

ELECTION '15

Candidates for Arlington County

Audrey Clement

Independent
Residence: Arlington
Family: Unmarried
Education: Ph.D.



Office sought: County Board
Occupation and relevant experience: Ph.D., Political Science, Temple University, 1993; Congressional Fellow, 100th Congress
Community involvement: Long time civic activist, Treasurer Arlington Coalition for Sensible Transportation
Website: www.AudreyClement.com
Email address: Info@AudreyClement.org
Twitter handle: Audrey_Clement

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I want to reform Arlington County government to make it more accountable to the voters. Government reform is needed right now, because the county faces several crises that the current Board has failed to adequately address, among them:

- ❖ a 21% office vacancy rate, which is at an all time high;
- ❖ a school enrollment crisis with 3,000 students housed in trailers and a School Board bogged down in a fight with community groups over the siting of a new elementary school in South Arlington;

- ❖ the loss of 13,500 affordable units over the past 15 years which the County proposes to address with a totally unrealistic plan to build more than 15,000 committed affordable units for which it has provided no cost estimate.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

The other candidates acknowledge the crisis in county government, but for the most part they propose no specific solutions. Instead they have resorted to pious platitudes and promises to do better. I have specific solutions.

- ❖ To deal with the vacancy rate I propose to reduce the BPOL tax on small business, to streamline the business permitting process, and to consult with the Governor to get a high profile tenant for the trophy office building at Rosslyn Metro, which has no tenant two years after construction.

- ❖ To deal with the enrollment crisis, I plan to increase secondary class size by one student per class, to bring Arlington's student/teacher ratio in line with neighboring jurisdictions.

- ❖ I also support a proposal to create a joint School Board/County Board committee with representatives of both civic organizations and PTAs to site new schools.

- ❖ To deal with the loss of affordable housing I plan to buy up existing market rate units and renovate them at a much lower cost to the County than constructing new units. I will also promote a housing authority that will consolidate the County's housing programs under one umbrella agency to provide economies of scale.

3. What do you see as the top challenge in governing Arlington in the coming year?

The top challenge is reducing the commercial vacancy rate, which has been spurred by BRAC, sequester, higher taxes, and a byzantine permitting process, and has resulted in the exodus of major government tenants from the County, including NSF, Fish and Wildlife Service, and TSA.

Katie Cristol



Democrat
Residence: Arlington
Age: 30
Family: Husband, Steve Giballa
Education: Bachelor's, University of Virginia; Master's of Public Affairs, Princeton University
Office sought: Member, Arlington County Board
Offices held, dates: n/a
Occupation and relevant experience: Education policy consultant with experience working in

school systems across the U.S. on strategic planning, resource allocation and community engagement
Community involvement: Appointee and Research and Investigation Chair, Arlington Commission on the Status of Women; Appointee, Arlington Public Schools Advisory Council on Instruction and Volunteer, Randolph Elementary School
Website: www.katiecristol.com

Email address: katie@katiecristol.com (for Arlington Connection use); info@katiecristol.com (for publication)

Twitter handle: @kristol

Name up to three favorite endorsements:

Arlington's educators (Arlington Education Association Political Action Committee); Arlington's firefighters (Arlington Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Association); Virginia Chapter, National Organization for Women

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I am committed to bringing to the Board the perspectives of Arlington women and families, and to emphasizing the connections between the issues facing our County. For this reason, childcare affordability defines my call to serve. Childcare is a quarter to a third more expensive in our area than in other parts of the Commonwealth, and both the cost and scarcity of childcare pose major challenges to Arlington families. Because Arlington's highly educated workforce is a chief marketing asset to new businesses as we seek to address the commercial vacancy rate (our community's central financial sustainability challenge), ensuring that parents who choose to stay in the workforce have reliable, affordable childcare is also an economic redevelopment strategy for the County. I will tackle childcare affordability by seeking to expand supply while maintaining quality standards, by pursuing childcare centers as first-floor retail equivalents in our zoning and seeking to negotiate committed affordable rents for childcare providers in our agreements with developers.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

Arlington County needs new perspectives on the Board, and the ability to see our challenges differently don't have to come at the cost of our community's progressive values. I offer the skills and experience — through my professional background working in communities far more resource-constrained than Arlington — to ask tough questions about effective resource use. But I do so while sharing our core Arlington values: Excellent schools, community solutions and a diverse population. In particular, my experience in education policy, both professionally and as a volunteer and appointee in Arlington Public Schools, means that I am well-positioned to work immediately and effectively with the School Board to address our pressing community facilities needs.

3. What do you see as the top challenge in governing Arlington in the coming year?

The top challenge in governing Arlington will be restoring trust between citizens and government. Too many Arlingtonians feel their perspectives aren't heard in County decision-making or that their input is sought inauthentically when a decision has already been reached. Ensuring that citizens insights are valued and deeply considered, particularly as we make difficult decisions about siting public facilities, must be a key priority for the next County Board (and the next County Manager) to be effective in 2016.

