



# LEAGUE LINES

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[www.lwvcolumbiasc.org](http://www.lwvcolumbiasc.org)

Editor Suzanne Rhodes / Co-editor Sej Harman

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September 2013

## CALENDAR & NEWS

### SEPTEMBER

- 9 (M) Board Meeting – 5 PM
- 10 (Tu) Green Is Good for Business Conference (program & details on p. 6)
- 17 (Tu) Constitution Day
- 18 (W) “Escape Fire” (see p. 7)
- 19 (Th) Public Policy Luncheon ◆  
**PUBLIC TRANSIT UPDATE**



- 24 (Tu) **National Voter Registration Day** and a voter registration *event* in Columbia
- 25 (W) **New Carolina’s “TransformSC”**  
**Fall Education Summit – 9 AM - Noon**  
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center (see p. 4 and attachment)

### OCTOBER

- 7 (M) Board Meeting – 5 PM
- 16 (W) SC Public Education Partners
- 17 (Th) Public Policy Luncheon ◆  
**RICHLAND LIBRARY BOND REFERENDUM**  
(see background information in attachment)

### NOVEMBER

- 5 (Tu) **ELECTION DAY** for Columbia, Irmo, Blythewood & Arcadia Lakes
- 9 (M) Board Meeting – 5 PM
- 26 (Th) Public Policy Luncheon ◆  
**SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**
- ◆ **Public Policy Luncheons begin at 11:45 AM at the Lourie Center**

## Public Policy Luncheon

Thursday, September 19 – 11:45 AM

“Public Transit Update”

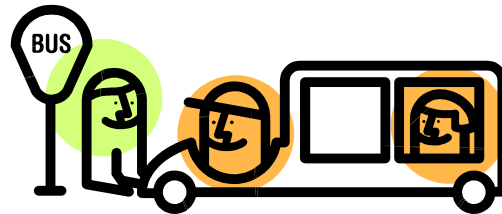
Lourie Center\*

Our speaker will be **Derrick Huggins**, USC Transportation Director, chair of the COMET Visioning Committee, and member of the CMT Board. He will present an update on the “transportation penny” as well as the COMET vision.

(Additional information re COMET, compiled by Hayes Mizell, is attached.)

Catered lunch: \$10, or you may brown bag it.

Please make reservations with  
**SusanBJames@sc.rr.com** or **256-6822**



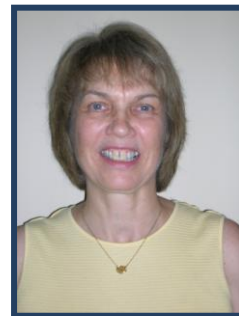
\* (the new name for the Capital Senior Center in Maxcy Gregg Park, corner of Pickens and Blossom—look for the green awning after you turn in at Park Circle apartment complex)

**NOTE:** For those interested in more details about various articles and items in this issue of *League Lines*, PDFs are included as attachments to the email. These are noted in the individual articles. Please feel free to browse at your leisure.

**The Prez Says...****Martha Roblee**

Wow! The Columbia LWV is “off and running” for the 2013-2014 year! Below is a sample of the activities conducted to-date and those to-come.

We were front and center at the August 13th City Council public hearing where I made a statement on behalf of the Columbia League to strongly urge members of the Council to put the question of changing the form of municipal government from Council-Manager to Mayor-Council on the November ballot, but delay implementing the change until January 1, 2018, the first day of the term of the mayor to be elected in the November 2017 elections. City Council voted down the proposal to put the question on the November ballot. The Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce is organizing a petition drive to obtain signatures from 15% of the city electorate to get it on the ballot. Due to the uncertainty of “if and when” the question will be on a ballot, we will continue to press forward on studying this historic issue. Information sessions to educate our members and the public on the different forms of city government and a consensus meeting will be held within the next few weeks. Keep posted as announcements are made on dates, places, and expert resources.



