



# The Voter

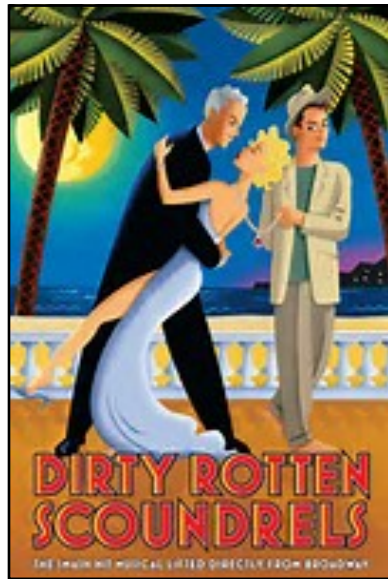
The League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, MO

## JUNE 7: DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS!!



Hurry! There may still be some tickets left for this year's fundraiser play, in conjunction with the Columbia Entertainment Company, which will be held on Wednesday, June 7.

Based on the popular 1988 MGM film, "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" is the story of two con men, a beautiful woman and the elite of the French Riviera who collide in this sexy and irreverent farce. This is a hilarious battle of "cons" that will keep audiences laughing, humming and guessing to the end!



It has a jazzy score that was nominated for eleven Tony Awards. We know you will love it!

The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with a gala hour of hors d'oeuvres and wine/iced tea provided by local restaurants. The play starts at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25. You can be an underwriter for \$100 and receive 5 tickets. To order tickets, contact Marilyn McLeod at (573) 445-3500 or send an email to: [lwwcbc@gmail.com](mailto:lwwcbc@gmail.com) with your request for tickets.

— Marilyn McLeod

## JULY 11: BOONE COUNTY'S MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS AND COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS



Our local area faces issues related to criminal justice, the homeless and the mentally ill. A panel addressing these issues will be held on Tuesday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m. (refreshments at 6:30 p.m.) at the Columbia Public Library.

Cosponsored by the Boone County Commission, League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County and the Columbia Public Library, this event will feature local experts who will provide information about the various local initiatives addressing these issues.

Panelists will include Kelly Wallis, Boone County Community Services Department; Steve Hollis,

Columbia/Boone County Health Department; Kelli Canada--MU School of Social Work; Rusty Antel--Walther, Antel & Stamper, Chair, Judicial & Law Enforcement Task Force; Katie Burnham Wilkins, Truman Veterans' Hospital; Keith Hoskins, Boone County Jail; and John Cummins, MU Hospital, Chief Resident in Psychiatry.

David Lile of KFRU will facilitate the discussion. We hope to have a very informative event encouraging local citizen engagement in helping in these efforts. This event is free and open to the public.

— Marilyn McLeod

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## BOARD MEETING REPORT

The Annual Meeting provided a time for stimulating conversation, an interesting speaker, recognition of outstanding League members, good food and drink and, of course, some League business. The event was held in the Friend's Room of the Daniel Boone Regional Library with approximately 30 members in attendance. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Eleanor Goodge Award to Elaine Blodgett. Elaine was recognized for her many years of service to our local League, as well as her leadership at the state level. Kudos Elaine!!

Tom Warhover of the MU School of Journalism was the guest speaker for the occasion. Mr. Warhover presented an interesting talk on "The Relationship of Journalism, Politics, and Politicians." A major focus of his talk was on the different perspectives of groups in our society and the difficulty in bridging these differences to arrive at common goals and common ground.

The Annual Meeting always provides a good opportunity for us to step back and review the activities of the past year. The 'Annual Report to Members' presented an impressive summation of all of the work our members have done over the last year—candidate and ballot issue forums, Legislators' town halls, voter registration events, advocacy against Voter ID, member and public education, a host of social events, and so much more. It has been a busy year and our members deserve a heartfelt "thank you" for all of their hard work and effort.

Several items of business were also addressed at our meeting. Members voted on and welcomed

two new board members—Vena Long and Gayla Neumeyer. Linda Lou Brown was selected to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. We also voted to accept the proposed list of the Friends of the LWV. The budget for the 2017-18 year was presented and discussed. Members unanimously voted to accept the proposed budget. There were two additional items of business that resulted in lengthy discussions—amendments to the By-Laws and changing the status of the League to 501c3. Both items were approved by the membership.

