



IN LEAGUE REPORTER
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS
8706 Manchester Road, Ste. 104, St. Louis, MO 63144
314-961-6869
www.lwvstl.org
July, 2008

From the President:

Dear Members and Friends,

What's new at the League?" they ask me. What's new??? Whew!!!

The newest "new" is that Micki Hoffman, our Office Manager, has tendered her resignation. She is taking her dream job as full-time Director of Adult Education and Literacy at East Central College in Union, MO. Her last day will be June 27, 2008. We will miss her and the many skills she has brought to her work. We will also miss her knowledge generally and of the League, specifically. We wish her well as she takes this big step in her life.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, we take a very deep breath and start to plan for an even busier next few months than we had expected. Since the office is the responsibility of the local and the state Leagues, officers of both Leagues have had a meeting to consider our options and course of action. We hope to interview applicants for the position after the 4th of July.

Another "new" is that our summer intern, Lorrie Riley, is working Mondays and Fridays and is delighting us with her adaptability and willingness to take on new experiences. She is helping to enter candidate information on to our Smart Voter web site as our dedicated volunteers request and cajole the candidates.

We are pleased to have a new Health Care Committee headed by Jo Ann Simpson. This is very timely since health care is a major public policy concern, and is on the program planning agenda at the LWVUS convention this year. We will tell you all about it at the post-convention party at Sydell Shayer's house on July 8. (See page 2)

"New" just keeps on happening.

Doris

**2008-2009 LWV ST. LOUIS
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CALENDAR

Sun. June 28	8:00 PM	Mike Farrell on the Death Penalty	Ethical Society
Fri. July 4		Office Closed	
Mon. July 7	7:00 PM	Congressional District 2 Democratic Candidate Forum	Thornhill Library
Tues. July 8	5:30 PM	National Convention Report (See Page 2)	Sydell Shayer 's
Thurs July 17	8:00 PM	LWV Summer Theater Event (See Page 3)	COCA Theater
Wed. July 23	7:00 PM	Kirkwood City Council Candidate Forum	Kirkwood Methodist

Missourians to Abolish the Death Penalty presents

A

Public Talk/Dessert/Book-Signing with

Mike Farrell

Star of M*A*S*H and anti-death penalty activist

8:00 p.m., Saturday, June 28, 2008

Ethical Society of St. Louis

9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis 63117

(\$5 suggested donation appreciated)

“The League of Women Voters supports the abolition of the death penalty”

For more information call Sydell Shayer, 314-434-5116, League Death Penalty Chair.

League Summer Gathering

at the home of Sydell and Larry Shayer

Tuesday, July 8, beginning at 5:30 PM

Hors d'oeuvres and light supper on the patio



Come to the 3rd bi-annual post-convention gathering. Share ideas about exciting opportunities for our League in this election year. Hear, first hand, from our delegates, about the challenging programs coming out of the national League convention.

Reservations preferred, for planning purposes, to the League office at 314-961-6869. Cost is \$3.00 per person, payable at the door.

This is an excellent time to introduce the League to a friend. Our League is strong in every way. A larger membership will make us even stronger.

Membership

If you have not renewed your dues for the upcoming year, please do so as soon as possible so you may continue to receive all the benefits of League membership.

Also, the League has been invited to set up a information table at the Ethical Society's upcoming event featuring an afternoon of political satire, parody, social commentary and constitutional rights with folk singer Tom Nielson. The event will take place on Sunday June 29 from noon - 2:30pm. We are looking for two volunteers to work the table, to volunteer please contact the office or Patti Walley. For further information on the Ethical Society's upcoming event, contact them at 991-0955.



The Orange Girls & League of Women Voters of St. Louis Pair Again for Summer Theatre Event July 17th

The League of Women Voters of St. Louis and The Orange Girls will pair again in 2008 for the Summer Theatre Event, offering members the opportunity to support voter information and advocacy with a fabulous theatrical experience.

The Orange Girls, also a non-profit organization, will split the proceeds of every ticket sold with the LWV-St. Louis. This LWV fundraiser benefits the advocacy efforts of the organization. It generates funds that can be used for community outreach and advocacy on issues like healthcare, taxation and voter ID that members have identified as high priority.

Fresh off its Kevin Kline Award win for Outstanding Production of a Play (*Standing on My Knees*), the Orange Girls theater company plans to celebrate with a cabaret performance in *Nothing Like a Dame* at 8 p.m. Thursday, July 17th.

Directed by Stellie Siteman, *Nothing Like a Dame* explores the various ups and downs of a woman's life through song. The show features the talents of Peggy Billo, Michele Dumoulin, Michele Burdett Elmore, Barbara Helmer, Marliisa Hudson, Alison Moritz, Devon Roberts, Leah Schumacher, Deborah Sharn, BJ Ware and Orange Girls co-founders Brooke Edwards and Meghan Maguire.

The show will be followed by a reception with the performers and Orange Girls.

