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HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

April and May 1977

Mrs. V.H. Galgano
7 Mortimer Place
525-2696
President

Mrs. D. Thompson
2738 Washington Blvd.
522-3792
Treasurer

Mrs. Nancy Wyant
227 Nedra Drive
736-8150
Editor

CALENDAR

- April 5 Finance Workshop
9:15 a.m., Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Norway Ave. and Green Oak Dr., babysitting provided.
- April 18 CHANGED FOR ONE TIME ONLY Energy Unit
7:30 p.m., at the home of Diane Hufson, 418 12th Ave. ****Monday****
- April 19 Energy Unit
9:15 a.m., Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Norway Ave. & Green Oak Dr.
Babysitting provided.
- April 22-23 State Convention at Fairmont
- April 26 Board Meeting, 9:15 a.m., Bev. Hills Pres. Church, babysitting provided
- May 4 City Council election, and background unit
9:15 a.m., Bev. Hills Pres. Church, Norway Ave. & Green Oak Drive
Babysitting provided
- May 5 City Council election unit 7:30 To be announced

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR MARK THESE DATES

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

V.H. Galgano
525-2696

After a downright exciting and informative program at the annual meeting, I am even more enthusiastic about my term of office, and I sincerely hope that this enthusiasm will be highly contagious. Unit meetings should be the first beneficiary of this interest because this is where all the lively discussion and issue decisions are. Won't you join us?

At the annual meeting, we voted in new officers and the board recommended local study and support items. (See the February bulletin) The following articles from individual portfolios should inform you of our activities, and maybe stimulate you to get involved.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

SUBJECT OF ANNUAL MEETING

"Now when I hear the phrase 'Community Development Block Grants', I'll know what they're talking about."

"I didn't know that Heritage Village and Safetytown were Block Grant projects.

These were some of the comments overheard at the close of the Annual Meeting program which focussed on the Community Development Block Grant Program. The guest speakers, Sam Colvin and Jim McDowell offered some salient points pro and con on the program and alternatives.

The \$1.5 million in funds that are available have many possible uses. The eligibility of these proposed projects causes much controversy. As another funding period approaches, it is interesting to learn about the processes involved in developing an application for submission to HUD.

The Housing and Community Development Act, Title I, of 1974, which created the CDEG program mandated citizen participation, but did not define how this participation was to be implemented. Therefore, the city of Huntington appointed a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), composed of 20 citizens of varying socio-economic backgrounds to provide input to City Council for developing the application for current funding. There is much contention as to how much actual influence this committee has on City Council's ultimate decisions. It is interesting to note that although the guidelines for CDEG mandate two public (neighborhood) hearings, the City has held eight such hearings during the past few months for the purpose of garnering input from the various neighborhoods.

Our thanks to Mr. Colvin and Mr. McDowell for some excellent food for thought on this timely topic - Community Development Block Grants.

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MEMBERSHIP 1976-77

Barbara Thompson
523-5790

The Huntington Area League recruited twenty-nine new members in 1976, 28% of the total membership. Of these new members, 21% are in leadership positions. All new members participated in a telephone network to remind everyone of Unit meetings and special events. They will continue telephoning through May meetings. Although somewhat premature, thank you, new members, for a job well done.

Seven prospective members attended Annual Meeting. Four joined and another, unable to attend, joined just prior to Annual Meeting. Please add their names to your membership list.

Brown, Barbara (Mrs. Pat)
126 Shockey Drive 25701
697-2831

McDowell, Carrie (Mrs. James)
1693 Tenth Avenue 25701
523-5479

Fink, Connie (Mrs. Kenneth)
1260 Huntington Avenue 25701
525-6726

Spurlock, Charles
3714 Third Avenue 25702
523-6125

Kingsbury, Nancy (Mrs. William)
1213 Eighth Street 25701
523-4028

Note from the editor:

I want to thank every contributor to this bulletin for the promptness and clarity.

LEGISLATIVE PHONE NUMBER

You may now directly call a member of the state legislature on the floor, leave your message, and expect a prompt call in return.

These are toll free numbers:

1-300-642-8592

1-300-642-8593

\$

FINANCE DRIVE

Kirsten Bagley
697-2863

The Finance Drive will begin on April 4, 1977 and last for one week. The workshop for those who have agreed to work as callers is on the 5th of April. The kits for the callers will be distributed then - and then to work!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Many thanks to everyone who has helped me already. Good luck to everyone.

\$

JUVENILE SERVICES

Beth Bauserman
522-3052

LWV JUVENILE CONSENSUS AND THE WEST VIRGINIA SUPREME COURT DECISION

A recent decision of the West Virginia Supreme Court supported the LWV's state consensus on juvenile justice. On March 22, 1977, the court ruled that juveniles committed for noncriminal offenses may no longer be confined in the same "secure", prison-like institutions with juvenile criminal offenders.

The decision divided juveniles, committed to state correctional institutions, into two groups—those committed for "status offenses", such as truancy, which would not be crimes if committed by adults, and those committed for acts that would be considered crimes for an adult. West Virginia is one of the few states that labels the "status offender" a delinquent. Most states define the "status offender" as a "person in need of supervision" or some similar label.

The decision also stated that a child, committed for a "status offense", may not be held in any secure, prison-like facility unless the record shows that the child is so ungovernable or anti-social that no other reasonable alternative exists.

