

2011 VOTER GUIDE

ARLINGTON COUNTY GENERAL ELECTIONS NOVEMBER 8, 2011

Candidate Biographies & Issue Positions

www.Vote411.org

Prepared by

League of Women Voters of Arlington

www.lwv-arlingtonva.org



All questions were developed by the Arlington League of Women Voters, in conjunction with other Northern Virginia Leagues. The answers, including biographical material, were supplied by the candidates and are reproduced verbatim here.

Virginia Senate District 30

Adam Ebbin (D)

Timothy T.C. McGhee (R)

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Biography

Occupation: State Delegate
Since 2004, Adam Ebbin has been an effective advocate for Northern Virginia in the General Assembly. Adam has fought for local priorities including transit and our environment. He served as former Governor Warner's Chief Deputy Commissioner of Labor and Industry, and has lived in the 30th District since 1989.

Occupation: Information Technology
Tim has spent his entire career in Northern Virginia and has worked in technology-related fields for most of that time. He also has sales and management experience. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Bryan College. He is eager to get to work for Virginia.

In light of Virginia's requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

I believe we must increase revenue for transportation and other spending priorities, including higher education and early childhood education. We must develop a dedicated source of long-term sustainable revenue for transportation. Growing the economy and jobs is our best avenue for additional general funds.

I prefer a debt-free budget. This supersedes preferences on taxes or spending in any part of the budget. After that fundamental principle is established, holding the line on necessary spending would be first, and after that would be considerations of revenue restructuring and enhancements. A diverse economy is healthy for both business and government.

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

In Northern Virginia, we need to expand clean transit options that allow the greatest number of residents to travel through the region with the least environmental impact. I support adding to our bus and shuttle capacity to address high traffic areas around the new BRAC buildings, and completing rail to Dulles. A long-term goal is extending the Yellow line. I also support widening Route 1, south of Buckman Road in Fairfax County, to address congestion. In the House of Delegates, I have worked to expand the use of green energy and to clean up Virginia's waterways, issues that would remain priorities for me in the Senate. I support smart growth policies, expanding funding for the Water Quality Improvement Fund, telecommuting, and believe we must do all we can to expand the market for and production of renewable energy, including requiring greater use of green energy.

The question implies that transportation and the environment are competing interests, and I'm not sure that's accurate. I believe a fundamental role for government is to make an economic way forward with maintenance and improvements to infrastructure, and that in turn makes possible addressing environmental concerns as needed along the way.

Virginia Senate District 30 (cont'd)

Adam Ebbin (D)

Timothy T.C. McGhee (R)

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

Yes, I support a non-partisan redistricting process that would be required to produce compact districts that reflect communities of interest. I voted against this year's gerrymandered redistricting plans for both of the House and Senate and I have co-sponsored legislation to establish a redistricting commission.

Let me just say, I knew what I was getting into in this district when it comes to district lines. I think there are other variables like changing demographics and that art in need of reviving called persuasion that are also significant factors not to be overlooked. I have been talking to everyone across the political spectrum in all parts of this district. Voters are hungry for someone who will listen.

What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

My top priority would be protecting and improving the quality of life for Northern Virginians, which includes improving our transportation system, protecting public education, expanding workforce training and working for a cleaner environment.

Child support reform. I've been amazed at the number of women who are paying child support, and never should have been in the first place. I've met a single mom whose child was taken when she asked CPS for help and another mom who was required to pay child support to both the state and the delinquent father at the same time. I would like to see Virginia cross-reference the different tracks of child support, child custody and child visitation. If a child is pulled from a home, child support to that home for that child should stop automatically. Instead, not only can an order stand for years, but a judge has no option to correct that injustice when it's found later.

Virginia Senate District 31

Barbara Favola (D)

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Caren Merrick (R)

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Biography

Occupation: Higher Education
I have served on the Arlington County Board (CB) since 1997. As a leader in Northern Virginia, I led the way in developing model policies to create more affordable housing, to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and to promote green buildings. I currently work part-time at Marymount University.

Occupation: Nonprofits
Caren cofounded an integration software company in her basement which grew to 1,100 employees. For twelve years she has been a leader with nonprofits that help low income families. She served on the Governor's Economic Development and Jobs Creation Commission.

In light of Virginia's requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

I would establish a new dedicated source of revenue to pay for the State's transportation needs. This approach would free up dollars from the General Fund to more adequately fund education, human services, public safety, environmental programs and other core services. To achieve this goal, I could support an increase in the gasoline tax, a possible fee increase to car titles or a possible fee tacked on to car insurance plans. Moreover, having a dedicated source of revenue would enable the State to access Federal funds through various matching programs. At this time, Virginia does not leverage State dollars to maximize all of the Federal dollars available for transportation.

