



The VOTER

The Bulletin of the LWV of Lawrence-Douglas County *Volume 52, No. 1*

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

LWVL-DC	Email:	league@sunflower.com
President:	Caleb Morse	842-7927 cmorse@ku.edu
Membership:	Caroljean Brune	843-3813 bacjb@ku.edu
Websites:	Local League	www.community.lawrence.com/LeagueWomenVoters/
	State League	www.lwvk.org lwvks@aol.com
	National League	www.lwv.org
	Members Site:	User ID: LWV/Password: carriecatt

League Calendar

Jun 8 Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Housing Needs Assessment Study Committee Meeting <i>Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority</i> <i>1600 Haskell Ave #187</i>
Jun 9 Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	LWVL-DC Board Meeting <i>Meeting Room – Lawrence Memorial Hospital</i> All members are welcome
Jun 10 Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Voter Service Committee Meeting <i>2145 New Hampshire St (Sara Taliaferro)</i>
Jun 17 Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Membership Committee Meeting <i>612 W 17th St (Caroljean Brune)</i>

Town Meeting

Help America Vote Act of 2002 and the Kansas Election Standards

Wednesday, June 30th, 7:00 p.m.
Lawrence Public Library Auditorium

see page 3 for details

From Our (New) President

We're starting the League year at a dead run, members having adopted at Annual Meeting all four of the items recommended by the board of directors:

1. Consider conducting a housing needs assessment with particular attention to the cost of housing and homelessness;
2. Study the role of city commission task forces in formulation of public policy and update our position on Boards and Commissions as needed;
3. Readopt our action priority encouraging televising of Lawrence-Douglas County Planning Commission meetings on the city channel; and
4. Review and update our Land Use position.

We have our work cut out for us in 2004! All members are welcome to participate in any committees or studies in which they have an interest.

In addition, of course, local, state, and federal elections are coming up with new election issues to consider under the Help America Vote Act of 2002. We have already been registering voters at public events around Lawrence, twice within a week of Annual Meeting. If you want to help this as election season, let Sara Taliaferro, Voter Services chair, hear from you.

As my first official public duty on April 20th, I presented to the City Commission the LWVL-DC statement on the USAPATRIOT Act (text in the September 2003 *Voter*) supporting adoption of Resolution 6541 on the Act. In adopting this resolution, Lawrence joins the National League of Cities and nearly 300 other state and municipal governments in voicing its concern over this important issue.

State Council in Overland Park on April 24th was well attended, with delegates present from the nine local Leagues. The juvenile justice state study committee reported on its progress (see page 9). LWVL-DC is well represented on that committee by marci francisco and Forrest Swall. Our lunchtime speakers, the Honorable Justices Robert Serra and Steve Tatum of the 29th and 10th Judicial Districts, respectively, spoke about election vs. appointment/retention of judges in Kansas. Douglas County uses the appointment/retention system, which is preferred in the LWVK Position on the Court System, but the two systems of judicial selection are used with about equal frequency throughout the state. Finally, the voting delegates adopted four resolutions to be read to Governor Sebelius and the party leadership of the state House and Senate. See page 12 for the text of these resolutions.

During her exceptional two-year term as our president, marci francisco did a wonderful job representing the League in Lawrence and Douglas County. Even as her term with LWVL-DC is ending, she has agreed to serve as first vice-president of LWVK. Our thanks to her, and to Betty Banks, an admirable membership chair during her tenure on the board. Her energy and considerable editing skill have served the League (and me personally) well. And, finally, many thanks to Rita Spradlin and all who helped with Annual Meeting and the splendid lunch that followed. Welcome to new directors Marjorie Cole, Arla Jones, Paula Schumacher, and Donna Swall. League has an energetic and talented board of directors, but we will need help this year from every member if we are to accomplish all our goals. If you didn't return the interest form at Annual Meeting, please take a moment to fill out and return the form included with the membership form on page 13, or contact me or the person listed as the contact or chair about your interests.

