



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

October, 2006

President: Tari Hendrickson Sweeney
Secretary: Peggy Struwe
Treasurer: Amy Tuttle
Membership: Jennifer Brinkman
Voter Service: Linda Lannin
Voter Editor: Jim Johnson

Calendar Of Events

October 16 (Monday): 5:45 pm
LWVLL Board Meeting.

October 19 (Thursday): Noon
Lunch & Learn,
US Bank Bldg 20th Floor, 13th & M.
Guests: Pro & Con speakers on
Ballot Initiative 423.
(See article at right.)

October 23 (Monday): 6:30
Dine & Discuss,
Cedars Northbridge, 27th & Holdrege
Guest: Dr. John Hibbing, UN-L
"Everything You Always Wanted
to Know About Voting But Were
Afraid to Ask."
(See article below.)

Nov 7 (Tuesday):
Statewide General Election Day.
Polls open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Lunch & Learn

What's On The Ballot? Did you sign a petition this year? Enough Nebraskans signed Initiative 423, the state spending lid amendment, to place it on the ballot, though limited spending didn't seem to apply to it. As the Lincoln Journal Star said, "More spending is likely to occur on both advocating and defeating the proposed lid than any other initiative on the ballot." What are the Pros and Cons of Initiative 423? October's guest speakers are Mike Groene, Chairman of the Western Nebraska Taxpayers Association and co-sponsor of Measure 423 (Stop OverSpending Nebraska) and representative(s) of the Coalition, Nebraskans against 423. The speakers will address the consequences of the November vote on 423. Sample ballots and information on other issues will also be distributed.

Luncheon begins promptly at noon, Thursday, October 19th at the Nebraska Club on the 20th floor of the US Bank Building, 13th & M Streets. Members, their guests and the public are welcome. Space is limited, so please RSVP to the League office, 475-1411, no later than Monday, October 16th. The luncheon cost is \$8.00, including tax and gratuity. Rides will be provided if requested.

While you have your planner out, also save the date of next month's Lunch & Learn, November 16, same time & location. Scheduled guest for that date is Jack Gould from Common Cause Nebraska. You won't want to miss Mr. Gould's presentation!

Dine & Discuss

LWV-LL is proud to present the second in a series of quarterly evening "Dine & Discuss" forums. The fall quarter Dine & Discuss will be Monday evening, October 23, 6:30 p.m., at the Cedars Northbridge Community building, 1533 N 27th Street, Lincoln. Guest speaker will be Dr. John Hibbing from the UN-L political science department, speaking on "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Voting But Were Afraid to Ask."

We invite you to bring your own brown bag dinner for this informal event; beverage will be provided.

Vote Tuesday, November 7th, in the Nebraska Statewide General Election.

Polls open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Convenient Early Voting NOW Election Office 601 N 46th St

Tell a friend how to Register and Go Vote!

Voter registration deadline October 20 by mail or October 27 in person at 601 N 46th St.

The Lincoln Lancaster *Voter*
League of Women Voters
The Apothecary, Suite 215
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Lincoln NE 68508
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Return service requested

Time Dated Material
Please Do Not Delay

Editor's Note: The following letter to the Lincoln Journal Star was written by State League President Sandy Powell on behalf of the LWVNE Board of Directors. The letter was published in the LJS on October 3, 2006.

Spending Formula Flawed

Beware of Initiative 423. The proposed initiative would change the Nebraska constitution and set a lid on state spending based on a flawed formula.

“Inflation plus population growth” would determine how much the state could spend from one budget year to the next. Inflation is determined by the consumer price index — essentially a “basket of goods” a typical American buys, such as housing, cars and food. Unfortunately, state government buys items like education and health care, both of which rise at a much more rapid pace than the normal “basket of goods.”

Second flaw: Population growth is based on “overall change” from year to year. This does not take into consideration population subgroups such as the elderly, children, and the sick. For example, most states are seeing an increase in the elderly population, putting new burdens on programs such as Medicaid and state-funded senior services.

In 1992, Colorado passed its version of Initiative 423. Proponents of the amendment promised that the changes would bring about taxpayer refunds, cuts in government waste, and make the politicians accountable. What they have seen are refunds that do not make up for increases in local taxes, and cuts in services. The 14-year impact has been so severe that voters voted in a five-year moratorium from the amendment to suspend further deterioration of state services.

Sandra K. Powell, Springfield
President, League of Women Voters of Nebraska