



VOTER

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County, Delaware

Summer 2014

www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org

Vol. 21, No. 1

The Mission of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities.

**Join the LWV of New Castle County for a tour of the Coastal Zone
in New Castle County,
Co-Sponsored by Delaware Wild Lands**

We'll travel by air-conditioned bus (with lavatory) from the Christiana Mall parking lot to points of interest in the New Castle County section of the Coastal Zone. Phil Cherry, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, will talk to us about the Coastal Zone Act, and will discuss sites on the tour in the context of that groundbreaking legislation. League member and former staff member of the Delaware Nature Society Lorraine Fleming will be on hand to add environmental comments.



We'll see some grandfathered sites, we'll stop at the Taylor's Bridge site (pictured at right, courtesy Delaware Wild Lands) where Shell Oil wanted to build a refinery over 40 years ago. We'll also see sites threatened by sea level rise, we'll look at the site proposed for a new port, and other sites significant as exemplars of the recreational and environmental values we treasure.

- ✓ **Saturday, September 13th, 9 am - 4 pm**
 - ✓ **Meet at Christiana Mall parking lot,**
 - ✓ **Near Cabela's** (north end of mall parking lot) http://www.cabelas.com/stores/store_directions_popup.jsp?pageName=053
 - ✓ **Check in no later than 8:45 am.**
-
- Reserved seats are \$15 each.
 - Only 47 spaces..... first come, first served
 - Please reserve your place no later than Mon., Sept.8, 10 am.
 - Box lunches from Panera may be ordered at the time you reserve your seat for \$10 or \$11 each; sandwiches: smoked turkey (\$10) or Mediterranean veggie (\$10); salads:
 - Asian sesame chicken (\$11), strawberry poppy seed (\$11). Lunches include chips, cookie, and drink.
 - Call the League of Women Voters of New Castle County to make your reservation: 302-571-8948, Reservation secured upon payment by credit card or check.

Everyone welcome - Open to public



RESERVATION FORM ON NEXT PAGE

RESERVATION FORM FOR COASTAL ZONE BUS TRIP

NAME(S) _____ BUS TICKET(S) _____ \$15.00

NAME(S) _____ BUS TICKET(S) _____ \$15.00

CIRCLE CHOICES: sandwiches: smoked turkey (\$10) or Mediterranean veggie (\$10)

OR salads: Asian sesame chicken (\$11), strawberry poppy seed (\$11).

Lunches include chips, cookie, and drink.

TOTAL \$ _____

CHECK ENCLOSED: _____ OR (NAME ON CREDIT CARD) _____

(please print clearly)

(CIRCLE ONE) Visa, Master Card, Discover # _____

EXPIRATION DATE: Month _____ Year _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ADDRESS FOR CREDIT CARD: _____

Street or PO Box

City/Town

zip

Telephone

Email

Mail check or credit card information to: League of Women Voters of NCC

2400 W 17th Street, Clash Wing, Room 1, Lower Level, Wilmington, DE 19801, 302-571-8948

JOIN THE PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH SEPTEMBER 21.

It is sponsored by many organizations throughout the USA including the LWV of the United States.

To Change Everything, We Need Everyone On Board



With our future on the line and the whole world watching, we're taking a stand to bend the course of history.

On Sunday, September 21st we'll take to the streets of New York to demand a world that we know is within our reach: a world with an economy that works for people and the planet; a world safe from the ravages of climate change; a world with good jobs, clean air and water, and healthy communities.

Sunday, September 21 in New York City.

Board one of the Delaware buses in Newark or Wilmington, as we march for our future. Depending on sign-up numbers, those coming from Kent and Sussex Counties will most likely want to carpool to the bus stop in Newark. Departure times and locations are TBA as soon as we get word from the NYC organizers.

Buy round trip tickets to New York online for \$25 (or less for those in financial need), or contribute toward tickets for those in need at: DEpeoplesclimate.eventbrite.com If you have questions or need help arranging carpools, email: Stephanie.Herron@sierraclub.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Supporting Social Justice: Raising Awareness to Racial issues in the 21st century.

Awareness to racial and discriminatory issues may well require having been in the position oneself. I've heard many people blithely comment, "There are no racial problems here in Delaware". The subtle attitudes and language couched in double entendre are very alive and well in our own State.

I was in that place for ten weeks in my life. My story will sound lame in comparison, as African Americans have been in that place for many hundreds of years.

As an educator, I had summers free from my regular job, time that was usually filled with a part-time job. My (then) husband and I took jobs as live-in domestics and moved from Cincinnati, OH to Weekapaug, R.I. The couple who employed us left a full staff in Cincinnati to maintain the McMansion there. I did all the jobs expected of a house maid: cooking, cleaning, shopping, laundry and preparing special hors d'oeuvres for their cocktail parties.

We weren't allowed to mingle with guests, as we were the hired help. At first, it seemed like a sort of game. As the weeks progressed, the condescending, rude attitudes and behaviors became very annoying. We had taken the job, initially to earn money for the down-payment for our 1st house. When we reached the 6-week milestone, I was starting to feel mildly depressed. Never a kind remark about my good cooking, or artful set-up for breakfast-in-bed trays in bed each morning. No 'thank-you' for the fantastic weekly car wash and wax that was done by my (then) husband.

We pretty well held our breath to finish up our last 4 weeks of employment. We were called into the kitchen to receive our one check of the summer. BUT, before we could be paid, the thoughtless, callous and class-driven couple opened all the drawers and cabinets to make sure that we hadn't stolen anything.

I wasn't beaten or molested, subjected to cross burning or hanging. We were, in the end, paid a paltry sum for our summer's work. The actuality of those 10 weeks in my life is a distant memory. Keep your mind alert to subtleties in language, looks and attitudes. They exist.

Emily White, President, LWVNCC

NON-FICTION:

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color-blindness
Michelle Alexander

The Warmth of Other Suns
Isabel Wilkerson

The African Americans Many Rivers to Cross
Henry Louis Gates

Race Matters
Henry Louis Gates

Bitter Canaan: Story of the Negro Republic
Charles Johnson

SUMMER FILM DISCUSSION SERIES "RESTORING DEMOCRACY AND THE COMMON GOOD"

This summer the League of Women Voters of New Castle County partnered with Delaware Pacem in Terris and other non-profit groups to sponsor a summer film and discussion series entitled "**Restoring Democracy and the Common Good.**" This action-oriented series was well attended and lively discussion followed each film showing. The series was held every Tuesday evening at 7:00, July 8 through August 12, at Westminster Presbyterian Church (1502 West 13th Street). Topics & films focused on these topics:

- o State of Conflict—North Carolina (2014)
- o Campaign finance reform post Citizens United and McCutcheon),
- o Lobbyist influence and the revolving door .
- o Take Action against money corruption of elections.
- o (you tube video from WolfPAC) This documentary reveals the extraordinary truth behind the news media: censorship, cover-ups and corporate control.
- o Gerrymandering and voter suppression
- o Corporate ownership of media -part 1
- o Corporate ownership of media - Part 2
- o Speaker: Allan Loudell, News Anchor and Interviewer, 1150 AM WDEL
- o "Conundrum of U.S. Media: A Review of the Contradictory Forces in the American Media"

Thank you to: Judith Butler, Pacem In Terris who coordinated the series and led and spoke at the events; Charles Brittingham, NAACP; Letty Diswood, LWVNCC; Dee Durham, Common Cause of Delaware; Apryl Walker, Delaware Alliance for Community Advancement (DACA, Ezra Temko, Americans for Democratic Action (ADA).

GREAT DECISION DISCUSSION GROUPS

Great Decisions Thursday will meet again on Thursday, September 11 at 10 AM, in the parlor of Immanuel Episcopal Church. Discussion will center on Topic 5 – **Energy independence: Inflated Expectations or New Opportunities?** Author Jonathan Chanis has worked in investment management, emerging markets finance and commodities trading for over 25 years and is currently teaching graduate and undergraduate courses on energy security, international politics and political economy. Join us for a discussion of U.S. foreign policy and worldwide oil production, then have lunch at nearby Kid Shelleens! Visitors are always welcome.

Questions?? Call the LWNCC office at 302.571.8948

Great Decisions Monday will meet on the third Monday (a change in date) September 15, 2014 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at the Newark Free Library. Topic 6: **Food and Climate Change.** Lunch, for those who wish it, at Noon to 1:15 pm at Bamboo House. Vicky requests notice to assure ample seating. Please phone Vicky Kleinman, 731-4950, by Friday. Next dates are 10/20 and 11/17,

VOTER SERVICES

The League is receiving many requests for voter registration services now that the elections in September and November are beginning to be on the public's radar.

We always need volunteers. The Universal registration form and the Delaware form are both used. League arranges training by the Department of Elections. A training session was held August 12 and another one may be scheduled in September.

If you are interested or know someone who is able to volunteer please contact the League at 302-571-8948, lwncc@comcast.net or Patti Christopher, Voter Registration coordinator at email wjcr4@verizon.net.

Below are listed some of the registration activities being planned.

- Tuesday, August 26, VA Hospital -Women's Equality Day, 11:00-12:45; program 1 pm
- Wednesday, September 17, Dawn Training Center - Constitution Day, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Help needed at:

- ✓ **Wednesday, September 17, Delaware Technical Community College at Stanton, 11:00 AM- 1:30 PM**
- ✓ **Sunday, September 21, Newark Community Day, 11 AM-4:00 PM**
- ✓ **Tuesday, September 23, Delaware Technical Community College at Wilmington, 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM (National Voter Registration Day)**

VOTE411.org, our online voters' guide, is being put together by League members. The League plans to go live for the primaries races. Further details are coming soon.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Meta C. Little, 302-368-3472, meta368@comcast.net

Julie Jackson, 281-804-8341, jooli.jaxon@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME IS HERE

Attention! For those League members whose membership is up for renewal for FY 2014-15 you should have received a letter in the mail this week. The Membership Committee encourages everyone to fill out the form and especially note your email address clearly and send that check just as soon as you can. Please don't put it in the pile of mail and allow it to get lost only to be found three months later!!!

*Some of you are 50 year members and do not need to send any renewal check unless you would like to contribute to help our League continue to thrive. There is a place where you can mark that you are a 50 year member. We also need your updated information.

*If you have any questions about your membership status or need further information please call the office at 302-571-8948 or email: lwncc@comcast.net with a detailed message.

*Need a scholarship? Make a note on your membership renewal form or call for details 302-571-8948

*Thank you for all the support given in the past.

Membership Committee: Moonyeen Klopfenstein (Kloppy), Letty Diswood, Bob Hasse and Lois Myoda.

