



## **League in Action**

March 16, 2022

### **President's Message**

**First off – congratulations to “Don’s Dynamos” – our Voter Services team under the leadership of Don Gurney and ably assisted by past president Kathy Matusiak. They have so far registered more than 800 students during their spring high school blitz!!!** Don reports that in the last week alone the number of student voter registrations is up more than 33% over registrations at the same schools in 2020, the last year in which in-person voter registrations were conducted.

**More than 30 people have signed up** to register eligible high school students. Thanks so much.

**Stay tuned** as we will soon have sign up sheets for spring and summer community events which are planned to be in person – finally – and at which we have been invited to set up registration tables.

## **Two Committees Dedicated to Growth and Inclusion - Volunteers Needed**

Now I want to talk about **Membership**. With COVID hopefully in our rear view mirror, we need to get back to being “out there” – especially in Alexandria City. We need to develop a team of people who can work on spreading the word and work of the League in both Arlington and Alexandria.

Related to that, we need a **DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) team** to help us partner with organizations representing people from underrepresented communities and assure that we are applying the DEI lense to all of our work.

Also, see below for information about our **Sips and Civility Committee** coming back to life!!

**Contact me** for more information. [LWVArlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:LWVArlingtonva@gmail.com)

**Thanks** for all you do.

Joan

## **Help Wanted Section!**

**We have several needs in the League right now and if you have a talent that can lend a hand, please let me know.**

**The League is you. The work we do is only limited by what each of us can give. Find your niche!**

**Membership** - After doing double duty as Membership Director and 411 organized, plus doing so many other wonderful projects (while holding a full-time job!) our wonderful **Anna Weber** is stepping down as Membership Chair (but still doing everything else.)

**We need someone who can keep records of the members, but we want to expand this program.** Now that we are coming back into "real life" - we need to continue the outreach we were doing before COVID. **We can use some people from both Alexandria and Arlington** to help identify diverse groups and events with which we need to involve ourselves. **If outreach and/or record keeping are your talents, let me know!**

**DEI** - Speaking of diversity, **we need to revitalize our DEI committee to assure that we are doing our work through a DEI lens** and reaching out to all people to join the League. If this is of interest, let me know<sup>1</sup>

**Student High School Chapters** - **We want to have one active student chapter in each of the main high schools** in each area. You don't have to be a teacher or have any special training, **just be willing to contact the chapter leader once**

**a month - be a liaison.**

**Sips and Civility** - Now that we are, hopefully, come out of COVID, **we need to re-energize Sips and Civility**. This is a program designed to bring people together to discuss issues of the day in a civilized and fun manner. If you like organizing events and come up with fun programs, this is for you.

**Fill out this Doodle for the best date to meet.** <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/Qe1n5mZa>

**None of these jobs** will take more than a few hours a month!!

**Thanks to all who volunteered to do data entry for the new students registered by Don's Dynamos** - we got 10 responses within an hour!

Thanks- let' s make these happen!!!

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**Women's History Month**

**How Ironic: The Woman Behind The Idea Is, Herself,  
Forgotten**

This is an interesting *Washington Post* article on **Theresa Malkiel**, the woman behind Women's History Month.

[POST Article on Theresa Malkiel](#)

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## Arlington County First Annual Survey on the Vision Zero Plan

Please complete

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZVST9ZR>

We are looking for people to represent Arlington on the Vision Zero Transportation Plan. Let Joan know if you are interested.

[LWVArlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:LWVArlingtonva@gmail.com)

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## Nominations Still Open

**We still need people** to run for several offices including  
PRESIDENT! Contact Anne Murphy ASAP

[Anne.murphy2244@gmail.com](mailto:Anne.murphy2244@gmail.com).

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## Is Language Your Super Power?

**We need more people who speak languages other than English.**

We are getting more and more requests for people who speak different languages for voter registration events. **If you can hold a conversation in another language, please fill out this form.** Thank you!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aMo7gHGANYhXuIZbpZr-hfUw39xKY9ir/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108204542125106087466&rtpof=true&sd=true>

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### EVENT

**April 24**

## Post Legislative Forum

April 24 - 1 PM

**Sign up now to attend our virtual Post Legislative Session** – All of the delegates and state senators who represent us have been invited to attend. When you RSVP you will have the option to ask a question which will be read by our host, **Lisa Koteen Gerchick**.