Under Governor McDonnell we've enjoyed a surplus.

Virginia Senate District 31 (cont'd)

Barbara Favola (D)

Caren Merrick (R)

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

As a State Senator, I will ensure that there are better linkages between land-use decisions and transportation decisions. Arlington has been applauded nationally for encouraging high density growth on our metro corridors and creating what many experts call a "smart growth" model. I would also require that comprehensive multi-modal studies be conducted before any road construction projects begin. Multi-modal studies would evaluate the feasibility of integrating roads with transit options such as access to metro, the availability of rapid bus transit or creating HOV strategies.

I believe in an All-of-the-Above approach to transportation: capacity, efficiency and modes of transport. Solving our transportation problems will require regional cooperation, setting priorities more efficient use of transportation dollars, and increased funding for transportation. It requires new roads and widening existing roads, bus rapid transit, encouraging telecommuting and carpooling, and an efficiently managed METRO system. My opponent wants to increase the gas tax to pay for transportation projects. The gas tax is not a sustainable solution as cars get more efficient fuel economy and the rising prices. I agree with the Governor and our two Democrat US Senators that we should sell offshore drilling leases as one way to fund transportation. My dad was a lineman on the local utility and went on to become a conservation engineer. We grew up in my household with a mindset for conservation. We must promote research and innovation to develop new technologies that promote energy efficiency in transportation.

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

Yes, I would support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require that future redistricting decisions be made by using a non-partisan process. I would craft legislation that models successful practices from other States. Usually, a Commission is created with appointees by the Governor and by the General Assembly, including academics, legal experts and representatives of advocacy groups.

I support appointing a bi-partisan commission on redistricting.

Virginia Senate District 31 (cont'd)

Barbara Favola (D)

Caren Merrick (R)

What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

I will work to increase funding to the Community College System to ensure that the system has the capacity and resources necessary to admit every eligible student. This goal will require an immediate budget amendment and a long term strategy for supporting a desirable and necessary growing enrollment.

I've listened to thousands of voters as I've knocked on doors in District 31. The main concerns I've heard throughout the district are jobs and the economy and transportation. For jobs and the economy, I believe we need to recognize that although NoVA's unemployment rate is low, it is nearly double what it previously was. It is estimated that 70% of all new jobs will be created by small business owners and we need to streamline regulations and reform our tax code to unleash NoVA's entrepreneurial spirit. My other priority is transportation and I will support a bill that was passed by the House but blocked in the Senate that prioritizes our transportation spending based on the amount of congestion it relieves.

Virginia Senate District 32

Patrick N. Forrest (R)

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Janet Howell (D)

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Biography

Occupation: Attorney
Schools attended: Virginia Military Institute, Class of 1999
Syracuse University College of Law, Class of 2003
George Washington University College of Law, Class of 2004
Qualifications: Business and Community Advisory Council,
Fairfax County Public Schools Textbook Selection
Committee, Fairfax County Public Schools Military Officers
Association of America, President's Advisory Council.

Occupation: State Senator
Janet has made NoVa families her first priority, fighting
for education, transportation, jobs, public safety and
human services. She is the first woman Senate budget
negotiator. The American Academy of Pediatrics named
her National Child Advocate of the Year. She is called
"Technology Senator" for her work attracting technology
jobs.

In light of Virginia's requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

I believe that Governor McDonnell has shown tremendous leadership during these tough economic times by making the difficult choices necessary to produce back-to-back fiscal year surpluses. However, we face massive unfunded liabilities in Virginia. By 2030, the number of seniors in the state is expected to double. As a result of healthcare reform, hundreds of thousands of Virginians will be added to the Medicaid program. We must have a conversation about addressing the looming fiscal cliff.

As a Senate budget negotiator, it is my responsibility to help set priorities for our state budget. We have already cut over \$6 billion and balanced the budget without any tax increases. We have down-sized government. Now our job is to right-size it by reinvesting in our people through education, job training, and quality human services. I am proud of my part in helping Virginia achieve our rating as Best State for Business, Best Managed State and Best State in which to Raise a Child.

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

I support all-of-the-above solutions to our transportation needs and mass transit is part of that equation. Studies have shown that increased congestion reduces air quality, and conversely that decreased congestion improves air quality. I will support measures like HB 1998, sponsored by Del. Jim Lemunyon last session, which would have prioritized transportation funding for congestion relief. Unfortunately, HB 1998 died in the Senate and my opponent was instrumental in killing it.