LWVNCC Board and Special Assignments

Emily M. White, President
(302) 264-0768 cell; mcculloughem5@aol.com

Vicky Kleinman, 1st Vice-President
Great Decisions Monday Group Leader, Voter
proofreader, (302) 731-4950; kraver@udel.edu

Moonyeen Klopfenstein, 2nd Vice-President
Membership Co-Chair
(302) 999-9059 H; (302) 494-3687 Cell; (302) 733-4252
Fax; bobklop@aol.com,
mklopfenstein@christianacare.org

Flo Waibel, Secretary
(302) 737-7848; fmwaibel@udel.edu

Liz Fite, Web master
(717) 476-0418; ekfite@gmail.com

Kay Wilde Palmer, Director
302-983-6946; kaypalmer@42llc.com

Joann Hasse, HealthCare Chair, Voter proofreader
(302) 478-4096 H; (302) 438-0729 cell;
JoannHasse@aol.com

Joyce P. Johnson, Finance Committee Chair Great
Decisions Thursday Group Co-Leader
(302) 655-3411; drjohntc@verizon.net

Fay Whittle, Social Justice
(302) 731-1884; prisonministriesde@verizon.net

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS (serving off board)

Patricia (Patti) Christopher, Voter Registration Chair
(302) 764-0309; wjcjr4@verizon.net

Jane Dilley, Land Use/Transportation Co-Chair
610-869-8848; jadilley@udel.edu

Letty Diswood, Office Manager
Membership Co-Chair, Voter Editor
(302) 571-8948 Office; (302) 571-8948 Fax
(302) 478-8224 (H); 302-438-6590 cell;
letty.diswood.verizon.net (H); lwnvcc@comcast.net

Connie Georgov, New Citizen Ceremonies Chair
(302) 834-3026 H; 834-0327 Fax; 302-275-6785 cell;
cbgeorgov@verizon.net

Jackie Harris, Great Decisions Thursday Group Co-
Leader, (302) 239-2564; jacharris@aol.com

Lisa Pertzoff, Natural Resources Co-Chair
(302) 437-4616; cell 239-2289; wolfhill@comcast.net

Coralie Pryde, Natural Resources Co-Chair
(302) 475-2841; prydeca@verizon.net

Peggy Schultz, Land Use/ Transportation Co-Chair
(302) 235-7182; (302) 598-9427 cell;
schultz_peggy@yahoo.com

Pat Todd, Housing Council Elections Chair
(302) 762-5995; (302) 545-5198 cell;
ptoddwilm@aol.com

Chad Tolman, Climate Change Chair
(302) 478-3516, ctolman141@gmail.com

Judy Taggart, Candidate Forum Co-Chair
(302) 738-5969; (302) 690-4541 cell;
judithtaggart1@verizon.net

Carole N. Walsh, Candidate Forums Co-Chair
(302) 731-5487, cnwwhw@verizon.net

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret M. Perkins, age 98, of Newark, DE passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 8, 2014. She had been a League member over 50 years and also very active in the Greater Newark League and the State League.

Margaret was a licensed architect in NJ, raising two children after being widowed at the age of 29. She then founded and managed Newark Housing Authority. In her 50's, she was honored to be voted University of Delaware's Woman of the Year. Margaret was active in many organizations, including serving as president of The League of Women Voters of Greater Newark. At the age of 80, she created and taught a course on Alexander the Great at the University of Delaware Adult Education Program in Wilmington.

Myrtle Kurland, age 102, died on July 30, 1914. She had been a member of the LWVNCC International Committee, that predates the Great Decisions Groups. Myrtle also volunteered as an archivist at the Jewish Historical Society in Wilmington.

Hot Topic Lunch Review July 28, 2014

Innovation-Re-entry: Bringing a cutting edge re-entry program to the State of Delaware



Mr. Moses Saygbe, Jr. spoke about re-entry needs, past results, and the future of re-entry back into society in Delaware.

Mr. Moses Saygbe is a Correctional Counselor with James T. Vaughn Correctional Center. He holds a B.S. In Criminal Justice and Public Administration from Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. Moses brings his experience of 22 years of experience working with the Rhode Island Justice System, including 14 years in Juvenile and Adult Correction and 8 years with the Department of Attorney General. He also has more than 26 years of experience working with the young adult population in the areas of: leadership development, strategic planning, crime prevention (gang violence, underage drinking, substance abuse, teen dating violence etc.), building partnerships as well as , managing, coordinating and implementing youth programs.

He is establishing communication to the communities, regarding support to people leaving prison and returning to society. Re-entry protocol includes help from Community Services and families of the returning felon. Setting up a case Manager is another means of follow-up support is the event a person isn't has no viable support outside of prison. Finding a place to live is paramount, so that numbers aren't added to the homeless population. Business advocates who can offer financial support are greatly needed.

Moses mentioned that Delaware has limited strategies in place for solving drug problems that result in arrest and incarceration. It is not to say the Community Services and Activists are not working diligently to establish a new paradigm. The changes require money for training and salaries for additional personnel. Police and communities need to take a proactive stance, and not respond to emergencies in a reactive manner

Were Delaware to Model "Boston Strong", Drug-related arrests would be referred to a specialized Drug Division. Gang-related arrests would be directed to an experienced Division, officers who work with Communities experiencing gang violence. Arrests involving gun violence would involve yet a different, special law enforcement Division.

Ashley Biden, who attended the Hot Topic Lunch, commented on a program that she supports, "Way Home" Program. She suggested that League members target the U.S. Attorney General's Office and request that Federal Funds be directed to Delaware to support Strategic Planning. Modeling *Boston Strong* requires more sensitivity training, additional officers, social workers and counselors.

According to Moses Saygbe, research shows that age and lack of education are two major causes of recidivism. There are cases where as many as five generations have become convicted felons at or before they reach age eighteen. Being a criminal becomes the family business. A strong support system and re-entry strategy is extremely important in breaking the chain of recidivism. In the near future, Saygbe will offer a Symposium on Violence and Community policing intervention.

School Resource Officers (SRO) must be educated in order to make a positive impact in reaching out to our younger generations. Cultural sensitivity is of the utmost importance. Our younger generations should be thought of as "At Hope", rather than "At Risk".

*By LWVNCC President, Emily White
Social Justice Chairperson, Fay Whittle*

NCC League President Emily White, attended a Lecture featuring the US Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. The Lecture was part of a Series sponsored by Delaware Attorney General, Beau Biden. Pictured below is Emily White with Beau Biden.



Energy/Land Use / Transportation

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS THAT YOU MAY THINK ARE NOT RECYCLABLE? JUST READ ON FOR THE TRULY DEVOTED RECYCLER..A note from League member Dave Nuttall.

Subject:Recycle Services Inc.
<http://www.recyclingservices.org/>

"I was there for the first time last Saturday, and ran out of time sorting our (too often unsorted) stuff. It's private and nonprofit, run by a savvy guy who's really passionate about recycling/reusing as much as possible and avoiding using non-recyclables. One way or another over the last 20-30 years he has managed to find venues for dozens of items the government services won't handle, from motor oil jugs to drinking straws to plastic picnic ware, aluminum foils, dead videotapes, incandescent light bulbs, some flexible plastic foams, Styrofoam peanuts, paper/plastic netting (as in produce bags), blister wrap, cosmetics cases, broken alcohol thermometers, credit cards, pharmaceutical foil strips (for pop-out pills), gift wrap, etc., etc. As the website says, if you don't see it listed as acceptable, ask him.

I took about 40 samples in baggies and he took time to answer all my questions. From about 25 containers I brought home about 1-2 of rejected "trash", and even some of those things I might hold on to (like plastic pens) in case someone finds a market for them. I was glad I hadn't had the heart to send a dozen or so motor oil bottles to the landfill since he takes them."
Cheers –dave nuttall, 302-299-6153,
barbdave1@msn.com

HAVE YOU T-SHIRTED TODAY?

Have you seen our new T-shirt?

You're going to love it! On the front is just a simple "LWV". On the back is that wonderfully encouraging reminder to "Vote! It counts!" The T-shirt is royal blue, with white printing and a touch of red to spark it up. If you plan to register voters or to distribute materials at New Citizens' Ceremonies or to serve at candidates' forums, you'll want one of these shirts to let people know who we are. Shirts are available in both men's and women's styles, at a price of \$20 each, except for 2X and 3X, which cost an extra \$2 each. These shirts are not only a great way to let people



know that the League is here, but they're also a fund-raiser. To buy a shirt is to support the League! To order call 302-571-8948. lwwde@comcast.net.

LWVUS CONVENTION 2014

Check out the LWV of Delaware Summer VOTER for articles and details of happenings at Convention 2014.



Figure 1 I-r: Letty Diswood (LWVDE), Jill Fuchs (LWVKC), Sandy Spence (LWVDE), Jane Lord (LWVSC), Peggy Schultz (LWVNCC), and Chad Tolman, (LWVNCC)

THE LWV OF THE UNITED STATES Adopted PROGRAM FOR 2014-2016

Adopted all current LWVUS Positions in the areas of Representative Government, International Relations, Natural Resources and Social Policy.

Adopted a concurrence with the **Human Trafficking** position of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey as follows:

The League of Women Voters opposes all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking. We consider human trafficking to be a form of modern day slavery and believe that every measure should be taken and every effort should be made through legislation and changes in public policy to prevent human trafficking. Prosecution and penalization of traffickers and abusers should be established, and existing laws should be strictly enforced. Extensive essential services for victims should be applied where needed. Education and awareness programs on human trafficking should be established in our communities and in our schools.

(Continued on page 8 LWVUS Adopted Program)

(Continued from page 7 **LWVUS Adopted Program**)

Adopted a comprehensive three-part program combining study and review of key, **specific structures of American democracy**, consisting of:

- 1.) A study of the process of **amending the U.S. Constitution**, including constitutional conventions;
- 2.) A review and update of the League position on **campaign finance** in light of forty years of change since the Watergate reforms, in order to enhance member understanding of the new schemes and structures used to influence elections and erode protections against corruption in our political process, and to review possible responses to counter them in the current environment of rapid change; and
- 3.) A review of the **redistricting process for the U.S. Congress**, through the existing redistricting task force, for the purpose of developing action steps.

ACTION ALERT!! LWVUS

TAKE ACTION: Urge Your Representative to Protect Voting Rights!



By: Elisabeth MacNamara 08/12/2014

Forty-nine years ago this month, President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act (VRA) into law. The VRA was a cornerstone achievement of the civil rights movement that ensured that every American citizen, regardless of

race or language, had equal access to the right to vote. That is until last June, when the U.S. Supreme Court gutted a key part of the Voting Rights Act, leading to a full frontal attack on the voting rights of all Americans.

With no legislative fix passed in the past year, voting rights remain at risk today.

