



IN LEAGUE REPORTER THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST LOUIS

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AUGUST 2014

2014-2015 LWVSTL

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE FORUM ATTRACTS NEAR CAPACITY CROWD

The St. Louis County Executive Candidate Forum moderated by the League may be the only event before the primary where the candidates appeared together to answer questions submitted by the public. With the exception of Ronald Levy (Dem.) and Theo Brown (Lib.), the other five candidates addressed a crowd of at least 350 on July 16 at Florissant Valley Community College.

A variety of questions were put forward to the candidates by Kathleen Farrell, moderator for the evening, and covered a range of topics that included: City/county merger, closing of Jamestown Mall, the Bridgeton landfill, the health department embezzlement issue, poverty, and job creation. While the answers to the questions were often spirited and pointed, Kathleen took control and maintained a civilized atmosphere that has become a trademark of League-moderated public forums.



Moderator Kathleen Farrell skillfully directs the Candidate Forum for St. Louis County Executive on July 16th.

The Greater North County Chamber of Commerce was the co-sponsored the forum. They were a pleasure to work with, and provided valuable organizational groundwork in the months leading up to the forum. The League is also very grateful to the Chamber for their recent donation to the League of Women Voters Information Service.

Florissant Valley Community College provided a wonderful setting for the event, and became the third community college the League has partnered with for candidate forums. We value their approach to community service and outreach, and welcome the opportunity to work with them again.

Mark Your Calendar for the Theatre Party!

The Fontbonne University presentation of the World War I story "All is Calm" has been selected as the production for this year's Theatre Party on Sunday, November 23rd. The 5pm show will be followed by hors d'oeuvres and light refreshments. This event is our main fundraiser for the Information Services of the League, so plan ahead and invite some friends. More information will appear in the September ILR.



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS AUGUST 2014

It has been quite a summer. Busy. There was a time that summer for the League was a quiet time. Each of you know that is no longer true since many of you have graciously given of your time. We produced a Voters Guide for the August primary election, including many follow up phone calls to candidates to respond to the guide, helping them, proofing and proofing, distributing 10,000 guides to libraries and other places. Thank you to each of you, you know who you are. We met all our deadlines, had the best response from candidates, received compliments and thank you from the public. And once again we had a good working relationship with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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☆☆ "The future
☆☆ belongs to
☆☆ those who
☆☆ believe in
☆☆ the beauty
☆☆ of their
☆☆ dreams."
☆☆ Eleanor
☆☆ Roosevelt
☆☆
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

We also had a very good candidates forum for county executive. Special thanks to Pat Jones for the success and handling all the details. You can read about it in this In League Reporter.

Almost without a pause we turn to the coming months. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Kickoff Meeting, September 17th. Richard Von Glahn will be speaking about their early voting initiative which is expected to be on the November ballot along with the proposal from the legislature which is narrow and limiting. For almost 180 years the League has worked to expand and protect the right to vote. Come and find out more.

We will be organizing the committee to address the local League study of the city and county, a renewed speakers bureau, with some training meetings, writing grants, continued voter registration and then preparing for the next voters guide.

We look forward to seeing you at the Kickoff Meeting, units, committee meeting, and voters guide work. Special welcome to all the new members. The League studies, works on projects and has fun.

Linda C. McDaniel

Kathleen Farrell

Co-Presidents

COMMITTEES

The **International Relations Committee** will meet on Friday, Sept. 12, at 10 a.m. at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters. We have chosen the topic of comparing and contrasting electoral systems and practices in three or four countries in the developed world. Help select the countries and study with us.

Judith Smart, Chrm.

All other committees will resume meeting in October.

UNIT MEETINGS

UNITS WILL RESUME MEETING IN OCTOBER. WATCH FOR INFORMATION IN THE SEPTEMBER ILR.

On May 15, 2014, the LWVUS Board approved the new Position on Federal Agriculture Policies. The position is based on responses from 243 state and local Leagues. The LWVUS new Position reflects and is representative of the LWVSTL consensus. The EQ committee thanks the support and participation of all in the update.
Statement of Position on Federal Agriculture Policies:

The League believes that government should provide financial support for agriculture that includes disaster assistance, crop insurance, need-based loans and incentives to adopt best management practices. Support should be extended to specialty crops, such as fruits, vegetables and nuts, to new production methods, such as organic, hydroponic, and urban practices, and to farms that supply local and regional markets.

