



# IN LEAGUE REPORTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST LOUIS

8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104,  
St Louis, MO 63144

314.961.6869

[www.facebook.com/lwvstl](http://www.facebook.com/lwvstl) [www.lwvstl.org](http://www.lwvstl.org)

**SEPTEMBER 2013**

2013-2014 LWVSTL  
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**GMO SPEAKERS HIGHLIGHT  
FALL KICKOFF EVENT SEPT. 11th**

A panel of highly regarded individuals will present the positions involved in the current GMO issue. The Environmental Quality Committee is studying this issue during the 2013-2014 League year as part of the LWVUS Update on the Agricultural Position. Participating on the panel will be:

Dr. Joseph Jez, Associate Professor in the Washington University Department of Biology. He will be giving the Academic perspective on the use of GMOs in agriculture.

Dr. Natalie DiNicola, Vice President of the Sustainable Agriculture Partnerships division of Monsanto. She will be presenting the Corporate perspective regarding the use of GMOs in agriculture.  
Cindy Faulkner, southern Missouri Farmer. She will be presenting the producer perspective on the use of GMOs.  
Following the presentations, Co-president Kathleen Farrell will moderate a question-answer session with the audience.

**LEAGUER TESTIFIES BEFORE  
HOUSE MEDICAID COMMITTEE**

On August 14th Dianne Modrell, Health Care Chair and advocate, testified before the House Interim Committee of Citizens and Legislators Working Group on Medicaid Eligibility and Reform. The following is a portion of her presentation.

"This Expansion (ACA option) has the potential to insure up to 300,000 Missouri adults and children through Medicaid if all federal guidelines were met. Using the 138% Federal Poverty Level (FPL), Missouri would receive 100% of federal monies available through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Missouri leaves money on the table by not choosing immediate, full Expansion. The clock starts ticking for the three year 100% federal funding reimbursement on January 1, 2014.

"The League of Women Voters urges the General Assembly to support affordable, 'equal access to comprehensive, quality health care,' including full 'Medicaid Expansion' that meets the 138% FPL for full federal reimbursement for up to three years.

**AFFORDABLE CARE ACT SEMINARS**

The St. Louis Public Library in partnership with Washington University's Bernard Becker Medical Library and Siteman Cancer Center invites you to the 2013-14 launch of its new speaker's series: "Can I Catch That?"

Opening the series will be Ryan Barker of the Missouri Foundation for Health talking about the Affordable Healthcare Act. Mr. Barker will explain - in simple language - what to expect regarding healthcare coverage in 2014.

Call 314-539-0336 for more information.

**September 10**  
**September 14**

**7 to 8:30 pm,**  
**2 to 3:30 pm**

**St. Louis Central Library**  
**St. Louis Central Library**

**KICK-OFF RESERVATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 6TH**

## WELCOME TO THE 2013-14 LEAGUE PROGRAM

It's almost 100 degrees out there as we write this and the League office was without power for several hours on Tuesday. It's hot out there! But the world of politics is "hot" out there as well. As we commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington, we celebrate the gains we have made in Civil Rights, but we also are saddened by our losses. The repeal of Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act has paved the way for some states to make voting more difficult, particularly for the elderly, disabled, minorities, and the poor. Women still do not have equal pay. And women's health issues are under siege on numerous fronts.

On the Missouri front, things are quite lively! We were pleased with many of Governor Nixon's vetoes. Hearings are being held around the state on Medicaid expansion and the tax bill. School transfers, funding and new accreditation standards are raising many concerns. And there will be a number of local tax issues on the November ballot that voters need to understand. In other words, we have our work cut out for us!

Join us for the September 11<sup>th</sup> Kickoff when we hear multiple sides of the controversial Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) issue. We are pleased that Monsanto, a major player in this controversy will be part of our program. Make a commitment to attend your local unit meetings starting with October's – an update on the Photo Voter I.D. issue, the post-veto Missouri legislative session, and an explanation of various local ballot issues in the November 2013 election.

Become a sponsor of our largest Information Service fundraiser, the October 20<sup>th</sup> Theatre Party. Look for more information in the next newsletter on an upcoming November program on gun violence in St. Louis.

Most importantly, recruit at least one person to join the League. We are pleased to tell you that are membership numbers this year are up about 7%, but our membership needs to continue to grow if we are to remain a force for good in our community.

See you this Fall!

