



Your Chance to Do Your Own Thing

Your unit is free to do what you want at your June meeting. There is no required discussion topic or briefing. Share a meal together. Get to know your members better. Invite an official to share his/her interests. Visit a museum or governmental agency. Plan your unit's voter registration activities. Discuss and submit the topics that you want LWVFA to pursue in the future. Appropriate ideas are limitless. Enjoy!

Calendar

June 2019

- 1 Voter registration training, Packard Center, 1:30-3 p.m.
- 2 LWVFA Climate Change Interest Group
- 3 Primary candidate forum for Commonwealth's Attorney, First Baptist Church of Vienna, 7 p.m.
<https://www.lwv-fairfax.org/primarycf>
- 7 LWNCA Board meeting
- 8-9 Celebrate Fairfax! To volunteer:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D48AFA82FA7F94-celebrate>
- 9-13 LWVFA unit meetings**
- 11 Primary Elections, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- 10, 12 Skyline Plaza community election
- 19 LWVFA Board meeting, 10 a.m., Packard Center**

July 2019

- No LWVFA unit meetings in July**
- 17 LWVFA Board retreat** at home of Anu Sahai, 847 Alvermar Ridge Dr, McLean, VA 22102, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 19 LWNCA Board meeting
- 20 LWV-VA Board retreat, Joan Porte's home, Arlington

August 2019

No LWVFA unit meetings in August

- 5 *Fairfax VOTER* deadline for September
- 10 LWNCA workshop
- 21 LWVFA Board meeting, 10 a.m., Packard Center**
- 24 Fall Kick-off and At-Large Briefing**, Conference Rooms 2 and 3, Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035, 8:45 a.m. to noon; Briefing begins at 12:15 p.m.

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Presidents' Message



What has been happening lately with the League?

We held our Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 6, at the Waterford at Fair Oaks banquet hall. Fifty-three attended. Many of you reading this letter were among those present, but for those who were not, we had a quorum and so were able to conduct the business of electing Board members, a new co-president, secretary and nominating committee. Before lunch we asked members to discuss two questions. The first was what they thought the League had done well in the last couple of years; the second dealt with what members thought the League should be pursuing in the coming years. The answers were recorded and will be helpful as board members plan for the future. Fairfax Sheriff Stacey Kincaid was our speaker and gave a very interesting presentation. For more details about the meeting and the Sheriff's speech, see the article written by Adarsh Trehan that appears in this issue.

Several members attended the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' Town Halls to offer input on the County Budget and Strategic Plan. Judy testified for LWVFA on the FY 2020 County Budget to the Board of Supervisors on April 10. She applauded the County for the strong budget and offered four specific statements about it:

- 1) Thanked the Board for fully funding the schools and giving pay increases to teachers and County employees;
- 2) Supported the added and much needed funding for behavioral health such as Diversion First and initiatives to address the opioid epidemic;
- 3) Urged the County to make funding decisions in accordance with One Fairfax that promotes diversity and inclusion in our community. This includes funding for affordable housing and transportation;
- 4) Asked for funds needed to enhance the County's already strong satellite absentee voting program and a repeat of the 2015-2016 reserve fund established for the eventual replacement of elections equipment.

The Fairfax County Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census met on April 24 in Springfield and Anu attended. This was a brainstorming session to address the

problem of getting the message of the Census Count out in the community. The aim is to remove any mistrust the public has about the reason for the count. People are afraid that the information gathered will be shared with law enforcement agencies like ICE and the local police. We were asked to talk about our organizations and how we could potentially help. Anu shared with the other members that we are in the business of not only registering voters but also disseminating information through various channels like social media, printed pamphlets and, of course, at our tables at other locations like local fairs, etc.

She also pointed out that due to our successful high school voter registration program, we have presence in several local high schools and could use that as a way to share facts about the Census. We hope that the kids could go home and tell their families and thus encourage them to fill in the Census forms, and even assist them where required in case of language constraints. Director Ronald Brown was asked what percentage of the county's population had

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

LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2018 - 2019

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been historically participating in the Census to get some idea of the difficulty of the task ahead. It was surprising to learn that in the 2000 Census count, 84 percent of the population had been counted, and even more so to find out that that number dropped to 78 percent in 2010. It seems that the drop was attributed to the looming threat of ICE showing up at people's doorsteps. In any event, it was an interesting meeting and Anu will be going back for the next one, hopefully with some concrete ideas about the role our League can play in this venture.

