



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## BULLETIN

Volume 47, Issue 2  
April, 2018

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P.O. Box 10133, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0133  
<http://www.lwvmcva.org>

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### Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 9  
6 p.m.  
Warm Hearth  
Village Center

*Elections, Budget, Proposed Study  
information on pages 3 and 4  
Speaker Background on page 4*

Please plan to attend the LWV-Montgomery County annual meeting and banquet at Warm Hearth Village Center Wednesday, May 9 at 6 p.m.. Details about registration will be forthcoming.

Our speaker, Carol Noggle, from Prince William County, was the League of Women Voters Legislative Coordinator at the General Assembly from 2011 to 2017. She has many insights into the General Assembly and the role of League advocacy in influencing legislation.

In addition, this year she has headed the Virginia League's Task Force on School Choice. The Task Force has expanded the LWV-US position on Vouchers and Tuition Tax Credits with Virginia specifics. One question underlying this study is whether tax dollars should support private education.

Besides a great program, we will have a business meeting to consider nominations for several positions on the Board of Directors, some additions to the bylaws, a proposal for a local study of school funding, and the budget for the coming year. We will recognize members and highlight the year's activities.

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League To Host  
Radford Candidate  
Forum  
Election is May 1

Radford City will elect a Mayor, City Council members, and School Board members May 1.

Two candidate forums are organized by our League in partnership with the Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch of the NAACP and the Radford Chamber of Commerce.

The School Board Forum is Thursday, April 12, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the Radford High School auditorium (50 Dalton Drive). League member Wayne Worner is moderator.

The Mayor and City Council Forum is Tuesday, April 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Radford High School auditorium. League member Charles Warren is moderator.

Mary Houska, Voter Services chair, has led the efforts to organize the forums. Several League members will serve as question reviewers and timers.

*The League of Women Voters, a community-based organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

*The League of Women Voters is a non partisan political organization that does not support or endorse any political party or candidate, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.*

*President's Message - Carolyn Rude*

# League's Founding Principle:

## *Democracy requires participation of educated citizens*

### Our Goal Is Education

Whatever your political perspective, you probably agree that our country's politics are tumultuous and divisive. Always, but especially now, the nonpartisan vision of the League of Women Voters stands as a beacon in troubled waters. We were founded on the belief that Democracy requires the participation of educated citizens who represent the entire population of the country, not just a select few, not just the people with one viewpoint.

We continue with efforts to encourage people to vote and to learn about our candidates. We educate ourselves on the issues by attending programs and workshops and by participating in studies.

This issue of the *bulletin* offers both evidence of our work at the local level and opportunities for education and participation. You will read about two candidate forums in Radford organized by our League in partnership with the M-R-F branch of NAACP and Radford Chamber of Commerce. You will learn about an opportunity to participate in a workshop on redistricting led by Brian Cannon of OneVirginia 2021. You will see a proposal for a local study on school funding in Montgomery County and might think about volunteering to participate. And you will see that we have lots to discuss at our annual meeting (May 9) about the directions of our organization for the coming year. Efforts are underway to organize voter registrations.

Democracy depends on the informed participation of its citizens; our League depends on the participation of its members. Please join in as you can.

### *Proposed Study*

## Funding of Montgomery County Public Schools

An August 2017 report of the Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis reported that there were 290 fewer staff serving students in the Montgomery County Schools than in the 2008–2009 school year. In 2017 dollars, school division operating funds from all sources had declined by 9.5 million dollars over the seven-year period beginning in 2008–2009.

Members of the Montgomery County League of Women Voters will be asked at the annual meeting on May 9 to approve a study that will examine the funding of the public schools in Montgomery County. The study will include four components that address the following questions:

1. To what extent is state funding of public education in Virginia adequate and equitable and how do those factors impact the funding of schools in Montgomery County?
2. Has the Montgomery County School Board prepared budgets that accurately reflect the needs of the schools and has the Board of Supervisors funded those budgets?
3. To what extent are properties

in Montgomery County taxed fairly and equitably to reflect an appropriate balance of tax revenues coming from commercial and residential properties?

