



THE VOTER

Newsletter of the
League of Women Voters® of the Williamsburg Area

Celebrating our 55th Year

JANUARY 2018

P.O. Box 1086, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1086

www.lwvwilliamsburg.org

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Great Decisions 2018 Speakers

- February 6 Global Health, W&M Prof. Allison Scott
- February 13 Media and Foreign Policy Alexander Wooley, W&M AID Data
- February 20 Turkey – speaker to be arranged
- February 27 South Africa, , W&M Visiting Government Prof. Caitlin Brown
- March 6 U.S. Defense Budget, William Hartung, Center for International Policy, Washington DC
- March 13 Russia, W&M Visiting Government & Public Policy Prof Larry Wilkerson
- March 20 China: Economic Power and Geopolitics, Evan Feigenbaum, Council on Foreign Relations, to be confirmed
- March 27 The Waning of Pax Americana, Phyllis Bennis, Institute for Policy Studies, Washington DC

All procrastinators: Only about 31 seats left for Great Decisions 2018. Don't be disappointed by a "Sold Out" sign. Send in your registration today! Need information on tickets? Contact Doris Margulies, grandemargulies@cox.net or call 258-1067.

Legislative Women's Round Tables

Beginning at 8:30 am January 17, 2018, weekly Women's Legislative Roundtable (WLRT) sessions are moderated by the League of Women Voters of Virginia. LWV-WA members car pool to Richmond, leaving around 7 am. We welcome any members who want to join us. There is no better way to learn how state government really works. Watch for announcements regarding carpooling.

SAVE THE DATES

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| <i>Jan 20</i> | Women's March, 3 p.m., Duke of Gloucester Street |
| <i>Feb 7</i> | League Lobby Day 8:30 am General Assembly |
| <i>Feb 13</i> | Backpack Full of Cash screening 6:00 pm at the William & Mary College of Education. |
| <i>May 1</i> | City and Town Elections |

President's Column

Having spent most of my life as a student or an administrator in higher education, I still think of my personal calendar in terms of fall and spring semesters. So at the moment, I'm feeling a bit like Janus, simultaneously looking back at fall semester and toward the spring semester.

During the Fall we were clearly focused on the November election with efforts toward voter registration, voter education and getting out the vote, culminating with working at the polls on Election Day. Most notable was the election outcome, making national news, which succeeded in bringing not only significant diversity but also near party parity in the House of Delegates in the Commonwealth.

In collaboration with the Virginia Civic Engagement Table we hosted a training session in November on **Activism for Busy People** for our members and representatives of other community organizations who are committed to responsible activism and strategic advocacy. Sharing stories with legislators about how specific policies affect the lives of real people proves to be a highly effective advocacy strategy.

Featuring the work of a William & Mary class of both law school and undergraduate students, an impressive program on **Legislative Re-districting and Geographic Information Systems** provided a great example of the application of technical research to the real-life political issue of re-districting.

At the **LWV-VA Legislative Pre-Session** in Richmond, our robust Williamsburg contingent of 13 heard a number of non-profit agencies discuss their issues priorities related to proposed bills in the upcoming session of the General Assembly.

Turning toward the spring semester, we are thrilled to offer our signature **Great Decisions** program, featuring eight Tuesday morning lectures on topical areas selected by the Foreign Affairs Association. Our thanks to Doug Wood

and Doris Margulies for planning and promoting this popular series.

The **Women's Legislative Roundtable** on Wednesday mornings during General Assembly offers members an outstanding opportunity to exercise advocacy on issues based on League positions. I hope you consider joining us for one or more Wednesday programs.

Watch for details on an important program in collaboration with W&M's School of Education, the Village and the WJCC PTA Council. The program features a documentary film, "**Backpack Full of Cash**," exploring the impact of privatization and the need to support funding for public education.