Subsidized crop yield insurance should be linked to implementation of best management practices with the subsidy denied for marginal or environmentally sensitive land. The premium subsidy for crop insurance should be available for a wide range of crops, such as fruits, vegetables and specialty crops. Government should limit the amount of the premium subsidy received by larger farms.

The League supports policies that increase competition in agricultural markets. Antitrust laws should be enforced to ensure competitive agricultural markets. Alternative marketing systems such as regional hub markets, farmers' markets and farmer cooperatives should be promoted.

Clean air and water regulations should apply to all animal and aquaculture production and processing facilities, and not just to the very large confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs). Such regulations should be designed in a manner that takes into account environmentally sound technologies and the scale of the operation being regulated. Small size operations should not be granted automatic exemption from regulation.

The League believes that government regulatory agencies dealing with animal and aquaculture production should have adequate authority and funding to 1) enforce regulations and 2) gather information that supports monitoring the impacts of all animal feeding and aquaculture operations on human and animal health and the environment.

Government should fund basic research related to agriculture. Government funded research should also address the impact of new technologies on human health and the environment prior to widespread adoption of products developed with such technologies. Assessment of products developed with new technologies should be conducted as transparently as possible, while respecting intellectual property rights. Research should be funded to support the continuation of diversified and sustainable agricultural systems, such as seed banking and promoting and preserving genetic diversity.

To provide adequate safety of our food supply, government should:

- Clarify and enforce pre-market testing requirements for foods and food additives developed using any new chemical technology, such as genetic engineering or nanotechnology;
- Require developers to monitor all such new food products developed after releasing to the market;
- Require developers of such new food products to provide data and other materials to independent third parties for pre- and post-marketing safety assessment;
- Fund independent third party risk assessment examining how long term and multiple exposures to such new foods affect human health and the environment;
- Withdraw marketing approval and require recall if such products are shown to be unsafe;
- Require post-market monitoring of human health and environmental impacts for pharmaceutical applications used in animal and aquaculture production;
- Limit use of antibiotics in animal production to the treatment of disease;
- Promote crop management practices that decrease dependency on added chemicals; and
- Fund, employ and train sufficient personnel for assessment and compliance functions of regulatory agencies.

The League supports government developing and requiring more informative and standardized definitions on product labeling. Food labeling and advertising should display only approved health and safety claims and an accurate representation of the required ingredient and nutrition lists. The League supports consumer education about labeling of foods developed using any new technology.

EQ Committee will start meeting in September.

Mickey Croyle, LWVSTL Study Chair, Environmental Quality Committee Chair

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LWV ST LOUIS FALL KICKOFF

Wednesday, September 17

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Rich & Charlie's

9942 Watson Road

Crestwood MO 63126

314-822-4909

Approximately 1 mile east of Lindbergh

On the south side of the street

Speaker: Richard Von Glahn

Topic: Early Voting Initiative

Buffet Dinner Cost \$25.00

Reservations Due by September 10th

Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Amount Enclosed— \$25.00 per person _____

MAIL this form and your check to: LWVSTL, 8706 Manchester Rd, Ste. 104
St. Louis, MO 63144

For more information or to reserve your seat, call the LWV Office 314. 961.6869

27th ANNUAL EQUALITY DAY BRUNCH

JOIN WOMEN ACTIVISTS ON THIS SPECIAL DAY!

