



BULLETIN

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P.O. Box 10133, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0133
<http://www.lwvmcva.org>



Gunin Kiran

"I deeply value the importance of the League in encouraging informed and active citizens to participate in democracy by voting."

See Gunin's Message on page 3

Gunin Kiran Will Be New President

The League of Women Voters Board has appointed Gunin Kiran as President of the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County for the remainder of the term ending May 31, 2023.

"We are excited to work with Gunin as she takes office on September 1, 2022," said Deborah Travis who with Peggy Layne has been serving as the League leader. "Peggy and I will resume our elected positions of Vice Presidents. We have been pleased to serve as interim co-presidents since May of this year."

Gunin has been a resident of Blacksburg since 2000, and a longtime member of our local league. She is well-known in the county for her many roles in school leadership from PTAs to serving eight years on the Montgomery County School Board through 2021. Gunin served five of those years as Board Chair.

Currently she is a member of Dialogue on Race Education Issues Group, a member of the Montgomery-Radford-Floyd NAACP Education Committee, and previously served as Executive Member at Large for the local NAACP. In 2017, Gunin received the MRF NAACP Community Service Award in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Gunin also served as a member of the LWV-VA Education Equity Study, is a trustee at the Montgomery County Floyd County Regional Library Board, and a member of the Rotary Club of Blacksburg.

Gunin holds bachelor and master of science degrees in Chemical Engineering from the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey. She is married to Erdogan Kiran, and they have three adult children.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Rise Up: Exploring Political and Community Leadership



McClanahan



Holton

To encourage women to become engaged in community and political leadership, our League is partnering in a day-long workshop: Rise Up: Exploring Political and Community Leadership, Sat., Oct. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Virginia Tech.

The League of Women Voters, VT Engage, The Center for Leadership and Service Learning, and The Women's Center at Virginia Tech are sponsoring the event.

Keynote speaker will be Elizabeth McClanahan, Virginia Tech Foundation

CEO and a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Anne Holton, who has spent her life engaged in politics, legal and academic leadership, will open the conference with a Zoom greeting and message about women's leadership.

The workshop is to bring interested women together to learn the nuts-and-bolts of running for political office or taking a leadership role within our community, said Elizabeth Obenshain, League program director.

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League Leadership

President

Gunin Kiran
president@lwvmcva.org

Vice President

Deborah Travis

Vice President Voter Services

Peggy Layne

Secretary

Linda Plaut
secretary@lwvmcva.org

Co-Treasurers

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Susan Morikawa

Directors

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Mary Ann Johnson
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Website Manager

Carolyn Rude

Action/Legislation

Molly McClintock

Events

Elva Miller

DEI Representative

Jes Davis

Program

Elizabeth Obenshain

At large

Mary Houska

League Members To Help Voters

Volunteers are needed for one of the major efforts of our League of Women Voters: setting up voter registration tables in areas where residents might be shopping and doing other daily chores. At these tables, League members will help anyone with the steps to voting starting with registration. At some of these, the League expects to have a computer available for on-line registration.

These tables will be at Libraries including the Montgomery-Floyd Regional library at Blacksburg, AARP Health and Wellness Event, and grocery stores including Eats. The League regularly offers information at Farmers Markets.

To volunteer, contact Peggy Layne, peggylaynepe@gmail.com.

Oct. 8 Workshop

Be Sure To Invite Women You Think Might Seek Leadership Roles

Continued from page 1

“We need your help to identify and invite local women – from college students to community women – who are interested in leadership. Help us spread the word! The workshop will give participants time to network with others in the community and on campus,” she said.

Breakout sessions will be held for the different audiences of those interested in campus leadership and those interested in community

leadership. The student sessions will feature skills geared towards leading changes on campus. The community sessions will be for women looking to engage in political leadership or involvement in civic and nonprofit leadership in the community.

The workshop will be held at Squires Student Center with lunch and address from the keynote speaker at Newman Library.