...Caleb Morse



Town Meeting



Help America Vote Act of 2002 and Kansas Election Standards

Wednesday, June 30th, 7:00 p.m.
Lawrence Public Library Auditorium

In response to extraordinary problems voters encountered at the polls in the 2000 elections, Congress adopted the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). Aimed at reforming election administration nationwide, the Act allocates money to fund improvements in election administration at the state and local levels, including voter education activities, election official training, polling place accessibility, and maintenance of voter registration records. States must file a plan with the Election Assistance Commission, which oversees the implementation of the Act, enumerating the changes needed to comply with HAVA requirements.

States must be in compliance with most Act requirements by 2006 and in full compliance by 2007. Kansas has already filed its state plan and published in 2002 a new set of election standards “to promote consistency in the election administration process across Kansas.” At this League meeting, Marni Penrod, Deputy County Clerk for Elections in Douglas County, will speak informally on how HAVA and the Kansas Election Standards will affect elections in Douglas County.

[Read about LWVUS actions and HAVA at the LWVUS website (www.lwv.org/join/elections/hava.html). Find a details of the Act itself at the Federal Election Commission website (www.fec.gov/hava/hava.htm) and the Kansas State Plan and Kansas Election Statutes at the Secretary of State’s website (www.kssos.org/elections/elections_reform.html).]

League Members Honored

League members **Hilda Enoch** and **Liz Smith** were honored recently as recipients of CornerBank’s “Community Cornerstone Award”, which recognizes volunteers dedicated to serving people and enhancing the quality of life in Douglas County. CornerBank donates \$100 to the non-profit organization of the recipient’s choice. Hilda chose the Lawrence Open Shelter and Liz selected the Kansas chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI).

If you would like to nominate an outstanding volunteer, nomination forms are available by contacting CornerBank at 838-9400.

In May, League Treasurer **Rusty Thomas** received the Lawrence Kiwanis Club’s “Substantial Citizen Award”. 76 people have been honored since the award was originated in 1960 to recognize people who contribute to the Lawrence community.

Rusty is very active in the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce and was named the chamber’s Volunteer of the Year in 2000. She is also involved with the American Heart Association, the United Way, Ballard Center board, Arc of Douglas County board and Beta Sigma Phi social sorority, and is president of Lawrence Women’s Network.

Congratulations to Hilda, Liz, and Rusty and thanks for all their good works!

Updates from the Board of Directors

Board Meetings Summary

May 5th meeting. Before the New Board Orientation, Caroljean Brune and Jinny Ashlock were appointed to the 2004-2005 board. Diane Oakes and David Smith volunteered to serve as the two required board members on the Nominating Committee.

May 12th meeting. Some portfolios were assigned. The task of the old Finance Drive committee was expanded to include development of strategies for generating income for League, to be chaired by Paula Schumacher. Final naming of chairs for study committees, the action priority, and some administrative committees will wait on a set of preliminary member meetings in May and June designed to develop ideas and gauge member interest (see Calendar and Member Interest Form). Results due at the June board meeting.

The board needs more member comment on the proposal, made at Annual Meeting by the Nominating Committee, that League join the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce.

League will join an as-yet untitled “political forums commission”. Its purpose is to coordinate forum topics to increase the comparative information provided to voters and to reach as many voters as possible while minimizing the redundancy of many individual forums. Other organizations already committed to this project are the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods, and the World Company.

A League letter to the editor will be sent on the school funding imbroglio. marci francisco was appointed to the board, and a committee chaired by Caroljean Brune will review the “Policies and Procedures” document, generated by the board, that governs board actions.

Introducing New Board Members

The four new Directors elected to the Board at Annual Meeting add expertise and many different talents to the group.

Marjorie Cole, a recently retired special education teacher, is already hard at work revitalizing the Observer Corps. Call or e-mail to find out about observing a local board or commission: (842-6085, nobledog@aol.com).

Arla Jones, 20 years a librarian and now at Lawrence High School, favors “encouraging civil public discourse”. As Events Planning chair, she and her committee will help think up, arrange for, and schedule member and public meetings. Call or e-mail her with suggestions, or to help: (838-4206, kimyarla@sunflower.com).

Paula Schumacher, who recently rejoined both the League and the Board, gardens in her spare time but during the week helps rationalize business systems. She has taken responsibility for fundraising, and needs all the help she can get. Contact Paula if you want to help: (841-3761, paulaschumacher@netscape.net).

