

The Louisville Voter

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2

2

August 2015

League Update

Amazon Smile

Forums on Child Welfare, U.S. Constitution

By PAT MURRELL and GEORGE SCHUHMANN

The League of Women Voters of Louisville will host two timely forums.

The first, titled *Shouldn't Child Welfare Be Everyone's Concern?*, will take place on **Monday, Aug. 17**, at Lang House. Next month's Dinner and Democracy, *A mending the Constitution*, will be **Monday, Sept. 21**, at Lang House. It will be led by George Schuhmann, member of the national LWVUS Committee on Money in Politics.

In both cases, dinner will be served at **5:30 p.m.**, while the program begins at **6 p.m.**Donations will be accepted for the dinner, and, as with all of our Dinner and Democracy programs, the public is invited.

(Cont'd on p. 3)



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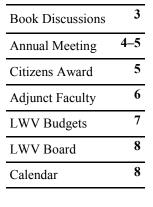
Barbee

Stamps

Rights to Women at Sen-

(Cont'd on p. 6)

eca Falls, N.Y., in 1848



Local Suffrage Tour Scheduled for Aug. 23

By MARSHA WEIN-STEIN

In celebration of the 95th anniversary of passing the 19th Amendment. which gave women the right to vote, the League of Women Voters of Louisville is partnering with the Women's Alliance of First Unitarian Church to sponsor a Louisville Suffrage Tour. Free and open to the public, the tour will be Sunday, Aug.. 23, at 3 p.m., beginning at the First Unitarian Church, 809 S. Fourth St.

Many simply do not know that the right to vote was denied to over half the nation's population until 1920. It took 72 years from the time of the Declaration of the

The Louisville Suffrage Tour includes the many local sites that witnessed the progress of women toward the right to vote, including the 1895 stop of Susan B. Anthony (left) and Carrie Chapman Catt at First Unitarian Church, part of their speaking tour through the South to promote women's suffrage.

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ lwvlouisville

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Dinner and Democracy: Shouldn't Child Welfare Be Everyone's Concern?, Aug. 17
- Louisville Suffrage Tour, Aug. 23
- Dinner and Democracy: *Amending the Constitution*, Sept. 21

Page 2 Volume 7, Issue 1

LWV Annual Meeting Proves Successful

By PAT MURRELL

Thank you to everyone who made our Annual Meeting a success! We met "west of Ninth" at the amazing Old Walnut Street facility of the Louisville Central Community Centers, and we thank them for their hospitality! Thanks to our speaker, Marc Murphy, who entertained us with many of his political cartoons. Thanks to Kimberly and Indulge Catering for the delicious meal. And last, but not least, thanks to the Board, to all of the League committees and League members who made this meeting possible.

The LWV Citizen Award was presented to long-time community volunteer, Eleanor Foreman (see p. 5) and we so much



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS Louisville

enjoyed the West Louisville Boys and Girls Choir that sang in honor of Mrs. Foreman.

The business meeting included passage of general fund and education fund budgets, election of officers and board members, adoption of a new program study, and continuance of program action positions. We gave our appreciation to departing board members: Frances Cotton, Beverly Harris, and Maxine Mellman. All officers and other directors continue their

service with the addition of new board directors Barbara Kelty and George Schuhmann. (If you do not have the annual report, you may get one at the office.)

The new program item is a study of adjunct faculty in Louis-ville four-year colleges and universities (see p. 6).

A correction: The article in the March newsletter about Mary Elizabeth Baker was written by her daughter Elizabeth B. Leete. My apologies for making it into Bleete!

Welcome, Members! The League of Women Voters of Louisville would like to extend a warm greeting to its new members. **New Members** Lori Burks Karen Cassidy Ann Hardman Jo McKim Sylvia and Bill Lieshoff Steve Lippman Rachel Roarx Gail and Dale Tucker Brenda Tuckson Suzanne Ward

Benefit LWV Through Amazon

By IVONNE ROVIRA

Do you buy items online at Amazon? Well, purchases you're already making can put money in the League of Women Voters of Louisville's coffers — at absolutely no cost to you!

The Amazon Smile program donates 0.5 percent of your eligible purchases (no third-party purchases) to the League when you shop at Amazon. You can use your existing Amazon account at Amazon Smile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings will be the same.

Just go to this URL: smile.amazon.com. On your first visit, you'll be asked to select a charitable organization to receive donations. Please select the League of Women



Voters of Louisville. You only have to designate us once; Amazon Smile will remember your choice.

From then on, instead of going to www.amazon.com, just head to smile.amazon.com instead, and the League will benefit. That's all there is to it! Tens of millions of products — not just books —are eligible. Please do it today.

PAGE 3 THE LOUISVILLE VOTER

Forums Focus on Child Welfare, Constitutional Amendment

(Cont'd from p. 1)

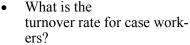
Child Welfare

Speaking at this month's Dinner and Democracy will be state Senator Julie Raque Adams, co-chair of the Health and Welfare Committee; Dr. Anita Barbee, Distinguished University Scholar at the University of Louisville's Kent School of Social Work; Joan Byer, retired Family Court judge; and Jocqueline Stamps, Service Region Administrator for Jefferson County.

