



The League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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LWVWV website: www.LWVWV.ORG

LWVUS website: www.LWV.ORG

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.

MEETING ON CABELL COUNTY'S DRUG COURT

Family Court Judge Patricia Keller will present a program on Cabell County's Drug Court and WEAR Program on May 23, Monday at 7 pm at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, 469 Norway Ave. The meeting also will be sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta sorority and LINKS.

Drug Courts are part of the larger-universe of problem-solving courts. They significantly reduce recidivism and substance abuse among high-risk substance abusing offenders and increase their likelihood of successful rehabilitation. Drug courts involve early, continuous, and intense treatment; mandatory periodic drug testing; community supervision; appropriate sanctions and incentives; and other rehabilitation services.

The WEAR (Women's Empowerment and Addiction Recovery) Program is a specialized track within the Drug Court that provides services to address the unique needs of drug addicted women in the sex trade, including prostitution. The participants go through the standard drug court model, but also receive specialized trauma-informed services to address their mental and physical health issues, helping them leave the sex trade and become healthy, productive members of society.

To be eligible for drug court, an adult must be charged with a non-violent felony offense.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Patricia and Tom Scarr and Jennifer Wheeler.

HUNTINGTON'S SUSTAINABILITY FAIR

Volunteers are needed to help staff the League of Women Voters table at the Huntington Sustainability fair on May 21. The event will be from 10-4, in Huntington's Central City. This year, the fair will be held at the Wild Ramp and the Central City Gazebo, 555 14TH Street West. This event will once again be free and open to the public. You can find more information

about the tables and music scheduled for the fair at www.huntingtonsustainabilityfair.com.

If you can help staff the League's table, please contact Helen Gibbins, 304-736-3287 or gibbins@frontier.com.

YEAR IN REVIEW - 2015-16

VOTERS SERVICE

The League sponsored a candidates meeting for the Barboursville mayor, recorder, and council and a Running for Office Workshop. We also cooperated with the Herald-Dispatch on its Election Guide and with Southside Neighborhood and Woodlands on candidates meetings. We prepared fact sheets on the elections.

ADVOCACY

Local - We commented on the water company's Source Water Protection Plan.

State

We commented on the Clean Power Plan and Fracking rules.

We supported a Local Energy Efficiency Partnership Program, increase in the tobacco tax, disclosure of campaign finance from outside groups, strengthening information about pollutants upstream of water utilities, and funding for prevention of child abuse.

We opposed the open carry weapons without a permit bill.

We opposed Voter ID, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, the US Constitutional Convention for Balanced Budget Amendment Resolution, and weakening Water Rules, Fracking Rules and Above Ground Storage Tank Rules.

National - We supported restoring the Voting Rights Act, disclosure of campaign contributions, improving protection of drinking water, and the Water Quality Protection Act.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
6128 GIDEON ROAD
HUNTINGTON, WV 25705

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

LEAGUE MEETINGS

We hosted the LWV state convention. We sponsored meetings on the New Explorer School, the Assessor's Office, Our Children Our Future and the League's legislative platform, the Public Defender program, and water Issues.

We celebrated the 95th anniversary of Women's Right to Vote with MU Professor Mary Beth Beller speaking.

We presented studies/consensus meetings on The Constitutional Amendment process and Money in Politics.

We cosponsored with OVEC a meeting to present legislative issues to our legislators.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

We distributed Bill of Rights flyers to our libraries. We staffed a booth at Huntington's Sustainability Fair

LWVUS ACTION

The League supports \$327 million in funding for the Title X Family Planning program. The League notes that more than 4.1 million women and men access life-saving health care such as birth control, cancer screenings, and testing for sexually transmitted infections through Title X health centers. Four out of ten women who receive care at a Title X-funded health center consider it their only source of health care and six in ten women consider it their main source of care. The League supports reforming the Federal Election Administration Act of 2016. The new Federal Election

Administration (FEA) would be comprised of five commissioners (now 6 commissioners) and would end gridlock at the commission and put the public's interests over partisan interests.

RECENT ACTION TAKEN

We supported the Cabell County excess levies and for raising the state tobacco tax.

PUBLICATIONS

We prepared a Recycling Flyer, available by email, the "*Directory of Public Officials and Personnel*" - on the Herald-Dispatch's website and a hard copy, and a "*Guide to the Legislature*"

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE

Please send your checks to our treasurer Ann Speer, 706 Ridgewood Rd., Huntington, WV 25701. Dues are \$45 for a single person, \$60 for 2 in a household, and \$23 for a full time student. New members pay half price dues. If you joined during 2016, you have paid your dues for the 2016-17 annual year.