



The Voter

The League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, MO

LUNCH & LEARN JANUARY 17: NANETTE WARD

Nanette Ward, Co-Chair of the Central Missouri Stop Human Trafficking Coalition, will be our Lunch & Learn speaker on Tuesday, January 17 from noon to 1:00. We will meet at Conley Rd. Hy-Vee (near Sam's Club off East Broadway).

Human trafficking is the second largest and fastest growing crime worldwide. In the U.S., trafficking is reported in all 50 states, in large and small cities, in urban and rural communities. It happens in Mid-Missouri. Victims of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation are foreign-born and domestic women, men and children. The demands for cheap products, cheap labor and sex for purchase fuel this \$150 billion criminal industry.

Nanette Ward will tell us about the work of the Central Missouri Stop Human Trafficking Coalition. They strive to raise awareness about human trafficking for identification and prevention, raise funds for financial assistance to survivors with unmet needs, and provide direct support to survivors on their journey towards wholeness. Numerous partners have engaged with the Coalition in these efforts.

The public is encouraged to attend and learn about this major crime activity and how they might help in the efforts to end it.

— Marilyn McLeod



LEGISLATOR TOWN HALL FEBRUARY 2

The election is over and now we turn our attention to the 2017 Missouri State Legislative session. Our annual Legislator Town Hall will be on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at the Columbia

Public Library at 7 p.m. We will invite all of the Boone County State Representatives and State Senator.

— Carol Schreiber



EXAMINING FREE SPEECH IN A DIGITAL ERA: FEBRUARY 13

The LWV will co-sponsor a program with the Columbia Public Library on the Bill of Rights and free speech in digital times on Monday, Feb. 13 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a panel composed of scholars from the Kinder Institute on Constitutional

Democracy, and a journalist, to discuss this important and very timely topic.

— Marilyn McLeod



YOUR LWV IN ACTION: UPDATE ON VOTER RIGHTS IN MISSOURI

In spite of our best efforts, Amendment 6, requiring a government specified photo voter identification in MO, passed during our last election. Please know that League members, and a network of people across the state, are committed to doing whatever we can to enable all Missourians to vote. Many of the details of Amendment 6, and of course the funding, remain to be worked out by legislators in Jefferson City in the coming session.

Denise Lieberman, staff attorney and Missouri Voter Protection Advocate for the Advancement Project, a national civil rights and racial justice

organization based in Washington D.C., continues to lead us in this effort. Some of you may have heard her this fall when she spoke at the Columbia Public Library. For more information about the Advancement Project, see— <http://www.advancementproject.org/people/entry/denise-lieberman>

During a phone conference in November, Denise invited Kathleen Unger of VoterRiders (<http://www.voteriders.org/about/voteriders/team>) to speak about their experience with other states already requiring specific

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BOARD MEETING REPORT

At our November 28 meeting we looked back at our busy fall and forward to our busy spring. LWV never rests!

We had a debriefing discussion on the November election. The campaign to defeat Amendment 6 (Voter ID) failed to convince the voters, and we must consider next steps. We will be following the General Assembly's actions to fund the provision in their Voter ID legislation requiring the Secretary of State's office to assist voters with the costs of documents required to obtain an ID. Birth and marriage certificates (to prove a change of name) from other states or countries could be costly and/or difficult for citizens to obtain. Does this constitute something like a "poll tax" on some voters? Legal action is sure to follow. At the LWV state conference in November we learned that the focus for the coming year will be on money in politics. We will follow the implementation of the other amendment passed on November 8, campaign finance limits.

To inform ourselves on the upcoming session of the General Assembly, several Board members signed up to contact local legislators for interviews. We are still in the process of setting these up, but will share the findings with members when we have them. The Board also passed our new nonpartisan policy (see article below) that should help Board members and general members explain what "nonpartisan" means to LWV. At our annual holiday gathering we

celebrated 2016 by enjoying great food and friendship, and collected a big pile of men's socks for Room at the Inn.

In the new year we look forward to an exciting program on the Bill of Rights in conjunction with the Columbia Public Library and the Missouri Humanities Council, our annual Legislator forum, and gearing up for the April election. We also have great CAT-TV and Lunch & Learn sessions planned. Be sure to check the calendar for these. The Membership Committee will continue to stay in contact with current members and brainstorm ways to increase our numbers so that we can sustain our valuable activities into the future.