Linda McDaniel  
Co-presidents

Kathleen Farrell

### LEAGUERS ENJOY "THE HILL" AND GOOD COMPANY

Sixteen Leaguers met at Herbaria, the natural soap factory and store for the August 23<sup>rd</sup> outing to St. Louis' famous Italian "Hill" neighborhood. Ken Gilberg, owner of Herbaria gave us a fascinating tour of the soap making operation and introduced us to the most valued "employee" of the place, Soapy the dog! We moseyed over to DiGregorio's Foods and purchased olives, cheese and other "necessities", dropped off knives to be sharpened at Bertolinni's, visited the historic Immigrant St. Ambrose Catholic Church, and then walked a quaint residential block down to Zia's where we enjoyed a wonderful lunch and conversation. We topped off the day with the purchase of bakery goods and some of us snuck in some gelato. A good time was had by all. We're agreed. We need to do more of this kind of outing. There's no better company than League folks and their friends.

WELCOME TO THE 2013-14 LEAGUE PROGRAM

### MISSOURI HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Missouri House Interim Committee on Education will be holding meetings around the state in September and October. Two meetings will be held in the St. Louis area on

**Monday, September 23, 2013.**

**St. Charles Community College**

**2:00pm-5:00pm**

**Webster University**

**7:00pm-10:00pm**

These meetings will be open to the public to hear their concerns relating to topics and issues in Missouri Public Education. Proposed topics include, but not limited to, student transfers, early childhood education, Common Core standards, Virtual Schooling, school safety and several more.

### ACTION ALERT HB 253

A Special Legislative Bulletin was sent on August 9, 2013.

An Action Alert on HB 253 was sent on August 23, 2013. Watch for another Action Alert on September 6, 2013. **Contact your state representative to sustain the governor's veto.** If you are not receiving these items, please let Marty Ott and Anna know. Veto session begins September 11, 2013. Hope to share good news at our LWVSTL Kick-off!

The LWVMO Guide to State Action is being updated and will be printed after the Veto Session ends and ready for the Fall Conference, October 5, 2013, in Sedalia.

### LEAGUE JOINS COVER MISSOURI COALITION

At the August Board meeting, the LWVSTL voted to join the Cover Missouri Coalition. The Coalition includes a wide variety of groups seeking to help Missourians—including individuals, families and small business owners—find quality, affordable health coverage. The Coalition is a project of the Missouri Foundation for Health, and independent philanthropic foundation dedicated to improving the health of the uninsured and the underserved. Coalition members agree to support the goal of reducing the number of uninsured in the state and to use their connections, resources, or influence to educate Missourians about health insurance options. Cover Missouri aims to reduce the rate of uninsured Missourians to less than 5% in the next five years. There are currently over 70 members of the Coalition.



LWVSTL will participate through presentations by the Speakers Bureau, dissemination of printed information at Candidate Forums and other events. For more information about Cover Missouri, go to [www.covermissouri.org](http://www.covermissouri.org).

It was also decided that the speaker for the Holiday Brunch on Saturday, December 7th will be from the Missouri Foundation for Health.

### KUDOS TO CAROL PORTMAN



After many years of leading the Voter Registration project of the League, Carol Portman is handing over the leadership responsibilities this month to Catherine Stenger and Barbara Harris. Neither rain, nor cold, nor heat, nor lack of parking could keep Carol and her diligent workers from registering voters. This summer alone they have registered 363 new citizens to vote.

*Congratulations on a job well-done!!*

LEAGUE AT WORK



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS

## FALL KICK-OFF DINNER AND PANEL DISCUSSION

### Genetically Modified Organisms



**September 11, Wednesday**

**5:45 Social Time**

**6:15 Dinner**

**7:00 Panel Discussion**

*The public is welcome to attend  
and participate !!*

### ***Panel Members:***

Dr. Joseph Jez, Associate Professor Washington University Department of  
Biology: the Academic perspective to use of GMOs in agriculture.

