

April 2024 "eVoter" Update



Spring 2024 Get-Together for League Members and Friends

IN PERSON

Northside Library, Charlottesville
Saturday, April 6th
10am-1pm

It's spring! Time for a recharge . For LWV-CVA it's the opportune time to meet with other League members.

You are invited!

Not to be confused with a Community Dialogue, our Get Together will have [no guest speaker and no agenda.](#)

You joined the League for a reason. Whether it was to support an organization that has positions on social issues that align with your values, or you want to take an active part in League Advocacy and /or meet with like minded individuals interested in progressive yet non-partisan politics.

Join in conversation with knowledgeable local League members. Come

and see what we are doing now and see some of the ways we inform and educate our members and the public . It's a chance to learn about how we go about getting the word out to vote this year and what we can do going forward.

If you want to do more but not sure what you want to do, you can get answers here without pressure of commitment unless you want to take it on.If you just want to check us out, please come to learn more about us.

Refreshments will be served.
Give- Aways will be available, so come early!
Bring a friend !

For more information please contact Lisa Hilgartner
at lisamezzo@gmail.com

Founder's Day at Monticello. **April 12,2024**

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area has again been invited as a Non-Profit Organization partner with the Monticello Foundation to an "under the tent" tabling event along with other NonProfit partners. We'll display information about our local league and provide information on voting.

The recipients of this year's Founder's Day awards are Julieanna L.Richardson, founder of The History Makers, Kate Orff architect and founding member of SCAPE, and the Hon. Roger L. Gregory, Judge for the US Circuit of Appeals: 4th Circuit.

Come join us. There will be cake to celebrate Jefferson's birthday.

The ceremony starts at 10am but gates open at 8:30. Ticket are required but they are FREE!

Sign up at:

<https://www.monticello.org/exhibits-events/founder-s-day/>



Annual Business Meeting 2024
Sunday, May 5th 2pm-4pm
Swanson Room -Central Library Charlottesville
All members are invited!

This is the opportunity for you to vote on our proposed

*Operating Budget for 7/01/2024 to 6/30/2025,

* Local Program for 2024-2025 and proposed

*Slate of new LWV-CVA Officers for 2024-2026

Please come.

There will be a Meet and Greet starting at 1:45 for all our members.

The celebration of Michele Kellermann's life was held on March 23, 2024 at Greencroft Club

Meg Heubeck made a touching speech and many members attended. Below is a picture of LWV-CVA members who attended.



Committee News

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Vote, Your Voice, Your Power

Film and Panel Q and A Event featured The Janes (2022), a film documentary and commentary for a Woman's Right to Choose and how Chicago group of brave women assisted women seeking abortions prior to the Supreme Court decision of Roe v. Wade. This was held at the Pierce Science Center at Mary Baldwin University, Monday evening, March 25th. The panel featured esteemed community members: Amy Tillerson-Brown, Barbara Lee, and League of Women Voters of VA Directors Evette Carto Barton, and Denise Harrington. Topics discussed were open civic engagement, an update on VA General Assembly bill, the importance of Voter Registration and how to make a difference in your community.

LWVVA co-sponsored the event





LWV-CVA Tabling at DEI: Vote, Your Voice, Your Power Event

Evette Barton, Carolyn Fitzpatrick, and Kim Harris set up a League Information and Voter Registration table at the DEI sponsored event at Mary Baldwin University assisting the Mary Baldwin and Staunton Community.



IR FG News By Gerry Kruger

The International/Relations Federal Government Committee met at Northside Library on March 27, 2024 with Chair **Rice Wagner** presiding. Attending were Carol Cutler, Miriam Fleitman, Gerry Kruger, Jean Minehart, Anita Pilling, Diane Skalak, Kathy Sudduth, and Bobbie Williams. The focus of our meeting was the 2024 Virginia General Assembly session and Governor Glen Youngkin's vetoes and amendments. **Anita Pilling** began our discussion with Youngkin's push for a sports arena at Potomac Yard in Alexandria. Sen. Tim Kaine opposes it because Virginia taxpayers would be responsible for paying off the bond necessary to pay for it. If there is an emergency and the bond must be paid off, our taxpayers would have to foot the bill. Also residents in the area are strongly opposed. The traffic problems it would cause are another concern. Still, Youngkin insists that he will continue to promote it. It would create jobs and could make a great deal of money for those who invest in it, not for our state. Democrats control the Senate with 21 members while the Republicans have 19. In the House of Delegates, there are 51 Democrats and 49 Republicans. As of March 24, Governor Youngkin has vetoed 70 bills and returned two to the Assembly for amendments which he suggested. One of the two amendments concerns parents' legal responsibilities to keep their children safe with firearms in their homes. He questions how this could be carried out effectively. The other amendment involves a religious exemption to a bill requiring health insurers to cover birth control. The governor must give a written explanation of each bill he vetoes. His vetoes chiefly concern highly charged partisan issues. Following is a list of issues included in many of them:

- Firearm safety and sales
- Voting and voting rights
- Immigrants

Sexually explicit materials in schools
Library books with sexually explicit content
Incarceration alternatives
Train safety
Police official requirements
Minimum wages

Some of the bills the governor signed into law concern same-sex marriage, preferential university admissions, and prosecuting violations of protective orders.

