



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE FAIRFAX AREA

# Fairfax VOTER

November 2012

Volume 64, Issue 3

## Online Teaching and Learning in Fairfax County Schools: Where Are We Now?

Ready or not, here comes online teaching and learning for Fairfax County Public School students. This month's article takes a look at what online learning, sometimes called "virtual learning" or "distance education," looks like. For most of our children, digital natives that they are, learning online probably does not seem the slightest bit uncomfortable. FCPS's Task Force on Virtual Learning issued a report this past April that lays out the advantages and proposed plans for expansion of online opportunities. Last year, students were introduced to a new development: an online social studies text book and, this year, math. We examine some of the wonders of online texts, but as you can imagine, there are some problems too. Thanks to some members of the schools committee having children in the "trenches," we are able to take an inside look at how this is working out. As usual, we treasure your responses.

### Calendar

#### November

- 2 LWNCA Board meeting
- 3 Last day to apply for Absentee Ballot in person
- 3 Briefing and At-Large meeting
- 4 Daylight Savings Time ends
- 5 *VOTER* deadline
- 5-6 FCPS holiday
- 6 **Election Day in VA**
- 8-14 Units – Virtual Learning in FCPS**
- 12 Veterans Day observed
- 13 Sequoyah Condo election
- 22 Thanksgiving
- 22-23 FCPS Holiday
- 28 Board meeting**

### Inside This Issue

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| Presidents' Message                                  | 2    |
| Community Election Help Needed                       | 2    |
| Money and Elections                                  | 3    |
| MacNamara Testifies on Restrictive Voting Laws       | 3    |
| League Voter Registration a Success                  | 4    |
| What's This Facebook Thing?                          | 4    |
| Officers Meet With Election Officials                | 4    |
| Proposed Constitutional Amendment on November Ballot | 4    |
| Online Teaching in Fairfax County Schools            | EF-1 |
| Unit Discussion Questions                            | EF-7 |
| Transportation Board to Hold Hearings                | EF-8 |
| Domestic Violence Statistics                         | EF-8 |
| What's on the Ballot                                 | 5    |
| Unit Meeting Locations                               | 7    |



## Presidents' Message



We've just finished two busy months. And thanks to your efforts, more people registered to vote in the Presidential election.

We have said in the past that people in our community appreciate what we do. Now we have proof. Local groups specifically invited our League to register voters at quite a few events. Because of our nonpartisan status, we were asked to set up a table at the Reston Multicultural Festival. There we witnessed a citizenship ceremony, after which we registered new citizens eager to vote. By special invitation, we also registered voters at the Arab American Dinner, Reston Hospital Center and the four Fairfax County Metro stations.

We also told you that candidates appreciate our part in getting their message to voters. Helen had confirmation of this at the Arab American dinner. When Senate candidate Tim Kaine stopped by her table and noticed her League pin, he said, "Great – the League of Women Voters. You guys and the AARP are sponsoring our debate."

We thank you for making all this possible. All your efforts show our community who we are and what we do. One goal for this year was to raise our visibility, and you played an essential part in helping us do that.

November is traditionally the start of the Holiday Season. This year, as of November 7, it also means the Super PACs will turn off the taps on the deluge of political advertising and the pundits will begin armchair quarterbacking the election. But at least they'll turn down the volume, to everyone's relief.

For us, November also means the end of a successful election season and the opportunity to relax with family and friends as we enjoy the holidays.

Thanks again for all your help during the 2012 election season. We couldn't have registered so many voters at so many events without you. We wish you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy!

*Julie and Helen*

## Community/Condo Elections Help Needed

Efforts to run community elections is vital to the League's budget and enable us to produce "What's on the Ballot" and "Facts for Voters." We need your help again and ask that you volunteer on:

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13**

Sequoyah Condominiums, evening, convenient to Mount Vernon units (near Route 1, Alexandria). We need 8 more volunteers; 2 have signed up so far. Please contact Rona Ackerman at 703-282-2262 to volunteer.

## How About This Fact . . .

An American voter living in India recently contacted LWVFA for ballot information. We were able to send information to help him--all thanks to our website access.

*Olga Hernandez, Voters Service Coordinator*

***Domestic Violence Hotline***  
***(703) 360-7273***

### LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2012 - 2013

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:

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

Co-Presidents: Julia Jones 703-476-8347  
dave.julie.jones@verizon.net  
Helen Kelly 703-437-3087  
hmkelly1@verizon.net  
Editor: Ron Page 703-690-0908  
pagegolfer@cox.net  
Coordinator: Liz Brooke 703-281-3380  
lizbrooke@cox.net

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

---

Unit Response Summary . . .

## Money and Elections: Super PAC Ads Not Factual

By: Karole McKalip, Program Co-chair

With the November election only weeks away, voters are being inundated with a media blitz on candidates and issues. September's *VOTER* article on Money and Elections was intended to clarify the financial whys and hows of this campaign and provide our members with some background and, hopefully, understanding of this year's race. Why is so much money flowing into the run-up to the election and who are some of the key players behind this flow? As James Bennet notes in his article, "The New Price of American Politics" in the October issue of the *Atlantic*, "In 2010, the first election year for super PACs, a total of 84 of these groups spent \$65 million, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. As of August 23 of this year, 797 super PACs had raised more than five times as much—upwards of \$349 million. Fully 60 percent of that money came from just 100 donors."

Ten units (including the Briefing) responded to September's Voter article on Money and Elections. The discussions centered on the role of the super PACs, possible methods of controlling the flow of campaign money, and the ways individual voters can affect the integrity of the campaigns. All of the responding units voiced concerns about super PAC money negatively influencing the messages we read and see. "Elections are all about money...It has put every election up for sale...Money gives them (PACs) power over the media...We have been besieged with nauseating, nasty commercials that are not based on fact...The super saturation of political ads could cause the electorate to lose all interest in the campaigns and not vote." Members were concerned

about the misinformation; influence; and, in some cases, the number of super PACs evidenced in the campaigns.

