



## **League in Action**

December 21, 2022

## **President's Message**

Happy Holidays! We made it through another interesting year.... Will we ever have a "normal" one again? The important thing to remember is that we meet all new challenges!

We'll rest up, enjoy the holiday cheer! Remember **we start on January 11 with our first Women's Legislative Roundtable.** These are weekly events sponsored by the LWV of Virginia updating us on legislation going through the General Assembly. This year these hybrid – zoom and in person.

**League Day – our day of advocacy – is Jan 25.** This is in person only and all are encouraged to come to Richmond and make an impact. We can arrange carpools and have access to some money to help reimburse gas or hotels.

**See information below on how to register!** Let's make a big impact!

Happy New Year! **Thanks** for all you do!

Joan

PS – Remember, **our Day of Advocacy here locally is Jan 15!**

**ALSO many people have filled out our membership form stating that they were interested in voter education. Well, 2023 is your year. Not only will we have major elections on the new legislative maps, we will have June primaries conducted via Ranked Choice Voting! There is a lot of education needed. Stay tuned!**

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## CALLING ALL ALEXANDRIANS!

-from **Laura Leussing**

Board member and member of the Affordable Housing Committee

**Take a few minutes** to influence the future of your city! Alexandria has embarked on an 18-month planning process for the development of Alexandria West and is soliciting input from residents.

You can learn more about the Alexandria West development and provide input by taking the poll here

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**If you would like a yard sign supporting ranked choice voting, please complete this SignUp Genius.**

We have five left!

Get a Free Yard Sign Supporting Ranked Choice Voting



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES**

If you were at our October 16 Membership Meeting, you heard **Don Gurney** speak of the **need to expand our voter services program**. As he said, "What we have was sustainable when we had 80 members, not when we have 250."

None of these require much time and most are "seasonal." We can use more people to work on:

- **Candidate forums held prior to the primary and general elections**
- **Reaching out to large corporations moving into the area**
- **Outreach to condominiums**
- **Outreach to farmers markets**
- **Preparing voter education materials**

**We also need a co-chair for our student chapter building project!**

Please let **Don** know at [lwarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lwarlingtonva@gmail.com) if you have interest or questions.

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## **Arlington Community Reentry Coalition**

We have been invited to be a part of a new coalition being formed in Arlington to address issues facing recently released prisoners (returning citizens).

The coalition, called the Arlington Community Reentry Coalition is made up of representatives of various agencies in Arlington who work in support of

recently released former convicts to the Arlington community. The coalition incorporates a variety of social agencies including the local police department, public defender's office, Catholic Charities, Spread the Vote, AFAC and AHC along with the League and others.

We will be providing information on the restoration of rights and voting information, (of course). **They are planning a fair on Feb 18** for families or incarcerated people and returning citizens and which we will have a booth.

**We need people** who can help work on this information and put together packets that we can provide these people. Please email [LWVArlingtonVA@gmail.com](mailto:LWVArlingtonVA@gmail.com) for more information.

We have made contact with the Alexandria Coalition and they are having a spring event - stay tuned.

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## **Sips and Civility – The Revival!!!!**

Due to COVID 19, we had to stop our popular Sips and Civility Program. This is designed to introduce topics to the public that might be a bit controversial in a civilized setting and fashion. We had a great turnout for our "Dillon Rule" event just before everything closed.

**We are grateful that Sampriti Ganguli has agreed to chair the revised Sips committee and she has two great ideas, one of a Money in Politics event and another for look at City Council vs County Board**

**rule. She can use some help with event planning, menus, speakers etc. This is a fun project. If interested or you want to learn more contact her - [sampritiq@gmail.com](mailto:sampritiq@gmail.com)**

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## **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](mailto:LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com) for information.

**Join or donate to the League!**

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## **EVENTS**

**Jan 11, Jan 18, Feb 1, Feb 8**

## **2023 General Assembly Legislative Roundtables!**

**Join us for the WLRTs** - everyone is encouraged to come to Richmond to amplify our voices. We will get updates from legislators and our partner groups on the bills relating to our legislative priorities.

**All 8:30 – 9:30 AM. Hybrid**

**January 11, 2023**

- Remove witness requirement for absentee ballot envelopes
- Funding of elections (including amending or repealing Zucker Buck bill passed in 2022 session, SB80)

**January 18, 2023**

- Push for campaign finance reform
- Support RCV (ranked choice voting)

**February 1, 2023**

- Support funding of public education and not diverting funds to private education
- Protecting RGGI (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative)

**February 8, 2023**

- Support right to marry amendment
- GVP (ghost guns, secure storage, GVP Center)

[RSVP here](#)

**Jan 15**

# **LWV of Arlington and Alexandria City Day of Action and Program Planning Meeting**

**It Is Time for Advocacy!**

## **Our first in person Day of Action in three years**

Mark your calendars for January 15, 2023. Come and bring your friends and family to our day of action – postcard and email event!

Whether you are interested in supporting Ranked Choice Voting, the National Popular Vote, affordable housing, campaign finance, the right to marry, women's reproductive rights, gun safety, environmental justice, returning citizens or anti-racism activities, join us! You can write a postcard, (or email if you bring your Ipad or phone). We will also have information on how you can write letters to the editor and take other actions!

This is your chance to catch up on the legislation moving through the General Assembly and to make an impact!

**Our Day of Action starts at 2:30 PM at the Shirlington Library.**

**From 2:00 - 2:30 P there will be our annual Program Planning Review** when we will get an update on the Planning Program Study now underway and review any existing positions of ours and LWV VA for possible review.

<https://my.lwv.org/node/25657/positions>



<https://lww-va.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/LWV-VA-Pos-In-Brief-2021-June-21-Final.pdf>

[RSVP Here - Bring Your Friends](#)

**Jan 25**

## **Our First in Person League Day (Day of Advocacy) in 2 years!!**

Jan 25 8:30A – 11:30 AM

Suntrust Building Auditorium – Richmond

It is our day to make our voices heard in Richmond with our first in person League Day in 2 years!

### **A buffet breakfast is provided**

Our focus topics are:

- **Supporting right to vote amendment**
- **Protecting reproductive rights**

We will have the opportunity to attend the General Assembly session and visit the offices of our legislators!

**Join us!**

\$20

[RSVP here](#)

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## News from National

# LWV Statement on Moore v. Harper Supreme Court Oral Arguments

12/7/2022

The League of Women Voters and Fair Elections Center released the following statements after the Supreme Court heard oral arguments for the Moore v. Harper case.

[Read the statement here](#)



Braving the rain and cold to take a stand in front of the Supreme Court as they heard the oral arguments for *Moore v. Harper*.

Among the crowd were 100+ LWW members from dozens of states and DC.

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## **Legislative Priorities Presented to the Arlington County and Alexandria City members of the General Assembly.**



**Nancy Brown** with Alexandria General Assembly Delegates **Elizabeth Bennett Parker** and **Charniele Herring** and Senator **Adam Ebbin** after presenting our priorities

[Read our comments here](#)

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## Look for next newsletter January 5

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