The next meeting of the International Relations/Federal Government Committee will be held again at Northside Library on April 18 from 1:00-3:00 pm. It will feature Putin's Russia. We invite you to join us for informative, lively discussions of issues important to voters.

NOTE: The IR/FG Committee will not meet during the month of July.

Natural Resources Committee News by Linda Goodling

Comprehensive Plans are a topic appearing in local newspapers recently. Your Natural Resources committee for many years has worked on providing our local governments some guidance (based on League principals and adopted positions). We've also trained members to take part, sometimes being so successful that our members sit on the Planning Commissions and governing bodies. In the last couple of years, while it's become easier to watch local government via transmissions in the comfort of your own home, the League has appeared less often — a rather ironic effect of improved listening opportunities. Our League did speak up last month, and you still can participate as the Comprehensive plans are being updated.

Virginia requires local governments to have a plan that looks out 20 years, and is updated every 5 years. (The 20-year requirement explains "AC44" as the name for Albemarle County's updating process this year.) A Comprehensive Plan is the necessary underpinning for a local government's land-use planning and decisions like zoning, growth management, traffic patterns, adequate water and sewer treatment, and all manner of projects, both by government and private individuals. In the hands of autocratic government, that can trample individual rights, as you can imagine. What protects Americans is insisting that Plans have to have citizen involvement during drafting, revising and adopting — that's where the League and you come in. We have to take part or

there is no true citizen involvement

Last month, we made a formal comment to the County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in a letter signed by our president, Meg Heubeck. In it, we recognized the importance of the Comprehensive Plan in protecting the unique landscape of Albemarle County and maintaining a high quality of life for all in the face of climate change, population growth and biodiversity loss. We asked that the County continue its policy of protecting the rural area from sprawl, so that the important resources we depend upon—our freshwater, forests and agricultural land— can continue to provide for us into the future.

We endorsed our County's commitment to mitigating climate change by incorporating the County's Climate Action Plan throughout AC44 and improving our resiliency to increased risks of flood, drought and wildfire.

And last but not least, we promised that we would be watching closely as AC44 continues to take shape over the next several months.

Charlottesville has adopted its newest version and has created a very new zoning map based on it. Albemarle's Plans, goals and central policies (such as how far into the countryside we'll have suburban growth) are being discussed and decided, with some decisions already. But many decisions remain, especially how to implement the policies in the Plan.

The best way to participate is to join the Natural Resource committee! But on your own, there are many ways to be engaged. Writing the Board of Supervisors (BOS@Albemarle.org) (FluvannaCounty.org) or Planning Commission (PlanningCommission@Albemarle.org) can be worthwhile; attending meetings is surprisingly interesting and being seen in the audience is an effective reminder to officials that citizens are watching. Each website has extensive information on topics and agendas.

Update your LWV-CVA Handbook WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Mary (Nan) Kister
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LWV CVA Calendar of Events for April 2024 -

Mark your Calendars!

April 5th Spring 2024 Get Together at Northside Library from 10 am-1pm .

April 12 Founders Day at Monticello- LWV-CVA will have an information table "under the tent" 8:30 til noon.

LWV CVA Board of Directors Meeting - April 17th at Northside Avenue Library Meeting Room 3- 5 pm
contact Meg Heubeck mfh2n@virginia.edu

Natural Resources Committee Meeting,

Tuesday ,April 23rd at 1:30.via ZOOM.

Contact Linda Goodling linniecg740@gmail.com to join the meeting.

International Relations/Federal Govt. Meeting -

Northside Library on Wednesday April 18 , 1 to 3 pm

Questions: contact Rice Wagner 386-527-5392 at rice123@icloud.com

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area

President: Meg Heubeck

eVoter Editor: Lisa Hilgartner

Visit our website: lwv-cva.org



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We are committed to applying the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of our operations and activities. We support governmental policies that apply these principles in addressing the social, environmental and economic problems in our communities.

Sent by lisa@leagueofwomenvotersofthecharlottesvillearea.ccsend.com powered by



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