

NOVEMBER 2019 ELECTIONS – GOOCHLAND COUNTY

League of Women Voters of the Richmond Metropolitan Area, Inc.

P.O. Box 25492

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The information in this Voter Guide was obtained by the League of Women Voters using www.Vote411.org.

The League of Women Voters of the Richmond Metropolitan Area obtained this information. Questions were formulated. Candidates were contacted by email and phone and they submitted their answers electronically in their own words. No editing was done by the League.

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party. The League is nonpartisan. The League hopes this information is helpful to citizens as they prepare to vote on November 5, 2019.

Goochland County Commissioner of Revenue

Duties - The Commissioner of the Revenue is the chief tax authority for the county. Duties include assessing all taxable personal and business property, administering tax relief programs, and processing state income tax returns.

Term - 4 years

Salary - \$79,509 minimum from Virginia Compensation Board not including any increase for certification or an optional county supplement

Jennifer N. Brown

Party: I

No response

Goochland County Commonwealth's Attorney

Duties - The Commonwealth's Attorney prosecutes violations of state law and local ordinances in circuit, district, and juvenile courts and provides legal advice to the local government.

Term - 4 years

Salary - \$69,760 minimum from Virginia Compensation Board and not including any optional county supplement

David M. "Mike" Caudill

Party: Rep

No response

Goochland County Board of Supervisors

Duties - The Goochland Board of Supervisors has five members elected from the electoral districts in which they live. It enacts ordinances, approves funds, sets tax rates, and establishes policies for the administration of the County's public services. It also appoints a County Administrator, who directs the county's day-to-day operations. Members choose a chair and vice-chair each year.

Term – 4 years

Salary - \$15,000 (Chair \$19,000; Vice Chair \$17,000)

Goochland County Board of Supervisors District 1

Susan F. Lascolette

Party: Rep

No response

Crystal M. Neilson-Hall



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Box 831 Goochland, VA 23063-0831

Questions:

Q: *What are your priorities for managing residential and commercial growth in the county?*

A: I believe that we should be sticking to our comprehensive plan and slowing residential growth. We should be working to encourage more small businesses to start or relocate in Goochland. We have the highest business property taxes of the surrounding counties. This prevents businesses from choosing Goochland.

Q: *What are the chief transportation needs in your county, and how will you address these needs?*

A: Being a largely rural county without mass transit, we rely on our roads for all transportation needs. We need to make sure our roads are being maintained and that any issues that residents bring to the attention of their supervisor are documented and brought to the attention of VDOT.

Q: *What investments or policy initiative would you support to meet housing needs in your county?*

A: We have a serious affordable housing issue in Goochland. Most of the houses in Goochland are above the price point for the county's workforce (teachers, deputies, fire & rescue, etc). I support using the comprehensive plan to request that builders factor in workforce housing when planning new developments.

Q: *What do you think are the most important issues for the county and what will you do to address them?*

A: I love our county and I believe that we can do better. If elected I will prioritize: Universal Broadband Access for all unserved areas of the county. Equal Fire and Rescue response times and results for all districts. Support and expand our excellent public schools. We need to protect our farmland and the county's rural nature. Our current Board of Supervisors unanimously approves virtually all large developments that appear before them. I will fight to keep Goochland truly rural.

Goochland County Board of Supervisors District 2

Wendy S. Hobbs



Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Box 1015 Goochland, VA 23063-1015

Campaign Phone: (804) 822-6407

Web Site: <http://www.wendyhobbsforsupervisor.com>

Email: whobbs1117@icloud.com

Age: 5/11/1957

Facebook page: Wendy Hobbs for Board of Supervisors

Questions:

Q: *What are your priorities for managing residential and commercial growth in the county?*

A: My preference for managing residential and business growth in Goochland is to use the Comprehensive Plan, which was developed by county leadership and engaged citizens. Residential and Commercial growth will align with the plan, citizens input, and what benefit it bring to the entire county. I would be very mindful of the impact such approvals would have on current infrastructures when making decisions.