Christian Dorsey



Democrat
Residence: Arlington
Age: 43
Family: Wife, Rachael, and two children- Jordan (7) and Mila (3)
Education: Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, B.S.F.S.
Office sought: Arlington County Board
Offices held, dates: N/A
Occupation and relevant experience: Director, Economic Policy Institute; former Executive Director of the Bonder and Amanda Johnson Community Development Corporation; former executive director of the Reading Connection
Community involvement: Planning Commission; Tenant-Landlord Commission; A-SPAN Board of Directors; Arlington Free Clinic Board of Directors; Arlington Independent Media Board of Directors; Past Chairman, Arlington Committee of 100; Founding Co-Chair, African American Leadership Council; Service on boards of several other

community organizations

Website: www.christiandorsey.org

Email address: Christian@christiandorsey.org

Twitter handle: @Arl_CDorsey

Name up to three favorite endorsements:

- ❖ Arlington Education Association PAC
- ❖ Entire Arlington County Board (only candidate to earn entire Board)
- ❖ Working Families Coalition

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I grew up in a town that didn't think about development, and the result was a community of residents who couldn't enjoy public green space and live in an environment that provided a good quality of life. As an adult, I have been fortunate to live in Arlington, and I want to do all I can assure that our community doesn't suffer the consequences from mismanaging growth and development. This is the central challenge faced by Arlington County in order for our community to reach its full potential. Growth is also the source of community concern surrounding issues as distinct as rising school enrollment, housing affordability, adequacy of parks and open spaces, transportation and density in neighborhoods.

Arlington needs leadership that can thoughtfully balance the need for growth with the actions needed to enhance the quality of life for Arlingtonians. I will do that through careful analysis of development's impact and shaping it so that it addresses our community's needs. Once quantified, any fiscal and infrastructure impacts will then have a corresponding plan for mitigation.

Through precise analysis, inclusive collaboration and transparent decision-making, Arlington's growth can be sensible and sustainable and provide an enhanced quality of life for current and future Arlingtonians.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

As a more than 20-year resident of Arlington, an Arlington Public Schools parent, an appointed County Commissioner, and a board member of a number of community organizations, I bring a unique perspective and deep institutional knowledge of the different processes and inner-workings of Arlington County. After being involved in Arlington for more than two decades, I have a record of using my progressive values to guide me while also being independent-minded and willing to stand up to the status quo when necessary.

Professionally, I am a macroeconomic policy expert who works to promote policies that foster broadly shared prosperity. As a County Board member, I will use these skills to think critically about our budget priorities, and be a good steward of taxpayer dollars. I believe that progressive values are compatible with fiscal prudence, which is why I will ensure our investments make sense, maximize value, and produce optimal outcomes.

Arlington County is at a crossroads. From rising school enrollment to high commercial vacancy rates, we need leaders who can work together to address our challenges. Perhaps the biggest thing that sets me apart in this race is that I am the only candidate to be endorsed by every member of the County Board — four Democrats and one Independent.

My macroeconomic and community development policy background, record of civic activism, and ability to think critically and independently all give me the skills, background, and requisite experience to get to work on day one. Just as I have done in this campaign, on the County Board I'll work to bring people together and to make County government more inclusive, transparent, and responsive so that we can tackle our community's challenges together.

3. What do you see as the top challenge in governing Arlington in the coming year?

The top challenge in governing Arlington in the coming year is to bring people together and to ensure public input is taken into account before decisions are made, not after. As the only candidate endorsed by all five County Board members, I have a record of bringing people together to address our challenges.

With regards to a specific issue, Arlington's top challenge is our high commercial vacancy rate. In times of more robust economic growth, the commercial sector's strength has produced tax revenues sufficient to keep residential taxes manageable, even as home values continue to climb. However, the high rate of office vacancies, paired with struggling retail, has depressed the commercial tax base. This will require homeowners to shoulder a growing tax burden if we are to maintain/enhance our commitments to excellent public schools, providing quality human services, and making key investments to propel Arlington forward.

Arlington cannot afford to wait and hope for a cyclical upturn in the commercial sector. We must aggressively work to fill vacancies and reduce obstacles for new business, while implementing strategies to increase consumer demand.

Addressing our commercial vacancy rate will require bringing stakeholders, community partners, and business owners together. As someone with a professional career based in economic policy, and someone who has a record of bringing people together, I believe I am well suited and able to address our commercial vacancies so that we can maintain/expand our community services without forcing homeowners to bear an unfair financial burden.

