



P.O. Box 56126, Little Rock, AR 72215-6126

[lwvpc@lwvpc.org](mailto:lwvpc@lwvpc.org)

## The Voter October 2019

Edited by Danielle Butler

### Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, October 19: Arkansas National Period Day, a rally from 10-12 am, at the State Capitol elevating the issue of period poverty and demanding real change to making period products more accessible for all and ending the #TamponTax. More information on their [Facebook page](#).
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- Monday, October 21: LWVPC General Meeting, Fletcher Library 823 N. Buchanan, Little Rock. Nell Matthews, LWV AR President, will speak on Non-Partisan Redistricting. Doors open at 5:30 and speaking will begin at 6 pm. Members and the public invited to attend.
  - Summary: After the SCOTUS ruling that said that state law, not federal, determines redistricting, LWV US president Chris Carson and CEO Virginia Kase determined that the only way to ensure nonpartisan redistricting was to have a 50-state solution. Like the Winning Strategy of Carrie Chapman Catt, this plan will go state by state to design the best means of obtaining a nonpartisan redistricting commission or protecting this commission in states that already have such. LWV AR Leadership Team Members Nell Matthews and Bonnie Miller attended LWV US training from Oct. 9-11 on how to craft a plan for Arkansas. With two grants, one for \$2500 and one for \$5000, Arkansas leagues are ready to recruit volunteers to educate everyone and see a constitutional initiative on the November 2020 ballot. Come hear how LWV Pulaski County can begin this effort. Nell Matthews will share the plan.
- Tuesday, November 5: ELECTION DAY
- Thursday, November 14: Issues That Matter Forum, "Census 2020-Why YOU Count" 6 PM at the CALS Nixon Library in Jacksonville.
- Tuesday, November 19: VIPS Jane Mendel Reading Day; sign up at [www.lrsd.org](http://www.lrsd.org)



### You are invited to the League's Fall Festival Party:

**Who:** Current and past members, our donors, and others who may wish to join or donate to the League.

**When:** Tuesday November 19th, 2019 5:30-7:30

**Where:** Jay Barth and Chuck Cliett's home, the 1905 Turner-Mann House at 1711 Center St. in the Governor's Mansion Historic District. The home is a real showplace filled with antique furniture and artifacts, some of them politically oriented (Barth taught politics at Hendrix College in Conway).

**Why:** A chance to get together to visit, hear about our accomplishments and plans for our 100th birthday is next year. Hors d'oeuvres, drinks and decorations prepared by Mary Wildgen and Sheila Primm.

## Announcements:

- Education Update from Norma Johnson: We have conquered one hurdle and that means we do best together. On October 11, 2019, the State Board of Education unanimously passes a motion to return the Little Rock School district to local control. I would like to personally thank everyone that supported the efforts and never gave up. As we know, this is just the beginning, and I would like to encourage everyone to stay diligent and remember, to put our children first.
- Impeachment ABC's: Given all the media time devoted to the possible impeachment of President Trump, it may be helpful to refreshment our memories on the details of the impeachment process. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has charged six standing Committees of the House of Representatives to hold hearings to gather information about possible acts worthy of an impeachment charge. Those Committees will give their recommendations to the House Judiciary Committee which will vote on whether to bring one or more articles of impeachment to the floor of House of Representatives for a vote. If a simple majority of the House votes in favor, the president is impeached, which is analogous to being indicted. He then stands trial in the Senate where he can be found guilty only by a two-thirds majority.
- On October 10, 2019, Pulaski County Judge Barry Hyde announced two environmental initiatives designed to improve the quality of life in Pulaski County, by protecting public safety and reducing energy costs. The two initiatives are a Pulaski County road and bridge test project using tire rubber-modified asphalt on 1.2 miles of Lawson Road in west Pulaski County, and a 20-year agreement with Today's Power, Inc. (TPI) to develop and install an array of solar panels located at the Little Rock Port Industrial Park and Pulaski County Justice Complex to generate cost-saving electricity for the county for 20 years.
- Congratulations to Jogee Detchemendy and her spouse Joey on the birth of her daughter Vivian, who arrived on October 8<sup>th</sup>! Until Jogee is ready to resume editing The Voter, Danielle Butler will be compiling the newsletter. You can send information for the Voter to her at [dtmoses@ualr.edu](mailto:dtmoses@ualr.edu)

## Women's Suffrage Statue Dedicated:

Carol Young, Irene Davis, Kathleen Oleson, Patricia Blick, Danielle Butler, and Ruth Bell represented LWVoters PC at the dedication of a statue honoring the Women's Suffrage Movement on October 11, 2019. Located in the Sculpture Garden on the riverfront west of the River Market, the statue marks the one-hundredth anniversary of passage of the XIX Amendment, giving recognition to the women who led the suffrage movement.

Governor Hutchinson and Mayor Frank Scott Jr. spoke. In the audience were descendants of an early Arkansas suffragette leader and a group of outstanding female students from Central HS. They were recognized as representing the past and the future of the suffragette movement.

The Sculpture Garden is accessed by going east on Markham St, (continuing east as it becomes President Clinton Blvd.), turning north on Rock St to a parking kiosk. Turn left just beyond the parking kiosk and drive until the dead end. There is parking available along the street. The site has many delightful sculptures and is a pleasant green space.

Many thanks to our members who contributed toward the cost of the sculpture. Those gifts enabled League of Women Voters of Pulaski County to be listed amongst contributors toward the sculpture's creation.

## Info from our Observers Corp:

Thanks to Kathleen Oleson and Ruth Bell for the updates below.

