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League of Women Voters of the Huntington
Area Bulletin 1980-1989

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Huntington League of Women Voters, October 6, 1980

League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

October 8, 1980

LEAGUE CALENDAR

- October 7 **Thursday, 9:15 a.m.**
VOTER SERVICE UNIT at Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church.
- 8 **Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.**
VOTER SERVICE UNIT at home of Kathleen Gross,
1109 - 10th Avenue
- 28 **Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.**
BOARD MEETING, at Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church
(babysitting provided).
- November 4 **ELECTION DAY CALL-IN - WOWK-13**

NOVEMBER 11 or 12 . . . FINANCE WORKSHOP

17-21 **FINANCE DRIVE**

DATES OF INTERESTING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- October 3-31 every Friday, **MORNING MAGAZINE, 10:00 a.m.**
Interviews with League members. Tun in, Channel 13.
- 3-16 **TITLE I Meetings** to select members and organize advisory councils. Held at Title I schools.
- 3 Highlawn, 7th at Johnston, 8th at Salt Rock, 9th at Lincoln, 14th Emmons, and Oct. 16th at Geneva Kent.
- 16 **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MEETINGS**, held by WV Human Rights Commission from 11:00 to 2:00 and from 4:30 to 8:30 Huntington City Council Chambers. The hearings will include Cabell, Mason, Logan, and Mingo Counties.

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . . Striving for an informed and concerned electorate; many League members continue to contribute their talents and expertise in the area of Voter Service. Volunteering their time and energies on TV shows, talk-back radio programs, gathering information for the newspaper or appearing on panel discussions. These members must be applauded for their efforts. Join us at the upcoming Voter Service unit to keep YOURSELF on top of the issues and events regarding this election and ask questions in an effort to improve elections of the future.

. . . JANICE MCNEARNEY

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Janice McNearney
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VOTER SERVICE

Voter Service has been in the public eye and ear this past September. Radio listeners have been treated to Diane Coe, Helen Gibbins, and Martha Woodward.

Marshall's Voter Registration Drive was encouraged by both the NAACP and League. The public eye saw Janice McNearney and Kathleen Gross. Future TV shows have been planned and many of you have generously donated your time. Thank you for your help; your efforts have brought about an excellent response.

This month watch for the League on Channel 13, 10:00 a.m. Fridays and Sunday, 19th, at 2:30 p.m.; listen for Public Service Announcements and read the Herald Dispatch's printing of the new style election round-up.

. . . Kathleen Gross, 523-1715

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GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE...WMUL-TV...October 16, 1980, at 9:00 p.m.

League members are invited to be the audience for the Gubernatorial Debate between candidates Arch Moore, Jr. and John D. Rockefeller, IV. Questioning will be by members of the press. If you can attend (WMUL-TV studios), please contact Helen Gibbins, 736-3287...and be at the studios by 8:30 p.m.

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MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the newest members of League! We are delighted to have you join us:

- MARY COEN,
- BEA FERGUSON,
- LINDA ROWE,
- CAROL TAYLOR

Please remember that I always need suggestions for prospects.

. . . V.M. Galgano, 522-9403

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JUVENILE SERVICES

Juvenile Justice Amendments, Section 223, HR 6704

The long-range goal of the Juvenile Justice Amendments of 1980, HR 6704, will be the requirement that all juveniles not be detained in adult jails and lockups. This does not mean that no juveniles will be held securely. If a juvenile is formally waived or transferred to a criminal court, the prohibition no longer applies. From time to time even a few juvenile delinquents will have to be held for short periods in secure detentions built and organized for juveniles.

The reasons for removing juveniles from adult jails are good:

1. Jails and lock-ups have been constructed for adults; they were not intended for children and the staff is not trained to deal with children. The following harms to children in adult jails have

been documented:

--Rape, physical assault, exploitation, and injury by adults in the same facility or staff;

--Isolation in maximum security cells or drunk tanks;

--Emotional stress (The suicide rate for children in adult facilities is seven times the rate for children in juvenile detention facilities);

--Negative labelling.

--Negative impact on preparation of defense;

--Adverse impact on a judge's decision to release a child to a non-secure, post-trial setting.

Therefore, the time-honored reason for holding a child in jail for his own protection does not hold.

2. Few juveniles commit very serious offenses. Thus, only a small number of those children now jailed actually need a high level of security because they are likely to run, to commit a new offense, or to fail to appear before court. The safety of the community is not necessarily endangered.

3. Jails, having been built for adults who have committed criminal acts, do not provide an environment suitable for the care or keeping of delinquents or status offenders. Adequate separation is virtually impossible in most existing jails. Juveniles are often placed in the most undesirable parts of the facilities, such as solitary cells and drunk tanks. There is no guarantee that children held in jails, even though separated from adults, will receive even minimal services required to meet their special needs.