Q: *What are the chief transportation needs in your county, and how will you address these needs?*

A: There is no major transportation in the county, and there is a need for transportation for the elderly, the disable, and the economically deprived citizens in the county. I would explore ride-share options, public transit through regional transportation boards, and encourage local citizens to start new transportation businesses in the county.

Q: *What investments or policy initiative would you support to meet housing needs in your county?*

A: I am currently serving on a committee looking at housing needs in Goochland County. Zoning policies would need to be reviewed to allow smaller lots to be used to build lower cost homes for those in need and the county workforce. Identifying what the actual requirements for housing are and prepare a strategic plan to address housing for low income and workforce citizens in the county.

Q: *What do you think are the most important issues for the county and what will you do to address them?*

A: I would continue supporting the educational system by providing funds to remain on the upward trajectory in educating the students. Broadband expansion is essential to meeting the needs of those persons looking for employment, operating a business, students educational opportunities, and telemedicine for senior citizens, disable and others needing medical service. Workforce housing for citizens who work here but cannot afford to purchase a house where they work.

Neil G. Spoonhower



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Box 16 Sandy Hook, VA 23153

Campaign Phone: (804) 316-5584

Web Site: <http://spoon4supe.com>

Email: spoonhowerforsupervisor@gmail.com

Questions:

Q: *What are your priorities for managing residential and commercial growth in the county?*

A: Managing the growth that is coming is critical not just for our economic success but the desire I hear every day to maintain the rural nature of our county. In order to do this I believe the best and proven answer is by keeping our tax rate the lowest in the area. While businesses in our area account for only 20 percent of the land they make up 80% of the tax revenue. Keeping tax rates low to ensure our county is attractive to new business development is the key.

Q: *What are the chief transportation needs in your county, and how will you address these needs?*

A: The road infrastructure and ensuring traffic growth is accounted for when reviewing development plans. With so many rural side roads ensuring safe roadways is extremely important. I will work with VDot, who is responsible for 99% of the roads in Goochland, to ensure our projects receive the priority they deserve. I will work with the Sheriff's department to increase patrols and ensure drivers are following safe practices. I will also ensure traffic studies are done on all new developments.

Q: *What investments or policy initiative would you support to meet housing needs in your county?*

A: I have been invited by Goochland Cares, a great non-profit partner who has deep roots in our community, to work on a regional team designed to address some of the housing needs in our county. We believe there is a more significant issue of homelessness and sub-standard housing that we need to address. The first step to building a plan to solve the problem is to assess the problem and this is the first focus of this exciting partnership.

Q: *What do you think are the most important issues for the county and what will you do to address them?*

A: While broadband, rural vs. development, schools, and public safety are common and correct political buzz words I believe the most important issue in working towards improving all of them is citizenship. We seem to be losing our ability to communicate to each other and to work together. In my opinion if this is not addressed we will never arrive at solutions that benefit everyone. I have a career's worth of experience helping people work together and I will bring that as your next supervisor.

Goochland County Board of Supervisors District 3

John L. Lumpkins Jr.

Party: Rep

No response

Goochland County Board of Supervisors District 4

Donald E. Sharpe



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Address: 1498 Old Oaks Ln. Crozier, VA 23039-2409

Campaign Phone: (804) 426-7822

Email: d5e2s@yahoo.com

Age: 2/28/1952

Questions:

Q: *What are your priorities for managing residential and commercial growth in the county?*

A: Goochland developed a Comprehensive Plan several years ago which outlines the desired outcomes for growth and types of zoning in all areas of the county. This plan was developed with citizen input, and I believe is the guiding document for how the county should grow. We need to utilize this document as a barometer for measuring and approving growth. Every plan should be reviewed and updated as time goes on and the Board of Supervisors does this.

Q: *What are the chief transportation needs in your county, and how will you address these needs?*

A: Growth drives traffic congestion. This is why managing growth is so critical to a healthy lifestyle. Unbridled growth will turn our roads into a congested nightmare and destroy the advantages we enjoy living in a rural setting. I believe building any type of public system of transportation would be extremely difficult as the county is currently configured from both a cost and level of service consideration. This is why I am so keen on sensible growth. We can achieve it.

