



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE FAIRFAX AREA

BULLETIN

November 2007

Volume 60, Issue 3

Immigration Study Continues to Top League Agenda

November is a busy month for LWVFA members. An election ballot with numerous candidates and 2 bond referenda will create a flood of calls to our information telephone line. We will continue our LWVUS Immigration study taking consensus on Federal enforcement policies and coordinating American foreign policy with immigration law to deal proactively with this sensitive issue. Then Thanksgiving is our opportunity to be grateful for open elections and living in an amazing country.



Calendar

1-6	Voter Services Phones (Turn on Oct 25)
02	NCA Board Meeting
03	Briefing/Immigration II (LWVUS consensus) – upper conf. room
04	<i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i>
5-6	School Closed
06	ELECTION DAY
06	Dec. Bulletin Deadline
12-14	Units – Immigration - Consensus
13	<u>Sequoyah Condo Election.</u>
21	School Closes 2 Hrs Early
22-23	<i>Thanksgiving- School Closed</i>
28	Board Meeting/ Board Briefing for Dec. Units /Dec. UC Letter Deadline

Inside This Issue

The President's Message	2
LWVUS Immigration Study – Part I	3-11
Oct. Bulletin Errata	11
Domestic Violence Services to Be Consolidated Under Office For Women	11
School Superintendent Dale Merges Two Advisory Councils for More Efficiency	12
New Hires Earn Bonus	12
Voters Asked to Vote on Transportation Bonds	13
School Board Offers Bond Referendum	13
Public Health Service On the Job Since 1872	14
In The Spotlight	14
Unit Meeting Schedules and Locations	15



The President's Message

Every Year the LWVFA board reviews our Nonpartisan Policy to make sure it is current. Your board did so recently, making no change in the current policy. It seems appropriate as we near Election Day and continue our efforts to both educate voters and influence legislation to discuss this policy and how it pertains to you. The LWVFA's nonpartisan policy states in part: "The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues. The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan in that it does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. However, it does take action on public issues based on positions reached by member agreement."

As a League member you are encouraged to support League positions, but you should never represent yourself as speaking for the League. You write, e-mail, telephone, speak etc. for yourself as an individual. However, League members who are approved by the LWVFA board as a representative of the League on boards, commissions, etc. do represent the League and should be fully aware of relevant League positions.

Board members' activities must be limited to preserve the League's nonpartisan position. Only to the extent that the public and its elected officials are convinced of the League's genuine non-partisanship will the League be able to render effective voters services and gain a wide base of support for its positions on government issues."

"All members are expected to keep their League activity and their political activity, partisan and nonpartisan, completely separate and distinct. For example, at League sponsored activities and meetings, members may not discuss partisan political matters; distribute partisan information or petitions, or display campaign buttons or insignia for a candidate or a political party. They should not display League bumper stickers or signs along side those for partisan political candidates."

This policy prohibits board members from running for elective office, from holding an official position in any organization that endorses candidates, from raising funds for political campaigns, or working in any conspicuous way

on a candidate's campaign. It also prohibits the LWVFA from electing or appointing to the board "any member who has, within the prior six-month period, held or run for an elective political office."

Members holding board or off-board positions and who "regularly testify for or represent the League publicly shall not participate in any political campaign or political party. They may attend informational political meetings and campaign party events in a non-leadership capacity; make financial contributions in an inconspicuous way; perform administrative or clerical work in a campaign office; attend nominating meetings in the absence of primaries; and serve as an election official.

"Other board members may participate in political activity only if it is done in an inconspicuous manner that would not cause them to be identified publicly as supporting any candidate for public office or any political party." Spouses and relatives of board members are not precluded from political activity.

Do you shop at Office Depot but don't have your own "Worklife Reward" account? If so, you can help LWVFA earn credits (to help pay for its office supplies) by giving the LWVFA office telephone number as the "Worklife Reward account number" when you make purchases at Office Depot. Just tell them to credit 703-658-9150. Thank you for your support!

LWVFA Bulletin 2007

This newsletter is published 10 times from September to June each year by:

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area
4026 Hummer Road, Suite 214
Annandale, VA 22003-2403
703-658-9150 (Info/fax/answering machine)
www.fairfax.org lwvfa@ecoisp.com

Acting President: Mary Grace Lintz 703-573-3149
mary.lintz@cox.net

Editor: Ron Page 703-690-0908
pagegolfer@cox.net

Bulletin Coord: Sherry Zachry 703-730-8118
szachry@verizon.net

Subscriptions to the *Bulletin* 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

LWVUS Immigration Study – Part II

Consensus Questions on Immigration

Part II of the LWVUS Immigration Study consists of the following consensus questions 2, 4 and 6. (Questions 1, 3 and 5 were discussed in October). The individual suggestions in Questions 2 and 4 will be rated: high priority, low priority, disagree, no consensus.

2: Unauthorized immigrants currently in the U.S. should be treated as follows:

- a. Deport unauthorized immigrants
 - b. Some deported/some allowed to earn legal adjustment of status based on length of residence in the U.S.
 - c. Some deported/some allowed to earn legal adjustment of status based on needs of U.S. employers
 - d. All allowed to earn legal adjustment of status by doing things such as paying taxes, learning English, studying civics, etc.
 - e. If deported, assess fines before possible re-entry
 - f. Assess fines before allowed to earn legal adjustment of status.
- i. Physical barriers (such as fences) and surveillance at borders
 - ii. Increased personnel at land, air and sea entry points
 - iii. More effective tracking of persons with non-immigrant visas until they leave the country
 - iv. Verification documents, such as green cards, and work permits with secure identifiers
 - v. Improved technology to facilitate employer verification of employee visa status
 - vi. Improved technology for sharing information among Federal agencies
 - vii. A program to allow immigrant workers to go in and out of the U.S. to meet seasonal and sporadic labor needs
 - viii. Significant fines proportionate to revenue for employers who fail to take adequate steps to verify work authorization of employees

4: a. In order to deal more effectively with unauthorized immigrants, Federal immigration law should include: Social Security Card or some other national identification card with secure identifiers for *all* persons residing the U.S.

4: b. Federal immigration law dealing with unauthorized immigrants should be enforced by including:

6: Federal immigration law should be coordinated with U.S. foreign policy to proactively help improve economies, education and job opportunities and living conditions of nations with large emigrating populations.

“Reaching New Heights Together”

LWVUS Convention 2008

June 13-17, 2008 - Portland, Oregon

Background Information on LWVUS Immigration Study - Part II

The following two articles from the LWVUS Website offer background information to help answer consensus questions 2, 4, and 6 below.

