



IN LEAGUE REPORTER THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF METRO ST LOUIS

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www.facebook.com/lwwstl www.lwwstl.org

JULY 2015

PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AFFIRMED BY SCOTUS

JUNE 25, 2015

The Affordable Care Act is here to stay with the second Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruling upholding the overall law and continuing insurance premium subsidies through tax credits. *Celebrate Continuing Coverage!*

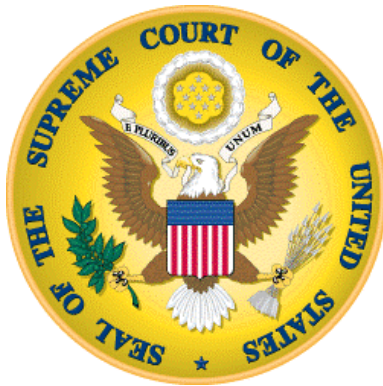
The decision on *King v Burwell* (Families USA info) will allow 198,000 Missourians continue coverage with subsidized premium tax credits (eligible families earn 100-400% of the Federal Poverty Level)

Missouri Action--

Missourians receiving MO HealthNet (Medicaid) also have some good news. Beginning July 1, House Bill (HB)384 will go into effect. This will allow for Dental Coverage and payment to providers. The funding mechanism is partially as a result of *TAX AMNESTY FUNDS*. A portion of the taxes paid during the amnesty period **September 1 through November 30, 2015** will be combined with federal funding for this benefit. (Per Senate Appropriations Staff)

While creative appropriations from the MO House helped add this dental benefit, the entire Family Support Division (FSD) is faced with budget cuts. FSD reports they will need to reduce staff by approximately 120 people. At present, determining benefits for eligible families have been backlogged. A new eligibility system has been delayed that would provide more timely determination of eligibility. Current staffing levels are needed until the system is fully operational. The Catch-22 is the current funding for systems development relies on reinvesting the savings from staff reduction. Once the system is further developed, FSD would be able take this reduction in staff more easily.

By MO Fiscal Year 2017 there could be increased efficiency from the new system. Expect delays in the meantime. (Paraphrased from the Family Support Division Impact Statement) *Dianne Modrell, Health Committee Chair*



FEATURE ARTICLES

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Interested in helping new citizens participate in local government?
Join us at one of the following meetings to start work on our program in collaboration with the International Institute.
There are lots of things to do and we need your many talents!

Tuesday, July 9th 4:00 League Office
Wednesday, July 15th 5:00 League office

The orientation will last approximately 1 hour.
For more information, contact Kathleen Farrell kathleenfarrell@earthlink.net or 314-773-2876



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**WE'RE CELEBRATING THE MEANING
OF THE 4TH OF JULY AT THE LEAGUE**



We've been taking a breather at the office, catching up on all the tasks we didn't get done during the year, and now we are planning for next year. We have seen so much happen around the country this summer. Supreme Court decisions have given us both reasons to celebrate and be disappointed. We have a lot to do to protect our environment, eliminate the death penalty and work to make redistricting less partisan in Missouri. We need to work with others to make changes in St. Louis County that will result in better serving its citizens. We need to increase citizen participation in government and work for changes that will give voters confidence that money doesn't control our politics.

Although we won't have a Voters Guide for August, we will have information on the items/candidates in our area. There is a lot at stake in the bond issue for St. Louis City and we will give you a clear explanation and the pros and cons. Come out to the special meetings to begin our work with newly naturalized citizens and college students as we encourage them to get involved in local government. Join us in the Friends of the League program to meet with supporters and potential donors. Help us plan for the 100th anniversary of the Walk-less Talkless Parade where 3,000 women asked for the right to vote at the 1916 Democratic National Convention here in St. Louis. Get ready for the September 16th Kickoff and hear a panel of activists and office holders talk about what comes next post-Ferguson and last year's events.

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of your summer and keep an eye on ALL those presidential candidates! We'll see you soon!

Linda C. McDaniel
Co-Presidents

Kathleen Farrell

2015-2016 LWVMetroSTL BOARD of DIRECTORS	
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	Louise Wilkerson

Remember 2015-2016 dues are payable today! Call, mail or go online at www.lwvstl.org

Remember—Dues are tax-deductible!