[RSVP here](#)



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## Save the date

### June 12

2 PM – Our **Annual Meeting**. We are going to do our best to arrange an outdoor meeting. This will help assure that we can still see each other even if the beast COVID is bothering us again. If you have a good venue idea, please let me know!

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## Women's History Month invitations from LWV-Montgomery County



March 22, 2022 from 6:30-8pm

# A Conversation on Women's Political Leadership

Moderated by Dr. Brandy Faulkner

Open to the New River Valley Community  
Panelists include:



**Rebecca Trinh '20**  
Government contractor  
M.S. Student



**Anita Price**  
Former Roanoke  
City Council member



**Mary Biggs**  
Montgomery County  
Board of Supervisors

Hosted by VT Engage: The Center for Leadership & Service Learning  
and the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, VA



[Register here](#)



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**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO**



**A CONVERSATION  
WITH MS. OPAL LEE:  
THE GRANDMOTHER  
OF JUNETEENTH**

**March 27, 2022, 3:00-4:30 PM**

Burruss Hall

Livestream at [students.vt.edu/lee](https://students.vt.edu/lee)

Free Event, General Admission Seating



Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Flanagan  
Women in Leadership and  
Philanthropy Endowed Lecture Fund



STUDENT AFFAIRS  
**VT ENGAGE**  
VIRGINIA TECH

**We hope you will join us in person or  
virtually Sunday, March 27, 3:00-4:30 PM**

**Watch the livestream March 27 at 3 PM here**

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**Women's History Month invitation from Historic Alexandria**

Visit Historic Alexandria's Fort Ward on Saturday for a program on women's roles in the Civil War.

## Women's History Month

In honor of Women's History Month in March, we're highlighting the following event and tour this week:

### **Civil War Women's Day at Fort Ward**

*Saturday, March 26*

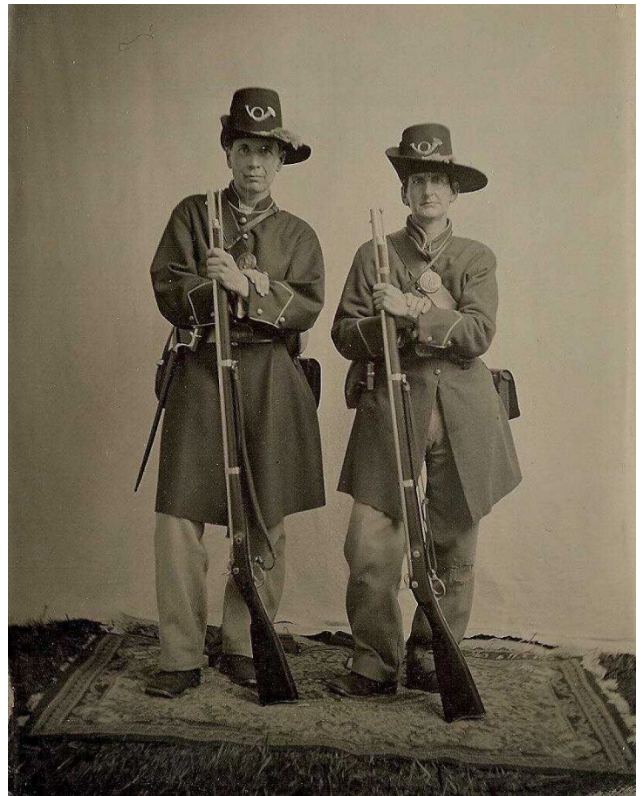
*Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site*

*11 a.m.-5 p.m.*

*Free*

Learn about women's dress, skills, and contributions during the Civil War from historical interpreters who will present talks, displays and demonstrations throughout the day. The interpreters will explore women's roles on the home front, in factories, in camp, on the battlefield, and in soldiers' aid societies and relief efforts for both armies during war. Learn about women who disguised themselves as Union soldiers and the challenges experienced by the hundreds of women who served in the Army.