Article I . . .

Federal Immigration Policy: Enforcement Issues

By Barbara Margerum

Barbara Margerum, LWV of Santa Barbara, CA, is an adjunct member of the LWVUS Immigration Committee.

Legislation

In the late 1970s, border control received growing attention after the United States terminated the U.S.-Mexico *bracero* program and implemented per-country limits on legal immigration. Following a decade of debate, the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) was passed in 1986 and greatly increased Border Patrol funding. In 1988, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) enforcement budget benefited from the War on Drugs and the Anti-Drug Abuse Act; once IRCA-related budget increases declined this was the only discretionary funding the INS received.

Beginning with the Immigration Act of 1990, legislation increasingly focused on illegal immigration and border enforcement issues. In the 1990s, the INS initiated a series of strategies designed to stop immigrants from illegally crossing the U.S. southern border – “Operation Hold the Line” in the El Paso, TX, area and “Operation Gatekeeper” in California.

Also, in the '90s several events involving immigrants and national security increased concern about illegal immigration – the bombing of the World Trade Center led by a Kuwaiti who had entered with a false Iraqi passport, the shooting at CIA headquarters by a Pakistani who had entered the U.S. illegally, and the issuance of a visa to enter the U.S. to someone whose name was on a watch list of suspected terrorists.

Signaling broad bipartisan support for aggressive border enforcement, Congress passed the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) in 1996. IIRIRA included provisions to “increase by not less than 1,000” the number of full-time active-duty Border Patrol agents for each of the next five years for use in areas with the most illegal crossings. IIRIRA also authorized

additional barriers and funds for expansion of an existing automated fingerprint system, IDENT.

As part of IIRIRA, Congress, defining enforcement more broadly to reflect the need to cover air and land ports of entry, mandated a system for tracking entries and exits of students and foreign-born visitors be fully operational by 2003. IIRIRA also allowed local law enforcement agencies to train and deputize their officers for immigration enforcement. Eight such federal-local agreements currently exist, and 30 more agreements are in the works.

After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the U.S., public and political attention on border enforcement intensified, and immigration functions were perceived as a key element of national security. Congress quickly passed legislation to address security gaps, notably the United and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act (U.S.A. PATRIOT Act). Other laws focused on enacting 9/11 Commission recommendations. In short, all of the laws required greater information sharing at all levels of government and took steps to bring visa issuance and documentation requirements at home and abroad under tighter control. They also mandated the inclusion of biometric technology and tamper-resistant machine-readable entry-exit documents.

In 2003, the INS was abolished and its functions transferred into the newly created Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This change required merging employees from 22 different agencies.

In 2006, Congress passed the Secure Fence Act, with the primary purpose of building 700 miles of new fencing and enhancing the technology to make the U.S.-Mexico border more secure. The cost of building the fence is estimated at \$9 billion (about \$2.5 billion more than the total budget of U.S. Customs and Border Protection in FY 2005). Questions regarding land acquisition costs and environmental impacts are still being debated.

Workplace Enforcement/Employer Sanctions

The 1986 IRCA was the first legislative attempt to comprehensively address the issue of unauthorized immigration. The employer sanctions in the Act represent considerable compromise and a balance between strong enforcement at the workplace and the rights of employers

and workers.

IRCA's provisions make the following activities illegal:

- knowingly hiring persons not authorized to work in the U.S.
- continued employment of persons not authorized to work (those employed prior to IRCA's enactment are not subject to these restrictions)
- hiring individuals without verifying or correctly documenting their identity and eligibility to work legally in the U.S.

However, by any measure, employer sanctions have not been effective. Although most employers consistently and technically comply with the law by requiring necessary documentation, unauthorized immigrants with falsified identification papers are being employed in increasing numbers. The tug of war between groups demanding strict enforcement of immigration laws and labor-intensive industries with their need for a large labor pool remains unresolved.

To comply with the law, employers must maintain a record (I-9 form) demonstrating they have asked for and examined specified documents. Meanwhile, employees have the right to select the identification documents, and, unless the documents appear to be forged, employers must accept them. Employers must also verify Social Security numbers with the Social Security Administration – a process that can take months.

Thus, employers are unable to verify quickly and reliably the authenticity of workers' identity documents. While a federal online system, Basic Pilot, is available for employer use to verify job-seekers' documents through a federal database, questioning the documents or asking for further documentation could lead to discrimination charges. The result is that roughly half of all unauthorized workers are hired by employers who fully comply with I-9 requirements.

The ineffectiveness of the current system was illustrated very publicly when six Swift and Company meatpacking plants were raided by immigration agents in mid-December 2006. This highly publicized action involved more than 1,000 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents with warrants to search for illegal immigrants. According to Swift spokespersons, the company has participated since 1997 in the Basic Pilot federal online system. However, the company said that they have been careful not to inquire too deeply into job applicants "paper work" because in 2001

they were sued by the Justice Department for what was charged as discrimination against immigrant workers. The federal government sought \$2.5 million, but settled for \$200,000. This, according to the Justice Department, was the largest employment discrimination case based on immigration status in history ^{1/}.

As of 2006, only 3,624 employers are registered with Basic Pilot. That is less than one-twentieth of 1 per cent of the total numbers of employers in the U.S. ^{2/} ICE efforts to get employers to join a new program, IMAGE, which calls for employers to voluntarily hand over all of their workers' documents, has met with skepticism and very little enrollment.

The current system has spawned a burgeoning false document industry, subverting the law's documentation requirement. In addition, according to the Migration Policy Institute, employer sanctions have not been aggressively and systematically enforced and few prosecutions of violations have been carried out successfully. Between 1991 and 2003, an average of fewer than 5,000 employer investigations were completed per year, targeting less than one-tenth of 1 percent of U.S. worksites. Only 10 percent of these cases led to final orders to fine, and an average of just \$2.2 million in fines were collected (1991-1999). Between 2000 and 2003 the number fell to fewer than 2,200 cases per year, less than 3 percent of its case activity. Only three notices of intent to fine were issued. ^{3/}

In 2006, the federal government arrested 716 individuals for employing illegal immigrants compared to 25 arrested in 2002. Some argue that the cost savings from employing illegal labor can often outweigh any fine imposed on employers for non-compliance.

Total immigration enforcement spending increased fivefold between 1985 and 2002 – from \$1 billion to almost \$5 billion. During this period, the southwest border consistently received the largest share of that funding, with interior investigations lagging far behind. ^{4/} Spending on interior investigations increasingly lagged behind spending on border enforcement and detentions during the 1990s. After the 9/11 attacks, the INS shifted its focus to terror prevention. Less than 10 percent of immigration enforcement spending was dedicated to interior investigations of any kind in 2002, and only 2 percent of these interior investigations targeted employers. This shift in focus was formalized in 2003 when responsibility for interior investigations passed to the ICE division within the DHS.

