

**2016 ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING**

**April 21, 2016 at Historic Oakland Manor**

**Speaker:**

**U.S. Senator Ben Cardin**

LWVHC  
Celebrating  
70 Years



Former LWVHC Presidents Carole Conors and Priscilla Hart, Barbara Rudlin, and former LWVHC President Susan Buswell with Sen. Ben Cardin



Del. Teri Hill, Sen. Ben Cardin, former Del. Liz Bobo, and LWVHC President Lillie Gallant



LWVHC Treasurer and former President Barbara Russell and LWVHC President Lillie Gallant



Sen. Ben Cardin with LWNCA Liaison and former LWVHC Pres. Andrea Gruhl, former LWVHC Pres. Grace Kubofcik, LWNCA Pres. Kathy McGuire, and LWVMD Co-President Barbara Schnackenberg

**Calendar**

**May 5, Thurs.**  
7:00 p.m.  
Board Meeting

**May 7, Sat.**  
9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
LWVNCA Annual  
Convention  
Washington, D.C.

**May 11, Wed.**  
10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
LWVMD A Day on  
Capitol Hill  
Washington, D.C.

**May 11, Wed.**  
7:00 p.m.  
Great Decisions

**May 30, Mon.**  
Memorial Day Holiday  
LWVHC office closed



LWVHC  
5430 Vantage Point Road  
Suite C  
Columbia, MD 21044  
Phone/Fax 410-730-0142  
info@howard.lwvmd.org  
www.howard.lwvmd.org

*The League of  
Women Voters  
is where hands-on  
work to safeguard  
democracy leads to  
civic improvement.*

**OUR [howard.lwvmd.org](http://howard.lwvmd.org) WEBSITE ADDRESS IS CURRENTLY NOT WORKING FOR SOME PEOPLE. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS IT PLEASE USE [lwvhc.wordpress.com](http://lwvhc.wordpress.com) OR [lwvhowardmd.org](http://lwvhowardmd.org) FOR THE LWVHC WEBSITE. THANK YOU.**

Our League members were honored to have Senator Ben Cardin speak at our Annual Dinner on April 21, 2016. His speech was captivating as he spoke about many of the issues that the League supports. Our 70<sup>th</sup> Year celebration at the Annual Meeting was a success. In the upcoming year we will plan more activities that offer nonpartisan information about issues that affect our county and State.

In April we created and distributed 12,000 Voter Guides to Howard County citizens. Many people viewed our website to read Voter Guides and to view the Candidates' Forum. At this time our voters have exercised their right to vote in the primary election.

In May new and returning members to the League of Women Voters of Howard County will meet and begin planning for the 2016 – 2017 year. LWVHC will continue to be busy protecting and promoting the voting right of our citizens. We will protect and promote voter rights by keeping our citizens informed. We will continue our voter registration drives in the high schools, create voter publications via Voter Guides, plan for our general election Candidates' Forum and take action by providing verbal testimonies and writing letters to our community leaders. We will encourage more citizens to volunteer and address issues that concern our community. Our goal will be to encourage more Howard County citizens to join the League.

With our publications and activities our citizens have the opportunity to be well informed as to where the candidates stand on issues that are important to this community. LWVHC is aware that our work will continue to go forward only if our citizens participate by attending, volunteering and/or providing donations.

We enjoy making democracy work by engaging and taking action on the nonpartisan positions that make this county government better.

*~Lillie Gallant*  
President, LWVHC

## GREAT DECISIONS

### Please Note June Date Change



Great Decisions will meet Wednesday, **May 11**, at 7 pm with the video beginning promptly at 7:30 pm, at the Cripes, 10526 Catterskill Court, Columbia. The topic to be discussed is International Migration. Please Rsvp to Jan, [410-740-8091](tel:410-740-8091).

Great Decisions will meet at the Cripes, 10526 Catterskill Court, Columbia, Wednesday, **June 15, NOTE THE DATE CHANGE**. The video on The Koreas will begin promptly at 7:30. RSVP to Janis at [410-730-8091](tel:410-730-8091).

