



THE VOTER

LOCAL LEAGUE: www.lawrenceleague.com. www.facebook.com/lwvdc. www.twitter.com/lwvdc

22 October HOT TOPIC !!

Same Sex Marriage is legal - So now what? On June 26, 2015, the United States Supreme Court ruled that same sex marriage is a Constitutional Right. Lawrence attorney David Brown will talk about all of the remaining unresolved issues surrounding this decision.

David Brown opened his law firm in Lawrence in 1992. His clients include heterosexuals, grandparents, and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) persons. He recently represented a same sex Lawrence couple in a parentage action when KDHE refused to issue a birth certificate naming them both parents of the child. <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2015/oct/08/state-agrees-issue-birth-certificates-listing-same/> and in July won his case against the Kansas Department of Revenue (pending since 2013) for their refusal to allow same sex couples to file joint tax returns. <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2015/jul/24/court-rules-gay-couples-kansas-tax-case/>

League Calendar

Thurs. Oct. 22nd Hot Topic!

11:30 social Same Sex Marriage is Legal, So now what?
Noon speech Lawrence Library Auditorium
 707 Vermont Street

Sat. Oct 24th League Day Topeka (see pages 5 & 6)

9 am - 3 pm Westminster Presbyterian Church
 1275 SW Boswell, Topeka, KS

Thurs. Nov 12th lwvdc Board meeting

7 pm- 9pm Lawrence Library meeting room
 707 Vermont Street

Fri. Nov 13th Voter deadline

10 pm Information for the Voter should be provided to Debra Duncan at herditb4@me.com

Sat. Nov. 14th Land Use Committee

7 pm The Merc Co-op
 901 Iowa Street

Nov. Hot Topic coming soon

For more information on Thursday's Hot Topic speaker visit:

<http://www.davidbrownlaw.com>



Volunteers Needed to Register Voters

With an election year coming up we will be ramping up our voter registration drive. To keep from overwhelming a handful of people we would like a pool of volunteers to draw from. If you are interested in registering voters please contact Cille King at 841-6018 or cilleking@gmail.com. Training will be provided.

Land Use Committee

The Land Use Committee met in September and October. The Committee did not find any agenda items of concern for either month.

There was little discussion regarding the items on the September agenda. The October agenda had one item that was slightly controversial:

Consider a request to rezone approximately 2.96 acres located at 1501 Learnard Avenue from RS7 (Single-Dwelling Residential) District to IL (Limited Industrial).

This is the vacant Sunrise Garden Center property.

President’s Message

With a Presidential election year quickly approaching (and state elections for both the House and Senate) insuring that every Kansan is registered to vote is crucial.

As you all know, Secretary of State Kobach issued a rule eliminating the 35,000+ voters on the suspense list after 90 days. The rule took effect on October 2. Local League members have been working to contact people on the list, including going door to door. Our excellent Douglas County elections office is also doing everything within their power to notify the 1,400+ suspended voters in Douglas County. They have also chosen to use October 2, 2015 as the first day of the 90 days, which means people have until December 30, 2015 to complete their registrations.

According to the Douglas County Elections Facebook page:

“any suspense voter on the list as of October 2nd will be part of a 90 day information and outreach process. Each suspense voter will receive multiple mail reminders with a specific date for potential removal followed with staff contact via phone if possible. No voter will be removed without at least 90 days of contact and opportunity to know their rights and responsibilities. I consider the right to vote as a fundamental cornerstone of our democracy and our office is committed to protecting that right for all Douglas County citizens.”

If you are interested in learning more about the suspense list, come to League Day! The agenda is on page 5, application on page 6. — Debra

Land Use Cont..

The rezoning was recommended by planning staff. The Committee learned that the Barker neighborhood association met with the Planning Staff and the property owner on Friday night to discuss their concerns and address various issues. It is our understanding that the majority of the attendees were in favor of the project, a few, however, were advocating for additional time to study the matter.

The request is for rezoning only. If the rezoning is approved, the issue will come up again for a conditional use permit and can be revisited at that time. — Debra Duncan

Highlights of the September Board Meeting:

Present: Debra Duncan (President), Cille King (Vice President), Marjorie Cole (Treasurer), Janice Friedman, Midge Grinstead, Carol Klinknett, Marlene Merrill, Marlaine Stoor, Austin Turney. Absent: Margaret Arnold, marci Francisco, Melissa Wick.

