



League in Action

July 21, 2021

President's Message

I know it is warm out but IF you are a quilter or know one and want to help a good cause - **The League of Women Voters of DC has a great project to help further their important quest for statehood.** More information can be found here: <https://www.lwvdc.org/quilts4dc>. Make a quilt for a good cause and perhaps have it remembered to history!

We have a new "help wanted" section - which will appear on top of all newsletters. **Please consider sharing your time with the League** - we can't get our work done without you!

Thanks for all you do and keep cool!!

SEE OUR NEW HELP WANTED SECTION BELOW! We are getting to crunch time for this election - please see how you can help!

Joan

HELP WANTED

We Need Help with our sandwich boards at Columbia Pike Movie Nights

As we did last year, we are placing the sandwich boards at the entrance to the outdoor movie nights.

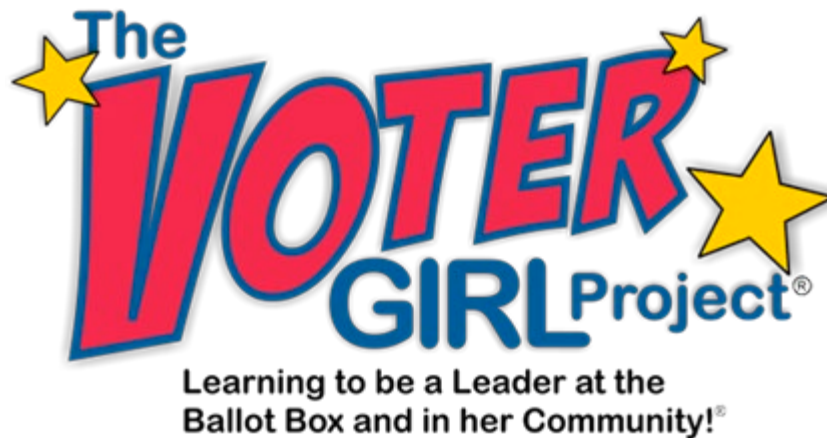
Please sign up here – this is a great way to reach people to remind them of our important upcoming election.

[Columbia Pike Sandwich Boards](#)

Volunteers needed for September Voter Girl project

Help girls learn how voting works!

Arlington's LWV is working collaboratively with the local Girl Scouts on Voter Girl. **On September 26, 2-5 pm, 100 girls from 2nd - 8th grade will learn about how voting works, participate in a mock election, hear from a local female elected official, and earn a civics badge.** We could use some help! If you've worked with kids as a teacher, coach, through scouts, through your church school, or otherwise, let us know if you can help with our breakout groups on September 26. Questions? Email: claudiascott.va@gmail.com; text or call 703-608-4232.



We Will Have Several Candidate Forums This Fall!

Volunteers Needed!

Almost all of the State delegate incumbents in our area have challengers, and there will be challengers to incumbents for local Arlington and Alexandria City offices. **We will need to have at least two perhaps three forums.** If you are interested in helping out on our forum committee please email Joan at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

In Person Voter Registration

FOOD BANKS - VOTER REGISTRATION STARTING SOON

We are starting up in person voter registration and welcome **Janet Ladd** to the Voter Services Team. **Janet is looking for help** contacting condominiums to set up voter registration events. Please email us at LWVArlingtonva@gmail.com if you are interested in helping her! Thanks, Janet!

We will also be working on a grant we received to register people at some area food banks. We have a huge election in Virginia again..so again it is all hands on deck! We need several people this summer to get this done - we will be reaching many voters who are often marginalized.

We need one fluent Spanish speaker per shift - but even if you don't speak Spanish, **please sign up** -- as long as we have one person per shift we are ok.

[Food Bank Voter Registration Sign Up](#)

Are You Interested in Sitting on State Commissions and Boards?

The League of Women Voters of Virginia and Reflect US are working to assist women interested in working on State Boards and Commissions as well as other forms of political activity. If interested please email Joan at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com to learn more about the first Virginia Women's Leadership Council meeting.

State Program Studies

The League of Women Voters of Virginia is conducting four studies this biennium. Studies are crucial to the League because we cannot advocate on issues if we don't have a position, based on these studies. You don't have to be a subject matter expert but be willing to learn and contribute.

The studies are: **Environmental Justice, Money in Politics, Child Care and Education Equity.** **If you have an interest** in how you can participate or have any questions, email **Joan** at lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.

Virginia Redistricting Commission

update from Chris DeRosa

We passed the Constitutional Amendment.

We have a Redistricting Commission.

Now we need to tell them what we want to see in the new maps.

PUBLIC HEARINGS HAVE BEGUN. Around 20 people spoke up at the in-person hearing in Farmville (Longwood University) and the virtual on Thursday. Though few in number, their messages about their communities were very persuasive, well crafted and delivered.

