

League in Action

April 5, 2023

President's Message

Elections Heroes Day – The 2023 Version

April 12

Those of you who were members last year remember the fun we had when we went to the offices of the Arlington and Alexandria City Elections Offices with food and cards and balloons. Well, "thanks" to legislation passed last year in the General Assembly that was supposed to address contributions that they felt caused undue influence on our election system (and which LWV Virginia was trying to tell legislators had bad unintended consequences), we can no longer do that. However, has the League ever been stopped?

What we can do is say thank you to our election workers for all of their hard work and dedication to free elections by sending them thank you cards. We are asking all members to mail a note to the staff of our election workers to arrive on or before April 12. This is a great project for kids and your non-League friends

involved too! The more the better. Tell these workers what it means as League member to see how much they do to defend Democracy.

You can also go in person to thank them. On April 12, there will be an Elections Board meeting in both localities, and Arlington will be celebrating the opening of the newly renovated Bozman Center. You can sign up below to attend and thank them in person and there is no law against making thank you signs!

The Alexandria meeting is April 12 at 9:30 AM.

In Arlington, since the April 12 Board meeting is still tentative, we will gather at 3 PM for the opening of the Bozman Center.

Even if you can't come, please record if you are sending a card(s) – (We want to have a record of how many cards we sent.)

Alexandrian's send your cards to:

Angie Maniglia Turner and Staff
Office of Voter Registration and Elections
132 North Royal Street, Suite 100
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Arlingtonians send your cards:

To Gretchen Reinemeyer and Staff

Arlington Elections Office

2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 320

Arlington, VA 22201

Remember to sign up if you are sending a card or coming in person.

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

Thanks for all you do.

Joan

What Does the League DO?

Read and share our Impact Report from the 2022 midterms.

In a nutshell, the League provided 27 million voters with election information and protected the voting rights of 17.4 million voters through court cases.

We Have One More Slot for A Delegate to Convention!

We have one more opening for a delegate to the LWV Virginia Convention in Williamsburg, June 3/4. Email us if interested!

LWV of Arlington and Alexandria submits comments to VA Department of Education on the proposed changes to History Standards of Learning

We submitted comments in opposition to the VA Department of Education proposed changes to the Standards of Learning for History.

Read them here

New dates out for Naturalization Services Voter Registration for April

Sign up here. We have registered 1100 new citizens since January.



We Have Openings for Several Voter Registration Events in Arlington and Alexandria City Too!

Including the Alexandria Detention Center on April 20 and the Columbia Pike Farmers Market in May.

Sign Up For Voter Registration Events

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES

WE NEED DATE ENTRY PEOPLE!!!

We need people who will enter names and address of people that we register so that we can send out GOTV POSTCARDS!

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OUR CONDO ELECTION TEAM ALSO NEEDS NEW BLOOD. THIS IS A VERY LUCRATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE LEAGUE WHICH DOESN'T TAKE A LOT OF TIME!

Email lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com if interested.

If you are not already a member of LWV Arlington and Alexandria, please consider joining!

We are turning up our voter registration events and our Get Out the Vote programs. It is all hands on deck for Democracy! Active students ages 16 - 26 pay no dues and we have scholarships available for anyone who needs one. Contact LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com for information.

Join or donate to the League!



Call to Arlington residents and small business owners - PROMOTE DIGITAL EQUITY

Take the Arlington Broadband Study eCheckup

At its September meeting the board of LWV-Arlington and Alexandria City voted to support expanding awareness of programs to make broadband more widely available.

One way to participate is by being part of the Arlington Broadband Study

From Arlington County for residents and businesses -

Arlington County has launched a broadband study to better understand its community's internet use and broadband access. As a part of this work, Arlington is asking both residents and businesses to participate in a digital eCheckup.

Arlington County is launching this study as part of its effort to make sure residents have affordable, reliable access to high-speed internet. **Take the digital eCheckup now**, and then share the link with a neighbor!

This study takes about 20 minutes to complete. Know that by participating you are acting to support LWV US and LWV VA positions. the June 2022 LWV National Convention adopted the concurrence proposed by the LWV Rural Caucus and backed by 52 state and local Leagues. The concurrence allows Leagues at any level to advocate for affordable broadband everywhere, as well as for access to public, educational and governmental (PEG) access media."

