



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA

BULLETIN

Volume 42, Issue 6
February, 2014

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

March Events

Breakfast with Blacksburg Town Council

Wednesday, March 19
8 a.m.
Courtyard by Marriott
105 Southpark Dr.
(off South Main St.) Blacksburg

Cost: \$10
(make reservations. See information on page 3)



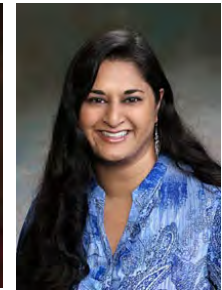
Susan Anderson



John Bush



Leslie Hager-Smith



Krisha Chachra, vice mayor



Cecile Newcomb



Ron Rordam, mayor



Michael Sutphin

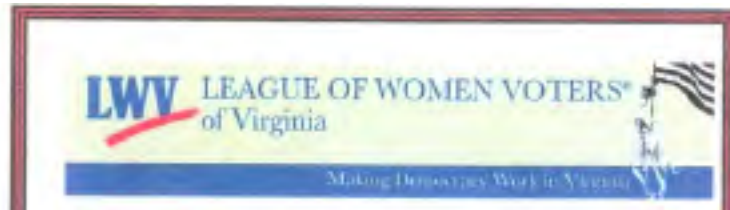
Statewide event in Richmond

Luncheon To Honor Democracy Work

Saturday, March 22,
noon to 2 p.m.
Lewis Ginter Botanical
Garden, Richmond

Cost: \$55

Plans are still being made to travel to the event. Anyone who wishes to register: Send check for \$55 by March 15 to: Elaine Head, Treasurer, LWV-VA, 507 Monticello Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24060-8129



Annual event to honor individuals who have been working to **Make Democracy Work.**

Montgomery County League is nominating Mary Houska to be among the honorees. Mary has been a leader in the local league for many years, serving in many roles including president and Voter Service. Currently, she is one of three co-presidents who took the leadership when the president, Judy Snoke, became ill.

Local league members Nancy and Charles Warren are Resource Development chairs for the State League and are responsible for planning this fund-raising event

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Contact the League

Co-Presidents

1st V-P: (program chair)

Amy Mauldon

951-1534

amauldon@gmail.com

2nd V-P: (voter service chair)

Mary Houska

552-2717

mfdh@aol.com

Alison Wilson (*membership*)

557-1253

alisonhwilson@verizon.net

Treas: June Schmidt

552-1590

schmidtj@vt.edu

Sec: Julia Lewis

961-2655

cisco@warmhearthva.org

Directors: (elected)

Bobby Littlefield (*action*)

961-1418

bobbilittle65@gmail.com

David Scheim (*publicity*)

320-8013

dscheim@comcast.net

Bev Fleming

951-1527

bev_fleming@hotmail.com

Joan Zajac

552-3856

JoanZajac@cooper.net

Directors: (appointed)

Darlene Allen

(*Facts for Voters editor*)

552-0279

dfallen01@gmail.com

Mary Ann H. Johnson (*Bulletin editor,*

Facebook)

552-0133

jnayram@vt.edu

Carolyn Rude (*webmaster*)

552-0373

carolyn.rude@comcast.net

Off-board portfolios

Finance chair

Harriett Cooper

552-3446

chayabrona@verizon.net

Presidents Message



Amy, Mary, and Alison

Judy Snoke resigned as president of our league because of illness. She is recovering and is at Heritage Hall where she is able to get the therapy she needs.

The league board at its January meeting, asked Mary Houska, second vice president and voter service chair, Amy Mauldon, first vice president and program chair, and Alison Wilson, director responsible for membership, to assume leadership responsibility.

One of Our League Founders Dies

Betty Cattell Williams, who was one of the founders of the Montgomery County League of Women Voters, died Jan. 14, 2014.



She along with Jean McCart, Sallie Mabie, Lindsey West, Jossie Shotts, and Nita Snipes worked to organize the group in 1971 to bring its mission of working

in a non-partisan manner focusing on issues important to voters. The first study, in 1974 compared Blacksburg's Charter with those of other Virginia municipalities and with the Model City Charter of the National Civic League. Blacksburg formed a Charter Commission which recommended a new Charter. Blacksburg Town Council approved that Charter in December 1974.

Betty, who came to Blacksburg in the early 1960s remained active in the local league working on Membership, Forums, and the Bulletin until she moved to Silver Spring, MD to be near family

in 2012. She was director of the YMCA Crafts Fair for more than 25 years until her retirement in 1994. She was active in other community groups and was a guide at Smithfield Plantation.