Please consider attending the VRC **PUBLIC HEARING IN FAIRFAX ON TUESDAY JULY 27TH beginning at 4 pm.** Tell all your friends about it. We need to show the Commission that we care. See **EVENT** posting below –

1. It would be great to have lots of people in the audience even if they don't speak.
2. **Tell everyone you know in "Northern Virginia"** (Arlington and beyond -- to Winchester, to Fredericksburg) -- **about this hearing.**
3. **Find attached a flyer you can print** and hand out if you wish (gatherings, farmer's markets, your neighborhood, etc).

4. **Social media** :: .png flyer attached that you can post on FB, etc. Let folks know about this hearing...and the virtual hearing.

OneVirginia2021 is providing easy ways for you/anyone to submit information about what YOUR community needs. (i.e., you don't have to "testify" - just write). You can use their simple-to-use portal that automatically sends your comments to the Commissioners. (take a look at emails that other people have submitted - they're on the VA Redistricting Commission website). You can also make a short video clip and submit it to the **Sunlight Districts Challenge**). Go here <https://www.onevirginia2021foundation.org/>

Email or call me if you have any questions. I'm happy to talk about this...
chris7307@gmail.com

We've worked hard to establish this Commission to end gerrymandering. We need to keep pushing just a little more. It'll be a shame if only a few Virginians take advantage of this new way of participate in the process. #FairMaps is our goal!!

Thank you thank you!!!

[Find VRC Fairfax hearing .png here](#)

[Find half-flyer here](#)

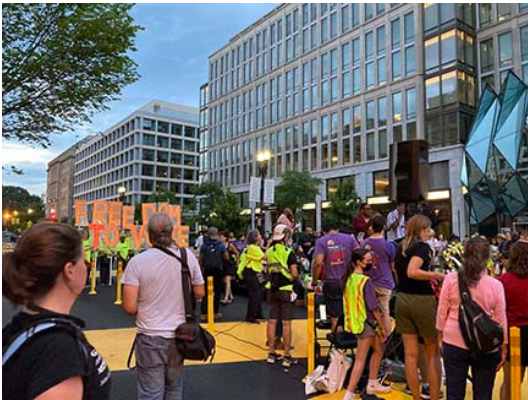
[Find VRC virtual hearings .pdf here - see Eastern](#)

In renaming Lee Highway Arlington honors the life and work of John M. Langston

Following the work of and recommendation from the [Working Group On Renaming Lee Highway](#), the Arlington [County Board has agreed to rename](#) Lee Highway "Langston Boulevard" after John Mercer Langston. Langston is a significant figure in the **histories of Lee Highway, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the United States.**

[Read the ARLnow.com story here](#)

Good Trouble: July 17 Vigil for Democracy





Arlington League members
making their voices heard

to demand the passage of the
For the People Act,

the John Lewis Voting Rights
Advancement Act,

and DC Statehood



“Get in good trouble,
necessary trouble,
and help redeem
the soul of America.”

John Lewis

LWV

EVENTS

July 27

Virginia Redistricting Commission: In-Person Public Hearing for the Northern Virginia Region

The Virginia Redistricting Commission will be hosting an in-person public hearing to solicit public comment on the drawing of state and congressional legislative districts for the Northern Virginia Region on **Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in Dewberry Hall at George Mason University in Fairfax.** [Click here for a map of campus](#) - please note that Dewberry Hall is inside the Johnson Center.

[Find more information here](#)

[For updates see the LWV US Redistricting Blog here](#)

SAVE THE DATES

August 10, 7 PM

LWV Virginia will host a **Legislative Debriefing** on the past General Assembly session and a look ahead to the upcoming one.

September 18/19

LWV Virginia “**Justice Weekend**” – a weekend exploration of how we can make Virginia a truly and authentically just place.

Governor Northam Announces Virginia to Invest \$700 Million in American Rescue Plan Funding to Achieve Universal Broadband by 2024

[Read the press release here](#)

News from National

League of Women Voters Urges White House to Take Urgent Action to Protect Voting Rights

We applaud President Biden for elevating the need for the For the People Act and we urge him to use the full weight of the presidency to see this bill become law.

[Read the news release here](#)



League of Women Voters Launches ‘Women Power Democracy’

New programming focus will cover **countering mis- and disinformation, increasing election participation, advancing voter access, and reforming redistricting**

[Read the news release here](#)

[Read the letter from Virginia Kase Solomón here](#)



Meetings

July 21 - 7 PM - **Election Integrity**

contact Lisa - lkoteengerchick@gmail.com.

September 12 - 2 PM - **Book Group**

Land: How the Hunger for Ownership Shaped the Modern World

by [Simon Winchester](#)

contact Joan Joan@joanporte.com

September 20 - 7 PM - **Redistricting** - subject to change -
Redistricting meets quarterly but we are following the commission

contact Ann Sharp sharpab2828@gmail.com

Look for next newsletter August 4



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