

## **The Voter**

League of Women Voters of Washington County  
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<http://lwvwashco.org>

Spring 2019

*Please join us*

**League of Women Voters Washington County**

**Annual Meeting Friday**

**April 26.2019**

**Fireside Restaurant and Lounge**

**1716 Underpass Way Hagerstown**

**6:00 pm**

**Please join us**

**Why join the League, OR offer membership to a friend or relative?**

**Membership means opportunity to...**

- Do more than vote to Make Democracy Work
- Make a difference in the affairs of your community, state, and nation
- Use your personal skills and talents in important community service
- Experience personal growth and enrichment
- Enjoy associating with other thinking, caring people

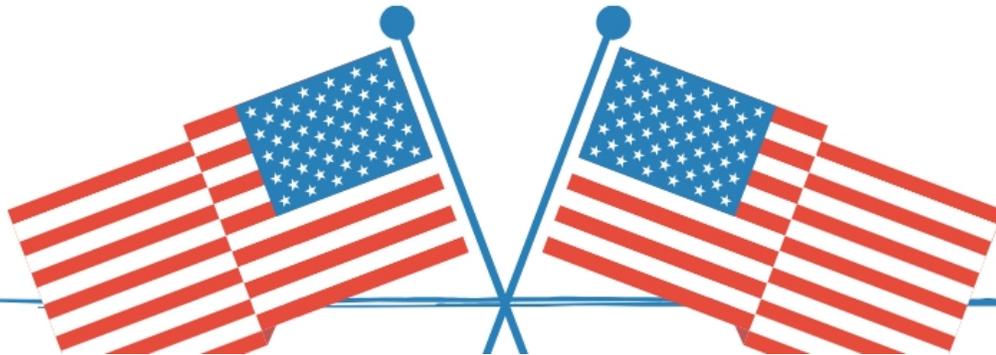
**Membership brings the satisfaction of...**

- Knowing that you will be informed about issues that concern you
- Knowing that your views on issues can be expressed and heard
- Knowing that your organization can take effective action on issues
- Sharpening your skills of leadership, networking, and public speaking
- Using your volunteer time to the betterment of your community

JOIN LWVMD FOR

# A DAY ON CAPITOL HILL!

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 10am - 3:30pm



\* Participants will be briefed by email about the LWVUS topic for advocacy and participate voluntarily.

**THIS EVENT HAS NO FEE! BUT YOU MUST RSVP  
TO Carole & Ashley at [capitolhilltrip@lwvmd.org](mailto:capitolhilltrip@lwvmd.org) NO LATER THAN Tuesday,  
April 23rd to facilitate scheduling appointments**

**The Maryland League of Women Voters of Maryland  
State Convention  
June 7-9**

**Courtyard Marriott In Gaithersburg**

**There will be workshops and plenary sessions during the day. Saturday night's speaker will be Dr. William Kirwan, Chairman of the Commission on Innovation and Education, otherwise known as the Kirwan Commission (on education**

**LWVMD Joins Civil Society Amicus Brief for SCOTUS**

**Gerrymandering Case**

POSTED BY LWVMD ADMINISTRATOR [165.60VTL](#) ON MARCH 08, 2019

*Press Release - March 8, 2019*

ANNAPOLIS - Today the League of Women Voters of Maryland joined as amici on a brief filed with the United States Supreme Court challenging the practice of drawing district lines to favor a political party as unconstitutional and stressing the importance of representative districts as a measure of a healthy democracy.

“For far too long we have seen politicians of both parties draw election maps that protect themselves rather than reflect the interests of the voters,” said Elaine Apter, Co-President of LWVMD. “We are encouraged that later this month the Supreme Court will review the impact partisan gerrymandering has on the voters in Maryland, who have been drawn into districts that limit their voice. It is time to end this practice and create fair maps that put the power back in the hands of the American voters.”

The brief prepared by the law firm of Lowenstein Sandler LLP, addresses the consolidated cases of *Rucho v. League of Women Voters of North Carolina* and *Rucho v. Common Cause*,

a Republican Gerrymander in North Carolina, alongside a companion case, Lamone v. Benisek, the gerrymander designed by Maryland Democrats.

Apter noted that a Supreme Court action to set rules on how election districts should be drawn could ensure fair district maps in Maryland going forward.

“The Maryland League has made redistricting our number one legislative priority,” said Richard Willson, Co-President of LWVMD. “Each Marylanders’ vote should count equally, as the drafters of the Declaration of Independence intended. Gerrymanders are bad regardless of whether it’s done by Republican or Democrats.”

The League believes that maps should also be drawn without regard to the political affiliation of voters and looks forward to the decision from courts on these important cases.

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## **Book Corner**

League members have been reading interesting books!

Melanie Fouche recommends

***The Merchants of Truth*** The author Jill Abramson profiles four news organizations the New York Times, the Washington Post, BuzzFeed and Vice in the changing world of Facebook and Google. How these four organizations have changed and caused change in the business of the news reporting in the digital age.

She also recommend ***Fear*** and ***The Apprentice***

Evvie just finished ***Leadership*** by Doris Kearns Goodwin/

The historian examines how hardships in both personal and professional life helped Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt and Lyndon Johnson learn valuable lessons that helped guide the country through difficult times. She outlines several principles that all leaders should embrace.

She also recommends ***The Soul of America*** by Jon Meehan and ***Undaunted*** by US Representative Jackie Speier.