



## May 2025 League Lines

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## 1. CALENDAR

### League

**Monday, May 5** (5:00 – 6:00 pm) – **LWVSC Legislative Update** (Zoom). Registration link will be sent by email. Presented by LWVSC lobbyists (and LWVCA members): *Lynn Teague, Dr. Janelle Rivers, Teresa Arnold.*

**Tuesday, May 6 - Midlands Gives**, 6:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. See [#4](#) below.

**Wednesday, May 14** (10:00 – 11:00 am) – **Education K-12 /Observer Corps Meeting** (Richland Main Library). Contact Kathryn Brookins (click **HERE**) or Amy Mikell (click **HERE**).

**Monday, May 12** (6:00 – 7:15 pm) – **Board Meeting** (Zoom). Contact Christine Hait by clicking **HERE**.

**May 16-17** (4:00 pm – 4:00 pm) -**LWV State Convention**, Greenville. *Registration is closed.*

**Pre-convention webinars** are still open to ALL members. Click the link to register!

- **May 12**, 7:00 pm - [Convention 101 and Proposed Bylaws Changes](#)
- **May 13**, 7:00 pm - [Meet the Candidates](#)
- **May 14**, 7:00 pm - [Proposed Program](#)
- **May 15**, 7:00 pm - [Proposed Budget](#)

**Thursday, May 22** (5:00 – 7:00 pm) – **LWVCA Annual Meeting & Social** at the home of Laurel Suggs. See [#3](#) below.

**Local Elections** (see [#5](#) below)

**April 28 – May 9** (8:30 am – 5:00 pm, M-F) - City of Forest Acres General Election (Town Council), *Early Voting*

**Tuesday, May 13** (7:00 am – 7:00 pm) – City of Forest Acres General Election (Town Council)

**May 19 – May 30** (8:30 am – 5:00 pm, M-F) - Town of Irmo Special Election (Town Council), *Early Voting*:

**Tuesday, June 3 (7:00 am – 7:00 pm) – Town of Irmo Special Election (Town Council)**

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## **2. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



We are closing in on the end of the school year, a time when the League visits high schools to educate students on the importance of voting and registers eligible high school seniors. Encouraging young people to care about our democracy and to understand their role in it is vitally important. I want to tell you about two people I know who are focused on the work of engaging young people in our democratic process.

One is LWVCA member Sharon Ayling, whom many of you know. For a number of years now she has spearheaded our efforts in local high schools. She works with teachers and school administration to make it possible for her and a group of volunteers to visit high schools to educate students about voting and register eligible students. Students love when Sharon arrives in the classroom dressed as a suffragette, wearing a straw hat and a “Votes for Women” sash. Using a PowerPoint presentation to inform students about the importance of voting and the struggle of many Americans to achieve the right to vote, Sharon prepares the students for the important step many of them will take when they choose that day to register to vote.

Another person I know who is focused on engaging young people in the democratic process is a high school student named Regina. I got to know Regina last year when she

contacted the League and requested assistance with her student organization's plan to provide water and snacks to voters coming to her high school, a polling place, to vote in the November 2024 general election. Regina was leading the effort, and she was happy to partner with the League. Sharon and I worked a shift giving out snacks and water that November day. I brought items to contribute and worried about whether Regina had collected enough snacks and bottles of water. I should not have worried. She had everything organized and ready to go. That is the kind of dedicated young person Regina is. When she contacted me recently about a voter registration event she is planning for her school, she referred to her "voter registration portal" at school. Yes, she maintains a voter registration portal at her school with a designated laptop and instructions for eligible students to go online to register to vote. Isn't that wonderful? You can read about My School Votes at <https://whenweallvote.org/takeaction/schools/>.

I am grateful to the League for the opportunity to get to know Sharon and Regina and many other civic-minded individuals who contribute their time and talents to voter registration and voter education with a special focus on our young people. If you have any young people in your life who are eligible to register to vote or will be soon, I encourage you to ask if they need help getting registered or have any questions about voting. As league members know, voting is a privilege and a responsibility, and we want to make sure our young people are prepared. Thank you in advance for doing what you can to help prepare them.

In League,

*Christine Hait*

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### **3. ANNUAL MEETING – SEE YOU THERE!!**

Our Annual Meeting will be held May 22, 5:00 p.m., at the home of Laurel Suggs. We'll be both concluding business of the past year and looking ahead to next year. Officers will be elected.

