



Charlottesville Area
League of Women Voters
Newsletter
March 2013

Office Phone and Fax:
(434) 970-1707
Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 1 pm to 5 pm
E-mail: lww@lww.avenue.org Visit Our Website:
lww.avenue.org

LWV CVA March Community Dialogue

Health & Family Life Education: Issues & Challenges for Our Schools

*presented by the Women's Issues Study Committee
of the League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area*

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Two Meeting Times:

Noon - 1:30 pm

New County Office Building, 1600 Fifth St., Room A

7 pm - 8:30 pm

Jefferson City Center, 4th and Commerce Sts., Room 207

For Lunch Reservations at the noon meeting, box lunch \$8,
contact the office, 970-1707, or email: lww@lww.avenue.org



The Women's Issues Study Committee will present the report on its study of **Health and Family Life Education in the Albemarle County and Charlottesville City Schools** at our March 5 Community Dialogue. During the study, the Committee reviewed relevant statutes, regulations and local curricula; interviewed local school administrators and teachers, Virginia Department of Education personnel, and experts regarding the subject matter; and examined programs and curricula developed elsewhere in the country.

This is an excellent opportunity to learn about

- The history, structure and requirements for both health education and family life education and the roles of the localities in developing the courses of study;
- The schools' responsibility regarding teaching, testing, accountability, parental involvement, and the involvement of outside speakers;
- Key aspects of the curriculum and limitations on what is taught in various grades;
- The challenges of time and resources that local schools face in implementing the programs;
- Teacher training and expertise; and
- Ways in which the League and others in the community might become involved with the schools in their implementation of the programs.

This discussion will provide the background for the April 2 consensus meeting on the study committee's recommendations for the League. Please be an active participant in this important local issue by learning about the study on March 5, and joining in consensus meeting on April 2.

This page is sponsored by Joan Jay of Loring Woodriff Real Estate Associates

President's Message:

Dear LWV CVA Members and Friends of the League,

In the January 24 *LWV US Leaders' Update*, President Elizabeth MacNamara commented on President Obama's inaugural address to wit:

“We the People” must go beyond merely casting a vote and become a voice in support of a sensible and sustainable social safety net, a solution to climate change, safety for our children, and a level playing field for all.

She pointed out that the League embraces precisely these same values and could play a key part in making a new America a reality. Our work has never stopped with the ballot box. To do this it is up to us to find new ways to reach out and start the conversation. Can we work together first within the League to use social media and the internet to reach out to a more diverse audience for our educational forums? Can we translate some of our traditional methods of study and consensus to involve a broader audience in finding common ground on issues? We will see.

One new method highlighted in the January 24 letter was the new **LEAGUE FORUMS**. The LWV US hopes that this electronic network exclusively for League members will provide for online discussions between members with similar interests across the nation. **LOG IN TODAY!** Go to www.lwv.org, click on **LOGIN** in the top red bar. Once logged in, use the “Forums” link in the left navigation bar to find your interest and begin your conversation. The site is new – there may be startup issues – but do not be deterred. We need to try!

Sincerely,

Kerin Yates

President, LWV CVA

Get Involved with Community Planning

Following up on the excellent presentations on the City and County Comprehensive Plans at our last *Community Dialogue*, you may attend meetings as scheduled below, or contact planning commissioners and elected officials. For local contact information, go to our LWV CVA website homepage, lwv.avenue.org, and click on "Directory of Elected Officials."

Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan Update

February 22: Full plan available for public review

March 5: Review and Public Hearing on entire plan

Charlottesville Comprehensive Plan Work Schedule

February 26: Plan Introduction review and Implementation and Community Facilities Chapter

March 5, 12, 26: Complete any pending discussions

EDUCATION REVIEW GROUP

Looks at "Early Childhood Education" and "Childcare Workforce Training" in Regard to League Positions

The LWV CVA Education Review Group met on Tuesday, January 22, to review the local, state, and national positions on Education in regard to **early childhood education** and **child care workforce preparation**. Members of the review group are **Gerry Kruger, Deborah Brooks, and Linda Goodling, Wayne Harbaugh, and Lulu Williams**. We are primarily studying the rationale behind providing more early childhood education opportunities for the disadvantaged, and local programs geared toward preparing our students for the workforce.