Key to my vision is mass transit. The new Silver Line will dramatically change transportation options in the Dulles Corridor. It offers an opportunity for quality, environmentally friendly, transit-oriented development. I am working to keep tolls low as well. Improved bus service along I-66 is essential, as is improved use of technology. The League of Conservation Voters gave me a 100% pro-environment voting record.

Virginia Senate District 32 (cont'd)

Patrick N. Forrest (R)

Janet Howell (D)

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

The partisanship inherent in the redistricting process has led to a gerrymandered set of district maps statewide, all in the name of incumbent protection. My opponent, Senator Janet Howell, was the sponsor of the redistricting legislation this year and is responsible for the maps we have today. I support the redistricting model employed by states like Florida and Iowa that grant independent bodies or commissions authority to redraw lines, pending approval from the legislature.

I always vote for both constitutional amendments and legislation to require nonpartisan redistricting. The Senate has passed various approaches, only to have them defeated in a House subcommittee. As chair of the Senate committee which deals with this topic, I will continue to champion nonpartisan redistricting. Without a change of view in the House Republican Caucus, it is unlikely to pass.

What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

I believe that the most pressing issues facing Northern Virginia are transportation related; ultimately because transportation problems creep into the economy. One of my top legislative priorities will be to reintroduce Del. Jim Lemunyon's bill to prioritize transportation funding based on a project's ability to alleviate congestion. Another top legislative priority will be to protect the businesses, families, and commuters along the Dulles Corridor from the outrageous toll increases planned by MWAA to fund Phase 2 of Dulles Rail.

My top priority next session will be helping formulate the state's biennial budget. In addition to being a budget negotiator, I chair the Public Safety Subcommittee. This subcommittee oversees funding for prisons, jails, State Police, local police, sheriffs, fire programs, and state support of the National Guard. We must guarantee these services are adequately funded. One way to cut wasteful spending is to stop our cruel and costly practice of sending nonviolent persons with mental illness to jails and prisons and, instead, provide appropriate community services.

Virginia Delegate District 45

David L. Englin (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: State Delegate

David Englin has a record of principled, effective, progressive leadership. He seeks reelection to the House of Delegates, where he is Vice Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus and serves on the health, finance, and environment committees. An Air Force veteran, he lives in Alexandria with his wife and son.

In light of Virginia's requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

We must stop using gimmicks to "balance" the budget and realize we have a revenue problem. Despite Governor McDonnell's political spin, we do not have a surplus; we have a \$17.6 billion unfunded liability for state employee pensions and we're borrowing billions to fund transportation. We can no longer take a "cuts only" approach to fiscal management -- we need new revenue. We should start by reducing Virginia's nearly \$2 billion in tax expenditures, raising the gas tax, and developing a more fair and progressive income tax structure.

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

We must shift our transportation emphasis to transit, so we can focus on moving people and goods and not simply moving cars. Northern Virginia in particular needs a comprehensive regional transit plan that integrates various modes of transit across jurisdictional boundaries, so people can easily travel without a car wherever in the region they need to - or choose to - go. This must be combined with transit-oriented land-use policies so communities can grow and thrive without creating additional sprawl and environmental degradation. Finally, we should raise the gas tax, which is both a user fee on the roads and a pro-environment carbon tax that forces out-of-state drivers to pay their fair share for using Virginia's roads.

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

I support it, have voted for it time and again, and have even patroned it. Voters should choose their legislators, and not the other way around. Success will require a future governor making this his or her top priority.

What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

Education remains my top priority, as it is the foundation for both individual and community success. I will work to end Richmond's heavy-handed restrictions on the school calendar, which impedes our community's ability to close the achievement gap, and I will continue fighting to expand access to quality pre-K, which lowers costs and gives every child a strong start.

Virginia Delegate District 47

Patrick A. Hope (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: State Delegate

Patrick was born in San Antonio, Texas. Hope received his BA from St. Mary's University ('93), MA from The Catholic University ('96), and JD from The Catholic University Columbus School of Law ('01). Patrick lives with his wife Kristen and their three daughters in the Buckingham community of Arlington.

In light of Virginia's requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

Virginia is underfunding transportation, education, health care, and government pensions and can only meet these obligations through an increase in revenue through fair and equitable means. Increasing our cigarette tax to the national average, increasing the gasoline tax to keep pace with neighboring states, and slightly adjusting individual and corporate tax rates to reflect a modern economy will not only meet the demands of these core functions of government but will allow our economy to continue to be competitive into the 21st century.