- **Committee on Little Rock Governance:** The Committee plans to present its recommendations for changes in Little Rock governance to the City Board by late October. The City Board will consider the recommendations and decide what action, if any, to take in response to them. LWVoters PC member Kathleen Oleson continues observation of the committee.

- **City Planning Issues:** At the October 2 Little Rock City Board meeting the Board deferred until January hearing rezoning applications of two abutting properties in Hillcrest to allow their use as AirBnBs. The deferral will allow City Planning and Zoning staff to develop recommendations for appropriately siting this popular and widespread use. The need for and development as such zoning guidelines was part of our observer, Ruth Bell's comments when those AirBnB applications were heard at Planning Commission. LWVPC will continue to monitor Planning Commission and staff as the issue is studied.

### **Observing Opportunities:**

Please click links for calendar of each committee's meetings. I am also putting names of current League members who observe these meeting. If you have any interest in observing these ladies would love your help! If there are any other committees/observation opportunities you would like to suggest to the League, please let us know and we will add it to the next newsletter.

### [Volunteers in Public Schools](#)

Meets September to May on second Mondays at noon in the Fair Park Early Childhood Center on Harrison St. Contact Denise Ennett at 817.894.4628 or [ennettdenise@gmail.com](mailto:ennettdenise@gmail.com).

### [Jacksonville City Board](#)

Meets first and third Thursday at 6 pm. In the City Hall Council Chambers at 1 Municipal Drive, Jacksonville. Contact Rachel Howell at 501.942.3086 (H) 501.580.2782 (C) or [rachel\\_howell@yahoo.com](mailto:rachel_howell@yahoo.com)

### [Little Rock Planning Commission](#)

Meets every other Thursday at 3:30 for agenda meeting and the commission public meeting meets same day at 4 at Little Rock City Hall in the City Board Room. Contact Ruth Bell at 501.225.2538 or [rfbell@aristotle.net](mailto:rfbell@aristotle.net).

### [Little Rock Board of Directors:](#)

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6 pm. Agenda Board (to look at the items that will be discussed at the next board meeting) meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 4 pm. Both meet at Little Rock City Hall, 500 West Markham Street, Board of Directors Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Little Rock. Contact Kathleen Oleson at 501.664.2351.

### [County Planning Board](#)

Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month. Agenda discussion starts at 2:30 pm and actual meeting follows at 3pm. Held at Jeffery Hawkins Conference Room – Pulaski County Regional Center. 501 W. Markham Street, Little Rock. Contact Kathleen Oleson at 501.664.2351.

### [Quorum Court](#)

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month for agenda and then the full court meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. Both meetings start at 6 pm at 201 S. Broadway 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Quorum Court Room. Contact Kathleen Oleson at 501.664.2351 or Ruth Bell at 501.225.2538 or [rfbell@aristotle.net](mailto:rfbell@aristotle.net)

### [Central Arkansas Water Board](#)

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 2 pm at the 221 East Capitol, Little Rock. Contact Kathleen Oleson at 501.664.2351 or Ruth Bell at 501.225.2538 or [rfbell@aristotle.net](mailto:rfbell@aristotle.net)

### [Water Reclamation Commission](#)

Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 4 pm in little Rock Wastewater Offices, 11 Clearwater Drive. Currently no one is observing so we need someone to volunteer!!!!

Pulaski County Election Committee

Meets at Pulaski County Election Commission, 501 West Markham St., Suite A, Little Rock. Contact Mary Wildgen at [mzwildgen@ualr.edu](mailto:mzwildgen@ualr.edu)

Little Rock School District

Meet 5:30-6:30 at 810 Markham, Little Rock. Contact Norma Johnson at [norma\\_johnson58@yahoo.com](mailto:norma_johnson58@yahoo.com)

#### [MetroPlan](#)

Executive Committee meets at 501 West Markham St., Suite B, Little Rock on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every other month from 10 am-12 pm. Board meets last Wednesday of every other month from 10 am to 12 pm. Contact Mindy Morrell at 501 951 7773 or [mindymorrell@hotmail.com](mailto:mindymorrell@hotmail.com)

#### [North Little Rock Planning Commission:](#)

Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 4 pm at North Little Rock City Hall.

#### [North Little Rock City Council](#)

Meets every other Monday at 6 pm at City Council Chambers at City Hall. 300 Main Street, North Little Rock. Not certain if anyone is observing this meeting.

#### [North Little Rock School District:](#)

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month from 5:30 to 7 pm at 2700 North Poplar St., North Little Rock Administration Board Room. Not certain if anyone is observing this meeting. Not certain if anyone is observing this meeting.

[All Boards and Commissions for North Little Rock Government](#) are broken down at this link.

#### **Leadership Team For 2019-2020**

Ruth Bell- one year remaining. 501.225.2538 or [rfbell@aristotle.net](mailto:rfbell@aristotle.net)

Jogee Detchemendy - new term. 662.312.9277 or [jogeeduzzi@gmail.com](mailto:jogeeduzzi@gmail.com)

Devita Harden- Treasurer new term. 770.617.3096

Norma Johnson-new term. [norma\\_johnson58@yahoo.com](mailto:norma_johnson58@yahoo.com)

Carol Young- President one year remaining. 501.680.3947 or [cyoung8151@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cyoung8151@sbcglobal.net)

#### **League Links:**

[League of Women Voters \(National\)](#)

[League of Women Voters \(State of Arkansas\)](#)

[League of Women Voters of Pulaski County](#)

\*Special thanks to Michelle Rhoden for managing the LWVPC website.