A report detailing the changes we recommend to our local position on Education, along with the rationale for these changes, will be placed in the newsletter before our May Annual Meeting. At that time League members will be asked to approve these recommendations.

An Invitation to All LWV CVA Members!

The LWV CVA as a supporter of the LWV VA awards event (see announcement below) has guaranteed the purchase of one table. Dinners are \$95 each. **Any LWV CVA member (including Board members) who wishes to attend will have the price of their dinner set at \$45 with our League underwriting \$50.** Dinners for all others are \$95. **Reservations MUST be in our League office by Thursday March 7 and must include payment which is non-refundable.** There will be no exceptions.

Checks may be made out to LWV CVA and sent to our office at 1932 Arlington Blvd. Ste. 111, 22903.

LWV VA has reserved a block of rooms at The Westin Richmond at a cost of \$129 plus tax for the night of March 16. Those reservations must be made by February 23 to the hotel. 804 282 8444.

The League of Women Voters

® of Virginia

invites you to share a historic evening on March 16th, 2013:

Democracy in Action Awards Celebration

This year's inaugural Celebration will pay special tribute to one of Virginia's finest and most prominent leaders, Senator Mary Margaret Whipple. Senator Whipple will provide the keynote address and serve as honoree throughout the evening. Thirteen other extraordinary leaders will be honored as well and recognized as nominees for two awards, Engaged Citizenship and Good Governance. The two award recipients will be announced at the event and paid special tribute for their commitment to engaged government and building better communities in Virginia.

Saturday, March 16th, 2013
6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Reception
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm Dinner and Awards
Ceremony

The Westin Richmond Hotel
6631 West Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Keynote Speaker: Senator Mary Margaret Whipple

Good Governance Award Nominees

Sen. Janet D. Howell
Council Member Judith N. Knudson
Del. Jennifer L. McClellan
Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller
School Board Member J. Marie Waller
Del. Vivian E. Watts

Engaged Citizen Award Nominees

Kristin Gross
Jill Hanken
Therese Martin
Mary Sue Terry
Sally Thomas
Shannon Valentine
Barbara Worthen

The search is on

The LWV CVA **Nominating Committee**, chaired by Dena Imlay, is looking for members interested in increasing their level of activity within our League as Board members and committee members. Consider your availability. Then call or e-mail Dena and let her know what you may be able to offer. All members of the nominating committee will appreciate your help.

Dena Imlay 296 6651 arlimlay@comcast.net



To wit: “The League of Women Voters is not an end in itself. It is a marvelous training ground. We awaken the apathetic, combine the few minutes here and there of many people and are the constructive expression of otherwise uneasy consciences.”

Anna Lord Strauss LWVUS president 1944 – 1950 and a prominent member of significant committees during the Truman administration.

Child Care Review

One of the subjects put forward at the Program Planning meeting was the availability and quality of child care in our community. Anne Linden and Lois Sandy, as interested Leaguers, have initiated a review of this important subject. If this topic is of particular interest to you, consider joining them. E-mail Anne Linden: alinden4@gmail.com.

To those of you who like to write:

Consider doing a piece on local politics, natural resources, local planning, or any League endeavor. The LWV CVA has been offered space in *C'Ville Tomorrow* for occasional articles. They will allow graphs and charts. Contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840, if you are interested. The space will have a constant header . . .likely to be "Learn with the LWV".

**Emily Couric Scholarship Awards
to be Presented at the 13th Annual Leadership Luncheon**

On February 5, LWV CVA Board Director **Gerry Kruger** served as a judge representing our League at the Emily Couric Leadership Scholarship interviews. The scholarship is given annually to an outstanding female high school senior selected for demonstrating leadership in her school and community. All high schools in Albemarle and Charlottesville are invited to nominate candidates. Thank you, Gerry, for taking on this endeavor.

The scholarship recipient and other finalists will be honored at the Emily Couric Leadership Luncheon on Monday, March 18. The Honorable Olympia Snowe will be the guest speaker.