On March 26, eight members of the Fairfax league joined members of other leagues of the NCA to rally outside the Supreme Court in favor of redistricting reform. It was a great event and the members caught a glimpse of Arnold Schwarzenegger who was also in attendance. Ten Fairfax League members attended the League of the National Capital Area's Convention on Saturday, May 4, at Maggiano's in Friendship Heights, Maryland. We had a delicious breakfast and listened to a thought-provoking speech by

Page Harrington on Women's Suffrage and Race Relations: A Divided Legacy. She encouraged us to include women of color in the planning of our Centennial Celebrations. Members approved the budget and elected co-presidents, Linda Softli from the DC League and Joyce Starks from the Prince George County League for a two-year term. The Frederick County League won the Naumann Award for their work to establish an Ethics Commission in the County.

So that is a snapshot of what we have been up to. We would love to hear what our units have been doing, so do send in a few sentences to share with the rest of us.

Stay tuned. June promises to be a very busy month. Please watch your weekly email letters for volunteer opportunities. As always, we need your support!

Judy & Anu

Sheriff Stacey Kincaid Was Annual Meeting Speaker

Sheriff Stacey Kincaid was the keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), held on April 6 at The Waterford in Fairfax.

She is the first female sheriff of Fairfax County in its 276-year history and also is one of only six female sheriffs in Virginia. She was first elected in 2013 to fill the balance of a term and was re-elected in 2015. She will be on the ballot again this November. In 2008, as a deputy sheriff, she earned the Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes "a career of sustained exemplary performance."

What does the Sheriff's Office do? It operates the Adult Detention Center (ADC), which has an average daily population of 972; provides Courthouse security; and serves civil law process for the courts. Her office is staffed by 529 sheriff's deputies and 87 civilians.

Kincaid reported that changing the culture around mental illness and substance use disorders has been her focus. She works to achieve change by collaborating with partners in County government and the community. She helped spearhead Diversion First, which offers alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness and co-occurring substance-use disorders. She created an addiction treatment and recovery program in the ADC and she has created a partnership with the courts on new post-arrest diversion programs.



Copresidents Helein and Sahai with Stacey Kincaid

One-third of jail inmates have behavioral health issues. Sheriff Kincaid emphasizes training to help address these issues. More than 120 of her deputies have taken the 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team training, and all of her staff, deputies and civilian, are required to take a Mental Health First Aid course. Such training teaches people how to identify symptoms of mental illness and how to help people experiencing a mental health crisis. Also, with the opening of the Merrifield Crisis Response Center (MCRC) in January 2016, police officers and sheriff's deputies can divert people experiencing mental health crises to the MCRC. Bringing

someone to jail is no longer the default option. As of December 31, 2018, over 1,300 people had been diverted from potential arrest.

Addiction is a disease and should be treated. Trauma is often an underlying cause of addiction. On Nov. 1, 2018, Sheriff Kincaid launched a pilot program in the ADC – Striving to Achieve Recovery (STAR). Two peer recovery specialists work with inmates to help them achieve recovery from addiction. Post-arrest diversion programs in the county include a Supervised Release Non-Compliance Docket, Veterans Treatment Docket, Mental Health Docket and Drug Treatment Court. They all aim to provide people with second chances after arrest.

The ADC's priority is to help inmates develop skills so they can live productively after release. Toward achieving this priority, inmate programs focus on furthering education, improving life skills, increasing employability and building self-confidence. Examples of programs include GED classes and testing; yoga, art and sewing classes; work release opportunities, and the Community Labor Force. The Sheriff's Office has about 300 volunteers who lead or support many inmate programs. In addition, resource fairs are organized for inmates to obtain information that will help them after they are released. LWVFA has participated in these resource fairs for several years.

Fairfax County is not immune to the problem of domestic

violence. If you are aware or know of a person suffering from domestic violence, please call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 703-360-7273. Domestic violence is not always physical. It can be financial, emotional and/or sexual as well. Make the call to the Hotline and you may save a life or lives.

In addition to listening to the Sheriff, LWVFA members elected the following officers: Co-President, Nancy Roodberg, Secretary, Lois Page, and the following Directors: At Large, Jessica Storrs; Public Relations, Katharina Gollner-Sweet; Voter Service Coordinator, Cindy Kalkwarf; Voter Service - Voter Registration Coordinator, Bob Meredith; Volunteer Outreach, Judy Helein; and Membership, Carol Bursik. They will serve two-year terms (2019-2021), beginning July 1, 2019. Members also elected the Nominating Committee, composed of Chair, Charleen Deasy, and members, Barbara Ewalt and Peggy Knight. They will serve one-term (2019-2020), beginning July 1, 2019.

If you have any questions, contact Adarsh Trehan at PR@lwv-fairfax.org.

NOTE: Visit the “Women Creating a More Perfect Democracy: 100 Years of the League of Women Voters” exhibit at the Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church St NE, Vienna. The display will be open Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., through December, 2019.