Board

Mike McMenamain



Independent
Town of residence: Arlington, Virginia; Maywood Community
Age: 53
Family: Wife, Kris; Sons, Patrick & Riley
Education: BA, History and Political Science, West Virginia Wesleyan College; JD, Washington College of Law, American University
Office sought: Arlington County Board

Offices held, dates: President, Maywood Community Association, 2002-2006; President, Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF), 2013-2015.
Occupation and relevant experience: Communications Law Attorney/Consultant: President and CEO, 3 Birches Lane, LLC; Counsel, Alcatel-Lucent; Associate General Counsel United States Telecom Association; Senior Associate, Booz, Allen & Hamilton;

Counsel, Federal Communications Commission
Community involvement: I am a 21 year resident of Arlington County and the former President of the Maywood Community Association, a delegate to the ACCF, and a former County Board appointed member of the Arlington Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission (FAAC). I was also a member of the ACCF Executive Committee and was subsequently elected President, where I just finished my two year term in June of 2015. I am an attorney, homeowner, Arlington small business owner, a husband and the father of two children who have attended Arlington County schools. In addition, I was a former coach to my children who participated in Arlington youth sports programs.
Website: www.mike4countyboard.com
Email address: mike4countyboard@gmail.com
Twitter handle: Mike McMenamain@mike4countybd
Name up to three favorite endorsements: Arlington Sun Gazette, County Board Member John Vihstadt

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Arlington can do better. Like my neighbors, I have been frustrated with our county leaders, who have become increasingly disengaged from our neighborhoods. My vision for change is that we begin to listen to the community and its needs first, rather than last after a decision has been made by the county, e.g. Fire Station Number 8. I will engage the community and understand their needs when county projects are being contemplated that will affect the community. In sum, I want to put the Arlington Way back together.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I will bring responsive leadership to the Arlington County Board. I want to renew the strength of community, reengage citizens, and work with civic leaders to ensure that adequate funding exists for schools, parks, road paving, sidewalks, fixing and replacing our aging infrastructure and finding cost effective transportation solutions.

I believe that my tenure as President of ACCF and my neighborhood association, as well as my time on FAAC, gives me the experience to be an effective County Board member on day one. I offer a proven record of working to engage neighborhoods and to build consensus around pressing county issues.

3. What do you see as the top challenge in governing Arlington in the coming year?

Revenue, so that we can continue to fund schools, parks, affordable housing and infrastructure. We need to get the commercial office vacancy rate down and get business into the county, so that the financial impact does not disproportionately fall to the homeowner to build schools and maintain our infrastructure.

Candidates for School Board

Reid Goldstein



Town/neighborhood of residence: Douglas Park
Age: 62
Family: Wife, Carol; daughters, Olivia and Lillian, both APS graduates
Education: BA, Political Science, State University of New York
 MA, International Relations, The Johns Hopkins University
Offices held, dates: No previous elected office

Occupation and relevant experience: Management consulting

Community involvement: Extensive involvement in APS, neighborhood and County committees and issues

Website: www.reidgoldstein.com

Email address: reidgoldstein@gmail.com

Twitter handle: @ReidForSchools

Name three favorite endorsements: Arlington Education Association PAC, Sun-Gazette, Former State Senator Mary Margaret Whipple

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Serve the needs of each student. We need to meet each of the students where they are, and provide the best education we can for that student. While building to meet growing enrollment, we must recognize that APS students have individual needs and talents — for example, strength in math along with challenges in English as a second language. We must address the students, not assumptions about them. We cannot lose sight of this core principle. And we must remember that understanding and addressing student needs relies on the skill of and support for our teachers; we must remain competitive to attract and keep the very best.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have been a schools and community activist for over 20 years, with leadership roles including the HB Woodlawn Parent Advisory Committee chair, on the Jefferson Middle School exemplary project committee that recommended the International Baccalaureate program, as a member of the Superintendent's Strategic Planning Committee, as civic association president, president of the CPRO board, and member of the Housing Commission. With this experience, I am very familiar with how APS and the county government work, which will be essential to increase the level of collaboration on issues like location of schools and allocation of resources

B.A. "Brooklyn" Kinlay

No response received.

between the county and APS.

3. Earlier in the year, the Arlington County Board rejected a School Board proposal to build an elementary school adjacent to Jefferson Middle School, and criticized the school's outreach to the local communities. Do the County Board's criticisms have merit, and if so, how can the school board fix its community outreach problems?

The County Board's main concern was whether the School Board had investigated all the potential alternatives to the Jefferson site. That broader investigation has now been conducted over the last several months, involving representatives of every South Arlington PTA and civic association. The South Arlington Working Group has looked at all school sites and county-owned properties, and even at whether privately held land or buildings might present opportunities, investigating the feasibility of sites and issues like traffic and impact on school boundary changes. This is a process that APS should have convened much earlier to determine the best site. It is being conducted in a transparent way, so that the whole community will understand the roots and ramifications of the decision.