While a constitutional amendment would be an effective way to overturn the Citizens United decision, the ratification process would take a long time (McLean). Several other units felt pursuing such an option would be a distraction and would not likely or never pass. Other solutions should be pursued. Passage of the Disclosure Act was endorsed by all the reporting units. Requiring PACs to publish names of donors and the amount of their donations to allow for transparency was cited by several units.

Some super PACs have turned themselves into a 501 (C) category which exempts "non-profit" and "charitable" groups from paying taxes. Changing the tax laws that exempt the political activities of 501 (C) groups was supported by some (Fairfax Station, Briefing). The work of the Annenberg Public Policy Center in its Stand-By-Your-Ad position was mentioned by the Mt. Vernon Evening unit.

In discussing individual efforts to affect the integrity of campaigns, the units responded with a multitude of ideas: writing letters to the editor, staying in close contact with your representatives; supporting redistricting reform; becoming fact checkers and reporting troublesome ads to FactCheck.org; watching ads with a critical eye; engaging in dialogues with friends—especially those with a different point of view and avoiding being inflammatory oneself; staying informed by getting news from more than one source; and working to register more voters.

Some voiced a sense of discouragement, powerlessness, and lack of control. But overall, members supported efforts by the national League's Truth in Advertising Campaign, decried the negativity and misleading media presentations, and had many excellent suggestions on what we as individuals can do.

---

## LWV-US President Testifies on Restrictive Voting Laws

WASHINGTON, DC – Elisabeth MacNamara, president of the League of Women Voters of the United States, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee at a hearing on the continuing importance of the Voting Rights Act, and the importance of keeping our voting system free, fair and accessible to all eligible Americans.

In her written testimony, MacNamara points out that, "Since 2011 we have seen a huge increase in the number of new

restrictive voting laws enacted at the state level...These new laws and practices require restrictive forms of photo ID and/or proof of citizenship in order to vote, they restrict independent voter registration drives, decrease early voting, wrongfully purge eligible voters and eliminate Election Day registration. And they create confusion for voters and poll workers alike.

"What is especially disappointing is that politicians too often are imposing these restrictions on voting rights in order to manipulate the electorate for their own political gain. This is wrong. This is the real threat to the integrity of our elections."

## League's Voter Registration Day a Huge Success

By Olga Hernandez, Voters Service Coordinator

Thank you to all the League volunteers who organized unit registration drives, those that participated in the Metro information dissemination on October 2 and the Reston Hospital October 4 event and other Voter Service efforts. According to LWVUS, the National Voter Registration Day was hugely successful nationally.

A hearty thank you to Tom Fina for his work on the Voters' Guide that appeared in the Fairfax *Times* and the Roundtable that worked cooperatively to get all the Congressional candidates covered. Therese Martin also did a fantastic job to develop the voting information rack card that explains the changes to the Voter ID laws.

The "What's on the Ballot" that I put together, has been well received and 12,000 copies have been well distributed across the county. All Fairfax County public libraries, Supervisor offices and the government centers were given copies. Many registration drives also distributed them to voters.

We will need help following the election to update the 2013 "Facts for Voters". Please contact Maggi Luca [mkluca@aol.com](mailto:mkluca@aol.com) to volunteer to double check and verify a page or two.

## Board Meets With Election Officials



LWVFA leaders, Helen Kelly, Olga Hernandez and Julie Jones, (not shown: Therese Martin) held an informal lunch-time meeting with Fairfax County Registrar Cameron Quinn and Pat Ferguson of the Fairfax Office of Elections to discuss ways that the League can support the work of the Fairfax County Elections Office in making sure that all County citizens are "Election Ready" for the November 6, 2012 general election.

## What's This Facebook Thing? Learn With Facebook 101

By Danielle Ramirez

As you may have heard, LWVFA has a new Facebook page. Facebook and other social media tools will help us reach a new set of concerned citizens and highlight our work to a much broader audience of individuals, organizations, and media groups. While members will still be able to access the *VOTER* and upcoming events information at the LWVFA webpage ([www.lwv-fairfax.org](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org)), our Facebook page adds a new dimension to our outreach. It allows us to communicate breaking news and updates, share and discuss relevant news articles, and connect and keep up with what other Leagues and like-minded democracy-focused organizations are talking about and doing.

To start getting Facebook postings, first you will need a Facebook account, which only requires an email address. Then, search for "League of Women Voters - Fairfax Area" or type the web address [www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax](http://www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax). Lastly, near the top right, click on the 'Like' button to become a fan of our page. LWVFA postings will show up on your news feed a few times a week. (To see your news feed, click on 'Home' on the top right.) If you have any problems or questions about getting started, email [lwvfa@vacoxmail.com](mailto:lwvfa@vacoxmail.com), and we will do our best to walk you through the steps. We look forward to seeing you on Facebook!

## Proposed AMENDMENT to the Constitution of Virginia Regarding "Eminent Domain"

Shall Section 11 of Article I (Bill of Rights) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended (I) to require eminent domain only be exercised where the property taken or damaged is for public use and, except for utilities or the elimination of a public nuisance, not where the primary use is for private gain, private benefit, private enterprise, increasing jobs, increasing tax revenue or economic development; (II) to define what is included in just compensation for such taking or damaging of property; and (III) to prohibit taking or damaging of more private property than is necessary for the public use? Vote Yes or No

To review information for the "supporter side" see the Virginia Farm Bureau's website, [www.vafarmbureau.org](http://www.vafarmbureau.org). Information for the "opponent side" was provided by Mark Flynn, Director of Legal Services for the Virginia Municipal League (VML), [www.vml.org](http://www.vml.org).