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

Virginia must invest more in renewables to protect our environment and more into transit to ease congestion. We are missing a golden opportunity through job creation and economic growth by not incentivizing such industries as wind turbines and solar energy to be manufactured in the Commonwealth. In addition, we can no longer rely on 20th century transportation options. Our policies must focus more on moving people and not cars. We can solve our transportation problems and protect our environment in ways that will strengthen and grow Virginia's economy through robust job creation.

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

The 2011 "incumbency protection" redistricting plan was a travesty. I strongly support nonpartisan redistricting and believe an amendment to the Virginia Constitution would be the most effective way to achieve this goal.

Question 4: What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

Implementing federal health care reform in Virginia and ensuring all Virginians have coverage and access to high quality health care will be my highest priority. I intend to support the creation of a Health Insurance Exchange in Virginia that allows for competition and lower premiums for consumers. I also intend to sponsor legislation that improves Medicaid through higher reimbursement to providers and supports the innovation of health care delivery that improves patient outcomes, improves care, and lowers costs.

Virginia Delegate District 48

Robert H. Brink (D)	Kathy Gillette-Mallard (Independent)	Janet Murphy (Independent Green)
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Biography

<p>Occupation: State Delegate Member Virginia House of Delegates 1998-present. Member Committees on Appropriations, Transportation; Joint Commission on Health Care; Commission on Youth; Governor’s Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring. BA, Monmouth College (Illinois); JD, College of William and Mary. Northern Virginia resident since 1972.</p>	<p>Occupation: Fiscal Administration 18 year resident of McLean, Dranesville District. Education: B.S. and M.S. from Georgetown University in Languages/ Linguistics. Partial completion Ed. doctoral degree in Educational Leadership, University of Virginia. Current Occupation: Fiscal Administration, UVA, NV Center Extensive experience in the public (Dept. Interior, President's Legacy of Parks) private sector, and non-profit. Running as Independent, but party affiliation is Republican.</p>	<p>Occupation: IT/Real Estate Solar energy advocate, real estate agent, IT professional in Virginia. BA English McGill University, MS Counseling Psychology UDC, Diploma Computer Learning Center, Springfield VA</p>
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In light of Virginia’s requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

<p>We need to improve the efficiency of delivery of current services through consistent ongoing oversight of those programs. My bill creating a statewide Office of Inspector General is a step in that direction. The public safety budget should be examined to achieve economies through alternatives to incarceration and closure of excess facilities. Business incentives such as tax credits should be scrutinized to ensure they are achieving their intended purpose.</p>	<p>Virginia has achieved the goal of a balanced budget as well as substantial surpluses for the past two years. This has been possible through a combination of measures: efforts to promote business friendly tax incentives and policies, such as Research/Development tax credit, limited regulation and litigation, and efforts to ensure a pro-business environment. I would continue to support these policies as well as ways to invest wisely in core functions of government.</p>	<p>To get more revenue in for Virginia, I advocate rail. Also wind power, wind farms, and solar energy. State level for programs to attract solar panel companies to come to Virginia.</p>
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Virginia Delegate District 48 (cont'd)

Robert H. Brink (D)

**Kathy Gillette-Mallard
(Independent)**

**Janet Murphy
(Independent Green)**

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

The goal of statewide transportation policy should be to move people and goods efficiently – and “efficiently” includes minimal environmental impact. In urban areas such as Northern Virginia, this means support for transit and land use planning that minimizes the need for automobile traffic. Elsewhere in Virginia, we need to promote passenger and freight rail.

This has always been an important issue for the citizens of Virginia. I am impressed with the amount of study and reports each transportation project requires prior to approval. I believe that we must put ever greater emphasis on the technology we have available to continue to find environmentally sound solutions to transportation needs. My colleagues at the VT Transportation Institute and NVTA have produced a number of important reports on the topic.

More trains less traffic. My vision is that of MWCOG and Sierra Club for high speed rail and smart growth.

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

For many years, I have been one of the General Assembly's leading supporters and advocates of redistricting reform. I have worked with the League, business groups, and other interested parties in this effort, and I regret that our efforts fell short in this redistricting cycle. I believe we need to start a 10-year drive to secure a constitutional amendment establishing a nonpartisan redistricting process embodying the structure I have championed in the past; I stand ready to work with the League and others to achieve this goal.

The main redistricting controversy is gerrymandering: district lines are drawn in weird or seemingly random fashion designed to benefit one party. I agree with Justice Scalia's 2004 decision that redistricting issues are best resolved by the political process and are non – justiciable (Justice Scalia 541 U.S. 267). Gov. McDonnell's bipartisan citizens commission's recommendations were essentially ignored by Legislators. I do not have specific measures to propose at this time.

