



The League of Women Voters of Nashville

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THE VOTER

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CALENDAR

**School Board Candidates Forum: Thursday: Thursday June 15, 2006, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.,
Public Education and Government Studio, Nashville State Technical College, 120 White Bridge
Road.**

LWVN ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting, held May 3 on one of the few bright mornings this spring, gave us a chance to reflect on the year's work, thank the members who made things happen and welcome the new Board members. Karen Edwards, with technical assistance from Rose Rodriguez, summarized the League's accomplishments this year. The breakfast meeting was both fun and inspiring, reminding us all how much we as a group can accomplish. With your help, the incoming Board is ready for the year ahead!

The Board, 2006-2007, includes the following elected, appointed and continuing members: Co-Presidents, Karen Edwards and Margie Parsley 2006-07; 1st VP, Lucy Du 2006-08; 2nd VP and Environment, Berdelle Campbell 2005-07; Secretary, Mary McLennan 2006-08; Treasurer, Marian Ott 2005-07; Action, Karen Weeks 2006-08; Education, Barbara Mann and Debby Gould 2006-08; Health Care, Joanne Rich, 2005-07; Human Needs, Jennifer Cole, 2005-07; Membership, Rose Rodriguez 2005-07; Metro Govt., Lisa Pote, 2006-08; Publicity, Luvenia Butler 2006-08; Strategic Planning, Liz Allen Fey, 2006-08; Voter Editor, Denise Carr 2006-08; and Voter Service, Carrie Hudson, 2006-08. In addition, Brenda Wynn (chair) and Tommie Morton-Young will serve on the nominating committee. All new board members take office on July 1, 2006.

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES FORUM

The Nashville League of Women Voters will host a forum for Metro School Board candidates to assist citizens in making informed choices when they go to the polls in August. Candidates in five districts will participate. The forum will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2006, from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., at the PEG (Public Education and Government) Television Studio, at Nashville State Technical College, 120 White Bridge Road, Nashville.

Candidates will make opening remarks and answer questions posed by members of the Education Committee. The program will be aired live and re-broadcast on public cable television stations, so that Nashville voters will have the opportunity to learn about the candidates and their views on public education in our community. League members participating in planning and staging the forum are Janice Bossing, Luvenia Butler, Karen Edwards, Debby Gould, Julie Lamb, Dikkie Schoggen, and Karen Weeks. To help with planning, please contact Jan Bossing at JanBossing@aol.com.

HEALTH CARE SAFETY NET FORUM

Five distinguished panelists offered their views on health care in Nashville at a forum April 20 sponsored by the League and the Metro Council Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee. The panelists proposed a system of care for those who are uninsured or uninsurable because of pre-existing conditions. They proposed strategically placed neighborhood clinics to provide consistent primary care, preventive care and chronic disease management. Such a system would provide better care than one that relies on a patchwork of clinics and emergency room visits. Nashville has some of the elements in place, including some provided by the private sector, but much more will be needed to accommodate growing numbers of people needing care: new immigrants, those no longer eligible for TennCare and those who work for firms that are discontinuing health care coverage.

Panelists included Mary Bufwack, CEO, United Health Services; Reginald Coopwood, M.D., CEO, Metropolitan Nashville Hospital Authority; Bart Perkey, MSSW, Metro Health Department; James Powers, MD, Vanderbilt University; and Jeffrey McKissack, CEO, Mathew Walker Comprehensive Health Center. League member Joanne Rich and Councilman Erik Cole helped to organize the forum; Karen Edwards moderated.

ATHENA AWARD GOES TO TOMMIE MORTON-YOUNG

Dr. Tommie Morton-Young, the 2006 ATHENA award recipient, has had a distinguished career in government and higher education. Throughout her professional career, she has worked with young women to encourage them to further their education to move up from low paying jobs. She served as a consultant and trainer for the U.S. Office of Education and as chair of the State Advisory Committee of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights. She was appointed to the Tennessee Economic Council on Women by Governor Phil Bredesen.

As a League Education Chair, she organized a forum on education as part of the Nashville League's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. A graduate of TSU, she received her M.A. from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University and her Ph.D. from Duke University. Our congratulations to Tommie for this well deserved recognition!

A complete description of Tommie Morton-Young's accomplishments can be found at nashvillecable.org.

MARY FRANCES LYLE SELECTED FOR MOLLY TODD AWARD

Mary Frances Lyle received the Molly Todd Award for providing leadership and service to both the League and the voters of Nashville. The award was established in 1995, as part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the LWVUS. A former President of the Nashville League, she has been an articulate advocate for women's issues.



Berdelle Campbell and
Mary Frances Lyle

In her remarks at the League's Annual Meeting, she spoke of her personal journey in becoming an attorney after having raised a family and teaching. Following law school, she joined a small law firm and became a lobbyist for the Women's Political Caucus. She noted that the League and the WPC have worked together successfully on many issues. Over the years she has gained the support of legislators for shelters for victims of domestic violence; fairer distribution of property and alimony judgements in divorce cases; dropout prevention and model child care programs in high schools; and reinstatement of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women. Mary Frances, we salute you! For more about Mary Frances Lyle visit our website, lwnashville.org.

VOTER REMINDER

If you would like to receive the Voter online, saving paper and space, please make sure we have your email address. If you are receiving the online version and would like a mailed copy, please notify Jennifer Williams at info@lwnashville.org. Members with access to the internet are encouraged to visit the updated website for more complete information about events and issues.

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