*Celebrating the 93rd Anniversary of
Women Getting the Vote*

Presentations include Special Well-Known Speaker

- Election and Legislative Issues
- Political Action
- Honorees- Joyce Best, Peggy Cochran, Nancy E Cross

Saturday, August 23, 2014

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

(Registration begins at 9:30am)

Crowne Plaza Hotel Crystal Ballroom

Free Parking in Garage

Registration Form

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

E-Mail

Phone

Sign up for

Brunch and Program \$37.00* _____

Students 15.00 _____

Educational Fund Donation _____

Scholarship Fund Donation _____

MWN Membership Dues _____

Organization \$30 _____

Individual \$20 _____

Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to **Missouri Women's Network**; mail to Julia Triplett, 401 Oakmont Circle, Ballwin MO 63011. Call Shirley Breeze(314-831-5359) or Pat Shores (636-938-3958) for additional information or late reservations. Limited number of late reservations.

*Scholarships are available. DEADLINE August 16,

ST. LOUIS COUNTY EXECUTIVE CANDIDATE FORUM VOLUNTEERS

An example of how wonderful you are is shown in the following response I **always** receive when I ask for help: **"I will do whatever you need me to do."** That says it all. Thank you again to those who helped make the County Executive Forum such a great success:

Kathleen Farrell, Nancy Bilingham, Mary Beth Reynolds, Nancy Hutchins, Gene Hutchins, Mary Long, Julian Long, Liz Aurbach, Linda McDaniel, Janis Pupillo, Kathy Maret, Nancy Bowser, Renate Lytle, Cameron Smith, Katharine Kilpatric, Nancy Price, Anna Mennerick, and Julie Behrens.

Pat Jones,
Candidate Forums

No Cost Fundraising Opportunity

Attention *Schnucks* Shoppers

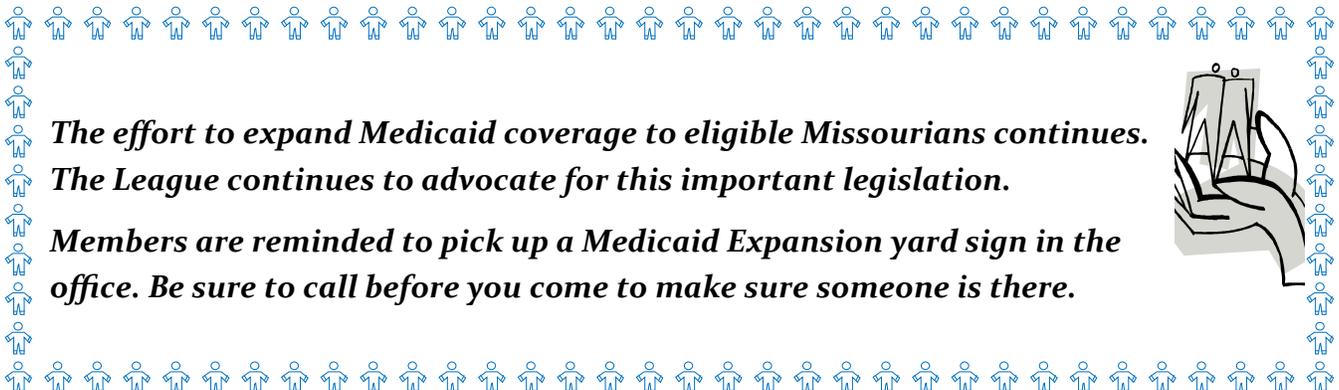
Schnucks will donate up to 3% for each purchase over \$25 to the League's Information Service. (LWVIS)

It's as easy as 1 2 3

1. Pick up a *Schnucks* eScrip card at the customer service counter.
2. Activate the card by calling 800-931-6258. Say your charity is the LWVIS, Group # 500015391 or go to www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp and follow instructions.
3. Present your card to the cashier for scanning every time you shop at *Schnucks*.

The League benefits and it costs you nothing.

****Thirty League members are participating in this no cost fundraiser. We hope you will add your name to this list. We receive a check monthly and it requires no soliciting. There is no easier way for you to help the League budget. Join today!



The effort to expand Medicaid coverage to eligible Missourians continues.

The League continues to advocate for this important legislation.

Members are reminded to pick up a Medicaid Expansion yard sign in the office. Be sure to call before you come to make sure someone is there.



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MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Members:

Jamie & Jeff Holtmeier
124 Locust St.
Washington MO 63090-2827

Kay Meyer
2443 Mary Avenue
St. Louis MO 63144-2031



TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

The League of Women Voters Information Service received a contribution in memory of Mary Parker from Mary Ellen Brucker.

