

The VOTER

U.S. Election Assistance Commission Chairwoman to Speak at League-Sponsored Public Forum

Gracia Hillman, chair of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, will address issues related to the future of voting in



Hillman

America at a forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Kent. The free presentation takes place at the American Legion Hall, 1945 Mogadore Road in Kent, and begins at 7:30 p.m. A question-and-answer session will follow Hillman's presentation. The forum also will feature a demonstration of Portage County's new touch-screen voting machines.

Hillman was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by unanimous consent of the U.S. Senate on December 9, 2003, to serve an initial two-year term on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). Hillman was elected chair of the EAC for 2005, after serving as the agency's first vice chair in 2004.

The EAC was established by the Help America Vote Act of

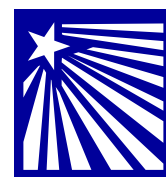
2002 (HAVA). Central to its role, the commission serves as a national clearinghouse and resource for information and review of procedures with respect to the administration of federal elections. According to the text of HAVA, the law was enacted to establish a program to provide funds to states to replace punch-card voting systems, to establish the Election Assistance Commission to assist in the administration of federal elections and to otherwise provide assistance with the administration of certain federal election laws and programs, to establish minimum election administration standards for states and units of local government with responsibility for the administration of federal elections, and for other purposes.

A Massachusetts native who first entered community service in 1970, Hillman has effectively handled both domestic and international issues throughout her career. Her areas of expertise include nonprofit management, public policy and program development, and the interests and rights of women and minorities, including voting rights. She has traveled extensively throughout the United States, meeting with national and local groups and

businesses. Through her international work, Hillman has traveled in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Europe. She conducted non-partisan political training in Haiti and Kenya and participated in United Nations-sponsored conferences in Vienna, Beijing and New York City.

Prior to her appointment with the EAC, Hillman served as president and chief executive officer of the WorldSpace Foundation, a nonprofit organization that uses

See HILLMAN, p. 3.



LWVK Events Alert . . .

Thursday, September 29, 7:30 p.m.
Gracia Hillman, Chair, U.S. Election Assistance Commission; American Legion Hall, 1945 Mogadore Road, Kent; Topic: The Future of Voting in America

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From the VP's Desk:

*Hillman Talk... Poll Workers...
Voters Guide... Candidates Nights*

Kicking off this year's programming is the September 29 visit of Gracia Hillman, chair of the Election Assistance Commission. Hillman impressed League "movers" Jan Rusnack and Gail Pytel when Hillman spoke at the state League meeting this spring. So, Jan asked Hillman if she would be willing to visit a local League.

The result is that nearly a dozen groups have signed on as co-sponsors for her talk in Kent. Co-sponsors include political groups, academic departments and all of our area League friends.

We also hope to have on display for demonstration the electronic voting machines that are being phasing in for the next set of elections. On a related note, the Board of Elections needs volunteers to work the polls, especially with the new machines. If interested, call Lois Enlow or Glenda Enders at 330/297-3511.

Volunteers also are needed for the Voters Service Committee, which prepares the *Voters Guide*. With about 200 candidates and 50 issues, it's a huge task this year. Letters need to be sent to candidates, information gathered on issues, the information checked and the typeset version proofed before publication in the *Record-Courier*. This is a **most important** election. Please consider volunteering.

Candidate's Nights are on the horizon as well, and help is needed for making arrangements, providing refreshments and selecting a moderator. Call me at 330/678-0681 or Jan at 330/678-1092 to help.

An impressive year of programming is taking shape, thanks to all who are pitching in. If everyone volunteers for one little bit of League this year, we'll all be able to be better informed.

— Barb

Retired Ambassador to Address Dinner Meeting of Akron League

Retired Ambassador Wat T. Cluverius, who lived, worked and traveled throughout the Middle East for four decades, will be the featured speaker at the September 15 meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area.

The dinner meeting starts at 6 p.m. at the Akron Woman's City Club, 732 W. Exchange Street, in Akron. Cluverius' presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.

Cluverius now is president and CEO of the Cleveland

Council on World Affairs, which was founded in 1923 to promote world peace. The council is Northeast Ohio's most prominent organization that provides the public with a greater understanding and personal engagement in international relations and global issues.

Cluverius served as senior advisor on Middle East peace in the second Reagan administration, as ambassador to Bahrain in the Ford and Carter adminis-

See *AMBASSADOR*, 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/>.

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330/678-3135

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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.

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

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Voter Registration

HILLMAN

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digital satellite technology to deliver educational programming to Africa and Asia. She also served as the U.S. State Department's first senior coordinator for international women's issues, developing agencywide strategies to ensure U.S. foreign policy promoted and protected women's rights.

