



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF McLEAN COUNTY

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The official address of the  
League of Women Voters  
is 1918 Owens Drive  
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New web site!  
www.lwvmclean.org

LWVIL – www.lwvil.org  
LWVUS – www.lwv.org

# The Voter

Vol. 78 No. 5 of McLean County January 2012

## LWV 2012 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Tuesday • January 24, 2012 • 7:00 pm  
Normal Public Library

### Media and the Courts

*Panelists:* **Edith Brady-Lunny** – Pantagraph courts reporter  
**Kim Campbell** – Public Defender  
**Jim Knecht** – Appellate Court Judge  
**Maria Moore** – ISU Professor of Communications

(See page 3 for more information)

### Candidate Forums

McLean County Government Center  
Front & East Street • Bloomington

Tuesday • February 28, 2012 • 7:00 pm

### County Auditor County Recorder of Deeds

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Tuesday • March 6, 2012 • 7:00 pm

### State's Attorney Circuit Judge

Tuesday • April 17, 2012 • 5:30 pm  
Holiday Inn • 3202 E. Empire • Bloomington

### LWV of McLean County ANNUAL DINNER

*Speakers:* **Carl Olson** – Director, Central IL Regional Airport  
**Paul Harmon** – Chairman, Airport Authority Board

## From the desk of . . . Co-Presidents Phylis VerSteegh and Maureen O'Keefe

Thanks to everyone who helped make our December wine tasting fund raiser such a success! You probably already know that the majority of our League annual dues support the endeavors of League of Women Voters U.S. and League of Women Voters Illinois.

Locally our League supports itself financially through fund raising activities and contributions to the LWVIL Education Fund.

LWVIL Education Fund is a nonprofit corporation organized under its own by-laws and operated exclusively for educational purposes. LWVIL dollars are used to supplement and extend the citizen education aspects of League work. All Voters Services and any educational activities, which do not promote or lobby for a League position, qualify.

Donations to LWVIL Education Fund are tax deductible. Please consider a donation to this Fund. You may send it to our local Treasurer and write "McLean County" on the notation line which means those funds will be used locally. Thanks!

We are getting ready for primary elections which will be held on March 20. Dates and places will be available on our website and in future Voters newsletters.

We also hope to conduct a re-study on consolidation of our two local school districts, Unit 5 and District 87. Watch for notices on this important issue as well. Interviews with legislators will begin soon. Let me know if you are interested in participating.

More fantastic programs are coming up also. It's a busy season!

. . . Phylis

## -----OUR LEAGUE IN ACTION-----

Although we were sort of 'on vacation' last month, League members have:

- Completed a League of Women Voters US study on education, held consensus meetings and filed our consensus with the national office;
- Contacted state and federal legislators regarding issues that are important to League and support League program positions
- Held a fundraiser at Crossroads *Handcrafts of the World* in Bloomington;
- Held a fundraiser at A. Renée Wine Café in Bloomington;
- Continued to observe many local boards and organizations.

League has something of interest for everyone; contact one of our officers if you need suggestions. Thanks again for your on-going League support.

**PLEASE VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AND BECOME A FRIEND**

**OUR WEBSITE IS [www.lwvmclean.org](http://www.lwvmclean.org)**

## Media and the Courts

Tuesday • January 24, 2012 • 7:00 pm • Normal Public Library • Community Room

- How does the media influence the public's perception of the courts, of judges, of trials?
- How do the judges and attorneys feel about the media's coverage of the courts?
- What limits are there on the media's ability to report on trials?

**Join us for this fascinating look at one of the media's core missions –  
To be a watchdog for the government, in this case, the courts.**

*Panelists include:* **Edith Brady-Lunny** – Pantagraph courts reporter  
**Kim Campbell** – Public Defender  
**Jim Knecht** – Appellate Court Judge  
**Maria Moore** – ISU Professor of Communications

### **The League of Women Voters Book Group**



Our next Book Club meeting will be  
Monday, February 20, 2012, 7:00 pm  
at the home of Joni Painter  
1903 Hedgewood Dr., Bloomington

RSVP 309-662-8413 or jonilpainter@gmail.com

The book selection is

**“Methland: The Death and Life of an American Small Town”** by Nick Reding

Participants may also bring ideas for future books to the meeting.  
Carpooling is appreciated.

**... Save the Date ...**

Friday • March 3, 2012 • 8:30-11:00 am

### **International Women’s Day Breakfast**

Marriott Hotel & Conference Center • Normal

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*New Members:* **Thomas Shea**  
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