4. Arlington Public Schools' cost per pupil is reported to be more than \$19,000, the highest of any school district in the DC region. What are we getting for the "extra" money? What value does the Arlington Public School system add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

The per-student cost is about \$18,600, for which APS offers a breadth of programs unprecedented for such a small county, creating multiple options for students to thrive (e.g., pre-K, Montessori, special ed, Outdoor Lab, International Baccalaureate at three levels, TJHSST, technical and career ed, adult ed, traditional, immersion, H-B Woodlawn, alternative and continuation high school, etc.).

All taxpayers, with and without children in our schools, benefit from high quality Arlington schools that are respected and envied all across the region. Great schools support real estate values; a business friendly and high volunteerism climate; lower public crime, welfare, and health care costs. Well educated communities are better positioned to thrive economically, and a community that values education, also values creativity, ethics, mutual cooperation, discipline and striving for excellence — ideals that schools inspire in addition to academic mastery.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church

is seeking volunteers to give transportation to medical and therapy appointments, the pharmacy and grocery store. The Center also needs volunteers willing to visit seniors in their homes and to make phone calls from time to time to let lonely seniors know they have not been forgotten. Visit www.scmaf.org.

Arlington Public Library is seeking teen volunteers to work on Mondays, 3:30-5 p.m. with a year-long time commitment. Responsibilities would include sorting materials, attaching labels to books, etc. Call 703-228-5960.

The Youth Services Central Library is seeking volunteers to pick up all library materials on the tables and on the floor and put them on book carts; take these book carts with the

materials to the circulation area; transfer the materials from the book carts to corresponding shelves in the circulation area; organize board books in the Juvenile section of the library; and organize Juvenile and Young Adult books on a truck by classification. Call 703-228-5960.

ArtStream is looking for volunteers of all ages to act as on-stage mentors for the 2016 Inclusive Theatre productions in Arlington. Inclusive Theatre Companies are scripted acting companies featuring adults with intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities and adults on the Autism Spectrum. The Companies are directed by trained theatre professionals. Call 301-565-4567.

Homework Helpers Needed. Columbia Pike Branch Library is seeking high school and college students and retired teachers to work individually with elementary and middle school students from 3-6 p.m. Call 703-228-5960 or visit

volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/oppfor details.

Read to Children in Affordable Housing. Volunteer once a month for at least a year at one-hour read-aloud sessions on weekday evenings. Call 703-528-8317 x10 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Learn from your Neighbor at Columbia Pike Branch Library. Help develop the library's programs by attending meetings and creating presentations about its collection. Volunteers must agree to a six-month commitment. Call 703-228-5601 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Jane Franklin Dance Seeks Volunteers. The dance company is in need of production volunteers, dance class helpers and a graphic designer. Call 703-933-1111 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Central Library is seeking computer

lab coaches to staff the computer help desk, audio-visual circulation volunteers to scan and shelve DVDs and CDs, an intern to help with College & Career resources and projects on Wednesday evenings, an Italian-speaker to lead Italian conversation group for one hour per week and a Spanish speaker to lead Spanish conversation club on Thursday evenings. Call 703-228-5960 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Westover Library is seeking an English conversation group leader to facilitate conversation classes on Monday evenings and a guitar instructor to teach a teen electric guitar class at least once a month. Call 703-228-5960 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Aurora Hills Library is seeking circulation volunteers to scan and organize library items and an English

conversation class group leader to facilitate conversation classes on Friday mornings. Call 703-228-5960 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Customer Service Volunteer Needed. Answer the questions of callers seeking information about the programs and services provided by the Aging and Disability Services Division of Arlington County. Call 703-228-1734 or visit volunteer.truist.com/acvo/org/opp for details.

Arlington Thrive needs volunteers to take calls from social workers on several weekday afternoons per month, 1-5 p.m. Volunteers will work from home. Arlington Thrive provides emergency financial assistance to Arlington residents who are in crisis and cannot pay bills for basic needs. Call Nicole LaFragola at 703-558-0035 or visit www.arlingtonthrive.org.

ELECTION '15

Candidates for State Delegate in District 47

Patrick A. Hope (D)

Incumbent

Town of residence: Arlington

Age: 43

Family: Wife, Kristen and three daughters, Emma, Patty and Lilly

Education: St. Mary's University, TX, (B.A. 1993); The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., (M.A. 1996), The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, Washington, D.C., (J.D. 2001)

Offices held, dates: Delegate for the 47th District of the Commonwealth of Virginia, 2010-Present

Occupation and relevant experience: Executive Director at the Medical Imaging & Technology Alliance, and Adjunct at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Community involvement: Founder and first president of the reorganized Buckingham Community Civic Association (2003-2009), chaired the Arlington County Community Services Board (2005-2008), co-chairman of the Arlington Implementation Task Force to End Homelessness (2008-2010), and Commissioner for the Arlington County Commission on Aging (2002-2007).

Website: www.hopeforvirginia.org

Email address: delhope@house.virginia.gov

Twitter handle: @HopeforVirginia

Name three favorite endorsements: The Virginia Chapter of the AFL-CIO, Planned Parenthood of Virginia, and the Virginia Education Association.



QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

My top priority will always be to push the commonwealth to do more to help those most in need. Through its family assistance, health care, unemployment and other programs, government already has the tools to respond to Virginians in times of crisis, but we must act with greater speed and determination. The commonwealth should do everything it can to use federal matching dollars in existing and new programs to help people get back on their feet. But I'm not satisfied with the state merely being a conduit for federal funds. We need to make every effort to enhance new revenue to meet these core needs.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

My experience and proven record of working across the aisle with fellow legislators.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I have successfully worked across the aisle on numerous legislative issues, including a prohibition against the shackling of pregnant inmates and providing compensation to victims of eugenics sterilization. Governor McDonnell appointed me to serve on the Virginia Health Reform Initiative, the only House Democrat appointed.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

Expand Medicaid, require universal background checks for all gun purchases, increase the minimum wage to \$15.00 per/hr, increase funding for mental health and intellectual disabilities.

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

Arlington has seen greater development along the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes, these predatory lenders are engaged in fraudulent and anti-consumer activities and the entire industry should be outlawed.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes, I have introduced Medicaid expansion legislation in the past, and will continue to do so. Medicaid expansion is my highest priority.

Janey H. Murphy

Independent

No response received.

House District 48

Rip Sullivan (D)

Incumbent, unopposed

Town of residence: McLean, VA

Age: 56

Family: Beth (Wife), Corey (daughter), Joey, Jack, Ryan (sons)

Education: BA from Amherst College, JD from the University of Virginia

Offices held, dates: 48th District, House of Delegates, 2014-present

Occupation and relevant experience: Attorney, Bean Kinney & Korman P.C.

Community involvement:

- United States Institute of Peace International – Advisory Council Member
- Fairfax County Park Authority Board – Former Board Member
- Fairfax Affordable Housing Advisory Committee- Co-Chair
- Legal Services of Northern Virginia – former President and Board Member
- Virginia Bar Association – former Member of the Board of Governors
- Dranesville Budget Task Force –Former Chair

Website: www.Ripsullivan.com

Email address: rip@ripsullivan.com

Twitter handle: @RipSullivan48

Name three favorite endorsements: League of Conservation Voters, Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington, NOVABIZPAC (Fairfax Chamber of Commerce's PAC)



QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Climate change is one of the most important—if not the most important—issues of our time, and I am using my position to take action to address it. Virginia should be a leader on addressing climate change. Yet “climate change” is such a politically charged term in Richmond that members are advised to refer to it as “recurrent flooding,” rather than “climate change” if they want to make any progress. This is a lamentable state of affairs, and it is past time that we focus on climate change more urgently.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I am a proven leader on the issues that matter most to my constituents, including developing Virginia's clean energy industry, nonpartisan redistricting, Medicaid expansion, sensible gun safety policies, protecting a woman's right to choose, and ensuring equality for all.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I worked with my Republican colleagues last session to address the sexual assault issue at some of Virginia's colleges. I introduced a bill which required universities to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local sexual assault crisis centers outside of the university. I was able to get portions of my bill into the legislation which ultimately became law.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

(1) Developing and promoting Virginia's clean energy industry, (2) Establishing a nonpartisan redistricting system, (3) Making it easier for Virginians to vote, not harder, (4) Expanding Medicaid, (5) Common sense gun safety.

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

The 48th District was re-drawn in 2010 to include parts of McLean and Arlington. It is a district with a well-informed electorate, concerned above all with ensuring that our community remains the very best place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes.

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes, I support Medicaid expansion. It is unfortunate—if not scandalous—to see many of the leaders in Richmond carelessly throw Virginia's tax dollars away without getting anything in return. It's time we ended the partisan showdown over Medicaid expansion and did what is best for the hundreds of thousands of working Virginians who are without health care.

House District 49

Alfonso Lopez (D)

Incumbent, unopposed.

Town of residence: Arlington

Age: 45

Family: Wife – Sarah Zevin, Son – Aaron Rafael

Education: Vassar College, B.A. – Tulane Law School, J.D. with Certificate in Environmental Law

Offices held, dates: State Delegate, 49th District: 2012-Present
Occupation and relevant experience:

❖ Government Relations Consultant – Hoffman Lopez, LLC (2012-present)

❖ Assistant Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (2010-2011)

❖ Director of the Virginia Liaison's Office for Governor Tim Kaine (2006-2009)

Community involvement:

❖ Arlington Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission (2003-2006)

❖ Board Vice Chair of the Shirlington Employment and Education Center

❖ Board Co-Chair of the Arlington Veterans' Memorial YMCA

❖ Member of the Commonwealth Coalition's Virginia State Advisory Board (2006)

❖ Member of the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership's, Northern Virginia Regional Board (2005 to 2014), State Board (2014 to present)