It's Time to Think About Next Year's Topics

By Julie Jones, Program Director

The first year of my term as Program Director went quickly and I hope that you learned new aspects of the topics we discussed. Your participation at our unit meetings and at the general and annual meetings has been important. During the 2018-19 League year, our topics were:

- September - “Educate, Advocate IMPACT”, the Action Committee's five priorities
- October - Updated LWV-VA Position on Behavioral Health
- November - General Meeting, featuring an Action Forum with our collaborating organizations
- December - LWV-VA & LWVNCA Program Planning and the LWV-VA Sexual Harassment Study
- January - Zoning - How It Affects You

- February - How Elections Work in Fairfax County\ and Fairfax City, from the Registrars
- March - Voter Registration and Election System Security
- April - Annual Meeting, with speaker Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid
- May - Transportation Positions Update
- June - Do Your Own Thing

We are now planning the topics for the coming year. We will be emphasizing the passage of the 19th Amendment and the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters. How would you like to celebrate? Also, we plan a follow-up discussion on voting and vote security, an update on current educational issues. and a book discussion. What else interests you? **We need you** - your topic suggestions, your active role on committees, your help as writers/researchers/organizers. **Volunteer** or say yes when asked. Your participation is vital for LWVFA to have a robust program. Contact Julie Jones at dave.julie.jones@verizon.net or 703-476-8347.

League's Observer Corps Submits Annual Reports

By Peggy Knight, Observer Corps Coordinator

LWVFA has a group of dedicated members (the Observer Corps) who serve as representatives or observers on various boards, authorities, commissions, and committees for Fairfax County, Fairfax City and Fairfax County Public Schools. The Observer Corps monitors governmental bodies for information of importance to the League and the community and keeps LWVFA informed so issues of concern can be addressed in a timely way. Local League observers are the eyes and ears of the League, pinpointing issues for local study and action. Depending on the group, meetings can occur monthly, quarterly or as needed. You may even be able to be an LWVFA observer from your home since some meetings are broadcast on Channel 16! For a list of boards or committees go to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/>, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/city-council-boards-and-commissions>>and<<https://www.fcps.edu/school-board/school-board-committees>>

If you are interested in being a member of the Observer Corps or would like more information, please contact Peggy Knight at 703-772-4939 or peggyknight49@gmail.com. We are looking for someone to replace the League's voting representative on the Information Technology Public Advisory Committee (ITPAC). Committee members are briefed on the status of the Department of Information Technology, its projects, its future and its budget. Several times a year the committee advises the county on the direction of IT funding. Below are summaries from current LWVFA observers. Due to space limitations, there are more detailed summaries available on the website and in the League office on Hummer Road. We are very proud that Jessica Storrs, LWVFA's Library Board of Trustees observer, received an award from the Public Library Association for exceptional volunteer service.

Fairfax County Criminal Justice Advisory Board

The purpose of the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (informally known as the CJAB) is to furnish advice and recommendations to the County Executive and, as appropriate, to the Board of Supervisors. The yearly meetings of the Board began with a tour of the Adult Detention Center (otherwise informally known as the jail) in Fairfax. Other meetings included presentations about the Diversion First program and the Drug Treatment Court, and updates on the gang prevention efforts in Northern Virginia and the Tyson's Urban Police Team. The Chairperson of the Board is Joy Bryan from the Lee District. Brian LeClair of the Mt. Vernon District is the Vice-Chair. Those also serving on the Board consist of representatives from the other Supervisory Districts in the County, the Sheriff's and Police Departments, the Public Defender's Office, the Probation and Parole Office, the Alcohol Safety Action Program, the District and Juvenile courts, and community organizations such as the League. *Mary Jane Cleary is the LWVFA Representative.*

Engineering Standards Review Committee

Last year Fairfax County reached a milestone in its journey

to achieve greater flexibility and clarity in the development review process. In December 2018, the Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to the Public Facilities Manual (PFM) as a result of Phase I of the "PFM Flex Project". During 2019, ESRC is focusing on beginning to implement Phase II of the "PFM Flex Project." Some Phase II Highlights include:

Geotechnical Research

- Exploration requirements for high-bearing structures & deep foundations
- Landslide mitigation
- Use of lime in construction
- Define Restricted Use Area (RUA)

General Information

- Add bond block specification
- Expand flexibility provided in Tysons to other revitalization districts & areas
- Update as-built requirements for Dam Breach Inundation Zones

Streets

- Facilitate design & review of streets & sidewalks
- Update entrance design & access management
- Define a shared-use path

Trails and Recreation

- Update plates 15-8 to 41-8
- Update trail cross-sections to accurately reflect the County-wide Trail Plan

Sanitary and Storm

- Add flexibility to standards for sanitary sewer
- Include Polypropylene pipe for storm sewer
- Incorporate Dam Breach Inundation Zone standards.