Dr. Natalie DiNicola, Vice President, Sustainable Agriculture Partnerships  
Monsanto: the Corporate perspective regarding use of GMOs in agriculture

Cindy Faulker, a southern Missouri farmer: the Farmer's perspective

*Following presentations, a moderator will field  
audience questions to the speakers*

**The Center of Clayton, 50 Gay Ave, Clayton**

Dinner \$20.00

***RSVP by Fri. Sept. 6th***

Name(s)

Email

Phone

For Information Call the LWVSTL office at 314.961.6869

Send check with this form to:

LWVSTL

8706 Manchester Rd, Suite 104, STL, MO 63144.

## SAVE THE DATE !!!!

### STATE BOARD PLANS 2013-2014 YEAR

The regular **FALL CONFERENCE** will be held **OCTOBER 5 IN SEDALIA**, Missouri. The proposed program will include: how to present legislative testimony; LWVUS agriculture study; fund raising; using social media (Facebook); state legislative priorities; and reports from local Leagues. There is information in this *In League Reporter* about the programs for the day. At the retreat six committees with chairs and members were established: Fundraising, Report to the Community, Legislative Action, Membership and leadership, Voter Service, Calendar planning. It will be a busy year and the state League will be doing much to serve local League members. Kathleen Farrell, Marty Ott, Debbie Waite Howard and Linda McDaniel from St. Louis serve on the state board.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE THEATRE PARTY!

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013**

Join us at the New Jewish Theatre on **Sunday October 20, 2013**

for the League's popular theatre party.

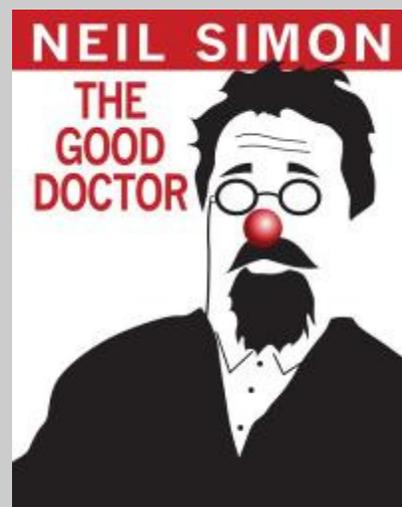
This year's production, Neil Simon's *The Good Doctor*, comes to us from the New Jewish Theatre, located in the state of the art Marvin & Harlene Wool Studio Theatre in the Arts & Education Building on the campus of the Jewish Community Theatre in Creve Coeur.

**Reception and Silent Auction 5:30 -7:00**

**Performance 7:00**

Neil Simon's spin on the short stories of Anton Chekhov. Between Simon's humor and Chekhov's pathos, we have a series of vignettes expertly woven together by a narrator/writer (Chekhov?). From Broadway's master of comedy there are stories that are laugh-out-loud experiences depicting the absurd humor underlying even the most serious of circumstances. We promise to tickle your funny bone.

**Nominated for four TONY AWARDS**



## UNIT MEETINGS RESUME IN OCTOBER

All four Units of the LWVSTL will resume meeting in October. The program will include post-veto legislative news, local ballots and election information, and a Voter ID update. The dates are:

University City/Clayton	Tues. Oct. 8th	Webster/Kirkwood	Wed. Oct. 9th
Chesterfield/Creve Coeur	Thurs. Oct. 10	St Louis City	Sat. Oct. 12th

**CHECK THE OCTOBER ILR FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## COMMITTEES

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE** will meet at 7 pm at the League office on Wednesday, Sept 18th. Topic: Discussion of the Kickoff presentations, and organization of the **GMO Study**. Please join us as we study this issue.

*Chair, Mickey Croyle*



## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE NEWS

On Friday, September 13, the International Relations (IR) Committee will begin its new year with our chosen topic: **KOREA**. This is your invitation to join us; we welcome all League members who are interested in studying international problems. North Korean saber rattling has calmed down this summer, but we believe we should find out more about that peninsula. Two of our members will be giving reports in September: one will tell us about North Korean leaders since 1945; there have been only three. The other report will be on South Korean leaders covering the same period; there have been many more than three, but three come to mind quickly, i.e.,

Syngman Rhee who was supported by the US and president during the Korean War, Park Chung Hee who was the strong man who brought about tremendous change in the South, and Park Geun Hye who is the current President and the first woman to hold that post.

