



# The VOTER

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 2

February 2011

## Calendar (League activities in bold)

| EVENT/ACTIVITY                                       | DATE   | DAY      | TIME    | LOCATION  |
|--|--------|----------|---------|---|
| <b>LWVCC General Meeting/Board Meeting</b>           | Mar 2  | W        | 7 pm    | Vogelson Library. <b>All welcome. Learn about the League!</b>                 |
| Freeholder Caucus                                    | Mar 15 | Tu       | 6 pm    | Freeholder Conference Room, 16th Floor, Courthouse, 520 Market Street, Camden |
| Freeholder public meeting                            | Mar 17 | Th       | 7 pm    | Cold Springs School, Gloucester City  |
| Last day to register for Board of Education Election | Mar 29 | Tu       | All day | Municipal buildings etc...  |
| <b>LWVCC Board Meeting</b>                           | Apr 6  | W        | 7 pm    | Vogelson Library.   |
| <b>Running &amp; Winning</b>                         | Apr 13 | <b>W</b> | Morning | Eastern High School   |

### Voter Contents

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### Board Report

At its Feb 2, 2011 meeting, the LWVCC board:

1. Appointed Sally Thorne to the Budget Committee
2. Selected tentative dates for the Annual Meeting
3. Looked into opportunities for a trolley tour as part of our fall kickoff meeting. Sally Thorne is gathering information.
4. Considered a possible speaker for a March meeting on Immigration.
5. Distributed some of the LWVNJ Callathon packets.

**League of Women Voters of Camden County**

## Co-Presidents' Message:



Dear League Members:

**Happy 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday!** On Monday, February 14, 2011, we celebrated our 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday. While celebrating, we reflected on “The heart of our mission-strengthening our democratic system and increasing the public’s participation. Our hopes have not diminished”. Today, as we move forward, we continue our mission to make democracy work.

**LWVNJ Annual Appeal --** The LWVNJ Annual Appeal continues to be at the forefront of program planning, and the LWVCC views participating in the Callathon as a great way to earn money for our local League. This month, we are actively participating by making calls to members who have not yet donated. We realize that our “gifts” are “vital to sustaining the League’s work.”

**Running and Winning --** The **R&W** committee continues to work with the staff at Eastern Regional High School and the committee is in the final stages of planning the April 13 workshop.

**The Nominating Committee --** Thank you to the committee members for your important work in identifying League leaders.

**Program Committee --** March is Women’s History Month, and as we prepare to reflect on women who “Took the First Step”, we will pay homage to great women such as Carrie Chapman Catt who on February 14, 1920 founded the League of Women Voters to educate newly enfranchised voters about the issues.

*"Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. ... Let your voice be heard. Join us in our general meeting on Wednesday, March 2, at 7PM, at the Vogelsson Library, Voorhees, NJ."*

**Annual Meeting/Luncheon Committee--** League work is very important every single year! Thank you to the committee for planning the activities for the Annual meeting.

**Fall Kickoff --** Sally Thorne and Winnefred Rowell Bullard are pursuing ideas for the Fall Kickoff. Presently, Sally has provided information on a Trolley Tour of some historical sites in Camden County.

**Membership --** Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. We respect all points of view, and we are nonpartisan. This is what sets us apart from so many organizations, and it is why we are one of America’s most trusted organizations. Let your voice be heard. Join us in our general meeting on Wednesday, March 2, at 7PM, at the Vogelsson Library, Voorhees, NJ.

In League, Winnefred Rowell-Bullard & Harriet Snyder  
Co-Presidents



## Getting there - Directions!

**Camden County Courthouse:** Take 676 north to Mickle Blvd. Flow right at the fork (don't go on Campbell Place), then turn right onto 5th street in a few blocks. The courthouse is at 5th and Federal, a block up from Mickle.

**Camden, Federal Courthouse:** 4th and Cooper, but we generally car pool. Call 856-795-7878 if you're interested. *About 3-4 blocks from the City Hall PATCO station.*

**Gloucester City: Cold Springs School** Take 295 S to 676 N. After a brief ride, take the Gloucester/Mt. Ephraim exit. At the top of the ramp, turn left onto Market Street. Pass 130 (Crescent), staying on Market, pass some open grassy playing fields on your left and a Wawa on your right. In about 0.3 miles (from Crescent), turn left onto Hughes (which is Baynes on the right) at a light. The school is there, a red brick building just on the other side of Hughes.