Register before Oct. 3 at:
<https://forms.office.com/r/eJ8KeFhKi8>

League Members Obituaries



Susan Gurley

Susan Gurley died May 8, 2022. She served as League secretary and in voter registration.



Harriett Cooper

Harriet Cooper died April 18, 2022. She was League secretary and worked in fund-raising.



June Schmidt

June Schmidt died April 8, 2022. She was League treasurer and worked on the budget.

Voting Information at Membership Meeting

The League had a great membership meeting Sept, 8, with both an introduction to the new League President, Gunin Kiran, and an update on the election and registration information.

The Secretary of the Local Board of Election, Carroll Williams, shared information on local voting precincts and the deadlines for upcoming elections. She was speaking on behalf of County Registrar Connie Viar, who was involved in duties for the upcoming election.



Learning details about how to register and vote from Carroll Williams.

- Sept. 23, First day of in-person early voting (Absentee begins)
- Oct. 10, Registrar's Office closed due to Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day holiday
- Oct. 17, Registration deadline 11:59 p.m. Mail postmarked by this date.
- Oct. 28, Last day to accept mailed absentee applications. Must be in the Registrar's Office by 5 p.m.
- Oct. 29, (Saturday) Registrar's Office is open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. for in-person early voting.
- Nov. 5, (Saturday) Registrar's Office is open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. for the final day of in-person early voting.

- Nov. 8, General Election. All polling places will be open from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m.

In-person early voting will be available at the Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 1F (Voter Registrar's Office), Christiansburg, Sept. 23 – Nov. 5 from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Voter Registrar's Office will also be open on Saturday, Oct. 29 and Saturday, Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

A Ballot Drop Box will be available Sept. 23 – Nov. 7, during normal business hours at the Government Center lobby area. Ballot Drop Boxes will also be available on Election Day, Nov. 8, at each polling site.

Redistricting made changes to the number and location of precincts. One important aspect was to prioritize the elimination of split precincts, which means precincts that were home to several House and Senate districts, as well as both town and county residents.

Since statewide redistricting, Montgomery County decided to maintain the same premise for local elections. As a result, precincts have changed for some voters, increased in number, and have retired two prior precincts. The State Board of Elections will be issuing printed information for each registered voter within two weeks of Election Day, Nov. 8. It will be a registration card or letter identifying your voting precinct.

If you need to verify your precincts and/or your voting registration information please go either <https://www.vote411.org> or <https://www.elections.virginia.gov>

Voter registration in person, by mail or online is available until Oct 17. After that date the process of Same Day Registration will be in effect in person at the Registrar's Office or on Election Day at your precinct.

Thanks to the events committee, the membership enjoyed food, drinks, and fellowship as well as the program arranged by the programs committee.

Gunin's Message

Dear League Members and Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alison Wilson and her nominating committee for considering me as your potential leader and the Board for showing a trust in me to serve as your President until May 31, 2023.

I am humbled, thankful and very excited about this opportunity. I also know that my predecessors are very knowledgeable and wise women so I know that it will be hard to fill their shoes. Please know that I will be looking forward to relying on the board's accumulated knowledge as well as the input from our membership.

I would like to thank Debbie Travis and Peggy Layne for serving as interim Co-presidents for the past many months and I am so glad that they will be continuing as our Vice presidents.

Please feel free to get in touch with me any time you see the need. As I pointed out earlier I will be counting on your support moving forward.

I deeply value the importance of the League in encouraging informed and active citizens to participate in democracy by voting. I trust that we continue with our mission and we encourage everyone to vote so that we all will have a say in the outcome.

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA
P.O. Box 10133, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0133

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Nov. 8

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TODAY

Become a member of the League of Women Voters. The annual membership fee is \$50. This payment includes local, state, and national membership dues. Members receive The National Voter, The Virginia Voter, and The Montgomery County Bulletin.
Email: league.mcva@gmail.com