# Online Teaching and Learning in Fairfax County Schools: Where are we now?

By Beth Henson Tudan,

Virginia Fitz Shea, and Lois Page

Fairfax County Public Schools has often been a leader in educational trends, and is now at the forefront of digital learning. Current high school students were born in the mid-90s, during the first days of the Internet boom. They are digital natives with some of the first words they heard being, "You've got mail." Theirs is a world of iTunes, not record stores, of reading newspapers online, not in print, and of making friendships via Facebook and Twitter.

How is this playing out in FCPS right now? Most Fairfax residents associated closely with the schools will tell you that teachers are using interactive "Smart Boards," not chalkboards, librarians are now called media specialists, and that video clips and trips to computer labs have become staples of a day's teaching and learning.

FCPS has a world of online resources from Blackboard 24/7, online reading websites filled with hundreds of books, online courses, and online textbooks. Online learning in some form or another is not a thing of the future, it is happening now.

## FCPS 24/7 Learning

FCPS 24-7 Learning, a.k.a. "Blackboard," is an online resource that allows FCPS students to extend learning beyond the traditional school day and beyond the school facilities. Each student, teacher and parent receives his or her own account with a required username and password to access the online resources. Each student's account has its own page. Think of a filing cabinet. Within the filing cabinet, there are drawers with folders and sometimes folders within folders. Blackboard works the same way. Students have folders for each of their individual classes. Within the class folders, teachers post homework and classroom assignments, links to websites, enrichment resources and more. If a student has forgotten a homework worksheet at school, then he or she can often access the sheet on Blackboard.

Online textbooks with the password reminders are also provided. There are also separate folders for the school that might list before and after school activities, such as Science Olympiad, Soccer Club, and an Improv Club. On the parents' portion of Blackboard, the parent has folders for each child. Thus, a parent could open her son's individual folder to check on his Algebra I homework and find that he has a French quiz on Friday. She could also find his list of vocabulary words or due dates for projects and the particular assignments.

## Online Books and Research

FCPS subscribes to online sites for its students, including ones with online books and for academic research. Younger students log onto websites such as Tumbleweed.com to listen to animated storybooks that are read aloud, following along as each word is highlighted and read aloud to them. They also learn to do research via WorldBookOnline.com.

Oakton Elementary Student Thomas Tudan was introduced to online books via his third-grade teacher. He enjoyed reading them during school, and then read dozens of books over the summer on MyOn.com, which FCPS subscribes to for its students. Over many summer evenings, Thomas logged onto the MyOn.com website, entered his FCPS-issued User Name and Password and began reading. He logged onto the computer and read many books, and was thrilled when it became usable on the iPad. He immediately asked for permission to use the iPad and read even more. Sometimes he had the book read aloud to him although he did mention that he often read ahead of the book's reader. Still, it was a good way for him to learn new vocabulary and hear the words pronounced correctly.

Each school has a School Based Information Technology Specialist (SBIT) trained in technology. Oakton Elementary's SBITs trains the teachers to use the interactive Smart Boards, maintains an award-winning website, and includes resources for students to use for their research. For more, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/OaktonES/studentlinks.html>. FCPS has subscriptions to databases in science, social studies, for languages

and more. See <http://www.fcps.edu/is/libraryservices/online-databases.shtml>.

### Virtual Courses

In 2012, the General Assembly of Virginia passed legislation stating that a high school student must successfully complete one virtual, i.e., online course, which may be noncredit-bearing, to graduate with a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma. This requirement will be effective with students entering the ninth grade for the first time in the 2013-14 school year.<sup>1</sup>

Fairfax County Public Schools already has an online campus which delivers some high school courses identical in content to those offered in traditional classrooms. Course registration requires approval from the high school guidance counselor. During the 2011-12 school year, 600 FCPS students took one class online through FCPS's Online Campus. For 2012-13, 1,400 students are taking an online course, representing a 133 percent increase. FCPS students can take online courses for free, but if they have to pay to take an extra eighth course. They also have to pay for courses during summer school. FCPS has many students from all over the world who pay to attend the FCPS online course.

On February 12, 2012, Superintendent Jack Dale agreed to change the existing regulation on a full-day schedule to allow students to opt out of a first or last block class or classes. This change was made in response to a request by the advocacy group SLEEP (Start Later for Excellence in Education). The purpose of a free period is to enable students to get more sleep or to leave school early for work.

Phyllis Payne of the advocacy group SLEEP says, "It is not a solution to the problem of too-early school start times since students must have easy access to computers and transportation and an affinity for online learning. It will, however, provide relief for a small number of students."

With the new policy change, some students are taking the time to get extra sleep in the morning while others are taking online classes that will offer them more flexibility with their schedules. For example, Casey Grage took an online physical education course during the summer of 2012 before her freshman year at Madison High School. She wanted to get her freshman PE requirement out of the way in order to take two

languages, French and Spanish, simultaneously during the school year. Casey spent the summer participating in several sports, including swimming, tennis, and Tae Kwan Do, recording her progress. Casey said, "Taking the online course freed my schedule this year to take what I really wanted during school." Another Madison student took an online physics course during the summer of 2011 in order to free her schedule to concentrate on robotics at Madison her senior year when she was leader of the extracurricular program. She is now a freshman at MIT.

Virtual courses are offered in career and technical education, English, health and physical education, mathematics, science, social studies, and Korean and Spanish. Equipment requirements include a Pentium III – 500 MHZ processor or newer, Windows 98SE or higher, and various computer programs. "Students will not be able to access and complete online courses using iPads, iPhones, Blackberrys, Smart Phones, and tablets," the Online Campus webpage states.<sup>2</sup>

In online courses, it is up to the discretion of the teacher as to how tests will be administered. All courses include a final exam or appropriate administered activity that is based on the Program of Studies standards. Testing locations and times are posted on the course web page on Blackboard. All Standards of Learning and Advanced Placement testing take place at the students' base school.