The events of the evening ended with a resounding Thank You to Peggy Placier for her two years of service as co-president of our League. Peggy's steady and strong leadership has been much appreciated.

As the evening came to a close, there was a sense that this has been a productive meeting . . . an enjoyable evening . . . a fitting end to a successful year . . . and a beginning of a new year of activities and programs.

— Diane Suhler, President



## 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 19, 2017. For June 2017 we recognize:

- **Tim Harlan** and **Dr. Aaron Thompson** for speaking at our May 2016 Lunch and Learn on "Recognizing Mental Health Month".
- **Connie Kacprowicz** and **John Conway** for being our guests on the May 2016 CAT TV show entitled "Will Columbia Meet its Renewable Energy Standard? An Update on Columbia Power Production".
- Restaurants providing appetizers or wine for our June 2016 fundraising CEC play: **44 Stone Public House; ABC Chinese Cuisine; Broadway Brewery; House of Chow; Les Bourgeois Vineyards; Room 38; and World Harvest Foods.**
- **Columbia Entertainment Company** for hosting our annual fundraising play in June 2016.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

## JUNE 9: YOUTH TOWN HALL WITH STATE LEGISLATORS AND CANDIDATES



Jacob Schelp was inspired by attending recent LWV election forums and our Legislator Town Hall. Jacob is completely hooked on politics, and it began with the forums. He wants to share his love of government and politics with his peers, so he and a friend decided to host a Youth Town Hall. Rep. Kendrick, Rep Basye, Rep Reisch, Rep Stevens, and Senator Rowden have all agreed to attend.

The boys are doing all the work, from contacting the legislators to the advertising. They will be on the radio with David Lile a week before the event, and they will also be running the event.

The Town Hall will be on Friday, June 9 at the Columbia Public Library at 2:00 p.m. One boy will moderate, the youth attending will write questions on note cards, and the moderator will ask the questions. They will also have moderator questions.

Here is a link to the website Jacob made about the event: <https://historykid135.wixsite.com/youthtownhallmeeting> .

His friend created an event page on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/events/226670144486149/>

— Carol Schreiber

## JULY 18: HOW TO RUN FOR OFFICE



Are you or is someone you know interested in running for public office? Our League chapter and the Columbia Public Library will provide a workshop – “How to Run for Office” -- to help citizens interested in running for public office on Tuesday, July 18th at 7 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library.

Columbia City Council person Barbara Hoppe, former Boone County Commissioner Karen Miller and former state representative Nancy Copenhaver will present information on how to

run for local, county or state offices.

We encourage you to pass this information to other groups you are involved with, so that anyone interested in running for office will be able to get some valuable information. The Springfield LWV had several workshops encouraging women to run for public office. Last year Springfield elected Rep. Crystal Quade and she had attended one of the workshops!

— Carol Schreiber & Marilyn McLeod



## Want To Run For Office?

## JULY 20: FIX IT - HEALTHCARE AT THE TIPPING POINT

The dysfunction in our health care system will be the focus of a program titled “FIX IT: Healthcare at the Tipping Point.” The program will be available twice on July 20, 2017 at 4:00 and 7:00 pm in the Friends Room at the Columbia Public Library.

The featured documentary, produced by the Unfinished Business Foundation, takes an in-depth look into how our dysfunctional health care system

is damaging our economy, suffocating our businesses, discouraging physicians and negatively impacting on the nation's health, while remaining unaffordable for a third of our citizens. A panel will share their perspectives and answer questions after the film.



— Mahree Skala

## LUNCH & LEARN: THE CHILDREN'S GROVE

For our Lunch and Learn program in May, and in recognition of Mental Health Month, the League of Women Voters presented an inspiring educational program by a panel of seven speakers from the Children's Grove.

The Children's Grove is a community, not-for-profit organization committed to the health, mental health and well being of our children and youth, in a culture of kindness. Children's Grove is also a garden area at Stephens Lake Park, dedicated on May 3, 2014.

We learned a lot from this Lunch and Learn forum about many of the CG activities such as the planting of magnolia kindness trees through out our community (including the goal of all schools), the highlighting of mental health awareness and Mental Health First Aid training, promoting the values of the arts, of books and libraries, and featuring the Youth Ambassador Program.