Tickets are \$60 each. The Orange Girls is the resident theater company at COCA and all performances are held at the Anheuser-Busch Black Box Theater at COCA, 524 Trinity Ave., in the University City Loop. To reserve tickets, please send your payment, number of tickets, name and contact information to the LWV office at 8706 Manchester, Suite 104, St. Louis, MO 63144. For information, call 314-961-6869.

The Orange Girls is a not-for-profit theater company dedicated to redefining women's roles on stage and in the world that envisions a theater where actors, directors and designers of both sexes work together to create performances that garner a new audience for women's contributions to the theatrical arts. The Orange Girls have received several honors in the community, including multiple Kevin Kline nominations and four Kevin Kline Awards for Outstanding Production of a Play, Leading Actress, Supporting Actress and Ensemble.



Susie Philpott just received the Woman of Achievement award for Education Enrichment. She is a long time League member and was very active in the St. Louis City League including serving on its board.

Voter Service 2008 Surges in the St. Louis League

More than 50 volunteers have surged ahead to undertake the Voter Service 2008 project in which they launched the new SmartVoter interactive web platform.

They have formed 12 teams, coordinated to reach out into the community to communicate the amazing new information and materials available for St. Louis area residents this year through the League of Women Voters in our four-county area. Through these new community partnerships, we believe we will be able to extend our reach to up to 250,000 citizens this year through a variety of print and electronic tools. That reach will extend to residents who might otherwise be unable to obtain the nonpartisan, accurate information the League is so well-known for nationwide.

The June time-frame is critical for all teams as candidate and issues information is flowing in for production of the web and print voter information for the primary election. League members review all the information for accuracy and fairness. The web information will be on SmartVoter by June 30 and Primary Voter Guides will be printed by July 15th for distribution.

The SmartVoter, licensed for the state- and county- level races by the LWV-STL this year, was developed by the LWV of California. A new member, Mickey Croyle, has brought 10 years of experience working with SmartVoter and allowed us to be able to conquer this program this year. St. Louis is working in concert with the LWV of Missouri on gathering information and screening of information for the state-level races. The site is www.smartvoter.org. then click on Missouri. You can also go to the site through the LWV-STL website at www.lwvstl.org.

The membership responded immediately to the call for volunteer teams to organize around the Voter Service Project this year. But volunteers can still join!

Teams and leaders are:

Community Partners: Georgia Archibald; Candidates: Sue Dellbringge; Information Management: Mary Beth Reynolds; Public Relations & Outreach: Mary Ellen Brucker; Mailing: Betty Ann Gilbert; Issues Writers: Kathleen Farrell and Nancy Bowser; Distribution: Pat Jones; Candidate Forums: Helen Herndon.

If you would like to volunteer, but do not know where you fit, call the office or call President Doris Buzzell or First Vice President Janice Dahl at the office at 314-961-6869.

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LWVMO's & LWVSTL's Micki Hoffman Resigns; New Staff Sought

After 6 years of service to the state and local Leagues, Micki Hoffman has resigned to pursue her career as the Director, Adult Education and Literacy, East Central College, in Union. We thank her for her many contributions to our organizations over the years and are excited to tell you that Micki remains a member of LWV-STL! We wish her well in this wonderful new endeavor!

As we move forward in seeking new staff, the LWVMO and the LWVSTL has formed a search committee via its officer teams. The following advertisement is being run:

Executive Director for local and state organizations, \$150,000 combined budgets, part-time.

Coordinates and supervises operations of League of Women Voters of Missouri and St. Louis; manages office and works with boards and volunteers; community relations and outreach; maintains office equipment; provides voter information; college degree and non-profit experience required.

Full job description at www.lwvstl.org or www.lwvmissouri.org.

Send resume by email to lwvexec@gmail.com. **Absolutely no calls.**

LEAGUE SUPPORTS PROPOSITION Y FOR MSD

BALLOT WORDING: PROPOSITION Y

To comply with federal and state clean water requirements, shall The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) issue its sewer system revenue bonds in the amount of Two Hundred Seventy-five Million Dollars (\$275,000,000) for the purpose of designing, constructing, improving, renovating, repairing, replacing and equipping new and existing MSD sewer facilities and system, including sewer disposal and treatment plants, sanitary and combined sanitary and stormwater sewers, and acquisition of easements and real property related thereto, the cost of operation and maintenance of said sewer system and the principal of and interest on said revenue bonds to be payable solely from the revenues derived by MSD from the operation of its sanitary sewer system, including all future extensions and improvements thereto?

YES

NO

SIMPLE MAJORITY REQUIRED

The League is supporting Proposition Y on the August ballot. The proposition is for a \$275 million dollar revenue bond issue for the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD). The bond issue will partially fund the \$661 million dollar second phase of the Capital Improvement and Replacement Program designed to bring the district into compliance with the requirements of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The remainder of the cost of Phase II will be paid with Pay As You Go (PAYGO) financing. The proposed method of financing with a combination of bond and PAYGO is being proposed because it will enable the district to continue to move forward on the infrastructure replacement program with less of an impact on the customer rates than financing by PAYGO alone. However, if the proposal fails, the result will be financing completely with PAYGO. The project must move forward to enable the District to make progress to meet the State and Federal mandates. MSD is currently being sued by the DNR and the EPA. The question is not if the program will proceed but how it will be paid for.