Access to the vote is not about politics; it's about justice and equality. Urge your Representative to move forward on voting rights!

H.R. 3899, the Voting Rights Amendment Act (VRAA), offers nationwide protections for current threats to voting rights. The legislation provides new tools to stop voting discrimination before it occurs, as well as ensuring that proposed election changes are transparent. *Unfortunately because the U.S. House refuses to move this bipartisan, common sense solution forward, the right to vote for all Americans is in danger.*

Every day that Congress fails to pass this critical legislation, Americans are in danger of increased barriers at the polls. **Raise your voice and tell your Representative the time is now to pass the VRAA.**

The VRAA is an important step forward for our democracy, where the right to vote is not about politics or the outcome of elections. This legislation will modernize the coverage of the Voting Rights Act to ensure it is based on recent acts of discrimination and provide narrow but appropriate mechanisms to prevent discrimination in voting nationwide. The right to vote is one of the most basic rights in our country and it must be protected.

Inaction is not an option. Silence implies consent. **Tell your Representative to move the VRAA forward!**

League Supports S. 2754 the Lobbying and Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2014.

The League joined other reform groups to support S. 2754, the Lobbying and Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2014. The legislation, introduced by Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO), would limit the ability of lobbyists to use bundled contributions to obtain undue influence with members of Congress.

July 31, 2014

Reform Groups Urge Senators to Support New Legislation Introduced Today by Senator Michael Bennet to Curb Bundling by Lobbyists for Members of Congress.

Our organizations support the Lobbying and Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2014, legislation introduced today by Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO) that would limit the ability of lobbyists to use bundled contributions to obtain undue influence with members of Congress.

(Continued on page 9 **Voting Rights**)

(Continued from page 8 Voting Rights)

We strongly urge Senators to co-sponsor the Bennet bill. Our organizations include the Campaign Legal Center, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, Common Cause, Democracy 21, Demos, League of Women Voters, Public Citizen and Sunlight Foundation.

Unlike most citizens, registered lobbyists are in the business of influencing members of Congress. They are paid to influence government decisions and the contributions they give and raise for members of Congress play a key role in pursuing their lobbying interests.

One of the principal ways in which Washington lobbyists gain improper influence is by soliciting and providing, or bundling, large amounts of campaign funds for members of Congress.

A lobbyist who bundles \$50,000 or \$100,000 for a member is in the same position as an individual who contributes \$50,000 or \$100,000 to the member – in terms of the potential opportunity to exercise corrupting influence with the member at the expense of the American people. Such large contributions are illegal if made directly, but lobbyists bypass the contribution limit by bundling contributions.

The Bennet bill would curb the ability of lobbyists to obtain influence by bundling contributions for members of Congress and federal candidates. Bundling is defined in the bill as raising contributions for a member or candidate and providing these contributions in a manner in which the bundler gets credit from the member or candidate for providing the contributions.

Under the legislation, the total combined amount that a registered lobbyist would be allowed to directly contribute and bundle is \$2,600 per election, the current individual contribution limit for federal candidates. Thus, under this reform, a lobbyist could not bundle a total amount of contributions greater than the individual contribution limit.

The Bennet bill also closes loopholes in the lobbying laws to ensure that all individuals who are paid to lobby Congress register as lobbyists. The Bennet bill also prohibits members and candidates from soliciting contributions from registered lobbyists while Congress is in session.

Fourteen states currently have session prohibitions on contributions by lobbyists. In the McConnell case, the

Supreme Court upheld a ban on solicitation by members of potentially corrupting contributions.

The solicitation restriction in the Bennet bill complements and strengthens the bill's curb on bundling by lobbyists. By prohibiting members from soliciting lobbyists while Congress is in session, the bill further limits the ability of lobbyists to use political money to obtain corrupting influence over government decisions.

Defending the Environment

The League of Women Voters has been at the [forefront of the environmental protection movement for decades](#), consistently supporting legislation to preserve our nation's natural resources and protect our public health. We support legislation that seeks to protect our country from the physical, economic and public health effects of climate change while also providing pathways to economic prosperity.

The League believes that averting the damaging effects of climate change requires action from both individuals and governments at the local, state, national and international levels. By raising public awareness of the causes and likely impacts of climate change, helping citizens learn what they can do to protect the environment and building broad support for effective climate solutions, we can help put our country -- and our planet -- on the path to a sustainable future.

We believe that a path toward a clean energy future will strengthen our economy by opening up millions of jobs to Americans while also rescuing America from its dependence on fossil fuels, reducing threats to our health, protecting the natural resources that we depend upon for survival and creating millions of domestic jobs. The League's environmental work falls into the three categories below:

Global Climate Change

Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge of our generation. The League supports legislative solutions, including setting caps on greenhouse gas and carbon pollution, encouraging conservation and renewable energy and investing in a new clean energy economy. We also support strong executive branch action under the Clean Air Act to cut industrial carbon pollution from new and existing power plants, which are the largest source of industrial carbon pollution in the US. The League works to [build grassroots support for action on climate change nationally](#) and at the state and local levels in order to avoid irrevocable damage to our planet.

(Continued on page 10 Global Climate)

(Continued from page 9 *Global Climate*)

Clean Air Defense

We work to protect our air quality by advocating for [federal air pollution controls](#) on industrial processes, government installations, fuels and motor vehicles. League members across the country actively campaign to urge the President and Congress to lead the world in the fight against climate change by controlling carbon pollution from new and existing power plants. The League presses for full implementation of the Clean Air Act of 1970 and for strengthening amendments, while fighting against attempts to weaken it.

Clean Energy

The League advocates for legislation to [improve energy efficiency](#) throughout the economy and improve pollution control, including shifting to renewable energy, establishing federal fuel-efficiency standards and opposing oil drilling in environmentally sensitive areas. The League opposes the construction of the [Keystone XL Pipeline](#), which threatens to pollute huge drinking water reserves, increase the world's dependence on dirty oil and increase the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Preservation of a healthy environment is a top priority, and state Leagues have taken the lead in working to block fracking and dangerous mining processes that threaten to pollute natural resources in their communities.

Join our Dialogue to Action Study Group!

The New Jim Crow Dialogue to Action Study Group

Fridays, August 15th - September 26th
12:00 - 2:00 PM

Home-Life Management Center
709 N. Madison Street
Wilmington, DE

To register, contact Faye Bonneau at fbonneau@ywcade.org.

Is Jim Crow alive in the USA and, in particular, Delaware? In this era of the Civil Rights Act, affirmative action and Obama in the White House, do we still live under a system of laws designed to keep the black man down? That is what Michelle Alexander charges in her explosive book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. Piecemeal reforms and timid civil rights activism, she argues, must give way to a sweeping transformation based on a recognition of the massive injustice against black America and on compassion for the stigmatized young African Americans.



CALENDAR

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Fridays, August 15th - September 26th 12:00 - 2:00 PM</p> | <p>Home-Life Management Center, 709 N. Madison Street, Wilmington, DE</p> | <p>The New Jim Crow Dialogue to Action Study Group To register, contact Faye Bonneau at fbonneau@ywcade.org</p> |
| <p>Monday, September 8, 2014 6:30 - 8:30 P.M</p> | <p>Kirkwood Library Conference Room, 6000 Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington</p> | <p>LWV of NCC Board Meeting. Monthly meeting of the NCC board of directors.</p> |
| <p>Tuesday, September 9, 2014, 7 AM - 8 PM</p> | | <p>PRIMARY ELECTION. Only registered voters from participating parties may vote.</p> |
| <p>Thursday, September 11, 2014 10 AM-12 PM</p> | <p>Immanuel Episcopal Church, Parlor, 2400 W. 17th St. Wilmington, DE 19806</p> | <p>GREAT DECISIONS Thursday Group, Wilmington. The group will discuss "Energy Independence: Inflated Expectations or New Opportunities?" at Immanuel Church (the same building which houses the League office). Lunch will follow for those interested. For questions, please phone the League office 571-8948</p> |
| <p>Saturday, September 13, 2014 8:45 AM - 4 PM</p> | <p>Tour departs from Christiana Mall parking lot, north end, near Cabella's.</p> | <p>Coastal Zone Tour, New Castle County's CZ. Details and registration form at What's New on the LWVNCC website and this newsletter. Everyone welcome - Open to the public.</p> |
| <p>Monday, September 15, 2014 1:30-3:30 PM</p> | <p>Newark Free Library 750 Library Ave. Newark, DE 19711</p> | <p>GREAT DECISIONS Monday group, Newark. Study topic this month will be Topic 6 "Food and Climate." Lunch for the hungry at noon at Bamboo House. Please phone Vicky Kleinman, 731-495, if you'd like to join the group for lunch. Next dates are 10/20 and 11/17. Note change to third Monday of the month.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday, September 17, 2014 11 AM - 1:30 PM</p> | <p>Delaware Tech Community College, Wilmington Campus</p> | <p>Voter Registration Drive, Constitution Day. Patti Christopher coordinator Voter Registration Chair, (302) 764-0309, wjcr4@verizon.net</p> |
| <p>Thursday, September 18, 2014, 6-8:30 PM</p> | <p>Roma Restaurant 3 President Drive Dover, DE 19901</p> | <p>State Board Meeting. Monthly meeting of the state board of directors.</p> |
| <p>Sunday, September 21, 2014, 11 AM - 4 PM</p> | <p>University of Delaware On the Green</p> | <p>Newark Community Day League will have information table, and voter registration</p> |
| <p>Sunday, September 21, 2014, all day</p> | <p>New York City Reserve set on Delaware buses in Newark or Wilmington</p> | <p>Peoples' Climate March, If you have questions or need help arranging carpools, email: Stephanie.Herron@sierraclub.org DEpeoplesclimate.eventbrite.com</p> |
| <p>Tuesday, September 23, 2014, 11:00 - 1:30 PM</p> | <p>Del Tech Community College at Stanton Campus</p> | <p>Voter Registration Drive, National Voter Registration Day, Patti Christopher, Voter Registration Chair, (302) 764-0309, wjcr4@verizon.net</p> |

League of Women Voters of New Castle County
2400 W 17th Street, Clash Wing, Room 1, Lower Level
Wilmington, DE 19806
 302-571-8948; lwwncc@comcast.net
www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org



VOTER

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County, Delaware

Sept. -October 2014

www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org

Vol. 21, No. 2

The Mission of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities.

The League of Women Voters of NCC invites all to **October Hot Topic Lunch**
(formerly called FUN LUNCH)

"Latest & Greatest in Delaware's Elections"

Speakers: Anthony J. Albence, Director and Howard Sholl, Deputy Director,
State of Delaware, Department of Elections for New Castle County

Monday, October 27, 2014, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Michael's Restaurant 1000 Churchman's Rd, Newark, DE 19713 (302) 368-4230

Come and learn about the improvements and changes that have taken place recently in the administration of elections, website improvements, and training that the New Castle County Department of Elections and the Elections Commissioner have been implementing. What still needs to be addressed in the near future? The antiquated voting machines!