Independent Green Party favors more candidates, less apathy. The redistricting handled by the partisan elected officials is the opposite of this. The evidence: majority of the house of delegates run unopposed. Explain this clearly to people. The people must demand insider game be changed.

Virginia Delegate District 48 (cont'd)

Robert H. Brink (D)

**Kathy Gillette-Mallard
(Independent)**

**Janet Murphy
(Independent Green)**

What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

Federal health care reform offers the promise of providing hundreds of thousands of additional Virginians with medical attention, but implementing this change smoothly and effectively will be a major challenge for the General Assembly. As a member of the Appropriations Health Subcommittee, I intend to work with my colleagues and the McDonnell administration to carry out this responsibility.

I have several legislative priorities. 1. Work to extend the foreclosure notice from 14 to 45 days and require loan records to be recorded in courthouses. 2. Support HB 1397 which was passed by the House of Delegates but killed in Senate Democratic ad hoc committee to exempt homes from mandatory & costly federal 'Cap and Trade' energy audits before homes could be sold/built. 3. Work to assist law enforcement officials to enforce the new "Human Trafficking" bills.

To move to a 100% green energy state promote more trains; wind and solar projects; Renewable Portfolio Standards increase to 20% and higher.

Virginia Delegate District 49

Alfonso H. Lopez (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: Government service

Alfonso Lopez is a lifelong Democrat and activist with nearly 20 years of Federal and Virginia legislative experience. An Obama Administration appointee, Kaine Administration cabinet-level appointee, and long-time environmental advocate, Alfonso has the passion and the practical experience to advocate for our values and needs in Richmond.

In light of Virginia's requirement of a balanced budget, what changes to programs, services, taxes, or fees would you propose or support to achieve a balanced budget?

Balancing Virginia's budget while still maintaining vital services will be a major challenge in the upcoming budget. Governor Bob McDonnell would have us take money from the state pension fund and mortgage our future spending for a short-term gain. These types of budget gimmicks do not produce long term fiscal solvency. I support raising the state gas tax and dedicating the revenue to transportation funding. I also support reinstating the estate tax to help increase the general fund.

What is your vision for balancing Virginia's transportation needs and environmental concerns?

In 2009, Northern Virginia had the nation's second-worst traffic congestion, significantly affecting our health, environment, and quality of life. Virginia needs to allocate more resources to transportation, and to use them more wisely. My priorities include: providing incentives for transit and telecommuting; securing permanent transportation funding for infrastructure and maintenance; high-speed rail; improving walking, bicycling and trails; and empowering localities to coordinate land-use and transportation decisions.

In light of this year's controversies about drawing the lines of Virginia's legislative districts, would you support legislation or a Constitutional amendment to require future redistricting decisions to be made by using a nonpartisan process? What specific measures do you believe most likely to achieve non-partisan redistricting plans for Virginia?

I will support legislation to create a nonpartisan redistricting program through the creation of a Reapportionment Commission. This commission should represent the geographic and demographic diversity of the Commonwealth and take into consideration natural geographic boundaries, jurisdictional boundaries, communities of interest, and competitiveness when creating district boundaries. We need competitive districts that fairly represent demographic communities to make our representative democracy flourish.

What would be your top legislative priority during the 2012 General Assembly session? How would you address this issue?

Among my top priorities would be defending the rights of immigrants, fighting for clean energy and environmental sustainability, and dedicating funding to transportation with more funds targeted to public transit. We need to end discrimination in our state university system with a Virginia version of the "Dream Act". In addition, Virginia should be a national leader in renewable energy, which is why I support a mandatory renewable energy standard of 20 percent by 2025. We can also make much needed improvements to our transportation infrastructure by raising the state gas tax.