Since the DHS took over most of the immigration duties, funding increases have largely gone to border enforcement, the only component of immigration funding that consistently wins bipartisan political support.

While most agree that a serious overhaul of the system is needed, the problem is compounded by the huge number of unauthorized immigrant workers currently employed. Many argue that elimination of this significant portion of the workforce could seriously impact this country's economy.

Border Enforcement

Construction of San Diego's triple fencing in 1993-94 resulted in a drop of undocumented immigrant apprehensions in that sector from 450,152 in FY 1994 to 100,000 in FY 2002. ^{5/} However, during the same period, Tucson sector's apprehensions soared 342 percent, making the Tucson sector the most popular crossing point for migrants along the entire border. (See Figure 1, Manning the Border.)

Border Patrol funding and staffing increases between 1986 and 1990 grew by 40 percent, and the focus on drug enforcement helped supplement the INS enforcement budget once the IRCA budget increases declined. In the two decades since passage of IRCA, the Border Patrol's budget has grown more than 500 percent and its personnel over 200 percent. Despite these increases, it is estimated that 10.3 million unauthorized immigrants now live in the United States, with annual inflows averaging well over half

a million a year and perhaps as high as 600,000-700,000 per year.

For many years, the Border Patrol has persuaded hundreds of thousands of undocumented Mexican citizens caught crossing the border to return voluntarily to Mexico. But the majority of non-Mexican immigrants also caught crossing the border are released and ordered to appear in court at a future date – a practice known as “catch and release.” According to a report in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, the detention system has been taxed by a rising number of border crossers from countries other than Mexico. The number of non-Mexicans caught by the Border Patrol has more than doubled in one year from FY 2004 to FY 2005. Immigration officials maintain that if they do not release most non-Mexican immigrants with a notice to appear in court, the only alternative is to detain tens of thousands of them in a time-consuming deportation process - a difficult process compounded by a drastic shortage of detention space. However, “Catch and release” is not particularly effective; as the chart below indicates, few show up in court. (See Figure 2, Catch and Release.)

The majority of non-Mexican immigrants caught trying to enter the United States illegally are released and given notice to appear in court because there isn't room to hold them. Few of those who are released show up in court. *Fiscal year 2005 (Oct 1, 2004 to Sept. 30, 2005)*

<u>Sector (state)</u>	<u>Non-Mexican Apprehended</u>	<u>Released for lack of of bed space</u>	<u>% released for lack of of bed space</u>
San Diego	1,961	272	14%
El Centro	952	134	14%
Yuma (Ariz.)	1,670	73	4%
Tucson (Ariz.)	12,665	460	4%
El Paso (Texas)	4,89	2,8079	57%
Marfa (Texas)	968	400	41%
Del Rio (Texas)	31,235	27,730	89%
Laredo (Texas)	20,790	7,315	35%
McAllen (Texas)	79,859	71,663	90%

Figure 2 - Catch and Release

Undocumented immigrants face increased dangers and costs in order to cross the border, which means that those who used to go back and forth across the border, now stay longer. Fencing and increased Border Patrol activity may be keeping more unauthorized immigrants in the country than keeping them out. That fact, plus an undiminished flow across the border, has resulted in a rising undocumented population in the U.S. See Figure 3,

The Southern U.S. border is divided into nine Border Patrol Sectors. The Tucson sector has the largest number of personnel and the most apprehensions last year.

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Current Personnel</u>	<u>2005 Apprehensions</u>
San Diego	1,541	126,908
El Centro	673	55,726
Yuma	625	138,436
Tucson	2,375	439,064
El Paso	1,368	122,684
Marfa	221	10,536
Del Rio	907	68,510
Laredo	942	75,355
Rio Grande	1,406	134,188

Figure 1 - Manning the Border

Percentage of Immigrants Returning to Mexico Within One Year, 1992-2000. 8/

The increase in border enforcement has resulted in higher death rates for immigrants attempting to cross the border. See Figure 4, Reported Migrant Death. 9/ Increased Border Patrol staffing/funding on the U.S.-Mexico border and the increased probability of apprehension has made the

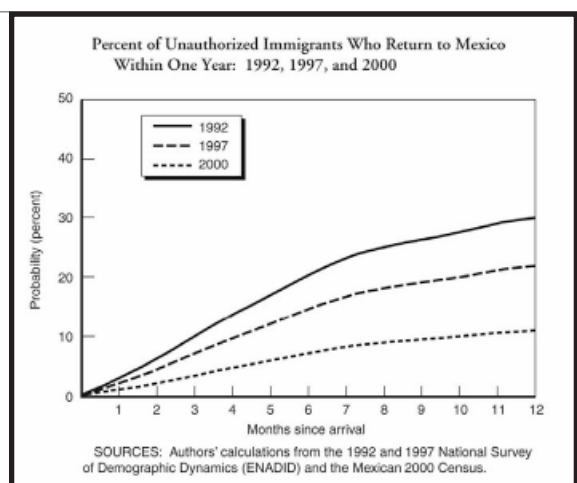


Figure 3 - Percentage of Immigrants Returning to Mexico Within One Year, 1992-2000

smuggler (coyote) a powerful and increasingly costly alternative for illegal immigrants trying to enter the U.S.

Visas and Entry-Exit Monitoring

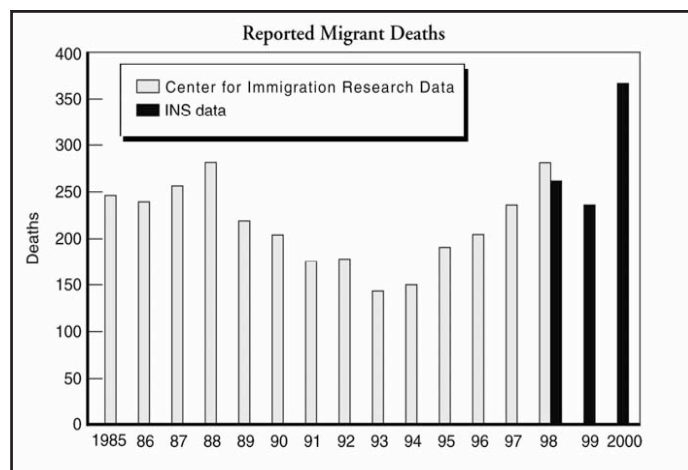


Figure 4 - Reported Migrant Deaths

A significant proportion of the unauthorized population enters the country legally, but then they overstay their visas and become illegal. Because several of the 9/11 terrorists were in the country with expired visas, tracking visitors has become increasingly important. According to a *New York Times* article about a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, nearly 30 percent of all illegal immigrants are believed to have overstayed their visas. DHS officials concede that they lack the funding and technology to meet their deadline to have exit-monitoring systems at the 50 busiest crossings by December 2007; this means that officials will continue to be unable to track exits. The GAO also announced that the screening technology called for in the 1996 legislation, known as US-VISIT, has proven prohibitively expensive and would take five to ten years to develop. In January 2004, domestic security officials began fingerprint screening of arriving visitors. They have screened more than 64 million travelers and prevented more than 1,300 criminals and immigration violators from entering. But, as the *New York Times* reports, the efforts to determine whether visitors leave have faltered. 10/