It is a timely topic with the elections just around the corner.

All welcome.

The purpose of HOT TOPIC LUNCHESES is to become informed on a wide variety of topics, check in with current and longtime friends, make new friends, and invite others (your friends, neighbors, colleagues) to experience the League in an informal setting.

Buffet lunch is \$14.00 paid at time of the luncheon and please pay in cash if at all possible.

RSVP at lwvde@comcast.net or 302-571-8948 by Saturday, October 24, so the restaurant knows how many to expect. **Please feel free to come even if you did not call in.** If you need a ride, leave a message on the League Office phone or e-mail when you RSVP. FOR CAR POOLING- CALL 302-571-8948 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.

Directions: Michael's is located at 1000 Churchman's Road, Newark. See <http://michaelsde.com/directions/>

League sponsors CANDIDATE FORUMS

Senate District 4---Candidates: Gregory Lavelle (R) and Sarah Buttner (D)

Date: Tuesday, October 28, 7:00 p.m. First Unitarian Church, Halstead Road and Concord Pike; Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred will co-sponsor and assist in promoting the night.

Representative District 4—Candidates: Gerald L. Brady (D) and Robert Kessler(R)

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m. Highlands Elementary School, Bancroft Parkway and Delaware Avenue; Highlands Civic Association will promote.



LOVE OUR INLAND BAYS

GUEST SPEAKER

GOVERNOR JACK MARKELL

Dinner honoring Governor Markell for his "Clean Water for Delaware's Future" initiative.

Reservation Form: **Dinner with Governor Markell**

When: **Thursday, Oct 16, 2014; 5:30 pm cocktails, 6:30 pm Dinner**

Where: **Irish Eyes Restaurant, 2nd floor, at 213 Angler's Rd, Lewes**

Cost: **\$40 per person; Cash bar, prepaid reservation by Oct 13th**

Hosted by: **Inland Bays Foundation
League of Women Voters of Sussex County**

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Guest's Name(s) _____

Email Address _____

Number of tickets _____ Phone _____

Pay on-line by Credit Card or PayPal™ at: **inlandbaysfoundation.org**

Or by Check: *print this reservation form*, make check payable to:

INLAND BAYS FOUNDATION
PO BOX 521
BETHANY BEACH, DE. 19930

Delaware Center for Justice, Delaware Division of Family Services, Read Aloud Delaware, and One Village Alliance Present:

Visions of Justice

Visions of Justice XIII

Incarceration's Impact on Children and Families

When

Monday October 20, 2014 from 8:45 AM to 3:00 PM EDT

Where

818 The Westin Wilmington
Shipyards Drive
Wilmington, DE 19801



Dear Friend,

Join the Delaware Center for Justice, DE Division of Family Services, Read Aloud Delaware, and One Village Alliance on Monday, October 20th from 8:45am-3pm at Westin Wilmington for a day devoted to learning about the impact incarceration has on children and families in Delaware and nationwide. When we talk about mass incarceration in the United States, we often focus on the negative effect it has on those who are directly involved with the system. But the consequences of mass incarceration reach far beyond the 2.3 million Americans who are currently behind bars. When one person is sent to prison, those closest to them also feel the impact. There are currently 10 million children in the United States with a parent who has been in jail or prison or on probation or parole. Absent positive intervention, children of incarcerated parents are at a higher risk of experiencing child homelessness, failure in school, delinquency, and intergenerational incarceration.

***Cost of attendance is \$15 and includes coffee, pastries, and a boxed lunch**

Schedule of Events:

8:45am-9:00am Registration and breakfast

9:00am-12:00pm Morning Session

Keynote Address: Chris Wildeman, "Children of the Prison Boom"

Tanya Krupat, Osbourne Association

12:00pm-1:00pm Boxed lunch and Local Vendor Fair

1:00pm- 3:00pm Afternoon Session

Delaware Department of Correction Presentation

Local panel of nonprofit service providers working with incarcerated parents and/or their children

We hope you can join us! Click below for more information and to register.

Get more information

Register Now!

I can't make it

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is our United States of America



In the Federal Building, the Court Room was filled with a high level of energy and anxiety. Sixty-eight people waited anxiously for their turn to be certified as American Citizens. After living five years with a green card, learning the answers to 100 civics, geography and legal questions regarding the U.S.A., the moment of truth had finally arrived. American Citizenship status was at hand. 100 additional people, friends and family of the candidates, waited anxiously in support. A young woman began the ceremony by singing The Star Spangled Banner.



U.S. Senator Chris Coons was present, shaking hands and presenting Certificates to the now, American Citizens. Family and friends took photos as Senator Coons waited patiently. All of those present had smiles from ear to ear! Near the end of the Ceremony, a young man stepped up to his turn.



With his certificate in hand, he paused, put his head next to the Senator's and quickly snapped a "Selfie". Laughter and clapping erupted, breaking the tension. After the last Certificate was presented, the newly-certified American Citizens filed from the Court Room to an adjacent room where they registered, as a citizen of the U.S.A., to vote in the November election. Joy unbound! Faces will hurt for days, after so many hours of smiles.

Constitution Day was one appointed for Voter Registration in several venues in New Castle County.

Marjorie Johnson and I manned the tables at Dawn Career Institute, Wilmington, DE. We had a diverse group of students who came to meet us. These young people had been working hard and saving money so that they could follow their American Dream. Several students commented that they were 1st Generation born in this country; the 1st in their family who had begun an education beyond high school. Registering to vote was a big event in their lives.



The Speaker for the event was Delaware State Senator, Karen Peterson. She spoke about the Constitution and mentioned several of the ten Amendments of the Bill Of Rights.

Senator Peterson spoke of the right to assemble as a group, the freedom of speech and the right to bear arms. She shared a personal story of having been harassed by people assembled at her wedding to her partner, in a same-sex marriage. The students spontaneously clapped in support for her strength in experiencing such an indignity. Her remarks regarding having the rights under our Constitution were to be cherished and protected. How fortunate we are to live in the United States of America.



Emily White

✓ **Check out the website VOTE411.org, our online voters' guide**

The League of Women Voters at the local, state and national levels have worked to create this nationwide online votes' guide. Please check it out and if you notice that your candidates have not answered any questions posed on this guide send him/her an email or call him/her and encourage them to do so.

VOTER SERVICES

VOTER SERVICES CANDIDATE FORUM COMMITTEE

A subcommittee of the Voter Services Committee has been planning candidates' forums for New Castle County. AAUW Wilmington is partnering with the League in this endeavor. To date there are two forums scheduled.

Senate District 4---Candidates: Gregory Lavelle (R) and Sarah Buttner (D)

Date: Tuesday, October 28, 7:00 p.m. First Unitarian Church, Halstead Road and Concord Pike; Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred will co-sponsor and assist in promoting the night.

Representative District 4—Candidates: Gerald L. Brady (D) and Robert Kessler(R)

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m. Highlands Elementary School, Bancroft Parkway and Delaware Avenue; Highlands Civic Association will promote

A great many details enter into planning these forums and I wish to thank our dedicated committee: Linda Barnett, AAUW, Wilmington, Letty Diswood, Joyce Johnson, and Carole Walsh. Carole, Co Chair, will serve as moderator for each forum. Thank you to John Flaherty for providing input on which forums to schedule and thank you to our role model and former chair Helen Hoffman.

Judy Taggart, Co Chair

- ✓ Check out the website VOTE411.org, our online voters' guide
- ✓ **Holiday Luncheon for all three Leagues** in Kent County. Watch for details. Scheduled for early December
- ✓ **Reception for Elected Officials**, Monday, December 1, 5:30 - 8:30 PM, Ed Oliver Golf Course, 800 N. Dupont Road, Wilmington,
- ✓ **Save the date: League Day in Dover: Legislative Day**, Wednesday, March 25, 2015!

GETTING OUT THE VOTE - VOTER OUTREACH



Voter Registration Drives were held:

- ✓ Wednesday, September 17, Delaware Technical Community College at Stanton, 11:00 AM- 1:30 PM
- ✓ Sunday, September 21, Newark Community Day, 11 AM-4:00 PM
- ✓ Tuesday, September 23, Delaware Technical Community College at Wilmington, 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM
- ✓ (National Voter Registration Day)
- ✓ VA Hospital in Elsmere
- ✓ Dawn Career institute

Thank you to all who participated: Alice Davis, Letty Diswood, Jeanne Dunn, Joann Hasse, Marjorie Johnson, Roberta Ray, Peggy Schultz, Judy Taggart, Bill and Carole Walsh, Emily White.

Patti Christopher, coordinator



Left: Inter-Cultural trip sponsored by YWCA L-R pictures: Flo Waibel, Faye Bonneau, YWCA Director of Social Justice, and Vicky Kleinman, LWNCC Board 1st Vice-president



Left: Voter Registration at Dawn Career Institute; LWNCC President, Emily White; Dawn Representative Keisha, and Marjorie Johnson

Highlights of the Coastal Zone Bus Tour in New Castle County,

The very informative tour of the New Castle County portion of Delaware's Coastal Zone (Sept 13) was a rare opportunity to experience the rewards of the Coastal Zone Act of 1971. Twenty six participants heard from Phil Cherry, DNREC Administrator, who was present in the writing of the Act's regulations in 1996, and from Lorraine Fleming, who was on the Advisory Committee helping generate the implementing regulations.



In Mr. Cherry's opinion the CZA has been very successful in protecting the Zone from a build-up of heavy industry. The CZA does not, however, prohibit residential development with its significant infrastructure and space demands. Local land use plans and policies could direct new housing development away from the Coastal Zone but would need unusually strong public support for doing so.



Seeing "grandfathered" examples of refining and heavy industry operations up close was eye opening as to how the Zone could look had it not been for the CZA. At the time there was enormous pressure (even from the

Federal Government) to make this convenient and accessible coastline home to energy operations and other important industries to serve the needs of the nation. We viewed the site of Metachem, now abandoned, and learned about the remediation process keeping the leftover contaminants contained.



Lorraine Fleming, with her extensive experience in environmental issues, pointed out examples of preserved valuable wetlands and unspoiled natural habitats. Wetlands along the coast have high value as nurseries to sea life. With sea level rise encroachment, existing wetlands now have room to begin to move inland. Unchecked industrial development, had it not been stopped by the CZA, would have already destroyed these important habitats.



