

What LWVMC does for Montgomery County

Helping voters make informed decisions has been central to the mission of the League of Women Voters (LWV) since it was organized in 1920. Women who worked so hard for suffrage were determined that newly enfranchised women would have educational opportunities to enable them to cast their ballots wisely. The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County (LWVMC) continues in this tradition. We provide voter services and citizen education to all county residents. LWVMC is a 501(c)3 entity. Contributions to LWVMC are tax-deductible.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

- Before every primary and general election, the League of Women Voters publishes the **Voters' Guide** containing biographies of all candidates and their views on selected issues. When there are ballot questions, an explanation is included. These *Guides* are made available to the public at no cost.
- We sponsor forums and debates, some televised, to further clarify important issues in each election.

VOTING INFORMATION

- The League maintains a telephone hot line for several weeks prior to elections to assist residents with questions about registration, polling places, absentee voting, and which candidates are running in their school board, council, legislative, and congressional districts. Call 301.984.9585.
- We cooperate with organizations and communities to provide trained voter registrars at meetings and fairs.

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

- The League publishes **Your Elected Officials** following each general election. This pamphlet lists all officials elected who represent Montgomery County residents at local, state, and national levels. Addresses, telephone numbers, legislative district, party affiliation, and committee assignments for state legislators are included.

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

- The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County studies public policy issues affecting Montgomery County, the state of Maryland, and the United States, using volunteer researchers whose materials are discussed in local Discussion Groups throughout the county. When members reach consensus on an issue following study, the League will also engage in public advocacy.
- Fact Sheets developed by League study committees are available on many topics.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

- Knowledgeable members share study information with clubs and organizations. Topics include: community policing, land use planning and zoning, education, children and families, health care, criminal justice, environmental protection, and growth management.

- When significant issues come before the voters, League members explain ballot questions.
- Members make presentations on citizen responsibilities in classrooms, to scout troops, and to immigrants working toward citizenship.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

- An effort to document the past evolution of county governmental issues in the words of elected officials and civic activists who were instrumental in solving the problems. Tapes and transcripts are available at the Montgomery County Archives.

FUNDING FOR LWVMC Comes From:

- Individuals who believe in citizen participation in government
- Businesses supporting LWV projects and publications as a public service
- League of Women Voters members who pay dues and include an additional gift with dues
- Fund raising projects
- Memorial gifts and member bequests
- Donations and honoraria for League services and publications
- Contributions and loans from LWVUS general funds
- Your gift

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Contact us at 301.984.9585 or lwvmc@erols.com.