

League in Action

March 2, 2022

President's Message

There are distinct seasons to the League calendar. This is the season of events.

First, Don Gurney and his team of magic voter registration wizards are going strong to **register our high school students this month**. See his sign-up information below. We can get back into the schools so let's make the most of it! By the way, we will be setting up chapters in each high school after this phase of registration is over. Do you want to work with our high school students? Great – email me!

We are also heading into candidate forum time! We know there will be a primary on June 21, although we don't know yet how large a primary that will be. (See the information below on the March 8 viewing party of the court hearing on the case that will determine if the entire House of Delegates will be running on the new maps this year.) Regardless, we will need more people to plan those forums. If you would like to join our Forum Committee, please email me.

This is also budget time. I know, I know, however, we can't do anything if we don't have the money. Every year, we have the same group of people who volunteer for the Budget Committee and for the summer audit review. **We need new folks** to step up. You don't have to be a math or budget wizard, just understand the basics!

There is something for everyone in the League – so find your niche and jump in.

Thanks,

Joan

Sign up Now to Register Voters at Arlington High Schools March 7 - 17

So far volunteers have signed up for about 50% of the class room visit slots we need to do a great job. There are still volunteer slots available at the following high schools:

- Wakefield, March 7 & 8 16 slots
- Washington-Liberty, March 9 & 10 10 slots
- Yorktown, March 11 & 14 15 slots
- HB Woodlawn, March 16 3 slots

Don't hesitate to sign up for multiple classes.

SIGN UP FOR HIGH SCHOOL VOTER REGISTRATION

HERE: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15Ee257XDVT1Due0GRDfhgKEfy_Fj_re4SN8FRnLbN4g/edit?usp=sharing

All volunteers must apply online to enter the schools in including providing proof of vaccination.

- As soon as you decide to volunteer, <u>fill out the application online</u>
 - Indicate the school(s) you plan to visit
 - o provide your proof of vaccination
- find additional information regarding volunteering on the APS website.
- According to the APS Social Studies Supervisor, since voter registration is
 not a regular reoccurrence, you won't have to complete the training
 module noted in the on line application. That is for volunteers who enter
 school on a regular basis.

Donald Gurney

Voter Services Chair

LWV of Arlington and Alexandria City

703-842-3119

Nominations Still Open

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

Anne.murphy2244@gmail.com.

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

The Next Steps of Position Review

Thanks to everyone who attended our two position review meetings. Based on the responses, the Board has voted to recommend two positions updates. An update, if approved at our June 12 Annual Meeting, would require a one year study by our members to modernize and make more relevant the positions.

These studies are: Children's Health and Planning, Land Use and Economic Development. (See the current positions below.) If you have knowledge of or an interest in one of these two topics and want to learn more about or work on these studies, please contact Program Chair, Janet Ladd ladd.janet.y@gmail.com by March 10.

Positions are the key to our advocacy. Without them we can do no work before the County Board or City Council.

This is a great way to broaden your knowledge and help the League grow its advocacy work!

The Children's Health Position has not been updated since 1998. If we do not update it, the Board will recommend at the Annual Meeting, that it be retired.

No position studies will be done unless members volunteer for the project.

Note; These still say Arlington - but we will be incorporating the new correct name of our League once these are finalized and put back up on the website.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH (1998)

The League of Women Voters of Arlington supports:

- 1. The use of federal and state funds to insure the primary health provider ("medical home") for under-insured or uninsured children.
- 2. Public/private partnerships and other innovative programs for the delivery of health care to at-risk children.

Planning, Land Use and Economic Development

The League of Women Voters of Arlington supports the county in responsible planning in land use and economic development.

PLANNING, LAND USE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (1967, 1971, 1982,

1983, 1988, 2013, 2016, 2019)

The League of Women Voters of Arlington supports:

Land Use -

- Maintaining the predominantly residential character of Arlington County.
 County consideration of greater residential density zoning in currently lower density areas. (1967,1982, 2013, 2019)
- Mixed use development and planning for public transportation in Metro and other appropriate corridors. In order to achieve this goal, specific guidelines should be established which would encourage desired redevelopment and require less time in the process.
- 3. Including low-and moderate-income housing in the Metro corridors as well as in other parts of the County, including the Lee Highway corridor. (1971, 2019)
- 4. The acquisition of open space for parks and recreation. (1971)
- 5. The aRLINGTON Neighborhood Conservation Program. (1971) ????

Planning Process -

- 1. Short-and long-range planning in Arlington with regular evaluation of the long-range plan; a cost benefit study of land use; provision for adequate utilities and community services in original site plans. There should be community participation at all phases of long-range planning. (1971)
- 2. Written urban design standards for areas designated for redevelopment. (1983, 2019)
- 3. Adequate opportunity for public review of proposed redevelopment plans and for proposed design standards. (1971)

Economic Development -

1. Economic development in Arlington provided such development is consistent with all relevant League positions. (2019)

Marcus Alert

Thanks to Observer Corps member **Judy Collins**, for attending the Arlington Townhall on the implementation of the Marcus Alert. A video of the event can be found here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8TTpOPmf54.

For more information on how you can be an official observer for the League, email Joan at LWVArlingtonva@gmail.com

Women's Legislative Roundtable

Every year during the General Assembly session, LWV-VA provides a nonpartisan forum open to the public on Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m., to discuss and share information on issues and legislation.

Legislators are invited to discuss bills they are sponsoring and answer questions.

Leaders of nonprofit groups share their priority issues. LWV-VA lobbyists and Issue

Group Leaders give updates on LWV-VA priority issues.