Participants had an opportunity to enjoy another benefit: access to the Bay (a long walk) through the Blackbird Creek Preserve with access to a tidal marsh delta formed by the Appoquinnimink River and Blackbird Creek. While consuming Panera's box lunches on the bus as we moved from south to north we watched the video on the development and

(Continued on page 7 Coastal Zone Tour)

(Continued from page 6 **Coastal Zone Tour**)

eventual passage of the Coastal Zone Act, a special piece of Delaware's history and legacy, thanks to then Governor Russell Peterson and the supporters of this vision for Delaware's coast. We hope to be able to complete the view of the Coastal Zone with a similar tour of Kent and Sussex coasts.



An old government Light House that used to direct ships along the Delaware River. Tour guide Phil Cherry talking to some of the tour members.



Ms. Lenni Markell enjoys a quiet moment in a freshly mowed field in front of the abandoned Light house.



GREAT DECISION DISCUSSION GROUPS

Great Decisions Thursday Great Decisions North – 10/9/2014

The next meeting of Great Decisions, North, will be held October 9, 10:00 a.m., in the parlor of Immanuel Episcopal Church (where the LWV office is located). Discussed will be **Topic 6 – Food and Climate** by William Sweet, author of *Kicking the Carbon Habit*. For those interested, following the discussion we will have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

For your consideration, the topics for Great Decisions 2015 are as follows:

- Russia and the Near Abroad,
- Privacy in the Digital Age
- Sectarianism in the Middle East
- India Changes Course
- U.S. Policy Toward Africa
- Syria's Refugee Crisis
- Human Trafficking in the 21st Century
- Brazil's Metamorphosis

New members are always welcome!

Questions?? Call the LWVNCC office at 302.571.8948

Great Decisions Monday It is no coincidence that the third Monday Great Decisions Group will discuss China's Foreign Policy on the third Monday in October, the 20th. As usual, the discussion will be from 1:30-3:30 at the Newark Free Library; lunch before-hand at noon at Bamboo House in the College Square Shopping Center, across the street from the library. If among the hungry, please call Vicky Kleinman at 302-731-4950 so that appropriate seating arrangements can be reserved.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME IS HERE

Attention! For those League members whose membership is up for renewal for FY 2014-15 you should have received a letter in the mail recently. The Membership Committee encourages everyone to fill out the form and especially note your email address clearly and send that check just as soon as you can. Please don't put it in the pile of mail and allow it to get lost only to be found three months later!!!

*Some of you are 50 year members and do not need to send any renewal check unless you would like to

(Continued on page 8 **Membership**)

(Continued from page 7 Membership)

contribute to help our League continue to thrive. There is a place where you can mark that you are a 50 year member. We also need your updated information.

*If you have any questions about your membership status or need further information please call the office at 302-571-8948 or email: lwncc@comcast.net with a detailed message.

*Need a scholarship? Make a note on your membership renewal form or call for details 302-571-8948

*Thank you for all the support given in the past.

Membership Committee: Moonyeen Klopfenstein (Kloppy), Letty Diswood, Bob Hasse and Lois Myoda.

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORY OF **ELIZABETH H. RYAN**

Obituary for Elizabeth Ryan



Elizabeth (Liz) Holmquist Ryan passed away on the morning of September 13, 2014 at Cove's Edge Nursing Facility in Damariscotta, ME. Born on September 25, 1919 in Forest Lake Minnesota, she was the first child of Olive Seager and Frederick Holmquist. She grew up on a small dairy farm without electricity or indoor plumbing. After graduating from the University of Minnesota with a degree in social work, she married John R. Ryan in Minneapolis, MN on December 27, 1941. Most of her adult life was lived in Wilmington, DE. She moved to Damariscotta, ME in 2009 to be near daughter Kathleen.

While in high school, Mrs. Ryan was editor of the school newspaper and also successfully petitioned the school board to allow girls to use the gym, precursors of her adult life as a tireless volunteer, political activist, and passionate advocate for social justice. Mrs. Ryan was a Girl Scout Leader, a substitute teacher/librarian in the Wilmington schools (AAUW training under Muriel Crosby), a library volunteer at River Road School, and a tutor at West Presbyterian Church.

In 1972, Mrs. Ryan became president of the Delaware League of Women Voters (LWV) during the uproar over school desegregation and was an effective force in ensuring a peaceful transition. She edited the LWV book *Delaware Government*, published in 1976 and revised in 1981, 1985, and 1999. This was the first low-cost, widely circulated book on Delaware government available to schools. She remained active in the LWV for more than 30 years, conducting lobbying workshops and speaking to school and community groups about the importance of voting and the political process. As a strong supporter of women's participation in government, she lobbied for the Equal Rights Amendment, gun control and Delaware's bottle bill. She was a poll watcher and registered voters. In 1980, she was the state manager of John Anderson's campaign for the Presidency.

Mrs. Ryan was responsible for promoting criminal justice as a concern within the LWV, influenced their efforts to bring about greater control over handguns, and developed the League's "court-watching program". From 1981 to 1983, she was president of the Delaware Council on Crime and Justice, which assisted the Bureau of Juvenile Corrections in developing a treatment and classification system, training staff, and implementing the new system. She also served on the Delaware Sentencing Reform Commission, and the Governor's Advisory Board on Corrections. In addition, Mrs. Ryan worked directly with prisoners at the Women's Correctional Institution in Claymont, DE, and with boys at Ferris School.

Mrs. Ryan was a strong proponent for women's right to choose and served in leadership positions with the Delaware Pro-

(Continued on page 9, Liz Ryan)

(Continued from page 8, Liz Ryan)

Choice Medical Fund and Planned Parenthood. She also held leadership positions in many other community organizations, including the American Association of University Women, Head Start, the Delaware Energy Conservation Committee, Common Cause, Delaware Friends of Bikeology, and the League of American Wheelmen. She volunteered with Clothes Closet and Adopt-a-family, the Rockwood Ice Cream Social and Wilmington Flower Market. She and her husband hosted a number of foreign visitors for the Delaware Council on International Visitors.

In 1981, Mrs. Ryan was honored as a Community Builder by the Delaware Region National Conference of Christians and Jews; entered the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women in 1987; received an Honorary Award in 1998 “for her work in keeping choice accessible to all Delaware women” at the Delaware Coalition for Choice “A Choice Evening” marking the 25th anniversary of Roe v. Wade; and received the First Carrie Chapman Catt Award for Outstanding Community Service from the LWV of New Castle County in 2003.

Mrs. Ryan’s Swedish heritage was meaningful to her and she was a member of the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society. She participated in the Lucia Festival at Old Swedes Church in Wilmington, lent family items to the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, attended a dinner for the King and Queen of Sweden in 1988 during their visit to commemorate the 350th anniversary of “New Sweden”, was on hand for the launch of the Kalmar Nyckel in 1997, visited Sweden with her sister Eve, and made countless Swedish pancakes for her grandchildren.

Mrs. Ryan was a voracious reader (mostly current events, but Mark Twain was a favorite author), a life-long gardener, held season tickets to the Wilmington Symphony, and went to the ballet in Philadelphia and the opera in New York. She traveled widely in the US and Europe (especially by train), enjoyed swimming, was an active cyclist (completed the Delaware double cross six times) and was an avid skier (joined a Wilmington area ski bus group). Her recycling efforts were legendary. She was a member of the Hercules Country Club, the Wilmington Country Club and the University and Whist Club.

Mrs. Ryan was a mother who could do everything from baking memorable apple pies, to playing the piano, building a sandbox and hauling in sand, sewing Halloween costumes (as well as drapes and slipcovers), building snowmen, and navigating the streets of New York City. She learned to play golf and then taught her daughters. She made sure they saw every museum and historic spot on the east coast. Her family was important and she kept in touch with numerous members of her extended family. She was a doting grandmother, and delighted by her great-grandchildren.

She is survived by two daughters, Joanne Hugi and husband Fred of Walterville, Oregon, and Kathleen Moses and husband Martyn of Round Pond, Maine; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two brothers, Fred Holmquist and wife Charlotte of Brainerd, MN and Gerald Holmquist and wife Mary of Chino Valley, AZ; many nieces and nephews; and her “adopted” Thomas Fletcher family of Wilmington, Delaware.

A daughter, Janet Ryan-Millar, in 1988; her husband John in 2002; and sister Eve in 2001 predeceased her.

No services are planned. If desired, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to the League of Women Voters of Delaware, 2400 W. 17th St. Clash Wing, Room 1, Lower Level, Wilmington, DE 19806; Planned Parenthood of Delaware, % Wilmington Medical Center, 625 N. Shipley St., Wilmington, DE 19801; Cove’s Edge Staff Appreciation Fund, % LCH Development Office, 35 Miles Street, Damariscotta, ME 04543; or another charity of their choice.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Strong-Hancock Funeral Home, 612 Main Street, Damariscotta, ME. Condolences, and messages for the family, may be expressed by visiting: www.StrongHancock.com.

This obituary is protected by copyright by Strong-Hancock Funeral Home. Proudly Serving the Communities of Damariscotta and Burial and Cremation Services for all of Mid-Coast Maine, in the state of Maine, United States
All rights reserved. This obituary is also archived at ObitsforLife.com Strong-Hancock Funeral Home

CALENDAR

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Thursday, October 9, 2014 10 AM-12 PM | Immanuel Episcopal Church, Parlor, 2400 W. 17th St. Wilmington, DE 19806 | GREAT DECISIONS Thursday Group, Wilmington. The group will discuss Topic 6 – Food and Climate by William Sweet, author of <i>Kicking the Carbon Habit</i> . Lunch will follow for those interested. For questions, please phone the League office 571-8948 |
| Monday, October 13, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 PM | LWV office, 2400 W 17th Street, Wilmington | LWV of NCC BOARD MEETING. Monthly meeting of the NCC board of directors. |
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| Thursday, October 16, 2014, 9 -10:30 AM | LWV office, 2400 W 17th Street, Wilmington | Candidate Forum Committee Meeting. |
| Thursday, October 16, 2014, 5:30 PM cocktails, 6:30 PM Dinner | Irish Eyes Restaurant, 2nd floor, at 213 Angler's Rd, Lewes | LOVE OUR INLAND BAYS, Dinner honoring Governor Markell for his "Clean Water for Delaware's Future" initiative. Prepaid reservation needed by October 13th. Reservation form is here. |
| Friday, October 17, 1:30-3:30m PM | Home of Chad Tolman; please phone Chad Tolman 302-478-3516 | NATURAL RESSOURCES/CLIMATE CHANGE/ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING. Dates for the November and December meetings are, 1:30-3:30 pm, Friday, November 14th, and 1:30-3:30 pm, Friday, December 12th, meeting places to be determined. |
| Monday, October 20th, 7 PM | Home of Jane Dilley Please phone Jane Dilley, 610-869-8848, for directions to get to the meeting. | LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING |
| Monday October 20, 8:45 AM - 3 PM | 818 The Westin Wilmington Shipyards Drive, Wilmington, DE 19801 | Visions of Justice, <i>Visions of Justice XIII</i> <u><i>Incarceration's Impact on Children and Families</i></u> |
| Thursday, October 23, 2014, 6-8:30 PM | Roma Restaurant, 3 President Drive Dover, DE 19901 | STATE BOARD MEETING. Monthly meeting of the state board of directors. |
| Monday, October 27, 2014, 11:30 AM-1 PM | Michael's is located at 1000 Churchmans Road, Newark. See http://michaelsde.com/directions/ | HOT TOPIC LUNCH (formerly Fun Lunches) "Latest & Greatest in Delaware's Elections"? Speakers: Anthony J. Albence, Director and Howard Sholl, Deputy Director, State of Delaware, Department of Elections for New Castle County |
| Tuesday, October 28, 7:00 PM | First Unitarian Church, Halstead Road and Concord Pike | CANDIDATE FORUM Senate District 4---Candidates: Gregory Lavelle (R) and Sarah Buttner (D) |
| Wednesday, October 29, 7:00 PM | Highlands Elementary School, Bancroft Parkway and Delaware Avenue | CANDIDATE FORUM Representative District 4—Candidates: Gerald L. Brady (D) and Robert Kessler(R) |

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VOTER

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County, Delaware

November 2014

www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org

Vol. 21, No. 3

The Mission of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities.

