



The VOTER

VOLUME 52 NUMBER 6

June-July 2013

Calendar (League activities in bold)

EVENT/ACTIVITY	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION/INFO
Voter Registration	July 18	Th	10 am	After the naturalization ceremony, 401 Market St., Camden. Contact the League at lwvcc@hotmail.com or call 856-795-7878 if you are interested in helping register.
August Pot Luck	Aug 28	W	6-8:30 pm	Renee Robbins' house
Voter Registration	Sept 19	Th	10 am	After the naturalization ceremony, 401 Market St., Camden. Contact the League at lwvcc@hotmail.com or call 856-795-7878 if you are interested in helping register.
LWVNJ Fall Workshops	Sept 21	Sa	9-1	
LWVCC Kickoff	Sept 28	Sa	12-3	Possibly Beneficial Bank. Topic possibly historical aspects of Camden County.

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Board Report

At its June 3, 2013 Board meeting, the board:

1. Made some decisions about the August Pot Luck board and member meeting.
2. Moved the tentative Kickoff date to Sept 28 to avoid a conflict with the LWVNJ workshops. The topic may be history of the area.
3. Discussed steps to increase membership retention.

League of Women Voters of Camden County

Board Message:



Hello Fellow Members,

We hope you're having a safe and enjoyable summer. However, this is an unusual year in New Jersey, and much as we'd like to kick back and relax, we voters have some duties to perform. Between now and November 5, 2013, we'll have the duty to vote on three occasions, the first of which is August 13, a special primary election to choose candidates for governor. The voter registration deadline for this primary is July 23, and the deadline to apply by mail for a mail-in ballot is August 6.

On October 16, there will be a Special General Election to replace Senator Lautenberg, and then on November 5, the General Election to elect a governor. The League will be running registration drives in September in order to get out the vote for those elections (more on that in the next Voter).

Please save the date of September 28 for our fall covered-dish kick-off meeting, at which we'll have an interesting program on local history.

In League,

Harriet Snyder
Member of the Board

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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
Voter Editor: Ed Gracely (856) 629-2869
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Visit our web site: <http://www.lwvnj.org/camdencounty>

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.



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.*

Voorhees: Vogelson Regional Library: Driving south on 30, turn left onto Somerdale Road just above the Voorhees Town Center. 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. The library is on your right as you pass the mall.

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LWVUS Comment on Voting Rights Act

Supreme Court Ruling Opens Door to Widespread Voter Suppression

By: Renee Davidson 06/28/2013

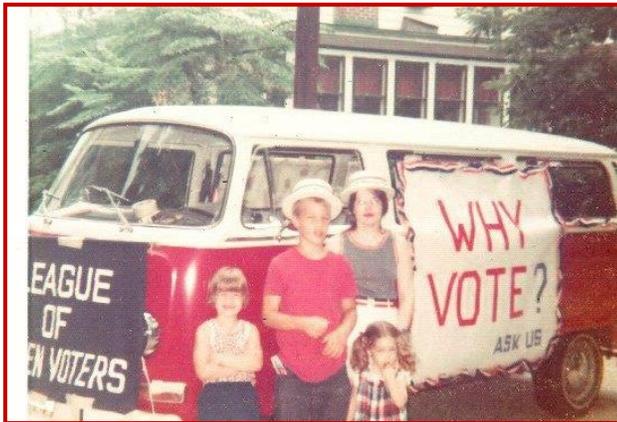
In its ruling on *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder* on Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court erased fundamental protections against racial discrimination in voting that have been critical in protecting our democracy for more than four decades. The Court ruled unconstitutional Section 4 of the landmark Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965, thereby stripping the VRA of a key provision used to ensure equal access to the vote in states with histories of racial discrimination in voting.

Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts wrote bluntly in the Court's opinion that "voting discrimination still exists: no one doubts that." Yet the Court's decision opens the door for states to further enact discriminatory voting measures. States that may earlier have been dissuaded from pursuing legislation to limit voting rights due to the need for federal preclearance, or approval, will now be emboldened to attempt to pass these laws. ...

The Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling this week leaves the country vulnerable to the very forms of voter suppression Congress warned of in 2006. The Shelby decision has taken away the nation's most effective tool in fighting anti-voter laws in jurisdictions with histories of voter discrimination. Without a strong VRA, our ability to keep our elections free, fair and accessible and to challenge attempts to suppress the vote, including voter photo ID laws and racially gerrymandered districts, is significantly weakened. ...

The League believes that now and going forward, Congress must act to restore the effectiveness of the Voting Rights Act. Now that the floodgates have opened, time is of the essence: It is up to Congress to act quickly and decisively to close the door to voter discrimination by passing legislation to ensure that every American has equal access to the polls. And it is up to the public to demand this action.

Pictures from the 1973 Haddonfield Parade 40 years ago -- oh my gosh!



League member Barbara Sielaff and her children



More History (not quite so old!)



2001 -- LWVCC at the campaign finance rally in Trenton to see walkers Steve Ma and Granny D



LWVCC Member and LWVNJ President Dottie Dunfee introducing the Citizens Army at our Kickoff in 1998

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From the LWVNJ

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Fall Election Deadlines at a Glance

[A PDF with all of these dates is available here.](#)

Special Primary Election: Tuesday, August 13, 2013

- **Deadline to register to vote or change address:** July 23, 2013
- **Deadline to apply by mail for mail-in ballot:** August 6, 2013 - Note: County Clerk must receive application by this date.
- **Deadline to apply in-person for mail-in ballot:** August 12, 2013, 3:00 pm

Special General Election: Wednesday, October 16, 2013

- **Deadline to register to vote or change address:** September 25, 2013
- **Deadline to apply by mail for mail-in ballot:** October 9, 2013 - Note: County Clerk must receive application by this date.
- **Deadline to apply in-person for mail-in ballot:** October 15, 2013, 3:00 pm

November General Election: Tuesday, November 5, 2013

- **Deadline to register to vote or change address:** October 15, 2013
- **Deadline to apply by mail for mail-in ballot:** October 29, 2013 - Note: County Clerk must receive application by this date.
- **Deadline to apply in-person for mail-in ballot:** November 4, 2013, 3:00 pm

About Primary Elections

New Jersey holds closed primaries, meaning voters select from candidates within their declared party. Although the deadline to change your party affiliation for the upcoming primary has passed, **registered unaffiliated voters** (those who have not declared a party affiliation) **may declare a party affiliation on primary election day at the polls and vote in that party's primary.**



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



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Voorhees, NJ 08043