"Status offenders" may be housed and educated with criminal offenders in half-way houses and other modern, well-staffed facilities when it can be reasonably shown that the welfare of both offenders will be increased and that there is no serious threat to the physical or emotional well-being of the status offenders.

CHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDRENCHILDREN

HUMAN RESOURCES

Teddi Williams
522-8491

The Human Resources Committee is presently in a state of reorganization. However, with recission of the ERA a possibility, public hearings for the third year funding of Community Block Grants Funds coming up possibly within the next six months, and racial equalization at Simms School mandated by the Federal Government, there are many areas in which this League committee can function.

The Huntington Human Relations Commission appears to now have some of the support it sought from City Council. However, the months ahead will be crucial to the viability of this agency. League members should take note of the struggles of the Commission, and whenever feasible, lend support.

I urge any interested members to please volunteer for this committee.

EDUCATION

Carol Michaels
529-0725

Interviews with Cabell County Board of Education members provided some new and different information for League's Education Committee. The meetings also proved valuable in establishing a more positive rapport with individual School Board members.

According to Board members, a new superintendent; a site for the new vo-tech school; and a response to HEN's order to correct racial imbalance at Simms School top the list of problems to be met.

Answers to the question, "How can League help in finding solutions to school problems?" were sketchy, but the role League will play in recommending possible solutions to such problems is expected to grow.

A more recent meeting with Superintendent Slash was equally successful in creating an open line of communication with members of Cabell County's school administration. Slash requested the support of League members in serving on an Advisory Committee established to study the HEN order. Slash stressed that correcting racial imbalance at Simms School would have far-reaching effects on all Cabell County citizens. The Advisory Committee is expected to meet before the end of April to discuss Cabell County's options. The Superintendent also offered to have his staff review League's Cabell County School Survey Booklet and indicate areas in need of revision and update.

*** A motion introduced by Board member Sue Edmonds at the February Board meeting to release agendas to the public the Friday before the regular Tuesday monthly meeting was passed by a 3-2 majority --- Edmonds, Hoeller, McCoy in favor - Thornburg and Withers opposed.

TWO POINTS FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION!

Pick up your agenda and ask questions.

Several new League members have expressed an interest in the Education Committee's work. We always welcome greater member participation in the Committee's activities. Have any new ideas? Call.

Thanks to Helen Brown, Judy Deutsch, Edna Duckworth, V.H. Galgano, Fern Jones, Margaret Gerke, Barbara Matz, and Teddi Williams for their effective participation.

EDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATIONEDUCATION!!

VOTER SERVICE

Kay Rasemont
743-9736

The Guide to the West Virginia Legislature 1977-78 is now available for distribution. The Guide lists members of the Senate and House of Delegates from Cabell and Wayne counties and the committees on which they serve. Besides providing the addresses and phone numbers of the members, suggestions on how to effectively communicate with the legislators is also included. Anyone wishing copies of the Guide should contact Kay Rasemont.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

bill - a proposed law.

rider - a section added to a bill, not always dealing with the same subject matter or even related to it -- it is a device used to slip legislation through that might otherwise be difficult to pass.

The same bill must pass both houses in the same form!

LAMP USE

Martha Woodward
525-7404

City Council has deleted the position of Chief of Code Assistance from the 1977-78 budget. They do this at a time of growth, both present and projected for the city. The Director of Public Works has written a letter in which he says "...even if considerations of available time and span of control would permit me to personally supervise the code enforcement functions, I do not consider myself technically competent in all such areas." Which brings us back to the necessity for a code enforcement director. On the basis of League's position on comprehensive planning, we made a statement at the budget hearing which evoked a great deal of comment, but the deletion stands. What we need now is support for our position in the form of letters to City Manager Barry Evans and to the newspaper if you wish. Be aware of the situation both now and in the future, for what probably will happen is that the present Council will not reinstate the position, but the new one will.

INFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATIONINFORMATION

BOARD BIOGRAPHY

Barbara Thompson, the enthusiastic, extremely organized membership chairman, is the newly elected first vice-president of League. She has a varied background of job experience: a psychiatric social worker who established half-way houses, a research associate in the psychology department at the Robert Kennedy Youth Center, and in several mental health centers, and presently, an instructor in counseling at M.U.

Barbara has an M.A. in rehabilitation counseling and a specialists degree in guidance and counseling. She is married to Dr. Larry Thompson, Executive Director of the Community Mental Health Center.

Kirsten Bagley, the League's vivacious finance chairman, has lived all over the world. While her father was in the Foreign Service, Kirsten lived in Japan, and the Philippines, and Korea while her father was Ambassador there after the Korean War.

Kirsten attended Stratford College, and is married to Charles S. Bagley III, a local attorney. They have two sons, Charles, 6, and Gordan, 2.

BIO

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY - WATER

Marcia Daoust
529-4406

Upset about the polluting of our Ohio River water, specifically, carbon tetrachloride? For a starter, let the following people know about your concern:

President Jimmy Carter
Governor Jay Rockefeller
Legislators

David Callaghan
Director, Dept. of Natural Resources
1800 Washington Street, East

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April and May 1977

Huntington Area League of Women Voters
227 Nedra Drive, Barboursville, W.Va. 25504

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Charleston, WV
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