Once the meeting is adjourned, our social will begin. Each attendee is invited to contribute an appetizer (table-ready including serving utensils) or a bottle of wine or your

favorite nonalcoholic beverage. Laurel will have soft drinks and water. They have a covered porch and patio, so let's keep our fingers crossed for nice weather.

Laurel says we can park in their parking pad or driveway, or anywhere along Blythe Glenn Rd. We're asked to come through the garage to their back door.

This is a good time to both feel a part of the League's work and enjoy socializing with those whose commitment to democracy matches yours.

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#### **4. MIDLANDS GIVES**



CENTRAL CAROLINA  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

May 6, 2025, is Midlands Gives Day! Midlands Gives is an 18-hour online fundraiser for nonprofits sponsored by the Central Carolina Community Foundation. Look for social media posts from the League of Women Voters of the Columbia Area and share them with your friends, family and coworkers on social media, by email or giving them a call to encourage them to give.

Donation to the League of Women Voters of the Columbia Area can be made on the site [www.midlandsgives.org/LWVColumbiaArea](http://www.midlandsgives.org/LWVColumbiaArea).

You can give online any time before or after May 6, 2025. However, please do help us encourage those in the Midlands to include LWVCA on their giving list for this annual Midlands Gives fundraiser on May 6.

Our fundraising goal is \$2000. Contact Anita T. Baker by clicking [HERE](#) for more information.

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## 5. VOTE411 UPDATE

***The next Vote411 Committee Meeting will be at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at Still Hopes Guignard Mansion Dining Room (in person) or via /Zoom***

### **VOTE411 for Upcoming Elections**

2025 is a year of municipal elections in South Carolina. The VOTE411 team of the LWVCA is actively covering these elections in Lexington and Richland Counties to keep voters informed. Two elections are upcoming, in May and June. The remaining 15 are in November.

**Forest Acres** has a general election for **city council** on May 13, 2025. The City of Forest Acres, with a population of 10,617 in an area of about 5 square miles, has a non-partisan council form of government. The government consists of the mayor and 4 council members who serve 4-year terms. The mayor and council members have equal votes and are responsible for making policy, enacting laws, and appointing the city administrator to manage the day-to-day operations of the city. The Forest Acres government manages an annual budget of approximately \$10 million.

Two positions on the City Council are open for election and five candidates are running. We have asked the following questions of the candidates:

1. What prompted you to run for Forest Acres City Council?
2. What opportunities do you see for the City in the redevelopment of the Richland Mall site?
3. What are your top priorities for action by City Council?

Three candidates have responded to our questions in VOTE411. Please see [VOTE411.org](https://vote411.org) for their answers. If you live in Forest Acres, please encourage the other two candidates to submit a response and encourage your neighbors to vote! Early voting is available from April 28 to May 9 at the Richland County Voter Registration and Elections Office. Refer to [SCVotes.gov](https://scvotes.gov) for the May 13 polling places. Absentee voting is also available.

**Irmo Town Council** has a **Special Election** on June 3, 2025. The Town of Irmo, located in both Lexington and Richland counties, has a population of 11,659 in an area of about 6.8 square miles. It has a nonpartisan council form of government, including the mayor and

4 council member who serve 4-year terms. The mayor and council members have equal votes and are responsible for setting policy, enacting laws, and appointing a Chief Executive Officer to manage the day-to-day operations of the town. The Irmo town government manages an annual budget of approximately \$10 million.

One position is open for town council in this election. Three candidates are running. The VOTE411 team will ask the following questions of the candidates:

1. What prompted you to run for Irmo Town Council?
2. What are your thoughts on the Vision2035 Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Irmo?
3. What are your priorities for action by Town Council?

The race information and candidate responses will be posted on [VOTE411.org](https://VOTE411.org) on May 6. Early voting will be available from May 19 to May 30 at the Richland County or Lexington County Voter Registration and Elections Offices. Refer to [SCVotes.gov](https://SCVotes.gov) for the June 3 polling places. Absentee voting will also be available. If you live in Irmo, please look for the information in May and encourage your neighbors to vote!

Posters are being placed in county offices and libraries to inform citizens about the elections and VOTE411.

Various committees of the LWVCA work in concert to encourage participation in our democratic process. Our work on these elections demonstrates this. The VOTE411 team collects and posts election and candidate information on [VOTE411.org](https://VOTE411.org), creates flyers and advertising.

