



The League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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LWVWV website: www.LWVWV.ORG

LWVUS website: www.LWV.ORG

Next League Meeting

May 15th 7:00 p.m.

Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church

Deacon Stone, Coalfield Development Corporation, will be the speaker for the next League meeting at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, 469 Norway Ave. The meeting is open to the public.

COALFIELD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CDC)

The CDC "believes in developing the potential of Appalachian places and people as they experience a scary moment of economic transition." The CDC began because of concerns about poor housing in Wayne, WV, as well as the large unemployment problem. The CDC partners with many public and private entities. Together they realized that charity would not address all of the problems so the CDC initiated the Quality Jobs Initiative, an on-the-job training and mentorship program. It employs trainees full-time to construct affordable housing, to deconstruct dilapidated housing, and to build and sell furniture from reclaimed building materials. The students graduate from the program and move on to permanent jobs.

Another program started at the West Edge Factory in the Westmoreland neighborhood of Huntington where the CDC has a solar training program that teaches former coal miners and others how to install solar panels. It partners with Solar Holler, a company from the Eastern Panhandle that works to make solar panel installation more accessible and affordable in the state.

For more information, link to the CDC and Solar Holler's websites.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

If you would like to be updated on action alerts and events, please send your email address to gibbins@frontier.com

SUSTAINABILITY FAIR - May 20

Marshall University's Sustainability Department will host the 3rd annual Huntington Sustainability Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Wild Ramp and Charles Holley Gazebo in Huntington's Central City. The event is free and open to the public. The Huntington Sustainability Fair is a cooperative effort by Marshall University Sustainability Department and many other organizations. The Fair is family-friendly and will include music, artisans, workshops, hands-on demonstrations, exhibits, and farmers/growers.

Marshall's sustainability department is also issuing a Green Challenge in connection with the fair. "Take the Green Challenge and get some Green Swag! By downloading the Green Calendar from the Marshall University Sustainability Department website or Facebook page, performing each challenge and being among the first 10 to bring your checked sheet to our booth at the fair, participants can win a cool bag of green and sustainable items."

The League will sponsor a table at the Huntington Sustainability Fair. We would like for two volunteers to be in each time slot to staff the table. Please notify Helen Gibbins if you can help staff the League's table -- gibbins@frontier.com or 304-736-3276.

FEDERAL BUDGET

Here's a link to an explanation of the budget process - <http://www.politico.com/pro//register-budget-appropriations-guide/confirmation>

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
6128 GIDEON ROAD
HUNTINGTON, WV 25705

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

THE LEAGUE'S RIGHT TO VOTE-- READERS THEATER

Several years ago the Huntington League developed a Readers Theater that covers the history of the Right to Vote. We must be vigilant to prevent blocking the right to vote because some states continue to pass restrictive laws.

The League offers our program to organizations that would like to know more about the history of voting and modern day efforts to restrict the right to vote. Please contact Laura Deveny, 304-638-9667, if you would like to schedule our program for a presentation.

LWV INFORMATION ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT

LWVUS biweekly newsletter and website, lwvus.org

LWVWV website, lwvwwv.org

LWV Huntington Area - Directory of Public Officials, on the Herald-Dispatch's website

YEAR IN REVIEW - 2016-17 (some highlights)

Voters Service - Seven Candidates meetings, worked with Herald-Dispatch on elections information, VOTE Fact Sheet

Action (Local) Supported: excess levies, drinking water protection, and banning guns in city hall.

Action (State) Supported: a tobacco tax increase, and the Local Energy Efficiency Partnership;

Opposed: more toxics in our water, reducing the income tax, Voter ID, more restrictions on SNAP, and campaign financing that protects Dark Money.

Action (National) Supported: the protection of health care, EPA's budget, the stream protection rule, and the Federal Elections Commission.

Monthly programs: Drug Court, 19th Amendment, Money in Politics, WV's Budget, Legislative Priorities, Cabell-Huntington Health Department, and Legislature - How to find information

HEALTH CARE

The LWVUS is active on legislation concerning the repeal the Affordable Care Act. It reiterates the League's support for quality affordable health care for all Americans, protections for those with preexisting conditions, and prevention of discriminatory costs for women. The LWVUS Board has recently approved a new Google discussion group on Health Care Reform. The discussion will include behavioral health, and welcomes ideas, resources, successes, and questions. To receive an invitation to the group, please contact Linda Hawkins - abitahawk@gmail.com or Linda Mahan - Lmahan78@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBER - Jane McCumbee

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 Spear, Treasure, 706 Ridgewood Road, Huntington, WV 25701. Check is to be made out to the League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area.