

May-June 2024 "eVoter"



Annual Business Meeting 2024

**Sunday, May 5th 2pm-4pm
Swanson Room -Central Library
Charlottesville**

All members are invited to the most important and best attended meeting of the year.

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

Our Speakers for the Event

PJDuffy ,Jefferson Scholar '27 and Max Fleischer '27

Both are UVA Students

involved with UVA Center for Politics

Their Topic: Youth Participation in Voting

Note:There will be a Meet and Greet starting at 1:45 for all

Founder's Day at Monticello. April 12,2024

Lisa Hilgartner and Kim Harris ,representing the League, were under the tent with other non-profit organizations at the request of the Monticello Foundation for the Founders Day Event. Despite the weather it was a successful start for tabling our Voter Information and Registration Events. We've been invited back for the Naturalization Ceremony on July 4th, 2024.



Voter Registration Drive at Western Albemarle High School on May 1.

The League of Women Voters Club at WAHS hosted a Voter Registration Drive with the help of Kim Harris, our Voter Services Chair and Lisa Hilgartner. They had prizes, candies, signs and most importantly the spirit to get their peers out to register to vote. Kim supplied the rest> Most students used the sign that has a QRCode that takes them to the ELECT website. Many more students left one of our new laptop stickers to register later and /or share with their family and friends,



There was so much enthusiasm and our WAHS League Members answered questions encouraging other students to register to vote and making the whole process feel more accessible. Many students came to our table to register to vote. So many were surprised to know that the age to register to vote has been lowered to 16. Some did not realize that if they turned 18 on or before Nov. 5th Election Day that they could vote in the upcoming Primary Election

It was such a success that a



Voter Drive is in the works for the fall.



Primary Season
is Underway.

The June Primary will decide who will be the Democratic and Republican candidates for US Senator and US Representative who will be on the ballot in the General Election in November.

May 3rd- Early Voting begins at your registrar's office

May 28th Deadline to register to vote in the June Primary

June 7th- Deadline for requesting an absentee ballot being mailed to you.

June 18th- Primary Election Day poll at your assigned precinct open at 6am and close at 7pm.

In Memoriam

John Scott, former active member and beloved husband of Betty Scott, LWV-CVA President (1974-1976) and Life Member, passed away on April 5th, 2024.

Committee News

International Relations and Foreign Government News
By Gerry Kruger

Northside Library was again where the International Relations/Federal Government Committee met on April 24th. Vladimir Putin was the focus of our meeting and **Anita Pilling's** excellent presentation. Carol Cutler, Miriam Fleitman, Gerry Kruger, Susan Roberts, Diane Skalak, Rosalie Simari, Kathy

Sudduth, Lois Sandy, Bobbie Williams, and our guest, Vivian Weinshenker, joined in our spirited discussion.

Russia's president is quite protective of his privacy, and little is known about his early life and background. Although he was far from privileged growing up, he was bright and did well in high school. Even then he dreamed of being in the KGB and joined the KGB immediately after graduation from Leningrad University. Sent to East Germany in 1985, he worked for the KGB under cover and bitterly resented the ensuing chaos that followed the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

In 1990 he returned to Leningrad and worked under cover for the KGB but would soon become involved in Russian politics. He was deputy mayor of St. Petersburg and deputy chief administrator of the Kremlin. In 1998 he was named as Director of the Federal Security Service, which replaced the KGB. In 1999 he was appointed Prime Minister and eventually named acting president by Boris Yeltsin. He was finally elected and inaugurated as president in 2012.

Putin has remained president since 2012. In 2020 he signed a law that allows him to stay in power until 2036. He has placed friends and old intelligence colleagues in key posts and jailed and assassinated perceived opponents. He considers himself a protector of Russian values standing up against a morally decadent West.

President Putin was responsible for interfering in the US 2016 election. A large group of Russians hacked into Hillary Clinton's campaign. Although he had a somewhat friendly relationship with Trump, President Biden calls him a "thug," a "murderous dictator," and a "war criminal." Since the invasion of Ukraine, he has been hit with economic sanctions.

Join us as Anita continues to share her amazing research on Putin at our next meeting at Northside Library on May 23 from 1:00-3:00 pm.

NOTE: there will be no IR/FG meetings in July and August.

Voter Services by Kim Harris

Hello everyone! I'm so excited to be joining the Board as the Voter Services Director! This is an important year for us with the general election fast approaching, so I'd love to find out how many of you are interested in helping us with voter registration drives, tabling events, or even work that can be accomplished from home. I would also LOVE your ideas of events we might attend, ways to get information out, and events we might want to sponsor/hold to ensure our voting population is well informed and ready to vote!

We're going to hold a zoom meeting on Tuesday, 7 May, at 6 pm. The zoom link is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86183201987?pwd=0HNnsAbFKavxLbktMGpJYO4mTXHX3n.1>

Right now we have 2 events on the books that I need volunteers for. They are:

Saturday, 29 June, 11-2, Washington Park, Charlottesville:

Healthy Streets, Healthy People Fair. Last year there were over 350 people who attended this event! We need several folks who are willing to help set up a tent for us (it WILL be hot!), and volunteer for the event.

Saturday, 24 August, 10-4, Louise African American Culture Heritage Festival. We will definitely need shifts of people to help staff this event!

We've already been jumping into action this spring too!

Lisa Hilgartner and I attended Founder's Day at Monticello, where we not only shared lots of great information but got some networking in too!

Nan Kister did a tabling event for us celebrating Women's History Month and Earth Day 2024 on Sunday, 21 April. Thank you, Nan, for joining the League and jumping right into action!

Lisa Hilgartner and I will be at Western Albemarle High School on Wednesday, 1 May, for a student registration drive. Thanks to Caroline Grist for inviting us out to get students registered!

Finally, the state league is holding a poster contest for middle and high school students. Meg Heubeck has pushed the information to local schools for participation, but if you know anyone in that age range who might have an artistic bent, please share the attached information with them.

Cash prizes!!

Looking forward to seeing you all at the zoom meeting on 7 May!
Mark your calendars!



League of Women
Voters (LWV-Virginia)

Cash Prizes for Best
Posters About Voting

Update your LWV-CVA Handbook WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

June Heintz
1600 Gordon Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22903
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Andrea Jackson
401 Ivanhoe Avenue
Waynesboro VA 22980
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LWV CVA Calendar of Events for May -June 2024

Mark your Calendars!

**Annual Business Meeting , May 5th 2024 at Central Library Swanson Room
from 2- 4 pm . Meet and Greet at 1:45**

LWV CVA Board of Directors Meeting -

May15th at Northside Avenue Library Meeting Room 3- 5 pm, contact
Meg Heubeck mfh2n@virginia.edu .c

Retreat for the new LWV-CVA Board of Directors 2024-2025

at CNE on June 20th from 10-3. All board members for the 2024-2025
are required to be there or make plans for an alternate to attend.

Natural Resources Committee Meeting

Contact Linda Goodling linniecg740@gmail.com for details for May and June.

International Relations/Federal Govt. Meeting

Northside Library on Wednesday May 23 , 1 to 3 pm

Contact Rice Wagner for information on their June meeting.

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: lwg-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.

League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area | PO Box 2786, Charlottesville, VA 22902

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