Q: *What investments or policy initiative would you support to meet housing needs in your county?*

A: There is no denying that land in Goochland is expensive, more so in the eastern half of the county. The price of land drives a large portion of the cost of housing. Whereas we cannot dictate the price at which an owner must sell their land, there may be alternatives to explore which might ease the cost for development of more affordable housing. It is a desirable goal to have people live in the communities in which they work. I am open to affordable common sense alternatives

Q: *What do you think are the most important issues for the county and what will you do to address them?*

A: Our Comprehensive Plan stipulates Centreville and the Village of Goochland as the prime and targeted areas for growth. There is a strong desire by most residents for the County to remain rural. We must find a delicate balance between growth in the targeted sectors and maintaining the rural character that so many desire. The Plan takes this into consideration and should be followed.

Goochland County Board of Supervisors District 5

Ken C. Peterson

Party: Rep

No response

Goochland County School Board

Duties - The five-member School Board is the governing body for the Goochland County public school system, subject to budgetary approval by the Board of Supervisors. Members are elected from the five magisterial districts. The Board creates policy and hires the Superintendent, who is responsible for managing the system.

Term - 4 years

Salary - \$4950 (Board Chair \$5950)

Goochland County School Board District 1

Sandra P. Barefoot-Reid



Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: 2636 Davis Mill Road Goochland, VA 23063

Web Site: <http://www.barefootforschoolboard.com>

Email: sbare33467@aol.com

Facebook page: GoBarefoot for School Board

Questions:

Q: *What is the most important issue facing schools in the county and what will you do to address it?*

A: Currently Goochland County Schools is facing a shortage of minority teachers. Limited affordable housing in Goochland discourages young teachers from coming to Goochland. I would enjoin the real estate community to help assuage this problem. I would encourage Goochland graduates to become educators and return to Goochland to teach, perhaps by means of scholarship(s) via private organizations.

Q: *How can schools best give students the research tools necessary to understand issues and verify their sources?*

A: Instruction should include teaching students the difference between fact and fiction and how to verify their facts. Included should be exercises in researching popular news stories; access to hi-speed internet to analyze them and report to the class, who, in turn get to analyze the presentations submitted. Class goal is separating truth from fiction. Teach them to recognize the earmarks of truth and those of fiction.

Q: *What education services do you support for students who are at risk of failing?*

A: Encourage early identification of the students that are struggling. Bring in parental support, interfacing parental, teacher, student and school system. Give students every opportunity to enhance their perspective of self-worth. Most students that are dropping behind are the same students with poor self concept; that have problems at home, contribute to bullying, either as being a bully or bullying others. Students that fall behind need to be identified quickly for remediation.

Q: *Would you support a high school curriculum that focuses on the civic responsibility of voting?*

A: I would definitely support a high school curriculum to teach students how to evaluate candidate platforms and recognize diversity, but appreciate differing views; just as important is listening to each other before making decisions. Give students more hands on experience in the voting process (ie mock

elections); mock campaigns; debates; and forums for the Student Government. Involve students in current election processes at all levels, federal, state, and local.

Q: *What are the best methods of evaluating and supporting teachers?*

A: Students have a more rounded education when teachers teach a curriculum, not teach to satisfy state testing standards. When a child is equipped with a well-rounded education, testing should not be problem, testing should be a necessary event not the controlling factor to education. Address salary discrepancies, maintain salaries that compete or exceed surrounding districts. Listen to what teachers have to say.

H. Jennifer Mazza

Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Bpx 43 Hadensville,VA. 23067

Campaign Phone: (804) 937-1028

Web Site: <http://JenniferMazzaforschoolboard.org>

Facebook page: Jennifer Mazza for School Board

Questions:

Q: *What is the most important issue facing schools in the county and what will you do to address it?*

A: I am running for school board because I am concerned with the quality of education our students are getting in my county I am a big supporter of Career and Technical Educational.