Conclusion

Despite a 500 percent growth in the Border Patrol's budget since the passage of IRCA more than 20 years ago, border control improvements have been sporadic at best. A significant body of scholarly work concludes that border control has not been successful. 11/ In addition, a Migration Policy Institute publication states that, "one of the primary problems is the lack of metrics to measure such deterrence." 12/

The GAO (then the General Accounting Office) issued a report one month prior to the 9/11 attacks noting that "the extent to which INS's border control efforts may have affected overall illegal entry along the Southwest border remains unclear." 13/

Current border control programs that attempt to deal simultaneously with protection against terrorists, apprehension of criminals, and the illegal entry of people and goods using a single approach may not be effective or efficient.

1/ Preston, Juli. "U.S. Raids 6 Meat Plants in ID Case," *New York Times*. December 13, 2006.

2/ Basic Pilot program SAVE/USCIS/DHS Washington, D.C. as of 6/7/2005

3/ Migration Policy Institute. "Immigration Enforcement at the Worksite: Making it Work," MPI Policy Brief, No. 6, November 2005.

4/ Dixon, David and Julia Gelatt, "Immigration Enforcement Spending Since IRCA," Migration Policy Institute, Task Force Fact Sheet No. 10, November 2005.

5/ Blas Nunez-Neto and Stephen Vina, "Border Security: Fences Along the U.S. International Border," CRS Report to Congress (13 January 2005)

6/ Passel, Jeffery, "Unauthorized Migrants: Numbers and Characteristics," Background Briefing for the Independent Task Force on Immigration and America's Future, Pew Hispanic Center, 2005.

7/ Bernstein, Leslie. "Immigration Detention System Strained," *San Diego Union-Tribune*. November 30, 2005.

8/ Public Policy Institute of California, Research Brief, *Holding the Line? The Effect of Recent Border Build-up on Unauthorized Immigration*, Issue #61, July 2002

9/ *Holding the Line? The Effect of Recent Border Build-up on Unauthorized Immigration*, Issue#61, July 2002

10/ Swarms, Rachel L., and Eric Lipton. "U.S. is Dropping Effort to Track if Visitors Leave." *The New York Times*. December 15, 2006.

11/ Cornelius, Wayne A., *Death at the Border*, (681-685); Peter Andreas, *Escalation of U. S. Immigration Control*, 589, 606; Belinda I.Reyes, Hans P. Johnson and Richard Van Swearingen, Public Policy Institute of California, Research Brief, *Holding the Line? The Effect of Recent Border Build-Up on Unauthorized Immigration*.

12/ Migration Policy Institute. *US Border Enforcement: From Horseback to High-Tech*. November 2005

13/ General Accounting Office, *INS' Southwest Border Strategy*. August, 2002

Article 2 . . .

Effects of Global Interdependence on Migration

By Dorrit Marks

Dorrit Marks, LWV of Miami-Dade County, FL, is a member of the Immigration Study Committee.

According to a National Intelligence Estimate, globalization is stimulating migration, and this growing movement of people has implications for the United States. Expanding international trade, finance, investment and information flows tend to accentuate economic insecurity and migration pressures. The Mexican peso crisis of 1995, for example, contributed to a surge in illegal immigration to the United States.

Migration pressures on the United States and within the Americas region is expected to continue to rise in the next decade. The report finds that despite strong economic prospects in Mexico, disparities in living standards, the increased demand for labor in the U.S., and immigration rules regarding family ties will sustain Mexico as the single largest source of authorized and unauthorized immigration to the United States. Central America will remain the second-largest source of unauthorized immigrants and a change in the government of Cuba or deterioration of the political, human rights or economic situation in Haiti could lead again to mass emigration to the U.S. from these countries. 1/

Immigration Demographics

Immigrants are generally young and mobile. They go where there is work. Tamar Jacoby says immigrants create a just-in-time delivery of workers to places where they are most

needed. Immigrants communicate with their compatriots still at home, letting them know that the job market is flat in one area and booming in another. 2/ Refugee resettlement in the U.S. reflects a new trend of resettlement in smaller cities such as Utica, NY, or mid-sized metropolitan areas such as Des Moines, IA, or Spokane, WA. Previously, popular urban locations included major cities such as New York City with its large foreign-born population. 3/

Remittances

The flow of remittances (the transfer of money by foreign workers to their families and communities in their home countries) from the United States has reached record amounts and represents a major source of income for millions of individuals and communities. Latin American households receive \$60 billion annually from remittances worldwide. This is more than these countries receive in aid from the United States and from institutions such as the World Bank, according to an Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) study.

California topped all states with \$13.2 billion in remittances, followed by Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey and Georgia—all states with large Hispanic populations. However, the greatest percentage increases in remittances are found in other states, including Iowa and Arkansas. None of the 13 states registering more than 100 percent growth rates in remittances in 2006 were among the "big" seven. 4/

The money foreign-born workers send home is mainly used to cover basic necessities. In Oaxaca, Mexico, only about 8 percent of remittances were spent on business start-ups or investments. The rest went to daily and household expenses. Besides helping the families back home, there is evidence that remittances also have a positive impact on the development and welfare of countries receiving the funds. Remitted funds help offset the negative effects of trade deficits where imports exceed exports. Remittances also help finance and improve access to education and health care for families in the home countries of immigrants.

