



Voter

League of Women Voters of Loudoun County

September 2006

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What's on the Ballot?

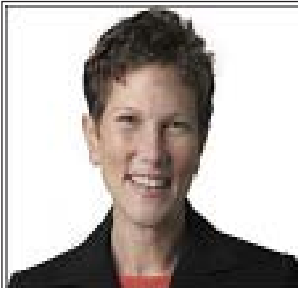
If you are are wondering about the nine bond referenda questions, or have questions about local transportation or school issues, the LWV Loudoun monthly Unit Meeting will feature a:

Public Information Session
September 14, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Leesburg Airport Conference Rm, 3rd floor

Speakers

Paul Arnett, Comptroller, County of Loudoun
Wayde Byard, Public Information Officer,
Loudoun County Public Schools
Terri Laycock, Assistant County Administrator

This is a great opportunity to hear first hand what is happening in Loudoun County and ask questions "up close and personal" of the experts. This meeting is open to all League members and guests.



Candidate Forum

10th Congressional District

Sponsored by Loudoun & Fairfax
Leagues of Women Voters
Tuesday, October 17, 7:30 - 9:30 pm
Dulles Hyatt
Moderator Hillary Howard
Washington Post Radio

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President's Column

By Betsy Mayr

Labor Day always starts the campaign season for November elections in earnest. I ask each of you to check our Web site, www.loudoun.va.lwvnet.org, for the latest in candidates, issues, and local bond information. The state voters' guide for the US Senate is now on the Web site along with the Proposed Constitutional Amendment definition of marriage. We will be adding more information as it is available.

The League of Women Voters of Virginia has taken a position against passage of the Marriage Amendment. They are partnering with the Commonwealth Coalition, which will allow League members to be involved with this group as individuals. The Loudoun League will be educating the public about this amendment (See insert in July 2006 Voter).

The Voter Services committee is working hard on the 10th District Congressional Forum Tuesday, October 17 from 7:30 - 9:30 pm at the Dulles Haytt on Route 28. Mark your calendars and plan on attending to hear from all four of the candidates.

We will also be sponsoring a booth at the Sterling Fest October 7 from 10:00 - 4:00. We need volunteers. There are so many activities you can get involved with and I do hope you will spend time learning about the candidates and the issues. Democracy doesn't work unless we all take the time

Betsy

Minds are like parachutes - they only function when open.

Thomas Dewar

We Need Meeting Space!

The LWV Loudoun Board is looking for a place to hold monthly unit (general membership) meetings. The facility should hold up to 100 persons and be available at no charge. If you have suggestions, please contact Jean Brown, 540-338-7628, oaklandbb@aol.com.

The Red Hat Voters

By Betsy Mayr

In July I had the pleasure of speaking with residents at Mirror Ridge at Community Village in Sterling to provide information on voter registration, the November ballot, and absentee ballots. I knew a Red Hat luncheon would be fun, but I didn't realize how much fun until they put a huge red hat on me. These ladies are smart - in July they wanted to know about the November election. Most people wait until late October to focus on issues. The 13 women and two honorary male members were familiar with the League of Women Voters and our services. Many were or had been members of the Fairfax or Maryland Leagues and had worked as Officers of Election in their polling places.

I distributed the Constitutional Amendment language and US Senate and 10th Congressional District candidate information.

They had questions about registering to vote in Loudoun County and absentee voting and were happy to know the ballot could be sent to them.

The big question was, "What is happening to our beautiful county with all the development? How can we stop growth?" The best answer is to know who you are voting for and whether the candidates will truly fight this battle once the elections are over. Their observation was that it is hard to determine who is right for office since the candidates sound the same. I gave them contact information for each candidate and encouraged them to do their research and ask questions. I was honored to speak to this well-informed group.

Mary Blevins Remembered

Mary Blevins, 79, a Sterling resident and past President of the LWV Loudoun County, passed away June 19. In a letter to the editor of the *Loudoun Times-Mirror*, former Senator Charles Waddell recalled her activism in the 1960s. Mrs. Blevins was responsible for getting a deputy registrar appointed by the Loudoun County Electoral Board and once registered 750 voters in one evening.

National, State, & Local League News

LWV Virginia

US Senator George Allen (R-VA) and Democratic challenger Jim Webb will debate October 9. The televised event is sponsored by the LWV VA.

National Capital Area

LWV National Capital Area is planning three events: President's Brunch October 6 at 10:00 am; a reception for the LWVUS Board October 27 from 6:30 - 8:30, and a seminar on DC Relationship with the Federal Government, date TBA.

LWV DC

September 26, 2006

Summer School 17th & M St, NW
The Need for Immigration Reform

Dr. Michele Waslin, Director of Immigration Policy Research, National Council of La Raza
\$25 - Call 202-222-0710 for reservations

DC Voting Rights Act Hearing is September 14, 2:00 pm in the Rayburn House Office Building. HR5388 gives historically Democratic District of Columbia its first voting member in the US House

LWV Maryland

Embassy Tour Wednesday, October 25. The tour include the Italian Embassy and an embassy from an underdeveloped country.

LWV Fairfax

A rededication of the Occoquan Workhouse Historic Marker took place July 15 with Leslie Byrne speaking on behalf of the LWVFA. The marker was originally dedicated by the League in 1982 to commemorate the Suffragists who were arrested in 1917 for picketing the White House for the right to vote. They were incarcerated in the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton, VA.

If you sent a hand-addressed letter to Jean Sagan around August 20, please contact her at 703-327-4346.

Calendar

2006

September 14 "Public Information" *
7 - 9 pm Unit Meeting, Leesburg Airport

September 16 LWVVA Fall Workshop

September 26 Board of Directors Meeting*
7 - 9 pm Leesburg Airport

October 6 NCA Board & President's Brunch
10 am - 2 pm LWVUS office, Washington DC

October 17 10th District Candidate Forum
7:30 - 9:30 pm Dulles Hyatt

December 6 VA Pre-session Roundtable
Richmond

2007

January 10 General Assembly Opens

February 7 Local LWV Lobby Day Richmond

April 28-29 LWV VA Convention Richmond

May 12 NCA Annual Meeting

June 9-11 LWVUS Council Meeting

*** Open to all League members**

I'm not a person who thinks the world would be entirely different if it was run by women. If you think that, you've forgotten what high school was like.

Former Secretary of State Madeline Albright

Internet Sources of Information

LWV US - www.lwv.org/

LWV VA - <http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org>

General Assembly - <http://legis.state.va.us/>

VA Board of Elections - www.sbe.state.va.us/



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF LOUDOUN COUNTY**

P.O. Box 822, Leesburg, Virginia 20178

Please add my voice to the 120,000 members and supporters nationwide!

Please make checks payable to: *LWVLC* and send them to:

Hatsy Cutshall, Treasurer
20371 Cockerill Road
Purcellville VA 20132

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City & State _____

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Virginia 20178**

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Betsy Mayr – President

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