Donna Swall has not yet chosen a board speciality. She is thoroughly enjoying retirement, but honed major peace-making gifts in a long career as a school social worker.

New Directors appointed to the Board for a year are Jinny Ashlock (Website), Caroljean Brune (Membership), and marci francisco (assignment to be decided soon).

*If you would like to order a
2005 League Calendar,
contact marci francisco:
842-6402 or maf@sunflower.com*



2004-05 Committees

All members are invited and encouraged to join committee(s)



Awards & Scholarships

Contact: Sara Taliaferro
842-9754
sara@happybeetle.com

Calling

Chair: Mary P. Miller
843-6237
mpmiller@sunflower.com

Events Planning

Chair: Arla Jones
838-4206
kimyarla@sunflower.com

Fund Development

Chair: Paula Schumacher
841-3761
paulaschumacher@netscape.net

Land Use

Chair: Alan Black
749-4524
ablack@ku.edu

Membership

Chair: Caroljean Brune
843-3813
bacjb@ku.edu

Observer Corps

Chair: Marjorie Cole
842-6085
nobledog@aol.com

Speakers Bureau

Contact: Caleb Morse
842-7927
cmorse@ku.edu

VOTER

Contact: Caleb Morse
842-7927
cmorse@ku.edu

Voter Services

Chair: Sara Taliaferro
842-9754
sara@happybeetle.com

Membership Committee Report

The League's membership committee (Linda Gwaltney, Arla Jones, Kim Kriecker, Beth Ann Mansur, and Caroljean Brune) met Monday, May 24th, to map out membership strategy for this summer.

A primary goal is to redesign the membership brochure to include more graphics and fewer words while still conveying what the League stands for and what it does. One suggestion is to include a calendar of upcoming events that potential members could attend. Since the brochure will exist in electronic form and can be updated and printed from desktop computers this goal is achievable.

A second objective is to enlist League members to attend the public meetings, events, gatherings, forums, and parades so abundant in Lawrence to hand out the membership forms in person while engaging interested parties in conversation about

the League. Of course, colorful banners and signs would enhance the recruitment attempt and several of these will be produced by the membership committee. If you think of any catchy slogans we would love to hear them.

We anticipate working closely with both the Voter Service committee and the Events Planning committee to achieve these results. And, of course, the Membership committee would welcome anyone eager and able to work with us as we start a new and exciting year.

The next meeting of the Membership committee is Thursday, June 17th, at 7:00 pm at 612 W. 17th Street. If you have suggestions, ideas, thoughts, or advice before the meeting please contact Caroljean Brune at bacjb@ku.edu or 843-3813.

...Caroljean Brune

Studies and Action Item

Study: Housing Needs Assessment

Contact: Carrie Lindsey
766-8561
carriblindsey@yahoo.com

The Housing Needs Assessment Committee is forming to consider conducting a local housing needs assessment. This study, if conducted, would pay particular attention to issues of housing affordability and of homelessness. Philip F. Mangano, the Executive Director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, points to a federal study which shows that, for the first time in the history of the United States, there is no longer a metropolitan area in the U.S. in which a person earning the minimum wage can afford to rent a two-bedroom apartment. In Lawrence, Alan Bowes, the Executive Director of Tenants To Homeowners, notes that in recent years, families of university assistant professors and architects qualify for first-time homeowners' financing through TTH's federally subsidized programs. Housing needs and housing affordability for the currently housed, the precariously housed, and the homeless in Lawrence must be more clearly defined before community and government action can be undertaken.

The City of Lawrence has a Consolidated Plan to serve as a foundation for the housing needs assessment. The League's proposed study would provide depth beyond the scope of the Consolidated Plan. For example, one possible work group for the assessment would gather information on relevant city and county government activities such as new construction and demolition, anticipated construction, development review and the building permit process, housing development incentives, and dilapidated or substandard housing. Other workgroups include such reviews as rental property inventory, major employers, schools, and housing intentions and preferences surveys. Possible recommendations or actions resulting from such a study might be suggestions for expansion of economic opportunities for persons of low and moderate income, provision of decent affordable housing or transitional housing, or redefining city planning policies that might affect property taxes or some other aspect of housing affordability.