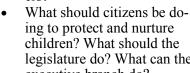
The state Cabinet for Health and Family Services annual report for fiscal year 2014 reports that the child protective services division received 145.576 calls on the child-abuse hotline, and 64,393 met the criteria requiring follow-up. Of those, 12,120 were substantiated as abuse/ neglect involving 19,407 children. There were 12 fatalities, and 29 near-fatalities.

The questions we are asking include the following:

- How have budget cuts impacted child protective services?
- What is the caseload for each worker?



ing to protect and nurture children? What should the legislature do? What can the executive branch do?





LWVUS, partly in response to recent Supreme Court decisions regarding money in politics, appointed two study committees: one on Constitutional Amendments, another on Money in Politics (on which George



Schuhmann

Schuhmann serves). These committees are preparing their reports and presenting consensus questions so that we may arrive at positions. Programs on Money in Politics will be schedule later in the year.

This year the LWVUS **Constitutional Amendment** Committee conducted a

study and developed consensus questions for member agreement on a process on amending the Constitution. The study's three parts are guidelines for evaluating constitutional amendment proposals, aspects of an Article V Constitutional Convention, and under what conditions the League should support an amendment.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides two ways of proposing amendments. Congress, by a two-thirds vote of both chambers, may propose amendments to the states for ratification, OR, the legislatures of twothirds of the states (34) may ask Congress to call a convention to propose amendments. Amendments proposed by either method must be ratified by threefourths (38) of the states.

The study is in three parts: Part I – Considerations for Evaluating Constitutional Amendment Proposals; Part II – Aspects of an Article V Constitutional Convention; and Part III – Balancing Questions – under what conditions should League support an amendment. The full list of questions and links to background reading material is at our website, **lwvlouisville.org**.

League Hosts More Book Discussions

By PAT MURRELL

Two more brown-bag book discussion are scheduled. The first will be Wednesday, Aug. 26, at noon, at Lang House. Ron Scheider will lead the discussion of The Cynic: The Political Ed-

ucation of Mitch McConnell by Alec MacGillis.

Cynthia Webster will lead the discussion of *The* Job: True Tales from the Life of a New York City Cop by Steve Osborne on Friday, Oct. 16. The exact time and place have not yet

been set, but will be announced soon.

Have a book you've really liked? Why not lead a brownbag book discussion of it? Contact the League office at 895-5218.



Page 4 Volume 7, Issue 1

Annual Meeting Attracts Nearly 100

By IVONNE ROVIRA

Nearly 100 gathered at Old Walnut Street, part of the Louisville Central Community Centers, for the League of Women Voters of Louisville's Annual Meeting.

At this meeting in June, community activist Eleanor Foreman received the League's Citizens Award. In addition, this eclectic event in West Louisville including the introduction of new officers, the approval of two

study items (see pp. 3 and 6), and beautiful singing by the West Louisville Boys Girls Choir, under the direction of director McDaniel Bluett. The choir sang in honor of Mrs. Foreman.

Sadly, the League's Board is losing Frances Cotton, (Education Chair), Beverly Harris (Membership Chair) and Maxine Mellman (Voter Service Chair). New to the Board is George Schuhmann, who serves as deputy chair and board liaison of the Campaign-Finance Reform Committee. Barbara Kelty, onetime League secretary, returns to the Board as the new Membership Chair.

Speaking at the meeting was Marc Murphy, cartoonist for *The Courier-Journal* and the chair of the criminal division at the law firm of Stites and Harbison.

"When I'm drawing, I sometimes wonder who I'm drawing for. And I realize tonight that you are the people who I'm drawing for," Murphy told the audience.

Murphy lauded the League for its work in voter registration and turnout.

In addition to discussing his own work and displaying some of his cartoons, Murphy provided an overview of political cartoons from their 19th century appearance.

"[Union General] Philp Sheridan's word and [cartoonist] Thomas Nast's pen" should get equal credit for winning the Civil War, he noted.



Above: The West Louisville Boys Girls Choir, received a standing ovation for their beautiful renditions of "Blessed Be Thy Name" (to the tune of Pachelbel's Canon in D), "Thank You, Jesus, for What You've Done for Me" and "Amazing Grace." Photo by Bill Wolfe

At right: A cartoon from last year by Marc Murphy, Courier-Journal cartoonist and speaker at the Annual Meeting. Used by permission of the cartoonist



The Louisville Voter Page 5



Eleanor Foreman accepts the LWV Citizens Award for her lifetime work as a community activist, civil-rights pioneer and union activism. *Photo by Bill Wolfe*



Lawyer and *Courier-Journal* cartoonist Marc Murphy discussed cartooning — his own and historically — at the League of Women Voters of Louisville's Annual Meeting. Nearly 100 were in attendance. *Photo by Bill Wolfe*

Eleanor Foreman Receives LWV Citizens Award

By EMMA SMITH

The League honored longtime community activist Eleanor Foreman with the Citizens Award at our annual meeting.



