League in Action

21 February 2024

Presidents' Message

We've got a couple things to announce for you in this issue:

- **LWVAAC had a 10-member delegation in Richmon**d for 2024 League Day! Pictures are available below.
- **Anticipate a post-legislative public event** late March/early April.
- **Anticipate an Alexandria Mayoral public event** mid-April (more information coming!).

Annual Meeting – Saturday, 15 June 1:00pm – 3:00pm (likely at Walter Reed). Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting! More information will be forthcoming.

Important information on Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is below. **Chris DeRosa** and **Janice Morris** are our LWVAAC RCV representatives/points of contact. They've got some RCV updates for you below.

All Things Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

by Chris DeRosa and Janice Morris

We have been monitoring the use of RCV in Arlington County and speaking with all 5 members of the County Board about RCV. We are also in communication with **Liz White** of UpVoteVirginia and other RCV supporters.

As you may know, Arlington used RCV in the June 2023 Democratic primary election for County Board. (There was no Republican primary).
In December 2023, the Board agreed, on a 4-0 vote, that RCV would be used in all future primary elections for County Board, as allowed by the General Assembly. Therefore, RCV will be used in the primary election in June 2024.

On February 24th, the County Board will consider an ordinance to use RCV for the **2024 County Board General Election**, which will fill one (1) vacant seat on the County Board. (*Note Board member Libby Garvey is not running for re-election*)

After talking with the five County Board members, we believe that all are supportive of RCV – some more enthusiastically than others. A few still have reservations about using RCV in 2-seat elections. A few mentioned the need for greater outreach and voter education.

Using RCV in the 2024 General Election would be a step in the right direction – however, RCV supporters, including the League, would like the Board to designate RCV as the method of voting in **all future** General (and Primary) elections.

As League members you may be asking: "What can I do?"

Here are a few suggestions and requests:

Email the County Board and ask them to support using RCV in the 2024 (and all future) general elections. **Countyboard@arlingtonva.us**

Plan to attend the County Board meeting on **Saturday, February 24th**, which will begin at 9 a.m. The RCV **ordinance** is listed as item #32 on the **agenda**. It is among 3 "Regular agenda items" scheduled at the end of the meeting.

Attend in person at 2100 Clarendon Blvd, 3rd floor.

Watch the Board meeting via livestreaming or on Verizon or Comcast channel ("Arlington County's YouTube channel or broadcast on Arlington County's cable channel on Comcast Xfinity 25 or 1085(HD) and Verizon FiOS 39 & 40 ").

Sign up to speak (in person or virtually) using the link found on this page: **https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/County-Board**

Find out more about RCV:

- **Arlington Office of Elections** information on RCV
- Arlington Office of Elections **Post Election Report June 2023** (RCV on pages 11-12)
- **https://upvoteva.org/rankedchoice**
- **Virginia Department of Elections Study 2023 RCV**

Questions? Suggestions? Contact **Chris** chris.lwv.222@gmail.com or **Janice** janiceandclaire@aol.com.

Still a few volunteers short for USCIS event next Saturday, Feb 24 -

New Citizen voter registration at Merrifield USCIS District Office

2675 Prosperity Ave, Fairfax, VA 20598

Saturday, February 24

All volunteers must have completed the state mandated training which has to be renewed annually after JUNE 30, found at this link:

https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/

In addition, if you have never done voter registration before, we recommend that you watch one of our LWVFA training sessions.

You can find a video of the session here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SzChxF6bdaY

Sign up here

Arina van Breda

Director, Voter Registration

LWV of the Fairfax Area

arina@lwv-fairfax.org

Early voting for 5 March Presidential primary has begun. Find all the information here:

Arlington Elections

Alexandria Elections

Saturday 24 February

Genealogy – Why and How

Presented by Arlington AAUW.

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Lubber Run Community Center, 300 N. Park Drive, Arlington 22203

Speaker: **Eileen Bogdanoff**, genealogist and Ancestry.com expert.

Saturday 16 March

AAUW-Arlington

Annual Meeting/Elections and Special Program for Women's History Month

10:30 AM - 12 PM

Lubber Run Community Center, 300 N. Park Drive, Arlington 22203

Mary Margaret Whipple, a former Virginia State Senator, will be the featured speaker. She will discuss the current social, political, and economic issues of interest to women in the Commonwealth and how these issues are being addressed by our elected representatives in Richmond.

LWVAAC co-president **Pam Berg** and a representative of the Arlington Commission on the Status of Women will talk about their respective organizations and activities.

League Day 2024

Chris Piper, Executive Director of Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP), speaks at League Day in Richmond on 7 February 2024.

Matthew Schweich, National Popular Vote (NPV) Virginia Coordinator speaks at League Day in Richmond on 7 February 2024.

LWVAAC Delegation members meet with House District 2 Delegate **Adele McClure**'s legislative assistant **Madison McCabe**.

(From left to right) FRONT ROW: **Chris DeRosa**, **Shelley Murphy McCabe**, **Kari Anderson**; BACK ROW: **Judith Selzer**, **Madison McCabe**, **Joan McDermott**, **Nancy Brown**, **Suzan Chastain**, **Pam Berg**, and **Debby Churchman**

LWVAAC Delegation members meet with House District 1 Delegate **Patrick Hope**'s legislative assistant **Mary Dooley**.

(From left to right) **Judith Selzer**, **Kari Anderson**, **Suzan Chastain**, **Shelley**

Murphy McCabe, **Pam Berg**, **Nancy Brown**, **Mary Dooley**, **Lisa Koteen Gerchick**, **Joan McDermott**, **Chris DeRosa**, and **Debby Churchman**

LWVAAC Delegation members meet with House Majority Leader **Charniele Herring**'s assistant **Diane Herpel**.
(From left to right) **Shelley Murphy McCabe**, **Nancy Brown**, **Debby Churchman**, **Joan McDermott**, **Suzan Chastain**, **Diane Herpel**, **Chris DeRosa**, and **Kari Anderson**

LWV VA February 2024 Virginia Voter

Read the Voter here

LWVAAC BOOK GROUP

Arlington/Alexandria City League Book Club is chaired by **Joan Porte**. Want to join? **Email Joan** at joan@joanporte.com. **Book Club meets every third Sunday at 2:00 PM** via Zoom (link will be provided).

The next meeting will be **Sunday, 18 March**, at 2:00pm.
Our next book is *Demystifying Disability: What to Know, What to Say, and How to be an Ally* by Emily Ladau

Look for next newsletter March 6