Arlington County Board - 2 Seats

Audrey Clement (Green)	Mary H. Hynes (D)	J. Walter Tejada (D)
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<i>Biography</i>		
<p>Occupation: Environmental activist Environmental activist, fiscal conservative, long time resident of Arlington, graduate of University of Pennsylvania, with Ph.D. in Political Science from Temple University. As treasurer of Arlington Coalition for Sensible Transportation, sued in federal court in 2009 to stop I-66 Spot Improvement Project as an ineffective solution to congestion on I-66</p>	<p>Occupation: County Board member Longtime Arlingtonians, Mary and Patrick Hynes raised five children in Lyon Village. Before joining the County Board, Mary was a 12-year School Board Member. Mary has been honored by her alma mater, the College of St. Benedict, the Jaycees, AAUW, the Commission on the Status of Women and N.O.I.S.E.</p>	<p>Occupation: County Board member County Board Member since 2003, Chairman 2008. Member, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee (Chairman 2010); National Association of Hispanic County Officials (President, 2009-2010); received Phyllis Campbell Newsome Public Policy Leadership Award (2007). Lives in Dominion Hills with wife Robin, an Arlington educator.</p>
<p><i>Given the difficult trade-offs that must be made each year during the budget process, please indicate what existing county services represent your priority for the coming year.</i></p>		
<p>Fund essential government services: · Keep county branch libraries open seven days a week instead of five. · Build more classrooms instead of trailers to house burgeoning school population. · Repave deteriorating county streets. · Hire more inspectors to enforce commercial recycling code to improve 10% recycling rate for apartment buildings. · Hire educational specialists like Montgomery County does to promote recycling in apartment complexes.</p>	<p>Frankly, my top funding priorities don't change from year-to-year. Through our County government, Arlingtonians provide for the public health and safety, including emergency preparedness; operate top-quality public schools; ensure that there is a human services safety net; and meet our planning, transportation and other infrastructure needs, including our streets, Metro and ART buses and County libraries, parks and other facilities. Making sure that County government works well in these vital areas and funds them adequately is my first priority.</p>	<p>In uncertain economic times, among my top priorities will be to ensure that our most vulnerable neighbors are protected with affordable housing, tenant resources, health and other emergency programs that maintain a strong safety net. At the same time, we must maintain our strong support for public education and our essential transportation network. I believe it is important to continue supporting arts and recreation programs that make Arlington a great place to live, work and play.</p>

Arlington County Board - 2 Seats (cont'd)

Audrey Clement (Green)

Mary H. Hynes (D)

J. Walter Tejada (D)

What will be your strategy to accomplish your goals in these areas?

Arterials like Wilson Blvd., George Mason Dr. and Harrison St. are crumbling, while County Board directs taxpayer dollars for extravagances the county doesn't need. To reverse course I plan to: · Curtail spending on vanity projects like Artisphere, Long Bridge Park Aquatic and Fitness Center, and Columbia Pike Trolley and redirect county taxpayer funds to essential services. · Ask for a moratorium on high density development projects like Crystal City, Columbia Pike and East Falls Church until the county identifies the infrastructure requirements of these projects and the funds to pay for them.

I've worked hard and will continue the effort to incorporate program evaluation into the County's funding and programming decisions. We have ongoing studies related to improving facility and park maintenance; assessing the adequacy of employee compensation and benefits to ensure we can compete well and hire the best staff, and exploring ways to expand our efforts on affordable housing and historic preservation. My interest in program evaluation is well known. Arlingtonians can expect me to continue to ask questions to improve efficiencies in County departments and programs and finding ways to save money and invest wisely.

First, we must continue to promote Arlington as a diverse and active community, which broadens our tax base and allows our tax rates to be among the lowest in the region. I support keeping our tax rate at a steady, sustainable rate. With the resources we have, we must prioritize expenditures that enhance our core values. We must be prudent in maintaining a responsible capital improvement plan and strive to maintain our triple AAA credit rating, even as other governments are losing theirs. By making wise investments we can maintain a welcoming and thriving community that encourages small business, attracts corporations and generates the resources needed to provide for essential services.

Arlington County Board - 2 Seats (cont'd)

Audrey Clement (Green)

Mary H. Hynes (D)

J. Walter Tejada (D)

What new services, if any, would you propose to provide for Arlington County residents?

Consolidate county's housing programs under one dedicated umbrella agency with authority to build and operate federally subsidized rental housing. · Promote elimination of single use non-recyclable containers from county retail outlets and substitution of alternatives, such as reusable bags, compostable paper and recyclable plastic containers. · Develop a plan to accommodate the homeless year round, not just during winter months. · Fund green jobs program to weatherize homes, install renewable energy, and provide free energy audits for homeowners. · Use commercial real estate tax surcharge capital fund to support more bus service in and around Arlington and construct new west entrance to Ballston Metro. · Hire an Inspector General to audit Arlington's budget.

Right now, I am not looking for new ways to spend. As individuals, families and a community, we still face many economic challenges. I would very much like to be able to restore funding to our libraries so they could return to pre-cut service levels. If funding were available, I would also want to expand ART bus availability. And, while it just a small thing, I would like to bring back some of the events that we have suspended that help knit our community together, like Arts Al Fresco. Should we be in the position to pursue new initiatives, I'll always want them be help us be a more strategic, sustainable and well-prepared community.

