



September 2023

RECENT NEWS

It's official, we have moved...

At the annual meeting in April 2023, we voted to end our lease at Historic Oakland Manor. Since that time we have been hard at work moving our office, phone and computer.

Our phone number remains the same: 410-730-0142.

Our new mailing address is:

League of Women Voters of Howard County

9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 312

Columbia, MD 21046



Where is all our 'stuff'? ...

Several members packed up the office and moved our belongings to a new storage facility. Everything is packed in plastic containers. This fall, we hope to label everything and create an inventory list. We will create a 'grab and go' kit for setting up tables for voter registration drives. We have decorations for our legislative breakfast and annual meeting. We have banners, name badges, buttons, and so much more.

If you are good at organizing and would like to help out, please email us using the office email. Office-HoCo@lwvmd.org

Our Midsummer Night Gala Event...

was a Stellar evening!

On June 22nd we held our first Gala fundraiser at the Robinson Nature Center. About 80 people attended the event, featuring a buffet dinner, a documentary film,

and a slideshow of images from the Webb telescope provided by Beth Hufnagel.

Best of all, we made over \$2,000 profit to support the Voters' Guide!

Thanks to all who volunteered and to those who attended.



September 18th was Constitution Day

Once again, our own Andrea Gruhl coordinated the Constitution Day Celebration co-sponsored by the LWV Maryland and the University of Maryland Carey School of Law in Baltimore. The event featured Dr. Mark Graber, a nationally recognized expert on the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments. He spoke about the second founding of the United States following the Civil War, and his belief that whoever controls the narrative explaining those amendments controls the future direction of the country. The significance and impact of the June 2023 Supreme Court's decision ending



affirmative action in college admissions was also discussed.

Welcome our New Directors

We are always looking for new Board Members. Please read about the various [roles](#) and reach out to us, via [email](#), if you want to learn more.

Andrea Morris Gruhl

Director - Voter Services

Andrea Morris Gruhl is a 50 year-plus "Life Member" of LWV. She is Columbia "pioneer"; now lives at Lutheran Village at Miller's Grant. She is a former Co-President of LWVHC, on LWNCA Board for 18 years, and on LWVMD Board for 17 years. A librarian, she was President of the District of Columbia Library Association. She was a Howard County Library System Trustee and a Howard Community College Trustee. Her economist husband of 55 years was with NASA and was a Leaguer; he died in 2020. She has two daughters, a son-in-law, and 2 grandsons.

Maria Gonzales Jackson

Director - Communications

Maria has lived in Prince George's County since 2002 and joined the League this year. Maria is excited to learn more about public policy and the election process at all levels. She is married, has three children, and will be an empty nester next year. Maria currently works as the Director of Knowledge Management for Grantmakers in Aging. In her free time, she enjoys reading a good book, discovering the latest AI tools, serving the community through volunteer endeavors, and wondering what it will be like to not have to call the school transportation department to see how late the bus is running next Fall.

Get Involved! Sign up for one of our Volunteer Opportunities

[Oakland Mills Fall Festival - Sept 7](#)

This annual event is organized by the Oakland Mills Community Association. We are looking for [Volunteers](#) to help at this event - please click on the link to sign up.

[Hispanic Heritage Festival - Oct 14](#)

This event, held at Merriweather, will have music, food, art and much more. We are looking for [Volunteers](#) to help at this event - please click on the link to sign up.

HoCo Hot Topics - October



Learn about the General Plan - Oct 19

As part of our Hot Topic Series, we will host a zoom meeting where we will hear representatives from the County Council and Department of Planning and Zoning discuss the status and features of the new General Plan. If you plan to attend, please [RSVP](#) to this event so we know how many to expect on Zoom. More information, including the zoom meeting link, will be sent via email.

Join Us for our Fall Field Trip

Museum of Howard County History

October 20th from 10-12

Schools will be closed.... Refreshments will be served...Bring your friends and family. **It is free!!**

[To learn more and RSVP please visit our Event Page.](#)



To see everything else we have planned, please visit our Events Page

Check Out Our Events Page



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