4. Has the Montgomery County School Board created mechanisms that guarantee equal access to quality programs for all students attending the public schools in the County?

The success of the study will depend upon the willingness of LWVMC members to participate in the four components of the study described above. Data collection will begin this summer but most of the work will occur after the fall election cycle has been completed. The time line for completion of the study is April 2019, with the expectation that a final report will be prepared in time for the 2019 Annual meeting of the League. Mary Houska and Wayne "Dempsey" Worner will serve as co-directors of the study.

# Election of Officers; Bylaws Additions

## Nominating Committee Report

***Names in bold italic To be Elected at Annual Meeting May 9, 2018***

LWVMC Board of Directors – Calendar Year June 1 – May 31

<b><i>Officers</i></b>		<b><i>Term</i></b>
President	Carolyn Rude	2017-2019
Vice Presidents	Nancy Warren	2017-2019
	Mary Houska	2017-2018
Voter Service		
Secretary	<b><i>Linda Plaut</i></b>	<b><i>2018-2020</i></b>
Treasurers	Susan Morikawa	2017-2019
	Alison Wilson	2017-2019
Elected Directors		
<b><i>Liz Craine</i></b>		<b><i>2018-2020</i></b>
<b><i>Connie Cummings</i></b>	Website	<b><i>2018-2020</i></b>
<b><i>Mary Ann Johnson</i></b>	Communications	<b><i>2018-2020</i></b>
	Publicity	
	Bulletin	
Tamara Hodsdon	Membership	2017-2019
Julia Lewis	Events	2017-2019
Shelley Gelbert		2017-2019
Carol Linker		2017-2019
Debbie Travis		2017-2019
Dempsey Worner		2017-2019
Nominating Committee Members To Be Elected		
<b><i>Elaine Head, Chair</i></b>		<b><i>2018-2019</i></b>
<b><i>Jane Sprague</i></b>		<b><i>2018-2019</i></b>
<b><i>June Schmidt</i></b>		<b><i>2018-2019</i></b>

## Additions To LWVMC Bylaws

By Jane Wills and Elaine Head

These additions are recommended to be in compliance with LWVUS guidance and accepted bylaws language for other organizations. They include an additional section to Article VI – Financial Administration, and two new articles.

The following are the recommended additions.

Addition to Article VI –  
Financial Administration –

Section 5. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the LWVMC, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the LWVMC shall be paid to the LWV of Virginia after the state and national per member payments and other obligations have been met. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed that may at the time be owned or under the control of the LWVMC shall be disposed of to such person, organization or corporation for such public, charitable or educational use and purposes as the board in its absolute discretion may designate.

New Article –  
Article XI –  
Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and not inconsistent with these bylaws.

New Article –  
Article XII –  
Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members at the annual meeting, provided that the proposed amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

## Support

# Provide Funding for League's Programs

Following the usual pattern, the LWVMC Annual Fund Drive started out like an avalanche but has now trickled to a raindrop. We thank all those contributors who picked up their checkbooks and sent a check to us during the first few weeks of the Drive. Now it's time for the rest of us to decide how important the League is in providing the information we need to in order to make sensible and well-reasoned decisions at the ballot box. Who organizes candidate forums? Who registers voters and answers questions about when and where to vote? Who works hard each year to publish our FACTS? We all know the value of our LWVMC. Now please take out your checkbooks and contribute so that we can continue making OUR essential contributions.