The CG speakers panel at this forum included:

- Anne Deaton Ph.D. Chair and Founder of CG
- Yash Khanna, Youth Ambassador CG
- James Melton, Chair of CG Advisory Board
- Pete Miller, Landscape Director, Tree/Bench Program

- Lesley Thalhuber M.Ed, LPC, Outreach Counselor, Rock Bridge High School
- Sarah Marie Traub, Instructor, Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Kayla West, Youth Ambassador CG

Our thanks go out to all speakers for an excellent Lunch and Learn program, in recognition of Mental Health Month. Special thanks go out to Anne Deaton for her strong leadership in guiding the CG's panel presentation.

"A Single Act of Kindness Can Change A Life Forever".

— Lael Von Holt



## EDUCATION FORUM: CIVIC EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

On April 11, 2017, Dr. Susan Adler, professor emerita, University of Missouri, Kansas City and past president of the National Council for the Social Studies, outlined the history of civic education and concluded her remarks with a perfect quote from John Dewey: "Democracy has to be born anew every generation and education is the midwife." (Her full presentation is posted on our website.)

Following Dr. Adler, Nicholas Kremer, Social Studies Coordinator for the Columbia Public Schools, outlined the curriculum CPS follows from kindergarten through high school. Terry Schlemeier, retired lobbyist and contributor to

the Columbia Tribune, gave the history of education from a "general public" perspective.

Contributing from the large audience were Dr. Steve Belko, Executive Director of the Missouri Humanities Council; Dr. Dixie Grupe, current, and Dr. Warren Solomon, past, Social Studies Coordinators for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Co-sponsors of the forum included the Missouri Humanities Council, the Daniel Boone Regional Library and the Columbia Chapter of the AAUW.

— Vena Long

## REDISTRICTING WITHOUT GERRYMANDERING??

Did you know the word gerrymandering was originally written Gerry-mander? In 1812, it was named for Governor Elbridge Gerry who redistricted Massachusetts to benefit his Democratic-Republican Party. For word lovers, gerrymander is a portmanteau of the governor's last name and the word salamander.



The National League of Women Voters has created an Action Kit on Redistricting. The introduction points out that:

- You have a right to expect that your vote will matter in choosing your representative.
- Your community has the right to choose representatives who are accountable and reflective of the people who live in their district.

Unfortunately, politicians often draw their own district maps to maintain their electoral advantage

and manipulate the democratic process. (To see the MO district map go here- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri>

[%27s\\_congressional\\_districts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri)

Here are some resources to read and consider as we prepare for redistricting after the 2020 census—

From the LWV, the Redistricting Action Kit- <http://forum.lwv.org/document/redistricting-action-kit>

From Vox, a video showing an algorithm to help end gerrymandering-

<https://twitter.com/ezraklein/status/854046604852170752?>

[t=1&cn=ZmxleGlibGVfcmVjcw%3D%3D&refsrc=email&iid=dcbecd17c70e486f8a12de663694a54e&uid=146052541&nid=244+289476625](https://twitter.com/ezraklein/status/854046604852170752?)

— Sharon Schneeberger

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## LEAGUE CELEBRATES SUPREME COURT RULING IN NORTH CAROLINA REDISTRICTING CASE

### SUPREME COURT FINDS NORTH CAROLINA REDISTRICTING UNCONSTITUTIONAL ON RACIAL GERRYMANDERING

Washington, DC – The United States Supreme Court ruled Monday that North Carolina lawmakers used racial considerations to draw congressional districts following the 2010 Census. This unconstitutional racial gerrymandering benefited one political party's power in the state.

"This is a major win in the battle for fair election districts," said League of Women Voters president Chris Carson. "The Court rejected North Carolina's claim that a racial gerrymander can be justified by arguing that it is a political gerrymander, which is allowed by law."

The League of Women Voters filed an amicus brief with the Campaign Legal Center in this case, arguing that "post hoc explanations by the legislature that the lines it drew were based on partisan concerns cannot override evidence that race, not politics, was the primary motivation in drawing district lines."

"This is a critical win where racial and political gerrymanders intersect," continued Carson. "The claim by the North Carolina legislature that the lines drawn were based on partisan concerns cannot override evidence that race, not politics, was the primary motivation in drawing district lines."

The Court rejected this argument twice.

First, it held that the actual evidence in the case showed that this was a racial gerrymander. Second, it rejected the state's argument that a unique type of evidence, which was not present, is required to overcome the state's claim that a political rather than a racial gerrymander took place.