...Sara Taliaferro

Study: City Commission Task Forces

Contact: Caleb Morse
842-7927
cmorse@ku.edu

This study, as adopted at Annual Meeting, is to investigate the role of city commission task forces in the formulation of policy and to update our position on Boards and Commissions as needed.

This proposal grew out of committee discussions of the existing position, out of problems in the working of current boards, commissions, and "task forces" that were made clear in our September forum on Boards and Commissions, and our of member discussion at the January program planning meeting. Two areas were revealed in which work is needed.

Action on existing positions. The part of the position judged most to require immediate action by League is supporting adequate orientation especially for all members of quasi-judicial boards and commissions.

Additions to the position. A study is proposed that will develop information on the city's use of task forces. It will answer such questions as: What is a task force? How and under what circumstances are task forces created? What guidelines and responsibilities are they given? Last, how effective have they been in achieving their objectives and in the subsequent development of good public policy?

As the committee created to implement this study works to assist the membership to find the answers to these questions, the committee will also address a general update of the position as necessary and not only will advise the board about practical methods to initiate action on the issue of adequate orientation but also will assist in that action.



*Remember to select a committee or study
you're interested in...
simply contact the chair or contact person, or
fill out the form on page 13
when you renew your membership.*

Study: Review and Update Land Use Position

Contact: Alan Black
749-4524
ablack@ku.edu

This study was approved by the membership at our annual meeting. A report will be submitted in a forthcoming issue of the *Voter*.

Action: Televis Planning Commission Meetings

Contact: Melinda Henderson
841-8191
melin@sunflower.com

This action item was originally adopted by the membership at our 2002 Annual Meeting, as a result of the study on the Representativeness of the Planning Commission. It was re-adopted at our 2004 Annual Meeting. So far, contact has been made with city to determine what the costs would be to make this happen. Our next meeting will probably be a Friday morning in June (date to be determined).

...Melinda Henderson

How do YOU feel about VVPATs?

LWV of Oakland, CA, has created a website that allows League members who do not agree with the LWVUS position on voter verified paper audit trails (VVPATs) to let their opinions be known. You may access the site at www.LeagueIssues.org, and add your name to a petition of League members requesting LWVUS to retract its position on VVPATs. To add your name to this list, open the website, then click on "League Members" in the following sentence: 3. *League Members who have signed the Open Letter to President Kay Maxwell to retract LWVUS opposition to a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT)*. Scroll down to the bottom, where you will have a chance to register your concern by adding your name to a petition. This list of name will be presented at National Convention, June 11-15, in the hope of persuading the LWVUS board to reconsider its position.

... received from Debbie L. Nuss, President, LWV Manhattan/Riley County

Editor's note:

The Manhattan/Riley County League recently joined with 19 other Leagues nationwide to request LWVUS remain neutral on the requirement for VVPATs until the League can reach consensus on their necessity. Their statement may be read at the same website, under the hyperlink "19 Local and Area Leagues from 8 states" on item 4.

HELP WANTED: Looking for League member to help with the VOTER

Producing the VOTER requires some time and the ability to keep to a schedule, but the job is critical to a healthy League, and it can be shared. Preparing the newsletter requires attending board meetings, collecting and coordinating, with the president's help, written reports of other board members, constructing the calendar, and writing various "ads" and reminders. Once contributions are in hand, they must be formatted into pages. This requires some computer skills and an interest in layout and design. The other jobs in production include: getting copying done, acquiring mailing labels, and physical preparation (labeling and folding, taking to the post office with the proper forms). Labels are now produced by the database manager on request, and the other production jobs are covered by Sharon Brown. But the challenging jobs of "copy collector and polisher" and "formatter and arranger" are vacant. Does this sound like your kind of job? Would you like to try your hand at either part? Let Caleb know. (Oh, and someone should throw a small party for the Voter crew at least once a year.)