*Harriett Cooper, Fund Drive Chair*

### Members

Isabel Berney in honor of Judy Snoke  
Susan Anderson in memory of Lindsay West  
Wayne Worner  
Theodore Ake in memory of Beatrice Ake  
Phyllis Albritton in honor of Mary Houska  
Nancy Alexander in memory of Lindsay West  
Helen Ballas in memory of Lindsay West  
Karen Novak in honor of Harriett Cooper  
Mary Ann H. Johnson in honor of our leaders  
Shirley Strother  
James Shuler in memory of Lindsay West  
Jim & Jeanie Baker in memory of Lindsay West  
Bev Fleming  
Leslie Hager Smith in memory of Lindsay West  
Mary Houska in memory of Lindsay West  
Susan Morikawa  
Judy Snoke  
Elaine Head  
Mary Ollendick

Alison Wilson  
Beth Obenshain in memory of Lindsay West  
Carolyn Rude  
Joan Zajac  
David Scheim  
Suzie Leslie in memory of Kenneth Cooper  
June Schmidt  
Marquita Hill  
Mary Jane Zody  
Joseph Merola and Catherine DuBreuil  
Leanne Mitchell  
William H. Brown in memory of Mr. & Mrs Melvin Brown  
Ann Goette & Rick Claus in memory of Lindsay West & Tony Distler  
Steve Huppert in memory of Janice Huppert  
Marilyn Klemperer  
Joe & Linda Powers  
Janice Litschert  
Debbie Nuss  
Jim & Pauletta Copenheaver  
Ellen Glover

## Annual Meeting Speaker Was Legislative Coordinator for State League



*Carol Noggle*

Carol Noggle has held multiple leadership positions with the League of Women Voters in Virginia.

She served as the LWV-VA Legislative Coordinator at the General Assembly from 2011 through 2017 and continues part time in that role.

Currently, she co-chairs the LWV-VA School Choice Task Force that is researching the funding and parameters of Virginia's school choice options. She chaired the Prince William Area Members At Large Unit from July 2011 to July 2013, then served as President until 2017 after its conversion from MAL status. Now she is the Voter Services Director in LWV-PWA.

Carol is active in her community as a member on the Prince William Election Task Force to analyze 2012 election issues; Board member of the Prince William Committee of 100 to plan forums and candidate debates; and League representative on the Prince William Re-Entry Council to assist re-entry of released felons to the community and to provide information on restoration of rights at the regional Adult Detention Center.

She has resided in Northern Virginia for a number of years and worked professionally both as a nurse and as an elementary school teacher. She is an avid equestrian.

**League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, VA  
Budget Proposal**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Adopted 2017-2018</b>	<b>As of feb28,2018</b>	<b>Proposed 2018-2019</b>	
<b>INCOME</b>				
A. Dues	4,625.00	4,275.00	4,625.00	85-Full, 18-Half, 2-Life, 2-Schol, 1-Stu
B. Contributions				
B.1 Members	2,500.00	1,665.00	3,000.00	
B.2 Non-Members	1,200.00	200.00	1,200.00	
B.3 Business & Organizations				
B.3.a. Bulletins (6)**	200.00	250.00	250.00	
B.3.b. Facts	1,700.00	2,625.00	2,600.00	
B.3.c. Grant Support				
C. Interest				
C.1. Certificate of Deposit	25.00	3.15	3.00	
C.2. Checking	2.00	1.38	2.00	
D. From Reserves	1,448.00		887.00	
E. Designated Income				
E.2 Specific Events	1,400.00		1,500.00	Meals/events
F. Other				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13,100.00</b>	<b>9,019.53</b>	<b>14,067.00</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
A. Operating				
A.1. General Supplies (stationery)	100.00		100.00	
A.2. General Postal Expenses	360.00	659.00	660.00	Bulk mail permit, POBox rent, postage miscellaneous
B. Board & Administrative Committees				
B.1. President	15.00		50.00	
B.2. Secretary	15.00	12	15.00	
B.3. Treasurer	15.00	3.60	50.00	checks
B.4. Administrative Committees				
B.4.a. Finance	100.00	13.44	15.00	printing
B.4.b. Membership	100.00	55.90	200.00	e.g. brochures
B.4.c. Annual Meeting	50.00		100.00	Non-food
B.4.d. Public Relations/Publicity	50.00	261.78	250.00	
B.4.e. Board	67.00	58.00	60.00	
B.5. Benevolence				
B.5.a. Sickness, Death, etc.	50.00	250.00	150.00	
B.5.b. Scholarship	100.00	100.00	0.00	Included in D. Assessments
C. Delegate Expenses				
C.1. National Convention	1,200.00		0.00	National occurs even years
C.2. State Convention	0.00		1,000.00	State occurs odd years \$200/p, 5 max
C.3. State Council	150.00		0.00	\$75/p occurs even years
C.4. Workshops	375.00		375.00	\$75/ person
D. Assessments				
D.1. National Dues (\$32.00)	2,752.00	2,768.00	3,104.00	
D.2 State Dues (\$16.00)	1,376.00	1,384.00	1,552.00	
E. Communications				
E.1. Bulletin Postage	300.00		0.00	See A.2 general postal expense
E.2. Bulletin Production (6)	400.00	445.00	400.00	
E.3. Video Taping	250.00	240.00	240.00	
F. Educational Activities				
F.1. Publications support	250.00		250.00	Supplies/Software
F.1.a. For Members (handbook)				
F.1.b Facts	2,100.00	2,313.68	2,100.00	
F.1.c Website	400.00	727.96	400.00	
F.2. Programs				
F.2.a. National				
F.2.b. State				
F.2.c. Local	250.00	52.85	250.00	
F.3. Voters Service	350.00	193.38	536.00	
G. Position Support/Lobbying				
G.1. National				
G.2. State (including Lobby Day)	525.00	260.00	600.00	\$100/ person
G.3. Local		110	110	VCOG annual dues
H. Designated Fees	1,400.00		1,500.00	Meals/events
I. Other				
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>13,100.00</b>	<b>\$9,908.59</b>	<b>\$14,067.00</b>	