In one final look back, Don and I were delighted to host the League's Holiday Party. Such a great turnout and a wonderful blend of long-time and new members! Thanks to Mary Anne Miller, Kathy Suslik, and all who brought food and wine to share.



*Mary Schilling
President, LWV-WA
Making Democracy Work*

*Don and Mary
Schilling hosted the
2017 Holiday
Reception*

Study Updates From the LWV-VA Program Director

*Anne Bradstreet Smith, VP, Williamsburg,
LWV-VA Program Director*

All three League studies are progressing beautifully. The School Choice led by Carol Noggle (Prince William) and the Behavioral Health study led by Linda Rice (Williamsburg) have broad representation and great depth of expertise. Both teams have great enthusiasm for the subject and have developed substantive materials.

The Women's Rights under the Code of Virginia launched on October 25th and is led by Alison Beall (Richmond). The membership is primarily from the Richmond League and the Fredericksburg MAL. There is a wonderful combination of longterm knowledge and new enthusiasm. In a very short time this team has made awesome progress. In addition, a small group took on a side project to develop talking points on the ERA.

It's such a pleasure to know these Teams and to watch their efforts and their commitment. All three Teams are doing incredibly outstanding work that will inform and benefit every member of the LWV-VA!

LWV-VA Behavioral Health Study Committee Update

Linda Rice, Behavioral Health Study Committee Chair

The LWV-VA Behavioral Health Study Committee continues to hold monthly meetings at the Williamsburg Regional Library. Several members have been busy attending various meetings, writing op-eds, and submitting questions to Senator Norment's staff. Senator Norment, chair of the Senate Finance Committee, will have an important role in determining the funds available for improvements in the behavioral health system.

On November 27, Bobbie Falquet, Karen Kallay, and Linda Rice attended the meeting of the Joint Subcommittee on Mental Health in the 21st Century. At this meeting several professionals discussed issues such as the fiscal realignment of the behavioral health system, housing support, safe transportation for patients in crisis, and workforce development.

The committee also urged in November that the James City County Board of Supervisors as part of its state legislative agenda support the request by Colonial Behavioral Health (CBH) for \$3.5-\$4 million to fund state-mandated services. CBH is one of the Community Service

Boards in the Commonwealth. Overall in Virginia, the Community Service Boards have seen a 20-30 percent increase in demand for their services. Virginia, however, is ranked 22nd nationally in funds to support CSBs.

On December 6, Rubyjean Gould and Linda Rice met with the Executive Director of the Virginia Alliance for the Mentally Ill. She provided information about the organization's legislative agenda, mental health courts, and supportive housing. The committee plans to meet with her again in December.

Karen Kallay and Mary Ann Moxon wrote op-ed pieces about Medicaid Expansion (*Fredericksburg Free Lance Star*) and Improving Awareness About Mental Health (*Daily Press*) respectively.

The committee continues its research and will prepare an update to the LWV-VA Behavioral Health position by February 2018.



William & Mary students braved the thorny topic of redistricting.

Students Tackle Redistricting: Hands-On Learning for W&M Students

Don Schilling, LWV-WA member

Our League supports redistricting that is nonpartisan, and therefore a number of members attended a public session, described below, that showcased the results of student efforts to draw districts in a fair, unbiased manner.

On November 15 sixteen William & Mary students (half undergraduates and half law students) from the class "Legislative Redistricting and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)" presented their findings to a rapt audience of over seventy persons. Taught by Professor Rebecca Green, co-director of the law school's Election Law Program, and Robert Rose, director of William & Mary's Center for Geospatial Analysis, the four-week, one-credit course required that four teams of students map the 11 districts in Virginia under scrutiny in *Bethune-Hill v. Virginia State Board of Elections*, a case alleging racial gerrymandering heard last term by the U.S. Supreme Court.