The Observer Corps attend government and school board meetings to observe democracy in process and report on the activities of these important local entities. For example, Melanie Trimble is the LWVCA observer for Forest Acres' town council meetings. Nicole Sanchez is the observer for Irmo's town council meetings. LWVCA members distribute flyers and pamphlets to county offices and libraries to inform voters. To kick off the process with new voters, the Voter Participation team registers and educates voters about the importance of voting.

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Thanks to Janet Wedlock for updating our directories of elected officials, including all municipalities and school boards for Richland and Lexington counties. To look at and print these documents, click [HERE](#).

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## **6. BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE FOR 2025**

**July 16:** Policing White Supremacy: The Enemy Within by Mike German and Beth Zasloff  
Leader: Anne Mellen

**September 17:** Humankind: a Hopeful History. Leader: Marianne McGrath

**November 19:** Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond  
Leader: Laura Woliver

Contact Anne Mellen for additional details by clicking [HERE](#).

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## **7. APRIL PUBLIC POLICY RECAP**

*NOTE: pictures from the meeting can be found in our “Member Corner” section, [#11](#).*

The topic of our April 17 Public Policy Luncheon was “The Importance of Local Government.” Todd Glover, Executive Director of the Municipal Association of South Carolina, helped us kick off our “Know Your City” initiative.

Todd emphasized that local government is the closest level of government to citizens. It touches our daily lives from water and sewer to garbage collection to public safety to public amenities such as recreational areas.

Unfortunately, however, voter turnout for municipal elections is low; around 20 percent of registered voters typically vote in them. Todd believes that we need more civics education in our schools about all levels of government. The Election Commission would like to require all municipalities to hold their elections in November in odd years. The



Municipal Association would support this if there was a way to help smaller municipalities pay for operating these elections.

Todd also talked about the increasing lack of civility among city and town councils and citizens attending the meetings. The Municipal Association is promoting civility, respect, and seeking solutions, including a civility pledge to begin public meetings. Todd also discussed other services of the Municipal Association, including insurance, advocating in the legislature, and providing training for local elected officials and staff. He concluded by thanking the League of Women Voters for encouraging voting and our Observer Corps for monitoring local governments, both of which he believes are very important.

- *Mary Edmonds*

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## **8. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

On Saturday, April 26th, the Environment Committee participated in the City of Columbia's Earth Day Climate Action Fair at the Art Museum. There were hundreds of participants in conjunction with Soda City Market. Our LWV exhibit was highly visible, and we celebrated Planet Earth with our positive presence in the community. Our exhibit featured: an Earth Ball, butterfly collection, give-away seed packets, and a water quality monitoring demonstration for kids. We had one-on-one time with participants to make new friends, gain new partners in our mission of the LWV of Columbia Area, and an opportunity to talk about our local projects. Thanks to all LWV members who helped and came out on Earth Day. We are particularly grateful to our Committee Members who made it happen, our President, Christine Hait, for coming out, and David Smith, 1st Vice President, for his help and assistance.

We are also planning a climate change workshop, "Climate Change and Resiliency: Is South Carolina Ready?" on May 17th at the LWV's State Convention in Greenville, SC. The workshop will discuss the effects of climate change. Those effects are more widespread, frequent, and significant. Communities bear the most considerable economic and public health burden of more frequent severe weather events such as Hurricane Helene, flooding, uncontrolled fires, extreme heat, and changes to the biota.

Featured speakers will share perspectives on readiness in South Carolina and their insights on climate advocacy. An interactive discussion will follow to present strategies for decision-makers and others for workable solutions to address climate change impacts and promote climate readiness. Speakers include:

- Bradley Craig, Resilience Planning Manager, South Carolina Office of Resiliency
- Stewart Weinberg, Ph.D., Vice-Chair, City of Charleston, Resilience & Sustainability Advisory Committee
- Judith Kramer, LWV of Charleston Area Chair, Environmental Study Group
- Linda Ashley, LWV of Charleston Area ESG Food Recycling Advocate
- Nicki Turano, LWV of Charleston Area ESG Education Program Coordinator

Also upcoming, we are in discussion with the SC Office of Resiliency for another meeting with the Lower Richland communities to give voice to their historic environmental justice concerns and address environmental and public health disparities the last week in July. We would like to further any opportunities to grow our partnerships to not only help the environment, but to empower citizens in their power at the ballot box to voice for clean air and water as a critical part of our democracy.

Join us by participating and sending in any ideas you have to make a positive difference! Contact Franni Eargle (click [HERE](#)) or Elaine Cooper (click [HERE](#)).

