

The VOTER

Vol. 52, No. 5

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Kent

November 2005

City Manager Ruller to Address LWVK Holiday Brunch; New, Current Elected Public Officials to Be Recognized

Come hear keynote speaker Kent City Manager Dave Ruller and mingle with new and current elected officials, while enjoying a festive and delicious buffet spread at Twin Lakes Country Club.

The annual League event is set for Saturday, December 10, at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$15, and reservations are required by December 2. To reserve your seat, complete and return the reservation form at the bottom of the brunch invitation on page 3 of this issue of *The VOTER*.

Ruller previously worked in Kingsport, Tennessee, as director

of the city's Public Works Department the past five years. Before then, Ruller worked for 11 years in Alexandria, Virginia, also in the public-service arena.

A native of Rochester, New York, Ruller earned an undergraduate degree from Hobart College in Geneva and a master's degree in administration from Alfred University. In addition, Ruller has engaged in professional-development ed-

ucational programs, having graduated from the University of Virginia's Senior Executive Institute, a program jointly sponsored by

the Darden Business School and the Cooper Center for Public Service. Ruller also has four years' experience in Malcolm Baldrige Quality Assessment training and has been a featured speaker at national and international conferences on the deployment of quality practices to generate high performance in public-sector organizations.

Ruller and his wife Jackie have two children and are very excited about joining the Kent community.

Holiday Brunch Menu

*Scrambled Eggs
Bacon
Sausage
Hash Brown Potatoes
Fruit
Assorted Danish
Assorted Juices
Coffee
Tea
Iced Tea
Lemonade*



League Fund Drive Set to Start

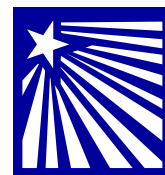
Board member Jackie Waltz will lead the Kent League's annual fund drive, which will get under way next month.

Co-president Amie Cajka will be working with Jackie to organize a committee. Jackie takes the reins from Kerry Macomber, who has successfully headed the Kent League's fund-

raising efforts for the past several years. Jackie has organized several previous campaigns that have allowed the Kent League to continue its many voter service and education activities.

The committee will be sending letters to friends in the com-

See *FINANCE*, p. 4.



**LWVK
Events
Alert . . .**

Saturday, December 10, 9:30 a.m.

Holiday brunch in honor of newly elected public officials; Twin Lakes Country Club, 1519 Overlook Drive, Kent ; Speaker: Kent City Manager Dave Ruller

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From the TBDeter's Desk:

Hillman Talk... Voters' Guide... Kent Schools... Holiday Brunch

This is the first installment of the copresidents' column and was given a new title. TBDeter was president for so long—to be determined—that the copresidents liked the sound of it and decided to go with it.

The weeks flew by as we moved toward the November 8 election that included a record number of issues and candidates. Wow! What a September meeting! Gracia Hillman hit it big with the crowd of about 85 at the American Legion Hall on Mogadore Road in Kent. She discussed what steps the Election Assistance Commission, which she chairs, plans to take to reform the voting process. And she looked with envy at our new Portage County electronic voting machines. Lois Enlow and Glenda Enders, director and assistant director of the Portage County Board of Elections, respectively, shepherded dozens of individuals through their first time voting on the touch screen. These ladies and their staffers have been spending many nights demonstrating the machines. It looked very easy. And on election day—it was!

The League's *Voters' Guide* was published on schedule on November 1 in the *Record-Courier*. Coordinating the effort were Karen Fuller

and cochairs Barb Fox and Sylvia Armstrong. Thanks to all helpers. You just don't know **how many** calls we get about the *Guide* each year. So your work is appreciated!

By now you should have received our questions for "consensus" via postal mail. We hope you gave your opinion on the League's position on partisan voting and the composition of city council. We were looking for your questions and concerns or even just a "yes" or "no" answer. It's the first time we have tried this important League function by mail. Our objective was to get a better turnout than a physical meeting. After the responses have been collected, the board will vote on the update

Finally, the December brunch is one event we save for an extra special time. Mark December 10 as the date to join us as we greet newly elected officials and feast on treats at the Twin Lakes Country Club. An invitation and response form can be found on page 3 of this issue of *The VOTER*. We hope to see all of you there.

