



## **League in Action**

November 16, 2022

### **President's Message**

Dec 7 is shaping up to be a busy day. First it is the LWV Virginia's Pre Session which allows us to learn of the League's and our partner's legislative agenda for the 2023 General Assembly. It will be virtual again this year. It will run from 9 AM-2 PM and will be recorded.

<https://LWVVA2022Presession.eventbrite.com>

Also, LWV US is planning a rally that morning in front of the Supreme Court as they take up the very dangerous "Independent State Theory Case", the Moore vs Harper Case. It begins at 8:30 AM.

For more information go to <https://web.cvent.com/event/4c8f5f5a-2dfa-466e-a91d-ee1f5c230230/regProcessStep1?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=ecfe9298-e6c9-4756-9452-32d87459e78e>

How lucky we are to have to many ways to "empower voters and defend democracy."

Happy Thanksgiving all! Take some time to read some of these publications on how native Americans are still being disenfranchised at the voting booth.

[https://www.americanbar.org/groups/crsj/publications/human\\_rights\\_magazine\\_home/voting-rights/how-the-native-american-vote-continues-to-be-suppressed/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/crsj/publications/human_rights_magazine_home/voting-rights/how-the-native-american-vote-continues-to-be-suppressed/)

Joan

## **PRE HOLIDAY SALE!!!**

**We reduced the price of our fleece jackets because they only say LWV of Arlington. (Sorry, we bought them pre COVID when that was our name.)**

**These are wonderfully warm jackets with great inside pockets for those who like to walk in the brisk air and not lose their keys!**

**You can also buy one to donate to Path Forward or Carpenter's Shelter!**

<https://my.lwv.org/virginia/arlington-and-alexandria-city/lwv-arlington-shop>

\$25



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## **Arlington County Board unanimously endorses a Ranked Choice Voting Pilot Program**

Arlington is the first locality in Virginia to take this step. **Joan** spoke in favor of this at the November 12 Board Meeting before the vote.

Now the county will issue an ordinance which will require more public input. **Stay tuned.**

Joan's presentation is here



After the Arlington County Board passed a resolution to support ranked choice voting - supporters including Leaguers **Joan Porte, Chris DeRosa** and **Janice Morris** with **Liz White** of UpVote Virginia.

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

Get a Free Yard Sign Supporting Ranked Choice Voting



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## 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**
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- **Preparing voter education materials**

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 in January for families or incarcerated people and returning citizens and which we will have a booth.

At that event, we will also have the opportunity to provide hats, gloves, (do we have any knitters???) and school supplies.

**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– 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 -**

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

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NEEDED: PEOPLE INTERESTED IN SUPPORT OF BROADBAND  
EXPANSION

**Help Support Broadband Expansion in Arlington and  
Alexandria City with Our Task Force.**

**The Affordable Connectivity Program is now being promoted by**

**Arlington County**, and the county is asking for community assistance in getting the word out and helping eligible residents to navigate the process.

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/Community-Planning-Housing-Development/Digital-Equity/Affordable-Connectivity-Program>

At its September meeting **the board of LWV-Arlington and Alexandria City voted to establish a broadband task force** to support expanding awareness of programs to make broadband more widely available and to help eligible residents make use of these programs to apply for service.

Also, **the LWV VA broadband interest group is looking for volunteers** to track proposed VA legislation relating to broadband expansion. Volunteers are needed during the legislative session to track up to five bills each using the Lobbist-in-a-Box tool for use with Virginia's Legislative Information Service. Training is provided. Questions? Contact Roberta Jameson at [arlLWVnews@gmail.com](mailto:arlLWVnews@gmail.com)

**If you are interested**, let Joan know - [lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com)

*by Roberta Jameson*

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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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## Missing Middle - Information and Advocacy

You are invited to gather with **VOICE\*** leaders, allies, stakeholders, and County Board Members Christian Dorsey and Libby Garvey for

### **VOICE Missing Middle Housing ACTION**

November 17th 7:00 at

Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington

4444 Arlington Blvd Arlington 22204

**WE WILL SHOW OUR ENTHUSIASM AND OUR SUPPORT FOR THE  
MISSING MIDDLE HOUSING PROPOSAL**

WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE AND GIVE THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS THE  
COURAGE TO VOTE YES

**We believe the Missing Middle will:**

**Increase the housing supply** and increase the diversity of housing types

**Support more equity** in land use and undo a past racist housing policy

**Fight against climate change** with denser housing with a smaller carbon footprint

**\*\*\*THE BIGGER OUR TURNOUT THE MORE POWER WE HAVE TO  
MOVE THIS WORLD TO A MORE JUST PLACE\*\*\***

**Wear League "bling" or t shirts.**

**If you have questions: Pat Findikoglu: [patfindikoglu@gmail.com](mailto:patfindikoglu@gmail.com)**

\*Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement

[Flyer with QR code to register](#)

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## **EVENTS**

**Nov 17**

### **LWV Virginia - Review of the Environmental Justice Study**

Nov 17 - 6 PM

The League is updating their Environmental Justice Position. **If this is an area of interest, come to the review meeting.**

[Environmental Justice study RSVP](#)

**Dec 3**

## **LWV Virginia - Review of the Campaign Finance Study**

Dec 3 - 1 PM

The League is producing a study on Campaign Finance. **If this is an area of interest, come to the review meeting.**

[Campaign Finance study RSVP](#)

**Dec 7**

## **LWV Virginia Pre Session**

Mark your calendars and be sure to RSVP to our virtual Pre-Session, December 7, 2022, from 9 AM – 2 PM!

This is always a great event and a terrific way to learn of the legislative priorities of the Virginia League and our nonpartisan partners for the upcoming General Assembly session!

To date speakers include:

**Dr. James Fedderman**, President, Virginia Education Association

**Brenda Cabrera**, Director of Elections and General Registrar, Fairfax City, and Chair of the Voters Registrars Association of Virginia

**Andrew Goddard**, Legislative Director, Virginia Center for Public Safety

**Janine Greenwood** and Denise Murden, Co-VP Public Policy, AAUW

**Bob Shippee**, Legislative Director, Virginia Sierra Club

**Lisa Sales**, President, Virginia NOW

**James W "Jay" Speer**, Executive Director Virginia Poverty Law Center

**Nicole Porter**, Senior Director of Advocacy, the Sentencing Project

and many more to come!

[RSVP for Pre Session](#)

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**Save the date**

**Jan 15**

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

Jan 15 - 3:30 -5 PM - Location TBA

Come together, write postcards, sign petitions, and learn more about the issues important to our League and the LWV Virginia.

We will also hold our Program Planning Meeting - to review our positions and those of the LWV Virginia.

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## Volunteers at the polls sharing information on ranked choice voting



**Debby Churchman** and **Janice Morris** supporting ranked choice voting



**Connie Potter** along with **Carlos de Castro Pretelt** of UpVote Virginia encouraging voters to learn about ranked choice voting

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## Meeting

**November 20 - 2 PM - Book Group**

*The Tubman Command: A Novel* by Elizabeth Cobbs

Contact **Joan** [LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com](mailto:LWVarlingtonva@gmail.com)

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**Look for next newsletter December 7**

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