



The League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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LWVWV website: www.LWVWV.ORG

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The LWV is a nonpartisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to women and men of voting age. Annual dues, not tax deductible, are \$45 individual, \$60 for two in one household and \$24 for students. To join, send your check to: Ann Speer, Treasurer, 706 Ridgewood Road, Huntington, WV 25701. Check is to be made out to the League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area.

FINANCE DRIVE - Thanks to Betty Stepp, who prepared and mailed letters to prospective contributors to our annual finance drive. The League provides educational services to the community on elections, governmental processes, and current issues so that in addition to our income from dues we need funding from other contributors. Contributions may be sent to the League of Women Voters, 706 Ridgewood Rd., Huntington, WV 25701. If you wish the contribution to be tax deductible, the check must be made out to the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

HOLIDAYS AND CARBON OFFSETS - The major cause of climate change comes from the burning of fossil fuels. Scientific consensus states that carbon emissions must be reduced by 80% by 2050 to avoid catastrophic climate change. During the upcoming holidays many of us will travel and thus will contribute to more CO2 emissions into the atmosphere. Carbon offsets are a form of trade -- decreasing CO2 emissions for the CO2 we produce. We can go through the formal process of buying carbon offsets, or contribute to programs that decrease the amount of CO2 in our atmosphere. Some programs could be

- Habitat for Humanity or other programs that build energy efficient homes for the disadvantaged
- Energy efficient cookstoves for low-income households in other countries. According to the UN's Environment Program (UNEP) "inefficient cooking stoves are estimated to be responsible for around a 1/4 of global emissions of soot".
- New Visions Renewable Energy - <http://www.nvre.org/>
- Appalachian Carbon Partnership - a program to reforest and protect forests
- Programs for providing non-fossil fuel electricity in poor countries.

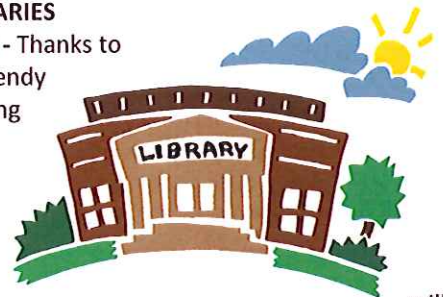
MU LECTURE - "BALLOT BEDLAM" - November 20, 2014 at 7 pm is the date and time of the next Amicus Curiae lecture (free) at the Foundation Hall of the Erickson Alumni Center. Samuel Issacharoff, Professor of Constitutional Law, New York University School of Law, will speak on "Ballot Bedlam". "The Supreme Court's recent decisions involving voting rights provide some interesting new clues to the complicated interrelation between law, the Constitution,

race, and politics. Amid the debates about voter fraud and voter suppression, about race and politics, and about abuse and integrity, lie some deeper questions about how the U.S. has structured its democracy. Professor Issacharoff will address the difficult intersection of these fraught areas of American law and politics." If you cannot attend in person, you can still see and hear the lecture via live-streaming at www.marshall.edu/it/livestream. (From the Amicus Curiae publicity)

For 49 years, the Voting Rights Act (VRA) was a cornerstone achievement of the civil rights movement that ensured that every American citizen, regardless of race or language, had equal access to the right to vote. That is, until last June, when the U.S. Supreme Court gutted a key part of the VRA, leading to a full frontal attack on the voting rights of all Americans. The League of Women Voters believes that access to the vote is not about politics; it's about justice and equality. Inaction is not an option. Tell your Representative to vote to restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act.

FUNDING OUR LIBRARIES

STUDY/CONSENSUS - Thanks to Betty Barrett and Wendy Thomas for presenting the information on funding libraries in WV, and to Judy Rule who joined in with interesting information. We



will not have a state consensus until the state League determines where we have a consensus position from the reports from the other Leagues. However, the Huntington League added a local consensus question to the discussion. League members agreed to the following - "The League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area supports continuing the funding of the Cabell County Library system by Cabell County taxpayers." FYI - the Cabell County libraries are funded by state Grants-in-Aid; a Cabell County special law providing funds from property taxes; an excess levy under the schools excess levy; voluntary contributions from some municipalities; and miscellaneous grants and fees.

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CALENDAR

Nov. 17 - 6 pm. Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church - League meeting on Expeditionary Learning. Refreshments.

Nov. 15 - Presentation of the League's Right to Vote Readers Theater at the Democratic Women's Club.

Nov. 20 - 7 pm MU's Foundation Hall. Lecture on "Ballot Bedlam"

Nov. 24 - 11:30 am. League board meeting.

Jan. 19 - LWV's noon meeting at Tiscali's Restaurant; Our Children, Our Future's Legislative Issues



Welcome new member –Beverly Murrell.

NOVEMBER MEETING - EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING SCHOOL

The November 17th meeting will feature Ryan McKenzie, principal of The Expeditionary Learning School, as our speaker. The school, a first for West Virginia, will be housed in the former Beverly Hills Middle School and utilizes a model which involves all students and staff as members of a "crew", giving students greater responsibility for their learning. The school is part of a partnership with Cabell County Schools and the Marshall University June Harless Center for Rural Educational Research and Development. The meeting will be held at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church beginning at 6:00 p.m. and is co-sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the Huntington Chapter of Links. Refreshments will be served.

VOTERS SERVICE ACTIVITIES - Candidates meetings - With Southside Neighborhood Organization; Our Children, Our Future; and Woodlands.



Giovanna Deveny portrays suffraget in the League's presentation at MCTC on National Voter Registration Day.

Herald-Dispatch's Election Guide (printed and online) - Letters sent to candidates asking them to submit bios and answers to questions.

Voters Registration and presentation of the Right to Vote Reader's Theater - Mountwest Community College Fact Sheets on the Election Voter Empowerment Targets Young Adults (Wendy Thomas interacted with parents of the D.C. Express Football Teams about the importance of voting) Thanks to the following League members who helped with Voters Service Activities - Lois Wallace, Laura Deveny, Wendy Thomas, Jeanette Rowsey, Helen Gibbins, Giovanna Deveny, Ann Speer, Gaillynn Bowman, Betty Barrett, Jane Fotos, Beverly Murrell, Martha Woodward, Rose Riter.