Remittances are used for investment and to alleviate poverty. A larger share of the remittance money is being used for investment purposes in some developing countries such as Guatemala. In urban Mexico, remittances from the U.S. were the source of almost one-fifth of capital invested in micro-enterprises. 5/ According to IDB estimates, Mexico will receive remittances totaling more than \$24 billion in 2006. 6/ Remittances represent the second largest source of foreign earnings for the country after receipts from oil exports. 7/

In addition to these indications that remittances enhance growth and reduce poverty, there are negative consequences, particularly the dependence remittances create by permitting family members to reduce their work effort, that some studies point out. ^{8/}

Unintended Effect of U.S. Policies

U.S. policies have inadvertently increased unauthorized immigration. For example, U.S. farm subsidies, an important part of U.S. agriculture policy, have resulted in unexpected consequences. In the U.S., corn, cotton, wheat, rice and soy beans receive billions of dollars in government subsidies. Such subsidies allow U.S. farmers to sell corn, for instance, at prices below cost. Corn is the centerpiece of the Mexican diet, and, according to Oxfam, the Mexican corn sector is in acute crisis because of subsidized low-cost corn imports from the U.S. Millions of Mexicans, unable to make a living in Mexico, are emigrating to escape rural poverty.^{9/}

NAFTA tariff reductions have opened the Mexican market to corn imports from the U.S. and Canada, and local Mexican farmers are unable to compete. American corn prices in Mexico are 15 to 20 percent lower than the cost to produce corn in the U.S., displacing nearly a million farmers in the Mexican market since NAFTA went into effect in 1994. ^{10/} Large Mexican corn purchasers buy U.S. corn not only because of the lower price of corn but also because buyers that contract with U.S. exporters have access to loans through the U.S. Commodity Credit Corporation at 7 percent for 3 years as opposed to the high 25 to 30 percent interest rates they pay to Mexican lenders. ^{11/} The situation is only expected to worsen in 2008 when Mexico is required to comply with a NAFTA deadline to totally eliminate its corn and bean import tariffs.

On the positive side, cheaper corn lowers the price Mexican consumers pay for tortillas and to feed their cows. And, in the U.S., corn prices may rise because of the role of corn in ethanol production as an alternative fuel for automobiles.

NAFTA

Because of NAFTA, trade is now 55 percent of Mexico's gross domestic product compared to 30 percent in 1990. Foreign investment is up by more than 225 percent since 1994.

Despite these positive effects, there are economic problems in Mexico. According to an article in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, "Real wages for most Mexicans are lower than when NAFTA took effect. And Mexican wages are diverging

from rather than converging with U.S. wages, despite the fact that Mexican worker productivity has increased dramatically." ^{12/}

NAFTA has caused Mexico to become an export-dependent economy to Mexico's detriment. Component parts are imported, processed and assembled for re-export without enough value-added to greatly benefit the Mexican economy.

Mexico's Labor Market

Many new working-age people entering the job market in developing countries will fail to find work and some will decide to emigrate. Mexico, for example, has a new job creation rate of 700,000, while the number of new workers entering the Mexican market is nearly one million annually. ^{13/} Mexico also has a brain drain - nearly a third of all Mexicans with advanced degrees leave Mexico for the United States. Emigration has become a substitute for the lack of opportunities in Mexico.

There are some positive developments: The Mexican government is funding the Mexican Talent Network, a nonprofit organization to help engineers and technology professionals find opportunities and contacts abroad while keeping their ties with Mexico. A Mexican manufacturer of microscopes, a recent beneficiary, received assistance in making contacts to help tap the U.S. pharmaceutical market. ^{14/} The newly-elected president of Mexico, Felipe Calderon, plans to create an investment climate in Mexico that will attract U.S. investment. He is focusing on improving labor competitiveness and creating jobs in Mexico. Immigration will not be a key issue for him in Mexico's relations with the U.S. ^{15/}

Robert Pastor concludes that narrowing the income gap between Mexico, the U.S. and Canada is the only way to stop the flow of migrants. He supports the North American Investment Fund funded by Mexico, the U.S. and Canada, and sponsored by Senator John Cornyn (R-TX). The North American Investment Fund would be used to build highways, roads and broadband internet lines in southern Mexico, thereby connecting the south to North America. The effort would not stop illegal immigration, but is projected to double Mexico's growth rate and reduce the income gap with the United States by 20 percent in a decade. Andres Oppenheimer believes this investment would be a more effective way to stem unauthorized immigration than investing in a fence. ^{16/}

Competition for Graduate Students and High-Skilled Workers

Global competition to attract foreign graduate students to universities is growing. In 1989, American universities awarded twice the number of PhDs granted by Asian countries. By 2001, the gap had closed. The U.S. is losing its dominance in attracting the most talented students to higher education and faces more competition for the highly skilled to fill U.S. jobs. ^{17/}

The share of international students studying in the U.S has fallen, while Australia, Japan, New Zealand and some European countries have seen a large growth of international students entering higher education programs in their countries. To combat this decline the U.S. may need to revisit stringent entry provisions stemming from U.S. security concerns.

Globalization increases the demand for high-tech and other professional workers. Developed countries will continue to compete in order to fuel their information technology and strategic sectors. High-tech workers and entrepreneurs will emigrate from countries such as India, East Asia, and Russia, provided immigration laws are sufficiently flexible to allow them easy entry. ^{18/} Immigration policy affecting high-skilled workers becomes increasingly important as the competition for high-skilled labor increases around the world. Ease of employment-linked permanent residence is a factor that can facilitate or deter immigration to the U.S.

Foreign Born Professionals

In the U.S., discussions about the immigration of scientists and engineers focus primarily on the extent to which foreign-born professionals displace native workers. These high-tech immigrants, however, affect more than labor supply and wages. In today's global economy, foreign-born engineers start new businesses and generate jobs and wealth at least as fast as their U.S. counterparts.

While the main economic ties between immigrants and their home countries in the past were the remittances sent to families left behind, today more and more skilled U.S. immigrants eventually return home. Those professionals who remain in America often become part of transnational communities that link the United States to other economies.

The new immigrant entrepreneurs foster economic development directly by creating new jobs and wealth, as well as indirectly by coordinating information flows and providing linguistic and cultural know-how that promote trade and investment with their home countries. The

economic contributions of high-skilled immigrants enhance trade and investment flows. Indications are that a 1 percent increase in the number of first-generation immigrants from a given country translates into a nearly 0.5 percent increase in exports to that country. ^{19/}

An effective overhaul of the U.S. immigration system must address the global integration of labor markets. According to Tamar Jacoby, immigrant influx is the product of changing U.S. demographics, global development and increasingly easy international communications. ^{20/} U.S. immigration policy debate is usually considered a domestic issue, but its consequences have important implications for other countries as well.