**Self-Guided Women's History Tour**-Discover where Alexandria's women of the past present have lived, worked, and made history on Alexandria Celebrates Women's new Women's History Walk! The extensive self-guided tour is designed to enable history seekers to explore as little or as much as you like at your own pace. \*If you would like free guided tour, please contact [AlexandriaCelebratesWomen@gmail.com](mailto:AlexandriaCelebratesWomen@gmail.com). Download tour guide [here](#).



**Social media posts highlighting Alexandrian women who have made contributions to the community** -- Each Tuesday in March, Historic Alexandria's Facebook and Instagram pages will feature Alexandrian women-- of different ages, races, and eras -- who help make a difference.

For more on Alexandria's celebration of Women's History Month, please visit [alexandriava.gov/Historic](https://alexandriava.gov/Historic).

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## News from National

### **League of Women Voters Reacts to 2020 US Census Bureau Report Undercount of Black, Latino, & Indigenous People**

3/10/2022

The League of Women Voters of the United States CEO **Virginia Kase Solomón** issued the following statement in reaction to the US Census Bureau report undercounting 18.8 million and underrepresentation of Black, Latino, and Indigenous people in the 2020 Census.

[Read the statement here](#)

### **Colorado Voting Rights Advocates File Lawsuit Against Voter Intimidation**

3/9/2022

The League of Women Voters of Colorado and other civil rights groups filed a federal lawsuit against election conspiracy group US Election Integrity Plan (USEIP) for voter intimidation activities in Colorado.

The lawsuit alleges members of USEIP are leading an organized intimidation campaign, dispatching volunteers — who are sometimes armed — to go door-to-door in diverse communities, interrogating Colorado voters on how they voted.

[Read the news release here](#)

## **League of Women Voters Responds to President Biden's State of the Union Address**

3/2/2022

The League of Women Voters of the United States CEO Virginia Kase Solomón issued the following statement following President Biden's State of the Union address:

[Read her statement here](#)

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**Council 2022 – June 4, 2022, 9 AM-3 PM**

Join us for the 2022 Council for the League of Women Voters of Virginia.

In addition to getting updates on our four program studies, we will have informative breakout sessions to help you increase your League knowledge!

**Among the planned program will be updates on all four Virginia program studies; environmental justice, childcare, education equity and campaign finance reform.** Also there will be a report from the budget committee and the roll call of the Leagues.

**RSVP [here](#).** Cost \$25 per delegate or observer.

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Arlington County asks us to share TWO Important  
Engagement Opportunities

## **Deadline for CIP engagement extended to March**

**Arlington County has extended the deadline for CIP engagement to March  
22**

**Share your feedback** on the next 10 -Year Capital Improvement Plan

Share your thoughts on how Arlington should invest in major infrastructure for the future. Your input will help inform the proposed 10-year Capital Improvement Plan to be presented in May. Share your thoughts now through March 22!

[Share your feedback here](#)

## Call for Neighborhood College 2022 Applications

**Spring 2022 Virtual Program Dates: April 19 - June 7 (Tuesday's at 6:30 p.m.). Application closes April 1, 2022, Space is limited, apply soon!**

Neighborhood College is a FREE civic leadership development program for Arlingtonians that helps participants become more effective community activists and leaders. Since its inception in 2000, nearly 400 Arlingtonians have graduated from the program, and many have gone on to become neighborhood leaders, members of advisory groups and commissions, officers in their civic associations, County Board members, volunteers at nonprofit organizations, local activists, and more.

The program seeks current and emerging grassroots neighborhood leaders who want to contribute to improving their communities, are interested in addressing local issues, and are willing to devote time and energy to community activities.

[Find application here](#)

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### Meetings

March 16 - **Election Integrity**  
contact **Lisa Koteen Gerchick**

[lkoteengerchick@gmail.com](mailto:lkoteengerchick@gmail.com)

March 20 - 2 PM - **Book Club**

We will be meeting at the Bostan Uyghur Cuisine

3911 Langston Blvd , Arlington, VA

The book is **Voter Suppression in U.S. Elections** by Stacey Abrams, Carol

Anderson, Kevin M\_Kruse, Heather Cox Richardson + 2

- Contact Joan [Joan@joanporte.com](mailto:Joan@joanporte.com)

March 29 - 7 PM - **Civics**

Contact Joan [Joan@joanporte.com](mailto:Joan@joanporte.com)

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**Look for next newsletter April 6**

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