

The League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area



LWVWV www.LWVWV.ORG
LWVUS www.LWV.ORG

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AUGUST 2018 BULLETIN, Patricia Keller, Editor

AUGUST LEAGUE MEETING - August 18th 10 am, West Huntington Library. Come to celebrate the 98th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the passage of women's right to vote.

The League has scheduled a film viewing of Iron Jawed Angels. Popcorn and drinks will be provided by the library. We welcome guests.



VOTING INFORMATION DISPLAY AT THE LIBRARY -

Thanks to Marcia Daoust, League member, and Sara Ramezani, Cabell County Library, for preparing a display at the downtown library. One of the features of the display is a podcast with interviews of Kelli Allen, Voter Registration Office, and Phyllis Smith, Cabell County Clerk. Handouts include a League prepared "Get Ready to Vote" fact sheet and forms for registration and absentee voting. We initiated the display to honor National Disability Voter Registration Week. The library's website also links to the League of Women Voter of the Huntington Area's fact sheet on voting. Go to cabell.lib.wv.us. On the right side of the main page is a paragraph linking to the League's "Get Ready to Vote". If you would like to receive a copy of the fact sheet, contact Helen Gibbins, gibbins@frontier.com.

THE CASA PROGRAM - In May League members attended an interesting and challenging program presented by Laurie McKeown, Director of Team for WV Children. As a follow up we are providing information about the CASA program and how you can help. Thanks to Kim Runyon Wilds, Program Coordinator, Western Regional CASA, for providing the information.

CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates – are volunteers who have been appointed by the Court to advocate for children who have been removed from their parents due to allegations of abuse and neglect.

The need for CASA Volunteer Advocates is greater than ever. Children are the true victims of the opioid

epidemic and we are seeing increasing numbers of children in the foster care system every year. CASA Volunteer Advocates can come from any walk of life but must be at least 21 years old. Volunteer Advocates are screened and trained by CASA staff, and then sworn in by the Court with the oath of confidentiality. Once the application and training process is complete, CASA Volunteer Advocates usually spend 5-7 hours per month working with the children, attending court hearings and other meetings, and writing reports to the Court. Those reports allow the CASA to communicate with the Court, making recommendations about the child's best interest, while maintaining confidentiality for the child. In essence, the CASA Volunteer Advocate is giving a voice to a child!

Children benefit greatly from having a CASA Volunteer Advocate on their case and in their corner. Children with CASA Volunteer Advocates are half as likely to re-enter the foster care system and more likely to have the necessary services ordered to help them. They are more likely to pass all courses in school and less likely to change foster home placements. In short, these children are getting more help, more attention, and more assistance but without additional time of CPS workers or lawyers.

Western Regional CASA, which began in 1991, is the oldest CASA program in West Virginia. It serves ten counties currently, including Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Putnam, Boone, Kanawha, Jackson, Roane, Calhoun and Mason Counties.

WESTERN REGIONAL CASA IS IN DESPERATE NEED OF ADVOCATES - If

you would like more information about becoming a CASA Volunteer Advocate, please contact Patrick Hagan, CASA Volunteer Supervisor, at (304) 523-9587 ext. 306 or phagan@teamwv.org.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

CALENDAR

August 18th 10 am. West Huntington Library. Celebrate the 19th amendment. Film viewing of "Iron Jawed Angels"

September 8th 10 am. Climate March "Ohio River Rising". Meet at Heritage Station. Sponsored by OVEC.

September 28th 6:30 pm. Candidates Meeting. Woodlands.

October 4th 7 pm. Candidates Meeting. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 721 12th Ave. Co-sponsored with Southside Neighborhood Organization

October 29th Candidates Meeting. Sponsored by NAACP.

- Americans have a right to know who is paying for online political ads.
- The FEC's Internet Communication Disclaimers rule should be comprehensive and modern.
- Dark money ads and foreign meddling influenced the 2016 election, and without these rules in place, it will happen again in 2018.
- The FEC should make copies of all paid internet political messages, their funding source and target audience, available to the public similar to the libraries kept for television advertising.
- Internet campaign ads should, be required to include either a full disclaimer or, if size or format makes a full disclaimer impractical, then an adapted disclaimer such as "Paid for by..." with a link to a full disclaimer in one step.

VOTING RIGHTS AND PROTECTION - The LWV Huntington Area presents a readers theater on the Right to Vote, a history of voting rights in the U.S. Contact Helen Gibbins if you want to schedule a presentation. gibbins@frontier.com.

The League, along with other organizations, supports requiring that online political ads disclose who is paying for the ads. The FEC (Federal Election Commission) is reviewing the comments gathered from the public, but as of its June meeting it had not made decisions. With the problems of Russia's tampering in the U. S. elections, it is incumbent on the FEC to ensure transparency. Here are the LWVUS's positions on internet political ads.

- The FEC should require online campaign ads to include disclaimers about who is paying for them — as is required for television and print advertisements.

Facebook Requirements for Political Ads - Effective June 2018, Facebook is requiring administrators running political or issue ads to complete the following authorization.

- Page admins and ad account admins will need to submit their government-issued ID and provide a residential mailing address for verification at business.facebook.com/id.
- Facebook will confirm each address by mailing a letter with a unique access code that only the admin's Facebook account can use.
- Once authorized, advertisers will have to identify which ad account(s) will be used to run ads.

Regular posts to your pages, groups, or events will not change and will not require authorization.