

VOTER

League of Women
Voters of Indiana
County, Pennsylvania



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

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SAVE THE DATE! MEMBER POTLUCK DINNER & MEETING

Monday, January 30, 2012
Potluck Dinner/Education Panel

Dinner at 5:30 pm at the First Unitarian Universalist
Church, 285 Twolick Drive, Indiana

Panel discussion to follow at 7:00 pm regarding
“Education Alternatives and How They Affect
Public Schools.”

Bring a guest and a dish to share.

Opt Out Option Available

If you currently receive your copy of the Voter through the mail but would like to save the LWVIC a bit of money, please consider “opting out,” and sign up to receive the Voter (in PDF) via email. Simply contact Sandy Whitson at swhitson8@comcast.net and let her know of your choice.

Local Consensus Results on Website

If you weren't able to attend the local consensus meeting in November regarding the League's national study on the Role of the Federal Government in Public Education, you can still check out our results at www.palwv.org/indiana. Just click on Role of the Federal Government in Public Education Consensus Study Results then click on Public Education Study Consensus Questions.

This is a great example of what the League accomplishes at the grassroots level!

First-Ever Mercury and Air Toxics Safeguards Will Save Lives

Leading Public Health and Environment Groups Applaud Obama Administration Decision to Cut Toxic Emissions from Dirty Power Plants (January 04, 2012 by Jessica Jones)

December 21, 2011 - Washington, D.C.
First-ever public health safeguards aimed at curbing emissions of mercury and other toxic pollutants from dirty power plants will save lives and protect kids, say leading national environmental and public health groups.

The Environmental Protection Agency today announced first-ever reduction standards for power plant emissions that will significantly cut emissions of mercury, arsenic, acid gases and other toxics from power plants. The **groups listed below** issued the following statement:

“With these common sense safeguards, President Obama and the Environmental Protection Agency have taken a bold and important step to protect kids, wildlife and public health from dangerous air pollution caused by power plant emissions of mercury, arsenic, acid gases and other toxics. Even in small amounts these pollutants are linked to cancer, heart disease, neurological damage, birth defects, asthma attacks and premature death.

“The Mercury and Air Toxics rule announced today will provide strong public health protections that each year could prevent 4,700 heart attacks and 130,000 asthma

attacks among children – and save 11,000 lives. In addition to protecting kids and saving lives, updating older power plants with new air pollution control technology will support 46,000 new short-term construction jobs and 8,000 new long-term jobs at power plants. These new toxic pollution safeguards are a booster shot for the health of our kids, wildlife, communities and economy.

“President Obama deserves our thanks for standing up to the polluters and standing up for our kids. Less toxic pollution, safer kids, healthier communities and more jobs are things we all can support.”

Environment America

Earthjustice

National Wildlife Federation

Natural Resources Defense Council

Sierra Club

League of Women Voters of the United States

League of Conservation Voters

Environmental Defense Fund

Help the League continue its work to protect our families from dangerous air pollution: Join us in promising to support clean air. Visit <http://www.lwv.org/issues/climate-energy-natural-resources> to make your promise.

Resolutions for the New Year Courtesy of the League

Instead of the usual New Year's resolutions, the League has put together a list of **Election Year Resolutions/Hopes** for 2012. Let's work together to make these resolutions a reality.

1. Ensure all eligible voters are registered to vote and can exercise their right to vote without having to overcome unnecessary and restrictive hurdles.
2. Educate the electorate on the candidates and issues on their ballots and help them find their polling place.
3. Encourage informative and productive debates between candidates so voters can learn about their elected representatives through more than just sound bites.
4. Fight to make sure election outcomes are decided by voters, not by special interest money.
5. Promise clean air for children and their families, and change the discussion to the important issues facing Americans in 2012.

Join the Child Advocacy Committee

One of the great ways to be involved in the League is to join one of our local committees. Currently, our **Child Advocacy Committee** is seeking volunteers to help us achieve the following mission:

Monitor issues, activities, and policies related to the welfare of children in Indiana County
Participate in annual events designed to educate and improve the quality of life for children.

A major upcoming event for this committee is Family Fun Fest 2012. This day long event which takes place March 24 will be focusing on "A World of Science—Seek, Create, Inquire, Explore, Navigate, Change the World, Experiment."

LWVIC will participate in Family Fun Fest 2012 by manning an information display that will include our Marcellus Shale Story Boxes as well as child-friendly information on the geology involved with drilling. Volunteers are needed to work in our booth and communicate with the public. This annual event draws hundreds of visitors, and it's a great way to get to know members of our wider community while spreading the word about the great things that the League accomplishes.

A newsletter of the
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CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS

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 LWWIC's activities.

Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 10:30 am—Environmental Issues Committee Meeting, Clarice Reber's home (1235 Oak Street, Indiana)

Monday, January 16, 2012, 7:00 pm—Board Meeting, All Members Welcome, Gail McCauley's home (4620 Lucerne Road, Indiana)

Monday, January 30, 2012—Membership and Guest Potluck, Dinner (5:30 pm), Panel Discussion "Education Alternatives and How They Affect Public Schools" (7:00 pm), First Unitarian Universalist Church

Tuesday, February 7, 2012, Noon—Committee Meeting, Peggy Clark Grassroots Environmental Leadership Award, Donatello's Restaurant (Indiana)

Saturday, March 24, 2012, 10am-3pm—Family Fun Fest, Indiana Mall

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.