Students take some online courses at home whereas others actually take them at their school during the school day. In addition, the online class allows FCPS to offer a wider selection of courses to its students. FCPS has 25 high schools, plus alternative schools. Not all schools have enough students to fill an AP statistics class and not all students can fit a certain class into their schedules, but FCPS can give the students the opportunity to take the class by offering it online.

During 2012-13, over 30 students from 20 different schools are taking AP statistics. For an online class, the teacher puts the assignments on 24/7 Blackboard. For AP statistics, the students meet their teacher for a weekly chat. During the online chat, the teacher and students all use white boards to communicate with each other, where they can write, chat, draw, and use a graphic calculator. The students also go into virtual breakout rooms where they meet two or three

fellow students to work together. They also use the white boards to communicate with the group in the breakout room. The students can also email the teacher during the week with any questions. When students complete a project, they send it online to the teacher via Blackboard.

### Virtual Schooling Task Force

Recommendations for virtual learning for Fairfax County were presented to a work session of the Fairfax County School Board April 16, 2012. Peter Noonan, who was then the Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services Department, introduced the report of the Virtual Schooling Task Force. The report recommends establishing a virtual high school. This school would be created by expanding the current FCPS Online Campus model to include a full-time virtual option for credit-bearing courses. The task force recommended that such a high school could be started as soon as September 2012; however, the School Board has not yet asked for further study of this proposal.

The task force also recommends the creation of a small number of “Schools of Innovation” in the 2014-15 school year where breakthrough approaches to learning can be researched and identified for transfer to other schools.

The third major recommendation is to incorporate Blended Learning into each classroom:

*Blended Learning combines face-to-face classroom methods with technology-mediated activities to form an integrated instructional approach. At the elementary level, teachers could introduce students to segments of classes that have virtual components that can be utilized and monitored at school. At middle school, students could take an entire course online but have it completed at school so that the teacher can support the student with strategies for online learning. With this progression of support for online learning, students are then well-positioned for a full on-line course they take independently in high school.* <sup>3</sup>

### Online Textbooks

Today’s elementary students were born in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They are used to reading and researching online. When Kennedy, a fifth-grade student at

Fairview Elementary in Fairfax, brought home a printed textbook, she was flabbergasted at how heavy and bulky it was. She asked her mother, “Why can’t we have this online?” The fifth-grade social studies curriculum on world history has an extension unique to FCPS with the Global Awareness Technology Project. Fifth-grade students “select a question to research, developing the answers to that question into a project, and then communicating and sharing the project through technology.” <sup>4</sup>

During 2010-11, FCPS piloted an online textbook initiative at eight middle and 10 high schools in the county using online resources and textbooks in seventh-grade U.S. history and high school government classes. Thanks to the pilot’s success, FCPS adopted online textbooks for grades 7 to 12 for all core social studies courses for 2011-12. The school system purchased online subscriptions from the textbook publishers and offered a limited number of physical texts per class. <sup>5</sup>

In August 2012, the School Board approved the purchase of new math textbooks for \$7.7 million; however, some board members expressed concern that the information on the textbook expenditure had not been presented to the board during the normal budget process. Math online textbooks for grades K-12 (excluding AP and elective courses) were purchased and implemented in all schools in September 2012.

FCPS lists the following about accessing online texts:

- Students are not required to purchase or own their own computers.
- Students will be permitted to bring to school and use their own laptops, tablets, or netbooks to access online textbooks under the direction of the teacher.
- Online textbooks have flash-based content, which is not compatible with some Apple products such as iPhones and iPads. <sup>6</sup>

### Advantages of Online Textbooks

The FCPS Instructional Services Department, which is responsible for the curriculum and purchase of the textbooks, began looking into online textbooks a few

years ago. The group is working collaboratively with the IT department. There have been times that the IT department has nixed the purchase of online texts, saying that they are PDFs and really add no value to having a physical printed book. For example, the AP U.S. history books in high school are still printed texts rather than online.

Instructional Services, however, believes that the online texts add value for the students. For example, there are Student Learning Sections in the books with interactive features, including glossaries, vocabulary, and self-check quizzes. Students can search within the online texts and also can watch videos of teachers giving a lesson or of historical figures giving a speech. The books have microphones to click on and video clips that will read aloud. That helps with pronunciation in both English and foreign languages and with students with dyslexia and other learning differences.

The online texts will only get better. Some are truly PDFs, which are similar to a photograph of the screen, and are, thus, not interactive. The social studies texts in grades 6 to 12 (non-AP) are all interactive. With online texts for foreign languages, students can listen to the pronunciation of vocabulary and to the tone and accents when sentences are read aloud and take interactive quizzes. Teachers also put links to websites for even more quizzes and photos of the foreign places the languages are spoken, furthering tweaking the children's interests.

One parent observed about the French text:

*I toured the French textbook – it read aloud to me and offered interactive quizzes, which I liked. I was reading it online in Google Chrome, though, which offered (helpfully) to translate my page into English from French. Not great for learning, but it would help a student do his or her homework correctly! So much for being prepared for the test, though.*

Ironically, some of the students who are most resistant to the online texts are the AP high school students. They already have found a way that works well for them and are more reluctant to change. The elementary-age students are most likely to enjoy the online texts. One parent pointed out that although the online textbooks might continue to improve and be even better in four or five years, that time span is the entire time that these

students are in high school.

Instructional Services says that adopting online texts is not always a cost savings measure, particularly in the short run, because it requires spending money to invest in IT infrastructure in the schools.