For more information and to get involved, see: Public Facilities Manual Flexibility Project <https://>

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/landdevelopment/public-facilities-manual-flexibility-project. You can also email LDSFlexiblePFM@fairfaxcounty.gov.
Kevin Pullen is the LWVFA Representative.

Fairfax County Airports Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Fairfax County Airports Advisory Committee (AAC) is to advise the Board of Supervisors on all airports and aircraft operations affecting Fairfax County. The committee is working on a letter to each Supervisor's office with detailed instructions on how citizens can record their complaints and concerns about airline noise with the countywide Aircraft Noise Complaint Center.

The Airports Authority operates a Noise Information Office to address aircraft noise concerns and to help residents understand the facts, science and regulations associated with aircraft noise. It responds to questions and complaints, monitors aircraft operations and noise levels in the community, and meets frequently with individuals, groups, elected officials, airline representatives and the FAA to discuss airport operations. An annual airport noise report (the latest one from 2017) can be found at the website www.flydulles.com.

The Fairfax County Dulles Airport Noise Impact Area Plan uses Dulles International aircraft noise contours, calculated for a full-build-5-runway layout, as the basis for its land-use decisions and policies regarding new residential units. Recent AAC meetings have been about the "Dulles International Noise Contour Map Update." In 2018, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority undertook to update the noise contour maps for Dulles. The objective was to provide updated maps to guide land use compatibility planning in the region. The maps were completed and on April 19, 2019, the MWAA formally requested that Fairfax County and Loudoun County consider integrating the updated noise contours into their land use planning. Arrivals of aircraft are more concentrated than departures and cause more noise. Developers and land use planners are asked to take these new contours into consideration before allowing residences within these new contours. The AAC was especially interested in the Dulles Suburban Center - Land Unit J in the Westfields area. Committee members were encouraged to express their individual opinions to the Board of Supervisors. *Julie Jones is the LWVFA Representative.*

Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees has set three future budget priorities: expand branch library hours to match current regional library operating hours (including Sundays); fully fund the collection development budget, which, per library policy, should be 20 percent of the library's budget but currently stands at 12 percent; and secure staffing for a

library bookmobile. The Trustees will be lobbying the Board of Supervisors and County Executive toward these goals. League members who wish to add their voice can contact their district supervisor and express support.

The updated Memorandum of Understanding between the Trustees and the Friends of the Library groups was ultimately signed by all the Friends organizations with the exception of John Marshall, which was not active because the library was undergoing renovations, and Centerville, which opted to dissolve.

In early 2019 the LEAP card (Library Equity Access Pass) prototype began in Fairfax schools. Eventually all students will be enrolled as a kindergartner and then may go to the public library with a parent, provide his or her name, and check out books and media from the library. These special accounts do not accrue late fees or bills.

Other new services introduced include My Perfect Read reader's advisory, Ask Your Library online reference, and Vox talking books for children. Additionally, the Fairfax Library partnered with PBS for the 2019 Great American Read program. *Jessica Storrs is the LWVFA Observer.*

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Transportation Committee is a meeting of the whole board with Supervisor Foust serving as chair. Supervisors looked at the high cost of tolls on I-66 the first six months of operation and monitored alternate routes (i.e. 29 & 50) for congestion. Fairfax Connector Bus 699, providing direct service from the Fairfax County Government Center to the Pentagon, is being funded by these tolls. Supervisors received updates on the construction of I-395 Express Lanes (which are slated to be completed in 2020), I-495 Express Lane Extension project, Fairfax County Parkway, Franconia-Springfield Parkway, the WMATA-led regional bus survey and the planned shutdown of 20 yellow/blue line stations during the summer.

Members established pilot programs to: address cut-through congestion at McLean, remove snow on two pedestrian/bike paths connecting to Metro stations, and use of mobile speed-monitoring signs. They considered parking of fleet vehicles and the management of on-street parking in Tysons and Reston. Supervisors also discussed electric scooters and possible legislation regarding their use.

Missing from many of the meetings were discussions regarding the expansion of the Silver Line. The committee often ran out of time since this item was always placed at the end of the agenda. Information regarding construction concerns and delays can be found in the newspapers. *Deb Wake is the LWVFA Representative.*

Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council (DVPPCC)

October was Domestic Violence Awareness month. Many of the County staff were recognized and honored at the Annual Meeting September 27. League members will remember Laura Harris, who started court observation of Preliminary Protective Orders. She has retired and will be missed.