The League of Women Voters of NCC invites all to **NOVEMBER Hot Topic Lunch**
(formerly called **FUN LUNCH**)

ADVOCATING IN LEGISLATIVE HALL - How does the LWV Advocacy Corps do its work? What opportunities does the next legislative session present? How can you have input?

Speaker: Sandy Spence, Advocacy Corps Chair, LWV Delaware

Monday, November 24, 2014, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Michael's Restaurant 1000 Churchman's Rd, Newark, DE 19713 (302) 368-4230

Come and learn about how the Advocacy Corps goes about the business of advocating for the issues and legislation the LWV supports or opposes. How does such a lively, enthusiastic, and committed group of women and men work together to implement the League' mission and principles?

Sandra Spence - Since moving to Delaware in 2009 from Washington, DC, Sandy Spence has served as President, Advocacy Corps Chair, and Treasurer of the LWV of Delaware and as Board Secretary, Treasurer and Housing Advocate/lobbyist for Sussex County Habitat for Humanity. Sandy was a *Ruth S. Shur Fellow/National Coach* for the LWVUS. She served on the Delaware Housing Coalition board as Vice President. She also chaired the Coastal-Georgetown AAUW Women's Issues/Action Group and co-chaired the LWVDE Membership Recruitment Initiative. In Washington, DC, Sandy served on the DC Habitat for Humanity Board, chaired its Development Committee, and was Board Secretary. Sandy was a registered lobbyist in Washington during her career with the National Association of Counties, the California Department of Transportation, Amtrak, the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) and others. She served as Executive Director of ACT, the Society of Glass & Ceramic Decorators and others.

All welcome.

The purpose of **HOT TOPIC LUNCHESES** is to become informed on a wide variety of topics, check in with current and longtime friends, make new friends, and invite others (your friends, neighbors, colleagues) to experience the League in an informal setting.

Buffet lunch is \$14.00 paid at time of the luncheon and please pay in cash if at all possible.

RSVP at lwvde@comcast.net or 302-571-8948 by Saturday, November 22, so the restaurant knows how many to expect. **Please feel free to come even if you did not call in.** If you need a ride, leave a message on the League Office phone or e-mail when you RSVP. **FOR CAR POOLING- CALL 302-571-8948 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.**

Directions: Michael's is located at 1000 Churchman's Road, Newark. See <http://michaelsde.com/directions/>

You are invited to learn about and ask questions on two vital proposals for New Castle County.

What should be in the plans for improved transportation and affordable housing options?

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 7 PM

WILMAPCO Office, 850 Library Avenue, Suite 100, Newark

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County is hosting the double bill event posted above. This event is an opportunity to give voice to your experience in accessing adequate transportation and affordable housing and how your options could be improved. The experience you bring and your comments are important elements in tailoring transportation and affordable housing planning now being proposed.

AGENDA

A. WILMAPCO is seeking your feedback on the draft of its 2040

Regional Transportation Plan

Presentation of the draft plan proposed by WILMAPCO's Heather Dunnigan - up to 20 minutes
Comments and questions from the public – 10 to 20 minutes

You can follow this link to read background on the proposed Regional Transportation Plan:

[Regional Transportation Plan](#)

B. New legislation being proposed to increase the supply of

Affordable Housing

Presentation of proposal by New Castle County Land Use
Department General Manager Eileen Fogarty

and

New Castle County Councilman Penrose Hollins



NCC Councilman Penrose Hollins Eileen Fogarty, General Manager Heather Dunnigan, WILMAPCO

Background information is printed on pages 10 and 11: **Councilman Penrose Hollins Proposes Program to Stop the "Middle Class Squeeze." A New Tool Would Help Moderate Income Residents and the County as a Whole Emerge from the Housing Crisis while Enhancing Housing Options**

You are invited

**Delaware Coalition for
Open Government**

**invites you to attend
the . . .**

**2014 Elected Officials
Reception**

**Ed Oliver Golf Club
800 North DuPont Road
Wilmington, Delaware**

Monday, December 1, 2014

5:30 – 8 p.m.

**Open to the public
Hors d'oeuvres ~ Cash bar
Nominal charge: \$3.00 at the door**

All State, County and Municipal officials will be invited to attend this "meet and greet" with the public.

**Keeping government accessible
. . . and accountable**

www.DelCOG.org

Sponsored by: Delaware Coalition for Open Government, LWV of New Castle County and Delaware, and many civic organizations

You are invited!

2nd Annual
Holiday Luncheon of the
League of Women Voters, DE

Wednesday, December 17
at 12:30 PM

Looking Glass Restaurant at
Polytech High School,
Woodside DE

**Menu: Seafood Imperial, Roasted
Vegetable Medley, Cranberry
stuffed Chicken with gravy**

**Cost \$25.00 Per Person
Door Prizes, Sing a Long, A Special
Holiday Guest
Inclement weather:
check Polytech closings**

**To RSVP
Mail to : Crystal Hamilton
1450 Peach Basket Rd
Felton, DE 19943
302-284-2797**

Make Checks out to LWV

Name(s): _____ \$25.00 each

_____ \$25.00 each _____

Email _____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Service is the rent you pay for your place on the Earth." Anon. The source of this pithy quote is less important than the meaning of the language. These words epitomize the efforts and passion for service as demonstrated by our League of Women Voters.

In recent months, League members have worked diligently in registering new voters, in view of the upcoming elections. Other members have spent many hours offering Candidates for mid-term elections, the opportunity to be heard at Candidate Forums throughout the State of Delaware. The non-partisan policy of the League of Women Voters was the impetus behind educating the voters as to the Candidates, their platforms and the critical issues at hand in Delaware. Many of these concerns affect our lives, and the lives of future generations.

League committees have publicized the research from their studies, so that voters could have facts in hand and the opportunity to make informed decisions before casting votes for the Candidates up for election. Land use and Transportation are critical to our everyday lives. Facts are presented for such concerns, as well as Sea Level Rise. How do Candidates stand on these issues? How are they voting?

Will Candidates be aware of circumstances in Prisons in our First State? What are the particular stances of each candidate? Do they believe in reform, or is the status quo what they support. Does the voting public know facts and statistics in our State regarding Racial Justice? The League strives to enable the public in general, the voters, to have information at hand, so they can cast an intelligent, informed vote.

These examples are but a few areas that 'make the press', as examples of the continued efforts of the League membership. We offer support for new immigrants, as they become citizens. We are advocates and supporters of an equal opportunity for all. It is truthful to say the League of Women Voters is earning its keep on this Earth.

Emily White
LWVNCC President

VOTER SERVICES - CANDIDATES FORUM A SUCCESS

LWVNCC and AAUW Wilmington and Newark sponsored a very successful forum on October 29, at Highlands Elementary School, Wilmington, for candidates for State Representative District 4.

Candidates were Gerald L Brady (D) and Robert Keesler (R). Carole Walsh, LWVNCC, moderated. Approximately 40 citizens attended and asked a variety of questions on issues impacting the State of Delaware.

The questions to which the candidates responded covered a far ranging set of topics, both local and national. They included such subjects as term limits for elected officials, how to deal with prison overcrowding, physician assisted suicide, crime and education.

League President Emily White opened with thanks including the Highlands custodian who went out of his way to assist.



***Pictured above: L- R
Gerald L Brady &
Robert Keesler***

Both candidates expressed their appreciation as did members of the audience for the League and AAUW sponsoring this forum.

Making this so successful were committee members: Linda Barnett, AAUW; Letty Diswood, Joyce Johnson, Carole Walsh, Emily White, Judy Taggart and Bill Walsh.

Conducting a forum is a lot more complicated than it first appears. The committee was willing to sponsor additional forums, however, some candidates were unwilling to participate or dates were an issue. The League and AAUW will evaluate and determine how to proceed for the 2016 election.



***Pictured L-R: Carole
Walsh & Linda Barnett***

Audubon

www.delawareaudubon.org

Annual Meeting to be Held on Saturday, December 6

Pat Todd will be honored with the Delaware Audubon Conservation Award

Delaware Audubon's Annual Meeting will be held at 6 pm on Saturday, December 6, at the Film Brothers Co-op in downtown Wilmington (205 N. Market Street). Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Admission will be \$25 for an individual or two for \$40, and includes hors d'oeuvres, appetizers, and drinks. Ample parking is available in a garage directly across the street. Payment can be made at the door, but please RSVP by emailing us at dasmal@delawareaudubon.org or calling the office at 302-292-3970.

A highlight of the evening will be the presentation of Delaware Audubon's Annual Conservation Award to Pat Todd, natural resources co-chair of the League of Women Voters of Delaware.

Pat Todd has provided a lifetime of service to our friends at the League of Women Voters. Delaware Audubon President Mark Martell says that she did remarkable work advocating for Delaware's two major recycling bills, beginning in 1976, and following up with the most recent legislation enacted in 2011.

Pat has worked on a wide variety of environmental issues in Delaware, as the LWV-DE lobbyist and energy policy director. Her longtime friend and fellow environmental advocate Lorraine Fleming was quoted in the News Journal saying Pat "really has her finger on everything environmental."

That *News Journal* feature in 2011 named Pat Todd one of "50 Delawareans Who Matter: A list of Delaware's unsung heroes" – people who make a difference in all of our lives. Pat was chosen for her environmental achievements.