As a result of the court's ruling, [Virginia House District 75](#) was upheld as constructed. However, the district court employed an incorrect legal standard in determining that race did not predominate in the other 11 new state legislative districts drawn by the Virginia State Legislature after the 2010 census, and those 11 challenges were returned for additional proceedings in the [United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia](#). No decision has as yet been rendered.

Green and Rose began the session by explaining the fundamentals of the course: 1) students needed to learn the basics of GIS software that stores and assembles spatial, socio-economic data and to understand the fundamental legal and constitutional provisions governing the drawing of legislative districts; 2) teams, each with two undergrads and two law students, then tackled the practical task of redrawing the district lines in light of key criteria. Legally, electoral districts need to be of equal population, contiguous and compact, and protective of the voting strength of minority groups. In addition, it is desirable that they conform to natural geographic and jurisdictional boundaries, respect communities of interest, and insure competitiveness.

Following this introduction each of the four groups presented its redrawn district maps,

highlighting key factors in its approach and the degree to which its maps met the criteria outlined above, especially in comparison with the current situation. The groups all faced the challenge of creating compact districts since there is no commonly accepted definition for compactness. Some used the "eyeball" test; others applied the Roeck Test, which requires finding the smallest circle containing the district and taking the ratio of the district's area to that of the circle. This ratio is always between 0 and 1; the closer it is to 1, the more compact is the district.

Protecting the voting strength of minority communities required threading the needle between diluting that strength by placing minority voters into multiple districts or limiting their impact by packing them into a single district. In general the groups' maps achieved more compact districts; avoided splitting precincts, cities, and counties; met (with one exception) the mandated standard of 1% variation in population size for each district; and by reducing racial packing significantly increased the number of districts in which minority candidates had a reasonable opportunity of getting elected. Their results were impressive, but they also reflected the complexity of honoring the varied, at-points competing criteria.

A robust Q&A session followed the presentations, revealing considerable public concern about the redistricting process. The League of Women Voters-Williamsburg Area can take pride in co-sponsoring this valuable program.



Student teams presented their strategies for creating fair, unbiased districts.



*VCET Virginia Progressive Leadership Project
Director Tierra Ragland*

Activism for Busy People

*From notes taken at the event by MK Sizemore,
LWV-WA member*

On November 13 about forty people attended the League of Women Voters - Williamsburg Area-sponsored training course, **Activism for Busy People**. The training was provided by the **Virginia Civic Engagement Table (VCET)** to help League members and those from other organizations to be more effective advocates for the issues they support when contacting or visiting legislators at the General Assembly.

The **Virginia Civic Engagement Table**, a nonpartisan nonprofit, seeks to coordinate activities of progressive organizations lobbying on issues of criminal justice, immigration justice, democracy, and economic justice.

VCET Virginia Progressive Leadership Project Director Tierra Ragland provided practical how-to information and valuable resources. Getting through to a legislator requires breaking through the noise to capture her/his attention. Legislators are most interested in their re-election, raising money for their campaigns – and stories. Our elected officials, like most of us, are moved more by personal stories – especially stories from their constituents – than by statistics or facts, mass emails or petitions. What is more effective are handwritten letters, phone calls, letters to the

editor, direct, face-to-face encounters, and stories, particularly first-person stories, of how issues/legislation affect constituents.

Ms. Ragland suggested that it was best to lobby as a team and to assign each member a specific role, such as note-taker, moderator who introduces participants and sets the stage, storyteller (preferably a constituent), asker, and concluder/thanker. Go prepared, having done your research beforehand and with a clear understanding of the legislative process (when bills are introduced, in committee and subcommittee and on the floor.) Make your story compelling and short. Don't be intimidated; stay cool and calm. It helps to practice your presentation through role-playing before you go.

The **Women's Legislative RoundTable** held on Wednesday mornings during the session offers useful information about bills coming up that week. Lobbying is frequently time-sensitive; notice is often short as to when hearings are held or bills considered. **Progress Virginia** produces helpful one-pagers on issues and legislation. For the upcoming session, legislative committee assignments and preliminary bills will be available by January 20.