4. There have been a growing number of court decisions holding that the jailing of juveniles constitutes either cruel and unusual punishment or a denial of due process. The United States Supreme Court has never ruled on the issue, but there is a growing recognition that individuals involuntarily committed to institutions have a right to treatment.

5. The separation of juveniles and adult offenders in most of the nation's jails is very costly to achieve and may be architecturally impossible.

6. The American Justice Institute estimates that merely jailing a juvenile, without providing the necessary services, costs \$24 a day. Secure detention with full services would cost \$61 per day per child. Home detention (\$14), attention homes (\$17), and small group homes ((\$17) are less costly alternatives that provide services.

What alternatives to jail are available? There are many models for alternative placement, i.e., night intake projects, attention homes, runaway homes, residential foster homes, reception/diagnostic centers, holdover facilities, and juvenile detention centers.

What states now require the removal of juveniles from adult jails? Pennsylvania, Utah, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Michigan have each found that the number of secure beds for juveniles can be substantially reduced and that complete removal of juveniles from adult jails is less expensive than adequate sight and sound separation.

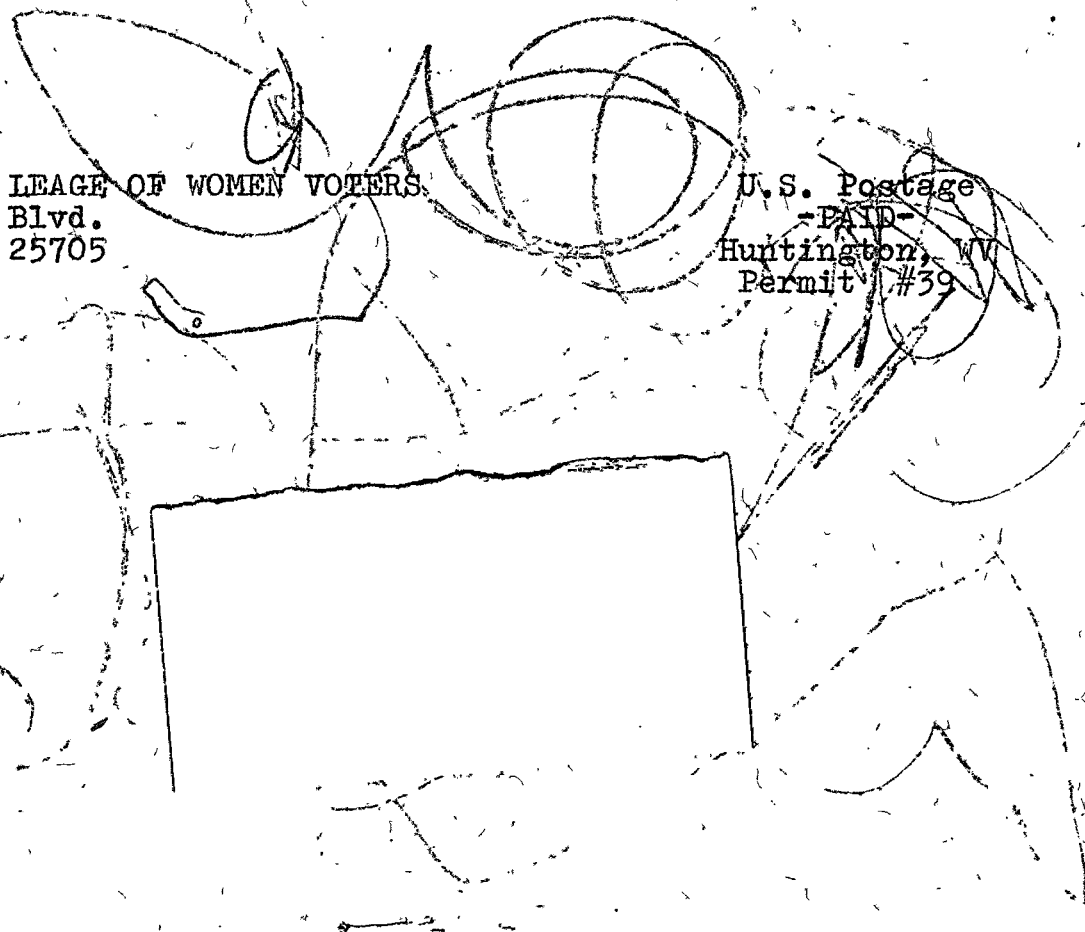
CONGRATULATIONS . . . LILA and DAVID!

Who said League and Marriage don't mix? Our studies show that Lila and David Thompson will celebrate their 50 years together this month. Our concensus tells us that we can act on this issue, and, therefore, P R O C L A I M . . . "In grateful acknowledgement for your years in League and with each other, we R E J O I C E!

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HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGE OF WOMEN VOTERS.
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Huntington, WV 25705

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