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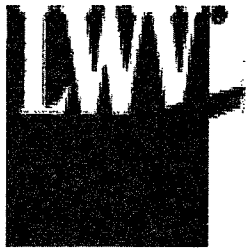
### LWV Bulletin, February, 2007

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF HUNTINGTON



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LWVUS website: [www.LWV.ORG](http://www.LWV.ORG)

February 2007 Bulletin

## WOMEN'S HEALTH

Dr. Linda Savory will be the speaker at our joint meeting with Negro Business & Professional Women & American Association of University Women. Dr Savory is a practicing Huntington physician & on the faculty of Marshall Medical School. She is a graduate of University of Michigan Medical School.

She will speak on "Womens Health". Although breast cancer is a major women's health concern, heart disease has been stated as an even greater threat to women. This will be a good opportunity for us to have our questions answered.

The meeting will be Saturday, February 17 at 10 am at the West Huntington Library, 901 14th St. West.

## MARCH 12 MEETING ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNING INITIATIVE

The League is sponsoring a meeting on Education on March 12. The meeting will start at 5:30 pm at the Enslow Park Presbyterian Church at which time we will provide a "Finger Foods Buffet". Afterwards Dr. Karen Larry, Executive Assistant to the WV Superintendent of Schools, will speak on "The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Initiative and the Future of Teaching and Learning in West Virginia". We have also asked her to talk about "No Child Left Behind." Although all our meetings are open to the public, this is the first meeting for a long time dedicated to promoting League membership. We invite anyone who is interested in finding out more about the League to come to this meeting. If you would like to suggest names for receiving invitations, contact Helen Gibbins, 736-33287 or [gibbins@verizon.net](mailto:gibbins@verizon.net).

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE US

The LWVUS board adopted the following 2007 Advocacy priorities: Campaign Finance Reform, Civil Liberties, DC Voting Rights, Election Administration, Ethics and Lobbying Reform, Global Climate Change, and Healthcare Reform. In addition, the Board reaffirmed the League's commitment to maximizing voter education and participation in the months leading up to the 2007 and 2008 election seasons.

The League supports new Presidential Public Financing Legislation as necessary to repair an ailing system. The new "legislation aims at cutting the reins that big money and special interests have over presidential elections in this country," said (Mary) Wilson (LWV president). "We need to have fair competition for votes, not a mad rush for big dollars. I encourage all members of Congress to support the Shays-Meehan-Price bill and make a real commitment to changing the way presidential elections are run." The bill would increase the amount of matching funds for the presidential primaries and increase the spending limit for candidates choosing to participate in the public financing system.

The LWVUS supports the House's Van Hollen-Meehan legislation that would require lobbyists to disclose the amount of contributions they collect or arrange for federal candidates, leadership PACs, and party committees. These contributions are known as "bundled" contributions. A companion bill in the Senate was introduced by Senators Obama and Feingold. This is an effort towards transparency, the ability of citizens to know the total amount of contributions that a lobbyist is collecting or arranging for a member of Congress, a presidential candidate, a party committee or other recipients of these funds.

The LWVUS is asking members to "Share Your League Story" for the Storybank, a collection of personal stories of achievement from League members across the country. Contact [storybank@lwv.org](mailto:storybank@lwv.org).

## PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICTS

On February 8 the Cabell County Commission held a public hearing on whether the public service districts in Cabell County should be combined. The next step will be a review by the WV Public Service Commission. The following is taken from "Voice of the People":

"Scott Bias, President of the Cabell County Commission, favors consolidation because it would save money in that there would be 'one office, one board, one manager, one attorney, one engineering firm, and one billing and collection point.'

The opposition points out that so far there has been "no cost-benefit analysis performed", there is a question whether Pea Ridge PSD's customers would have to take over the debts of the other PSDs, there has been a lack of communication among the PSDs' commissioners on consolidation, and there is no guarantee that rates would go down even though consolidation might save money.<sup>22</sup>

Because the hearing was scheduled after this bulletin went to press, there will be a follow up to this issue in a later bulletin.

## WV LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The WV Public Campaign Financing Act (S 118 and H 2371) was introduced in the WV Legislature and assigned to the Judiciary Committees in both houses, with a second reference to the Finance Committees. The League supports this legislation.

The purpose of this bill is to create a system for public funding of election campaigns for candidates for the State Senate and House of Delegates who abide by restrictions on campaign contributions from private sources and limits on campaign spending. It would set up a Campaign Financing Fund for such candidates. Some of the sources of revenue for the Fund would come from all qualifying contributions collected by participating candidates or their committees, civil penalties levied by the State Election Commission, voluntary donations made to the Fund, and a tax check-off program. To read the entire bill, go to the WV Legislature's website.

An Anti-Wilderness Resolution, SCR 29, was introduced in the Senate. The League opposes it.

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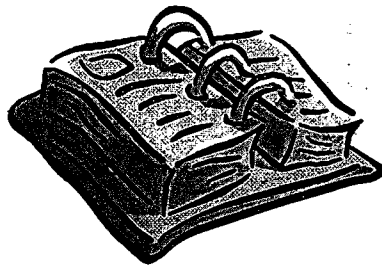
LWV is a nonpartisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Membership in the League is open to women and men of voting age. Annual dues, not tax deductible, are \$40 individual, \$55 for two in one household and \$24 for students.

To join, send your check to: Ann Spear,  
Treasurer, 706 Ridgewood Road, Huntington, WV  
25701

**LWV Huntington Area**  
Jane Husted, Editor

## CALENDAR



February 17, 10 am, West Huntington Library, Dr. Linda Savory speaking on Women's Health; League of Women Voters, AAUW, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women meet together.

February 26, 11:30 am, LWV Board Meeting, Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church.

March 2, E-DAY at the Capitol, Sponsored by the WV Environmental Council; displays on upper Rotunda area.

March 7, Wildlife Diversity Day, Displays under the Capitol Rotunda.

March 12, 5:30 pm, Enslow Park Presbyterian Church, Finger Foods Buffet, Dr. Karen Larry, "21st Century Learning Initiative and the Future of Teaching and Learning in West Virginia"

## GUIDE TO THE LEGISLATURE AND CONGRESS

The League distributed our Guide in the libraries. It includes names, phone numbers, and PO and email addresses of Cabell and Wayne Counties' representatives in the WV Legislature and Congress. If you would like a copy by email, contact Helen Gibbins, [gibbins@verizon.net](mailto:gibbins@verizon.net). Put "Guide to the Legislature" on the subject line.

## HUNTINGTON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The Huntington Human Rights Commission has been restarted after several years of dormancy. League members Mary Anderson and Loretta Hagler are serving on the Commission.

## RIDES TO LEAGUE MEETINGS

If you would like a ride to a League meeting, please contact Mary Anderson, 523-2032.

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