PLANNING AHEAD

AUGUST 22ND EQUALITY DAY BRUNCH As members of Missouri Womens’ Network, the League supports the celebration of the difference women are making in our state. Plan to attend call the office to make sure you will be seated at a League table.

SEPTEMBER 16TH FALL KICK-OFF EVENT Join fellow members and guests for a time to catch-up and a thought provoking panel about the events in Ferguson and their effects on the St Louis region in the past year.

OCTOBER 24TH THEATRE PARTY This year’s event, presented by the Stray Dog Theatre Company, promises excellent theatre and a wonderful opportunity to introduce friends to the camaraderie of the League.

2015-2016 LWV STUDY: MONEY & POLITICS This is your chance to be a part of the League’s work for good government. Mickey Croyle is heading up the Metro League’s study of this all important topic. Call the office if you would like to take part.

MISSOURI HEALTH NET UPDATE

Our legislature has approved Managed Care across the state where possible for MO HealthNet recipients. House Hearings have been held in June. A determination would need to be made for Rural Accountability where Managed Care Networks do not exist. Another alternative for rural areas is called an Accountable Care Organization (ACO). This could be a patient-centered group of providers caring for individuals. Options are still being considered.

The failure to extend MO HealthNet to approximately 250,000-300,000 people leaves a vulnerable population. Routine, preventive care is ignored until a health crisis. Emergency room treatment is often required. An estimated 700 MO deaths annually result from this uninsured, low-income population whose health care needs could have potentially improved with intervention. It is both tragic and costly.

We continue to see hospitals and providers cut costs by reducing staff or closing the doors. The intended payments for these health care systems are lost. Our economy suffers as well as humans. Transform. Move on. Cover more Missourians by adding those earning less than 100% of FPL. Most have at least one family member who is working. Missouri has work to do!

Dianne Modrell, Health Committee Chair



2015-2016 LWV STUDY: MONEY & POLITICS



2015-2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM
League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis

8708 Manchester Road, Suite 104
 St. Louis, MO 63144
 www.lwvstl.org 314-961-6869

NAME(s) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

OFFICE/CELL PHONE: _____

Newsletters are delivered by email to save the League financial, paper, and people resources. If you would prefer a paper copy through postal mail, please check here _____

DUES INCLUDE MEMBERSHIP IN LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LWV MetroSTL

Annual Membership Dues — April 1st, 2015 - March 31st, 2016

Sustaining	\$1,000	\$ _____
Supporting	\$ 500	\$ _____
Contributing	\$ 250	\$ _____
Individual (1st member in household)	\$ 70	\$ _____
Each Additional Household Member	\$ 30 X _____	= \$ _____
Student	\$ 30	\$ _____
For anyone who cannot afford the Individual Level	\$ 45	\$ _____
Contribution		\$ _____
TOTAL		\$ _____

The cost of operation for the League of Women Voters of St. Louis far exceeds the amount of dues. Please consider a generous contribution in addition to your dues.

Dues may also be paid by credit card at the League website
www.lwvstl.org

Member Interest Checklist

Please check your interest areas.

- _____ Board Leadership
- _____ Candidate Forums
- _____ Communications
- _____ Education
- _____ Environmental Issues
- _____ Events Planning
- _____ Health Care
- _____ International Relations
- _____ Legislative Action
- _____ Money & Politics Study
- _____ Office Support
- _____ Speakers Bureau
- _____ Technology/Media
- _____ Voters Guide
- _____ Voter Registration
- _____ Voter Service Hotline

The League of Women Voters depends on volunteer leadership to carry out the work of the organization.

Thank you in advance for your service!

28th ANNUAL EQUALITY DAY BRUNCH

**JOIN WOMEN ACTIVISTS
ON THIS SPECIAL DAY!**

***Celebrating the 95th Anniversary of
Women Getting the Vote***

Presentations include Special Well-Known Speaker

- Election and Legislative Issues
 - Political Action
 - Awards
- Women's Equity

Saturday, August 22, 2015

10:00 am-2:00 pm

(Registration begins at 9:30 am)

Crowne Plaza Hotel/Clayton MO-7750 Carondelet-Crystal Ballroom

Free hotel parking on orange level. For information, call 314-831-5359

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 15, 2015.

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WAYS TO DONATE TO THE LEAGUE

Attention **Amazon** Customers

Go to this website to sign up for Amazon Smile.