Goochland County School Board District 2

William E. Quarles Jr.

Party: I

No response

Goochland County School Board District 3

Karen R. Horn

Party: I

No response

Goochland County School Board District 4

C. Michael "Mike" Newman

Party: I

No response

Goochland County School Board District 5

John D. Wright

Party: I

No response

Goochland County Sheriff

Duties - The Goochland County Sheriff's Office provides court security, serves legal documents, and provides law enforcement services in the county. The Sheriff's Department does not provide jail services. Local inmates are housed in the Henrico County jail.

Term - 4 years

Salary - \$88,531 from Virginia Compensation Board and not including any increase for accreditation or an optional county supplement

Steven Ned Creasey



Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Box 843 Goochland, VA 23063-0843

Campaign Phone: (804) 840-6627

Web Site: <http://creaseyforsheriff.com>

Email: info@creaseyforsheriff.com

Age: 1/31/1975

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/creaseyforsheriff/>

Questions:

Q: *What qualifications make you the best candidate for Sheriff?*

A: I am the best candidate for Sheriff of Goochland because I have 24 + years of experience, beginning as a dispatcher and then rising through the ranks of a deputy, corporal, and sergeant with the Goochland Sheriff's Office. I have served my entire professional career in the Goochland County Sheriff's Office. I am a lifelong resident of Goochland County. I am the only sworn, certified law enforcement officer in the race for Sheriff. I am the only candidate to ever work in GCSO.

Q: *What is the greatest challenge facing the office and how will you address it?*

A: The greatest challenge facing the Goochland Sheriff's Office is the need for additional deputy staffing in order to effectively respond to the needs of our citizens as our county continues to grow and develop, with the impending westward expansion from Richmond.

Q: *What measures do you support to prepare jail inmates for re-entry into the community and to reduce recidivism?*

A: Goochland Sheriff's Office is not responsible for a jail.

Q: *What will be your priorities during your term?*

A: As Sheriff I will: 1)create Sheriff's Roundtables, composed of citizens from all demographics 2)Work closely with the Goochland County Schools Superintendent, School Board, School Resource Officers, and local P.T.A.s to ensure the optimum security of our school buildings. 3)hire the best, train the best, and retain the best deputies 4)use a comprehensive approach to combat drugs in our community 5)promote the value of building positive relationships in our community as we all work together

James Emiel Fisher

Party: I

CANDIDATE WITHDREW FROM RACE

Levin J. White

Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: Friends of Levin White for Sheriff P.O. Box 1 Crozier, VA 23039

Web Site: <http://LevinWhiteforSheriff.com>

Age: 12/19/1966

Facebook page: Levin White for Sheriff

Questions:

Q: *What qualifications make you the best candidate for Sheriff?*

A: As an experienced law enforcement officer for almost 30 years, I have a skillset that far exceeds my opponent. I am a retired police detective from the City of Richmond, Va. I have extensive experience in homicide investigations, human trafficking, major crimes to include undercover narcotics, public corruption, robberies, home invasions and property crimes. I am a graduate of the FBI-LEEDA Executive Level Management and a Department of Criminal Justice Services Certified Instructor.

Q: *What is the greatest challenge facing the office and how will you address it?*

A: The current challenge facing the Goochland Sheriffs Office is transparency. The Sheriffs Office does not participate in the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, assign a school resource officer (SRO) in every school yet claim to be fully staffed minus 1 deputy. This is unacceptable and our children deserve to be protected.

Q: *What measures do you support to prepare jail inmates for re-entry into the community and to reduce recidivism?*

A: I believe in working with internal and external stakeholders to provide inmates with appropriate resources necessary to be drug free productive citizens upon reentry in the community.

Q: *What will be your priorities during your term?*

A: I have a 12 Step Plan that has been published over 10 months ago and would encourage all to visit my website to see the an in detail. Some of the priorities include establishing a Sheriff's. substation in the Centerville section of the County, Establishing a Police Auxiliary and Youth Explorers Program, become an active member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, repair the dysfunctional relationship with the Commonwealth Attorney's Office. Experienced Leadership.