President's Report: Debra and Cille attended an MLD training Aug. 21-22. She announced that Fort Scott is having a Naturalization Ceremony and asked for volunteers to assist them.

Vice President's Report: After Cille's report on the Sept. 2 Secretary of State's public hearing, there was discussion about what the League might do to insure local voters on the suspension list complete their registrations. Cille reported that our League registered 46 new voters at the Sept. 4 Naturalization Ceremony at Dole Institute. She has developed materials containing concise and accurate information about voting in Kansas to be used by volunteers registering new voters. Washburn will be hosting Senator John Lewis Oct. 14 and Kansas Leagues hope to present him with names of 1,000 newly registered voters. Erin Reazin, a new League member and a KU student has been helping find email addresses of students on the suspended list.

Treasurer's Report: July income was \$1,517 (most of it from the garage sale); expenses were \$227.22, with a net inflow of \$1,290.11. Current balances are Checking Account \$8,282.70, Money Market Account \$2,159.89, Stucky Account \$3630.76 and Education Fund, \$283.38.

State Board Report: The Committee for Voter Laws is asking for 3 changes in current Kansas voting laws: 1) a permanent advance mail ballot for anyone who requests it, 2) advance voting on the Saturday and Sunday before election Day, and 3) documentation of citizenship on every new driver's license.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Land Use Committee: Debra is looking for a League member willing to write letters for the Planning Commission explaining the League's review of current issues at their monthly meetings.

Hot Topics: A Planned Parenthood presentation was planned for September 24.

New Members: Erin Reazin and Annabelle Hiegel are two new members.

Observer Corps: Janice distributed a list of local boards and task forces and asked board members to let her know which are of high priority for a League Observer. Any League member can be an observer.

Lawrence

The Coalition met on presiding.

There was discussion about Task Force. It will do towns to see what they do

improvement of sidewalks is a major issue. Should there be a sales tax or property tax? There will probably be a sales tax election in 2017 for the transit system, and a tax for sidewalks might be added. Plans for reconstruction of Kasold Drive were discussed. The Coalition has prepared a position statement that favors the "Complete Streets" option. This would involve reducing Kasold Drive to two lanes for motor vehicles between 8th and 14th Streets, adding bicycle lanes and sidewalks, and building a roundabout at the intersection of Kasold and Harvard Road. This position was adopted at the meeting. There will be some amendments to the statement. Then it will be sent to the City Manager's office, and eventually to the City Commission. It will be posted on the Coalition's web site (the address is: lawrencewalks.org). Gary Webber was chosen as Secretary of the Coalition. The next meeting will be on 11/11/15 at 7 p.m. at the Lawrence Visitor Center, 402 North 2nd Street. -- Alan Black



Pedestrian Coalition

October 14 with Erin Paden

the City's Pedestrian-Bicycle research on other college for pedestrians. Funding for

LWVK Event - Congressman John Lewis

On October 15th Georgia congressional Rep. John Lewis, and co-authors

Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell spoke to an audience of 1,200 on Washburn's campus about their "graphic novels" entitled March 1 and March 2. The books were selected as Washburn's 2015 I-Read program.



During the civil rights movement, John Lewis and other student activists drew inspiration from the 1956 comic book "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story." The impact of that comic book lead him to co-write his own history of the civil rights movement in a graphic novel format.

John Lewis is one of the key members of the Civil Rights Movement. He is a Medal of Freedom award winner who currently represents the 5th Congressional District of Georgia in the United States Congress. During the height of the Movement, he was the Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, which he helped formed. It was responsible for organizing most of the student activism in the Movement, including sit-ins. He was a Freedom Rider; spoke at the 1963 March on Washington and in 1965 led the demonstration across the bridge in Selma, Alabama that became known as "Bloody Sunday."



League Day - Sat. October 24th

It is not too late to register for League Day. It is next Saturday the 24th in Topeka. We can arrange transportation. The cost is \$30 which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. **Scholarships are available!** It would really be helpful to have someone at each of the breakout sessions and right now we don't have that. If you have time please consider joining us!