Happy New Year! Onward we go!

— Peggy Placier and Diane Suhler
Co-Presidents



FRIENDS OF THE LWV OF COLUMBIA-BOONE COUNTY

The LWV of Columbia-Boone County recognizes the many organizations and individuals who have helped us educate the public, provided meeting space and given of their time, talent and treasure to the LWV. Each month we recognize a group of our Friends of the LWV as voted on by the LWV of Columbia-Boone County membership at our Annual Meeting on April 25, 2016. For January 2017 we recognize:

- **Columbia Public Library** for co-sponsoring and hosting many of our forums and providing meeting rooms. And, we thank **Patricia Miller** for setting up our forum and refreshment rooms.
- **KOPN** radio for re-broadcasting our forums.
- **Sam Griffin** for providing our audio services for our forums.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

LWV-CBC NONPARTISAN POLICY

At the November 28 meeting the board adopted a new nonpartisan policy. LWVUS asked all state and local leagues to develop such policies because of questions (both from the press and members) about our nonpartisan stance on the

election. Thank you to Barbara Hoppe, Lael Von Holt, and Dick Parker for developing a clear draft policy for us to consider. The policy will provide all members with ways to answer questions about LWV's nonpartisan stance.

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Shannon Laboy, Verna Laboy, Lois Hightower, Nicole McGruder, and Adrian Clifton pose together after Verna Laboy received the first annual Liz Schmidt Community Service Award at the Fall Luncheon on Nov. 15 at Jack's.

LABOY RECEIVES AWARD

The first annual Liz Schmidt Community Service Award was presented to Verna Laboy at the Fall Luncheon on Nov. 15.

Verna certainly builds communities everywhere she lives! She came to Columbia as a single mother with children and soon found the neighborhood she could afford had drug dealers and no sense of community. No problem for Verna! She planted flowers, rewarded the children for acts of kindness, and organized her neighbors to rout the dealing neighbors. She put a picnic table in her front yard for all to enjoy (even the police)! Do not mess with Verna!

She continues to be a community builder with the Worley Street Round Table she started, where neighbors, particularly parents, meet to create a positive network for their children. Their children do not have a school assessment meeting without members of their community present. In addition, children are taught to call on this network when they are stressed or having problems. Recently, ten parents of the group were taken to the MU career center to take a test to identify their assets to help them understand their strengths.

The League could not have chosen a more appropriate recipient for this award. Liz Schmidt spent her life connecting people to make Columbia a better place to live. Verna continues that work of community building and her children are continuing her work in their own careers!

— Meredith Donaldson

THANK YOU TO NICK AND DIANE PECKHAM FOR HOME TOUR!

A BIG THANK YOU to Nick & Diane Peckham. The LWVCBC Board toured their new 3,000+ sq. ft., highly sustainable and energy efficient home/office, located at the Columbia Country Club on Nov.20. It is LEAD Platinum certified and actually produces energy for the City of Columbia. (For example, their July 2016 utility bill was minus \$197, because they generated more power than they used.)

After the tour we relaxed in the living room, enjoyed a glass of wine, asked questions and discussed larger related issues, like climate change, that make energy efficient sustainable homes so crucial to our survival.

Nick's unique, patent pending, four inch R42 insulated interlocking wall and foundation construction greatly contributes to the home's energy efficiency. Large windows, composed of 4 layers of glass, maximize window insulation. Air circulation is designed for maximum energy efficiency and healthy air flow. Hot water is produced by a tankless "on demand" energy saving system. In addition, solar roof panels were placed to maximize sun exposure, yet were not readily visible from either the back or front of the house.

This unique home/office is not only extremely energy efficient, it is also very sustainable. The beautiful wood floors are made from recycled barn oak over sustainable aspen wood from Colorado. An underground "gray water system" collects rainwater and is used for the toilets and all outdoor water needs. Columbia recycled bricks were used on the front entrance. It was an informative and inspiring tour. Thank you Nick & Diane!

— Barbara Hoppe



Nick Peckham, local architect, explains the energy efficient features of his new home/office to Win and Jack Colwill on Nov. 20.