Illegal migration is a regional issue. Nearly 80 percent of the unauthorized population in the United States comes from Latin America, primarily from Mexico and Central America. "The goal should be to shift economic integration into a healthier pattern, moving away from the mutually reinforcing dependencies on remittances and cheap labor to a system of regulated labor flows and economic interdependence. Remittances to migrant countries of origin, emigration, or current foreign assistance programs are not likely to sufficiently develop regional economies to have the necessary broad-based impact to mitigate the root causes of migration." ^{21/}

Conclusions

Pressures to emigrate from developing countries will remain intense, fueled by poverty, lack of jobs, population growth and political instability. At the same time, globalization will increase access to information about lifestyles and opportunities in industrialized countries. ^{22/} The global integration of the labor market for both highly skilled and unskilled workers is also a continuing trend. Immigration laws and policies should take these realities into account, along with the effect of other laws and policies such as farm subsidies and NAFTA.

^{1/} "Growing Global Migration and Its Implications for the United States," National Intelligence Estimate, unclassified, NIE 200-1-02D, March 2001, pp. 4, 23, 29, 33.

^{2/} Tamar Jacoby, "Immigrant Nation" Foreign Affairs, November/December 2006.

^{3/} Audrey Sirger and Jill Wikson, "From 'There' to 'Here': Refugee Resettlement in Metropolitan America," The Brookings Institution, September 2006, pp. 8-11.

^{4/} "Migrants are sending more cash back home," The Miami Herald, October 19, 2006, p. 1, 22A.

^{5/} Dovelyn Rannveig Aquinas, "Remittances and Development--Trends, Impacts, and Policy Options," Migration Policy Institute, September 14, 2006, pp. 23, 25, and 26.

^{6/} "Time to wake up--A survey of Mexico," The Economist, November 18, 2006, p. 7.

- 7/ Doris Meisner et. al., *Immigration and America's Future: A New Chapter*, (Migration Policy Institute, 2006), p. 87.
- 8/ Agurias, "Remittances and Development--Trends, Impacts, and Policy Options," pp. 31 and 34.
- 9/ "Dumping Without Borders--How US Agricultural Policies are Destroying the Livelihoods of Mexican Corn Farmers," Executive Summary, Ocfam, Briefing Paper 50, August 27, 2003.
- 10/ Sara Miller Liana, "Battle escalates over cheap U.S. corn popping into Mexico," USA Today, August 8, 2006.
- 11/ Organic Consumers Association, "NAFTA: Truth and Consequences on Corn Dumping," www.organicconsumers.org/April, 5, 2004
- 12/ David Morris, "NAFTA helped increase flow of illegal immigrants," Minneapolis Star Tribune, May 7, 2006.
- 13/ "Growing Global Migration and Its Implications for the United states," p. 14.
- 14/ "Mexico creates networks for high-tech pros," The Miami Herald, December 6, 2006, p.2C.
- 15/ "Calderon saca a los ilegales de su agenda," El Nuevo Herald, December

4, 2006, 1B.

16/ Robert Pastor, "Concentrate on development," Miami Herald, December 6, 2006. Anders Oppenheimer, "How to make a better use of \$37 billion border fence fund," The Miami Herald, November 23, 2006, p. 11A.

17/ Neeraj Kaushal, Michael Fix, "The Contributions of High-Skilled Immigrants," Mitigation Policy Institute, (MPI) study No. 16, July 2006, pp. 1, 2, 16.

18/ "Growing Global Migration and Its Implications for the United States," p. 23.

19/ AnnaLee Saxenian, "Brain Circulation: How High-Skilled Immigration Makes Everyone Better Off," Brookings Institute Review, Winter, 2002, No. 1. pp. 28-31.

20/ Jacoby, "Immigrant Nation."

21/ Meissner, *Immigration and America's Future*, pp. 87-88.

22/ *Growing Global Migration and Its Implications for the United States*, pp.13-14.

Oct. Bulletin Errata . . .

In our October Bulletin, Page 12, second column, part of the last paragraph was missing several lines. Here is that portion of the paragraph in full. The mission words are in gray.

"To assess the relative merits of the two arguments, one should consider the expected impact of the projected demographic changes that will result from the ever-slowng growth of the native-born work force. The business community, long the chief supporters of immigration, argues that there is no reason to forfeit immigrant-driven economic **expansion and the concomitant improved standard of living that benefits all Americans. They say that whether the nation benefits a great deal or just modestly from the presence of newcomers, new immigrants make life in the United States better**— not just with the work they do, but because they renew and reinvigorate the country's spirit with their energy, hard work and old-fashioned values."

Please accept our apologies for this error.

Justice Committee Plans Next Year's Emphasis

"A meeting of the Justice Committee has been scheduled for Friday, November 9th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, in the Packard Center in Annandale. The Committee will refocus its activities for this year, now that the 2007 Law Day Program has been completed. We will consider planning and putting together a forum in the Spring on a theme involving immigration and the local courts. Your suggestions for other action-oriented activities are welcome. Please contact Judy Leader, Chair, Justice Committee, at 703/524-0991 or jleader@cox.net, after October 26th., for information or with agenda items."

Domestic Violence Services to Be Consolidated Under Office For Women

By Barbara Nunes, Chair,
Domestic Violence Committee

Fairfax County is proposing a realignment of Domestic Violence (DV) services. The Office for Women (OFW) will be designated as the focal point for direct and contract operated residential and non-residential Domestic Violence (DV) services provided by Fairfax County Human Services.

All the DV services, such as Victim Assistance Network (VAN) and Anger and Domestic Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT), currently under the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) will be transferred to the OFW. These changes will be reflected in the County Executive FY2009 Advertised Budget. The actual operational transfer will be implemented as soon as possible but no later than July 1, 2008.

The Deputy County Executive for Human Services and Human Services Leadership Team have recommended these changes to (1) strength and enhance services, (2) better align services with the system-wide process design and best practices work, and (3) integrate and coordinate these services with those operated by the county's Police Department, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Services, Domestic Violence related services provided to clients of the Department of Family Services as well as services available in the community.

No additional county staff positions are envisioned at this time. However new contractual operated services may be

See **Domestic Violence**, Page 12, Col. 2

School Superintendent Dale Merges Two Advisory Councils For More Efficiency

By Virginia Fitz Shea, LWVFA Representative on Superintendent's Advisory Council

Two advisory councils merged into a new Business and Community Advisory Council (BCAC) for the new school year. Superintendent Jack Dale said he had brought the same topics to both the Superintendent's Community Advisory Council and the Business-Industry Advisory Council in previous years. He concluded that a combined council would be equally effective in advising him on matters of concern to the community.

