

VOTER

League of Women
Voters of Indiana
County, Pennsylvania



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

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GET INVOLVED IN VOTER ISSUES

By Karen Ross

Encouraging citizens to vote is an important part of the League's mission. There are several ways that you can help.

1. Volunteer for one of the League's voter registration drives by emailing or calling Karen Ross (ross.bert1@gmail.com, 724-349-0348.) Drives are scheduled for the following dates:

Tuesday, **August 28**, 11:00 am-1:00 pm - WCCC Indiana County Center, Airport Road.

Wednesday, **September 5**, 11:00 am-3:30 pm – Wyotech Blairsville Campus. **This is the drive for which we need the most help.**

Tuesday, **September 11**, 11:00 am-1:15 pm – Cambria-Rowe Business College, Indiana.

Saturday, **September 15**, 9:00 am-11:00am – Indiana Farmer's Market

2. Volunteer to work for registration drives sponsored by other groups. Churches, political parties, and the nonpartisan Center for Community Growth are all organizing registrations. Sherene will notify you by email of other nonpartisan groups that may need help.
3. Carry voter applications with you wherever you go, and hand them out to unregistered voters. You can pick up applications at the Indiana County Courthouse. The voter registration office is in the basement, and they

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ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE HARD AT WORK

This summer, the Environmental Issues Committee forgot to go on vacation. Here's what we have been up to.

Indiana County Gas EXPO, July 25: Thanks to funding from the Colcom grant, we provided an informational display demonstrating the Marcellus Shale story boxes and Evergreen Conservancy's water monitors. We pushed the nonpartisan Marcellus Shale study guides, and spoke with many interested displayers and attendees at the EXPO.

Pipeline Story Boxes: Through the Colcom Grant, the LWVPA has funded informational interactive audio displays on 1) the Marcellus Shale Hydrofracturing process and 2) Natural Gas Pipelines. If you haven't had a chance to listen to one of these, you will find a new pipeline box at the Indiana Free Library in the audio-visual department and the older Marcellus Shale Process box at the Kittanning Library.

We are also in the last stages of producing "Updates" to the LWVPA Marcellus Shale Study Guides. This has been a labor (hopefully of love) by the whole committee, but especially by Susan McClure, Cindy Rogers, JoAnne Ferraro, Aida Shotts, Vera Bonnet, Mary Beth Sweeney, and Clarice Reber. Roberta Winters, of LWVPA, has assisted with the editing.

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Hints on Getting a Pennsylvania Photo Identification Card

By Karen Ross

This fall, all voters are required to show a legal photo identification card before voting. To see a complete list of acceptable ID's, go to www.votespa.com or call 1-877-868-3772. The majority of people will use their current PA driver's license or a current U.S. passport.

People without an acceptable photo ID can get a Pennsylvania Photo Identification Card. To get this **free** card, they need to go to any PennDOT Driver's License Center. In Indiana County, the center is at the Indiana Mall, and the hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9:15 am and 4:00 pm. Be prepared to wait and take the following items:

1. Social Security Number
2. Two proofs of residency (utility bills, lease, mortgage, W-2 form, tax records)
3. **An expired PA driver's license** – If a person previously had a PA license, even if they no longer have it, they can give their name at the license center. If they are still in the database, **they can receive their Photo ID without a birth certificate.**
4. An official birth certificate (one with a raised seal)

Obtaining an official birth certificate is a problem for some people. If people are willing, they can sign the affidavit "Affirmation That Voter Does Not Possess Proof of Identification for Voting Purposes", which is available at the licensing center, and still get the proper photo ID without a birth certificate. If they are unwilling to sign the affidavit and if they were born in the state, they can fill out the form "Request for Certification of Birth Record for Voter ID Purposes Only". (This service is free but takes 10 days.) People born out of state need to go to the Center for Disease Control website, cdc.gov "Where to Write for Vital Records" page. **Remember, it is possible to get the PA Photo ID without a birth certificate if they sign the affidavit or have formerly had a PA driver's license.**

This is all very complicated, and I hope that members understand why people may need help with this process! There are more complete details at www.votespa.com. People can still get an ID card up to the time of the election. If you know of someone who is absolutely stuck with the above, don't forget that the Indiana legislative offices of Dave Reed and Don White are available to help.

Board Meetings to be Held

Board meetings for the LWVIC will be held the third Monday of each month. Meetings for this fall are scheduled on **September 17, October 18, November 19, and December 17**, so please mark your calendars. Locations will be announced each month (Keep your eye on the Calendar of Upcoming Events on page 4.), and if you would like to host a meeting at your house, please contact Sherene (lwvic@verizon.net) as soon as possible. **All members are welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings!**

VOTE411.org (<http://www.vote411.org/>)

Launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) in October of 2006, VOTE411.org is a “one-stop-shop” for election related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public with both general and state-specific information on the following aspects of the election process:

- Absentee ballot information
- Ballot measure information (where applicable)
- Early voting options (where applicable)
- Election dates
- Factual data on candidates in various federal, state and local races
- General information on such topics as how to watch debates with a critical eye
- ID requirements
- Polling place locations
- Registration deadlines
- Voter qualifications
- Voter registration forms
- Voting machines

An important component of VOTE411.org is the **polling place locator**, which enables users to type in their address and retrieve the poll location for the voting precinct in which that address is located. The League has found that this is among the most sought after information in the immediate days leading up to, and on, Election Day.

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usually have applications sitting outside of the office.

4. Check with your neighbors, church members and fellow workers who don't drive and make sure they have an acceptable photo ID. If they don't, help them obtain a Pennsylvania Photo Identification card. More detailed directions are included in the article on page 2.

The last day to register for the fall election is Tuesday, October 9. Don't miss out on any of the above chances to help with voter rights this fall.

Continued from page 1 Environmental Issues Committee Hard at Work

If you are interested in environmental issues, not just Marcellus Shale issues, please join us as you are able. If you cannot make meetings, we do a lot by email. We have fun, learn a lot, and are generally fairly productive. If you don't have a lot of time, that's okay. You don't have to be a “super worker bee.” We value the ideas and ruminations of all! **The next meeting is Wednesday, September 5 at 10:30 am** at Clarice Reber's home, 1235 Oak Street, Indiana.

A newsletter of the
League of Women Voters
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CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, August 28, 2012, 11:00 am—1:00 pm—WCCC
Indiana County Center, Airport Road, Indiana

Wednesday, September 5, 2012, 11:00 am—3:30 pm—
Wyotech Blairsville Campus

Saturday, September 8, 2012, 9:00 am—Noon—LWVIC
Board Retreat, Whitey's Pizzeria & Eatery, Coral

Tuesday, September 11, 2012, 11:00 am—1:15 pm—
Cambria-Rowe Business College, 13th Street, Indiana

Saturday, September 15, 2012 9:00 am—11:00 am—
Indiana Farmer's Market

Tuesday, September 25, 2012—National Voter Registra-
tion Day

Know someone who may be interested in membership? Let President Sherene Hess know at 724-762-4162, and she will send a brochure & short letter describing LWVIC's activities.

Our Mission Statement

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.