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## **9. EDUCATION/OBSERVER CORPS JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Education Committee and the Observers Corps held their joint meeting on April 9. Dr. Susi Long from USC's College of Education was the guest speaker.

Her research involves culturally relevant pedagogy. She presented information about the anti-DEI bill, H.3927, and shared information about how DEI programs and initiatives are carried out in schools and colleges and why they are so important. Dr. Long pointed out that "students learn more effectively when they see themselves in the books they read, the disciplines they study, and the teachers who teach them".

The playing field is not level and diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts attempt to make systems fairer. In our current state of politics, there are attacks against DEI programs

and even though (at the time of writing this), the anti-DEI bill has not passed, faculty and staff throughout the state are already practicing self-censorship through limiting the books they choose for classroom libraries and what they display on their bulletin boards. Also, doctoral research is currently being eliminated.

Dr. Long was an engaging speaker and has a wealth of knowledge of the significance of DEI programs. She ended her presentation with “diverse means ALL OF US, not one identity.”

We will hold our next meeting on **May 14 at 10am at the Richland Main Library**. We hope to see you there! Contact Kathryn Brookins (click [HERE](#)) or Amy Mikell (click [HERE](#)).

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## **10. OBSERVER CORPS REPORTS**

### **March/April 2025**

#### **Regular Meeting, Richland/Lexington 5 School Board, 3/24/25 (Katherine Myers)**

During the public participation segment, two people spoke. First, a high school junior told of his disappointment with the quality of teachers and staff at his school. Also, Kay Murphy advocated for the return of “tax anticipation notes” in lieu of an increase in the District’s reserve fund. The Board then passed 5 action agendas. A representative from Internal Auditing Services announced that the Board should expect an initial report on the budget 6+ months after an Internal Audit begins.

Finally, there was discussion of community use of school facilities. The Board expressed a need to confer with the legal staff concerning proof of “Not-for-profit” organizations. They also requested a study of the types of groups who request the use of the district's facilities and how each type of group might be fairly charged.

#### **Regular Meeting, Irmo Town Council, 3/25/25 (Nicole Sanchez)**

To begin the meeting, several new in town businesses were announced. Many of those businesses are located at 8090 Irmo Drive, a new shopping center. Sipp Social was recognized as the Small Business of the Month. The council approved many items including annexation of a property on Broad River Road, changes to the code involving

accessory apartments, setbacks on corner lots, sign regulations, and the budget for the new town hall.

They also voted for raises for Council Members. This change will not take effect until the next election. It was in response to a study into the salaries of town employees. It found that Irmo Town Council Members made less than the average council of similarly sized municipalities, plus their salaries had not been raised in 13 years. Next, they instituted what is thought to be a first in South Carolina. The Municipal Elected Official Institute Training is optional for elected officials to better understand their roles and responsibilities. The Town of Irmo approved the first reading of financial incentives for their members to take these courses.

Finally, they authorized a memorandum of understanding between the Town of Irmo and the Richland County Voter Registration and Elections office for conducting municipal elections. Before now, there was an informal understanding between the two entities. The election office brought it to the Town's attention that they had not been paying for many parts of their elections. This formalized the pay structure, roles, and responsibilities.

#### **Regular Meeting, Gaston Town Hall, 4/1/25 (Susan and Stephanie Phillips)**

After approval of minutes, there was a report from the Chief of Police who indicated that shoplifting had been increasing and that there have been many rural pharmacy break-ins in Lexington County. There were no speakers for public forum. New Planning Committee members Tony Kelly and Brian Johnson and new Zoning Committee members Scott Hill and Sean Thornton were sworn in by the Mayor. Lastly, there was a review of the 2024 financial audit. The town was complimented on making progress with low revenue, since they do not receive property tax income. The town has a 6-month cash flow and no debt.

#### **Regular Meeting, West Columbia City Council, 4/1/25 (Amy Mikell)**

Two resolutions highlighted the first part of the meeting. The first honored Dr. Brian Habing, a resident and president of the homeowners' association of Westover Acres, for having been named USC's Educational Foundation Outstanding Service award winner for 2025. The second was in praise of Hunter Helm's accomplishments as an outstanding football player at Gray Academy, Clemson, and Rhode Island University. He will join Clemson's coaching staff this fall.

Following was a vibrant presentation by Miriam Atria, President and CEO of the Capital City Lake Murray Country organization. The purpose of the group is to show that the four-

county region around the lake is “not just for fishing.” She detailed their impressive public relations efforts that translate into many visitors from around the country, meaning more business for restaurants and lodging (“heads on beds” as Mayor Tem Miles expressed it.)