Sat., Oct. 24, 2015: League Day in Topeka Westminster Presbyterian Church, 13th & Boswell	
9:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
9:30 am	Message from Co-Presidents Carole Neal and Marge Ahrens
9:45 am	Financing Public Education in Kansas - Cindy Neighbor Speaker: Dale Dennis , Deputy Commissioner Kansas State Department of Education
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am	The Suspenders: The Proof of Citizenship law in Kansas; and how voters got on the Suspense List - Cille King Speaker: Michael Smith, PH.D. , Associate Professor of Political Science, Emporia State University.
11:45 am:	Buffet Lunch, 95th Anniversary Celebration/Local Leagues ongoing
1:00 pm	Being Nimble and Quick in 2016 Legislative Session - Maryanna Quilty
1:30 pm	Voter Suppression - presentation by Erin O'Brien - Video
2:00 pm	Breakout Groups Voter Service - Cille King Treasurers - Anita Kaiser Communication - Jill Quigley/Melissa Carlson Newsletters Facebook/Tweeting Website Fundraising/Development - Carole Neal/Jari Marietta National Studies - Sharon Ailslieger Money in Politics/Redistricting/Constitutional Amendment
3:00 pm	Closing Remarks - Carole Neal and Marge Ahrens

Application for League Day - Scholarships available - contact Marjorie Cole, LWVL-DC. 842-6085 or nobledog@aol.com



LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS
of
KANSAS

Westminster Presbyterian Church
13th and Boswell in Topeka, KS
October 24, 2015

Registration Form

Registration begins at 9:00 am

The registration fee is \$30 and will cover continental breakfast and lunch.

Please complete the form, make checks payable to League of Women Voters Kansas and send to:

LWV Kansas
515 S. Kansas Ave, Suite C
Topeka, Kansas 66603

(Please register by October 14, 2015)

Name _____

League _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Meal Restrictions:

Vegan _____ Gluten Free _____

Questions:

Contact Email: lwy.kansas@gmail.com or Carole Neal 316-259-7575 or Marge Ahrens 785-234-5152



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LAWRENCE/DOUGLAS COUNTY

Make a Difference – Join/Support the League!

Complete form; enclose check made out to LWV L–DC, and mail to the address listed below.

*(Membership is open to anyone who will be eligible to vote in the next November election.
New or renewed memberships received now will expire March 31, 2016)*

Date _____ *Renewing member* _____ *New Member.* _____ *I heard about the League via (Facebook, website, friend, other):* _____

Suggested voluntary membership assessment: *

<i>Approximate Household Income</i>	<i>Individual membership</i>	<i>Household membership</i>
Student**	_____ \$17	_____ \$29
Under \$25,000	_____ \$20	_____ \$35
\$25,000 to \$50,000	_____ \$35	_____ \$55
Over \$50,000	_____ \$55	_____ \$85
Sustaining member	_____ \$100	_____ \$150
Life member (of 50 years)	_____ \$ 0	

*Our membership assessment supports the National and State Leagues at \$49/member (\$31 National and \$18 State). ** High school or postsecondary student enrolled at least part time in an accredited institution.

_____ I am not a member, but would like to support the League with my contribution as indicated below.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for the League General Fund.

I have enclosed a contribution of \$ _____ for the League Education Fund

***This contribution is tax-deductible. Write check to "LWV Education Fund."

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

As a League member or supporter, I would like to help support League activities by participating as follows:

General Membership Meetings:

- ___ Set up and/or tear down
- ___ Hospitality (provide coffee/tea/dessert)
- ___ Taking notes/writing up report of meeting

Membership:

- ___ Recruitment
- ___ Mentor/follow-up with new members
- ___ Provide a ride to a fellow member
- ___ Phone members without internet access

about special updates

Voter Services:

- ___ Register voters
- ___ Help with voter education

Promotion of League to our Community:

- ___ Public Speaking
- ___ Represent League at community events
- ___ Observer corps (attend/report on government meetings)
- ___ Help with research for League studies on issues
- ___ Serve on the Board of Directors

I have the following skills:

- ___ Editing articles/reports
- ___ Database management
- ___ Microsoft Word/Excel/Quickbooks
- ___ Website/Social Media design/management

My interests include:



League of Women Voters
Lawrence-Douglas County
PO Box 1072
Lawrence, KS 66044-1072

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