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League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF THE HUNTINGTON AREA

October 2020 E-mail Bulletin

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VOTING CALENDAR (from GoVoteWV <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/GoVoteWV.aspx>)



September 18, 2020 - County clerks begin mailing absentee ballots to those who have applied.

October 13, 2020 - Voter Registration Deadline

October 18, 2020 – Herald Dispatch Voter’s Guide

October 21 – October 31, 2020 - Early Voting at the Cabell County Courthouse and Milton’s City Hall.

November 2, 2020 - Deadline to hand-deliver Absentee Ballot to County Clerk’s office.

November 3, 2020 - **General Election Day**

CANDIDATES INFORMATION

On Oct. 18 the Herald-Dispatch will publish a special Voters Guide featuring Q and A’s from candidates locally and statewide. Also, readers can find responses online as they are submitted to the H-D. The League cooperates with the H-D on its Voters Guide. The LWWVWV posted its Voters Guide on its website <https://voters-guide.lwwv.org/>

VIRTUAL CANDIDATES FORUMS

The League of Women Voters and WSAZ -TV are partnering to give voters a chance to hear their candidates for WV House Districts 16, 17, 18, and Huntington Council-at-Large. All of the interviews have been uploaded on the WSAZ-TV website. Below is a link to where you will find them all.



<https://www.wsaz.com/2020/09/29/decision-2020-interviews-with-candidates-for-wva-house-of-delegates-district-16/>

<https://www.wsaz.com/2020/09/29/decision-2020-interviews-with-candidates-for-wva-house-of-delegates-district-17/>

<https://www.wsaz.com/2020/09/29/decision-2020-interviews-with-candidates-for-wva-house-of-delegates-district-18/>

<https://www.wsaz.com/2020/09/29/decision-2020-interviews-with-candidates-for-huntington-council-at-large/> Candidates' answers to three questions provided by the League and the station will be posted on WSAZ.com and the WSAZ app

Later there will be a live debate for the mayoral candidates. Stay tuned for further information.



ABSENTEE VOTING

Apply for an application for an absentee ballot either by linking to GOVOTEWV website, or by calling the Cabell County's Voters Registration Office, 304-526-8633, or if you live in Wayne County, 304-272-6362.

If you vote absentee, you may track your ballot. (Information from Carolyn Karr) Go to the web and type in GOVOTEWV. Select "Absentee Voting". Select "Tracking Your Absentee Ballot". A page will come up telling you to fill in your name, date of birth. Fill it in and hit "submit." This will bring up another page telling you when you requested your ballot, when you sent it in, and when it was received. After you vote absentee, the tracking of your ballot will be posted. You may find other voting information on GOVOTEWV, by clicking on "Check Your Voting Registration"

FACT CHECK THE CANDIDATES

- ✓ Factcheck *A Project of The Annenberg Public Policy Center* <https://www.factcheck.org/>
- ✓ Politifact *The Poynter Institute* <https://www.politifact.com/> or
- ✓ Snopes <https://www.snopes.com/>

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome new members: Julia Martin, Carolyn Bagby, and Joan Weisberg.

CLIMATE CHANGE (Helen Gibbins)

"The Citizen's Guide To Climate Change" Is an easy-to read 16-page document, released by the West Virginia Climate Alliance. Because climate change is the #1 issue for our nation and planet, this publication is essential reading for all of us.

<https://wvrivers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/wvclimate.pdf>

WHERE DID OUR FILES GO? (Helen Gibbins)

The League donated them to the MU Library, Special Collections. They will be digitized so will be easier to access.

Although the LWVUS was organized in 1920, Constance Tompkins reported that the Huntington League was organized in the 1940's. They were involved with governmental issues right from the beginning and they sponsored candidates meetings geared toward special topics. Through the years the League has continued to organize candidates meetings and advocate for or against selected laws.

The LWVWV was organized in Huntington in October, 1920. During the first 20 years the WV League was loosely organized and local Leagues came and went. The first state convention was in 1944 with attendees from Fairmont, Charleston, and Huntington. The total budget was \$320. The first study was a study of the "Merit System", later known as "civil service".

And I wish to thank all of you for our working together on many, many League projects over 50 years. My husband Neil and I are moving to Portland, OR, so that we can live close to our families. Farewell! We will miss our beautiful West Virginia and all of our friends here.

HEALTH CARE CANDIDATE MEETINGS



The West Virginia League of Women Voters is a co-sponsor of a series of virtual Health Care Candidate Forums, in Cabell, Wood, Barbour and Kanawha Counties, as a part of the Health Care For All campaign. Other sponsors are WV Center on Budget and Policy, WV Citizen Action Education Fund, and West Virginians for Affordable Health Care. The League was asked to assist the group in setting up the kind of non-partisan candidate meetings we have been presenting for years.

Cabell County's Forum will be Monday, October 19, from 6-7 pm. Betty Barrett will be the moderator. Candidates invited are for all state offices serving Cabell. As this is written, we do not have a list of candidates who have accepted. Candidates will receive a list of questions in advance. When candidates from only one party accept, they will be asked to make a short statement answering those questions. When more than one party is represented for an office, we will follow our usual procedure of individual debate questions, following opening statements. Candidates will be live, on Zoom, in their own homes.

The link for the program is: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/health-care-candidate/register>. You will be asked to pre-register, and will then be allowed into the program at 6 pm. The same link will be available for later viewing of the recorded program. For more information about the lead agency, look up www.healthcareforallwv.com.

FINANCE DRIVE

The 2020 Finance Drive is looking successful, but there is still time to contribute. Letters were sent to a number of friends of LWV in the community in September, during the celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, and as we worked on voters service activities as we have for the 100 years since the League was established. So far we have received \$1,000, including an anonymous gift of \$300 to the LWV Education Fund for Voters Service. Several of these gifts were from local League members. We are most appreciative of the gifts that make us able to continue our work to educate the community about important issues we are facing, and enabling us to inform voters on their rights.

If you would like to send a gift, please send a check made out to the League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area to treasurer P.J. Scarr, 16 Nancy Lane, Barboursville, WV 25504. If you would like to make it a tax-deductible gift, it should be written to the LWV Education Fund.



Thank you to all our members and community friends who are helping us in our work to empower voters and defend democracy.



EMAIL ADDRESS

For the last several months, the League has been sending our newsletter by email. Not only does that help us get the newsletter out sooner, but also reduces our expenses. We don't want anyone to miss out, so if we don't have your email, we have still been printing a few copies and sending by regular mail. If you are receiving your copy by regular mail and have an email address that we could use instead, contact Betty Murrell bmurrell@frontier.com or Helen Gibbins gibbins@frontier.com

DUES

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that neither supports nor opposes candidates or parties. Membership is open to anyone of voting age. Dues are free for full time students, \$50 for an individual, and \$75 for two persons in a household. Send your check to Patricia Scarr, 16 Nancy Lane, Barboursville, WV 25504.