**Voorhees: Vogelson Regional Library:** Driving south on 30, turn left onto Somerdale Road (gas station with red horizontal stripes on your left, Cunningham's Cleaners on the right), just above the Echelon Mall. Go under the train bridge in about a half mile, then turn right onto Burnt Mill (at the light). Soon turn left onto Laurel Road at a light. (There is a kind of small park with grass and trees on your left just before the turn and a flower-decorated median on Laurel itself). The library is on your right as you pass the mall. Burnt Mill Road also crosses 544 (Evesham Road) north of the library and White Horse Road (an extension of Springdale) south of it. If you know where the Echelon Mall is, you're home!

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization of men and women, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters of Camden County, LWVCC  
Co-Presidents

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*The VOTER* is published ten times a year to keep the membership and public informed of the activities of the League of Women Voters of Camden County. For subscription or membership information call (856) 795-7878.

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## LWVNJ Advocacy Report

The LWVNJ has now posted online a detailed summary of recent advocacy activities at the state level. This is a **must-read** for anyone interested in LWVNJ's work.

Here is an example:

Open Public Records Act [S.1352/A.2321](#)  
Open Public Meetings Act [S.1351/A.2322](#)

Yesterday, revisions to the current Open Public Records Act (OPRA) and Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) were introduced in the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee. The League of Women Voters of New Jersey testified in support of both bills.

[Testimony in support of revisions to OPRA](#)  
[Testimony in support of revisions to OPMA](#)

Some changes to the current Open Public Records Act: allow requests and responses to be done more easily by email, require record custodians to notify requestors why information is redacted and to indicate the number of records redacted, adds members to the Government Records Council, and tighten the rules for special charges for records.

Changes to the current Open Public Meetings Act include expanding the definition of public bodies, increasing required notice of public meetings, improving the public comment portion of meetings, and preventing private communication during meetings.

Both bills passed out of committee.

Read the full advocacy report [here](#): If that doesn't work, copy paste the following into your browser:  
[http://myemail.constantcontact.com/-LWVNJ--Advocacy-Update.html?soid=1102216583715&aid=t\\_h4GqbbcZo](http://myemail.constantcontact.com/-LWVNJ--Advocacy-Update.html?soid=1102216583715&aid=t_h4GqbbcZo)

There are also reports on private school vouchers (we oppose them), women's health funding (we support it), and several natural resources/environmental activities.

Take a look!

Also check out the Action page of the LWVCC web site:  
<http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty/Action.htm>

There are links to state and national actions you can take on the issues that affect us all.

## From the LWVUS

### Keep Our Air Clean

The House of Representatives is expected to consider legislation that would block urgently needed new pollution controls under the Clean Air Act or defund programs that control life-threatening pollution. For decades, the EPA has protected the health of children, seniors and all the rest of us from dangerous pollutants through the Clean Air Act. In just the last twenty years carbon monoxide, which negatively affects those with heart and lung diseases, has been cut by seventy percent.

Take action now to tell your Representative to oppose any legislation that would block or prevent action to clean up our air and protect the most vulnerable Americans

Our health and environment are under attack by big polluters and their congressional supporters. We can't let them stop EPA's efforts to clean up life-threatening pollution like mercury, carbon dioxide, ozone and soot which will save thousands of lives and improve the quality of life for millions more.

#### TAKE ACTION

Visit [http://participate.lwv.org/p/dia/action/public/?action\\_KEY=3379](http://participate.lwv.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=3379) to send a message to your member of Congress.

### **ACTION ALERT: Protect America's Health Care**

The Affordable Care Act, passed in the last Congress and signed into law by President Obama, was a major step forward in health care for all. It has already made a difference by improving health care access and coverage for millions of Americans. The House of Representatives took a step in the wrong direction by repealing the law that has already brought positive changes in the lives of Americans: children are no longer denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, insurers can no longer impose lifetime limits on coverage, adult children can stay on their parents' health plans up until age 26 and Medicare recipients can have a number of preventive and well-care services without being charged a deductible, co-pay, or coinsurance.

Visit [http://participate.lwv.org/p/dia/action/public/?action\\_KEY=3035](http://participate.lwv.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=3035) to take action to protect our hard-won health care reform!

If You Are Interested In:

- *Learning about government and the political process.*
- *Getting involved in the political process in nonpartisan ways.*
- *Meeting and working with other citizens who care about good government.*



**Join the League Of Women Voters of Camden County**

**Call 856-795-7878 or send this form to: PO Box 245, Voorhees, NJ 08043**

Annual membership is \$60 (plus \$30 for each additional household membership). To join, or for more information, send this form or call the number above.

I want to become a member of the LWV of Camden County: \_\_\_\_\_ (Check enclosed for \$\_\_\_\_\_)

Please send me information on membership in the LWV of Camden County \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please include area code)

The



**OTER**

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