All your Amazon purchases will support the League.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1094055>



Attention **Schnucks** Shoppers

Schnucks will donate up to 3% of your purchases to the League.

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.

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New Members:

Judy Becker
230 S. Brentwood Blvd. Apt. 8F
St. Louis MO 63105-1637

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Sharon Campione
638 Avondale Dr.
St. Peters MO 63376-7714

Christine Watts
3809 Shaw
St. Louis MO 63110-3740

Rejoined:

Dr. Donna L. Cartwright
2028 Grecian Way Ct.
St. Louis MO 63131-1607

Address Change:

Joyce Armstrong
710 S. Hanley Rd. Apt.2A
St Louis, MO 63105-2656



We were saddened to learn of the death of Patricia May. She will be missed.

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

The League received contributions from Judith Smart in memory of Jeanne Van Allen and Avrom Handleman.

The League received a contribution from Linda McDaniel in memory of Leo Drey.

The League received contributions from Lois Bliss and Linda McDaniel in honor of K Wentzien's honorary degree at Eden Seminary. Congratulations, K.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Summer is here and at the League office we are busy working on updating records & files and purging files. There is always something that needs to be done. So, if you have any extra time to spend with your League friends in a pleasant air conditioned atmosphere please contact our volunteer coordinator, Barbara Harris at 314.968.3609 or email Barbara at IMBJH@charter.net

Our volunteers since our last newsletter include: Liz Aurbach, Lori Calcaterra, Esther Clark, Jim Clark, Becky Clausen, Marjorie Courtney, Mickey Croyle, Sue Dellbringge, Norma Jean Downey, Joan Esserman, Kathleen Farrell, Agnes Garino, Eve Golden, Mickey Hall, Barbara Harris, Debby Howard, Nancy Hutchins, Pat Jones, Kathleen Lottenbach, Renate Lytle, Linda McDaniel, Nancy Miller, Cindy Mitchell, Dianne Modrell, Carolyn Nolan, Marty Ott, Carol Portman, Nancy Price, Mary Beth Reynolds, Sydell Shayer, Judith Smart, Pat Soraghan, Catherine Stenger, Billie Teneau, Pam Todorovich, K Wentzien, Louise Wilkerson, Sue Williams, and Liz Wolkoff.

This list includes the St. Louis board members. 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.



Julie Behrens

From the Executive Director's Desk



I am writing this in the midst of the Supreme Court decision season. Some of the more newsworthy cases have probably caught your attention already. Did you know that you can read the full decisions at www.supremecourt.gov? I enjoy reading the syllabus (summary) and opinion papers for cases I have heard of, in order to get at the details that the news leaves out. And you never know what you will find when you browse the cases. I found an interesting decision involving raisin growers that references the Magna Carta, and another regarding excessive force against a pretrial detainee that examined Due Process.

I encourage you to dive in and get your own take on the justices' deliberation and arguments. You never know what you might find.

Anna Mennerick



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JULY 2015 CALENDAR

Thurs. July 2nd	3:30pm	LWVMetroSTL Board Retreat	League Office
Thurs. July 9 th	4:00pm	Planning Program for Local Government Collaboration with Internat. Institute	League Office
Wed. July 15th	5:00pm	Planning Program for Local Government Collaboration with Internat. Institute	League Office
Wed. July 22th	6:00pm	LWVMetroSTL Board Meeting	League Office

AUGUST 2015

Tues. Aug. 4th	6am-7pm	ELECTIONS	St. Louis City, St.Louis County
Sat. Aug. 22nd	10am-2pm	EQUALITY DAY Brunch	Crowne Plaza,Clayton
Wed. Aug. 26th	6:00pm	LWVMetroSTL Board Meeting	League Office

SEPTEMBER 2015

Wed. Sept. 16th	5:30-8pm.	FALL KICK-OFF	TBA
Wed. Sept. 30th	6:00pm	LWVMetroSTL Board Meeting	League Office

OCTOBER 2015

UNIT & COMMITTEE MEETINGS RESUME			
Sat. Oct. 24th	2:00pm	Theatre Party	Stray Dog Theatre
Wed. Oct. 28th	6:00pm	Board Meeting	League Office

NOVEMBER 2015

Fri-Sat. Nov. 6-7		LWVMO State Meeting	Sedalia
Wed. Nov. 18th	6:00	LWVMetroSTL Board Meeting	League Office