Take the echeckup here

EVENTS

April 19

LWV-Arllington and Alexandria

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Voting in Arlington
Wed., April 19 - 6:30-7:30 PM
Central Library - 1015 N Quincy St 22201

Join the League of Women Voters of Arlington and Alexandria City, and **Liz White**, Executive Director of Upvote Virginia, and **Gretchen Reinemeyer**, Arlington General Registrar, to learn what to expect about your ballot and the methodology of voting using RCV.

See the flyer here





April 26

LWV-Arllington and Alexandria and UU the Vote

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Voting in Arlington

April 26 - 7-8 PM - Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
4444 Arlington Boulevard 22204

The League of Women Voters of Arlington and Alexandria City and Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington's UU the Vote invite you to learn about the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) ballot which will be used for the Arlington County June 20 primary.

- You will be able to practice RCV with several desserts from Pastries by Randolph and the Happy Tart (gluten free.)
- Hear from Liz White, Executive Director of UpVote Virginia
- And **Tate Fall**, Deputy Director of Elections, Arlington County

This is your chance to learn about the new voting technique we will be using in June while enjoying delicious desserts!

Early Voting starts May 5! Be prepared!

Tea and coffee also provided.

RSVP here

April 30

Candidate Forum

April 30 – 1:15-4:30 PM
Walter Reed Community Center
2909 16th Street South

This is your chance to question candidates on the June 20th primary ballot.

From 1:15 - 3:30 PM you will get to ask your questions directly to the candidates for County Board.

From 3:30 – 4:30 PM you will have the same opportunity to speak with candidates for other offices.

Join us and our co-sponsors: the NAACP Arlington, RevUp Virginia, Moms Demand Action, Spread the Vote and the Viginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy





LWV of Arlington and Alexandria Annual Meeting

May 21, 2:30 – 4:00 PM
Walter Reed Community Center
2909 16th St S 22204

It is time again for our Annual Meeting. **Our featured speaker is Liz White**, Executive Director of UPvote Virginia who will explain how Ranked Choice Voting will work in the June 20 Arlington primary.

We will also vote on the Board slate of officers, the new year budget and program adoption.

Light refreshments will be served after the business meeting.

This event is open to members and prospective members, although only current members will be allowed to vote.

RSVP here



June 2- 4

41st Biennial LWV-VA Convention

Preserving Democracy in the 21st Century

Mark your calendar and register for our 2023 Convention, June 2- 4 in beautiful Williamsburg!

Whether you are a delegate or an observer, we hope to see you June 3-4. We have a fantastic line up including Professor **A.E. Dick Howard** who will be our Saturday banquet keynoter. Professor Howard rewrote the Virginia Constitution in 1971 to guarantee Black voting rights and was a chief consultant to Governor Terry McAuliffe's efforts to restore rights to returning citizens. He is widely acknowledged as an expert in the fields of constitutional law, comparative constitutionalism, and the Supreme Court. Howard is the Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of International Law at the University of Virginia.

We have a fantastic lineup of speakers and workshops in addition to the business meetings and election of a new board!

To register and learn hotel information, click here.

News from National

LWV Voters Reaches More than 27M Voters During 2022 Midterms

3/16/2023

The League of Women Voters of the United States reached more than 27 million voters in the 2022 midterm election cycle last fall, resulting in **the organization's largest voter engagement program ever in a federal election cycle.** LWVUS released its annual election report today highlighting the organization's impact in the 2022 midterm elections.

Read the press release

To support your advocacy for League positions consult -

LWVUS Impact on Issues 2022-2024

Impact on Issues is designed to help League members use LWVUS public policy positions effectively at the national, state, local, and regional levels. The intention is to inspire Leagues to use national positions to act in their own communities.

Impact on Issues has been organized so that "Taking Action" is front and center followed by the League Principles. Then, for quick reference, the LWVUS public policy Positions in Brief summarize the more detailed positions in the sections that follow. For each of the major issue areas, the listing gives the full official statements of positions in bold type.

LWVUS Impact on Issues 2022-2024

At the Alexandria Expungement Clinic



Pamela Berg and Charlene Yang working the Alexandria City
expungement program



Pam Berg registering her first returning citizen after checking that his rights have been restored!

LWV-Arl/Alex Spring Voter Registration - Marymount



Our Voter Services team registering students to vote at Marymount

Meeting

April 16 - 2 PM - **Book Group**

The book is All in the Day's Work: An Autobiography by Ida Tarbell

Contact **Joan** <u>LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com</u>

Look for next newsletter April 19