Among the websites Ms. Ragland mentioned that offer information about the legislative process and assistance were the following:

- Virginia Civic Engagement Table
www.engageva.org
- Virginia General Assembly
virginiageneralassembly.gov
- Who is My Legislator?
Whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov
- Legislative Information System
lis.virginia.gov
- Virginia Public Access Project
www.vpap.org
- Richmond Sunlight
www.richmondsunlight.org
- Virginia DeCoded <https://vacode.org>
- Transparency Virginia
transparencyvirginia.wordpress.com

She also suggested several books:

- *Citizen's Handbook to Influencing Elected Officials*, Bradford Fitch (available on Kindle for \$2.51)
- *The Citizen Lobbyist: A How-To Guide to Making Your Voice Heard in Government*, Amanda Knief (available at W&M Library)
- *The Lobbying Strategy Handbook: 10 Steps to Advancing Any Cause Effectively*, Patricia J. Libby, Robert L. Guyer



Thirteen Leaguers attended the Pre-Session Women's Legislative Roundtable in Richmond on December 6, 2017.

Education Committee Report

Sudie Watkins, Education Chair

The Education Committee continues to focus on several important issues that impact our students and community. Sharon Kiefer is participating in the task force which is studying school choice. Sharon will be providing more information on these and other challenging issues as the work of the task force proceeds.

At the most recent meeting, the committee viewed the video presentation of *How Difficult Can This Be?* This video dramatized the

classroom experience with a group of parents, educators, and psychologists through a series of exercises that cause frustration, anxiety, and tension – feelings all too familiar for children with learning disabilities.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, January 22nd, 2018 at 3:00 pm, and Linda Rice will report to the committee on the Behavioral Health Study currently being undertaken by the state LWV. Changes in public policy can make a major difference to the individuals living with mental illness and their families. The cost of not treating serious mental illnesses vastly exceeds the cost of treatment. Yet few members of the general public contact their elected officials on any issue—let alone about mental health care. Behavioral health policy has an important impact on students and the committee expects to have a better understanding of this issue through a session with Linda Rice.

In conjunction with W&M College of Education, the PTA Council, and The Village, the LWV-WA Education committee plans to co-sponsor a screening of the documentary film, **Backpack Full of Cash**, on February 13, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the College of Education.

Narrated by Matt Damon, this feature-length documentary explores the growing privatization of public schools and the resulting impact on America's most vulnerable children. Filmed in Philadelphia, New Orleans, Nashville and other cities, **BACKPACK FULL OF CASH** takes viewers through the tumultuous 2013-14 school year, exposing the world of corporate-driven education “reform” where public education – starved of resources – hangs in the balance.

For more information about the committee, contact Sudie Watkins (sudiewat@gmail.com).

“The answer to one is the answer to all. Government by ‘the people’ is expedient, or it is not. If it is expedient, then obviously all people must be included.” – Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1947), founder of the League of Women Voters.

Photos of the 2017 Holiday Reception

Photos



Members and their guests enjoyed a festive, delicious Christmas party hosted by the Schillings: Joe Frigden, Ted Gerarden, and Ann Gerarden (below), John Hummel and Richard Gould (top right), Mary Anne Miller and Kathy Suslik (right), and Dave Neiman and Phoebe Kent (bottom right).



Membership Update and the Gift that Keeps on Giving

Les Solomon, Membership Chair

It's been an exciting time to be Membership Chair because we have so many new members who are eager to *Make Democracy Work*. Currently, our league is the second largest in the state (Fairfax is number one) – with more than 170 members! However, with the loss of members due to moves to be closer to families such as Barbara Worthen, Doris Tillman, and Ralph Bressler, and the death of dear members such as Ruth Mullaney, Fred Adair, and Ursula Murden, we have a ways to go to close the books on January 31 (when our official membership count is due to the national League) with a net growth of 10% over last year.

