

League in Action

April 21, 2021

President's Message

We are gearing up for another election! Early voting for the June 8 primary starts April 23! We have our famous sandwich boards ready to go at farmers markets – **if you can sign up** for pick up and delivery please do so here.

WE REALLY COULD USE HELP WITH THE COLUMBIA PIKE MARKET!!!!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084FA5AD28A5F49-sandwich

Most of our efforts will kick in for the November election but **we do have a candidate forum on May 2**—(see below) – please invite your friends on list serves, etc. to join us.

We are also hoping to do some outdoor voter registration this summer!! So stay tuned!!!! Enjoy the weather and please remember that COVID is not gone – so stay safe! **If you want to volunteer** for the November elections, contact our Voter Services Chair, **Don Gurney** donnwren@comcast.net

Joan

Thanks to Debby Churchman who is our representative to the Arlington Complete Vaccination Campaign who did these wonderful things (see below).

Complete Vaccination Campaign Day of Action: Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who came out to help for CVC Day of Action! Close to 200 volunteers joined to canvas Arlington with information about the COVID-19 vaccine. Preliminary numbers show that volunteers flyered 4,000 apartments, placed 450 multilingual median signs and passed out information in 40 retail zones. It couldn't have happened without you!

Find more information here

Non partisan Voter Information for the June 8 primary

In order to vote in the June 8 primary you must be registered by May 17.

Register here

Find out who is on the ballot and how to get an absentee ballot here



EVENTS

April 29

Join our own **Krysta Jones** and she hosts a virtual gala for our friends at the **Arlington Independent Media**



Tickets available here

April 29

It's 2021 --- Time for Fair Redistricting in Virginia!

Thu, April 29, 2021 - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM EDT

Join the League of Women Voters of Virginia on our (Virtual) Day of Action. Citizen voices are essential for Fair Maps!





Now that Virginia has created a Bipartisan, Citizen-led Redistricting Commission, what do Virginia citizens need to do?

Join us to learn what happens next and how you can get involved!

Why is fair redistricting important?

Who is drawing the maps? And when will they do that?

How can I make sure my voice is heard?

RSVP here

May 1

LWV NCA Annual Convention

Sat, May 1, 2021 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM EDT Join with other members of National Capital Area Leagues of Women Voters as we choose our officers and delegates for 2021-22, adopt and modify positions, and hear from panelists describing new redistricting processes in Maryland and Virginia, as well as nationally. Get an update on efforts to achieve statehood for the District of Columbia.

Register for the Zoom link here

May 2

League of Women Voters of Arlington - Candidate Forum

Sunday, May 2, 2021 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM (EDT)



Candidate Forum Virginia House of Delegates/Arlington County

Board

Get to know the candidates on the June 8 primary ballot. This is a virtual event but **you will have the chance** to meet with candidates in breakout rooms and ask questions.

Candidates who will be there:

Delegate Alfonso Lopez and Karishman Metha - District 49

Takis Karantonis and Chanda Choun - Arlington County Board

Invited

Mark H Levine and Elizbeth Bennett-Parker - District 45

Register here for the Zoom link

May 22-23

LWV VA 40th Biennial Convention May 22 -23, 2021



"Come" to the LWV Virginia 40th Biennial Convention - a virtual celebration!

The plenary sessions will take place on the mornings of May 22 and 23 but we will also have several informative breakout sessions during the afternoon of May 22. Non delegates may view the plenary sessions from a social media platform and **ALL League members will participate in the breakout sessions.**

You will be able to register for several optional meetings as well as the breakouts of your choice.

You may sign up for EITHER optional training session on May 19. There is one on May 19 at 2p and another on May 19 at 7p. These are the same session, just offered at different times. This will acquaint you with the zoom and basic convention procedures.

May 20 at 7 PM is the Affordable Housing Study Position Caucus where you can learn more about the study which will be voted on at the plenary session

May 21 at 7 PM is the Election Security Study Position Caucus where you can

learn more about that study also up for a vote at the plenary.

May 22 - 23 - The plenary sessions start at 8:30 AM. On the afternoon of the 22nd you will pick the breakout you want to attend.

If you have any questions or encounter any problems, email **Joan** at firstvp@lwv-wa.org.

Register for the convention here

Save the date

June 5

Our Annual Meeting will be June 5, 2021 – 10 AM. Our keynote speaker is **Samia Byrd**, Chief Race and Equity Officer of Arlington County.

FOR THE BIG PICTURE

From James Madison's Montpelier

In case you missed it - Constitutional Toolkit presentations

Join Montpelier & The Center for Civic Education to learn the basics of the Constitution in this series featuring lively discussion from scholars and practitioners!

Let's Talk About Rights with Christopher Riano

Who's In Charge, Anyway? with Susan M. Leeson

Citizenship with Jeremy Fogel

Interacting with Law Enforcement with Antoinette T. Bacon and Juan Antonio
Gonzalez

Challenges to the Constitution with **David Hudson**

The Right to Vote with Sondra Cosgrove

Find links to presentations in this series here

From the National Constitution Center -

Do We Need a Third Reconstruction?

Thursday, April 29, 12:30 – 1:45 p.m. ET

In light of the critical events and national debates that have happened over the past year and beyond regarding race, rights, and equality, the National Constitution Center is hosting an online discussion exploring the question: "Do we need a third Reconstruction?" **Sherrilyn Ifill**, president and counselor-director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund; professor **Wilfred Codrington III** of Brooklyn Law School; political scientist **William Allen**; and professor **Kurt Lash** of the University of Richmond School of Law and author of a new two-volume series, *The Reconstruction Amendments*, join for a discussion on the history of Reconstruction and its legacy, the civil rights movement and constitutional change, and whether or not America needs a

third era of Reconstruction. This program is presented with support from Citizens.

Register for the link here

Podcasts from the Constitution Center

Why Do the Innocent Plead Guilty?

Judge **Jed Rakoff** unveils his new book *Why the Innocent Plead Guilty and the Guilty Go Free: And Other Paradoxes of Our Broken Legal System* with former Judge **Paul Cassell** of the University of Utah College of Law, **Carissa Byrne Hessick** of the University of North Carolina Law School, and moderator **Jeffrey Rosen**. They discuss the current challenges in American criminal justice today and share innovative proposals for reform.

Listen to the podcast here

Women Constitutional Visionaries

Hear about women constitutional visionaries from landmark eras in our nation's history—sharing the legendary contributions of women to the founding; the fight for abolition, the right to vote, and the 19th Amendment; the civil rights and equal rights movements; and more. **Martha Jones**, author of *Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Insisted on Equality for All*, and **Lisa Tetrault**, author of *The Myth of Seneca Falls: Memory and the Women's Suffrage Movement, 1848-189*8, join host **Jeffrey Rosen**.

Listen to the podcast here

From the National Conference of State Legislatures -

Incoming - Primary Season!

Primary Changes: The Hot Trend of 2021?

The Canvass - March 2021

Read the feature in The Canvass here

Committees

April 21 – **TODAY!** - 7 PM - **Election Integrity** – Contact Lisa Koteen Gerchick lkoteengerchick@gmail.com

April 26 – 1 PM - **Civics** (IWNI) - Contact Joan <u>Joan@joanporte.com</u>

April 26 – 7 PM - **Affordable Housing** – Contact Joan <u>Joan@joanporte.com</u>

LWV Joint Statement on Derek Chauvin Trial Verdict

The League of Women Voters of the United States has issued a joint statement with the League of Women Voters of Minnesota and the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis in response to the conviction of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd.

Read the statement here

Look for next newsletter May 5







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