Lorraine and Dick Fleming, both past recipients of the Delaware Audubon Conservation Award, have known and worked with Pat since well before they moved to Delaware. Lorraine talked Pat Todd into joining the League of Women Voters.

Pat stayed active in the civic organization for decades, in New York and then in Delaware; and over the years became a champion for many of the First State's key environmental issues – among them recycling and energy policy.

She has been described as passionate, but also reasonable, approachable, and a consensus builder. Delaware Audubon is extremely pleased to present this much-deserved award to Pat Todd. ■

GREAT DECISION DISCUSSION GROUPS

Great Decisions North – 11/13/2014

The next meeting of Great Decisions, North, will be held November 13, 10:00 a.m., in the parlor of Immanuel Episcopal Church (where the LWV office is located). Discussed will be **Topic 7 – China's foreign policy** by David Lampton, Professor of China Studies at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. For those interested, following discussion we will have lunch at a nearby restaurant. Visitors are always welcome. Please call the League office (302-571-8948) for further information.

Joyce Johnson/Jackie Harris

The next meeting 3rd Monday Great Decisions meeting, the last for 2014.

What: US Trade Policy

When: Monday, Nov. 17, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Where: Newark Free Library

Who: Ginger Ward, Discussion Leader

Lunch, for those who wish to join us, at noon at Bamboo House. Please let Vicky Kleinman [731-4950] know if you'll be joining us for lunch.

Vicky Kleinman

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members

- Margaret Campbell Seward (Cami) 907-321-3336 cell 302-368-4644 home
- Stan Merriman, 713-303-2264, merrimanstan@gmail.com
- Rose L. Squires, 302-388-4388, rosq12@gmail.com
- Katharine A. Lancy, 475-5559, H 529-0100 W, tourinfo@swantonbritishtravel.com
- Michele C. Green bejakajo@yahoo.com

Thank you to all our members who have renewed their membership to the LWV.

Reminder - all members, whose membership is up for renewal, have received a reminder to continue membership to the LWV. Each one of you is important, no matter if you are inactive, or just read our newsletters or respond to an action alert. Numbers matter and your financial support is vital.

*Moonyeen Klopfenstein
Letty Diswood, Membership Co-chairs*

THANKS TO ALL MEMBERS WHO GAVE A CONTRIBUTION BEYOND THE MEMBERSHIP FEE.

*Harriet Ainbinder, Connie & David Beattie
Patricia Brill, Susan Brynteson
Sheila Cassels, Mary Ann Champion
Jean P. Colbert, Barbara D. Crowell
Frank & Jane Dilley, Letty & Larry Diswood
Nancy H. Gray, Jackie & John Harris
Joann Hasse, Joyce P. Johnson
Catherine Kallal (Kit), June R. Kleban
Janet & Brian Kramer, Virginia S. Mayforth
Sheila Mensch, Lois Myoda
Dorothy Munroe, Suzanne Proud
Peggy & Gerold Schultz, Catherine Spence
Ruth B. Siegel, Susan & Mike Soltys
Sarah Straughn, Elizabeth M. Von Frankenberg
(Betty)
Florence M. Waibel, Frances M. Wetmore
Catherine Wojewodzki
AAUW support for candidate forum.*

OCTOBER'S HOT TOPIC NOTES

Just before the elections Anthony J. Albence, Director and Howard Sholl, Deputy Director, State of Delaware, Department of Elections for New Castle County managed to devote some time to speak at the LWV NCC October Hot Topic luncheon.

A wide variety of topics were covered which generated lots of questions, including a discussion about the outdated voting machines. At some time in the future the state needs to bite the bullet and buy new machines (expensive!), but in the meantime, they are holding up and the process Delaware uses has been safe with minimal problems. Below is an outline of the subjects covered.



Howard Sholl standing, L-R Julie Jackson, Linda Barnett, Carole Walsh, Janet Kramer

- Upcoming Election Date (General [11/4/2014](#))
 - All voters (any party affiliation/unaffiliated) may vote
 - New registration for this election closed on 10/11/2014; Use [iVote.DE.gov](http://Vote.DE.gov) to register or make updates (or call/visit office)
 - Updates may be made up to Election Day-- but best to update prior to Election Day to avoid any inconvenience/delay
- Polling Place Cards
 - Mailed in summer before Primary Election
 - Polling Place card not required to vote but good idea to bring it
- Voter ID:
 - Requested but not required if voter's name appears on poll list
 - Affidavit of Affirmation of Voter Identity Option if name does not appear on poll list
 - "ID Needed" Flag on Poll List: If ID not presented while registering, will be noted on poll list as needed (to complete record)
(Continued on page 7 Hot Topic)

(Continued from page 6 **Hot Topic**)

- Absentee
 - By mail or in-office
 - Reason needed to vote absentee
 - Use iVote absentee functions (see below)
- iVote.DE.gov
 - Overview: Many self-service options--use it/maximized voter convenience & flexibility
 - VR online/updates/absentee functions
 - Find where you vote/sample ballots--anything you may need
- FAQs
 - Provisional Ballots
 - We make every effort to have voter vote on voting machine
 - ONLY for federal offices in DE
 - ONLY counted if person was, in fact, eligible to vote & was in correct polling place where provisional ballot was cast
 - Voter ID
 - Covered above
 - Other Questions?

Letty Diswood, Membership Co-chair

Pictured below: Activity before the candidate forum:
L-R Joyce Johnson, Rep. Gerald Brady, Carole Walsh, Letty Diswood, Linda Barnett.



Pictured below L-R C. Walsh, Rep. G. Brady, Rep. D. Hudson, and Mr. Brian Bartley



IN MEMORIAM

Helen Hoffman, recent LWNCC board member and Voter Service Chair, had dedicated much of her time to registering voters in the last two elections, working on the Vote411 on-line voters guide, and helping to arrange and work at the recent Newark candidate forums along with her committee.

Helen Hales Hoffman, age 76, passed away at home on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 with her husband, son, and daughter at her side. She had battled Multiple Myeloma cancer for more than eight years, though it never got in the way of her being an enthusiastic mother, teacher, and volunteer.

Helen was born in Pottsville, PA, to the late Bertha Everett Hales and Ralph Alonzo Hales, and grew up in West Chester, PA. A graduate of the Peabody Conservatory of Music, Helen taught piano, music Braille, and music history for three years at the Maryland School for the Blind, and piano at the Peabody Preparatory School before joining the faculty at West Chester University's School of Music. She went on to work as an associate professor of piano for 17 years at the University.

Helen met her husband, Bruce, in the Wilmington Trail Club, and they were married in 1976. In 1979, she retired from the University to raise her children and focus on her private Suzuki piano studio at her home in Wilmington, DE.

Helen worked tirelessly for organizations of which she was a member, only retiring from her volunteer positions in the last months of her illness. Most recently she served on the board of the Delaware State Music Teachers Association and the board of the New Castle County League of Women Voters. She also tutored students at Lancashire Elementary School. In 1990, she was one of the driving forces behind the Red Clay Music Boosters, raising funds to bring the music programs back to public schools. Helen also remained passionate about music, teaching her last lesson to a former student only days before her passing.

In lieu of flowers, Helen suggested contributions to either the [Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](#) (P.O. Box 808, Newark, NJ 07101), the Unitarian Universalist Society of Mill Creek (579 Polly Drummond Hill Road, Newark, DE 19711), or the First Unitarian Church (730 Halstead Road, Wilmington, DE 19803). At her request, there will be no funeral service.

**New Castle County Land Use Committee Meeting,
October 7, 2014**

Eileen Fogarty, General Manager of the County's Land Use Department, briefed Council members and members of the public on the Department's Action Plan and Work Program for 2014-2015. She began by pointing out how important she felt it was for the general community to be aware of the Department's path forward. She mentioned having spoken to a number of civic organizations before the development of the plan. Fogarty characterized the plan as fairly straightforward to fulfill, except for elements which involve transportation. George Haggerty, Assistant General Manager, has weekly appointments with a representative of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) in an effort to work out some of the transportation issues.

Ms. Fogarty said that the Land Use Department is turning proactive, as opposed to its earlier reactive mode. Drivers of the new plan, she pointed out, are both the market and a relatively new demand for mixed used, activity-oriented housing. Changes in the County Code will be proposed within the next several months in order to implement the new County Land Use plan. The changes will be largely hybrid, with some form-based elements and some performance-based elements. A series of incentives will facilitate implementation of the County's Economic Development Plan. Another element of the new plan is proposed legislation to promote moderately-priced dwellings, formerly termed "workforce housing."

Councilwoman Kilpatrick introduced an ordinance to revise the zoning for a new project in her district called Westhampton. This is a project comprised of 24 semi-detached and 71 townhouse dwellings., with a density of 2.3 dwelling units per acre and 30 acres of open space. She said that 10 off-site affordable units will be included in the project. She did not describe the manner in which off-site units can be a part of this project. Members of the community praised the developer, Jay Sonecha, for his unusually accommodating spirit in meeting the specific requests of the neighboring communities. The only complaint about this new community came from a member of the public who lamented the absence of any shopping within walking distance.

Plans for Marvel Plaza were also discussed. The only problematic element in this project is the filling of a

small section of wetlands. A 3 to 1 wetlands mitigation will be carried out on land owned by the University of Delaware, near the University's stadium facilities.

Plans for Phase I of Whitehall were shared by lawyer Larry Tarabicos, on behalf of his client. The 912 acres comprising this project will include 501 residential units, with 80,900 square feet of non-residential uses. This project is the County's first implementation of its Hamlets and Villages ordinance. It is in a Transportation Investment District (TID), a fact which necessitates the developer's financial contribution to that TID. The state will contribute 50% of the funds for this District. Whitehall has a range of housing choices, and is comprised of mixed use housing. Ample shopping is included, in a town center.

As each of the three projects came up on the agenda, the Committee Chair referred Council members to that project's lawyer. In one case the General Manager interjected that she would introduce the project; in the other two cases the project lawyer referred Council members to General Manager Fogarty for an overview of the project prior to a discussion of the project by the lawyer. The practice instituted by Ms. Fogarty earlier in the year was to allow for an impartial, professional evaluation of each land use proposal prior to the intrinsically more biased project attorney view.

Peggy Schultz, League Observer

**New Castle County Council Meeting,
October 14, 2014**

Councilman Reda announced under the heading, "Introduction of Ordinances," that a new ordinance to adopt revised floodplain maps would not be introduced. He gave no explanation.

Councilman Dave Tackett offered for Council's consideration the plan for the first build-up of Whitehall, the large hamlets and villages development just south of the Canal. Village One will have 501 residential units and 80,900 square feet of non-residential use on 145.22 acres. Councilman Tackett paid homage to Stephanie McClellan, former County Councilwoman who oversaw the development of the hamlets and villages ordinance.