The council's policy committee put forth a proposal to confiscate guns at preliminary protective hearings. The present 24-hour period to allow defendants to give guns to relatives, etc. is a particularly dangerous time. The DVPPCC endorsed this recommendation and we will be following its progress.

The themes for 2019 are BE THE ONE and Step up 4 Kids, a program to improve the short-term and long-term outcomes in the lives of children who have witnessed domestic violence by improving the government and community response, enhancing clinical intervention services and providing opportunities for individual impact. Another plan is to encourage men and boys to become allies in the Make the Call campaign using the BE THE ONE slogan.

Barbara Nunes is the League Representative.

Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee (JLEPC) reviews plans and prepares for emergency responses to cope with the accidental release of toxic chemicals into the air, land and water. Meetings include discussions of responses to actual incidents, e.g., a tanker truck accident and leak, and drills for potential incidents, e.g., at the Corbalis Water Treatment Plant.

One of the instructions you may be given in an emergency where hazardous materials may have been released into the atmosphere is to shelter-in-place. This is a precaution aimed to keep you safe while remaining indoors. Shelter-in-place means selecting a small, interior room, with no or few windows, and taking refuge there. The JLEPC has prepared a shelter-in-place video for the public to view, and also has instructions on its website, <http://www.lepcfairfax.org>.

The February meeting was a presentation by Washington Gas Company concerning damage prevention to gas lines. The speaker began by recalling a tragic accident in 1972 in the Canterbury Woods area of Annandale, across from Kings Park, in which a gas line was ruptured inside a house and a number of people died in the resulting explosion. He made the point that some years back gas lines were made of plastic, and some may still exist. Some lines are closer to the surface than one might expect, some as little as 2 inches down; in addition, they are difficult to detect, not being metal.

The main message here is the importance of everyone calling VA811 (formerly called Miss Utility) if you are about to have work done in your yard. You might want to do this if you are doing any major digging yourself. The service is free. You need to allow the company 48 hours for someone to get there. Once they come, they will mark the area with various colors to indicate the variety of underground lines. Homeowners should not disturb any of these markings. For more information, contact www.VA811.com.

Rona Ackerman and Lois Page are League Representatives.

Health Care Advisory Board

This committee meets monthly at the Fairfax County Government Center. Marlene Blum is the chairperson for the Health Care Advisory Board. HCAB Guiding Principles are: In order to protect and enhance the health of the community, the HCAB will promote public and private services and programs that:

- Are delivered efficiently and effectively
- Improve access to affordable health care
- Emphasize prevention and foster healthy lifestyles
- Support emergency preparedness and response
- Provide the highest quality of care in a culturally competent manner
- Increase the accessibility and availability of resources
- Support independent living

During the first six months, the board addressed the Recommendation on Older Adult Accommodations and Services Zoning Ordinance Amendment. Donna Pesto, Assistant Zoning Administrator, introduced the amendment and the reasons for the change. It took several meetings to address the entire Zoning Ordinance and identify the elements that needed to be amended. Three open houses were hosted to provide information about the upcoming Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Marlene Blum presented the HCAB position to the Board of Supervisors in October. The Board supported the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment regarding Older Adult Accommodations and Services.

In March 2019, the budget presentations were made to the HCAB board. Presentations were made by the Fire and Rescue Department, Health Department, Inova Translational Medicine Institute, and Fund 40080 Integrated Pest Management Program. The HCAB met on March 18 to vote on recommendations for the Fairfax County budget. Following discussion, HCAB members unanimously agreed that Marlene Blum, Chairperson, would send a memo and testify at the April 10 public hearing recommending increased funding for:

Fire and Rescue, and Health Departments

10030 Contributory Fund which supports the Northern Virginia Healthcare Center/Birmingham Green Adult Care Residence, Medical Care for Children Partnership, Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia. Although HCAB supports Inova Translational Medicine Institute's (ITMI) research activities, it did not support the proposed \$500,000 for ITMI.

Fund 40080 Integrated Pest Management Program Multiyear Budget Considerations for fourth year of Diversion First and various other health-related programs.

For full details of the HCAB budget recommendations go to: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/sites/health/files/assets/documents/pdf/meetings/hcab-mar182019mtgsum.pdf> *Diana White is the LWVFA Representative*

Alliance for Human Services

The Alliance for Human Services is an independent group advocating and supporting the efforts of other organizations to support the needs of Fairfax County residents.