*Shirley Geiger, Rita Paul, Lynn Teague, Al Roblee*, and I continue to meet with the City Clerk to make plans to roll out voter services events in partnership with the Columbia Municipal Election Commission. You recently received an email with a list of major city events where we would like to have information tables staffed in whole or part by volunteers from the League and our partners. If you can volunteer even just an hour or two at a single event, please contact *Shirley* at [N350086@yahoo.com](mailto:N350086@yahoo.com) or (803) 754-0007. I extend my thanks to those who have already stepped up and volunteered. Committee members are scheduled to lead 8 public information sessions—two each in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4—from September 11 to October 2. If you can assist with any of the public information sessions by staffing an information table, please contact Shirley. In addition, *Lynn* and *Rita* will be recording public service announcements to be released at intervals and shared with all of the City’s media partners. Last, the Columbia LWV is a member of a Speaker’s Bureau formed with the City Clerk and Columbia Municipal Election Commissioners. We will be available to attend meetings and events across the city to help citizens fully understand the voting and election process.

On Thursday, August 15, *Shirley* arranged for me to speak about National Voter Registration Day (“NVR Day”) to the Richland One high school social studies teachers at their annual professional development training and about how they can partner with the League to observe NVR Day by registering their students who will be 18 years old by Election Day. I am happy to report that approximately 24 teachers signed up.

Upcoming events include a **Public Policy Luncheon on September 19** to give us an update on transportation in Richland County and the penny sales tax and an **event on September 24 to observe NVR Day**. I am pleased to report that eleven of our members attended League Leaders Day on August 24.

Many members have worked hard on the organization’s behalf in the last month. I want to thank *Keller Barron* and her committee for re-visiting and reviewing the materials related to the 2005 consensus study on the forms of city government. I also want to thank *Lynn Teague, Sej Harman, Pat Mohr*, and *Sarah Leverette* for preparing an easy-to-read brochure on the facts and frequently asked questions on the forms of government being considered for Columbia. Be on the lookout for it as it is almost ready for prime-time viewing. The Membership Committee, co-chaired by *Pam Craig* and *Marzi Knight*, has met regularly and came up with some great ideas to engage all our members and to reach out to prospective members. I cannot say enough good things about *Shirley Geiger*. Her leadership and continuing initiatives to help all Columbia area citizens participate in the democratic process is a tribute to our organization.

**THANKS to everyone for their continuing support!**

*Martha*

**Save the Date: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013 - 2013 Conference of South Carolina Public Education Partners!** [To register, click here](#). Or, for more information, email: [South Carolina Future Minds@mail.vresp.com](mailto:SouthCarolinaFutureMinds@mail.vresp.com)

**VOTER SERVICES CORNER:** The Columbia League is partnering with the Columbia Municipal Elections Commission to provide voter services (e.g., information on the new date of City elections, voter photo ID rules, new precincts, voter registration, RCPL funding referendum, etc.) to City residents before the November 5 election.

**VOTER REGISTRATION**



The following schedule provides a list of major City events being held before the November election. We need as many League volunteers as we can get to staff one or more hours at informational tables during any of the events.

*If you can help us (even for one hour at one or more events), please contact me at [N350086@yahoo.com](mailto:N350086@yahoo.com) Shirley Geiger, Voter Services*

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME and LOCATION
<b>Tuesday, September 10</b>	2013 Green is Good for Business Conference	Convention Center 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.
<b>Wednesday, September 11</b>	Council District 2 Election Education Forum (a partnership with the City of Columbia Municipal Elections Commission)	Cecil Tillis Training Center 2111 Simpkins Lane 29204 12:00-1:00 p.m.  701 Whaley Center for Contemporary Art 701 Whaley Street 5:15-6:15 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, September 18</b>	Council District 3 Election Education Forum	Sims Park 3500 Duncan Street 29205 12:00- 1:00 p.m.  Woodland Park 6500 Olde Knight Parkway 29209 5:15-6:15 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, September 24</b>	National Voter Registration Day Celebration (in cooperation with the Richland Library)	Richland Public Library Corner Hampton and Assembly 9:00 a. m. – 9:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, September 25</b>	Council District 1 Election Education Forum	Greenview Park 6700 David Street 29203 12:00-1:00 p.m.  Chestnut Hill Plantation Club House (Harbison) 851 Lost Creek Drive 29212
<b>Wednesday, October 2</b>	Council District 4 Election Education Forum	Hampton Memorial Park 117 Brandon Avenue 29209 12:00-1:00 p.m.  Fire Station #4 Spears Creek Church Rd. 5:15-6:15 p.m.
<b>Friday, October 4</b>	Mayor’s Campaign Against Breast Cancer Isabel Law Breakfast	6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
<b>Friday, October 4</b>	2013 Fall Festival	Lourie Center (Maxey Gregg Park) 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
<b>Saturday, October 12</b>	7th Annual Walk Against Domestic Violence	Finlay Park 930 Laurel Street 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

