



The VOTER

League Launches Drive to Register Voters for November Election

As part of its continuing efforts to “make democracy work,” the Kent League is registering voters upon request from schools, service clubs, organizations or businesses.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the registration effort at various locations and times throughout September. Each volunteer will receive a packet of forms, instructions on how to complete the form, and the League’s new “LWV Kent” button to wear during the registration session at which she or he is participating.

Citizens who register at one of these events will receive an LWVK bookmark designed by

League Member Tina Bhargava as a reminder to get out and vote on November 4.

The registration drive kicked off on the evening of Friday, August 27, during the Kent Area Chamber of Commerce’s pizza contest for new and returning Kent State University students.

Other voter-registration sites include area grocery stores, school open houses, high school football games, Kent State University campus and the Ravenna

Balloon-A-Fair. For a complete listing of dates, times and locations, see box above.

To volunteer, call Jan Rusnack at 330/678-1261 or send an e-mail to jankent0417@msn.com and help the League make democracy work.

| LWVK Voter-Registration Schedule | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Day | Time | Place |
| 9/8 | 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. | Kent Young Friends Day Care |
| 9/10 | 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m. | Kent Roosevelt High School football game |
| 9/11 | 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. noon-3.m. | Kent Acme Kent Giant Eagle Ravenna Tops |
| 9/14 | 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. | Holden School open house |
| 9/15 | 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m. | Kent Roosevelt High School open house |
| 9/16 | 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. | Longcoy School open house Walls School open house |
| 9/17 | 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. | Kent Roosevelt High School football game |
| 9/18 | — | Balloon-A-Fair with CAC |
| 9/21 | 7 p.m.-m-9 p.m. | Lake Hall KSU EXCEL |
| 9/23 | 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. | Franklin School open house |
| 9/26 | 8 a.m.-1 p.m. | Ravenna Rotary Club breakfast at MCC |
| 9/30 | 7 p.m.-9 p.m. | Authors program at site TBA |
| 10/2 | 10 a.m.-5 p.m. | Streetsboro Expo |

League Hosts Talk on Preparedness for Terrorism

Portage County professionals whose jobs are to assist and protect residents in the event of natural disasters and terrorism will talk about the extensive plans in place and the ongoing planning efforts at the Kent League’s general meeting on September 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Coleman Professionals Services’ new Sue Hetrick Building located at 3922 Lovers Lane in Ravenna.

County and other local government entities have devoted hundreds of hours and substan-

See TERRORISM, p. 3.



LWVK Events Alert . . .

Tuesday, September 28, 7:30 p.m.

Discussion about county services to help in the event of natural disasters and terrorism; Coleman Professional Services, Sue Hetrick Building, 3922 Lovers Lane, Ravenna; free and open to the public.

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From the VP's Desk:

Election Season Means Busy Days Ahead for Kent League Members

Full is almost here—can the presidential election be far behind? This is a fall that will keep us all busy, starting now!

Thanks to Jan Rusnack, the Voter Registration Committee is ready to go. Jan has a calendar of dates, times and places, and there are sure to be more before the October 4 deadline for registering to vote. Let her know when you will be available for duty. She can be reached at 330/678-1261 or jankent0417@msn.com. This should be a great year for registering new voters.

Speaking of voting, we need to know all about who's running for office and both sides of issues on the ballot. Once again, the *Voter's Guide* will be under the capable supervision of Karen Fuller, Sylvia Armstrong and Barb Cox. We are extremely fortunate that they have agreed to take on this task, and we all need to give them as much help as possible.

Barb Hipsman-Springer has organized a candidate's night for October 19 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Stanton Middle School in Kent. Invitation letters are being prepared for mailing to all the candidates.

The above "menu" offers something for everyone, so call or send an e-mail to one of the co-vice presidents to let them know you want to help. As we are often reminded, democracy is not a spectator sport!

Amie Cajka has arranged our September general meeting with speakers on homeland security—certainly a very current topic of interest to all. This should be a great opportunity to get our questions answered about the level of security that we can expect here in Portage County and in Ohio in general. It will be nice to see all of you there.

— *Christine*

Kent League Encourages Member Participation in Ecumenical Crop Walk

The 2004 Crop Walk, an annual event arranged each year by ecumenical groups in Kent and Ravenna that aims to help feed the hungry in both communities, is set for Sunday, October 10, at 2 p.m.

This year's Crop Walk will see two significant changes:

- Thanks to the efforts of the Kent and Ravenna Ministerial Organization, Crop Walk sup-

porters from Kent and Ravenna will be walking together.

- The location of this year's walk is a 4.2 mile section of The Portage Hike/Bike Trail that runs between Towner's Woods in Brady Lake to Ravenna (Chestnut Hills Park). Registration will take place at Lake Brady United Methodist Church, 1995

See *WALK*, p. 3.