Projected average residential wastewater rates if Proposition Y passes are \$25.74 per month effective in fiscal year 2009 increasing to \$28.73 per month in fiscal year 2012. If Proposition Y fails, the projected average residential rates are \$28.89 per month in fiscal year 2009 increasing to \$36.79 in fiscal year 2012.

Arguments in favor of Proposition Y are that it: lowers the immediate financial impact on ratepayers; amortizes the cost of improvements over a period of their use; and provides immediate funding for construction. Arguments in favor of PAYGO financing are: it saves money in the long run because there are no interest costs and it reserves bonding capacity for future use.



Environmental Quality Committee

The next EQ Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, August 12 at 6 p.m. at the League office. At our April meeting, we decided to continue with evening meetings so that the Committee is available to those who cannot attend day meetings.

Nancy Bowser--EQ Chair



Education Committee

The Education Committee will not meet in June or July. We hope you will join us at our next meeting, on Saturday, August 16, at 9:30 a.m. in the League office.

YELLOW UMBRELLA EVENT

THE WALK-LESS TALK-LESS PARADE FOR VOTERS RIGHTS...IN 2008!



A re-creation of the Walk-less, Talk-less Parade of 1916, commemorating the fight for women to get the right to vote!

Wear white and get a yellow t-shirt. In this important election year, let St. Louis know it's important for everyone – men and women, young and old – to VOTE!

**Sponsored by The Ben & Jerry's Foundation
The League of Women Voters Information Service
In partnership with Kids Voting Missouri**

Date: Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008

Time: 10:30 a.m. Parade

Registration Starts: 9:00 a.m.

Speakers: 11:30 a.m.

Place: St. Louis University, Boileau Hall @ Vandeventer & Laclède

Pre-register: \$25/Participate and get a free yellow t-shirt

Kids Voting Missouri Registrants walk FREE!

Businesses: \$350/up to 10 Participants Walk and get free yellow t-shirts

On-Site Registration: \$30 and get a t-shirt (while they last)

Parade: 1/2 mile and 1-mile route

Registration form @ www.lwvstl.org

Voter Registration will be on-site!

Contact person: 314-961-6869

**League of Women Voters
Information Service**

8706 Manchester Rd. Suite 104
St. Louis, MO 63144

Phone: 314-961-6869
E-mail: lwvmo@yahoo.com
www.lwvstl.org

Benefits to
KIDS VOTING MISSOURI

HEALTH CARE

Let's consider the health care/medical expense situation in St. Louis City, County, the state of Missouri, and the U.S. We will reason together, study, and educate ourselves. We will advocate with appropriate government officials, the press regarding this urgent human need. The St. Louis League supports providing health care for the uninsured/underinsured. Shall we address this issue with LWV with vigor?

More information in the August Reporter!

Jo Ann Simpson
Health Care Committee

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In memory of Hal Flowers from Jeanne Van Allen to LWV Information Service.



Saturday, Sept. 1st (Labor Day) @ the Loop
Setup: 6 a.m.
Starts: 8 a.m.
Ends: 3 p.m.



Annual Tailgate Sale

Donate items sell in the LWV booth.

*Volunteer your time to help!
Come shop for Treasures!*

*Tell your friends, neighbors,
churches and organizations to
buy a booth!
\$30 each*

314-961-6869 League of Women Voters of St. Louis—Promoting an Educated & Empowered Electorate

League of Women Voters

Summer Theater Event Tickets: \$60

The Orange Girls present...

Nothing Like A Dame

Directed by Stellie Siteman

*An evening of cabaret celebrating
women in song.*

Send your check
to the
LWVSTL Office
8706 Manchester
St. Louis, MO
63144
314-961-6869
www.lwvstl.org

8:00 p.m. Thursday, July 17th.
Reception with
Company Members to Follow

Anheuser-Busch Studio Theatre at COCA
524 Trinity Ave., St. Louis

**Proceeds benefit
Voter Service in the
St. Louis region.**



**Deadline
to buy:
July 15**

'Save the Date' for the September 17th kick-off meeting.

The speaker is Dr. Judy Dasovich. She is a physician now devoting/volunteering her time at a local facility for the indigent and folks in need generally. She gave up her private practice to do this. She will speak on the need for a single payer for health insurance. (as opposed to universal health care).

ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED

Contact the St. Louis County Election Office

314-615-1840

www.Stlouisco.com/elections/judges.html

Candidate forums scheduled prior the August Primary

Date	Time	Office	Location	Address
Monday July 7, 2008	7:00 pm – 8:45 pm	U. S. Representative 2 nd Congressional District Democrats only	Thornhill Library	12863 Willwyck Dr.
Wednesday July 23, 2008	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Kirkwood Council Member	Kirkwood Methodist Church	201 W. Adams

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