❖ Twice elected the Deputy Chair of the Arlington County Democratic Committee

❖ President of the Arlington Young Democrats (2003-2004), Named Virginia Young Democrat of the Year in 2004

❖ Former State Central Steering Committee Member of the Democratic Party of Virginia

❖ President of the Democratic Latino Organization of Virginia (DLOV)

❖ Former At-Large Member of the Democratic National Committee

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Twitter handle: @Lopez4VA

Name three favorite endorsements: Virginia League of Conservation Voters, Virginia Education Association, Equality Virginia Advocates

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Last year, Environment Virginia released a report naming Virginia the fifth worst state in the country for toxic dumping. In addition, every year Virginia falls further and further behind our neighboring states in developing our renewable energy resources such as solar and wind. This is simply unacceptable. Virginia can and should be doing more to protect and preserve our environment for future generations. Whether it is clean air to breathe, safe drinking water, or renewable energy to grow our economy and create a sustainable energy future, our environment is an essential resource to the Commonwealth that deserves our attention. That is why I founded the Virginia Environment and Renewable Energy Caucus in the General Assembly. This bipartisan coalition of legislators works with the Governor's Administration and environmental stakeholders to identify legislative priorities and move them forward in the General Assembly.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

Over the past four as a member of the House of Delegates, I've proven that I can be an effective advocates for the issues that are critical to the people of Arlington and Fairfax County. I've successfully sponsored legislation establishing a statewide Affordable Housing Trust Fund, expanding Medicaid access to immigrant women and children, creating new opportunities for renewable energy throughout the Commonwealth, and supporting Virginia small businesses so that they can grow and thrive.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I've worked with Republicans on numerous issues to find common ground. As the founder of the bipartisan Virginia Environment and Renewable Energy Caucus, I've collaborated with members on both sides of the aisle to pass environmental legislation. In addition, I partnered with Republicans to advocate for in-state tuition for children with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status and to get the Affordable Hous

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WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Candidates for State Senate in District 31

Barbara Favola (D)

Senate District 31 Incumbent
Town of residence: Arlington
Age: 60
Family: Married to Doug Weik with one son, Donald Patrick
Education: BS, Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, CT 1977; MPA, New York University, New York, NY 1980
Offices held, dates: Arlington County Board Member 1997 through 2011; VA State Senator 2011 to 2015
Occupation and relevant experience: Government Relations and Community Outreach Consultant
Community involvement: Board Member of: Child & Family Network Centers, Arlington YMCA, Culpepper Garden, Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocate Program and the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind
Website: BarbaraFavola.org
Email: District31@senate.virginia.gov
Twitter handle: @BarbaraFavola
Name three favorite endorsements: Virginia Education Association; League of Conservation Voters and NARAL



3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggest you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

The fact that I successfully passed important pieces of legislation is an indication that I can effectively work across party lines.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

Improving K-12 Education, Investing in Pre-School, Participating in Medicaid Expansion, Improving Workforce Training and better funding Higher Education.

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

My district has become increasingly diverse and the public school systems in Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun are struggling to ensure that high school graduation rates remain high and that higher education options are available to everyone.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes. I have introduced this legislation for the past three years. In 2014, the General Assembly passed authorizing legislation to permit Virginia's participation. However, State funding was not made available. I am working with Governor McAuliffe to include this program in his budget.

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Absolutely! I have been working to make Medicaid Expansion a reality in the Commonwealth for the past three years. I will work to build a strong coalition of support that includes Republican leaning organizations.

George V. Forakis (R)

Challenger, Senate District 31
Town of residence: Arlington
Age: 26
Education: University of Maryland; Robert H. Smith School of Business, B.S. Finance & Accounting
Occupation and relevant experience: Financial / National Security Consulting
Community involvement: Board of Directors – local environmental non-profit
Website: www.forakisforsenate.com
Email address: george@forakisforsenate.com
Twitter handle: @GeorgeForakis



ing agendas. While I hold true to many of my party's values, I am not afraid to share my perspective as a member of the next generation of leaders. My issue agenda reflects a conservative approach with a willingness to consider an evolving landscape, both in our state and in our country. I am committed to representing the people of this district and am prepared to bring common-sense leadership to

the legislature.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

❖ Creating jobs through economic development initiatives ❖ Reduce the tax burden on the middle class by cutting waste and prioritizing spending ❖ Improving infrastructure to alleviate traffic/congestion, allowing for a better quality of life and positive secondary economic effects ❖ Invest in all levels of education, including higher education and high-quality vocational programs for students who do not want to, or are unable to attend four-year programs. ❖ Alternative energy sources and clean nuclear power

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

Until "sequestration" in 2013, the population in this district (and Northern Virginia in general) was growing at an incredible rate. The federal budget cuts and subsequent slow in growth that occurred two years ago, however, illuminated that fact that we are too heavily reliant on D.C.'s fiscal policy and are in desperate need of our own economy. Indeed, we will always be home to defense contractors and IT professionals — but we must ensure that we create an environment that encourages all types of businesses to participate in the economy.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes. Part of our job as legislators is to protect the people that we represent and we are obligated to prevent businesses from taking advantage of Virginia families, even if it means putting common-sense limitations on the free market.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes. Assistance to these families, especially considering that they may be considering/already enrolled in higher education at the time of aging out, is critical in shaping the futures of our foster children.