Another ordinance also passed handily, this one dealing with the establishment of a "Route 9 Innovation District", to be highlighted by a community

(Continued on page 9 NCC Council meeting Oct. 14)

(Continued from page 8 NCC Council meeting Oct. 14)

library/innovation center. (This center has been in the limelight recently when several Council members questioned the costly national and international travel of New Castle County librarians who traveled to distant innovation center prototypes in order to strengthen their sense of how such a center should be configured and operate.)

Developers of Westhampton were given permission to proceed with a 24 semi-detached, 81 townhouse community near McKean High School. Councilwoman Kilpatrick was full of praise for the developers, who oversaw numerous focus groups. The developers will provide ten offsite affordable housing units.

Peggy Schultz, League Observer

Transforming the Community - Forum on Mass Incarceration's Impact on Children and Families Draws Crowd, Highlights Critical Issues

A number of League members attended the forum on Transforming the Community - Forum on Mass Incarceration's Impact on Children and Families. The forum highlighted critical issues, sponsored by the Delaware Center for Justice. The LWV's Justice positions support the efforts enumerated below.

The article below was taken from the Delaware Center for Justice webpage <http://www.dcjustice.org>.

On Monday, the Delaware Center for Justice and co-sponsors (Delaware Division of Family Services, Read Aloud Delaware, and One Village Alliance) hosted the thirteenth annual Visions of Justice Forum, which focused on mass incarceration's impact on children and families.

Presentations were given by Dr. Chris Wildeman (Cornell University), Tanya Krupat (The Osborne Association), Commissioner Robert Coupe (DE Department of Correction), and a panel of local advocates moderated by Dr. Vicky Kelly (Division of Family Services).

More than 100 people attended the event to learn more about mass incarceration's impact on children,

what is currently being done to address the problem, and what else needs to be done. 95% of attendees who completed a survey about the event said that their knowledge on the topic of mass incarceration, children, and families increased as a result of participating. One attendee remarked, "I think the information was very informative. This is very thought-provoking in what role we can each play in this area."

Main points from the forum:

- * Absent positive intervention, children of incarcerated parents are at a higher risk of experiencing child homelessness, failure in school, delinquency, and intergenerational incarceration.
- * Reentry preparation with attention to family needs and supports is needed. Reentry often focuses on concrete needs such as housing and employment, but parenting and reuniting or re-navigating family is as important a factor in someone's successful return.
- * To promote positive outcomes for children, we need less incarceration; we need to adopt a child-centered lens; we need to involve incarcerated parents; and we need to work across systems with a sense of urgency.

Resources Available for Download

Dr. Chris Wildeman's PowerPoint presentation, "Children of the Prison Boom".

Tanya Krupat's PowerPoint presentation, "Innovations in Programming".

An annotated bibliography about Parental Incarceration and Child Wellbeing.

Save the date!

**League Day in Dover
Our Annual Legislative Day
Wednesday, March 25, 2015**

Councilman Penrose Hollins Proposes Program to Stop the “Middle Class Squeeze.”

A New Tool Would Help Moderate Income Residents and the County as a Whole Emerge from the Housing Crisis while Enhancing Housing Options

Moderately Price Dwelling Units Op-Ed Prepared by: Councilman Penrose Hollins

If you work in business, finance, education, health care, construction, protective services, sales, law offices or other occupations key to the health of our County and you cannot afford to live in a new community near your job, New Castle County’s new Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit Ordinance may be your answer. The ordinance is a derivative of an analysis of housing needs and economic conditions here in New Castle County and designed to assist residents earning 75% to 90% of area median income (the largely ignored middle class) while adding to the fund that assists low and very low income residents.

How do moderate income buyers benefit when there is a 15-year affordability control for the home?

If program participants remain in the home for the entire 15-year affordability period, the participants realize the full market increase for the home at the time of sale. If the participants move before the end of the 15-year period, the participants still realize profit and other benefits, as set forth below.

- They were able to purchase and live in a home with greater location options throughout New Castle County;
- They enjoyed the tax deductions associated with home ownership;
- At the time of sale, they recouped the cost of any improvements made to the home while living there, real estate commissions paid for sale, and closing costs (components of the maximum resale price); and
- They enjoyed a return on the home via the increase in the consumer price index, which is calculated in the maximum resale price (even if the housing market declines).

How and why do future buyers benefit from the 15-year affordability period?

They enjoy the same benefits as the original purchaser, enhanced by a shorter timeframe to realize full market profit (15 years minus the time the original purchasers lived there).

Why enact any affordability period?

- It would be unfair to market price purchasers if a neighbor received the benefit of a lower price for the same home plus the full market increase, providing the moderate income purchasers with a windfall and giving them more wiggle room to perhaps sell at a lower price and erode property values.
- There is finite land and continuation of the program with opportunities for other moderate income purchasers requires some period of affordability, 15 years being at the lower end of such programs nationwide.

*(Continued on page 11 **The Middle Class Squeeze**)*

(Continued from page 10 The Middle Class Squeeze)

Why are we giving developers density bonuses for this program and how are area residents protected from unwarranted density and subpar housing?

A developer is not provided a density bonus for a rezoning; rather, if a discretionary rezoning meets code criteria and is approved, the density would be the same as for the new zoning designation— which already is the case for rezonings. The criteria for a rezoning will not change.

What will change regarding rezonings is that developers must include 15% to 20% of new homes or rental units for moderate income purchasers or renters based on the increase in density realized by the rezoning. Moderately-priced dwelling units have architectural style, exterior building materials, finishes and construction quality similar to market-priced dwelling units; and are dispersed throughout the development.

For by-right plans that do not involve a rezoning, a developer may voluntarily agree to render no less than 10 percent of new homes moderately priced dwelling units in exchange for up to a 20 percent density bonus. Adjoining property owners will be protected by the similarity requirements to market properties and by mandatory site capacity calculations.

Will this discourage new development in New Castle County?

The nationally-recognized consultants who performed the analysis did so after careful study of the economic conditions here in New Castle County, and after consultation with numerous stakeholders, including the Homebuilders Association of Delaware, the New Castle County Board of Realtors, and developers who used and refused to use the previous workforce housing ordinance. They determined that the variety of housing types and price points fostered by moderately priced housing units in the proposed program afforded developers the opportunity to grow their customer base and increase profit. Developers will enjoy built-in access to a move-up market within the community, along with the profit realized from increased density. The Land Use Department for good cause as described in the ordinance also may permit off-site units and payment in lieu of moderately priced units, with protections built into the ordinance for the community and the homebuyers. Further, developers may elect to build by-right for the current zoning category or to voluntarily participate in the program when not seeking a rezoning. Developers have the opportunity to rezone or not and to voluntarily participate in the program or not regarding a by-right plan; there is no mandate to participate.

What about lower income residents?

The County will continue to address the needs of very low and low income residents via Section 8 vouchers, down payment settlement help, repurposing foreclosed homes for sale, assisting needy homeowners in repairs, and numerous other programs. This assistance will be enhanced by a \$12 per \$1,000 of permit construction valuation fee upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy for deposit in the Housing Trust Fund for units that are not moderately priced. In other words, this program assists not only moderate income families but low income families. Perhaps most significantly, this program is deemed to have no discernible fiscal impact on the County taxpayers.

Individual wealth in America is tied directly to home ownership. We need to jump-start our economy and increase the purchase power of our residents. This is one tool in the arsenal. Help us to help you.

CALENDAR

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Monday, November 10, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M | League office, 2400 W 17th St., Wilmington | LWV of NCC Board Meeting. Monthly meeting of the NCC board of directors. |
| Thursday, November 13, 2014, 10:00 a.m., | Immanuel Episcopal Church, 2400 W 17th, Wilmington | GREAT DECISIONS Thursday Group, Wilmington. The group will discuss Topic 7 – China's foreign policy . Lunch will follow for those interested. For questions, please phone the League office 571-8948. Meet in the parlor. |
| Friday, December 12, 2014, 1:30-3:30 pm | TBD | Natural Resources/Climate Change/Energy Committee Meeting. |
| Monday, November 17, 1:30-3:30 pm | Newark Free Library, 750 Library Ave. Newark, DE 19711 | GREAT DECISIONS Monday group, Newark. Study topic: US Trade Policy . Lunch for the hungry at noon at Bamboo House. Please phone Vicky Kleinman, 731-495, if you'd like to join the group for lunch. Next dates 11/17- change to 3rd Monday of the month. |
| Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 pm | WILMAPCO Office, 850 Library Avenue, Suite 100, Newark | 1. Program presented by WILMAPCO which is seeking your feedback on the draft of its 2040 Regional Transportation Plan and 2, Affordable Housing, a Presentation of proposal by New Castle County Land Use Department General Manager Eileen Fogarty and County Councilman Penrose Hollins |
| Wednesday, November 19, 2014 9:30 am-3:30 pm | Legislative Hall (Location to be confirmed) | Advocacy Corps meeting - bring your brown bag lunch. Call Sandy Spence for details 302-841-2882 |
| Thursday, November 20, 2014, 6-8:30 pm | Roma Restaurant 3 President Drive Dover, DE 19901 | State Board Meeting. Monthly meeting of the state board of directors |
| Monday, November 24, 2014, 11:30 am -1 PM | Michael's is located at 1000 Churchman's Road, Newark. http://michaelsde.com/directions/ | HOT TOPIC LUNCH (formerly Fun Lunches) "Advocating in Legislative Hall-How does the LWV Advocacy Corps do it work? What opportunities does the next legislative session present?" Speakers: Sandy Spence, LWV of Delaware Advocacy Corps. |
| Friday, December 5, 2014, 6 pm | Film Brothers Co-op 205 N. Market Street Wilmington, DE | Pat Todd honored with 2014 Delaware Audubon Conservation Award. Pat Todd is to be presented the 2014 Delaware Audubon Conservation award at the Society's annual meeting. RSVP dasmil@delawareaudubon.org or 302-292-3970. |
| Monday, December 8, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M | Kirkwood Library Conference Room, | LWV of NCC Board Meeting. Monthly meeting of the NCC board of directors. |
| Wednesday, December 17, 2014, 12 pm | Looking Glass Restaurant Polytech High School 823 Walnut Shade Road Woodside, DE | LWVDE Holiday Luncheon. Come Celebrate!! A lovely luncheon, door prizes, and more! RSVP Crystal Hamilton , LWVDC Treasurer, or phone Crystal at 284-2797. |

League of Women Voters of New Castle County
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Wilmington, DE 19806
 302-571-8948; lwncc@comcast.net
www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org