Council then approved 9 contracts and zoning recommendations, after which the meeting was adjourned to executive session. I want to note that I enjoyed having Nicole Sanchez joining me on the front row, taking notes and smiling.

#### **Regular Meeting, Richland/Lexington 5 School Board, 4/07/25 (Katherine Myers)**

In the Superintendent Report, Dr. Ross remarked on the salary difference between Charleston County and Lexington 5 teachers. His report also informed that the Spring Bonds sold on 1April.

Two residents spoke during public participation. The first resident, Matt Conclan, spoke about the district's high rental cost and high denial rate for basketball courts in the district. The second, K. Murphy, raised concerns about a potential tax increase. Murphy requested that the “one” board member who repeatedly votes down the External Auditor, please make public his reasoning.

Items 15 and 16 on the Action Agenda drew some discussion: amending the wording in DB (Exhibit F) might affect the understanding of DFAB (Exhibit H). Dr. Ross stresses that a change in wording in the DB may jeopardize the Operational Funds. More information from the Auditor and Glover were requested by the School Board on that issue. Dr. Gary addressed facility accessibility during the Discussion Agenda. He reports that a group priority list exists but a change in the fee schedule remains undetermined. Custodial staffing remains 80% of the problem in terms of accessibility/denial of district facilities.

#### **Regular Meeting, Forest Acres City Council Meeting, 4/8/25 (Melanie Trimble)**

The meeting began with a presentation by Tony Magwood of the S.C. Department of Transportation. He reported lots of repairs on several roads, including adding stops, drainage repairs and sidewalk repairs. Forest Drive is being assessed for IDEA compliance and will have construction to meet those requirements. Resurfacing is being done on Lakeshore Drive, Percival Road, Buckfield Drive, Bethel Church Road, Atascadero, Clemson, Petigru and Troy Drive. North Trenholm Road will be resurfaced once the water mains are replaced.

Mr. Magwood then suggested that direct contact from citizens is welcome rather than only calling elected representatives. He noted that speed bumps are up to local jurisdiction, in conjunction with EMS and the Fire Department. Stop signs, however, must

go the DOT. Concerns about two dangerous areas were discussed: the increased left turns against traffic very close to the intersection of Forest Drive and Beltline Blvd., and the Trader Joe's / Willingham area which has a high rate of accidents due to left turns onto Forest Drive.

This fruitful conversation helped citizens understand all the complexities that make some of these requests move slowly. Rep Beth Bernstein and Rep Heather Bauer participated while citizens and the Council learned some ways to document and push effectively for repairs and other considerations. Cards were provided for all attendees who wished to write concerns on cards that went to the DOT representative.

Next several re-appointments were approved: Pete Balthazar to the Board of Zoning Appeals and Lyle Lee to the Planning Commission. There remains one vacancy on the Municipal Election Commission. Property was annexed. The City Manager gave a progress report on the Richland Mall site. Citadel Park is having a redesign that will be presented at the May meeting. Sections of the parks are blocked off right now and all will get repaired at the same time in May/June to save money. After April 30, any business license renewals will have a late fee. The local elections will be held on May 13. The city's website has updated information. The City Council meeting will be Wednesday due to the election on Tuesday. Finance Director Adams reported that the budget will be presented at the end of next month.

Finally, Chief of Police Robinson reported that traffic accidents are down compared to last year. There often is a crime increase in March and April, which is true this year as well. There had been four residential burglaries in ten days, which led to adjusted patrol patterns. The department has applied for grant funds for a forensic investigator position.

#### **Regular Meeting, Lexington School District Two, 4/16/25 (Amy Mikell)**

During the honors and accomplishments recognition period, 14 8<sup>th</sup> graders were lauded as having high enough PSAT scores to be named SC Junior Scholars. There was a recent performance of "Frozen Jr." in which 40 students from all over the district performed. More than 600 tickets were sold, making the production a huge success.

A Northside Middle School student has won first place in the performing arts solo category of the SC Beta Club convention. The seventh grader will be going to Orlando, Florida, to compete in the national competition. Third graders from Saluda River Elementary School earned a superior rating in the Gifted and Talented Dance Showcase.

There will be a district dance recital at 6:00 on April 30 at the Performing Arts Center. Finally, the district's two first-year teachers of the year and their mentoring teachers were recognized.