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Instead of Medicaid expansion, I support solutions that give Virginia citizens options and will work to support proactively-focused and less costly preventative care.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Virginia, and more specifically Northern Virginia, faces the increasing challenge of providing a steady source of jobs that are not reliant on the federal government. This includes attracting both new and expanding businesses — in Northern Virginia, the evidence of this challenge is clear — vacant office space and a continued reliance on federal spending are issues that must be addressed as we move forward. This issue defines my call to serve the people of Virginia's 31st district; for too long, our representatives have avoided tackling the difficult issues that affect a majority of our population. These economic challenges can be addressed with a variety of approaches, including lower taxes, decreased regulation, investment in infrastructure, and cultivating an overall business-friendly environment. The advantages of this approach are widespread and include lower individual taxes across all levels of income, and improved infrastructure, such as roads and communications systems, that will benefit everyone.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have not spent my professional career in an elected position, and as such, my commitments are simple and unwavering — I will make sure that the people of the Northern Virginia are represented the way that they want to be represented, not the way that special interests groups and politicians would like them to be. To the people of this district: I promise to listen to you (yes, all of you — regardless of whether you are in the heart of Arlington or the neighborhoods of Fairfax and Loudoun Counties).

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

The state legislature, much like Congress and the rest of Washington, faces challenges stemming from partisan differences and stubborn, self-serv-

In-Person Absentee Voting: Vote Early

In-Person Absentee Voting Fairfax County Government Center

• **Fairfax County Governmental Center Location**, Conference Room 2/3, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax, VA 22035
 Through Oct. 30: extended hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 - 5.

• **In-Person Absentee Satellite Voting** Through Oct. 30 - Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Satellite Locations:

• **McLean Governmental Center** - 1437 Balls Hill Road, Community Room, McLean, 22101
 • **North County Governmental Center** - 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

Information on Voting

Virginia Law allows voters to vote absentee if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day."

You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day. If you qualify, you can vote early in-person, see sidebar above.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one

House of Delegates district, Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County School Board at Large (vote for 3); District School Board member; Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3); School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

It's also worth noting that new, more restrictive voter identification regulations took effect last year. Voters arriving to the polls without required photo ID will be al-

lowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted. Photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification: Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; Other government-issued photo identification cards (U.S. government or Virginia); valid Virginia college or university student photo identification card; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter; Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office.

"Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

Any registered voter may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

For More Election Information
Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

ELECTION '15

State Senate District 30 State Sen. District 32

Adam P. Ebbin (D)

Incumbent

Town of Residence: Alexandria

Age: 51

Education: American University, BA, 1981; Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership, 2001 (University of Virginia); Senior Executives in State and Local Government, 2012, Harvard University Kennedy School

Occupation, experience: Consultant, former Virginia Chief Deputy Commissioner of Labor and Industry

Alexandria Board of Zoning Appeals, former member;

Virginia State Central Democratic Committee, former member; Parent Teacher Leadership Institute of Alexandria, Advisory Board Member

Website: www.AdamEbbin.com

Twitter handle: @AdamEbbin

Name three endorsements: Northern Virginia Technology Council, Virginia Education Association, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Humane Dominion, AFL-CIO



Janet Howell (D)

Incumbent, unopposed

Town of residence: Reston

Age: 71

Family: married to Hunt Howell since 1966, two grown sons, three grandchildren

Education: BA in Government, Oberlin College; MA in International Relations, The University of Pennsylvania

Offices held, dates: Virginia Senate, 1992 to present

Occupation and relevant

experience: Former teacher, former legislative assistant, current state senator

Community involvement: Prior to election to Senate, I was a PTA president (Forest Edge Elementary), chair of the State Board of Social Services, president of the Reston Community Association, chair of the Reston Transportation Committee, and various other positions.

Website: JanetHowell.com

Email address: SenHowell@gmail.com

Name three favorite endorsements: Virginia Education Association, Northern Virginia Technology Council, Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club



QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Standing up for the little guy is the principle that guides my work as a public official. Most people with pressing needs don't have powerful lobbyists, including children in poverty, immigrants, LGBT people, seniors and the disabled, and lots of working people just trying to get by.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have been an outspoken and effective advocate for more than a decade and brought together leaders from both parties to deliver results.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggest you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I have passed legislation to expand Medicaid to cover prenatal care for immigrant mothers, eliminate the punitive tax penalty on hybrid car owners, make it easier to vote absentee and see that more of those votes are fairly counted, and boost workforce development. Relationships I have built with colleagues from both parties have made these successes possible.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

Use the Federal funds already available to offer health coverage to 400,000 poor Virginians; fight the tide of gun violence that is claiming the life of a Virginian every 10 hours; increase per pupil state education funding that has suffered since 2008; continue to diversify and strengthen Northern Virginia's economy; and enact provisions to protect government and private sector workers from discrimination.