We were saddened to learn that Judith Smart’s husband, Clifford, passed away on June 30, 2014. We offer our condolences to Judith and Elizabeth and their family.

The League of Women Voters of St. Louis received contributions in memory of Clifford Smart from Nancy Bowser, Betty Ann Gilbert, and Carol Portman.

The League of Women Voters Information Service received contributions in memory of Clifford Smart from Julie Behrens and Linda McDaniel.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

The August Primary was the main focus of the office for the past several weeks. Thanks to our many volunteers who picked up the ball and ran with it during this busy season – voting season. Our volunteers were busy compiling information for the August 2014 Voter Guides, proofing material for the Voter Guides and then delivering the Voters Guides. We moderated candidate forums for St. Louis County Executive and the 86th State Representative district. Volunteers answered phone calls from candidates needing assistance entering material into the voter guide and from the public requesting information regarding candidates and issues on the August ballot.

And our voter registration crew is always busy registering new voters. Those busy people included: Liz Aurbach, Stephen Aylward, Brenda Banjak, Sally Beck, Nancy Bowser, Rosalie Brasch, Stefany Brot, Evelyn Buretta, Lori Calcaterra, Esther Clark, Jim Clark, Becky Clausen, Marjorie Courtney, Mickey Croyle, Angie Dunlap, Sue Dellbringge, Joan Esserman, KPat Esserman, athleen Farrell, Agnes Garino, Betty Ann Gilbert, Mickey Hall, Barbara Harris, Ginny Hartley, Ilene Horenstein, Debby Howard, Nancy Hutchins, Pat Jones, Kathleen Lottenbach, Renate Lytle, Linda McDaniel, Nancy Miller, Dianne Modrell, Gwen Moore, Barbara Nagel, Carolyn Nolan, Marty Ott, Carol Portman, Mary Beth Reynolds, Sydell Shayer, Judith Smart, Pat Soraghan, Jean Srenco, Catherine Stenger, Billie Teneau, Kay Tice, Pam Todovich, Lolly Wehrli, K Wentzien, Louise Wilkerson, and Sue Williams. This list includes the St. Louis board members. When you attend a board meeting, please remember to sign the volunteer book in the office so we have a record of our volunteers’ hours. We appreciate your commitment to the League.



Thanks. Remember, November is just around the corner and we get to do this all over again. If you have time to donate to the League please contact our volunteer coordinator, Barbara Harris at 314.968.3609 or email Barbara at MBJH@charter.net *Julie Behrens*

From the Executive Director’s Desk

The primary election will be held on Tuesday, August 5th. There are also special election races whose outcome determines who will be elected to office. There are 5 proposals to amend the Missouri Constitution. This is an important election. Make sure you vote, whether on Election Day or by absentee ballot. Make sure your neighbors, family and friends vote. Share the League Voters Guide with your neighbors, family and friends. Read our explanations of how a yes or no vote on the Constitutional Amendment propositions can impact our state. Take someone to the polls. Your vote counts. *Anna Mennerick*





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SAINT LOUIS, MO 63144

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 2014 CALENDAR

Tues.	Aug. 5	6 a.m. -7 p.m.	ELECTION DAY	Polling Locations
Sat.	Aug. 23	10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	Equality Day Brunch	Crowne Plaza Hotel
Wed.	Aug. 27	6:00 p.m.	LWVSTL Board Meeting	League Office
Mon.	Sept. 1		LABOR DAY	OFFICE CLOSED
Wed.	Sept. 10	TBA	Unveiling Virginia Miner Bust	Missouri Statehouse
Fri.	Sept. 12	10 a.m.	International Relations	STL County Library Hdqtrtr
Wed.	Sept. 17	5:30-7:30 p.m.	Kickoff Banquet	Rich and Charlie's 9942 Watson Road
Tues.	Sept. 23		National Voter Registration Day	

Looking Ahead

Wed.	Oct. 1	6:00-8:00 p.m.	LWVSTL Board Meeting	League Office
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All Units and Committees will be meeting in October.