We will meet on the second Friday of the month at least through December at 10 a.m. at the St. Louis County Library HQ which is across the street from Plaza Frontenac. We are always looking for new members and encourage you to join us on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Judith Smart, IR Chair*



## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We will meet on **Saturday, September 14, 2013 at 9:30 am – 11:30 am at the League Office, 8706 Manchester Road, 63144**. The purpose of the meeting will be to compose a written statement of the League's position on early childhood education, pre-k, to be presented to the House Interim Committee on Education. **Early Education is the most prominent education reform topic** being addressed state and nationally. Mem-

bers interested in this topic are welcome. For more information please contact:

*Marty Ott, chair*

*martyott06@yahoo.com 314.434.0330*



## HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

Please join the **Health Care Committee** on Wednesday, September 11th from 1:30 - 3:30pm at Faith Des Peres Presbyterian Church, 11155 Clayton Rd. 63131. Our focus is on **Medicaid Expansion in Missouri**. Contact Dianne Modrell for more information or questions: 314-439-9511 or [dmodrell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmodrell@sbcglobal.net) Please join us!

*Dianne Modrell, Chair*



**League of Women Voters of St. Louis 2012-2013**  
**Financial Summary**

July 1 - Jun 30, 2013 End of Year

	6/30/2013	Annual	% of
	YTD	Budget	Budget
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>31,121</b>	<b>35,947</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>32,242</b>	<b>35,297</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1121</b>		
Credit Union	19,226	LWVMO PMP	\$15/year
Money market	312	LWVUS PMP	\$30/year
Mutual fund	6,186	(1/2 LWV, 1/2 LWVIS)	
Total	25,724		

For more detailed information, contact the League office at 314.961.6869

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE**  
**UPDATE ON LWV AGRICULTURAL POSITION**

The EQ committee could use some additional people with an interest in food safety to help in the upcoming discussion of the Update on the Agricultural Position. Do you know other people in the community with an interest in Food Safety – ask them join a lively discussion and participate. September 18th, 7pm at the League Office.

Contact the LWV STL League Office or Mickey Croyle (eve 314.395.7876 or [mcroyle@wustl.edu](mailto:mcroyle@wustl.edu)). We will learn a lot, and have fun in the process.

*An Opportunity to Get Involved!!*

**PAT RICH HONORED BY MISSOURI**  
**WOMEN'S COALITION**



*Long time League member, Pat has served as president of the Central County League of Women Voters and St Louis Metropolitan League combining all six Leagues; executive director of the Arts and Education Council; and co-founder of a management consulting firm. Pat initiated the Women's Foundation of St. Louis which provides funding for organizations that address the needs of women and girls. **Congratulations, Pat!***

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a critical role in food security and safety within the United States, in areas such as food safety, water quality, and pesticide applicator training. The EPA is responsible for ensuring that the American public is protected from potential health risks posed by eating foods that have been treated with pesticides. The Agency is responsible both for the registration of new pesticides before they can be marketed and the re-registration of older pesticides to ensure that they meet current scientific standards. EPA uses the National Research Council's four-step process for human health risk assessment: Hazard Identification, Dose-Response Assessment, Exposure Assessment and Risk Assessment.

Since the Passage of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996, the EPA is undertaking a comprehensive review of tolerances for pesticide residues in food. The focus of the review included an increase protection for infants and children as well as other vulnerable groups. Progress of this review can be found at the following Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/tolerance/reassessment.htm>.

A pesticide is any agent used to kill or control undesired insects, weeds, rodents, fungi, bacteria, or other organisms. Pesticides are classified according to their function: insecticides control insects; rodenticides control rodents; herbicides control weeds; and fungicides control fungi, mold and mildew. Herbicides are the most widely used type of pesticide in agriculture. Chemical pest control plays a major role in modern agriculture, and has contributed to dramatic increases in crop yields over the past four decades for most field, fruit and vegetable crops.

Pesticides cause illness in human adults with even more severe symptoms in children and pets if absorbed on contact, inhaled or eaten. The EPA sets maximum residue limits, on the amount of pesticide residue that can lawfully remain in or on each treated food commodity. EPA considers the toxicity, amount and frequency of pesticide application, and how much

of the pesticide (and or pesticide residue) remains in or on food. An added margin of safety ensures that residues remaining in foods are many times lower than amounts that could actually cause adverse health effects. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which monitors domestically produced and imported foods traveling in interstate commerce except meat, poultry, and some egg products enforces the pesticide tolerances set by the EPA.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) uses an array of pest control methods to achieve better results with the least disruption (harm) to the environment including cultivating pest-resistant plants, adjusting planting times to avoid pest infestation, using beneficial or predatory insects (lady bugs), station traps containing pheromones (sex hormones) to remove fertile adult insects, destroying nesting areas, removing leaf clutter etc. Studies suggest that IPM techniques generally increase crop yields and economic profits, while reducing the use of chemical pesticides. Modern biotechnology has enabled the production of new plant-pesticides. For example, new types of agricultural plants that have been altered to produce proteins toxic to insects that destroy crops. Such plant-pesticides reduce the need for conventional pesticide applications, thereby reducing production costs as well as risks to workers and non-target insects.