During the public participation time slot, a parent, Ashley Jeffcoat, delivered a rebuke of the district administration for making too many important decisions behind closed doors. In her words:

"Transparency should not be optional." She expressed concern that more money was spent on "optics" (example: new scoreboards for football, landscaping) than on outcomes. She decried too much testing that stresses both students and teachers and noted that teachers are forced to deal with overcrowded classrooms. Her words were acknowledged when later Superintendent Brenda Hafner referred to some of her comments.

Director of Instruction Dr. David McDonald introduced the director of dual enrollment, Alexis King, who described the financial, academic, and personal benefits of earning college credits while still in high school. The district collaborates with Midlands Tech to provide those opportunities. Some students have been able to enter college as juniors, thanks to this program.

Next, the director of instruction gave an extensive presentation on MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing. Students in grades 1-8 are given these computer adaptive tests 3 times per year. This shows student progress over time and allows for more targeted instruction and less guesswork for teachers. Finally, the Airport High School field house will be named the L.G. Gardner Field house to honor his more than 50 years of volunteer work helping athletes of the school.

#### **Regular Meeting, Cayce City Council, 4/18/25 (Amy Mikell/Virtual Observation)**

Most of the meeting was devoted to the proposed 2025/26 general fund budget. The city manager noted that there have been substantial increases in liability insurance and fuel costs.

Mayor Elise Parton decried the state for pulling back on funds traditionally granted to towns and cities. She also noted that there should be a sense of urgency about major purchases such as cars and trucks, as the federal government's tariffs will result in price

hikes for such items. She then bragged on the city's public works department for providing much better customer service than private waste collection companies do.

Next, the new police chief, Bruce Wade, was given a warm welcome. He already is familiar with the community due to doing consultant work for them. He also will earn his doctorate in criminal justice this September, making supremely qualified for the job. Councilman Byron Thomas suggested that local students, such as student council members, be invited to take part in city council meetings by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Finally, Mayor Parton bragged on the large participation in recent events such as the Tartan Day South Festival and Soiree on State.

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## **11. MEMBER CORNER**

Long-time League supporter, Dr. John Mark Dean, passed peacefully at home on March 27, 2025. Dr. Dean and his wife, Ruth Ann Bright Dean supported the League in numerous ways over the years. The obituary detailing his many achievements and contributions may be found by clicking [HERE](#).

### **Columbia League Members Volunteered at Benedict College's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Harambee [Festival](#)**

The League was well represented by Sara Phillips, David Eckerman, Betty Gregory, Sharon Ayling, Elizebeth Jones, and Phillip Jones at the April 26, 2025, event. More than 100 VOTE411 cards were shared with attendees. The event also allowed league members to network with other important organizations, including Hush No More and SC For ALL.

### **High School Voter Registration at Spring Hill**

Eleven League volunteers over two days (April 10 and 11) in 11 senior classes registered 101 new voters! We not only registered them, but we encouraged them to be informed



and life-long voters. I am extremely proud of this accomplishment and of all those League members who made it possible.

- *Sharon Ayling*

### **National Day of Action**

The “***National Day of Action!***” rally was held at the State House on April 19. It was an opportunity for attendees to publicly show their objections to the current administration’s attacks on our democracy, basic rights, and overreach of power - as can be seen in the following pictures taken by David Smith.

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### **April Public Policy Luncheon**

The following pictures were taken at our April PPL:

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### **12. CONTACTS**

#### OFFICERS

President	Christine Hait	2024-25
1st Vice President	David Smith	2023-25
2nd Vice President	Mary Edmonds	2024-26
Secretary	Sally Boyd	2023-25
Treasurer	Christina Goodwin	2024-26

#### DIRECTORS

Government Liaison	Missy Caughman	2024-26
Observer Corps	Amy Mikell	2024-26
Publicity	Anita Baker	2024-26
Women and Gender Equity	Laura Woliver	2023-25
Voter Participation	Aisha Jones	2024-25
VOTE411	Gloria Prevost	2023-25
Membership	Nicole Sanchez	2024-26
Communications	Susan Cirulli	2024-26

#### OFF-BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Education K-12	Kathryn Brookins
Environmental Affairs	Frances Eargle, Elaine Cooper
Nominating Committee	Marianne McGrath
Reproductive Health	<i>vacant</i>
Transportation	<i>vacant</i>
Voter Education	Cynthia Flynn, Lill Mood
Vote411 Co-Chair	Keller Barron



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