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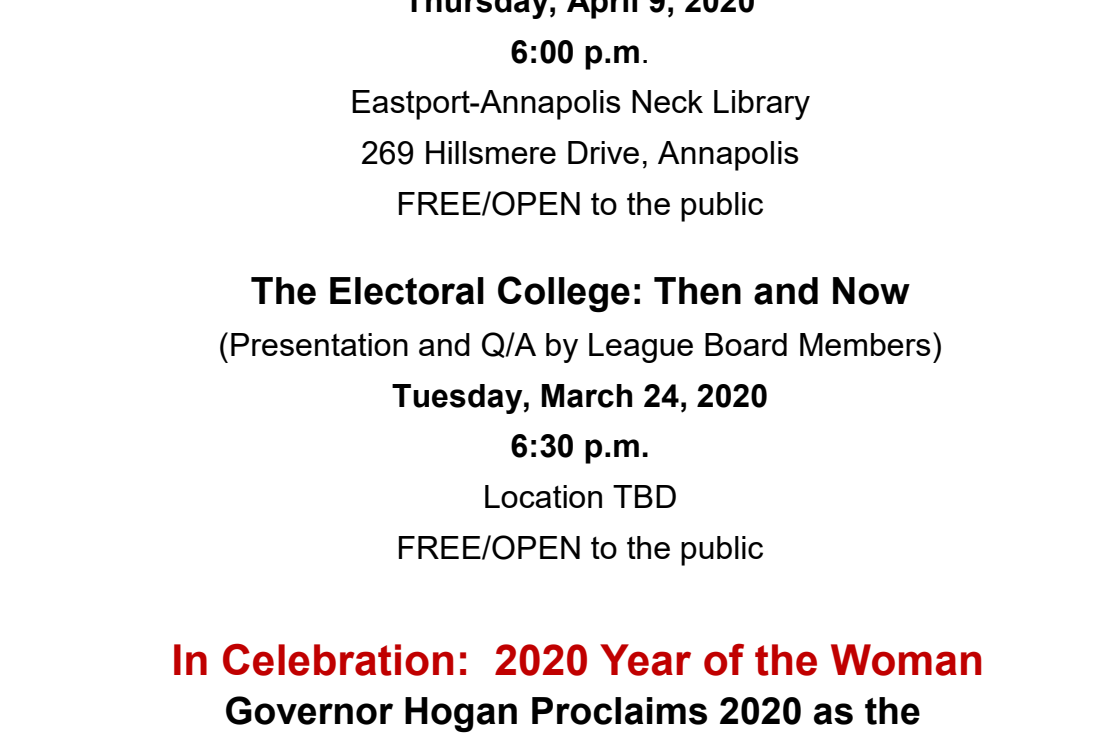
January 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

UPCOMING EVENTS

LWVAAC Program Planning. January 18, 12:00 p.m., Union Jack's, Annapolis

LWVMD Winter Workshop. January 25, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (see flyer below)

LWVAAC Board Meeting. January 28, 12:00-2:00 p.m., St. Philips Episcopal Church, 730 Bestgate Rd., Annapolis



In Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters

SAVE THE DATES!!!

Amending America: How Women Won the Vote

(one-woman performance by Kate Campbell Stevenson)

Thursday, April 2, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Discoveries—Library at the Mall

Annapolis (Westfield) Mall

FREE/OPEN to the public

Iron Jawed Angels

(movie highlighting the last decade of the women's suffrage movement)

Thursday, April 9, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library

269 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis

FREE/OPEN to the public

The Electoral College: Then and Now

(Presentation and Q/A by League Board Members)

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Location TBD

FREE/OPEN to the public

In Celebration: 2020 Year of the Woman

Governor Hogan Proclaims 2020 as the "Year of the Woman" in Maryland

Member and LWVMD State Director Ashley Oleson was in attendance at The Lightbox Studio on December 12 where, in a brief ceremony, Governor Hogan declared 2020 as the Year of the Woman in Maryland. The Maryland Office of Tourism has put together an impressive list of events and activities marking this very important milestone. To learn more, visit <https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/2020-year-woman-maryland>.