**After the June meeting, Great Decisions will start up again in September, October and November.**

## 2016-2017 Board of Directors

### Officers

#### **President**

Lillie Gallant

#### **Vice President**

Carole Conors

#### **Secretary**

Michelle Rice Trotter

#### **Treasurer**

Barbara Russell

### Directors

Betty Harries/Roxanne Hughes-Wheatland, Membership

Patricia Laidig, Communications

Open Position, Action

Jeffri Pierre, Program

Patricia Medinger, Voter Serv./Guides

Patricia Gordon, Education

Betsy Singer, Environment

Linda Wengel, Voter Serv./Poll Eval.

### Off Board

Nancy Berla, Publications/Scrip

Yolanda Bruno, Voter Serv./Poll Eval.

Sue Buswell, Great Decisions

Janis Cripe, Great Decisions

Andrea Gruhl, LWVNCA Liaison

Barbara Johnson, Voter Serv./Guides

Andrea Wilmoth, Webmaster

### Nominating Committee

Nancy Berla

Jean Israel

Joan Yurecsko



Articles, news, reports, and photos should be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for inclusion in the VOTER newsletter.

Please submit in Word format to: [lwhowardcounty@gmail.com](mailto:lwhowardcounty@gmail.com)

We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to further the League's primary election efforts, whether it was for the Candidates' Forum, Voters' Guide, Poll Evaluations or any of the other work the League does to ensure democracy and citizen engagement in the election process.

### High School Voter Registration Report

This is a report of completed voter registration forms submitted to the Board of Elections for each school. Forms that were taken by students to be completed and sent to the Board of Elections are not included in the number count. - Jan Oaks

- Atholton HS--113 (met with senior class)--January 14, 2016
- Centennial HS--15 (voter registration held during lunch break)--March 9, 2016
- Glenelg HS--30 (voter registration held during lunch break)--February 19, 2016
- Hammond HS--46 (met with senior class)--January 14, 2016
- Howard HS--125 (voter registration held during lunch break three days consecutively)--March 7, 8, 9, 2016
- Long Reach HS--96 (met with senior class)--September 10, 2015
- Marriotts Ridge HS--85 (met with senior class)--September 3, 2015
- Mt. Hebron HS -- 30 (voter registration held during lunch break)--March 23, 2016
- Oakland Mills HS--91 (met with senior class)--March 16, 2016
- River Hill HS--84 (met with senior class)--January 4, 2016
- Reservoir HS--163 (met with senior class)--February 4, 2016
- Wilde Lake HS--91 (met with senior class)--February 3, 2016

Thank you to Jan Oaks and volunteers for a successful year of high school voter registration efforts.

## A DAY ON CAPITOL HILL

Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- ✓ Visit at US Senate and Representative offices
  - ✓ Enjoy lunch together in staff dining facility
  - ✓ Take part in advocating a LWVUS topic\* (voluntary)
  - ✓ Have fun!
- \*Participants will be briefed by email about the LWVUS topic for advocacy.



No fee!

Meet at Taxi/Massachusetts Avenue exit of Union Station, Washington, DC at 10 a.m.

Arrive at Union Station by Amtrak, Marc, Metro, bus or auto. If driving, one can park in Union Station's public parking.



For questions, contact Carole Conors, 410-750-3960 home, 443-794-4678 mobile or CaroleConors@verizon.net. To reserve, contact Carole by email or LWVMD office at LWVMD@verizon.net by Sunday, May 1, and include street address, email address and cell phone number.

For registration form go to:  
[http://lwnca.org/files/2016\\_LWVNCA\\_Convention\\_registration\\_V2\\_.pdf](http://lwnca.org/files/2016_LWVNCA_Convention_registration_V2_.pdf)



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA**



*Invites you to*

**Our 2016 Annual Convention**

Saturday, May 7th ~ 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Clyde's of Gallery Place Restaurant, Piedmont Room  
707 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

**The Future of Metro**

**Dan Reed**

**Consultant with Nelson Nygaard**

**Agenda**

Registration at 9:30 will be followed by a buffet breakfast and the keynote presentation. Our business meeting will include election of officers, approval of our 2016-17 budget, and amend our bylaws.