The major annual effort is an analysis of the County Budget. During this year's meetings with the County Supervisors, housing was consistently a major issue. Watch for the announcement of AHS Annual Meeting projected to be mid-June. *Marcia McDevitt is the LWVFA Representative*

Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB)

During May, the CAAB selected projects to receive Community Services Block Grant funding in FY 2019-2021 through the Consolidated Community Funding Pool process. Federal Block Grants are used for programs serving working families and individuals living at 125% of poverty or below.

Community Action serves working poor citizens. A family of four qualifies with a maximum income of 125% above the poverty level. *Marcia McDevitt is the LWVFA Representative*

Fairfax County School Board

The proposed FY 2020 budget includes \$46.8 million for a step increase for eligible employees; \$8.2 million for non-teacher salary scale employees; \$4.3 million to expand the FCPSOn program (computing devices for all high school students); an increase in substitute pay for retirees; and expansion of the Advancement Via Individual Determination program at Key Middle, Herndon High, and a Title I elementary school to be named. The Board also approved an additional \$2.9 million for student mental health, student safety, and substance abuse prevention. The final vote on the budget is on May 23.

The Fairfax County General Fund transfer provides approximately 71.3 percent of school funding. Approximately 23.8 percent is provided by the state (state aid and sales tax revenue) and less than 2 percent is provided by the federal government. For more information, go to: <https://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget>

The School Board approved two major resources that will be implemented in all high schools in the fall.

FCPSOn: Every student will be provided a laptop in order to access digital resources and individualized learning opportunities. For more information, go to: <https://www.fcps.edu/resources/technology/fcpson>

Language arts resources: Materials for literature, writing, usage, intervention, elective courses, and Advanced Placement English courses were adopted as recommended by a committee of parents, teachers and administrators.

To view the list of materials, go to: [https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/BALLK3499A46/\\$file/Attachment%20B-High%20School%20Language%20Arts%20Basal%20Instructional%20Materials%20Recommended%20Titles.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/BALLK3499A46/$file/Attachment%20B-High%20School%20Language%20Arts%20Basal%20Instructional%20Materials%20Recommended%20Titles.pdf)

The FY 2020-24 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) was approved. Although growth in the student population has slowed, new schools, additions and renovations are needed due to shifts in student population and previous deferred construction. The CIP includes:

Renovation of eight elementary, two middle and three high schools,

Renovation planning of five elementary, two middle and one high school,

Planning for additions to three high schools,

New construction of one elementary school in the northwest part of Fairfax County,

Planning for one new elementary school in the Fairfax/Oakton area.

For more information, go to: <https://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/facilities-planning-future/capital-improvement-program> All members of the 2020-2023 School Board will be elected in November. *Pat Fege and Alice Reilly are the LWVFA observers.*

FCPS Student Health Advisory Committee

The purpose of the FCPS Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) is to "assist with the development of health policy in the school division and the evaluation of the status of school health, health education, the school environment, and health services." The SHAC members engage the public and develop, assess and review the *FCPS Wellness Policy and Regulation* (View Student and Staff Health and

Wellness Policy 2100, Student and Staff Health and Wellness Regulation 2100) and make recommendations to the School Board while also serving as a vehicle for public engagement. This past school year, SHAC reviewed key health and wellness factors that collectively contribute to student health and wellness:

1. **Recess** and amount of physical activity opportunities (measured by time) during school. FCPS did not meet the required standards, according to state and national assessments;
2. **Definition and recommendations** vary greatly for student exposure to “screen time” (at school and/or home):
 - a. Different studies measure different devices: some studies do not include school-based screen exposure;
 - b. Various devices considered for screen time may include: television, computer monitors and game screens, electronic text books, e-Cart, electronic standardized tests, instruction and classroom use of electronic white boards, Blackboard, Google Classroom, film/video, computer use (MSOffice) and other applications;
3. **Sleep studies** and student performances (academic, physical, driving safety);
4. **Student wellness** and sources of stress: pros/cons to limiting the number of total AP tests available;
5. **E-Cigarettes** and vaping policies (e.g., Juul).

How are these measured and monitored? These health and wellness issues are monitored, in part, using standardized measurements used by the National Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey and the Fairfax County Youth Survey (published each year on <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health-humanservices/fairfax-county-youth-survey/>). The surveys are used to determine the effectiveness of prevention and intervention programs offered in schools and communities. The Fairfax Youth survey is also used to identify changing trends and areas of need for students in the county. The data provides insight into the “prevalence and frequency of substance use, violence and delinquency, health and health risk behaviors, and extracurricular activities of the students. The survey also assesses factors in the youths’ environment that have been shown to protect youth from substance use and other problem behaviors.” The 2018 FCPS Youth Survey data results include the following statistics for FCPS Students:

Smoking

More students reported using e-cigarettes in the past month (9.7%) than all other substances except alcohol, ranging from 4.1% of 8th-grade students to 15.9% of 12th-grade students. **Eleven percent of the students (10.7%) reported smoking cigarettes** at least once in their lifetime, with at least three percent smoking in the past month.

