



# THE VOTER

## President's Podium

Dear League Members and Friends,

Join us for a very special meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate 35 years as the League of Women Voters of Tallmadge! It was in May 1976 that the Tallmadge League was welcomed into the roster of fully recognized leagues by the President of the national LWV after having successfully completed a two year provisional period. I was honored to be the President during the provisional period, and with a dedicated and hard working Board, we met strict established standards regarding membership, organization and fundraising. In addition, we completed a study of our local community. The world has changed in these 35 years, and perhaps now more than ever, the League is needed to stand as a non-partisan voice informing and encouraging active participation of citizens in government.

We have exciting and interesting programs planned this year, beginning with the **Salad Supper where Mayor Dave Kline** will bring us up to date on the state of the city. Although 2011 is considered an "off year election," we will vote on critical state issues, a county levy and will be electing local officials. Our **October Voter Awareness Night** will provide the community an opportunity to

become informed on these matters. In **November, Dr. Steve Brooks**, Associate Director of The Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron will give us his **analysis on the election results. The December Christmas Luncheon** gives us a chance to relax, visit and enjoy fun games. Next year programs are planned on health care reform, the arts and how they are affected by budget cuts and a panel on environmental issues.

Increasing our membership is a top priority this year and we know that you, our current members, are the best ambassadors to help with this. So please, think about whom among your friends might be interested in joining the League and bring them with you to a meeting. Membership is open to all who are of voting age. To encourage younger members we adopted a bylaw change which states that student membership shall be equal to one half of the amount of dues paid by a regular member.

I look forward to seeing you (and your friends) at our September 15 Salad Supper!

Warm regards,

## JESSICA PARSONS awarded TLWV scholarship

For several years, the Tallmadge League has contributed \$1000 to Tallmadge High School toward a scholarship for a senior girl interested in law, government and community service. This year we are pleased to announce that the scholarship was awarded to Jessica Parsons.

Jessica has been involved in many activities during her four years in high school including, in her senior year alone: Academic Challenge, French Club, National Honor Society, Principal's Focus Group, Senior/Freshman Mentorship and Teen Institute. She served four years in the Student Senate and four years as a member of the Pep Club and the Cheerleading Squad. She was on the Honor Roll all four years. She was Editor-in-Chief of the school yearbook and was Co-Director of benefit shows for the Relay for Life in her sophomore, junior and senior years. Her community activities include serving as a youth cheerleading coach and library volunteer. Over the summer she babysat for two families.

Jessica hopes to attend Miami University where she will be a pre-law and psychology major and then plans to go on to law school. In her biography Jessica credits her father, her coach, her grandfather and her mother as the important people in her life who taught her the meaning of responsibility, gratefulness, the power of education and perseverance. **We are delighted that our scholarship will help this bright and deserving young woman achieve her dreams.**

## League 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Salad Supper set

*Bring a salad, a friend and a thirst  
for knowledge . . .*

September 15, 2011 – 6 p.m.  
Tallmadge Community Center

The Honorable David Kline,  
Mayor of Tallmadge, to present  
**State of the City Address**

Each **member** is to furnish salad for 8 to 10 persons . . . and guests will enjoy dinner on us.



RSVP to Kim Ray at  
[kimray123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kimray123@sbcglobal.net)

or

Marlene Fire at [mgfire@gmail.com](mailto:mgfire@gmail.com).

*Members who pay dues by September  
15 will take home a special delicious  
treat!*

# League of Women Voters of Ohio supports efforts to repeal HB 194

On August 22nd the LWV Ohio board voted to support the effort to repeal HB 194 -- passed by the legislature in June, 2011 -- through a referendum petition drive. HB 194 includes a number of provisions that we believe are likely to make it more difficult for Ohioans to exercise their right to vote and that will result in long lines and other problems on Election Day.

Among the concerns are provisions reducing the number of days for mail-in and early in-person absentee voting, prohibitions against the mailing of absentee ballot applications unless they are requested, and eliminating the requirement that poll workers direct voters to the correct precinct so that their votes will be counted. LWV Ohio supports the referendum based on national League positions to protect the right of all citizens to vote; to encourage all citizens to vote; and to facilitate citizens' participation in government decision-making.

The petition effort was undertaken by Fair Elections Ohio and is backed by a coalition of state legislators, voting rights advocates, and other progressive groups. The petitioners have until September 29th to gather the requisite signatures – over 231,000. If the petition effort is successful, the law will be stayed until after the November 2012 election.

Although the League typically makes a decision about whether to support a statewide referendum only after it gets on the ballot, in this instance the board concluded that because the issue of voters' rights is so crucial to the League's mission, the League should support the petition drive.

Nancy Brown, co-president of LWV Ohio's board of directors notes, "LWV Ohio has historically sought to remove obstacles to voting, to ensure that all eligible voters can vote and that all valid votes are counted. This effort included a historic lawsuit against the Secretary of State that was settled in June of 2009."

Because HB 194 will undermine the progress that has been made to strengthen voting rights and improve election administration in Ohio, LWV Ohio has elected to support the petition drive.

**Editor's note:** More information about HB 194 will soon be posted on our League's website at [www.lwvtallmadge.org](http://www.lwvtallmadge.org)



**Tallmadge  
League of Women Voters**

PO Box 435  
Tallmadge, Ohio 44278

**Officers**

Nancy Treichler, President 2011–2013  
Marlene Fire, Vice–Pres. 2011–2012  
Leslie Zaynor, Secretary 2011–2013  
Barb Mattern, Treasurer 2010–2012

**Elected Board**

Nancy Wack 2011–2013  
Peggy Manson 2011–2013  
Helen Fire 2011–2012  
Carmen Thompson 2010–2012

**Appointed Board**

Sue Yatsu 2011–2012  
Susan Schunk 2011–2012  
Sue Ellen Hughes 2011–2012

**Off Board – Ex–officio Members**

Kim Marfy  
Kim Ray  
Julia Spiker

**LWV of Ohio Liaison**

Ardith Keck

*The Board of the TLWV meets on the first Saturday of the month. General membership meetings are on the third Thursday of the month September thru November and February thru April. December and May meetings are held on Saturday. No meetings are scheduled in June, July, August or January.*

**THE VOTER**

Published monthly by the  
Tallmadge League of Women Voters  
Claudia Markwald, Editor

Contributions to our newsletter are always welcome. Please e–mail articles by the 30th of each month to Nancy Treichler at [nancyt@neo.rr.com](mailto:nancyt@neo.rr.com)

**We're on the Web!!**  
**For more information, visit:**  
[www.lwvtallmadge.org](http://www.lwvtallmadge.org)

# SPECIAL THANKS



to our

## 2011–12 Corporate Star Supporters

### Red Star Level

Dunkin' Donuts  
Tallmadge Chamber of Commerce

### White Star Level

Tallmadge Vision Clinic

### Blue Star Level

A Beautiful Child's Preschool and Daycare  
Donovan Funeral Home

### League Star Supporters

Christine Cipa  
Brad Croskey  
Gene Stalnaker

### Member Star Supporters

Sandy Beckett – Rose Ann Crawford  
Helen Fire – Marlene Fire  
Suzanne Hetrick – Peggy Manson  
Kim Marfy – Claudia Markwald – Barb Mattern  
Karen Morgan – Linda Poinar – Megan Raber  
Kim Ray – Julia Spiker – Jill Stritch  
Georgene Thompson – Nancy Treichler  
Nancy Wack – Susan Yatsu  
Sandy Ziegler – Lisa Zeno–Carano