Innovation is important for a world-class community. Arlington has led the region and the nation in its approach to a wide range of core services. For example, we pioneered methods for funding, preserving and developing affordable housing, constructed synthetic grass fields for improved durability and access, and created a non-profit initiative to assist the neediest in our community. We must be willing to stay flexible and take positive risks, securing innovations or efficiencies within our core services. Going forward, I see important opportunities to improve our environmental sustainability, energy efficiency and ensuring ample sources of local, fresh and organic foods.

Arlington County School Board

Abigail J. Raphael (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: School Board Member

Abby Raphael is Chair of the Arlington School Board, and was first elected to the Board in 2007. She serves on the County's Strategic Issue Team on Youth Binge Drinking and is a member of the Board of the Arlington YMCA. Ms. Raphael is a former Arlington Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney.

If elected, what will be your top priority for your term of office?

My top priority is to ensure effective implementation of Arlington Public Schools' new strategic plan, which will guide us for the next six years. The Board adopted this plan in September and our role now is to monitor and promote annual progress toward achievement of the plan's goals. If APS remains focused on these goals, we will ensure that: all students are challenged and engaged; we eliminate achievement gaps; we recruit, retain and develop high quality staff; we provide optimal learning environments; and we meet the needs of the whole child. With this plan, APS can do an even better job of developing in all of our students the characteristics, skills and knowledge they need to graduate on time and to be successful upon graduation.

What do you see as the major challenge facing Arlington County schools and how would you propose to address the issue?

The major challenge facing APS is our enrollment, which is increasing at about five percent each year. With more than 1,000 students added each year, we expect by 2016 to have a shortage of about 3,300 seats. APS has worked diligently to use our existing space as efficiently as possible, including increasing class size, adding relocatable classrooms and converting spaces to become classrooms. Now we must add capacity to the school division by building additions to schools and building a new elementary school. The School Board will continue to work closely with the community and experts to determine the best options to address our growing enrollment.

What programs would you propose to help promote student fitness?

Having more 11th and 12th grade students enroll in physical education classes, which are only required through grade 10, would improve student fitness, help relieve stress, and contribute to academic success. To encourage more students to participate, APS needs to offer and market semester-long classes that appeal to students, such as yoga and swimming: activities that students can pursue for a lifetime.

Commonwealth's Attorney for Arlington & Falls Church

Theo Stamos (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney
Chief Deputy since 2002 and a prosecutor since 1987, Stamos graduated from Northern Illinois University and attended night law school at American University. Active in the Virginia State Bar, Arlington County Bar and Arlington public schools. Married to Craig Esherick and has two sons, Nicholas and Zachary.

What is the most important issue currently facing the criminal justice system in Arlington and Falls Church? What are your proposals to address the issue?

A growing problem is the use of the internet as a tool of sexual exploitation of minors. Our office will continue to work closely with law enforcement to prosecute internet predators and others who seek to prey on the young and the vulnerable. Additionally, efforts to reduce the size of the judiciary in Arlington could seriously hamper the administration of criminal and civil cases, as well as frustrate efforts to develop an Arlington-styled drug court. I believe we need more resources to deal with juvenile crime. I will continue to work with our Public Defender, Circuit Court Judges, substance abuse experts and our state legislators to secure funding for an Arlington specific drug court. I will oppose efforts to reduce the number of judges appointed to serve Arlington County and the City of Falls Church.

Arlington County Sheriff

Elizabeth “Beth” Arthur (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: County Sheriff
Sheriff since July 2000; 25 years law enforcement experience. Oversees \$35 Million budget/ workforce of 262. Bachelor's degree - Virginia Commonwealth University. Married - two high-school age sons. Memberships - Virginia Sheriffs' Association - First Vice President; Leadership Arlington - Board of Regents; Committee of 100; and Yorktown High School PTA.

For juvenile and adult criminals, what specific programs would you maintain or initiate for rehabilitation, education and development of citizenship skills? What steps would it take to accomplish this?

Virtually every inmate in the Arlington County Detention Facility will eventually return to the community. I strongly believe that pre- and post-trial detainees can and do benefit from a variety of programs, services and jobs offered to inmates. The focus of each program is to provide personal, vocational and/or educational skills that will assist in successful reintegration to our community while also encouraging inmates to productively utilize time and reduce idleness and negative behavior. Programs include: 1. Addictions, Corrections and Treatment Unit [ACT Unit]-an intensive residential substance abuse treatment program; 2. Incarcerated Mothers Program allows female inmates contact visits with their children semi-annually; 3. Nationally recognized Read-Me-A- Story program encourages inmates to read bed-time books on tape to their children and then send a copy of the book and tape to their child; 4. In partnership with Arlington Public Schools, nearly 200 inmates have received their General Equivalency Diploma (GED) during their stay over the past six years; 5. English As A Second Language program; 6. ServeSafe, a nationally recognized food safety management certification program, gives inmate kitchen workers skills and in-demand food industry certification that dramatically increases employability upon release; 7. Inmate Work Program, Community Work Program, Work Release Program, and in-house work programs offer inmates at a low risk custody level paid work either in the community or in the detention facility; 8. Electronic Home Detention Program is an alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders and provides 24-hour supervision while allowing continuity of work or school. 9. Numerous volunteer led programs that assist individuals with issues such as anger management, parenting, money management, health awareness, and employability readiness.

