



Charlottesville/Albemarle
League of Women Voters
Newsletter
April 2010

Office Phone: (434) 970-1707	Office Hours: Tues. 1-5 pm and Thurs. 8:30-12:30 pm Julie Neuman, Office Manager
Fax: (434) 970-1708	
E-mail: lww@avenue.org	Visit Our Website: http://avenue.org/lww

LWV C/A April Community Dialogue:

"Keeping Our Kids Healthy: The Goals, Actors, and Actions"

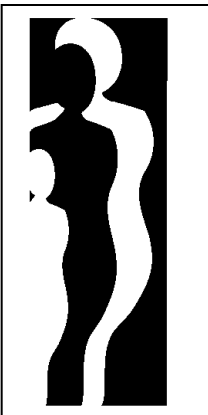
Presented by the
LWV C/A Women's Issues Committee
Tuesday, April 20, Noon
Old County Office Building, Lane Auditorium
401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, VA

“Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.”
 -John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Keeping our kids healthy is a goal that is vital to having children become adults who can handle the challenges of the future. However, the news reports tell us, as a society, we have failed to meet this goal. There is an “epidemic” of childhood obesity, and young people have diseases, such as diabetes, making them at risk for chronic illnesses that previously were concerns only of adults.

What is this community doing to keep our kids healthy? Our schools are addressing the issue with required “Wellness Policies” that set goals. They have established School Health Advisory Boards, composed of community members, some of whom are health professionals, to provide input. The advisory boards are taking action regarding the foods that are served or available in vending machines, and promoting changes to curricula and other aspects of school life.

Bruce Benson, Assistant Superintendent for Operations & Systems Planning in Albemarle County Schools, and Diane Behrens, Coordinator of Health and Physical Education for Charlottesville City Schools, are working on these issues day to day. They will discuss the school systems’ goals; the people who are involved in the school systems and the community; the actions that have been taken and are planned; and how community members—not just parents, teachers and school personnel—can be part of the effort to start our community’s youth on a path for healthier lives.



**women
& girls'
wellness
month**

Please join us for this timely program. **Lunch reservations for a bag lunch (sandwich, chips and cookie) for \$8 may be made by calling the League office at 970-1707 or email: lww@avenue.org. Deadline for lunch reservations is noon, Thursday, April 15.**

This program is being presented by the Women's Issues Committee as part of the observance of *Women & Girls' Wellness Month* in Virginia. For information about other events in central Virginia and around the State, see <http://www.womenshealthvirginia.org>.

This page is sponsored by Joan Jay of Roy Wheeler Realty Co.

Finance Drive 2010: We are so grateful to the following LWV C/A members and community nonmembers for their support in our recent fund drive effort. Without your financial assistance, our work as a nonpartisan organization in this very politicized world could not continue. With great appreciation, we say **thank you** to:

Members Donating to the Operating Fund

Marie-Jose Derdeyn
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Joan Martin	Parachute
Valerie Mathews	

Total 2010 Finance Drive as of March 18th:

Operations - Members \$2140.00 Non-members \$430.00 Total \$2570.00

Ed fund - Members \$1880.00 Non-members \$1485 Total \$3365.00

Grand Total \$5935.00

Please, if you haven't already done so, mail in your donations (specifying Operating Fund or Education Fund) to League of Women Voters, 1936 Arlington Blvd., Room 116, Charlottesville, VA 22903-1559. Thank you so much!

Join the Natural Resources Committee for a conversation with Nick Evans. Nick is president and chief hydrologist of Virginia Groundwater, LLC. He is also chair and elected director of the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District Board. His professional studies take him into the heretofore hidden world of rocks and underground water. When we wonder what the public policy should be regarding groundwater and development, his scientific studies provide a stronger basis for decisions than have been possible in the past. Nick's report to ASAP on groundwater should be required reading, especially for anyone coming to the conversation, and can be found at <http://www.asapnow.org/Groundwaterstudy.pdf>. Our meeting is April 8th, 4:30 pm, at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Contact Linda Goodling, 296-9865, for more information.

International Relations Committee News by Gerry Kruger

Did you know....

- China is picky about what it imports from other countries and has tough regulations concerning what it buys?
- US immigration laws of the early 1900's demanded that immigrants prove they were healthy and able to work?
- In 1986 three million illegal immigrants were given amnesty in the U.S.?
- In spite of the fact that there are millions of illegal immigrants living in the United States, Congress has failed to pass an immigration bill in recent years?
- Japan's success in technology is based on their expertise at making components for products that someone else manufactures?
- Japan is extremely secretive about the methods and processes it uses?
- Japan has the only company that can make the container for storing nuclear waste?
- Waziristan is a tiny area of Pakistan that is run by the Taliban and has one school for 8,000 children, 17% literacy and 3% literacy for girls?
- Waziristan's tribal laws demand **collective punishments**? (This means if someone in one tribe breaks a law, the whole tribe must compensate for it.)
- The economic crisis we have experienced will most likely lead to a change comparable to the Industrial Revolution during the 1800's; we could move from a manufacturing economy to one that is based on ideas?
- Russia's status globally has declined drastically since the fall of Communism?
- Molly O'Brien lives at the top of the Lewis and Clark building and can view the city of Charlottesville from her living room?

You will learn some amazing things if you join the International Relations Committee which meets in members' homes every second and fourth Wednesday at 9 :30 a.m. Perhaps you'll be as fortunate as we were and view Charlottesville from Molly's penthouse! Check the calendar on the last page of this newsletter for April meeting dates and places. For more information about the IR committee, contact Director Flora Patterson, 295-5532, or email: floramaepatterson@gmail.com

In Memoriam:

Elmira Brock Hurd passed away in Charlottesville on Friday, March 12, 2010. Among her many volunteer activities, she was a long-time member of the League of Women Voters of Charlottesville/Albemarle.

Note from our LWV C/A Office Manager, Julie Neuman: The office will be closed Tuesday, April 6, and Thursday, April 8. Normal office hours are Tuesdays, 1 to 5 pm, and Thursdays, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. We are located at 1936 Arlington Blvd., Room 116, 970-1707.



League of Women Voters
 1936 Arlington Blvd. #116
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Meetings and Events for April 2010: *Mark Your Calendars Now!*

Date/Time	Event	Place	Contact
Thursday, April 8, 4:30 - 6:00 pm	Natural Resources Committee Meeting: Guest Speaker, Nick Evans	Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 145 Ednam Dr. (Boar's Head Inn complex)	For further information, contact Linda Goodling at 296-9865
Tuesday, April 13, 4-6 pm	LWV C/A Board Mtg.	Virginia National Bank, Arlington Blvd.	For more information, contact the office, 970-1707
Wednesday, April 14, 9:30 am	International Relations Committee meeting	Home of Flora Patterson, 685 Flordon Dr., 295-5532	For more information, contact Flora Patterson, 295-5532
Tuesday, April 20, Noon	LWV C/A Community Dialog: "Keeping Our Kids Healthy"	Old County Office Bldg., 401 McIntire Rd., Lane Auditorium	For more information, contact the office, 970-1707
Wednesday, April 28, 9:30 am	International Relations Committee meeting	Home of Jean Minehart, 1714 Yorktown Dr., 971-1801	For more information, contact Flora Patterson, 295-5532
Tuesday, May 11, noon	LWV C/A Annual Meeting with Guest Speaker: Gerald L. Baliles	The Greencroft Club	For more information, contact the office, 970-1707