Year of the Woman (YOW) Committee Meeting Highlights

Women from all over the community have teamed up in collaboration with *What'sUp? Media* to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment. The year-long observance is dedicated to celebrating how far we've come since being given the right to vote while envisioning what's next.

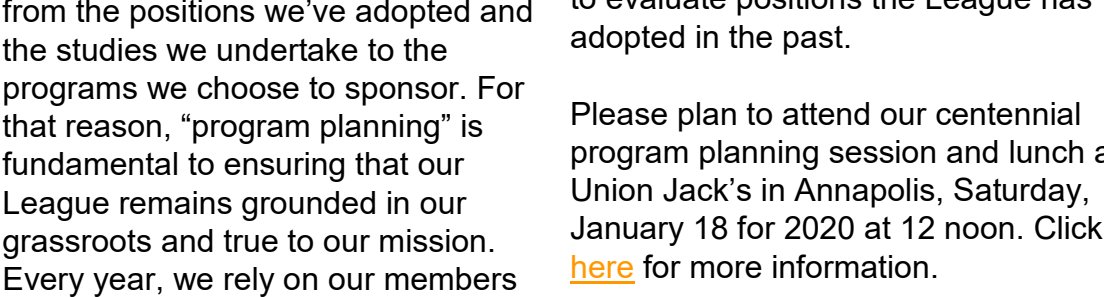
The celebration kicks off in January with *Year of the Woman* banners hanging along West and Main streets for the month of January. In August, the month in which the amendment was ratified, the banners will fly again. Be sure to look for our banner and the LWVMD banner.

In addition to our own League-sponsored events of celebration, YOW committee members have asked for our assistance with two major endeavors. One is helping to get out the vote, where we hope to register residents at Chrysalis House and Sarah's House. The second is serving as judges for the National History Day competition on Saturday, February 22. The theme is "Breaking Barriers in History". If you are interested in being a judge, please let Alfa know (pres@lwvaacmd.org).

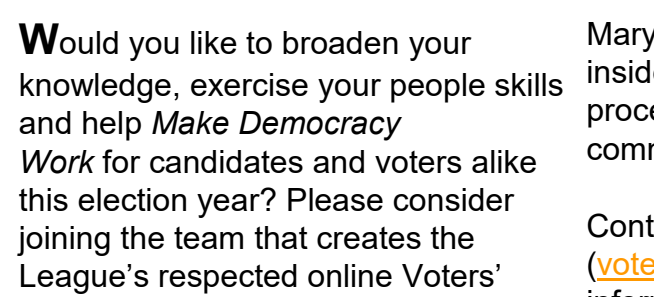
To learn more about what's being planned and all related events be sure to check out the [YOW webpage](#).

League Annual Holiday Open House

League members recently took a break from busy holiday schedules to enjoy an open house graciously hosted by members Niecy and Jim Chambers. Delicious sweet and savory appetizers, along with nog, wassail and conversation, made for a welcome respite.



Conversation among members Howard Vickery, Alfa Stevens, Gabrielle Strandquist, Mary Vickery, and Susan Cochran interrupted for a quick photo.



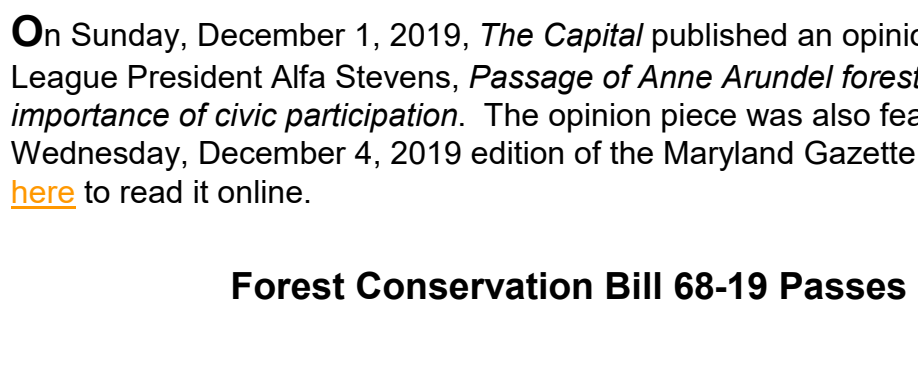
(l-r): Members Gail Viamonte, Carol Sures, and Neil Winner caught on camera sharing a good laugh.

