



## The Voter

League of Women Voters of Washington County  
PO Box 2126  
Hagerstown MD 21742  
Phone 240-513-8126  
<http://lwwwashco.org>

Fall 2016

## League Officers

President	<a href="#">Richard Willson</a>	301-739-3232
Vice President	<a href="#">Fanny Crawford</a>	301-791-7422
Vice President	<a href="#">Evvie Willams</a>	301-790-3613
Secretary	<a href="#">Melanie Fouche</a>	301-714-0074
Treasurer	<a href="#">Richard Willson</a>	301-739-3232
Newsletter	<a href="#">Evvie Willams</a>	301-790-3613

## LWVWC Calendar 2016

*LWVWC board meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at  
John Wesley United Methodist Church (JWUMC)  
129 N. Potomac Street  
Hagerstown MD*

### *September*

*17 Constitution Day*

*22 Membership meeting JWUMC 7:00 the film "Thirteen Days"*

*27 Great Decisions Fletcher Branch, WC Library, 7:00 pm topic: Cuba and the US  
October*

*4 Board Meeting JWUMC at 6:30*

*19 Board of Education Candidate Forum Fletcher Branch, WC Library at 7:00 pm*

*25 Great Decisions Fletcher Branch WC Library 7:00 topic: Climate Geopolitics*

Check out [lwwwashco.org](http://lwwwashco.org) for most current information and updates

### **SAVE THE DATE**

BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE FORUM

**October 19, 7 pm**

Fletcher Branch Washington County Free Library

## **Community and LWVWC loses a devoted member**

Washington County and the League of Women Voters lost a long time friend and supporter in August when Sharon Leatherman lost her long and courageous fight with cancer. Sharon was passionately committed to improving the quality of life in our community and beyond. She served on many league committees and activities throughout her life. She led studies, registered voters, advocated and campaigned for important issues, only after careful study. She was very good at getting others involved and her efforts were appreciated at all levels of government. Our late MD Senator, Vic Cushwa, was so impressed by how she worked with his wife Pat he hired her to run his local office! Although she became a less visible member of the league after founding the PAC, Women at the Table (WATT) because they supported candidates, she continued to recruit members and serve on the nominations committee. She was an original member of the WC Women's Commission and served on the MD Women's Commission and the MD Women's Legislative Agenda committee. She was also very active in Williamsport United Methodist Church and served in a number of committees at all levels of church governance.

## **A Change of Venue for Great Decisions**

Great Decisions has joined in a partnership with the Fletcher Brach of the Washington County Free Library and will be holding meetings there starting in September. **We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7pm.**

Sponsored by the highly respected Foreign Association, participants investigate and discuss timely issues to become better informed on the intricacies of our country's foreign policies. If available we invite a local expert on the topic to give us additional insights. We are often finding there may be no easy answer to these concerns, but the deeper understanding of the topic clarifies our reading and viewing of discussions on the issues.

September's topic is Cuba and in October we will be discussion Climate Change. In January we will start a new season, topics will be listed in the next newsletter. For more details or to purchase a workbook visit <http://lwvwashco.org/> Great Decision

## 13 Days

First released in 2000, many critics feel that this movie is the best account of an inside look at how the Kennedy Administration responded to the discovery of offensive Soviet weapons in Cuba. It shows the pressure and give and take involved in the 13 days of this very tense period in history of the Americas. It should give us all some good background information on our Great Decisions study of Cuba. WE HOPE TO SEE YA AT THE MOVIES! 9/22 JWUMC

### News from MD State League of Women Voters

Visit [LWVMD.org](http://LWVMD.org) for details.

**Fundraiser in the works:** Sunday October 23, League members from around the state will be visiting Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center and the Riverside House Museum. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Online registrations can be completed at [lwvmd.org/current\\_events](http://lwvmd.org/current_events)

**What are our priorities?** The General Assembly convenes on January 11, 2017. In anticipation, the LWVMD is beginning to develop our legislative priorities. Directions for these are solicited from local leagues which are then compiled into a list which is sent back to the local leagues in October for us to revise our selections based on topics others have suggested. When the second round of suggestions is sent to LWVMD the state board adopts the statewide priorities at the November Board meeting. These will be published and we can use them to inform our local delegation or go to Annapolis to lobby during the session. At the WC board meeting in early September, we decided on three topics to submit : human trafficking, climate change and redistricting. Stay tuned or attend a meeting to offer your insights. We value your opinion!

At the **LWVUS Convention** this summer the following bylaw changes was approved: *League members can now be as young as 16 and do not have to be US Citizens in order to be voting members.*

*Gentle reminder*

*During election cycles the LWV as an organization does not endorse candidates. Board members will not have signs in our yards and usually refrain from political activity.*

**Please encourage your friends and colleagues to VOTE.**

**Democracy is NOT a spectator sport!**