Lawrence Public Library Board

May 17, 2004

Librarian Bruce Flanders reported 52% of the annual budget has been spent, including pest control, repair to elevators, insurance, travel to Kansas Library Association meetings and workshops. The Friends provided funds for some chairs. Circulation has increased in each of the last five years. The library needs to offer more titles, replace outdated materials, and update displays. There was some discussion of moving fiction upstairs due to public interest, but there is not enough room for nonfiction downstairs. The computer room needs some sort of supplemental air conditioning. In response to public concern about the Patriot Act, Flanders said no record exists after a book is returned and nobody had asked for any record.

A New Directions Task Force is studying possible sites for future moving or enlargement of the library. Board President Craig Penzler listed these criteria: Space, accessibility, parking, connection to the neighborhood, such as part of a public plaza, ease of acquisition, cost, distinctive architecture, building for the long term, building for other use if or when no longer needed for the library, uninterrupted service during changes.

At a Design Summit meeting Apr. 30th, architects from three offices had worked together to draw, discuss, critique and vote on five possible plans which were posted on the wall. Penzler took the board through each rough plan with its good and bad features. A library development fund of \$300,000 is available that can be used to hire a consultant for evaluating possible sites and another for cost analysis. Penzler said it would be possible to get consultants this summer and have a proposal in time for the 2005 budget process. But, he said, to be realistic, it will be the end of 2005 before location, plans, and funding are settled and then two years to design and build, and probably our new library and public setting could be open in 2008. Board member John Nalbandian suggested the library ask the City Commission for an early resolution or other affirmation of support for the project.

...League Observer Mary Michener

Willow Spring Township Board

May 5, 2004

Minutes, bills, and road conditioning reports were routine.

The board discussed the problem involving the Township's income. The US 59 Freeway being contemplated runs (approximately) 300 yards east of present 59. Money for freeway construction has not yet been allocated, but the funds for land acquisition have been. This year the state has begun to buy up houses, farms, and businesses along the proposed route. Basically, all buildings to the east of present U.S. 59 are involved. When the state buys, the property goes off the tax rolls. This amounts to 30-35 houses and three to five businesses. The resulting loss of property taxes will be very large. Some homes are being moved, but these are moving primarily to northern Franklin County and to the Overbrook area, effectively removing them from Willow Springs tax rolls.

Townships have two assigned duties—to maintain polling places and to build and maintain roads and bridges (excepting county and state roads). Maintaining the polling places is relatively inexpensive since there is only one. Roads are another matter: although the income will come down, the same number of miles of township road must be maintained.

A third duty can be assumed, that of fire fighting. Willow Springs has a volunteer fire department and five vehicles. Currently about 12% of the township budget funds the fire department.

The only two solutions — cutting road maintenance and fire protection severely, or increasing the mill levy (tax rate) — are being considered. Township Clerk Jerry Smith advocates almost doubling the mill levy.

...League Observer Peggy Baker

If you're interested in observing any board or commission meetings, please contact
Marjorie Cole:
842-6085 or nobledog@aol.com

Stucky Scholarship to Elina Alterman



Elina Alterman

The Mabel Stucky Memorial Scholarship is presented by LWVL-DC every year to a graduating senior at Lawrence High School who demonstrates an interest in government and public service. The 2004 award went to Elina Alterman. The \$750 scholarship was presented by President-Elect Carrie Lindsey at the Senior Recognition Ceremony on May 12. An excellent debater, Ms. Alterman was also a student School Board member for a year as part of the Youth in Government program, and volunteered during her school career at social service agencies and the Humane Society. Born in Russia and a fluent speaker of the language, she wants to study international relations to emulate her hero, Madeleine Albright. She will be attending KU for the fall semester and then will transfer as a full-time student to Brandeis University in Boston.

The award was established in memory of Mabel Stucky in 1980 to honor her service as chair of the Kansas Constitutional Revision Committee in 1962-63, as Lawrence League President from 1965-67, and as an active and vigorous member of many League study and action committees including school finance, state finance, water quality, and Voter Service.

Members of this year's selection committee included Marjorie Cole, marci francisco, Carrie Lindsey, Caleb Morse, and Rita Spradlin.