Mrs. Foreman (pictured above in her heyday as a civilrights activist) is a beloved human rights pioneer in Louisville. She became the first African-American woman to be a negotiator for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. She was a "Realty Specialist" and diligent federal employee for 31 years and served as president of the National Federation of Federal Employees, Local 852.

Mrs. Foreman managed her own real estate company, and integrating the Hikes Point area in the early 1960s is one of her proudest achievements. Her extensive community service spans a variety of church projects, civic organizations and boards. Married to James Foreman, she has three sons and a host of grandchildren.

The Citizen Award honors those who, in their volunteer life, personify the mission of the League of Women Voters, which is to promote informed and active participation in the democratic process.

"I've enjoyed every bit of it."

Eleanor Foreman, in

accepting her award

Page 6 Volume 7, Issue 1

League to Study Proliferation of Adjunct Faculty

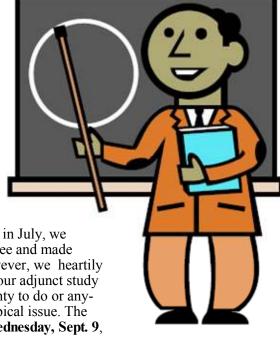
By NICOLE GEORGE

According to the American Association of University Professors, adjunct professors now constitute 76.4 percent of faculty at American colleges and universities. These professors are not eligible for tenure. In 1969, 78.3 percent of college and university professors were tenured or on a track to become tenured.

The League of Women Voters League will undertake a study to explore the use of adjunct faculty at Louisville's four-year colleges and universities to determine:

- How many and what percentage of the teaching staff are adjuncts?
- How much cheaper are adjuncts to employ?
- Are there differences in qualifications between adjuncts and tenure-track professors?

- Are adjuncts available to students outside of class on paid time?
- What do accrediting associations say about adjuncts?
- How do accreditors evaluate the quality of education provided by adjunct professors?



At our first meeting in July, we formed a study committee and made some assignments. However, we heartily welcome others to join our adjunct study committee! There's plenty to do or anyone interested in this topical issue. The next meeting will be **Wednesday**, **Sept. 9**, at 5:30 p.m. at Lang House.

LWV, 1st Unitarian Plan Suffrage Tour

(Cont'd from p. 1)

to the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920, when the fiercely fought woman's suffrage struggle finally succeeded. Antislavery activists, temperance advocates, suffrage militants, labor organizers, club women, early feminists, and countless others joined together in a relentless battle that included campaigns, rallies, referenda, marches and imprisonments along with



classic political lobbying and negotiation.

This tour will allow participants to walk in the steps of their foremothers and visualize their lives. They will be able to see the Louisville landmark where Susan B. Anthony stood when she spoke on behalf of what would be the 19th Amendment, also known as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment. They will learn where the suffrage workers held their meetings and conventions. These inspiring stories will renew the participants' dedication to encourage others to use their right to vote to make a difference in our community. According to political scientist Dr. Claudia Knott, "The city of Louisville played a unique part in the woman suffrage campaign, affecting suffrage politics within both the Kentucky and national movements in ways that helped win women's enfranchisement."

With the women's suffrage story, we have the opportunity to connect the historical dots from site to site, learning how history is made and social change occurs.

For more information, call Marsha Weinstein at **819-2537** or email her at **mweinst413@gmail.com.**

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The League of Women Voters is one of the oldest Leagues in the country, created in 1920, the same year as the League of Women Voters of the United States!

We're on the Web! www.LWVLouisville. Org And on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ lwvlouisville

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Calendar

Monday, Aug. 3, 6 p.m.: LWV Board meeting. Lang House.

Monday, Aug. 17, 5:30 p.m.: Dinner and Democracy: Should-n't Child Welfare Be Everyone's Concern? Speakers: state Senator Julie Raque Adams, cochair of the state legislature Health and Welfare Committee, and Dr. Anita Barbee, Distinguished University Scholar at the University of Louisville's Kent School of Social Work. Donations accepted for the dinner. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m.; program begins at 6 p.m. Lang House.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 3 p.m.: Louisville Suffrage Tour begins at First Unitarian Church, 809 S. Fourth St.

Wednesday, Aug. 26, noon: Book discussion of Alec Mac-Gillis' The Cynic: The Political Education of Mitch McConnell. Discussion Leader: Ron Schneider. Lang House. Monday, Sept. 14, 6 p.m.: LWV Board meeting. Lang House.

Monday, Sept. 21, 5:30 p.m.: Dinner and Democracy: Amending the Constitution. Speaker: George Schuhmann, member of the League of Women Voters of the United States' Committee on Money in Politics. Donations accepted for the dinner. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m.; program begins at 6 p.m. Lang House.

Monday, Oct. 5, 6 p.m.: LWV Board meeting. Lang House.

Friday, Oct. 16: Book discussion of Steve Osborne's *The Job: True Tales of a New York City Cop.* Discussion Leader: Judy Lippmann. Place, and time, TBA.