Alcohol

Over one-third of Fairfax County students (34.5%) reported drinking alcohol at least once in their lifetime, ranging from 17.9% of 8th-grade students to over half of 12th-grade students (52.7%). **Female students reported higher rates of alcohol** use in their lifetime (35.6% compared with 33.3% of male students)

Marijuana

Marijuana was the second-most commonly used substance by Fairfax County students overall in their lifetime. One-sixth of the students reported using marijuana in their lifetime (17.8%), ranging from 4.3% of 8th-grade students to one-third of 12th-grade students (32.9%). **Males had a higher incidence rate** of using marijuana than female students.

Sexual Activity

One in six Fairfax County students (17.2%) reported having had sexual intercourse in their lifetime, ranging from 3.8% of 8th-grade students to 34.7% of 12th-grade students.

Bullying and Cyberbullying

Five percent of the students (4.9%) reported bullying someone on school property in the past year, while over twice as many (13.2%) reported having been bullied on school property in the past year.

Physical Activity

Participated in at least one hour of physical activity on five or more days in the past week: **All students:** Two-fifths of Fairfax County students (40.2%)

By grade level: Rates of physical activity *decreased as grade level increased:*

Eighth grade students: 43.8% of eighth-grade students

Twelfth-grade students: 33.7% of twelfth-grade students.

Comparison based on gender: Participated in at least one hour of physical activity on five or more days in the past week:

Male students: nearly half (48.7%)

Female students: roughly a third (32.0%) of female students.

Rest

Less than one-third of the students (30.9%) reported getting eight or more hours of sleep on an average school night, ranging from 17.4% of 12th-grade students to nearly half (48.8%) of 8th-grade students.

Male students were more likely to report getting eight or more hours of sleep on an average school night (34.4%)

Female students likely to report getting eight or more hours of sleep on an average school night: (27.6%).

Electronics and Screen time

Television: One in eight Fairfax County students (12.8%) reported that they spend three or more hours on an average school day watching television, which was the lowest rate since 2010.

Playing Video/Computer games: Half of the students (50.1%) reported spending three or more hours on an average school day playing video or computer games; or using a computer (including tablets and smartphones) for non-school activities, which was the highest rate since 2010. *Carol Stiller is the LWVFA Representative.*

Time to Renew Your Membership

By Carol Bursik, Membership Director

It is now time to renew membership for the 2019-2020 year, which begins on July 1, 2019. Membership levels remain \$65 for individuals, \$90 for households, and students may join FREE (however, we ask that they send in a membership form to initiate renewal). We are willing to consider members' special financial circumstances for payment of dues. To renew we invite members to visit our website at <https://www.lwv-fairfax.org/join/> for information on how to renew online or by mail. There is a convenient option for automatic renewal through PayPal, so you will never forget to renew in the future. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area!

In mid-April Donna Stowe joined LWVFA, bringing our total membership to 434. Welcome, Donna!

LWVFA Donors and Supporters

The LWVFA Board extends an overwhelming thank you to the following individuals for their generous support.

Kathleen Henry,
Doris James,
Pat McGrady,
Jerry Nelson,
Martha Rollins,

Pledgeling Foundation and
Monroe Freeman in memory of Baba Freeman

thank you

Environmental Updates:

Sustainable Gardening

By Elizabeth Lonoff

To control stormwater impacting the Chesapeake Bay, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District administers a state grant program to help protect water quality in local streams and to provide native vegetation for wildlife food and shelter. The Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) provides financial and technical assistance for municipalities and private property owners to install eligible conservation practices, such as rain gardens, constructed wetlands, and green roofs. These best management practices can be put in place at residential, commercial, and recreational sites to address problems like erosion, poor drainage or poor vegetation. Between 2015 and 2018, 100 VCAP projects were completed.

Homeowners, community associations, places of worship, and businesses in Fairfax County and the cities of Alexandria and Fairfax can apply for reimbursement of up to 75 percent of the entire project cost, depending on the project and the applicant type. Individual homeowners next can apply for a site visit starting on July 1st; homeowners associations and places of worship in Fairfax County can request a site visit at any time. For more information, visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/conservation-assistance-programs>.

Three VCAP projects will welcome visitors for the County's self-directed 2019 Sustainable Garden Tour on June 9 from 1-5 pm:

- Holtz Residence, Oakton, Audubon at Home and National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Sanctuary and Monarch Waystation,
- Hoffman Residence, Vienna, three-tiered stormwater holding pond system, and
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Oakton, vegetated swales and ongoing program of invasive-plant removal.