International Relations /Federal Government News

by Gerry Kruger

On January 23, the IR/FG Committee met in the home of Marge Cox. **Rosalie Simari**'s report on Iran revealed that Iran's prosperity is an illusion. Sanctions imposed for not allowing inspections of their nuclear facilities are having an impact, as their exports have steadily decreased. Although Russia and China have not participated in the sanctions against Iran, most UN members are participating. There are no business start-ups, no supplies for carmakers, and they are completely cut off from the global economy. Their currency is devalued and economists believe that inflation is over 50%. Israel has said they will destroy Iran if sanctions do not work.

To mollify the people, who are looking for work, selling their possessions, and suffering under runaway inflation, oil profits are going to help poor families. It is unclear how long the country and its people can hold out under these conditions.

Pat Hurst's report was on the high cost of prolonging life for the terminally ill in the U.S. even though the U.S. average life expectancy is below that of many other developed countries. Japan leads the world in life expectancy while the U.S. is 14th even though we spend much more on health care. The reason for the high cost in the U.S. is our aging population and the heavy use of expensive technology, machines, and drugs. Many treatments are merely palliative and only postpone death by a few months. For example, the USDA approved a drug for advanced melanoma in 2011 that costs \$120,000 for four injections and extends life about four months.

We invite you to join us as we meet twice monthly in members' homes for informative programs. See the calendar on the back of this newsletter for dates and times.

New Email Address for our League
**Please note that the office computer has a
new email address:**
lww@lww.avenue.org
**Use this address when sending any emails
to the office, i.e., reservations, notices, etc.**

2013 Finance Drive Launched

Many thanks to all those hearty Leaguers who braved a cold, blustery morning on Saturday, January 26, to attend the "Finance Drive Letter Writing Party" at the home of **Carol Hogg**. Carol was a gracious hostess. She prepared and organized the materials (letters, inserts, envelopes, labels, stamps!) so that we could efficiently write notes on and mail over 450 letters. And she served us lots of tasty goodies to fuel our effort! Many thanks, Carol.

Attending that morning were:

Deborah Brooks
Jane Foster
Linda Goodling
Wayne Harbaugh
Michele Kellermann
Gerry Kruger
Liz Kutchai
Anne Linden
Lois Sandy
Frances Schutz
Rosalie Simari
Ruth Wadlington
Bobbie Williams

If you have not yet made a donation to the Operations Fund or the Education Fund, or both, we urge you to do so. Our Finance Drive letters remain the main source of fund raising for our local League.

Welcome Shayla!

We are delighted to welcome on board, our new office assistant, Shayla Givens. Shayla is a graduate of James Madison University (English major), and has extensive work experience with all kinds of computer programs. She will be **in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 pm to 5 pm**, to assist the Board in the smooth functioning of our organization.



League of Women Voters
 1932 Arlington Blvd. #111
 Charlottesville, VA 22903-1560

LWV CVA
President
 Kerin Yates

Newsletter Editor
 Michele Kellermann

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Meetings and Events for March 2013: *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Tues., March 5, Noon - 1:30 pm; 7 pm - 8:30 pm	LWV CVA Community Dialogue: Health and Family Life Education: Issues & Challenges	Noon: New County Office Bldg., 1600 Fifth St., Room A 7 pm: Jefferson City Center, 4th & Commerce, Rm. 206	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Tues., March 12, 4-6 pm	LWV CVA Board Meeting	Virginia Nat'l Bank, Arlington Blvd.	For further information, contact Kerin Yates, 964-1840
Wed., March 13, 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Lois Sandy, 1666 Franklin Dr., 296-8737	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5528
Sat., March 16, 6:30 pm - 9 pm	LWV VA "Democracy in Action" Awards Celebration	Westin Richmond Hotel, 6631 West Broad St., Richmond	For more information, contact the office, 970-1707
Wed., March 20, 4:30 pm	Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Virginia Nat'l Bank, Arlington Blvd.	For further information, contact Linda Goodling, 296-9865
Wed., March 27 9:30 am	International Relations/Federal Gov't. Committee Meeting	Home of Rosalie Simari, 107 Rowledge Place, 295-7325	For further information, contact Marge Cox, 245-5528