*Lindsay West*

## Founder and Lifetime Member Dies

Lindsay B. West, 83, of Blacksburg, VA, one of the founders of the Montgomery County Chapter of the League, died February 2, 2018 at Blacksburg. She earned a B.A. from Radcliffe College in 1956.

Her service to Blacksburg and Montgomery County, as well as her work on civil rights, social justice, and the arts was honored by the nation League which awarded her a Lifetime Membership. The Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch of the NAACP honored her with its annual Nannie B. Hairston Community Service Award in 2011.

She served on the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, including terms as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 12 years started at her election in 1976. She worked with New River Community Action, and was instrumental in helping form the Community Foundation of the New River Valley. She remained active in politics and served on state offices. Lindsay oversaw the successful renovation of the Lyric Theatre serving as the Lyric Council's first Chairman.



Having willingly agreed to write a 'few words' in memory of Lindsay West, I soon realized that several pages would not be enough to even begin to cover her varied interests and wide-ranging accomplishments. To begin, it is worth noting that Lindsay was a founding member and until the end of her life, a dedicated member, of the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County.

Sampling from some of her seemingly never-ending list of other interests were her never failing concerns about civil rights and social justice; her effort to bring about a balance between economic growth and protection of the beauty and health of our environment; her support or the arts, highlighted by her work on behalf of the Lyric Theater and her contributions to the Moss Arts Center. In addition to all of this was Lindsay herself, with her warmth and quiet dignity. Whether as chair of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, or as a member of the numerous other Boards and Councils she was affiliated with, she always displayed a generous willingness to consider someone else's point of view while steadfastly continuing to work together with others to achieve what she felt was right and just for our community and the people living in it.

*Harriett Cooper*

## Former Montgomery County Member, Active in State and National Roles, Dies

Meghan Dorsett, Cambria, 60 years old, a member of the Montgomery County League died in January 2018. Dorsett was co-director of communications for the League of Women Voters and edited the organization's newsletter. She served as a Montgomery County planner and as a planning commissioner for Christiansburg,

She earned degrees from Virginia Tech, Hollins University and Missouri State University and taught writing, political rhetoric and literature at Southwest Missouri State University. She ran a Montana-based graphics company.

