

The *informed* Voter

"Serving the citizens of the Appleton area & Outagamie County"



Strange Remarks from the President

November Greetings,

County Board Budget Hearing: I presented our statement on Monday, October 26th, to the County Board at the Public Hearing. I spoke to the areas of Land Use, Alternatives to Incarceration and Health Care. Many thanks to Marlys Fritzell and Helen Nagler for their guidance. On November 4th I will make our statement to the City Council at their Public Hearing. Marlys and I are working out the details for the presentation.

Single-Stream Recycling: We are working to set up a tour at the single-stream recycling plant. We will inform you of the date and time as it becomes available.

Health Care Reform: The Leagues at all levels have been working tirelessly to encourage citizens to become informed on this important issue and to contact their legislators. During this period, it is essential to make contact with our Senators and Representatives. This is our most important work at this time. Visit the website www.lwvappleton.org for phone numbers or email addresses. When you go to the legislator's website, you will usually find a place to click on "contact" which often takes you directly to a letter writing page.

Colorado League: Leagues of Boulder County and Colorado are asking local Leagues to support them in requesting that LWVUS make the support of the Fair Elections Now Act a top advocacy priority in 2010. To read more about the FEN Act go to: <http://www.campaignmoney.org/campaigns/main/fair-elections>

Holiday Brunch: Please see details in the newsletter for the holiday brunch. We hope to see many of you there. It is always good to be together and visit with friends and meet new members.

Local Study: The local study is about to launch. We have five committee members, and we invite others who are interested. Please contact me or Barb Dorzweiler.

Shirley Strange
10/09

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Vice-President Program NEWS

Submitted by Barb Dorzweiler.

LWV Program

The League 2010 Census subcommittee had an opportunity to serve over 500 Appleton school children on October 22 at the Boys and Girls Club on Locust Street. The event was the Lights On After School Rally hosted by the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Appleton Parks and Recreation Department, and the Office of the Mayor.

We had a game booth, along with 12 other organizations. The kids had lots of fun with our beanbag toss and golf ball toss games. We handed out 300 US Census Bureau coloring books. The office of Cindi Hesse, City Clerk, provided the books. It was a fun, lively event and everyone had a good time. Many thanks to Shirley Strange, Sara Companik, Sue Silton, Marlys Fritzell, and Sharon Fenlon for all your assistance. Look for photos of our fun afternoon on the League website. www.lwvappleton.org

The League subcommittee will be planning a community education event in March on the Census. Please join us if you have ideas or want to help out!

Reminder:

The annual League Holiday Brunch will be on Saturday, December 12th at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. Look for the reservation form in this newsletter. The cost of the brunch is still only \$16.00.

You can also go online at <http://www.lwvappleton.org> to download or print the reservation form. The deadline is coming up fast! Guests are welcome!

Coming soon:

The first call to the National convention went out this past week. The 2010 LWV National convention will be held in Atlanta on June 11 – 15. The convention is the culmination of our entire Program planning for the year. For more information, go to the LWVUS website at <http://www.lwv.org>.

We would like to celebrate the League's 90th Anniversary in February. It will be a great opportunity to gain visibility in our community and let our neighbors know a little more about the League. Please contact me if you have creative ideas for publicizing our 90th Anniversary or would like to help. I would like to form a 90th anniversary subcommittee soon!

Have a wonderful November,

Have a wonderful Autumn month,
Barb Dorzweiler, Vice President Program

Membership Reminder

Submitted by Winnie Doxsie

Thanks to everyone who has sent in your membership renewal already. If you haven't please do it now so you won't forget during the busy holiday season. You will find the renewal form in this *Informed Voter*.

Speaking of holidays be a membership recruiter and think about a friend you can bring to the Holiday Brunch.

If you have questions please contact Winnie Doxsie at 739-7593 or Winnie@mapsolutionswi.com. Thanks for your support.

| November - Calendar | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| Date | Event | Location | Time |
| November 3, 2009 | Election Day | National | |
| Tue Nov. 13, 2009 | LWV-Appleton Board Meeting | Appleton Library lower Level | 6:00 PM |

Observer Corps

Submitted by Marlys Fritzell

League members attended the October 7th meeting of the Appleton City Council. Fire Prevention Month was being celebrated so many awards were handed out to fire fighters for outstanding achievements. Also the new Fire Chief, Len R. VanderWyst, was introduced. In Council action the Cops Food Store development at Valley Fair was approved. In other business Council members expressed concern about the progress on police merger talks with Grand Chute and about the handling of personnel lay-offs in the proposed 2010 budget that was distributed.

Shirley Strange met with John Hoft-March, City Budget Manager, and received the three-inch thick budget document. Marlys Fritzell attended the City Council all-day review of the budget. The League will be giving a statement at the public hearing on November 4th.

Shirley, Marlys, and Helen Nagler met to go over the Outagamie County budget – another three-inch thick tome. Shirley will present a League statement at the public hearing on October 26th.

Leslie Taylor will be observing the Town of Grand Chute meetings. Beth English and Nancy Graham are observing County Board meetings, and Shirley and Marlys will cover City Council meetings. Again – any League member is welcome to join our coverage and report back on topics of interest to the League.

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Monday, October 26 th at 6 p.m. | Public hearing on County budget |
| Monday, November 2 nd at 5:30 p.m. | Adoption of County budget |
| Wednesday, November 4 th at 6 p.m. | Public hearing on City budget |
| Wednesday, November 11 th at 7 p.m. | Adoption of City budget |

Join The League of Women Voters of Appleton

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Join us today!