At a meeting held September 25, 1007, Dr. Dale said that Fairfax County Public Schools opened very smoothly, with no complaints about any lack of bus stops. After several years of basically flat enrollment, approximately 1,000 additional students enrolled this fall, an unexpected increase that was not predicted by the demographers. At the same time, the County is projecting that it will give the schools no increase in funds compared to last year. This could create a problem, Dr. Dale concluded.

Dr. Dale highlighted two major objectives the school board is wrestling with this year. The first is creating greater accountability for the school system, both for support functions and student achievement. The second major change is the board's engagement with stakeholders in the community. The school board seeks to gain perspectives

from all stakeholder groups. One of the new initiatives is the creation of a Community Leadership Council to advise the school board.

Dr. Dale also said he was creating a new organizational structure for community relations. The Office of Community Relations and the Office of Business and Industry Relations will be combined into one umbrella group: the Department of Communications and Community Outreach.

One of Dr. Dale's initiatives involves grouping the high schools into six consortia so that students can travel to another school within a given consortium to take a specialized class. He handed out a map and a chart listing the schools and the programs offered. The Consortia are designated by letter and are listed below:

- A) Falls Church, Langley, Marshall, McLean, Stuart, Pimmit Hills,* TJHSST*
- B) Annandale, Lee, W. Springfield, L. Braddock, and Edison
- C) Hayfield, Mt. Vernon, South County, W. Potomac, and Bryant*
- X) Oakton, Madison, Fairfax, Robinson, and Woodson
- Y) Centreville, South Lakes, Chantilly, Herndon, Westfield, and Mt. View*

*students must meet enrollment criteria.

Dr. Dale said the school system will use a geographic strategy for the future in looking at where career, technical, and magnet programs are offered.

School Bus Drivers Needed

New Hires Earn Bonus

By Therese Martin, Schools Study Chair

At the April LWVFA unit meetings where we discussed later start times for middle and high school students, we learned that the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) has a severe shortage of bus drivers. In beginning the interviews for this year's school positions update study, I discovered that even though FCPS has been able to eliminate some of the shortage by offering higher pay and benefits, they continue to have a shortage. Becoming a school bus driver might appeal to some retirees or somebody who needs extra income and benefits. The current hourly pay is \$16.57

and there is a \$500 signing bonus. If you know of anyone who might be interested, ask them to call: 571-423-3000. Help support the schools and the LWVFA schools positions!

Domestic Violence from Page 11

considered. The Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council has been working hard to iron out problems to make this change work. Look for funding in the next County budget.

The Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council is monitoring this change. If you would like input or more information, please contact me at 703-451-7238 or email me at bnunes@juno.com.

Voters Asked to Vote on Transportation Bonds

Fairfax County voters will be asked to vote YES or NO on a transportation bond question in the Nov. 6, 2007, general election. The question asks voters to allow the county to borrow up to \$110 million to fund the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation improvements. If the majority of voters approve the question, the county would be allowed to issue bonds to fund transportation projects, including roadway, pedestrian, bicycle and transit improvements.

Of the \$110 million, more than \$71 million would be spent on improving roads across the county. This includes \$8.5 million for improvements related to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's recommendations at the U.S. Army's Fort Belvoir and nearly \$8 million for spot transportation projects. Almost \$24 million would be used to improve Fairfax Connector bus and Metrorail facilities, as well as bus stops across the county. Finally, \$15 million would fund pedestrian improvements that will enhance safety and connect missing pedestrian links across the county.

The following are some pro and con arguments about financing capital projects through bond funding.

PRO

Some county residents feel that bond referendum are a vital part of the county's comprehensive approach to the problem of funding needed infrastructure and capital facilities and should be passed. Here are the arguments used by proponents of bond funding:

- * Bonding spreads the cost of major projects of general benefit to county residents over future years and ensures that both current and future residents and users share in the payment.

- * Spreading the cost of major projects permits the county to accomplish more projects sooner than other methods of financing.

- * Constructing the proposed transportation improvement projects from current general tax dollars cannot be accomplished without substantial cuts to current programs or increased revenues from taxes and fees.

- * Prudent use of long-term debt can be accomplished without having any adverse impact on the county or the tax rate.

CON

Some county residents feel that the issuing of general obligation bonds is neither justified nor a viable solution to the county's capital infrastructure and facility needs. Here are the arguments used by opponents:

- * Issuing general obligation bonds results in a long-term future obligation for the county that may create an unmanageable burden on future taxpayers. Pay-as-you-go financing would not create long-term debt.

- * Costs for infrastructure and facilities should be carried by those directly using or benefiting from them, not by all taxpayers.

- * These facilities could be fully or partially paid for out of the current revenues by cutting or eliminating other programs.

- * The funds currently spent on debt service could support a substantial pay-as-you-go program of capital construction adequate to meet the county's needs.

The LWVFA Supports This Referendum

School Board Offers Bond Referendum

On January 25, 2007 the School Board adopted the FY2008-2012 Capital Improvement Program that identified school facility needs for the coming five-year period. Voter authorization to issue school bonds is needed in November 2007 to provide funding for a portion of the construction, renovation, program support, and infrastructure management projects identified in the Capital Improvement Program.

Key Issues

The proposed referendum amount of \$365,200,000 includes \$65 million for new construction, \$160.8 million for renovation of existing buildings, \$18.5 million for program support, \$38.6 million to offset cost escalation of projects in previous bond referenda, \$29.8 million for infrastructure management projects and approximately \$2.5 million in bond sales costs. The recommended bond amount also includes \$50 million to fund a bus service facility. It should be noted that the debt service on this project will be paid by

See **School Board**, Page 14, Col. 1

School Board, from Page 13

the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and will not count against the School Board spending cap of \$155 million per year. Specific projects are outlined in the agenda item.

Pros:

- ◆ Projects can be built sooner if capital costs are borrowed, building sooner costs less than waiting
- ◆ Those living in the county and benefiting from the new facilities pay the costs of borrowing
- ◆ Projects are overdue/needed now
- ◆ Well planned, Meet criteria

Cons:

- ◆ Will increase the cost of the projects, as borrowing costs money
- ◆ Higher taxes than if projects never built/bonds not issued
- ◆ State should contribute to capital costs of public schools

The LWVFA Supports This Referendum

Part II

Public Health service on the Job Since 1872

By Bernice Colvard, Historian

A 1900 law decreed a local board of health in every city and county and gave the State Board authority over them. Funding is still shared (by formula since 1954) between the state and localities. Today, Virginia is unique in the Mid-Atlantic Region in requiring that local health directors be licensed physicians.