Her work experience includes having served as executive director of the League of Women Voters of the United States, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and the National Coalition on Black Voter Participation. She also held positions as executive consultant to the Council on Foundations and as coordinator of the Voter Law Policy Project for the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

Throughout the 1980s, Hillman championed nonpartisan and bipartisan efforts to ensure open access to the voting process for all citizens and the continued voting rights of minority Americans, including work on the historic 25-year extension of the National Voting Rights Act.

Event cosponsors include:

- League of Women Voters of Akron Area
- League of Women Voters of Cuyahoga Regional Area
- League of Women Voters of Hudson
- League of Women Voters Lake County
- League of Women Voters Northern Portage County
- League of Women Voters of Tallmadge
- League of Women Voters of Trumbull County

- Kent State University Honors College
- Kent State University Political Science Department
- Kent State University School of Journalism and Mass Communication
- Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County
- Portage Democratic Coalition
- Portage County Republican Party
- *Record-Courier*

For more information about the commission, go to www.eac.gov. For further information about the event, call 330/678-1261.

LWVK Income Statement, FYE 6/30/05

The following is the Kent League of Women Voters' income statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005.

Kent League of Women Voters Income Statement for Fiscal Year End June 30, 2005

Income	Actual	Budget	Variance
Contributions - Members	\$509.62	\$500.00	\$9.62
Contributions - Nonmembers	2,250.00	2,300.00	(50.00)
Dues	3,705.00	3,000.00	705.00
Interest	20.71	—	20.71
Northfield Park Fund-Raiser	429.90	300.00	129.90
Phonathon	96.00	50.00	46.00
Senior Book Award	135.00	100.00	35.00
Total Income	\$7,146.23	\$6,250.00	\$896.23
Expenses			
Board & Administration	\$ 750.07	\$725.00	\$25.07
Fund-Raising (Finance Drive)	121.02	400.00	(278.98)
Education	955.81	500.00	455.81
VOTER	629.63	700.00	(70.37)
League Support - National Dues	1,408.00	1,413.00	(5.00)
League Support - State Dues	940.50	1,017.50	(77.00)
Public Support	620.00	320.00	300.00
Events	18.82	350.00	(331.18)
Travel & Meetings	467.21	800.00	(332.79)
Total Expenses	\$5,911.06	\$6,225.50	\$(314.44)
Excess	\$1,235.17	\$24.50	\$1,210.67
Beginning Balance	\$9,284.15	—	—
Ending Balance (6/30/05)	\$10,519.32	—	—
Education Fund			
Receipts			
Donations	\$335.00	\$455.00	\$(120.00)
Phonathon	78.00	75.00	3.00
DPO Sales	—	—	—
Other (Senior Book Award)	15.00	—	15.00
Total Receipts	\$428.00	\$530.00	\$(102.00)
Estimated Expenses			
Dues - LWVO	\$313.50	\$330.00	\$(16.50)
Newspapers in Education	—	—	—
Leader Institute	—	200.00	(200.00)
Total Expenses	\$313.50	\$530.00	\$(216.50)
Excess	\$114.50	—	\$114.50
Beginning Balance	\$282.07	—	—
Ending Balance (6/30/05)	\$396.57	—	—

Note: Actual covers 7/1/04-6/30/05. Budget covers fiscal year end 6/30/05.

AMBASSADOR

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trations, and as deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern Affairs in the first Reagan administration.

He was consul general in Jerusalem and a member of the American negotiating delegation following the Camp David accords from 1978 to 1983. He also served at various times as office director in Washington, D.C., for relations with all of the Arabian Peninsula states, as well as Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Israel. Before coming to Cleveland, Cluverius headed the peacekeeping force in Sinai, overseeing the security provisions of the Israel-Egypt Treaty of Peace.

Dinner is \$25 with the choice of a chicken or scrod entrée. Reservations are required by September 12. Send a check, payable to the Akron League, to Sharon Gandee, 580 Northwood Drive, Akron, OH 44313-5308. Include your choice of entrée. You may chose to attend the lecture only.



LWVK Calendar . . .

September

1 Finance Drive

Continues through December 31; additional information to come.

14 Kent League Board Meeting

Pufferbelly restaurant, Franklin Avenue and West Main Street, Kent; 6:30 p.m.; members welcome.

15 LWV of the Akron Area Dinner Meeting & Speaker

Speaker: Wat T. Cluverius, retired Middle East ambassador and now president and CEO of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs; dinner, 6 p.m.; presentation, 7:30 p.m., Akron Woman's City Club, 732 W. Exchange Street, Akron.

29 Kent League Program Meeting

Speaker: Gracia Hillman, chair of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission; Topic: The Future of Voting in America; also demonstration of new touch-screen voting machines; 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1945 Mogadore Road, Kent.

October

12 Kent League Board Meeting

Pufferbelly restaurant, Franklin Avenue and West Main Street, Kent; 6:30 p.m.; members welcome.

The VOTER

Audrey Cielinski Kessler, Editor

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