— Barb & Amie

League Members Hear about Kent Schools' Community Initiative

At a meeting this month, Marc Crail, superintendent, and Debbie Krutz, treasurer of Kent City Schools, introduced League members to the schools' Community Engagement Project, which seeks to garner community input about future directions for the schools.

Written input is being sought on two questions: What skills will today's students need to be successful in the future, and what changes must the Kent Schools make to ensure that its graduates are ready for tomorrow's world?

See *SCHOOLS*, p. 4.

The VOTER is published eight to 10 times a year by the League of Women Voters of Kent. The newsletter is available both in print and online at the League's Web site: <http://www.kent.oh.lwvnet.org/>.

Board Members

Barb Hipsman-Springer
Co-President
330/678-3135

Amie Cajka
Co-President
330/688-9545

Dian Weir-McElroy
Secretary

Nena Hankins
Treasurer

Call the vice presidents to help with program meetings, to volunteer for any committees or to obtain information about the League's activities and policies.

Directors

Tracy A. Deep-Ross

Paulla Gates

Kathy Hardy

Vicki Kline

Terrie Tarchinski-Nielsen

Jackie Waltz

Stacy Yaniglos

Directors set policy and make financial decisions. They are involved in program, voter services and the organizational activities of the League.

Off-Board Leaders

Nancy Adams
Land-Use Programs

Sylvia Armstrong, Barb Fox
& Karen Fuller
Voter's Guide

Amie Cajka
Public Relations

Audrey Cielinski Kessler
Voter & Web Site

Jan Rusnack
Voter Registration



*Kent League of Women Voters
Holiday Brunch*



*Saturday, December 10
9:30 a.m.*

*Twin Lakes Country Club
1519 Overlook Drive
Kent, Ohio*

*Keynote Speaker:
Dave Ruller
Kent City Manager*

*also featuring current and newly elected public officials
and a buffet brunch menu consisting of scrambled eggs,
bacon, sausage, hash brown potatoes, fruit, assorted
Danish, assorted juices, coffee, tea, iced tea and lemonade*

*Cost: \$15 per person
Reservations required*

Send reservations by December 2
to Kathy Hardy, 515 E. Main Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
Cost: \$15 per person

Names of Guests _____

Amount Enclosed _____



Voters' Guide Workers Thanked for Job Well Done

The *Voter's Guide* for the November 8 election made it to press thanks to the hard work of many helping hands. Because of the large number of candidates and issues, the task seemed daunting but was completed efficiently by the careful data gathering and editing of League volunteers.

Nancy Auran, Edith Chase, Nena Hankins, Kathy Hardy, Sally Hubeny, Jan Rusnack, Pat Sattler, Jeanne Schmidlin, Karen Fuller, Barb Fox and Sylvia Armstrong contacted county officials to obtain accurate issue information. Edith Chase, Nena Hankins, Kathy Hardy, Sally Hubeny, Shirley Ohles, Pat Sattler, Barb Fox, Sylvia Armstrong and Karen Fuller proofread all materials prior to publication.

Heather Rainone of the *Record-Courier* did a wonderful job of entering all of the information into her computer and organizing the guide. We are grateful to the *Record-Courier* for their partnership with the League and generous donation of staff, time and space.

The VOTER
Audrey Cielinski Kessler, Editor
1638 S. Lincoln Street
Kent, OH 44240-4449



LWVK Calendar . . .

January (end of month)

- **Program Planning and Second Annual Fondue Festival**
Discussion of national and local program items; date, time and location to be determined.

SCHOOLS

Continued from p. 2

Send responses to winnie.warner@neo-net.k12.oh.us or to Winnie Warner, Kent City Schools Administrative Offices, 321 N. Depeyster Street, Kent, OH 44240 by December 20.

FINANCE

Continued from p. 1

munity seeking financial support. Members will also be asked to contribute to the campaign. Thanks to Jackie for undertaking this project and to Kerry for her much appreciated contributions. If you want to join the committee, call Jackie at 330/325-2207.