**Menu**

Breakfast buffet with fruit, eggs, quiche, French toast bacon and sausage and assorted pastries.

**Transportation**

Clyde's is half a block from the Gallery Place Metro station. Garage and metered street parking is available. More information on transportation is on the registration form.

**Public Transportation**

The Gallery Place Metro Station serves the Red, Green, and Yellow Lines. Take the 7<sup>th</sup> Street exit from Metro Station to either the "Arena" exit and walk right on 7<sup>th</sup> Street one-half block to Clyde's, or take the "Chinatown" exit and walk left on 7<sup>th</sup> Street one-half block to Clyde's AT 707.

## Maryland Legislative Session 2016

The last day of the 2016 General Assembly session was April 11. Here is a rundown on environmental bills that the League supported, advocated for or covered during the session. Thanks go to League members who contacted their delegates and senators during the session and answered Action Alerts. League members participated with the Maryland Climate Coalition and the Citizens Campaign for the Environment strategic planning and rallies, Lobby Night, the Environmental Summit and frequent meetings and conference calls. The hard work of the League and all Coalition members led to a successful session for the environment.

### Significant environmental bills that PASSED

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act – Renewal (SB 323/HB 610)** The landmark Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act of 2009 will expire on Dec. 31, 2016. Reauthorization was important to order to build on the success of the current Plan. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) study of Oct. 2015 shows that the state is on track to meet the current goals for a 25 percent reduction in 2006 GHG levels by 2020, while providing \$3.5 billion in economic output and creating up to 36,000 new jobs. The new Act, passed with bipartisan votes, requires a new plan by Dec. 31, 2018 and a new goal of 40 percent reduction in GHG by 2030. Maryland is now just behind California and New York for climate goals. **Signed by Gov. Hogan on 4/4/16**

**Program Open Space – Transfer Tax Repayment – Use of Funds (HB 462/SB 383)** The bill calls for full cash funding for Program Open Space by 2019, with all repayments completed by 2029. This means an additional \$270 million more for the program. **Signed by Gov. Hogan on 4/4/16**

**Clean Energy Jobs – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Revisions (SB 921/HB 1106)\*** This bill increases Maryland's current renewable energy goal to 25 percent of the energy portfolio by 2020. The increased goal is expected to result in about 1,300 new megawatts of new clean energy and about 1,000 new Maryland solar jobs per year during construction and about 4,600 direct jobs in the region from wind.

**Pollinator Protection Act of 2016 (HB 211/SB 198)\*** Maryland is the first state to pass legislation that bans the sale and use of neonicotinoid pesticides ("neonics") to non-professionals. Scientific studies began to demonstrate a direct link between the use of neonics and widespread colony collapse of pollinating bee populations in 2013.

**Electric Companies – Installation of Solar Electric Generating Facility –Completion of Interconnection (HB 440/SB 811)\*** Electric companies are required to complete interconnection of a customer-generator's solar electric generating facility with the company's distribution facilities within 20 business days after receiving notice of the completion of the solar installation process.

### Other significant environmental bills NOT PASSED

**Poultry Litter Management Act (HB 599/SB 496)** would require poultry integrators to be responsible for the cost of transporting excess poultry manure if farmers are unable or unwilling to find approved use for the manure, estimated at 228,000 tons of annually.

**Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2016 (HB 31/SB 57)** "The Bag Bill" would have prohibited the distribution of plastic carryout bags at the point of sale and require a store to charge and collect a 10-cent fee for each paper disposable carryout bag the store provided. Customers would get a 5-cent credit for each bag they provided.

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**Maryland Redeemable Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Act (HB 862/SB 607)**  
Would establish a program that would establish a 5-cent refund value for every redeemable beverage container sold in the state. This amount would be added to the retail price of the container.

**Reducing Environmental Degradation for the Underserved Through Community Engagement (the Reduce Act) (SB 398/HB 820)** This bill required disclosure of the diesel truck impacts from new industrial development in communities with high poverty or non-white populations. Diesel trucks in overburdened communities may result in adverse health impacts including poor infant development, asthma, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. Creating community awareness may result in better decisions to improve the health of these communities.