So here is a way we can do it. A LWV membership gift keeps on giving by helping friends and relatives find new ways to *Make Democracy Work*.

Remember:

- We do not support or oppose any candidates.
- We want everyone to vote so our elected leaders represent our entire community.
- We provide and work from facts, we educate, and we advocate for change.
- We are open to women and men (and students 16 and over).
- Membership has many benefits, including opportunities to learn and lead, shape issues important to family and friends, locally and nationally.

Now that sounds like the perfect gift! And you can shop from home using our online membership form (http://www.lwvwilliamsburg.org/files/1707_lwv_ls_renewal_form_final.pdf)

Preparing for the Next General Assembly Session

Les Solomon, Data Management and Membership Chair

January's legislative session promises to be both dynamic and eventful. Our League intends to make a difference by lobbying, keeping you informed about what is happening, and urging you to impact decisionmaking in Richmond.

Here is the plan for each week of the legislative session:

1. Anyone is welcome to attend in Richmond the LWV-VA Legislative Round Table briefing session each Wednesday morning during General Assembly.
2. Utilizing the knowledge we gain there and the legislative priorities, we will visit the delegates and senators from our area to gain additional insights and lobby for our causes.
3. We will communicate information to you about what they have learned and where our LWV advocates believe we can be more effective, and
4. We will let you know what we recommend for that week to keep the ball rolling on the League's issues. In most cases, that might entail writing or calling your representative.

We are counting on you to help **Make Democracy Work** with the weekly call to action. All of this begins January 17. Stay tuned.

The Commonwealth Institute Presents Its General Assembly Goals

Jo Solomon, At-Large Board Member

On November 28, I attended The Commonwealth Institute's Policy Summit in Richmond. The Commonwealth Institute's (TCI) goal is to build a more prosperous Virginia and to achieve greater economic opportunity for all Virginians. Many groups, including the League, look to TCI for its

comprehensive and balanced analysis on many topics of interest that relate to the Commonwealth's well-being. Michael Cassidy, President and CEO, presented policy opportunities possible in the General Assembly for 2018:

- **Health.** Medicaid Expansion for Virginia is critical, as Virginia ranks only 46 out of 50 in Medicaid eligibility. TCI recommends a program of eligibility at 138% of the poverty level to help close the health coverage gap and fund 15,000 jobs in the health care field. This would help to provide wellness and preventative measures, control costs, and reduce death rates.
- **Education.** Funding for education was greatly reduced with deep cuts during the Great Recession; Virginia ranked near the top of states with the most severe cuts. The areas of the state with the largest poverty levels sustained the deepest cuts, and their teacher workforce sustained the greatest number of layoffs with 10,000 positions taken away. Even by 2016, Virginia was still 10% under its 2010 state funding level. TCI recommends a plan to return education funding to pre-Great Recession levels.
- **Family Income Security.** TCI recommends several options including boosting the state minimum wage and strengthen the income tax credit. Additionally, executive policy measures that can be signed into law include: 1) making payment plans for court fines and fees so felons who have completed their terms can get their driver's licenses and 2) supporting the Dreamers so they have security to be employed. Before the implementation of the Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA), only 41% of that cohort was employed. After the implementation of DACA, it increased to 91%. Permitting the use of in-state tuition would also promote more affordable higher education for DACA students.

Luncheon speaker Gov. McAuliffe emphasized the importance of greater diversity of employment opportunities so that Virginia is not so dependent upon federal dollars and defense department for its economic health. (www.thecommonwealthinstitute.org)

Loss of Two Long-time League Leaders and Community Activists: Ursula Murden and Ruth Mullaney

Phoebe Kent, Voter Co-Editor

Ever a fervent good-government activist, **Ursula Murden** was determined to campaign for her friend Judy Knudsen, running in 2011 for another term on the Williamsburg City Council. So she did, at age 83 and using a walker for support. Together they canvassed neighborhoods, chosen carefully by Judy to be on fairly level ground. How typical of this indomitable woman, whose early privation led to her commitment to serve others all her life, especially those less fortunate. She met the love of her life, Bob, in Kassel after the war where he was stationed with the U.S. Army. They married in 1953 and she emigrated to the U.S.; she became a naturalized citizen in 1955.