## GETTING TO KNOW “US”

Keller Barron asked *Sej Harman*

**Q: Where are you from?**

**A:** I’m a native Columbian and have lived here most of my life, except for a year when I was fresh out of college” with a degree in English and Secondary Education and taught kindergarten in Eutawville SC (and lived in Holly Hill, SC).

**Q: What do you do now?**

**A:** I retired from the University of South Carolina, where I was the Student Services Coordinator in what is now the College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management. I spent over 30 years in the Carolina Coliseum...but NOT on the arena floor!

Currently, I’m a free-lance writer and editor. One client has placed a novel with a literary agent and had several short stories published; another is working on a history of a state organization. I’ve also had a few short stories of my own published.

**Q: Why did you join the League?**

**A:** I joined the League about 20 years ago at the invitation of *Sarah Leverette* and remain a member because I support the mission of the League. It’s one of the few organizations in South Carolina where reasoned discourse takes place and which works for changes in governance at the policy level—from which all things else flow.

## WOMEN’S EQUALITY DAY OBSERVANCE AT FORT JACKSON

August 9, 2013, was the **Women’s Equality Day** observance at Fort Jackson. The event took place at the 81st Regional Support Command at Fort Jackson. The guest speakers were Brigadier General Janice M. Haigler and our own *JoAnne Day*. Although the program was short, one of the highlights was the “Who Am I?” section in which several women stepped forward to describe events in their lives. The audience had to guess who they were. Several performers were kind enough to repeat the event at our August Member Social.



The women profiled included Harriet Tubman, **Mary McLeod Bethune**, Clara Barton, Sacagawea, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and

Mary Edwards Walker, M.D. (a winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor during the Civil War). In 1917 her Congressional Medal, along with the medals of 910 others, was taken away when Congress revised the Medal of Honor standards to include only “actual combat with an enemy”.

After hearing these bios, one would think that anyone following them in the program would feel challenged. But, how do you intimidate a general (Haigler) who participated in Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom, or a State League Co-President (Day) who worked most of her professional life for the Fortune 500 Company IBM.

Both guest speakers noted the progress women have made over the years, which allowed them to become part of the everyday fabric of their respective industries. BG Haigler talked about the eventual incorporation of women into combat forces, and JoAnne discussed our continuing fight for voting rights and equal pay. She cited First Lady Abigail Adams as probably one of the first women committed to the rights to women.

The program closed with a delicious potluck lunch and a tour of room 102, which contained art related to the struggles of the women’s movement.

*Pam Craig*

**New Carolina’s “TransformSC”  
education initiative:  
Fall Education Summit  
Wednesday, September 25,  
9 am–noon  
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center**

For more information, please contact

**Moryah Jackson**

Senior Project Manager

Main: 803.760.1400 Direct: 803.760.1402

Fax: 803.760.1401

[mjackson@newcarolina.org](mailto:mjackson@newcarolina.org)

Visit their website: [www.newcarolina.org](http://www.newcarolina.org)

OR see **attached PDF** for details about TransformSC’s purposes, members, & sponsors.

## Announcements & Items of Interest

**ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS...** *The Atlantic* has a recent series on energy entitled *The User's Guide to Energy* – LOTS to learn, at <http://www.theatlantic.com/special-report/users-guide-energy>

**NEW EDUCATION REFORM:** New Carolinas initiated a "TransformSC" initiative in May 2013. Web site:

<http://www.newcarolina.org/initiatives/educationworkforcedevelopment.aspx>. Video explains the very interesting context: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcdGpL4U>.