(l-r): The holiday gathering provides members Joan Atkins and Abby Root an opportunity to become acquainted.



(l-r): Marg Duffy and 50-year member and Board Secretary Carol Sures enjoy social time, free from League business.

Photos by Kathy Larrabee



In the true spirit of giving, League members came to this year's holiday gathering with gifts in hand for the [YWCA of Annapolis](#) and Anne Arundel County. Member Kathy Larrabee shows off the collection of personal and household items suggested by the YWCA to help meet the needs of women and children enrolled in Y-programs. We received a warm [letter](#) of appreciation from the YWCA. Thank you, generous Leaguers!

Photo by Niecy Chambers

2020 Program Planning Lunch

"Program" is a sweeping term in League lingo. It refers to everything from the positions we've adopted and the studies we undertake to the programs we choose to sponsor. For that reason, "program planning" is fundamental to ensuring that our League remains grounded in our grassroots and true to our mission. Every year, we rely on our members

to identify program activities that address topics of concern locally and to evaluate positions the League has adopted in the past.

Please plan to attend our centennial program planning session and lunch at Union Jack's in Annapolis, Saturday, January 18 for 2020 at 12 noon. Click [here](#) for more information.

VOTE411 Volunteers Needed

Would you like to broaden your knowledge, exercise your people skills and help *Make Democracy Work* for candidates and voters alike this election year? Please consider joining the team that creates the League's respected online Voters' Guide, VOTE411.org. You'll receive training alongside members of other

Maryland Leagues and gain an insider's understanding of the election process. This is a short-term commitment with flexible hours.

Contact Niecy Chambers (votersvc@lwvaacmd.org) for more information or to volunteer.



The Value of Civic Participation

On Sunday, December 1, 2019, *The Capital* published an opinion piece by League President Alfa Stevens, *Passage of Anne Arundel forest bill shows importance of civic participation*. The opinion piece was also featured in the Wednesday, December 4, 2019 edition of the Maryland Gazette. Please click [here](#) to read it online.

Forest Conservation Bill 68-19 Passes

On November 18, the Anne Arundel County Council passed Forest Conservation Bill 68-19 unanimously (7-0). This was a big shift in support from where the bill started when first introduced in September 2019. The passage of Bill 68-19 is a good example of bipartisanship and community engagement. The Council heard three hours of testimony for and against the bill and worked through three rounds of amendments.

increased the amount of forest required, under state law, to be conserved during residential, industrial or commercial development. The County now has one of the highest fee-in-lieu payments (fee paid in lieu of planting required reforestation amount) and the highest fee in the state for clearing of trees in violation. In addition, the County has incentivized areas for revitalization.

Passage of this bill has been noted as historic for Anne Arundel County. No other Maryland jurisdiction has

Kudos to all League members who got involved, whether with phone calls or letters to your Council member or testimony before the Council. Thank you!

LWVAAC Board Meeting Highlights - November 19, 2019

Plans for celebrating the 19th Amendment Centennial are being firmed up. The Board voted to use funds from the Education Fund to pay for the one-woman performance by Kate Campbell Stevenson, "Amending America: How Women Won the Vote". There will also be a viewing of "Iron Jawed Angels". Both events will take place in April. In addition, bookmarks are being created with information about the Suffrage Movement on one side and LWVAAC on the other. Bookmarks will be distributed throughout the libraries.

Observer Corps has been active, particularly in the area of housing. They attended a meeting of the Housing Commission of AA County. We may revisit and update our position on Affordable Housing.

Programs: Plans are underway for a presentation on the "Electoral College Then and Now" in March. In January, members will engage in a brainstorming session about civic education based on an LWVMD fact sheet on the subject. Also in January, members will meet for Program Planning for LWVUS and LWVAAC.

Carol Sures, Secretary

Alfa Stevens, President pres@lwvaacmd.org

Joyce Martin, Editor editor@lwvaacmd.org

For membership information, click [here](#). To unsubscribe, click [here](#).