Juvenile Justice Update

Report of the juvenile justice state study committee, presented April 24th at State Council by Ellen Estes (LWV Wichita)

Juvenile justice state study committee members are making preparations to update our current position next year at convention. Ted and Marge Minton (LWV Salina) have presented information on what happens what a juvenile goes through community corrections. Every district has good local control and thus each district has a different system, as there is no state-wide uniform procedure.

marci francisco and Forrest Swall (LWVL-DC) are researching the history of juvenile justice over the last 30 years. Betsy Rohleder and Edith Bronson (LWV Topeka) have been looking at the proposed changes to the Juvenile Code, as described in SB 2270. Ann Heberger (LWV Johnson Co) supplied a Juvenile Justice program review by the Husky group of Johnson County and also provided the committee members with the Juvenile Code Statutes. Additional members of the committee are: Dorothy Ann Bollman, Annette Brown, and Debbie L. Nuss (LWV Manhattan), Gwen Elliott (LWV To-

peka), Cathy Hoy (LWV Emporia), Ernestine Krehbiel (LWV Wichita), Mary Lou Warren (LWV Great Bend), and Nan Wilson (LWV Johnson Co).

LWVK News

LWVK has a new office: 618 S Kansas Ave, Topeka 66603, and a new email address: lwvks@aol.com. Christy Oller is our new administrative assistant; she takes calls and handles mail and email. Questions she can't answer she will forward to Janis McMillen and/or Lee Rowe.

The Voter Service group has been working to develop the final questions for state level candidates in the upcoming elections, and have forwarded the proposed questions to the Board for final comment. Ann Havenhill began the process with delegates at State Council. The Voter Service group also recommended that we do all of our work on-line this year via Dnet (www.dnet.org), rather than have a printed Voter's Guide. Information contained on Dnet can be printed out and made available to local Leagues. State Board member Doris Slocombe, Emporia, the state Dnet coordinator, will be working with local coordinators throughout the state to input candidate responses.

Legislative Updates Summary

About a third of you are not on the local League email list (DCVOTER-L), and do not get Legislative E-Reports as state president Janis McMillen, the editor, issues them. Here is a summary of final dispositions of bills followed by the LWVK Lobby Corps from E-Report No. 7, dated May 19th.

If a special legislative session is called to deal with the school finance law, we will report The Supreme Court has set the week of August 30 to hear oral arguments on Judge Bullock's ruling of last December

State Finance

Here Comes the Judge, the Attorney General, the Supreme Court and the Legislature—. . . Judge Bullock has made it plain that the current school finance system needs fixing. He pointed to many inequities in the system, and correcting them would seem to require that the legislature make significant changes in the system. Varying ways of providing additional funding for schools were proposed during the session Only one bill, HB 2807, truly attempted a revision of the school finance law, but it did not pass the House. Legislators wanting no tax increases insist that if money were spent more wisely there would be enough With the total funding per pupil varying from \$6,000 to \$16,000 depending on the school district, it would appear the entire school finance system needs to be reassessed.

Children's Issues

SB 67 opens the records to designated professionals in the case of a fatality or near fatality involving Children In Need of Care (CINCs); signed into law.

SB 453 would grant certain licensing exemptions to child care facilities operated by a school district; passed the Senate and died in the House.

HB 2485 provided for Kansas to join the Interstate Compact for Juveniles, affecting parole supervision, return to state of origin, etc.; hearing in the House only.

HB 2487 eliminated the July 1, 2004 sunset date on the Juvenile Justice Authority, thereby keeping it operational and funding available; signed into law.

HB 2542 requires juvenile offenders under the age of 18 and convicted of a felony to provide specimens for DNA analysis; signed into law.

HB 2575 would require clergy, except in a penitential communication, to report known or suspected situations of child and adult abuse or neglect; died in the House.

HB 2602 required SRS to refer to the Child Death Review Board any case involving a death or near fatality if the child was a ward of the state or was designated a CINC at any time; passed the House and died in the Senate.

HB 2727 would allow felons convicted of substance abuse to receive Temporary Assistance to Families and Food Stamps while imprisoned, thus providing needed services to their children; passed the House, died in Senate.

HB 2742 clarifies and reorganizes the confidentiality code for CINCs, and expands access to certain persons; signed into law.