**LIBRARY CORNER:** The South Carolina State Library is pleased to offer a free series of webinars in the fall for library staff and the general public. *South Carolina Government Bit by Bit* is a series of webinars delving into the websites



of state government agencies to find information, resources and publications that provide answers to questions about South Carolina and its

government. Information about useful print resources will also be included. Each webinar will run for an hour or less and include a handout of links to important resources highlighted and described in each session.

Visit the South Carolina State Library's events calendar at [www.statelibrary.sc.gov](http://www.statelibrary.sc.gov) to register. For more info, contact: Elaine Sandberg, Information Services Librarian, 803-734-8625 or [esandberg@statelibrary.sc.gov](mailto:esandberg@statelibrary.sc.gov) [Note: This e-mail address is protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.]

### Learn More League!

**National:** [www.lwv.org/](http://www.lwv.org/)  
**State:** <http://lwvsc.org/>  
**Columbia:** [www.lwvcolumbiasc.org](http://www.lwvcolumbiasc.org)

### MARGINALIZED VOICES:

SC Applesseed Legal Justice Center is working with the Nickelodeon Theater to organize a film series on issues of poverty in South Carolina. Allen and *Gladys Coles* are noted sponsors of this event.



For additional info about the series, the filmmaker, etc., please visit:

<http://voicesfromthemargins.eventbrite.com/>

**Monday, September 23: *The House I Live In:*** <http://www.thehouseilivein.org/>

Major 2012 documentary investigates the war on drugs and impacts on poor communities across the nation.

**Monday, October 7: *Short films from Latino Teen Flash Festival***

Five short films by a group of local Latino teens who partnered with the Nick and SCETV to tell their stories and give their perspective on Comprehensive Immigration Reform; also a related full-length documentary.

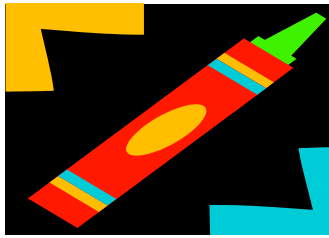
**Monday, November 11: *A Place at the Table:*** <http://www.takepart.com/place-at-the-table>

Brand new documentary starring Jeff Bridges examines the issue of hunger in America through the lens of three people struggling with food insecurity; shows how hunger poses serious economic, social and cultural implications for our nation, and could be solved.

### Opportunity for Service... to Help the Environment!

League member Chester Sansbury is Vice Chair of the **SC Environmental Excellence Program Advisory Committee**. His term ends around January 2014. If any of you are willing or interested in serving on the committee, please let him know. Detailed info about it can be found at <http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/admin/cwm/sceep/>

**Chester - [Csansbury1@sc.rr.com](mailto:Csansbury1@sc.rr.com)**



**GREEN IS GOOD  
FOR BUSINESS  
CONFERENCE**

The City of Columbia will be hosting a “**Green is Good for Business Conference**” at which League member *Chester Sansbury* will have a *SC Environmental Excellence Program Exhibit Booth*.

If you would like to attend and have not registered, you may do so by visiting <http://greenbiz13.eventbrite.com/> and you can use the Promotional Code **SmartBiz** for \$10.00 off the registration fee. Hope to see some of you there!

***The Palmetto State's Premier  
Green Business Event***

**Tuesday, September 10**  
**Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center**  
**8:30 to 9 a.m.: Registration**  
**9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.: Conference**

When it comes to implementing sustainable solutions for the workplace, it can be a jungle out there. It doesn't have to be if you let the 2013 Green is Good for Business Conference be your guide. This year's conference is designed to cut the clutter and get you down to the business of going green.

**KEYNOTE PRESENTERS**

Two Columbia-based speakers with national acclaim will keynote this year's SC Green is Good for Business Conference on September 10 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

**Dr. Andrew Spicer**, associate professor of international business in the Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina, will open the morning with *Sustainability Strategies from Wal-Mart*. In 2005 Wal-Mart made history when then-CEO Lee Scott announced a bold sustainability strategy that would impact every

aspect of its business. Along the way business researchers from the University of South Carolina and the University of Arkansas were given unprecedented access to study the process. Spicer will share his case study of the retailer and offer insights on going green in business.