Ursula was born in Kassel, Germany in 1928. She died in November 2017. As related by her son Bill during the memorial service, during the war Ursula, age 16, escaped Nazi bombing at her boarding school by climbing out a window and hiding in the woods. She eventually made it – on her own - back to her abandoned home, where she lived for some months in a shed on the property. Shaped by those dangerous and difficult years, Ursula became committed to democracy and world peace. Long active in the LWV, Ursula served as president in 1997-98. Horrified by the Nazi's book burning in 1930s Germany, she was a lifelong advocate for literacy and loved books passionately. I had the

good fortune to serve briefly with her on the Williamsburg Regional Library's Board. Her many volunteer activities (Meals on Wheels, Historic Triangle Senior Center, St. Stephen's Church, cooking for the homeless into her 88th year) earned her the 2009 Women with a Cause Award.

Ruth Mullaney's interest in world cultures and people from all over was evident in her active involvement in the American Field Service program. Nancy Archibald remembers Ruth organizing games and activities for the host families involved in AFS, putting foreign students in Williamsburg at ease. She maintained ties with her family's AFS students for years and enjoyed traveling, especially in South America. Highlights of the reception after the service celebrating her life were lovely examples of crèches that she collected from all over the world.

Ruth was born in 1930 in New York and grew up in Queens. She graduated from Wellesley in 1952 and married her high school sweetheart that fall. Always involved, she was active in Girl Scouts and PTA at her children's schools. When she came to Williamsburg, she became involved in Bruton Parish Church, Church Women United, Faith in Action, and the League of Women Voters. Always a participating citizen, Ruth could be counted on to assist with League Voter Forums. For years, she sat in the front row, with her yellow and red cards, timing candidates' responses, ready to cut them off if they spoke too long. And she was never one to stay quiet when she sensed injustice: she prodded her school board to desegregate; she suggested strongly that Bruton Parish allow girls to serve as acolytes, and she made her political opinions well known.

Her daughter Elizabeth recalled her mother's maxims: Always leave a place cleaner than you found it. Find a constructive solution, rather than complain. Care for those in need. Protect our earth. Brighten the corner where you are. Have a dream.

How fortunate our League was to have the active involvement of these remarkable, committed women. And it was my honor and privilege to know them both.

Great Decisions 2018 is Almost Here

Doug Wood and Doris Marguillies, Co-Chairs

We are pleased to present the schedule of speakers for our Great Decisions series of lectures on international affairs that begins on Tuesday, February 6. Timely topics are suggested annually by the Council on Foreign Affairs, and we are fortunate to have knowledgeable and generous experts who will share their insights with attendees this winter. We look forward to seeing you there.

The following eight lectures are scheduled during February and March:

- **February 6. Global Health - Allison Scott**, Sally Gertrude Smoot Associate Professor and Fellow, Center for the Liberal Arts, College of William & Mary
- **February 13. Media and Foreign Policy - Alexander Wooley**, Director of Partnerships and Communications at AID Data, a development and research laboratory at William & Mary; frequent contributor to the *Atlantic Magazine*.
- **February 20. Turkey** - Speaker to be arranged.
- **February 27. South Africa - Caitlin Brown**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Government, College of William & Mary.
- **March 6. U.S. Defense Budget - William Hartung**, Director, Arms and Security Project, Center for International Policy, Washington DC.
- **March 13. Russia/Larry Wilkerson**, Distinguished Visiting Professor of

Government and Public Policy, College of William & Mary.