Reproductive Choice

HB 2361 would require consent of one parent prior to a minor receiving an abortion; introduced, no hearing.

HB 2552, defined as the unborn victims of violence act, would change the Kansas Criminal Code by declaring the fertilized egg or the fetus a person, giving it separate legal rights from the mother. After failing in the House it was amended into an unrelated SB 280, and was modified to assure that the fetus involved in a crime must be a live fetus—capable of living outside the uterus. This bill passed the House but died in a Senate Committee.

HB 2751, the abortion clinic standards bill, failed in the House. The provisions of this bill were later amended on the House floor into SB 106, a 2003 Healthy Kansas program bill;

passed in the House and died in a Senate committee, despite several attempts to bring it to the Senate floor.

HB 2761, guised as prenatal care, provided for Health Wave coverage for fetuses only, thereby separating their status from the mother in an effort to define fetuses as persons; died in the House.

Death Penalty

SB 158 would place a 2-year moratorium on issuing a death penalty or on executions; died in the Senate. SB 355 and HB 2349 revised the definition of mental retardation for purposes of imposing the death penalty to include any cognitive disability; both bills died in committee. SB 422 provides for a 40-year/no parole sentence in capital cases when the death penalty is not imposed; signed into law.

Gun Control

HB 2798 would allow concealed carry of weapons in designated places, including retail outlets, hospitals, churches, etc; passed both chambers, vetoed by the Governor and the House sustained the veto.

Living Wage

HB 2526 would increase in the state minimum wage from \$5.50/hour next year, up to \$7.50/hour in 2007; introduced but no hearing.

HAVA (Help America Vote Act)

SB 166 and SB 479 made needed corrections to last year's vetoed bill regarding the need to provide identification at the polls, and it also provides more exacting requirements for persons with disabilities; signed into law.

Energy

SB 331 described various easements and restrictions on property housing instruments of wind energy; passed in the Senate and died in the House.

SB 455, the Wind Turbine Development Act, defined requirements for industrial wind turbines, as requested by the Kansas Corporation Commission; died in a Senate committee.

Education, K-12 and Higher Ed (other than school finance)

SB 301 would allow immigrant children, having graduated from an accredited Kansas high school or earned a GED and having taken steps to legalize their status, to receive in-state tuition at Kansas colleges and universities; died in a Senate committee.

SB 304 provides financial incentives for school districts to consolidate, establishes the Center for Innovative School Leadership, and allows self-administration of asthma and allergy medications in school; signed into law.

SB 324 changed the statutes to allow early appeal of preliminary or final decisions that affect Article 6 of the Constitution (school finance); signed into law.

HB 2145 provides in-state tuition at Kansas colleges and universities to immigrant students who attend a Kansas high school and graduate or earn a GED; the student must also declare intent to apply for legal status; signed into law.

Many thanks to Ed Rowe (natural resources), Lee Rowe (state finance), Doris Slocombe (reproductive choice, death penalty, higher education), Barbara Withee (living wage), Darlene Greer Stearns (reproductive choice) and Ernestine Krehbiel (children's issues) for their outstanding coverage of legislation and their contributions to the E-reports this year.

Don't forget to thank your own Senator and Representative for supporting issues of importance to you!

Remembering . . .

Our local League recently lost two members: Elizabeth "Boots" Murphy and Glenn Kappelman. Our sympathies to their family and friends. They will be missed.



to our Finance Drive contributors thus far:

Marnie Argersinger
William R. Arnold
Virginia H. Ashlock
Peggy Fritz Baker
Beverly Smith Billings
Marilyn Bradt
Caroljean Brune & Bill Getz
Capitol Federal Savings Bank
Sarah & Robert Casad
Marilyn Chamberlin
Lois Clark
Mary Davidson
Barbara Duke
A. Carroll & Virginia B. Edwards
Margaret L. Fessler
Virginia Findley
Oliver Finney
Robert Fluker
marci francisco & Joe Bickford
Robert Friauf