— Sarah Courtney | 202-263-1332 | [scourtney@lwv.org](mailto:scourtney@lwv.org)



**Upcoming League Events!**



**JUNE/JULY 2017**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	JUNE 1	2	3
4	5 <b>LWV on Paul Pepper</b> KBIA 8:50 a.m.	6	7 <b>DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS!</b> Columbia Entertainment Co. 6:30 p.m. Social Hour Hors d'oeuvres and Drinks, 7:30 p.m. Play	8	9 <b>YOUTH TOWN HALL</b> Library Friends Room 2:00 p.m.	19
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 <b>Board Meeting and Planning Session</b> UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 <b>Public Forum on New Voter ID Law</b> Columbia Public Library 6-8 p.m.	27	28	29	30	JULY 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <b>HOMELESSNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH FORUM</b> Columbia Public Library 7:00 p.m., refreshments 6:30 p.m.	12 <b>CAT-TV</b> Implementation of <b>New Photo Voter ID Law</b> 7:00 p.m.	13	14	15
16	17	18 <b>HOW TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE WORKSHOP</b> Columbia Public Library 7:00 p.m.,	19	20	21	22
23	24 <b>Board Meeting</b> UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd 6:30 p.m.	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	AUGUST 1	2	3	4	5

**LWV Officers:**

President: Diane Suhler (443-0549)  
 1st VP: Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605)  
 2nd VP: Ava Fajen (424-6683)  
 Secretary: Carol Schreiber (657-1467)  
 Treasurer: David Leuthold (449-1358)

**Elected Directors:**

Joni O'Connor (234-1012)  
 Meredith Donaldson (289-3015)  
 Barbara Hoppe (443-5107)  
 Vena Long (777-2487)  
 Marilyn McLeod (445-3500)  
 Gayla Neumeyer (882-8366)  
 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: Vena Long  
 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: [lwvcbc.org](http://lwvcbc.org)  
 State: [lwvmissouri.org](http://lwvmissouri.org)  
 National: [lwv.org](http://lwv.org)  
 Local Voter Information Portal:  
[lwvcolumbiamo.turbovote.org](http://lwvcolumbiamo.turbovote.org)  
 Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS:  
 DELIVERY OF VOTER**

In order to use our resources wisely, on January 23 the Board voted to approve a new policy for delivering *The Voter*. **We will send *The Voter* by post only if it is requested (or the member doesn't have email service).** Any member may request to receive paper copies by contacting Marilyn McLeod at 573-445-3500 or [lwvcbc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcbc@gmail.com). Members without e-mails will, of course, continue to receive paper copies in the mail.

**2017 LEAGUE DUES ARE NOW DUE!**



Thank you very much for your continued support for our organization. It is greatly appreciated! We are preparing for the upcoming Cat TV programs, Lunch & Learn programs, annual membership meeting, fundraiser play, 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.)



If you plan to be away this summer and you want to receive your "Voter" by postal mail, please send your alternate address to [lwvcbc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcbc@gmail.com) or call Marilyn at (573) 445-3500 and note the time frame.



**League of Women Voters**

PO Box 239

Columbia MO 65205

<http://lwvcbc.org>

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## **BIG PHARMA: MARKET FAILURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

LWV of Columbia/Boone County co-sponsored an educational event on May 18. A panel of physicians and consumers showed and discussed the documentary "Big Pharma: Market Failure," which presents a picture of the current US prescription drug market from the point of view of a businessman who provides health insurance for his employees. It examines the forces that drive up drug prices in the US, including our patent system, corporate mergers and acquisitions, and the enormous sums spent on drug marketing.

The US is one of only two countries in the world that does not use its buying power (for Medicare) to negotiate down the price of prescription drugs, so we pay twice the industrial world average. Even generic drug manufacturers have begun inflating their US

prices. The panelists shared the impact of high drug prices on their lives and those of their patients.

View the film at <https://fixithehealthcare.com/big-pharma-movie/>. Business Leaders Transforming Healthcare, a national coalition of 128 corporations, is supporting action. Other local co-sponsors of the event were the MO Rural Crisis Center, MU Center for Health Policy, Physicians for a National Health Program, Missourians for Single Payer and Missouri Healthcare For All.



— Mahree Skala

