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{{ contact.FIRSTNAME }}'s LWVCV Newsletter August 2023



Lend a Hand with VOTE411 in the 2023 Municipal Elections

LWVCV continues to support VOTE411, and this good work comes from the contributions of many volunteers. Thank you!

For 2023, we will be covering the municipal elections in Burke and Catawba Counties. Even if you don't live in one of these incorporated areas, your help with VOTE411 is core to our mission.

Volunteers are needed to...

- Help encourage candidates to participate in VOTE411. This involves calling, emailing, texting, and working to connect with candidates! We have a script outlining VOTE411 as a voter information tool, how VOTE411 allows candidates to present their positions on issues, and offering support to help candidates respond. We divide the work among the volunteer team. VOTE411 goes live in October, so this help is needed in September.
- Help our effort to assemble and distribute VOTE411 information packets to our Catawba and Burke library branches. We compile a packet of helpful information for our library branches to share with the community. Packets include a cover letter and some of our awesome VOTE411 bookmarks, flyers, etc. We need 2 folks in Catawba County and 1 in Burke County willing to deliver the packets to library branches. (That's also a great way to talk with your favorite library professionals about VOTE411!)
- Lead our VOTE411 yard sign 'parents.' We need 1 person to manage this effort, which involves ensuring we have yard signs in the municipalities, keeping track of the volunteers who agree to place, watch, and (hopefully) later retrieve signs, distributing the signs to volunteers, and collecting them

after the election. (Mourning the signs eaten by lawnmowers is optional.)

Host VOTE411 yard signs. We need 8 people in Catawba County and 2 in Burke County to place yard signs in visible locations in high-traffic areas and check in on them through election season, then collect them the day after Election Day and return them to the yard sign leader.

Contact Voter Services chair Julie Pepper here to lend a hand!



August LWVCV/Exodus Voting Clinic Success

On August 5th, 2023, the League co-presented a second clinic on voting and re-entry services for those who were formerly incarcerated. The event, co-sponsored by Exodus Homes, was held at the Ridgeview Recreation Center in Hickory.

After a welcome from Rev. Reggie Longcrier, the founding executive director of Exodus, attendees heard from speakers of several returnee-support organizations and from formerly incarcerated citizens. Attendees received more personal assistance from an expansive number of groups during the table session time, including Exodus Homes, NC Works, Cooperative Christian Ministry, Catawba County Public Health, Vote Riders, Second Chance Alliance, Catawba Valley Community College, and our own League. And, as with the June voting clinic, the event concluded with a meal, prize drawings, and a friendly but competitive chess match!

More photos from the event are on the League website <u>here.</u>

twvcv Needs <u>You</u> for National Voter Registration Day!

LWVCV will be partnering with the Hickory NAACP for a voting information & registration table at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory on National Voter Registration Day, Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Volunteers are needed to fill 2-hour shifts at 9:00-11:00 AM, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM, 1:00-3:00 PM and 4:00-6:00 PM. (The shift slots are tentative for now).

Interested in volunteering? Contact Betty Lohr here.



Notes from the President by Tiffany Canaday

Hi, everyone! I hope you are well.

The unofficial end of summer is almost upon us and so is the beginning of this year's municipal election season.

Voter identification will be required to vote in this year's elections. Voter registration and access are a major part of the League's mission, so knowing the facts about these new photo ID requirements is crucial to our work. Please take advantage of the New NC Voter ID Requirements page on our League's website to educate yourself, then share the link with your friends and neighbors.

VOTE411 is an essential service provided by the League, giving voters ready access to information about local candidates and races that other sources might not cover. See the article above for full details about VOTE411 support roles, and contact <u>Julie Pepper</u> if you can help with this important program.

The League will have voter registration tables at the Patrick Beaver Memorial Library from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on September 12 and at Ridgeview Library on September 16 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please encourage others to register to vote and have their voting questions answered.

Also, look for the LWVCV table at the upcoming Centro Latino "We Are All America" Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, Sunday, September 24 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Sails on Hickory's Union Square.

Thank you, as always, for helping to inform voters.

In League, Tiffany

League of Women Voters of Catawba Valley (LWVCV) is a local nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering voters.

LWVCV Diversity & Inclusion Policy: A Refresher

As noted on the League's <u>website</u>, The League of Women Voters of Catawba Valley is "fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion among our members in principle and in practice." In this, LWVCV, along with the rest of the local and state LWVs, takes guidance from

New Voter ID Rules Now in Effect

Photo IDs will be required to vote in North Carolina this year. LWVCV has added <u>this page</u> about voter ID to the League website, with links to resources from the state Board of Elections.

Take a minute to look at the voter ID info sheet, explainer video, and list of school/college/university student and employee IDs that are accepted under the new rules.

Click here to see the New NC Voter ID Requirements



Yes, Catawba Valley: there will be an ice cream social!

Be on the lookout for the new details.

Thanks for reading our newsletter. Please forward this edition to any friends who might like to know more about the League. They or anyone may **join the LWVCV** by tapping this link.

Calendar

More details on these events are available on the <u>League</u> <u>Calendar</u>. The new version of the calendar also allows you to add events to your personal calendar.

LWVCV Voter Info & Registration Table at Patrick Beaver Memorial Library Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:00 AM-7:00 PM 375 3rd St NE, Hickory, NC 28601 LWVCV Voting Info & Registration Table at Ridgeview Branch Library
Saturday, September 16, 2023
11:00 AM 4:00 PM
706 1st St SW, Hickory, NC 28602
https://www.hickorync.gov/taxonomy/term/37

LWVCV/NAACP National Voter Registration Day Information Table
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
9:00 AM-6:00 PM
Lenoir-Rhyne University, 625 7th Ave Pl NE, Hickory, NC
28601
Send an e-mail here to volunteer.

LWVCV September Business Meeting
Wednesday, September 20, 2023
10:00 AM-11:30 AM
Zoom meeting link here. Additional materials will be made available prior to the meeting.

"Todos Somos America" Hispanic Heritage Month celebration
Sunday, September 24, 2023
4:00 PM-7:00 PM
Sails on the Square, 246 Union Square NW, Hickory, NC 28601
Hosted by Centro Latino.

LWVCV Voting Info & Registration Table at Everything Free Event
Saturday, September 30, 2023
11:00 AM-1:00 PM
Ridgeview Recreation Center, 115 7th Ave SW, Hickory, NC 28602
Hosted by Exodus Homes.

Newton City Council Candidate Forum Saturday, October 7, 2023 10:00 AM-11:00 AM Community Meeting Room, Catawba County Library Main Branch 115 West C Street, Newton, NC 28658 Hosted by The Newton Forum Committee.

Mayor of Newton Candidate Forum
Saturday, October 14, 2023
10:00 AM-11:00 AM
Community Meeting Room, Catawba County Library Main
Branch
115 West C Street, Newton, NC 28658
Hosted by The Newton Forum Committee.

Photo credit: Lynn B. Spees.

Thanks to Margo Morganti and Priya Palmer for reviewing this newsletter.

Any remaining errors are the editor's.

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