### Online Textbooks: Some Problem Areas

#### Flexibility:

Not all students are as excited about online texts as Kennedy who was mentioned earlier. High school students who travel for sports meets or band trips cannot read their textbook or complete homework without Internet access. A mother whose children are a freshman and a senior at Fairfax High School said both of her children have iPads and iPhones, so using the math textbooks on them are useless. Her freshman son is in the marching band and was on a 25-hour round trip on a bus to Pennsylvania for a band competition in September. It would've been great to take textbooks along, but he couldn't access them with his iPhone – and the screen would have been small to read on anyway. She mentioned that all the parents were complaining about the difficulties associated with using the online books in that they have limited flexibility for use unless the students are at home or school with Internet access.

There is also an issue with using Apple mobile devices, which do not support the program, FLASH, that the online textbooks use. That's an issue with the proprietary nature of Apple software, but it still affects the students. It turns out that there is a work-around by downloading an App Browser called Puffin for \$2.99, but it is an NC17 app purchase requiring parental permission because content viewed using third-party browsers is not controlled via the iPad parental restriction settings.<sup>7</sup>

Beth Tudan downloaded the Puffin Browser to her iPad and found that all the features of the online texts did work. There is one problem, though, and that's what FCPS addresses above: "All the parental safeguards that we have enabled on our home Internet are now disabled, so our sons could (inadvertently or otherwise) tap into websites and blogs we would not like them to access. Most students and parents, however, are not

yet aware of this work-around via the Puffin Browser and think that they cannot use the iPad or iPhone.”

Parents also worry that a student who is working online may be led astray by the call of Facebook, Angry Birds, or Reddit.

### **Ease of Use:**

Other concerns involve the physical process of reading online. Visual learners can picture where a piece of information was on a page which can trigger recall, but some say that impact is lessened with computer screens. Others like to flip pages back and forth when doing homework to review a concept and find that this takes more time on a computer. Several students have called this process “clunky,” noting that it can take a long time for pages to load when they have to flip from one page to the next.

A recent Facebook discussion about online textbooks yielded the following comments:

*“Online textbooks usually have terrible software that runs really slow. It’s kind of hard to study when it takes more than a minute for a page to load.” – Garrett Stewart, a Madison junior and member of the Crew Team*

*“From what I hear from my peanut gallery is the signing and loading can be tedious –otherwise, I think they like it better. I want the textbook to text them to “read me.” -- Darlene Almanza, parent of sons at Flint Hill Elementary, Luther Jackson MS, and Madison HS*

Complaints have been raised about some of the newly-adopted math texts, that pages cannot be printed out, and that it cannot be accessed unless one has an Internet access.

An Oakton High School parent states:

*For my kids, it took about twice as long as normal to do the math homework between having to scroll or enter different page numbers and losing their place and looking up at the computer, then back down at their paper. They got to bed after midnight and it’s the beginning of the school year! It was awful. When one of my boys had an appt. at which he knew he’d have some waiting time, he tried to print the page with the homework on it out of the book---it is not possible... I know there are some textbooks*

*available, but everyone is going to want one! And the books are extremely expensive if bought retail. My kids row crew and used to always bring math to the river because they didn’t need a computer for it. Now they can’t do that. And they also cannot do their homework during the work period (“Cougar Time” is what we call it at Oakton) at school that is allotted for homework and help from teachers.*

Some parents are resorting to buying texts for their children at their own expense. A mother of a Madison High School sophomore, Paul, decided to purchase physical copies of her son’s textbooks, so he could work wherever he was. Her son said that he found reading the online social studies books slow because of loading times and that it was hard to take notes from them. She ordered a used AP world history book for \$60 although it turned out to be an older edition. The teacher said that the older text was acceptable in that the history had not changed that much during the past five years. Since FCPS adopted new math textbooks, there are no used ones available to purchase. Paul’s pre-calculus book cost \$177.

A Lake Braddock Secondary School Fairfax County Association of the Gifted (FCAG) parent wrote in their Yahoo discussion group, “I had to purchase a Latin 1 book for my 8th grader. Cheapest I could find used online was \$80. Supposedly now after complaints the school is purchasing more, but that is recent.”

FCPS officials, however, never have intended for students to have to purchase their own books, contending that any student who needs a book at home can have one. Schools have ordered 30 to 40 percent of the books and could order more if needed.

### **Difficulty of Printing:**

Complaints have been raised, especially about some of the newly adopted math texts: Many students and their families are having problems with printing, spending hours trying to figure it out. One father, who is in IT, tried to help his son print out his geometry homework as he was finding it cumbersome to write problems down from the screen and wondered about potential errors in transcribing the homework. One can just imagine the scratches a computer screen would receive from a protractor! After 45 minutes, they finally found a work-around.

Our Schools Committee called the math publishing company's Online Help desk to see if the pages could be printed. The Customer Service rep was friendly and stated that issues involving online printing is the No. 1 call he receives. He said that the textbooks themselves are copyright protected and stored on the company's secure server; there is no print function for the textbook itself.

Since students cannot download the text onto any device, including a computer, to read later, students could use a portable device such as the Kindle Fire to access the online textbooks while on the go. The Kindle Fire has a larger screen than a smartphone would, but students would have to subscribe to the Kindle Fire's 4G service. Students could also purchase wireless Internet cards that would provide access to the Internet at most locations with laptops, but that would, of course, involve an extra monthly fee. FCPS is working to resolve the issue of copyright issues and downloading. One suggestion is to have content expire at the end of the school year just as e-books do after three weeks when checked out from the Fairfax County Public Library.

FCPS has purchased the student workbooks for homework, but there is clearly a disconnect in implementing the policy. Some students are not having any trouble printing, but many students are. The customer service rep suggested taking a photo of the computer screen and then printing that out as one solution! One high school librarian reports that her students seem to have figured out the printing issues as the library printers are filled with math pages. Perhaps they can share their solutions with other FCPS students.