CAT TV JANUARY 11: ROOM AT THE INN AND HOMELESSNESS IN COLUMBIA



Homelessness in Columbia will be the topic of our January 11 CAT TV show. The panel will include Rockie Alden, Public Relations Chair, Room-at-the-Inn; Marcus Reynolds, Director of Turning Point; and Katie Burnham Wilkins, MSW, LCSW, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program Coordinator at Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital. Jim Robertson, managing editor, from the *Columbia Daily Tribune* will be our moderator.

The show airs live at 7:00 p.m. on January 11. The program will be available on our website or at www.columbiaaccess.tv. The show replays on CAT TV at 7:00 a.m. on Tues, Thurs and Sat and 7:30 p.m. on Mon, Wed, Fri and Sun. CAT TV can be found on Mediacom Channel 85, Charter Communications 983, and CenturyTel Prism 98.

— Carol Schreiber

LWV-CBC NONPARTISAN POLICY (Cont'd from p.2)

The following is a summary of the policy; the full text can be found on our website at <https://lwvcbc.org/> and on our Facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lwvcbc/> League of Women Voters – Columbia, MO) under Files.

The preface of the policy states that:

League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, MO, (herein LWVCBC) in accordance with LWVUS neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for public office. Our nonpartisan policy has added strength to LWVCBC positions on issues and has made possible wide acceptance of LWVCBC voter service and other educational activities.

At the same time, LWVCBC is a political policy organization and encourages members to participate fully in the political party of their choice. It is an advantage to LWVCBC to have politically active members and, equally important, it can be a personally satisfying experience.

Membership in LWVCBC does not require bowing out of partisan political activity. Our general members may serve in political positions or on boards/commissions, support candidates, display yard signs for candidates (unless simultaneously displaying a LWV sign), and submit letters to the editor or make speeches (without representing their positions as LWV positions without prior approval).

Many of the provisions of the policy pertain to board members and especially certain officers, who are most vulnerable to public charges of partisanship. For example, board members may not:

- serve as officers of a political party;
- run for or hold an elected political office;
- lobby for a position in opposition to or in conflict with the LWVCBC position while identified as a member of LWV.

However, acting as individuals board members may be members of political parties, support candidates in a number of ways (including financially) or hold appointive political offices.

The Board President(s), Voter Service Chair, and Legislative Action Chair, however, may not:

- publicly support a candidate for partisan political office or make campaign contributions that will appear on donor lists;
- circulate or sign nominating petitions;
- hold events for candidates for political offices;
- hold a leadership office in another organization that primarily supports or opposes political parties or candidates;

Finally, LWVCBC candidate forums must include at least two candidates for each office. If only one candidate attends, the portion for that elected office will be canceled. Ballot issue forums must have presenters for opposing sides of the issue. Educational forums on issues on which LWV has not taken an official position should present alternative views. If LWV has taken a position on the issue, alternative views are not required.

If the policy raises a question for you, please contact one of the Co-Presidents and we will try to address it.

— Peggy Placier

Right: Diane Suhler, Bill Clark, Elaine Blodgett and Sharon Schneeberger at the Holiday Social on December 8.

Below: Susan Daniels, Shirley Troth and Meredith Donaldson at the Holiday Social.



Above: Joni O'Connor and Joan Mudrick wore "Votes for Women" sashes at the Nov. 15 Fall Luncheon at Jack's Restaurant.

Left: Photo from the Holiday Social, held at the Family Resources Center on Dec. 8. Seated: Carol Schreiber, Marilyn McLeod and Dick Parker. Standing: Mike Sleadd and Barbara Hoppe.

Aline Kultgen, David Leuthold, Ellen Atkins, Barbara Hoppe, Mehdi and Melinda Farhangi, and Win Colwill enjoy visiting with each other at the Fall Luncheon at Jack's Restaurant.





Upcoming League Events!



JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 CAT-TV Homelessness in Columbia 7:00 p.m.	12 Columbia Values Diversity Breakfast 7:00 a.m.	13	14
15	16	17 Lunch & Learn Nanette Ward Human Trafficking Noon	18	19	20	21 Women's March on Washington
22	23 Board Meeting Boone Cty Family Resource Center 1209 E Walnut 6:30 p.m.	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	FEB 1	2 Legislator Town Hall Public Library 7:00 p.m.	3	4
5	6	7	8 CAT-TV 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11
12	13 Bill of Rights Program 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Lunch & Learn Barbara Buffaloe City Sustainability Noon	22	23	24	25
26	27 Board Meeting Boone Cty Family Resource Center 1209 E Walnut 6:30 p.m.	28				

LWV 2017 CALENDARS: We still have a few copies of the 2017 LWV calendars available. The price is \$6 each. If you would like to purchase a calendar, please contact Marilyn McLeod at Marilyn_mcleod@yahoo.com or call 573-445-3500. Thanks!

LWV Officers:

Co-Presidents: Diane Suhler (443-0549) and Peggy Placier (442-2996)
 1st VP: Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)
 2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)
 Secretary: Carol Schreiber (657-1467)
 Treasurer: David Leuthold (449-1358)

Elected Directors:

Rachel Brekhus (875-4295)
 Joni O'Connor (234-1012)
 Meredith Donaldson (289-3015)
 Barbara Hoppe (443-5107)
 Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)
 Mahree Skala (474-2195)
 Pam Springsteel (445-0642)
 Shirley Troth (443-7033)

Appointed Directors:

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803)
 Dick Parker (256-4397)
 Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

Committee Chairs:

Budget: Shirley Troth
 Civil Liberties: Open position
 Education: Open position
 Energy Matters: Dick Parker
 Fundraising Chair: Pam Springsteel
 Health: Mahree Skala
 Hospitality: Pam Springsteel
 Membership: Meredith Donaldson
 Mental Health: Lael Von Holt
 Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Local Website: lwcabc.org
 State: lvmissouri.org
 National: lvw.org
 Local Voter Information Portal: lwcolumbiamo.turbovote.org
 Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

2017 LEAGUE DUES ARE NOW DUE!



Thank you very much for your continued support for our organization. It is greatly appreciated! If you receive the Voter by mail, your label will say (17) if your dues are up to date. We are preparing for the upcoming Town Hall with state legislators, plus our educational forums on a wide array of important topics. Membership dues are \$65 for individuals, \$100 for a household, and

\$25 for local students. Individual and household memberships also include state (LWVMO) and national (LWVUS) membership.

Send to PO Box 239, Columbia, MO. 65205

Name _____

Email Address _____

Street _____

City _____

State and Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

I am particularly interested in _____.

I would like to receive my Voter by email _____

(Note: Tax deductible donations to the Education Fund should be a separate check payable to LWVMO Education Fund.)

INAUGURAL SOCIAL HOUR

LWVCBC has been invited to attend the first Inaugural Social Hour on January 16, 6-8:00pm at the Craft Beer Cellar at 111 S. 9th St. The event will include members of many community organizations who will discuss their goals for the coming year. LWV will share our nonpartisan stance, positions on issues, and ideas about engaging and informing voters. If you have Facebook, you can find the event and register at <https://www.facebook.com/events/181805268955804/>. Or contact Peggy Placier at pplacier@centurylink.net or 573-999-4837 and I will try to get you registered.

CAT TV: DOGS IN CANCER TREATMENT PROGRAM RESCHEDULED

Our November CAT TV show on Dogs really are Man's Best Friend in Cancer Treatment has been rescheduled to March 8, 2017. Our guest, Dr. Jeffrey Bryan from the University of Missouri's Veterinary Medical School, had to cancel at the last minute.
 — Carol Schreiber



League of Women Voters

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

YOUR LWV IN ACTION: VOTER RIGHTS IN MISSOURI (cont'd from p.1)

voter photo identification. Kathleen said that in every state with this requirement voting has become more complex. Further, she said voters in these states had to be educated about the fact that to vote they must not only be registered but they also must have the required identification.

Therefore, our job to enable people to vote continues. And, toward that end we will continue to

register and educate voters about new requirements (as soon as they are clearly defined).

Also, for those who are interested, I recommend the book Give Us the Ballot: The modern struggle for voting rights in America by Ari Berman. It contains details and tells a remarkable story of voting rights in our country. You can find copies of the book at the Daniel Boone Regional Library.

— Sharon Schneeberger