**WLTX-TV Chief Meteorologist Jim Gandy** will conclude the morning's keynote with *The Business of Climate Change*. Gandy, a professional meteorologist with 37 years of experience, continues to study weather and is interested in climate change which he has studied since 2005. Looking for better ways to communicate climate change, he is working with the Center for Climate Change Communication at George Mason University and with Climate Central.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS INCLUDE**

- **Eco-preneurship: Making Money and Making a Difference**
- **Recycling: Good for the Environment, Great for the Economy**
- **How Ozone Could Choke Business Growth**
- **Updates from SC Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Environmental Protection Agency**
- **Thinking Outside of the Bin: Recycling Non-Traditional Materials**

**DON'T MISS THE POPULAR *Green Business Expo***: *Featuring more than 50 fifty vendors with sustainable products, services and organizations + a chance to win great prizes!*

**NEW THIS YEAR**

**Propane Road Show**: *brought to you by Palmetto State Clean Fuels Coalition.*



One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.

*Plato*

## Seagrove: Traditions in Clay

August 22 – October 4, 2013

Show closing reception and departmental open house **Friday, October 4.**

USC McMaster Gallery in the USC Art Department  
(1615 Senate Street)

**GALLERY HOURS:** M-F 9 am - 4:30 pm (closed weekends and school holidays)

The Seagrove area of North Carolina has been home to numerous potters since the late 1700s. Some of the inhabitants grew up in pottery families; others were inspired by NC pottery traditions and were attracted by the Seagrove pottery community. This is an invitational exhibition of ceramics that brings together 11 potters from the region that has over 100 potteries. Artists included are: Blaine Avery, Jeff Dean, Carol Gentithes, Bruce Gholson, Samantha Henneke, Fred Johnston, Chris Luther, Stephanie Martin, Frank Neff, Ben Owen and David Stuempfle

For more information, contact:

Mana Hewitt, Gallery Director  
Director of Undergraduate Studies  
McMaster Gallery – USC Art Department  
<http://manahewitt.com> [hewittm@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:hewittm@mailbox.sc.edu)

### Lexington County Council

2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 4:30 PM  
2nd Floor County Administration Building  
212 South Lake Drive Lexington, SC 29072

For confirmation of meeting dates, please call 785-8103 or check website [www.lex-co.com](http://www.lex-co.com)

### Richland County Council

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 PM  
2nd Floor County Administration Building  
2020 Hampton Street Columbia, SC 29202

For more information, please contact the Clerk of Council Office @ (803) 576-2061 or check: [www.richlandonline.com/departments/countycouncil/index.asp](http://www.richlandonline.com/departments/countycouncil/index.asp) or [www.rcgov.us](http://www.rcgov.us)

### Columbia City Council

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 PM  
City Hall – 1737 Main Street Columbia, SC 29201

Check website at [www.columbiasc.net](http://www.columbiasc.net) for more information.



Join us for a Screening of the Official Selection of the 2012 Sundance Film Festival

### *Escape Fire: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare*

**Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 p.m.**  
USC College of Nursing Auditorium 231

Light Refreshments  
Followed by a Panel Discussion

Sponsored by:  
College of Nursing  
SC College of Pharmacy  
College of Social Work  
Arnold School of Public Health  
School of Medicine

**2013-2014 Board:** President – Martha Roblee; 1st VP – Julie Sellers; 2nd VP – Sally Huguley; Secretary – Al Roblee; Treasurer – Marianne McGrath. Directors: Pat Forbis (Women’s Health), Sej Harman (Communications/Membership), Sarah Leverette (State Liaison), Pat Mohr, Lynn Teague (Advocacy). Nominating Committee (2013-2014): Rita Paul, Susan James. Off-Board: Voter Services – Shirley Geiger; Website – Suzanne Rhodes; Environmental Affairs – Chester Sansbury; Membership – Pam Craig/ Marzi Knight (Co-chairs); *League Lines* – Suzanne Rhodes/Sej Harman (Co-Editors).