**Maryland Clean Energy Center –Clean Energy Technology Funding HB 705/SB 726 (Green Bank)** This bill would have given the MCEC the authority to provide financing for clean energy technology-based businesses and established a clean Energy Technology Financing Fund in the Center with a \$30 million target for public investment from revenue from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Reduction carbon allowance auction process.

- ***If the Governor signs a bill, it becomes law. If he doesn't sign a bill, it becomes law unless he vetoes it by May 31.***

Betsy Singer, LWVHC Environment Committee with Ruth Alice White and Nancy Fayer



**Website:** <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/council-and-convention/convention-2016>

Volunteer tasks include Hospitality, Information Desk, Registration/Credentials, Plenary Session floor duties, Wares Market, and Volunteer Room coverage. On March 1 all members of local Leagues, like LWV of Howard County, that participate in the Inter-League Organization (ILO) we know as LWV of the National Capital Area (LWVNCA) received a personal email volunteer invitation from LWVUS Convention Volunteer Coordinator Zaida Arguedas [Her email address is: [Zaida2015@comcast.net](mailto:Zaida2015@comcast.net)]. Using her March 1 email message is your only access to the “**Sign Up Genius**” website. Her message’s hotlinks to each of the four convention days can be used by you to commit to volunteer tasks and shifts. Send Zaida an email if you do not have her message and she can re-send it to you. In appreciation for each volunteer’s service they are given a free ticket to the LWVNCA fundraiser performance of the “**Capitol Steps**” at the convention on Friday night.

**LWVHC Membership Corner** by Betty Harries [bjharries@hotmail.com](mailto:bjharries@hotmail.com) or contact League office, 410-730-0142

### IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR LWV MEMBERSHIP

**Most memberships with LWVHC expired on April 30, 2016.** The only exceptions are : new members who joined between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2016. Your dues are valid until April 30, 2017. Many of our members have recently renewed their membership, If you aren't sure whether your membership in LWV has expired, please call Gina at our office and she can answer your question.

**June 30<sup>th</sup> is our renewal deadline. Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> those who haven't renewed will be listed as 'inactive' in our records.** Our Howard County League needs you and your dues so that we can continue our work and achieve our goals. **The League of Women Voters: Where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.**

**Our League is growing . . . but we always need to keep adding members. YOU can help.** It's simple: **ASK anyone of voting age** who has an interest in the topics and issues LWV works on to join us. **Don't be shy - give it a try !**

**Moving? Address, phone or email change?** Please be sure to contact Gina at our office if your information changes. (410-730-0142 or email: [info@howard.lwvmd.org](mailto:info@howard.lwvmd.org))

We do so much by email these days. Be sure yours is up-to-date. Stay in touch - Betty

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM - (Membership Year May 1, 2016 - April 30, 2017)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone : (Hm) \_\_\_\_\_ (Wk) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$60.00 INDIVIDUAL one-year membership

\_\_\_\_ \$82.50 HOUSEHOLD one-year membership (for two members who share an address)

\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 STUDENT

\_\_\_\_ Contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks **payable to LWVHC**

Mail to **League of Women Voters of Howard County, Inc., 5430 Vantage Point Rd, Suite C, Columbia, MD 21044**  
(Dues are **NOT tax deductible**. To make a tax-deductible contribution, please write check to LWVHCEF.)

# GIANT FOOD STORE GIFT CARD ORDER FORM

## Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

### Phone/Fax:

410-730-0142

[info@howard.lwvmd.org](mailto:info@howard.lwvmd.org)

[www.howard.lwvmd.org](http://www.howard.lwvmd.org)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Hm) \_\_\_\_\_ (Wk) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am ordering \$\_\_\_\_\_ in Giant Gift/debit cards as follows:  
\_\_\_\_\_ # \$50 cards

My check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up at the League office.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please mail my Gift Card (Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other arrangements (Please contact Nancy Berla)

**Please make checks payable to LWVHC**

League of Women Voters of  
Howard County  
5430 Vantage Point Rd, Suite C  
Columbia, MD 21044