Goochland County Soil and Water Conservation Director

Duties - Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) are subdivisions of state government responsible under state law for resource conservation. Activities include outreach, education, technical assistance, and conservation planning. The Monacan SWCD serves Goochland and Powhatan counties. The District is Governed by a Board of Directors of local citizens who serve without pay. Two directors are elected from each county. The Virginia Soil and Water Board appoints two additional directors. District staff provide technical assistance in cooperation with other government agencies.

Term - 4 years

Salary - None

Jonathan D. W. Lyle



Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: 1521 Manakin Rd. Manakin Sabot, VA 23103-2504

Campaign Phone: (804) 784-3946

Email: monacanconservation@earthlink.net

Questions:

Q: *What is the most important role of the Soil and Water Conservation District?*

A: After eight years of service as a Director, I recognize the core function of the Monacan SWCD is to work with agricultural producers to implement voluntary Best Management Practices (BMPs). We do this by administering programs that allow producers to improve their operations, and advance clean water and soil conservation efforts. As a Director, I also personally work to keep a solid working relationship with Goochland County's administration, staff, and its Board of Supervisors.

Q: *What is the greatest challenge facing the District and how will you address it?*

A: Monacan SWCD's greatest challenge is expanding the number of agricultural producers participating in the voluntary BMP programs offered by the district. There are fewer family farmers in the Monacan District than there were 10 years ago. With a shrinking client base, the Monacan staff (1 full-time and 2 part-time employees), and the six volunteer Directors need to have higher visibility, and a focused out-reach effort. We can do that by leveraging web technology and data-base marketing.

Q: *What will be your priorities in the next four years?*

A: 1. Creating an agriculture database of farmers in the Monacan District; 2. Launching a District website with on-line BMP enrollment opportunities; 3. Have a continued presence at Goochland Board of Supervisors' meetings; 4. Promote landowner enrollment in Goochland's land-use tax program; 5. Advocate for homeowner well water testing via Virginia's Cooperative Extension program; 6. Work with Goochland County's staff to meet the county's Watershed Implementation Plan III 2024 benchmarks

Ronald F. Nuckols

Party: I

No response

Sebastian Volcker



Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: 5345 Whittcamp Rd. Goochland, VA 23063-3721

Campaign Phone: (804) 695-6996

Web Site: <http://Goochland.net>

Facebook page: @Volcker4MonacanSWCD

Questions:

Q: *What is the most important role of the Soil and Water Conservation District?*

A: "To provide for the conservation of soil and water resources, control and prevention of soil erosion, flood water and sediment damages thereby preserving the natural resources of the Commonwealth."
Duties of the Board, Soil & Water Conservation District, Code of Virginia.

Q: *What is the greatest challenge facing the District and how will you address it?*

A: Goochland, with its 20,000 inhabitants appears a small rural county, yet a thousand new homes are coming to the Centerville area alone. This will affect the county's water needs: It will put new demands on the aquifer at the same time as built up areas will block water penetration and increase run-off. We need to encourage developers and home owners to include retention ponds, rain gardens, etc. to slow the run off and allow the water to infiltrate back into the earth.

Q: *What will be your priorities in the next four years?*

A: In addition to the above: There are data sharing needs that need to be brought up to the legislature as the Dept of Agriculture has information the Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) could use. People who farm as a second activity need to be included on the farmers' roll so that they can participate in SWCD programs. Develop a tree planting program. Raise the profile of our SWCD, which in spite of years of good and productive services, remains somewhat of a mystery to the community.

Goochland County Treasurer

Duties - The Treasurer is the custodian of all county public monies and is responsible for ensuring that local funds, including taxes and fees, are collected, received, invested, safeguarded, and properly disbursed.

Term - 4 years

Salary - \$79,509 minimum from Virginia Compensation Board and not including any increase for certification or an optional county supplement

Pamela E. Duncan

Party: Rep

No response

NOTE: Rep = Republican, Dem = Democratic, L= Libertarian, I = Independent

EMG 10/10/19