See the flyer at <https://files.constantcontact.com/bfa60628001/b01af580-c8a3-478f-860a-0c054db2d781.pdf> for six other location that also be open to the public. If you miss the tour, you always can visit the Mount Vernon Governmental Center, Oakton Library or Vienna Community Center for landscaping inspiration. The library has a particularly attractive and successful rain garden.

Unit Discussion Meeting Locations

Topic: Do Your Own Thing

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 May 1, 2019, 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.

Sunday, June 9

5 p.m. Reston Day (RD)

Joint RD and RE Potluck Dinner/
Fundraiser for LWVFA
Rona Ackerman’s home
2615 John Milton Dr.
Herndon 20171
Contact: Barbara (703) 437-0795
or bseandlte@earthlink.net

5 p.m. Reston Evening (RE)

Joint RD and RE Potluck Dinner/
Fundraiser for LWVFA
Rona Ackerman’s home
2615 John Milton Dr.
Herndon 20171
Contact: rachel.roberts.rmr@gmail.com

Monday, June 10

1:30 p.m. Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Classroom
Spring Village Drive
Springfield, 22150
Contact: Edith, 703-644-3970 or
Gloria, 703-852-5113

Wednesday, June 12

9:30 a.m. McLean Day (McL)

StarNut Café
1445 Laughlin Ave.
McLean, 22101
Contact: Anjali, 703-509-5518 or
Sheena, 703-481-0933

10:45 a.m. Mount Vernon Day (MVD)

Meet at Sewall-Belmont House for
11 a.m. tour
144 Constitution Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
Contact: Gail, 703-360-6561 or
Diana, 703-704-5325

7:15 p.m. Fairfax City Evening (FCE)

The Green Acres Center
4401 Sideburn Road
Fairfax, 22030
Contact: Elizabeth and Amy,
Fairfaxcityunit@lww-fairfax.org

Thursday, June 13

9:30 a.m. Springfield (SPF)

Home of Karen Knopes
9607 Laurel Oak Place
Fairfax Station
Contact: Marge, 703-451-0589

10 a.m. Centreville-Chantilly (CCD)

Sully Government Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd.
Chantilly, 20151
Contact: Susan, 703-391-0666

12 noon Oakton/Vienna (OV)

Visit LWV display at Freeman House
in
Vienna, followed by lunch at Red
Galanga
Contact: Liz, 703-281-3380

7:45 p.m. Mount Vernon Evening (MVE)

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

Wednesday, June 19

11:30 a.m. Fairfax Station (FXS)

Lunch at Occoquan Regional Park &
2 p.m. Field Trip to Griffiths Water
Treatment Plant
Route 123, Lorton 22079
Contact: Kathleen, 703-644-1555 or
Sherry, 703-730-8118

Enjoy Your Summer

See you in September



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
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 703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org

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**Anu Sahai, Co-President
 Judy Helein, Co-President
 Ron Page, Editor
 Liz Brooke, Content Editor**

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

Dues year is July 1 – June 30

Membership Dues: Individual \$65 _____ **Household \$90** (2 persons, 1 *Voter*) _____ **Student** _____ **Free** _____
 (A subsidy fund is available; check here _____ and include whatever amount you can afford.)

Membership Status: New _____ **Renewal** _____ **Reinstatement** _____ **Donation** _____

(Dues are not tax deductible.)

Tax-deductible donations must be written on a separate check or PayPal to “LWVFA Ed Fund.”
 (Please print clearly)

Name _____ **Unit (if renewing)** _____
Address _____
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip + 4** _____
Phone (H) _____ **(M)** _____ **E-Mail** _____

**Please make checks payable to “LWVFA” mail to:
 LWVFA, 4026-B Hummer Road Annandale VA 22003-2403**

OR

Join Online at: [www. LWV-Fairfax.org/join.ht](http://www.LWV-Fairfax.org/join.ht)

I am interested in becoming involved in (please indicate by circling the appropriate bullet(s)):

- **Providing organizational support** (graphic design, website development/maintenance, fundraising/grant writing)
- **Voter Service** (e.g., voter registration drives, candidate forums, developing Voters’ Guides)
- **Researching/writing about issues in which LWVFA has an interest** (e.g., environment, firearms safety, mental health, schools, domestic violence, criminal justice; or, chairing an LWVFA study committee on voter turnout or human trafficking).
- **Representing the League in governmental fora** (e.g., serving as LWVFA representative on Fairfax County citizens’ committees and agencies, such as affordable housing, Fairfax County Public Schools).
- **Other** _____