- **March 20. China: Economic Power and Geopolitics - Evan Feigenbaum,** Council on Foreign Relations, to be confirmed.
- **March 27. The Waning of Pax Americana - Phyllis Bennis,** Director,

New Internationalism Project, Institute for Policy Studies, Washington DC.

We suggest you fill out the registration form included in this newsletter without delay and send along with your payment.

Great Decisions 2017 Photos



Great Decisions presentations draw a full house (left), not only because of the caliber of the speakers but because of the hospitality of the League volunteers who staff the event. Doug Wood, Doris Margulies, Mike Holtzman (Speaker), and Mary Schilling close one of the 2017 presentations (bottom left). Mary Anne Miller and Mary Swain provide hospitality (below).





2018 Great Decisions Registration Form

Make checks payable to: League of Women Voters – Williamsburg Area (LWV-WA)

Please mail to: Doris Margulies, Great Decisions Co-Chair
112 Exmoor Court
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Series tickets: \$55.00 One person SINGLE TICKET (includes briefing book)
\$80.00 Two persons COUPLE TICKET (includes 1 briefing book)

Stand-by Tickets: \$10.00 if seats available on day of lecture
(no book included)

Please note: Tickets will be mailed in January 2018, and Great Decisions books will be available for pick-up at the Williamsburg Regional Library at dates stated in letter accompanying your tickets.

For your records: Check Number: _____ Mailed on: _____

Please Cut here and return the form below with your check made out to LWV-WA

Make checks to LWV-WA and mail to Doris Margulies, 112 Exmoor Court, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

\$55.00 for One Person: # of Single Tickets _____

\$80.00 for Two People: # of Couple Tickets _____

TOTAL Remitted: _____ tickets @ \$ _____

Check attached _____ (Check #)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

For full calendar of events see:
<http://www.lwvwilliamsburg.org/calendar.html>



Jan 11	LWV-WA Board Meeting	4-5:30 pm	Williamsburg Library, Rm B
Jan 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday		
Jan 17	First LWV-VA Women's Legislative Roundtable	8:30 am	Richmond
Jan 20	Women's March	3 p.m.	Duke of Gloucester St.
Jan 22	Education Committee	3:00 pm	Williamsburg Library
	Speaker: Chair Linda Rice on Behavioral Health Study		
Jan 24	Women's Legislative Roundtable	8:30 am	Richmond
Jan 31	Women's Legislative Roundtable LWV-US Membership Count deadline	8:30 am	Richmond
Feb 6	Great Decisions – Global Health	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Feb 7	LWV-WA Board Meeting	4-5:30 pm	Williamsburg Library, Rm B
	League Lobby Day	8:30 am	Richmond
Feb 13	Great Decisions – Media and Foreign Policy	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Feb 14	Women's Legislative Roundtable LWV's 98 th Birthday	8:30 am	Richmond
Feb 20	Great Decisions - Turkey	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Feb 21	Women's Legislative Roundtable	8:30 am	Richmond
Feb 27	Great Decisions – South Africa	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Feb 28	Women's Legislative Roundtable	8:30 am	Richmond
Mar 1-3`	Women's History Month		
Mar 6	Great Decisions – US Defense Budget	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Mar 7	LWV-WA Board Meeting	4-5:30 pm	Williamsburg Library, Rm B
Mar 8	International Women's Day		
Mar 10	Last day of GA regular session – Sine Die		Richmond
Mar 11	Daylight Savings Time begins		
Mar 13	Great Decisions – Russia	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Mar 20	Great Decisions – China	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Mar 27	Great Decisions – Pax Americana	10:30 am	WRL Theatre
Apr 4	LWV-WA Board Meeting	4-5:30 pm	Williamsburg Library, Rm B
Apr 18	General Assembly Reconvened Session		Richmond
May 1	Town and City Elections		
May 2	LWV-WA Board Meeting	4-5:30 pm	Williamsburg Libra