The family plans a memorial service at her Blacksburg home in the spring.

Other League Losses

Virle Payne, 97 years old, died Jan. 22. She had been residing at Warm Hearth. She joined the league in 1980.

The sister of Joan Zajac died. Joan was honored for being a member 50 years last spring.

Delegation Traveled To Richmond

A delegation from the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Cynthia Chappelka, Alison Galway, Elaine Head, Julia Lewis, Bobbie Littlefield (Action Chair), Rebecca Shankman, Jane Sprague, and Nancy and Charles Warren, participated in the State League Lobby Day, Feb. 5.

They had appointments with the members of the General Assembly representing our area, Senators John Edward, Phillip Puckett, and Ralph Smith; Delegates Greg Habeeb, Nick Rush, and Joseph Yost.

Action chair, Bobbie Littlefield, prepared a letter listing the issues they wanted to discuss.

“Our thoughtful studies of these issues lead to our request today that you support:



Getting ready to leave are Bobbie Littlefield, Rebecca Shankman, Jane Sprague and Julia Lewis. Others who traveled to Richmond for Lobby Day included Cynthia Chapelka and Alison Galway.

1. Voter regulations and provisions that will increase the confidence of Virginia’s citizens in the process and will enable broad participation in elections by all citizens

2. Covering the gap in medical care coverage for Virginia’s children and adults
3. That Virginia’s groundwater be protected from contamination.”



Phil Jordon providing information about Turkey

Great Decisions

Blacksburg and Radford programs Bring Crowds, Lively Discussions

The Great Decisions programs continue in Blacksburg, chaired by Jane Sprague, assisted by Nancy Warren and Mary Houska, and in Radford, chaired by Rebecca Shankman. There are 96 individuals enrolled. The Blacksburg sessions are held from 11:30 am – 1 pm, on Wednesdays in the Mary Fessler Community Room of the public library in Blacksburg.

The Radford program is at 6 pm in the Community Room of the public library in Radford.

The last sessions and the resource person at the Blacksburg session, will be:

- Energy Independence (Richard Hirsh)
- Israel and the US (Daniel Breslau)
- China’s Foreign Policy (Deborah Milly)
- Food and Climate (resource person to be announced)

Annual Meeting Speaker Announced

Jim Politis, who has served on the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors from 1997 to this year, including serving as chair of the Board, will be guest speaker at our annual meeting, May 15, at the Village Center at Warm Hearth.

Reservation information will be in next bulletin.

Contributions

Harriett Cooper, finance chair

Mary Britt (non-member)
in honor of (blush) Harriett Cooper.

Carolyn Rude New Webmaster

Carolyn Rude, who retired as professor of English at Virginia Tech in 2013, has accepted the post of webmaster,

Make reservations for Breakfast with Blacksburg Town Council,
Wednesday, March 19, at Courtyard by Marriott.

Send a check for \$10, made out to LWV-MC

To June Schmidt, Treasurer, 511 Cedar Orchard Dr., Blacksburg, VA 24060, by March 13
Courtyard by Marriott is at 105 Southpark Dr., off of south Main St., Blacksburg

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS®
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Calendar

March 4 - noon - First Tuesdays luncheon, Famous Anthony's Restaurant, Blacksburg
March 11 - 11 a.m. - Board Meeting, Community Room, Blacksburg branch of Montgomery
Floyd Regional Library
March 19 - 8 a.m. - Breakfast with Blacksburg Town Council, Courtyard by Marriott, Blacksburg
March 22 - noon - State League Awards Luncheon, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond
March 27 - 7 p.m. - Take Back the Night Event, Henderson Lawn, Blacksburg
April 1 - noon - First Tuesdays luncheon, Famous Anthony's Restaurant, Blacksburg
April 8 - 11 a.m. - Board Meeting, Community Room, Blacksburg branch of Montgomery
Floyd Regional Library
May 15 - Annual meeting, the Village Center at Warm Hearth

Bulletin Sponsors

Warm Hearth Village, Blacksburg's Retirement Destination - (540) 552-9176

Runabout Sports – A Great Place for Shoes (540) 552-9339

Education Programs & Services LLC – Wayne “Dempsey” Worner (540) 552-8807

Companion Animal Clinic, Inc., Blacksburg (540) 552-6800

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: Membership@lwvmcva.org. Or email Alison Wilson at alisonwilson@verizon.net