidates and the issues. We also need to share the information about VOTE 411 and the Candidate Forums with community members and encourage them to vote.

Domestic Violence: What Do You Know? Why Should You Care?

By Adarsh Trehan
Chair Domestic Violence Committee

Domestic violence is not due to abusers losing their tempers, being drunk, or on drugs. Nor is it due to anything the victims do or say. Many people think DV only causes physical injuries. However, the abuse can also be emotional, sexual, psychological, or financial. In addition, stalking, cyberstalking, and threats are forms of DV.

Over 90 percent of DV victims are women who are abused by male partners. It is also interesting that “[within] the LGBTQ community, intimate partner

violence occurs at a rate equal to or even higher than that of the heterosexual community. LGBTQ individuals may experience unique forms of intimate partner violence as well as distinctive barriers to seeking help due to fear of discrimination or bias.” <https://ncadv.org/blog/posts/domestic-violence-and-the-lgbtq-community>

On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. In a year, this “equates to more than 10 million women and men.” <https://ncadv.org/statistics>

Consider the following statistics about intimate partner-related homicides reported by the Virginia Department of Health:

- More than 30% of Virginia’s homicides are domestic-violence related.
- Women make up 51% of Virginia’s population but account for 63% of the people killed by firearms in intimate partner-related homicides.
- About 56% of domestic-violence homicides involve firearms.
- About 80% of domestic-violence homicides happen in people’s homes.
- About 40% of domestic-violence homicides happen during or after a relationship breakup.
- More than 20% of domestic-violence homicides involve a homicide-suicide.

Unfortunately, adults are not only the DV victims. Children are DV’s innocent and vulnerable victims. They are profoundly affected by the abuse of the adult victims, whether they are directly abused, exposed or witness the abuse by seeing or hearing it, or are neglected because of it. In addition, they are often abused by the same males as their mothers. The DV effects on children will be addressed in a future article.

Help is available for domestic violence victims in Fairfax County! If you know a DV victim or hear about one, please ask them to call the number below to start getting help!

**Fairfax County 24-hour
Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline
703-360-7273, 711 TTY**

Unit Discussion Meeting Locations

Topic: Get Out The Vote!

Units are encouraged to engage in Get Out the Vote activities during September and October. Please note that unit meetings in September are optional but are strongly encouraged to meet at their regular times to plan strategies and Get Out the Vote activities. As of September 1, 2023, the following information was correct; please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend.

October 2023

No Briefing /At Large Meeting

Contact: Judy, 703-725-9401,
judithhelein@aol.com
 or Julie, 703-476-8347,
Julie.jones@lwv.fairfax.org

Monday, October 9

1:30 p.m. Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Craft Room
 7430 Spring Village Drive,
 Springfield
 Contact: Judy, 703-342-3353,
jjsmith64@earthlink.net

Wednesday, October 11

10 a.m. Mount Vernon Day (MVD)

Sherwood Regional Library
 Conference Room 1
 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane,
 Alexandria
 Contact: Diana, 703-704-5325,
jfdw1111@gmail.com

10 a.m. Fairfax Station (FXS)

8739 Cuttermill Pl, Springfield
 Contact: Diana, 707-866-0796,
dianawhite@gmail.com
 or Sue, 703-266-0272,
sueoneill@hotmail.com

4 p.m. McLean Day (McL)

6657 Madison McLean Dr.
 Contact: Anne, 703-448-6626,
kanteratw@gmail.com

Thursday, October 12

9:30 a.m. Reston Day (RD)
 North County Governmental
 Center,
 12000 Bowman Towne Drive,
 Reston
 Contact: Charleen, 703-620-3593,
Charleen.deasy@verizon.net

10:00 a.m. Springfield (SPF)

No Meeting
 Contact: Jane, 703-256-7834,
patchwork1@verizon.net

10:30 a.m. Centreville-Chantilly (CCD)

Lunch at Food Court, Wegman's
 14361 Newbrook Drive, Chantilly
 Contact: Susan, 703-391-0666,
sadill@cox.net

1 p.m. Oakton/Vienna (OV) – In Person and Virtual

Oakton Public Library, 10304
 Lynnhaven Pl, Oakton
 Contact: Mary, 703-932-3665,
mmvalder@aol.com

7:30 p.m. Reston Evening (RE)

North County Governmental
 Center
 12000 Bowman Towne Drive,
 Reston
 Contact: Wendy, 703-319-4114,
wendy.foxgrage@gmail.com;
 or Debbie, 703-635-9429,
debpool68@gmail.com

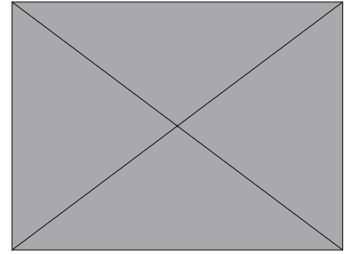
7:30 p.m. Mount Vernon Evening (MVE) – In Person

Contact: Jane, 703-960-6820,
jane@hilderwilliams.net
 or Susan, 703-587-4790,
scash5002@email.vccs.edu
 or Jane, 703-380-3651;
jmbyers@att.net

November: General Meeting
Watch for details in ENews



The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403
 703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org



**The LWVFA Fairfax VOTER®
 October 2023**

Pat Fege, Co-President
 Katherine Ingmanson, Co-President
 Laura Hamilton, Editor

The League of Women Voters® is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the public to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state, regional and national levels the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any person at least 16 years old may become a member.

The League of Women Voters® never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters® name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

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LWVFA MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Dues year is July 1 – June 30

Name: _____ Unit (if renewing): _____
 Name of Second Household Member (if one): _____
 Street Address: _____ Condo/Apt No: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code +4: _____
 E-mail: _____ Phone: (C) _____ (H) _____

Membership Status: _____ New _____ Renewal

Membership Level (please check one):

Basic Membership:

Individual (\$75); Household (two members who share the same mailing address) (\$100);

Limited Income (suggested donation: \$10); Student (Free!)

Membership Plus:

Suffragist (\$100); Advocate Household (two members who share the same mailing address) (\$150);

Champion (\$300); Founders' Circle (\$500)

Membership Plus levels include basic membership PLUS a donation to the LWVFA General Fund. This money will support members of limited income, help invest in LWVFA web site technology, and support other priority projects. General Fund donations are not tax deductible.

Please mail this completed form along with payment to:
 LWVFA, 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403