The development of modern local health departments was long, arduous, and uneven. In the first half of the 20th century, big cities, such as Richmond and Norfolk, seemed to fare better than the rural counties, including Fairfax. Many factors were involved as during WWI when physicians were needed in the military. For nine months of 1918, during the devastating flu epidemic, the only health worker in Fairfax was **Lena G. Townshend, R.N.**

A report from the **Fairfax County Lay Health Assoc.** outlines conditions in Fairfax County in 1945: There was a Health Officer, two nurses, four sanitarians and two clerks. It was attempting to provide health services for 75,000 people with personnel barely sufficient for 10,000. The most pressing problem was a severe shortage of public

See **Public Health**, Page 15, Col. 1

In The Spotlight . . .



**Jane Hilder,
Action Director**

“My mother-in-law gave me a League membership in 1977,” related Jane Hilder, and I have been an active member ever since.

While living in Williamstown, MA, Jane served on the local LWV board as a director for several years and also as president. Currently, as the Action Director, her job consists of keeping up with Federal, state, and local issues relating to the LWV positions. A Long Island, NY native, when she was seven, her family moved to Michigan.

Jane has a degree in psychology from Wellesley College, a MED in child studies from Tufts University, and a MA in psychology from George Mason University. Jane has held many jobs over the years including nutrition aid in GA, pre-school teacher in Iceland and VA, battered women’s counselor in MA, and school psychologist in Arlington, VA.

A member of the Mount Vernon Evening Unit, Jane loves retreating to her summer place on the Eastern Shore of Maryland where she spends a good deal of time sailing. As a new grandmother, she has quickly mastered, and delights in, the art of spoiling her grandson.

November Membership Report

Welcome to new members Beth Tudan (RE) and to Catherine and Norman Taylor. We’re glad to have you. Looking for a special and unique gift this holiday season? Want to give something that provides benefits all year long? Think about giving friends and family a gift membership in the League of Women Voters. Share the value of being part of one of our nation’s most trusted organizations with the special people on your gift list. New members will receive copies of the League’s national, state and local communications, including The National Voter, the LWVFA Bulletin, and League-Voice. Give someone you care about the chance to make a difference in their community by becoming a member of LWV. For more information about gift memberships, please contact Leslie Vandivere at LVandivere.cox.net or 703 222-4173.

This Month's Unit Meeting Locations – Topic: Immigration - Part II

Members and visitors may attend any meeting convenient for them. As of October 1, 2007 locations were correct; *please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend.* Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations

Monday, November 12

1:30 pm Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Classroom
Spring Village Drive, Springfield
Call Jane 703-569-0079

Tuesday, November 13

12:30 pm McLean (MCL)

McLean Community Center #2
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean
Call Judy, 703-524-0991
(Note: Day Changed to Tuesday)

7:45 pm Vienna Evening (VE)

9511 Rockport Road, Vienna
Call Anne 703-938-7304

Wednesday, November 14

9:30 am Fairfax Station (FXS)

7902 Bracksford Court
Fairfax Station
Call Lois 703-690-0908

9:30 am Mt Vernon Day (MVD)

Mt. Vernon District Gov. Center
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria
Call Gail, 703-360-6561
(Formerly Hollin Hills Day)

12:00 Noon Chantilly/Herndon (CHD)

Sully District Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd. Centreville
Call Janey 703-631-2293

6:15 pm Dinner Unit (DU)

Yen Cheng Restaurant
Main Street Center
9992 Main Street, Fairfax
Call Pier 703-256-1019

7:30 pm Reston Evening (RE)

Reston Museum
1639 Washington Plaza,
Lake Anne Village Center, Reston
Call Wendy, 703-319-4114

Thursday, November 15

9:00 am Reston Day (RD)

11020 Burywood Lane, Reston
Call Viveka, 703-404-0498

9:15 am Fairfax City Day (FXD)

3136 Singleton Circle, Fairfax
Call Jeanne 703-591-4580

9:30 am Springfield (SPF)

Packard Center (Lg. Conf. Rm)
4026 Hummer Rd, Annandale
Call Anita, 703-451-1048

7:45 pm Mt Vernon Eve. (MVE)

Mt Vernon District Gov't Ctr
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria
Contact JoAnn 703-768-3543
(Formerly Hollin Hills Evening)

December's Topic:

Program Planning - Local and National

Public Health, From Page 14 health nurses; 15 were needed. (By 1951 a Visiting Nurse program had been organized.)

There was no plumbing or housing code, no dump or incinerator (refuse disposal was becoming a problem). Building permits were issued without Health Dept. approval for sanitation facilities; restaurant and septic tank inspection and water supply testing were inadequate. Water and sewage were becoming increasing problems [wells were beginning to fail]. The

lack of hospital facilities for the care of communicable diseases was a hazard, especially for cases of tuberculosis (TB) - 124 cases, un-hospitalized, were identified. A building to house the Health Center and allow for expansion was needed.

Insufficient funding at the state and local levels was a perpetual problem. Proposed health center and sewer bonds in 1953 would be the precursors to many capital facility bond referenda to address serious needs.

(conclusion next month)

Source:

Staff report: "A Short History of the Fairfax County Lay Health Association 1945-1960" with a foreword by Harold Kennedy, M.D., Medical Director, Fairfax County Health Department, December 1960, FCPL Virginia Room, Rare Books.



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
4026 Hummer Road, Suite #214 Annandale, VA 22003-2403
703-658-9150. E-mail: lwvfa@ecoisp.com

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Woodbridge, VA
Permit No. 70

Time Sensitive Materials

**The LWVFA Bulletin ©
November, 2007**

**Mary Grace Lintz, Acting President
Ron Page, 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 citizen of voting age, male or female, may become a member.

LWVFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Dues year ends thru June 30th.)

Membership Category: Individual \$55 ____; Household (2 persons–1 Bulletin) \$75 ____; Advocate Member \$100 ____; Student \$27.50 ____ (Coll. Attending _____)

Membership is: New ____; Renewal ____; Reinstate ____; Subsidy Requested ____

We value membership. A subsidy fund is available, check block above and include whatever you can afford.

Dues are not tax deductible. Tax-deductible donations must be written on a separate check payable to **LWVFA Ed. Fund.**

Please Print Clearly!

Name _____ **Unit** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip + 4** _____

Phone (H) _____ **(W)** _____ **E-Mail** _____

Please mail your check and completed application to: LWVFA 4026 Hummer Rd. Suite 214, Annandale, VA 22003-2403

Thank you for checking off your interests:

<input type="checkbox"/> County Govt	<input type="checkbox"/> Voting Procedures	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Write in Below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Systems	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Problems	