

Morgantown-Monongalia County League of Women Voters Newsletter

November-December 2012

GUEST SPEAKER RENATE PORE: AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Our December meeting will feature a presentation by Renate Pore on “The Affordable Care Act: Implications for West Virginia”. Renate Pore is the Health Policy Director with the West

Virginia Center on Budget and Policy. Dr. Pore has more than 30 years’ experience in health administration and policy. She helped to create and establish the Center and currently serves as a policy analyst on health care and early childhood issues. She has worked in public health, administered a rural health center, and served two West Virginia governors as director of the Governor’s Health Care Reform Commission and the Governor’s

Cabinet on Children and Families. Members of AAUW and the public have also been invited to this special discussion, which will be held at The Village at Heritage Point on Wednesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.



Dr. Renate Pore

CALENDAR

- November 13** Tuesday County Commission Discussion Meeting, **7:00 p.m.** Lyndell Millecchia’s home, 476 Lawnview Drive, 599-0904. Don Spencer will lead the discussion.
- November 19** Monday Natural Resources Committee **7:00 p.m.** Suncrest United Methodist Church, 479 Van Voorhis Road, Lower Level classroom. For info call 599-2370
- December 5** Wednesday Special Forum on the Affordable Care Act, **7:00 p.m.** The Village at Heritage Point For info call 599-2370
- December 12** Wednesday Board Meeting **7:00 p.m.** Catherine Lozier’s home, 345 Virginia Avenue, 599-8233

County Commission Study

Many years ago our local League prepared a “Know Your County” booklet. Members became

very familiar with the County Commission, and learned about the responsibilities and authority of the commissioners. That was 1981. Not a lot has changed in the laws governing the County Commission, but we felt a need to re-educate ourselves and become more familiar with the current county budget and the relationship between the city and the county in today’s climate of cooperation between the entities. There has also been recent interest in increasing the number of Commissioners from three to five. There are several pros and cons; we would like to come to a local League consensus on this issue. Our meeting on November 13 will begin the process with covering background information about the County Commission. Don Spencer will lead the discussion, which will be held in Lyndell Millecchia’s home at 476 Lawnview Drive. Call 599-0904 for further information.

Affordable Care Act "Obamacare"

ACA's full name is often lost in sound bites: the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. It adds patient protections to the current quagmire of health insurance, bringing us closer to our goal of health care for all Americans. Under ACA, children cannot be denied insurance coverage because of preexisting conditions. Children up to age 26 can be covered by their parents' plans, protecting them during a precarious financial period. Policyholders are protected from being dropped when they get sick. In addition, insurers must cover certain preventive services, protecting our health and reducing future high costs of undiscovered, untreated illness. Renata Pore will be giving us updated information about the Affordable Care Act at our special meeting on December 5. Please plan to attend – carpool, if possible.

Election Winners

Congratulations to League members who won seats to the WV House of Delegates! They are Barbara Evans Fleischauer, Cindy Frich, Charlene Marshall, and Amanda Pasdon. We are proud of you!

The League in Action and in the News

Local League member Catherine Lozier was interviewed about the LWV for an Italian TV Broadcast.

Don Spencer and Lyndell Millecchia spoke at an October Morgantown City Council meeting in support of Vote-By-Mail. Don Spencer and Jonathan Rosenbaum also spoke in favor of continuing the Pilot Program at the October Committee of the Whole.

Cindy O'Brian set up a table at the Morgantown Farmer's Market Nov. 3 to hand out information about voting and about our upcoming meetings.

Natural Resources Committee

This month's Natural Resources Committee meeting is on Monday, November 19th at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Suncrest United Methodist Church, 479 Van Voorhis Road, lower level classroom. (<http://tinyurl.com/cc6y6kk>)(map) Several people living in the Cheat Lake area near the Mon Fayette Industrial Park will be speaking about how their lives have been impacted from noise and air pollution from at least 15 Marcellus Shale subsidiaries. Additional agenda items for discussion include a moratorium on new permits for Marcellus gas wells, the WV Future Fund, and Shark Fin soup. Contact Info: Jonathan Rosenbaum <jr@lwvwwv.org>, 304-599-2370.

Comprehensive Planning

There will be a public meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 6-8 p.m. at the Mon County Courthouse (Courtroom 1, Third Floor). The Mon County Planning Commission has initiated the Monongalia County Comprehensive Plan for the four established Planning Districts in the central and eastern parts of the county.

The purpose of the study is to prepare an action plan to address Monongalia County's existing and future planning needs. These needs may include land use, transportation, water & sewer, environmental protection, or many other categories.

Please come and share your desires for how our community grows! There will be an overview of the study recommendations and time to get your feedback. The information that the Planning Commission gathers through this meeting will be critical to confirming the direction of the comprehensive plan.

If You Haven't Paid Your Dues...

Dues are \$44 for an individual and \$66 for a household. Dues must be received by the end of December to meet the LWV-US membership deadline for this year. If you are not sure whether you have paid, please call Lyndell at 599-0904. Checks should be made to **LWV Morgantown-Mon County** and should be mailed to:

**Lyndell Millecchia
476 Lawnview Drive
Morgantown, WV 26505**

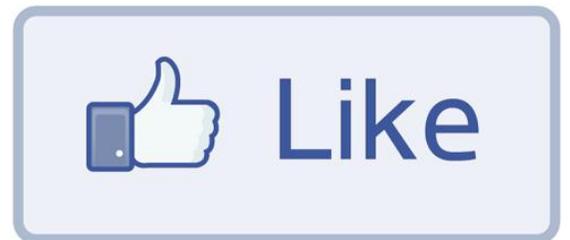
We welcome new members to the League: Amanda Barber, Valerie Barber, Michael Barber, Joel Brown, Virginia & Hassan Desouky, Sandra Fallon, Nancy & Jim Jamison, and Judith Wilkinson.

New Half-Price Introductory Dues! This fall, good for one year, brand new members will pay \$22 for an individual, \$33 for a household of 2 or more at the same address.

Our Website

Point your web browser to <http://lwvww.org> and find Morgantown in Categories.

LWVWV has a Facebook page. Please like it!
Do a Google or Facebook search for "League of Women Voters of West Virginia". New - Our easy to find page is now at <http://facebook.com/lwvww> !



Our League at the Morgantown Farmer's Market on a cold November Saturday.