Janet Gerstner
Della Hadley
Nancy S. Hambleton
Cristi Hansen
Marlys Harder
Sue & Dick Himes
Audrey Kamb-Studdard
Barbara Kelly
Lee Ketzell
Philip & Brenda Kissam
Jeanne Klein
Susan & Stuart Levine
Bob Lewis
Betty Lichtwardt
Michel & Burdett Loomis
Carey Maynard-Moody
Margie & Ross McKinney
Genevieve T. McMahan
Hammond McNish
Mary Michener
Mary P. Miller
Rich Minder
Carrie Moore

Barbara Neff
Earl Nehring
Diane Oakes
Fran & John Peterson
Johanna Price
Wilma Rife
Janet Roth
Milton Scott
Virginia Seaver
Myrtle Selders
Jane & Al Sellen
Elizabeth Smith & Caleb Morse
Esther Smith
Rita Spradlin
Toni Taylor
Jane Volker
Ruth Weir
Jan Williams
Mavis & Gordon Wiseman
Eleanor Woodyard
Bev Worster
Carol & George Worth
Norman Wycoff

Resolutions Adopted at State Council

Below are the resolutions adopted by the voting delegates at State Council to be read to Governor Sebelius and the party leadership of the state House and Senate.

Be it resolved that members of the League of Women Voters of Kansas, meeting at State Council in Overland Park, KS on April 24, 2004, urge you,

- the legislative leadership, to create legislative proposals that encourage the development of alternative energy sources to **KEEP KANSAS AIR CLEAN.**
- the legislative leadership, to increase state funding for K-12 education in Kansas, thereby meeting your responsibilities required by the Kansas Constitution.
- Governor Sebelius, to identify and initiate change to the language in the Kansas Constitution to make it gender neutral.
- Governor Sebelius, to encourage B.E.S.T. (your Budget Efficiency Savings Team) to include appropriate energy strategies such as the use of recycled materials, hybrid cars, alternative energy sources and energy efficient building construction and maintenance in their recommendations to help **KEEP KANSAS AIR CLEAN.**

League Membership Info: Join or Renew Today!

Dues for LWV Lawrence-Douglas County are \$40 for a single membership and \$60 for a household membership (two members sharing one mailing address). The League year begins April 1st and ends March 31st.

Joining at the local level automatically makes you a member of State and National Leagues. Dues are used to pay our per-member-payments to LWV Kansas and LWV United States. Money we raise ourselves covers all local expenses.

The membership form below is considered your renewal notice. A BIG THANK YOU to members who have already renewed (and please consider filling out and returning the interest form below).

PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN TO:

Caroljean Brune, Membership Chair, LWVL-DC, P.O. Box 1072, Lawrence KS 66044

LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Date _____ Join _____ Renew _____

_____ Individual Membership (\$40)

_____ Household Membership (\$60)

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

✕ INTERESTS ✕ INTERESTS ✕ INTERESTS ✕

I am interested in the following:

- Study on the role of city commission task forces
- Study on Housing Needs Assessment
- Action to televise Planning Commission meetings
- Review and update of Land Use Position
- Helping with Voter Registration
- Action related to League position(s) on:

I would like to serve on the following committee(s):

- Awards and Scholarships
- Calling Members
- Events Planning
- Fund Development
- Land Use
- Membership
- Observer Corps
- Speakers Bureau
- Voter Service

May-June 2004

President's Message	2
Help America Vote Act	3
League Members Recognized	3
Board Meeting Updates	4
Committees	5
Membership Committee Report	5
Studies And Action Item	6
HELP WANTED	7
VVPATs—Express Your Opinion to LWWUS	7
Observer Reports	8
Juvenile Justice Update	9
LWVK News	9
Stucky Scholarship Awarded	9
Legislative Updates Summary	10
Fund Drive Update	10
Resolutions Adopted at State Council	12
Membership Renewal	13



President marci francisco presents Louise and Allan Hanson with the Helen Fluker Award for Open and Accessible Government at the March 4th dinner.

MEMBERS: CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL
Is your membership expiration date correct?

(It's listed above your name)

If you need to renew, see previous page.
We update our records as dues come in.

League of Women Voters
P.O. Box 1072
Lawrence, KS 66044-1072



Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Lawrence KS
Permit #12