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

Christine Bhargava, Co-Vice Pres.
330/678-3135

Amie Cajka, Co-Vice Pres.
330/688-9545

Jeanne Schmidlin, 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

Paula Gates

Vicki Kline

Kerry Macomber

Linda Martell

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 & Karen Fuller
Voter's Guide

Amie Cajka

Public Relations

Audrey Cielinski Kessler
Voter & Web Site

Gail Pytel

Death Penalty Study

Jan Rusnack

Voter Registration

Environmental Council Sponsors Community Forum on Air Quality

Air quality and its effects on the health and well-being of both adults and children in Portage County will be the topic of the Kent Environmental Council's community forum on Monday, September 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the United



Church of Christ, 1427 Horning Road in Kent.

The upcoming forum is part of a series that aims to address the issue of how the Kent environment affects its citizens. At the September forum, two questions will be addressed:

- Is "air quality" really an issue in Portage County?
- How is air pollution affecting our health and our children's?

Addressing the issue are three panelists:

- Lynn Malcolm, director of the Akron Regional Air Pollution Control Agency
- John Bradshaw, city of Kent Health Department
- DuWayne Porter, Portage County Health Department

The speakers also will take questions from the audience.

At each forum—which is free and open to the public—knowledgeable speakers and community advocates will provide information to help area residents become better informed on environmental issues. The KEC welcomes all to keep abreast of current issues of environmental concern by visiting its Web site at www.kentenvironment.org.

TERRORISM

Continued from p. 1

tial funding to the development of response systems to disasters. The evening will give listeners an overview of the following:

- How operations would develop in the event of a disaster
- The commitment local government has made to safety issues
- Collaboration among levels of government and community organizations such as the American Red Cross, PARTA and mental health agencies

The program begins with staff from the Portage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management discussing the systems in place for responding to natural disasters and terrorism. A representative from the Portage County Health Department will discuss the department's responsibilities when a bioterrorism incident occurs. Both speakers will provide overviews on countywide collaboration with townships, law enforcement and fire-services agencies, city and village governments, and community organizations.

The meeting is free and open to all county residents. Thanks to Coleman for opening up its building for a community presentation.

WALK

Continued from p. 2

Brady Lake Road. Because this year's route will not be a loop, unless walkers choose to walk halfway and retrace their steps, transportation from the end of the walk will be available. A water station will be provided near the halfway point of the walk. While this year's route will be in a more parklike setting, crossing help will be provided when the route crosses Red-brush and Cleveland roads.



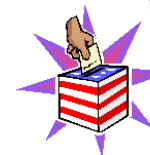
While both changes are significant, much about the walk

is the same. Informational and registration materials will come from Church World Service.

As in the past, 75 percent of the funds raised by Kent walkers will go to Church World Service or to organizations that walkers designate. The remaining 25 percent of the funds raised by Kent walkers will go to Kent Social Services to support their local efforts to help feed the hungry.

Other local participating communities include Aurora, Mogadore, and northern and southeastern Portage County. For questions or more information, call Steve Webster at 330/673-0075 or send an e-mail to [rahrahw@yahoo.com](mailto:rahrahw@yaho.com). For more information on Church World Service and the Crop Walk, go to www.church-worldservice.org/index.html.

REMINDER!



To VOTE in the November election, you must be REGISTERED by October 4. Let your voice be heard!



League of Women Voters of Kent Introduces Its NEW Get-Out-the-Vote Bookmark. As part of its drive to register as many voters as possible by the October 4 deadline for participation in the November general election, the League designed a two-sided bookmark to be given to all who register to vote at one of its booths set up and staffed at various locations and times throughout September. The back of the bookmark gives Web site addresses for not only the Kent and national Leagues but also other election-related Web sites such as the Portage County Board of Elections, Election Ohio, National Public Radio, MTV's Choose or Lose, and the official sites of Republican candidate President George W. Bush and Democratic candidate John Kerry. For a listing of times and locations for the Kent League's voter-registration sites, see the box on page 1. To volunteer to help, call Jan Rusnack at 330/678-1261 or send an e-mail to jank-ent0417@msn.com.



LWVK Calendar . . .

July- October

- **Voter-Registration Activities**
Times and locations vary. See box on page 1.

September

- 8 League Board Meeting**
Pufferbelly restaurant, Franklin Avenue and West Main Street, Kent; 6:30 p.m.; members welcome
- 28 General Meeting on Natural Disasters and Terrorism**
Discussion about county services to help in the event of natural disasters and terrorism; Coleman Professional Services, Sue Hetrick Building, 3922 Lovers Lane, Ravenna; 7:30 p.m.

September-December

- **Finance Drive**
Details to come.

October

- 19 Candidates Meeting**
Stanton Middle School, 1175 Hudson Road, Kent; 7 p.m.
- **Voter's Guide**
Details to come.

November

- **Death Penalty Study and Concurrence**
Details to come.

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