### **Accessibility/the Digital Divide:**

The problem of the digital divide was described by *Washington Post* reporter Annie Gowen in an article discussing how Fairfax County students without computers at home struggle to complete homework assignments. "Henry Jenkins, a professor at the University of Southern California, describes today's digital divide as the "participation gap" -- the chasm between students who have ready access to the Internet at home vs. those struggling to work in public spaces," Gowen reported. "Those with home access have a big advantage because they'll have ample time to develop

social networking, research and other skills necessary to succeed later on, Jenkins said."<sup>8</sup>

School officials are grappling with the accessibility issue. Their task force says virtual learning **should not** "disadvantage those who do not have the availability, access, or understanding of how to use digital learning tools." While it is claimed that most Fairfax County students have access to a computer at home, what happens when a family has only one computer and several children who need to get to a text book at the same time? Officials are attempting to provide extra support in lower income areas, but is it enough?

Based on past student surveys, FCPS staff has previously reported that 96 percent of students have Internet access outside of school. Reports, however, do not indicate that FCPS staff knows how that access is obtained: at home, computers in the library, Smartphone cellular access or some other access. Smartphone access is not the same as desktop or laptop access. Will students without adequate Internet access in the home be able to go to a virtual high school? Will they be able to compete – to even keep up – in the highly virtual classrooms of the future?

Technology Operational Expectations were discussed at the School Board's Governance Committee meeting held June 11. One proposed recommendation was "Provide support to ensure all students have access to online instructional resources 24/7."

However, this recommendation was omitted from the revised version presented at the School Board's retreat held July 20-21. Walt Carlson, a former information and program analyst for the U.S. government who has studied school technology issues extensively, sent an email to the School Board August 21 warning that this omission could mean that unequal education in the FCPS will continue. "Those students with 24/7 online access will be receiving a different—and better—education than those without 24/7 online access," he said.

### **Plans to Expand Access for All Students**

Fairfax County school officials are exploring a number of ways to deal especially with the accessibility issue. FCPS has Community Internet Access Maps to provide students "with a map and a list of community Internet

access sites in your neighborhood and the surrounding area. The list includes a variety of locations including libraries, and community, family, and other resource centers that are available for you and your student(s) to access the Internet and FCPS resources such as 24-7 Learning. These sites are open at different times during the day, in the evening, and on weekends. The location can be contacted directly at the phone number listed for the hours of availability.”<sup>9</sup> These Community Internet Access Resources include the public libraries, which have now restored service and hours to 9 p.m. for several nights per week due to an increased budget from Fairfax County.

In addition, Computer Learning Centers Partnership (CLCP) provides high-tech resources for children and their families who otherwise would not have access to current technology. The Reston Computer Clubhouse is a free service for students that is open Monday to Friday from 1 to 9 p.m. Staffers pick up students after school from South Lakes HS, Herndon HS, and Langston Hughes MS and bring them to the center, where they can take computer and other classes, work on projects or on homework. They then drive the students to their homes at night. Students can use the computers there on homework. The Reston Clubhouse could even be open on Saturday if there were demand.

There are also computer clubhouses, community centers, and public libraries. The following website offers more details: [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec/comm\\_ctr/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec/comm_ctr/)

FCPS is working to determine how schools can maximize their use of technology. Many high schools have mobile carts of laptops and all have computers in their libraries / media centers. Many FCPS high schools will rent netbooks for the year to students who need them. The Madison HS library, for example, has 20 netbooks that it can loan to students. Some high schools are opening their libraries / media centers early and keeping them open late. Both Madison HS and South County HS open at 6:30 a.m.; school begins at 7:20 a.m. Falls Church HS stays open until 7 p.m.

FCPS is working to bridge the digital divide. In the meantime, there are thoughts of a second digital divide: one between students who will take advantage of the digital tools to expand their research and knowledge

and those students who will decide that being online is best spent playing games, on social media sites, or watching YouTube.

## Conclusion

The advantages of virtual learning are evident, but implementation problems persist. How can we solve the problem of printing out needed material? Perhaps more schools and libraries need to support additional hours of access after school to computer banks. Should textbook companies be required to support portable devices and allow printing? Should the school system purchase laptops for every student, thus allowing the needed texts to be downloaded to each student's computer? Teachers, parents, students and school officials will need to combine forces to solve some of these problems quickly so that no student's education is compromised.

---

1 “High School Credits Now Mandatory in Virginia,” Education News. <http://www.educationnews.org/online-schools/high-school-online-credits-now-mandatory-in-virginia/>

2 <http://www.fcps.edu/is/onlinecampus/additionalinfo.shtml>

3 [http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/8T4P8X636E99/\\$file/VirtualExecSum%20040412.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/8T4P8X636E99/$file/VirtualExecSum%20040412.pdf)

4 <http://www.fcps.edu/is/socialstudies/elementary/#fifth>

5 <http://www.fcps.edu/is/textbooks/onlinetextbooks/>

6 <http://www.fcps.edu/is/textbooks/onlinetextbooks/ss/access.shtml>

7 <http://www.fcps.edu/is/textbooks/onlinetextbooks/ss/access.shtml>

8 <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/05/AR2009120501746.html>

9 <http://www.fcps.edu/it/ciamaps/>

---

## Discussion Questions for Virtual Learning Study, November, 2012

(PLEASE RETURN RESPONSES TO CHARLEEN DEASY: [charleen.deasy@verizon.net](mailto:charleen.deasy@verizon.net). Individuals who are not able to attend unit meetings are urged to participate as well.)

1. What, if any, digital “devices” do the people in your group use? What are the advantages and

disadvantages of reading online in your experience?

2. What concerns, if any, do you have about “virtual” learning, other than the text book issue?
3. What measures for increasing accessibility do you think would be most likely to succeed?
4. Discuss the pros and cons of online textbooks.
5. On balance, do you think FCPS should use online texts for:

\_\_\_\_\_ most courses  
 \_\_\_\_\_ some additional courses  
 \_\_\_\_\_ no more courses  
 Comments?