**For additional information please visit :**

**EPA's pesticide programs:**  
<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/>

**US Farmer and Rancher Alliance**

<http://www.fooddialogues.com/foodsource/pesticides-fertilizer-herbicides>

**Beyond Pesticides**

<http://www.beyondpesticides.org/>



### MEMBERSHIP

New Members:  
 Stephen Aylward  
 638 Cannonbury  
 St. Louis MO 63119-5313

Rejoined:  
 Karen Dahman  
 115 E. Mermod  
 St Louis MO 63122-2939



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### TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In honor of Tom & Anna Mennerick's anniversary from Betty Ann Gilbert to LWV St. Louis.  
 In memory of Rachel Farr Fitch from Brenda Banjak, Lois Bliss & Norma Jean Downey to LWVSt. Louis.  
 In memory of Rachel Farr Fitch from Jeanne Morrel-Franklin to LWV Information Service.

### VOLUNTEER CORNER

Come & help at the League office. We have many tasks and many hands make light work. We have air conditioning, definitely a plus with this latest hot spell. **Thanks** to our volunteers for August: Steve Aylward, Brenda Banjak, Ella Brown, Esther Clark, Becky Clausen, Marjorie Courtney, Mickey Croyle, Sue Dellbringge, Kathleen Farrell, Eve Golden, Agnes Garino, Betty Ann Gilbert, Mickey Hall, Barbara Harris, Debby Howard, Nancy Hutchins, Pat Jones, Linda McDaniel, Nancy Miller, Dianne Modrell, Marty Ott, Sydell Shayer, Judith Smart, Pat Soraghan, and Catherine Stenger. This list includes the St. Louis board members so when you attend a board meeting, please remember to sign the volunteer book in the office so we can keep a good record of our volunteers' hours.

Julie Behrens, Staff



### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REFLECTIONS – Anna Mennerick

The lull in the action around here is officially over. Julie Behrens and I managed to get caught up on a number of things this summer and now we are back to trying to catch up with all of you.

Thanks you for your enthusiasm and ideas and motivation for making our community and our League better. We are looking forward to working with you in this new season of League activities.

As a reminder, if you have a talent you would like to share or an interest in a skill you would like to develop, I would be happy to work with you to apply your gifts to a project designed to promote your curiosity.



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS  
8706 MANCHESTER ROAD, SUITE 104  
SAINT LOUIS, MO 63144

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**SEPTEMBER 2013 CALENDAR**

Mon Sept 2	<b>LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>		
Mon Sept 2	7:30am-2pm	TAILGATE SALE	University City Loop
Tues Sept 10	7 - 8:30 pm,	Affordable Healthcare Seminar	St. Louis Central Library
Wed. Sept 11	1:30-3:30	Health Care Comm.	Faith Des Peres Presbyterian
Wed Sept 11	5:30 - 8:00pm	<b>KICKOFF DINNER</b>	Clayton Center
Fri Sept 13	10:00am	International Relations Comm	STL County Lib Hdqrts
Sat Sept 14	9:30-11:30am	Education Comm	League Office
Sat Sept 14	2 - 3:30 pm	Affordable Healthcare Seminar	St. Louis Central Library
Wed Sept 18	7:00pm	Environmental Quality Comm	League Office
Mon Sept 23	2-3:00pm	Missouri House Education Comm.	St Charles Comm. College
Mon Sept 23	7-10:00pm	Missouri House Education Comm	Webster University <i>see p. 3</i>
Tues Sept 24	<b><i>NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY</i></b>		
Wed Sept 25	6:00pm	LWVSTL Board Meeting	League Office
<b><u>LOOKING AHEAD</u></b>			
Sat. Oct. 5	9am-3pm	LWVMO Fall Conference	Sedalia
Sun. Oct. 20	5:30-9:00	Theatre Party <b>The Good Doctor</b>	New Jewish Theatre
Sat. Dec. 7	11:30-2pm	Holiday Brunch	Clayton Center