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

Since 2005, the 30th Senate District has seen significant population growth. Housing costs have dramatically outpaced incomes. Student enrollment has skyrocketed while state education per student spending has fallen, increasing budget pressures on our localities. New housing and employment patterns have added stress to our transportation systems, particularly on Route 1 in Fairfax. Our air quality has improved with the closure of the dirty GenON/Mirant coal plant in Old Town.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes, I will continue to oppose these predators who gouge lower-income residents with exorbitant interest rates.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes, I will continue to support the funding needed to successfully transition foster children into adulthood.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

I have voted in favor of a bipartisan effort to accept federal health care funds for 400,000 low-income Virginians, most of whom are in working families, including 21,000 veterans. I will continue to work with members of both parties to find common ground. It's important for voters to know that the Medicaid expansion offered under the Affordable Care Act is already being paid for with their payroll taxes and Virginia is turning away \$1.5 billion annually by not accepting these critical funds. Those who would be covered use the emergency room as their primary care center, causing health insurance premiums to rise for everyone else.

J. Ron Fisher

Independent Green challenger

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

During my tenure in office I have spearheaded several multi-year efforts to reform our laws. I was chief patron of the major family violence legislation, the mental health law reform efforts, and sexual abuse law revisions and the sexual predator registry. Currently, I am working to provide more services for those with mental illness and to divert them from our jails and prisons. Our current practices are cruel and costly.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

Unopposed.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggest you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

As the Senate has shifted control back and forth, I have consistently been selected by both parties as a budget conferee and negotiator on the most controversial bills (transportation, ethics, retirement plan reform, etc.).

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

- ❖ Make certain taxpayer money is invested wisely
- ❖ Increase funding for education at all levels, from pre-K through higher education.
- ❖ Pass legislation to expand Medicaid or 400,000 uninsured Virginians
- ❖ Increase and improve programs for persons with mental illness
- ❖ Pass commonsense gun safety legislation such a background checks

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

Redistricting took away 40% of residents in my previous district and added 40% in new areas. Now the district includes part of Arlington and parts of Oakton and Centreville. The district is more diverse ethnically and has greater disparities in income.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Absolutely. I have consistently voted to put a cap of no more than 36% on interest on loans. The current laws bring undesirable businesses into our state that prey on vulnerable residents.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes. I have been an advocate for this program and fought for it in budget conference. When the state takes children away from their parents, we have a heightened responsibility to those children. All parents recognize that children need support beyond age 18.

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes, I have been a fervent supporter of Medicaid expansion and have worked across party lines in the Senate to find a solution agreeable to the House majority. So far, they have been unyielding in their opposition despite the moral, economic, and health arguments in favor of expansion. I helped craft the Marketplace Virginia proposal and am currently working on further refinements of it. The sad truth is that the opposition is unwilling to compromise or to produce their own proposal.

Alfonso Lopez (D)

FROM PAGE 12

ing Trust Fund established.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

❖ Virginia needs to close the coverage gap by expanding access to Medicaid for all Virginians that are below 138% of the federal poverty line.

❖ We need to create a permanent funding source for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund so that it can grow and fund more projects throughout the Commonwealth.

❖ Virginia should establish mandatory renewable energy and energy efficiency standards so that we can develop our untapped renewable energy resources and create a sustainable energy future.

❖ We need to redefine "small business" in Virginia so that truly small businesses can compete on an even playing field for state contracts.

❖ Virginia should address the epidemic of gun violence across the Commonwealth by passing commonsense gun violence prevention measures such as universal background checks, limits on military grade weaponry, outlawing domestic abusers from possessing a gun, and preventing guns from falling into the hands of toddler and young children.

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

The 49th District remains one of the most diverse communities, not just in Virginia, but the entire country. Because our community is such a great place to live, work, and raise a family, we have seen tremendous growth and change over the past few years. As we continue to grow, we need to make sure that we also develop the necessary infrastructure to maintain our high quality of life as well as our ethnic and economic diversity.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes — we need to end these predatory lending practices that prey on the most vulnerable members of our community.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Yes

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes, which is why I am working to elect more members of the General Assembly that will support Medicaid expansion. The Governor and the Democratic Leadership have offered numerous plans using models from states like Arkansas and Indiana, but Republicans have been unwilling to compromise or even negotiate at every turn. The only way to close the coverage gap in Virginia is to elect more members of the General Assembly that support Medicaid expansion.

Vote Nov. 3

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