6. Do you think LWVFA should pursue a study or informational meeting on the proposed “virtual learning high school” that the Virtual Learning Task Force recommended? If so, please list names of people who might like to serve on such a committee.

---

#### Six Year Improvement Program . . .

## Commonwealth Transportation Board Schedules Public Meetings for Fiscal Years 2014-2019

The Commonwealth Transportation Board will conduct nine 2012 Fall Multimodal Transportation Public Meetings in October and November. The Northern Virginia meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, (open house format 6 - 6:30 p.m.) presentation at 6:30 p.m., at the Virginia Department of Transportation, Northern Virginia District Office, Potomac Conference Center, 4975 Alliance Drive, Suite 1N201 in Fairfax.

Residents may review and provide comments about projects and programs to be included in the Fiscal Year 2014-2019 Six Year Improvement Program, including highway, rail, and public transportation initiatives. If you cannot attend the meeting, send your comments by November 30 to Diane Mitchell, VDOT, 1401 E. Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or send an e-mail to [Six-YearProgram@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:Six-YearProgram@vdot.virginia.gov).

## Domestic Violence – National and Local Statistics

### Impact on Individuals

- One in four women is a victim of domestic violence in their lifetime.
- One in nine men is a victim of domestic violence in their lifetime.
- Three in five adults personally know someone who is or has been a victim of domestic violence
- Thirty million or 15 percent of all U.S. adults admit that they were a victim of domestic violence.
- 2.3 million people are raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend each year in the U.S.
- 51,652 individuals in crisis situations contacted Virginia domestic violence programs in 2006.

### Impact on Families

- Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.
- On average, more than three women and one man are murdered by their intimate partners in the U.S. every day. Only one in four of all physical assaults, one in five of all rapes, and one in two of all stalkings perpetuated against females by intimate partners are reported to the police.
- Approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year. 30 percent to 60 percent of domestic violence offenders also abuse children in the household.
- Seventy-five percent of murder-suicides occurred in the home.

*Source: National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, National Network to End Domestic Violence, the Hotline, and Domestic Violence Resource Center.*

***Domestic Violence Hotline***  
***(703) 360-7273***



# **WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?**

Prepared by The League of Women Voters®  
of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) Education Fund

**General and Special Election – Tuesday, November 6, 2012**

**Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

For information on the general election, voter registration, or district and precinct contact:

Fairfax County General Register (703) 222-0776

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections)

City of Fairfax General Registrar (703) 385-7890

[www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/General.asp](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/General.asp)

Virginia State Board of Elections (800) 552-9745

[www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov)

(R) = Republican; (D) = Democrat; (C) = Constitution; (L) = Libertarian; (G) = Green  
(IG) = Independent Green (I) = Independent; (\*) = Incumbent

The candidates appear in the order they will appear on the ballot as determined at the SBE by lot drawing.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

## **Electors for President and Vice President of the United States**

Mitt Romney (R)

Barack Obama (D)\*

Virgil Goode (C)

Gary Johnson (L)

Jill Stein (G)

Paul Ryan

Joe Biden

Jim Clymer

James P. Gray

Cheri Honkala

[www.mittromney.com](http://www.mittromney.com)

[www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com)

[www.goodeforpresident2012.com](http://www.goodeforpresident2012.com)

[www.garyjohnson2012.com](http://www.garyjohnson2012.com)

[www.jillstein.org](http://www.jillstein.org)

## **United States Senate**

George F. Allen - (R)

[www.georgeallen.com](http://www.georgeallen.com)

Timothy M. Kaine - (D)

[www.kaineforva.com](http://www.kaineforva.com)

## **United States House of Representatives**

### **8th District**

J. Patrick Murray – (R)

[www.patrickmurrayforcongress.com](http://www.patrickmurrayforcongress.com)

James P. Moran, Jr. (D)\*

[www.jimmoran.org](http://www.jimmoran.org)

Janet Murphy (IG)

[www.votejoinrun.us/id42.html](http://www.votejoinrun.us/id42.html)

Jason J. Howell (I)

[www.votejasonhowell.com](http://www.votejasonhowell.com)

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

### **10th District**

Frank R. Wolf (R)\*

[www.wolfforcongress.com](http://www.wolfforcongress.com)

Kristin A. Cabral (D)

[www.kristincabral.com](http://www.kristincabral.com)

J. Kevin Chisholm (I)

[www.chisholmforcongress.com](http://www.chisholmforcongress.com)

### **11th District**

Chris S. Perkins (R)

[www.perkins2012.com](http://www.perkins2012.com)

Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly (D)\*

[www.gerryconnolly.com](http://www.gerryconnolly.com)

Joe F. Galdo, Jr. (G)

[www.joegaldo.com](http://www.joegaldo.com)

Peter M. Marchetti (IG)

[www.votejoinrun.us/id62.html](http://www.votejoinrun.us/id62.html)

Christopher F. DeCarlo (I)

[www.honestyandethics.com](http://www.honestyandethics.com)

Mark T. Gibson (I)

[www.gibson4congress2012.com](http://www.gibson4congress2012.com)

### **Fall 2012 Voters' Guide**

The Leagues of Women Voters (LWV) of Northern Virginia sent a questionnaire to all candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives. The LWV of Virginia sent a questionnaire to the U.S. Senate candidates. All candidates queried are those whose names were certified for the General Election. Responses can be read in the Fall 2012 Voters' Guide to be published in *The Fairfax County Times* newspaper the week of October 26, 2012, or on the LWVFA website,

# **Commonwealth of Virginia Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

**Ballot Question #1** *Shall Section 11 of Article I (Bill of Rights) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to require that eminent domain only be exercised where the property taken or damaged is for public use and, except for utilities or the elimination of a public nuisance, not where the primary use is for private gain, private benefit, private enterprise, increasing jobs, increasing tax revenue, or economic development; (ii) to define what is included in just compensation for such taking or damaging of property; and (iii) to prohibit the taking or damaging of more private property than is necessary for the public use?*