*Unless tried as adult, Arl. juv. offenders held pre/post-trial at No. Va. Juvenile Detention Home.

Arlington County Commissioner of Revenue

Ingrid Morroy (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: Commissioner of Revenue

Arlington's Commissioner of Revenue since January 2004, Ingrid Morroy has over 20 years of management experience in finance and human resources. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, an MBA in General Management, is certified as a Master Commissioner of Revenue, and is a graduate of Leadership Arlington.

What do you see as the major challenge facing the Office of the Commissioner of Revenue and how do you propose to address it?

As in past years, my office is constantly seeking ways to improve customer service with limited resources. Having overseen the implementation of a new computer system that allows for more efficient access to taxpayer records (both by our staff and by customers themselves via the Internet), my staff is now working to make the system more efficient and customer friendly. It is important to discover and properly assess all taxes so that the tax rate for all can remain as low as possible. In an urban county like Arlington this is a challenge. Seven years ago we implemented a personal property enforcement program that produced over \$6 million in additional revenue for the County. Today, our business tax unit is using existing staff to analyze various business records to ensure proper assessment of cigarette, meals and similar taxes. Assessing all taxes fairly ensures that no business pays more than its fair share. One of my first initiatives was to establish a DMV Select office within our office so that customers can transact state vehicle registration and titling business in one convenient location. To improve this service I will continue to lobby the state government to allow us to provide driver's license renewals as well. I strongly advocated allowing my office to register new businesses to collect the state sales tax, saving new businesses from having to provide paperwork to separate local and state offices. Further, I support the return of the Real Estate Tax Relief Program for the elderly and disabled to our office. Persons seeking the exemption must now apply at offices far removed from the tax assessing and collection offices. I support having all tax assessing functions (including exemption determinations) provided in a central location. We can provide each of the above additional services efficiently, without additional staff.

Arlington County Treasurer

Francis X. O’Leary (D)

Unopposed

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Biography

Occupation: County Treasurer

Frank O’Leary has held the office of Treasurer since January 1, 1984. He holds a degree in Economic Theory from Georgetown University. As Treasurer, O’Leary has earned thirteen national awards for treasury innovations. Under O’Leary, Arlington has achieved the lowest tax delinquency rate in its history – just over 0.5%.

What is the most important issue currently facing the Arlington County Treasurer’s Office and how do you propose to address it?

Customer service and efficient tax collection, in all its forms is my vital concern. Historically, Arlington utilized nine archaic, dysfunctional revenue processing systems that did not interact. I have initiated a five-year program, nearing completion, to replace these with a single customer-based system. Doing so exponentially improves customer service. My office has partnered with Arlington banks and Global Express outlets, providing taxpayers over 100 locations throughout Arlington to pay taxes and other fees. Our award- winning Internet Payment Portal offers similar convenience to the computer savvy. This eliminates travel to, and congestion at, the Government Center. There is no charge to our customers for these services. Because payments are immediately converted into electronic transactions and directly deposited to our bank account the de minimus processing cost is offset by dramatically increased interest earnings. Reducing traffic to our office has allowed us to cut two positions and focus on customer service, exemplified by our Customer Care Center. We provide nationally- acclaimed service to ALL of Arlington’s communities! As Treasurer, I have lowered Arlington’s tax delinquency rate from over 9% to just over one half of one percent, the lowest delinquency rate in Arlington and Virginia history, thus saving taxpayers more than \$128,000,000. In 2002, Arlington’s external auditors named us, “the most effective collector of local revenue in the United States.” Simultaneously, I’ve developed legislation establishing a federal program, whereby delinquent taxes due local governments are deducted from federal refunds. Passage of this will generate \$2,000,000 annually for Arlington, \$65,000,000 statewide, and \$2,000,000,000 nationally, reducing the tax burden on our citizens. Your Treasurer’s office proudly serves as a national model and a catalyst for change and with the support of Arlington’s voters will continue to do so.