Please fill out the information below and mail it to:

Winnie Doxsie
1708 N. Hall Ave
Appleton, WI 54911

Benefits of Membership

- Information and Advocacy activities of the National LWV
- Information and Advocacy activities of the Wisconsin LWV
- Opportunities to participate in studies at the national, state or community levels
- Opportunities to join one of many committees working to support the mission of LWV
- Social activities such as the Holiday Brunch and Annual Dinner

For more information call 738-7766 or go to lwvappleton.org



I am interested in information about:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observer Corps: Attend 1 or 2 meetings annually of local or regional branches of government or education and report. | <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Service: Voter registration and education services such as candidate debates and community forums. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in a Study: By indicating your interest in studies someone will contact you with information on current opportunities. | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy: Receiving e-mails from LWV about pressing issues at the local, state or national level and acting on the request |

Please make checks payable to **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF APPLETON**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (W) _____

E-mail _____

\$75 - Sustaining Membership
Covers the full cost of Membership

\$55 - Regular Membership
Covers most, but not all, of the cost of membership.

\$70 - Household Membership

\$ 30 - Student Membership

Send me the newsletter, "The *Informed Voter*" and other LWV information via e-mail. (*Your address will not be shared*)

I want to make a contribution to LWV Appleton \$ _____

To make tax deductible contributions, make a *second* check to LWV Ed Fund.

League of Women Voters Holiday Brunch



Saturday December 12, 2009 10:30 am – 12:30 noon

Radisson Paper Valley Hotel - McIntosh Room
333 West College Avenue, Appleton

"A Promise for the Holidays: Project Promise . . . Engaging our Community in the Elimination of Poverty."

**Speaker Betsy Rozelle, Project Promise
Project Development Coordinator CAP Services, Inc.**

Cost incl. Tax and tip: \$16.00 per person – Please make check payable to LWV-Appleton.

Send your check and the Reservation Form by December 3 to: Barb Dorzweiler
802 East Harrison Street
Appleton, Wisconsin 54915

If you prefer to pay at the door, please indicate so on the Reservation Form.

RESERVATION FORM

Yes, I am coming to the Holiday Brunch.

Name: _____ I am bringing the following guests:

Guest(s) Name(s) _____

Total number attending: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Health Care Liability

Close to home: This letter came from a friend in Green Bay just this week. Posted with her permission to remind us that health care reform is vital. (Submitted by Shirley Strange)

Wisconsin Public Service Corp. announced on October 20th all seasonal employees will be terminated October 30th. Coming off the most challenging and stressful "Credit Season" with record setting \$20.2M reduction in arrears this is the last thing I could have imagined would happen to me.

As of October 31st I no longer have a job but more important I no longer have Health Insurance, dental, drugs and vision. COBRA is around \$1,055.00 / month and is not an option. We have been trying to get something in place by November 1st but the Individual policies are all over \$500.00 / month if you go with \$6,000.00 deductible, \$3,000.00 / per person and No drug or dental coverage. So, after paying over \$6,000.00 in premiums in one year I still have to pay for drugs and all Dr. visits myself as I will never hit the deductible. Health Care reform can not come too soon

Totally bummed out and depressed

Agenda

| Event | Day | Location |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Appleton Common Council Meeting | 1st and 3rd Wednesday @ 7p.m. | Council chamber, 6th floor, City Building, 100 N. Appleton Street |
| Outagamie County Board Meeting | 2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 6:30p.m. | Board Room, 2nd floor County Admin. Building, 410 S. Walnut |
| Appleton Area School Board Meeting | 2nd and 4th Mondays @ 7p.m. | Board Room, Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Center, 122 E. College Ave. Suite 1A. or at an Appleton School |

www.appleton.org/departments/clerk/council/

www.aasd.k12.wi.us/Schoolboard/

www.co.outagamie.wi.us/county/



Your Representatives

President Barack Obama
president@whitehouse.gov

Senator Russell Feingold
feingold@feingold.senate.gov

Senator Herbert Kohl
kohl@kohl.senate.gov

Representative Steve Kagen
www.house.gov

Governor James Doyle
wisgov@mail.state.wi.us

State Senate – Michael Ellis
sen.ellis@legis.state.wi.us

State Assembly – according to district
search <http://waml.legis.state.wi.us/Index.aspx>

County Budget Hearing
Monday, October 26, 2009
6:00PM County Board Room
LWV Appleton Presentation
Shirley Strange Presenting

Land Use/ Alternatives to Incarceration/ Mental Health

Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to speak. My name is Shirley Strange and I am president of the Appleton League of Women Voters.

The League of Women Voters, through our studies, arrives at positions or platforms from which we advocate. This evening I will address three areas of our platform with regard to the County Budget: Land Use, Alternatives to Incarceration and Mental Health.

Land Use:

The League appreciates that the County has applied for a grant to expand the Newton Blackmour State Trail from Black Creek to New London.

Further we recognize your good money management in using interest money from the segregated Transmission Line Funds for the maintenance of the CE trail.

Providing funds for trail development shows your commitment to the recreational needs of the citizens of the county as well as the health benefits that may accrue from their use.

Alternatives to Incarceration:

We appreciate that the county has set aside funds to be used to provide alternatives to incarceration. We are aware that you have \$400,000 funded for four years of programming of which \$100,000 shows up in this projected budget.

Mental Health

It is apparent that the Mental Health Budget shows that the county is working hard to continue to provide services under a constrained budget.

We commend you on the cooperation between the Community Health Center and the Department of Health and Human Services to increase service and maximize reimbursements.

The increase of mental health services within the jail shows you recognize the great need in this area.

The budget itself is well-designed. Those of us who are not in government work, are able to glean a sense of your work and your challenges. I especially appreciated the narratives in each section including your mission statements, descriptions and explanations.

Thank you for the good fiscal management. We appreciate the time you give, your efforts and your results.

Thank you from the Appleton League of Women Voters.



LW of Appleton
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