**Ballot Question #2** *Shall Section 6 of Article IV (Legislature) of the Constitution of Virginia concerning legislative sessions be amended to allow the General Assembly to delay by no more than one week the fixed starting date for the reconvened or "veto" session when the General Assembly meets after a session to consider the bills returned to it by the Governor with vetoes or amendments?*

## **Proposed Four Fairfax County Bonds Referenda**

**For additional information on each of the four (4) Fairfax County Bond Referenda on the ballot, listed below, please visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/bond](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/bond).**

### **PARKS AND PARK FACILITIES BONDS**

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the parks and park facilities bonds previously authorized, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$75,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds with any other available funds to finance the cost of providing parks and park facilities including the acquisition, construction, development and equipment of additional parks and park facilities, and the purchase of permanent easements for the preservation of open-space land and the development and improvement of existing parks and park facilities by the Fairfax County Park Authority, and including an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000 allocable to the County as its share of the cost of parks and park facilities to be acquired, constructed, developed and equipped by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority?

### **PUBLIC SAFETY BONDS**

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the public safety facilities bonds previously authorized, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$55,000,000, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to finance the cost of providing public safety facilities, including the construction, reconstruction, enlargement, renovation and equipment of civil and criminal justice facilities, police training facilities and stations, fire and rescue training facilities and stations, including fire and rescue stations owned by volunteer organizations, and the acquisition of necessary land?

### **PUBLIC LIBRARY BONDS**

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the public library facilities bonds previously authorized, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$25,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to finance the cost of additional public library facilities, the reconstruction, enlargement and equipment of existing library facilities and the acquisition of necessary land?

### **STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS BONDS**

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$30,000,000, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to finance the cost of providing storm drainage improvements to prevent flooding and soil erosion, including the acquisition of necessary land?

***The LAST DAY to Register to Vote in the General Election is Monday, October 15, 2012.***

***\*\*Remember to bring a valid identification to the polls on November 6, 2012.\*\****

*Disclaimer: The contact information provided in What's on the Ballot? Was furnished by the campaigns to the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), or obtained from the Fairfax County Office of Elections or official Websites. The LWVFA is not responsible for any changes or inaccuracies in the listings. This is not an official publication for any campaign or candidate, but information only.*

# This Month's Unit Meeting Locations

## Topic: Online Teaching and Learning

Members and visitors are encouraged to attend any meeting convenient for them, including the "At Large Meeting" and briefing on Saturdays when a briefing is listed. As of October 5, 2012, the locations were correct; please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend. Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations.

### Saturday, November 3

#### **10 a.m. At-Large Unit and Briefing**

Packard Center  
4026 Hummer Rd.  
Annandale 22003  
Contact: Ginger, 703-642-0075

### Thursday, November 8

#### **9 a.m. Reston Day (RD)**

11908 Paradise Ln.  
Oak Hill 20171  
Contact: Charleen, 703-620-3593

#### **9:30 a.m. Springfield (SPF)**

9607 Laurel Oak Pl.  
Fairfax Station 22039  
Contact: Nancy, 703-256-6570 or  
Peg, 703-256-9420

#### **1 p.m. Fairfax City/Vienna (FX-V)**

Oakton Regional Library  
10304 Lynnhaven Pl.  
Oakton 22124  
Contact: Bobby, 703-938-1486 or  
Liz, 703-281-3380

### **7:45 p.m. Mt. Vernon Evening (MVE)**

Paul Spring Retirement Community  
Mt. Vernon Room  
7116 Fort Hunt Road  
Alexandria 22307  
Contact: Jane, 703-960-6820

### Monday, November 12

#### **1:30 p.m. Greenspring (GSP)**

Hunters Crossing Classroom  
Spring Village Dr.  
Springfield 22150  
Contact: Kay, 703-644-2670

### Tuesday, November 13

#### **10:30 a.m. Centreville-Chantilly (CC)**

Sully District Gov. Center  
4900 Stonecroft Blvd.  
Chantilly, 20151  
Contact: Olga, 703-815-1897

### Wednesday, November 14

#### **9:30 a.m. Mt. Vernon Day (MVD)**

Mt. Vernon Dist. Government Center  
2511 Parkers Lane  
Alexandria 22306  
Contact: Louise, 703-960-0073

#### **9:30 a.m. McLean (MCL)**

Star Nut Gourmet  
1445 Laughlin Ave.  
McLean 22101  
Contact: Peggy, 703-532-4417 or  
Sharone, 703-734-1048

#### **10 a.m. Fairfax Station (FXS)**

8739 Cuttermille Pl.  
Springfield 22153  
Contact: Kathleen, 703-644-1555

#### **6:15 p.m. Dinner Unit (DU)**

Yen Cheng Restaurant  
Main Street Center  
9992 Main Street 22030  
Contact: Tin, 703-207-4669

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

Reston Art Gallery at Heron House  
Lake Anne Village Center,  
Reston 20190  
Contact: Lucy, 703-757-5893

# December Meetings:

## Fairfax County Budget Issues



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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Merrifield, VA  
Permit No. 1202

**The LWVFA Fairfax VOTER ©**  
**November, 2012**  
**Julie Jones, Co-President**  
**Helen Kelly, Co-President**  
**Ron Page, Editor**  
**Liz Brooke, Coordinator**

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.

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.

### **LWVFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**(Dues year is July 1 through June 30. Current dues year ends June 30, 2013.)**

**Membership Category:** Individual \$65 \_\_\_\_; Household (2 persons–1 *VOTER*) \$90 \_\_\_\_; Donation \$ \_\_\_\_  
Student \$32.50 \_\_\_\_; (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)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(M)** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence

Mail to: LWVFA, 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403