This year, you can attend in person or virtually. In-person meetings will be held at the

Tidewater Room in the SunTrust Center, 919 East Main Street, Richmond.

Proof of Covid-19 vaccination is required for entry.

Click here to register to attend in person or virtually.

2022 WLRT Schedule* - March

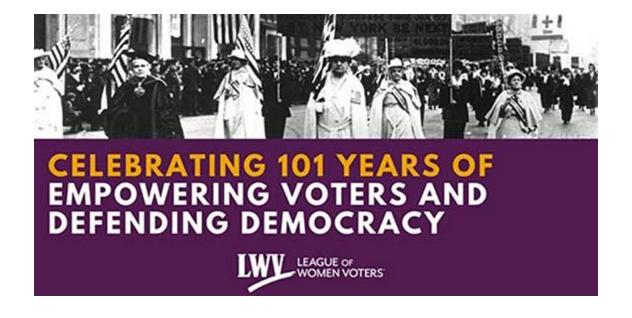
Forums are Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 AM

Mar. 2 - TODAY - Floods: Full Disclosure of Flood Zones

Mar. 9 – Final Legislative Push

*Please note that topics are subject to change.

Click here to register to attend in person or virtually.



EVENT

INVITATION: Women in Democracy Panel

March 3 - 1-3 PM



CEO of LWV Virginia Kase Solomon invites you to a conversation on

- gender and race in the voting rights movement;
 - fighting barriers to voting, and;
 - how to get out the vote in 2022

featuring panelists

- Amanda Brown Lierman, SuperMajority executive director
 - Sindy M. Benavides, LULAC CEO
 - LaTosha Brown, Black Voters Matter co-founder.



Save the dates

April 24

1 PM – will be our virtual **Post Legislative Session**. This is where we bring together our Delegates and State Senators to get a recap of what happened in the 2022 Session and get to ask them questions. This is open to the public so stay tuned for an invite and be sure to pass it along!

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!

News from National

League of Women Voters Applauds Historic Nomination of First Black Woman Jurist to Supreme Court

2/25/2022

Today the League of Women Voters of the United States Board President Dr. Deborah Turner and CEO Virginia Kase Solomón issued the following statement on President Biden's announcement of his Supreme Court nominee, Ketanji Brown Jackson. If confirmed, Jackson would be the first Black woman to hold a seat on the Court.

Read the statement here

League Of Women Voters Partners With Lyft To Get Out The Vote In 2022

2/23/2022

The League of Women Voters and Lyft today announced a partnership to provide access to transportation to the polls on Election Day.

Read the news release here

Voting Rights Groups File Motion to Intervene in Federal Lawsuit for Ohio State Maps

2/22/22

Groups File Motion to Intervene Seeking to Institute Gerrymandered Legislative Maps and Bypass the Ohio Supreme Court

On Sunday evening (February 20), the ACLU of Ohio, the American Civil Liberties

Union, and Covington & Burling LLP filed a motion to intervene as defendants in a federal lawsuit, *Michael Gonidakis v Ohio Redistricting Commission*. The voting rights groups request that the Court stay this case pending final resolution of the proceedings before the Ohio Supreme Court.

Read the news release here

LWV US February Highlights

Read the Recap here

Redistricting News

Live Streaming of the Redistricting Court Case

There is a pending lawsuit brought by Paul Goldman to force an election of the Virginia General Assembly House this year on the new Virginia maps. In a nutshell, the law calls for these elections to be held in the year ending in a 1, and, due to the delay in the census, this did not happen.

There will be a hearing in US Court of Appeals for the 4th District in Virginia on March 8 at 2 PM.

FYI, the candidate filing deadline is April 7 and early voting begins May 6--so not much time to accomplish this if Goldman wins this and even less time if there is an

appeal of their decision! So, **stay tuned – we might have a lot of work to do in a short period of time.** As it is, we will have a lot of voter education to do before November on the new maps.

Watch the livestreamed event here March 8 at 2 PM

Virginia Voter, March 2022

Celebrate the Women in Our Lives

By Deb Wake, President, LWV-VA

Virginia Women & The Vote, 1909-2021:

The Equal Suffrage League & The League of Women Voters in Virginia, 2nd Edition

By Andrianne Konstas-Salvette, Membership Director, LWV-VA

Mattaponi Tribal Members Demand Democratic Process to Elect Officials

Gloria Custalow, Mattaponi Indian Reservation Resident, Candidate for Assistant Chief

Ginger Ragan, MSG, Research Consultant & Advocate for Change

The Power and Limitations of the Disability Vote

By Lucy Beadnell, Director of Advocacy for The Arc of Northern Virginia

Women's Legislative RoundTable (WLRT) anyone?

by Susan A. Bivins, Williamsburg Area LWV

Part IV – Housing Segregation and its Legacy

African American Neighborhoods and Businesses Destroyed

by the LWV-VA Affordable Housing Issues Group

Read the Virginia Voter here

Important Dates in March March 1
Women's History Month begins
State Board of Elections meets 1:00 p.m.
March 2
Women's Legislative RoundTable, 8:30-9:30 a.m.
#Let Virginia Vote Rally, 10:30 a.m., Capitol Bell Tower
March 8
International Women's Day
Goldman v. State Board of Elections, 2 p.m., Watch live.
March 9
Women's Legislative RoundTable, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

March 12

Last Day of General Assembly Session

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

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.

Informative and educational breakouts are in the afternoon.

RSVP here. Cost \$25 per delegate or observer.

Meetings

March 9 - 7 PM - **Civics**Contact Joan <u>Joan@joanporte.com</u>

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 <u>Joan@joanporte.com</u>

Look for next newsletter March 16



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