## Redistricting Workshop: Saturday May 19

OneVirginia 2021 is bringing their “Deep Dive Into Redistricting” workshop to Salem Museum, Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. to noon..

The workshop, co-hosted with the Roanoke LWV Members At Large unit and the LWV of Montgomery County, will be Saturday, May 19, from 10 until noon, in the Community Room at the Salem Museum ([801 East Main Street, Salem](http://801EastMainStreet.com)).

The workshop provides information on the issues surrounding redistricting nationwide and in Virginia, the status of current court cases, an update on the recent General Assembly session, and information on lobbying and other actions planned in Virginia for the coming year. New district lines will be drawn after the 2020 census, and partisan gerrymandering is not only unfair to voters but works against us making progress on other League positions. Brian Cannon,

the workshop leader, is Director of OneVirginia 2021.

Attendance is limited to 35. We will hold off making a public announcement until April 15 to give members first chance to attend. The workshop is free, but registration is required. Please email Carolyn Rude at [carolyn.rude@comcast.net](mailto:carolyn.rude@comcast.net) to claim your spot. When you write to Carolyn, also let her know 1) whether you would like to carpool (and if you could drive or just need a ride), and 2) if you would like to have lunch at the White Oak Tavern before heading back home.

The Roanoke MAL unit took the lead in organizing this workshop and invited Montgomery County to co-sponsor. Besides learning more about redistricting and how to make it happen, the workshop offers an opportunity for us to develop a good relationship with a neighboring League. Please try to make room in your schedule for this workshop.

## Qualifying To Register New Voters

The Virginia Department of Elections requires that anyone who wishes to register new voters must complete training to qualify for this task. The training is available online at <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/training-video.html>. The video takes about 15 minutes, and then you complete an online form on which you promise that you have understood the guidelines and will abide by them.

Certification lasts for one year and

expires on June 30, so if you qualified in the past, you may need to renew your certification.

The League will be active in registering new voters in time for the primary (June 12) and general election (November 6). This year we will elect a US Senator and the District 9 member of the House of Representatives. Blacksburg residents will also elect a member of the City Council.

## Where else Can FACTS Be Useful?

About 8,000 copies of our FACTS directory have now been distributed to various government offices, schools, businesses, and individuals.

My favorite distribution: a student at Pulaski High School has qualified to register voters and is registering at his high school. He requested some copies to give to the students he registers.

More copies are available. If you can put some in public places or distribute through your organizations, please contact Carolyn Rude ([carolyn.rude@comcast.net](mailto:carolyn.rude@comcast.net)).

## “Talking Black in America” at Lyric

A film, “Talking Black in America” will be shown Thursday, April 19, 4 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre.

It explores the symbolic role of language in the lives of African Americans.

Created by The Language and Life Project at NC State, it features footage with speakers from Harlem, Charleston, Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Mississippi.

The showing is sponsored by several departments at Virginia Tech

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## Calendar

Thursday, April 12 - 6:30 p.m. - Radford School Board Forum - Radford High School auditorium

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 p.m. - Radford Mayor and City Council Forum, Radford High School auditorium.

Tuesday, May 1 - Election Day, Radford

Tuesday, May 1 – 11:45 a.m., First Tuesday Luncheon, 622 North Main Restaurant

Wednesday, May 9, 6 p.m. - Annual Meeting, Warm Hearth Village Center

Saturday, May 19 - 10 a.m. - Redistricting workshop - Salem Museum

Tuesday, June 12 – 6 a.m. – 7 p.m., Primary Election

## Sponsor

**Education Programs & Services LLC – Wayne “Dempsey” Worner (540) 552-8807**

**Warm Hearth Village - [www.retire.org](http://www.retire.org)**

**Julia Lewis**

## JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TODAY

Become a member of the League of Women Voters. The annual membership fee is \$50. This payment includes local, state, and national membership dues. Members receive The National Voter, The Virginia Voter, and The Montgomery County Bulletin.  
Email: [Membership@lwvmcva.org](mailto:Membership@lwvmcva.org).