



THE VOTER

President's Podium

Dear League Members and Friends,

Kudos to **Kim Ray** and **Marlene Fire** for organizing a memorable 35th Anniversary Salad Supper (*photos throughout this issue!*) and to **Kim Marfy** for providing her traditional yummy treats as members renewed their membership in the League for another year. We are especially pleased to welcome new members: **Chris Cipa, Carol Kilway, Susan Kline, Teresa Livergood** and **Melanie Wasson**.

Many thanks to **Mayor Dave Kline** for an insightful and interesting presentation bringing us up to date on projects the city is pursuing in his "State of the City Address" and for presenting us with a beautiful plaque in recognition of our 35th anniversary.

On another note, **Linda Poinar** and **Valorie Prulhiere** joined me in circulating petitions to repeal **HB194**. The League of Women Voters of Ohio supports the repeal effort believing that provisions in the law would make it more difficult for some people to exercise their right to vote. We collected 80 signatures and, as we go to press, it looks like enough valid signatures will be submitted to suspend HB194 until the repeal can be voted on in November 2012.

Please encourage your friends, neighbors, relatives (*including your teenagers*) to attend our "**Voter Awareness Night**" on **October 20th** in the LBC at the Middle School! There is no



VOTER AWARENESS NIGHT

Thursday, October 20, 2011

7 – 9 p.m. – Les Bennett Center

finer opportunity to hear and question candidates for city offices and the school board and to listen to arguments for and against State Issues 2 and 3!

State Issue 2 is a referendum on legislation relative to government union contracts and other government employment contracts and policies (AM Sub. SB5). **State Issue 3** is a proposed Constitutional Amendment to add a section to Ohio's Bill of Rights exempting Ohioans from a federal requirement that individuals purchase a minimum amount of health insurance coverage.

I look forward to seeing you at "**Voter Awareness Night!**" This is the essence of what we do . . . what better way to mark and celebrate thirty-five years of educating and empowering the voters of Tallmadge!

Warm regards,

Calling all great cooks!

Our September Salad Suppers always bring a big turn-out of members and friends. One of the reasons is that members bring *delicious* dishes to share, demonstrating that issue-oriented people are also great cooks!

Susan Schunk has generously volunteered to put together a book of favorite recipes that would be distributed at our Christmas brunch.



The success of this project depends upon YOU and ME! *Please send Susan a recipe for a dish that you love to prepare and enjoy.* Don't limit yourself to salads or desserts, send any recipe that is a favorite in your household to Susan at: sschunk555@gmail.com



NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, November 17, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Tallmadge Library Meeting Room

Dr. Steve Brooks, Associate Director
University of Akron Ray C. Bliss Institute
will provide a stimulating analysis of the
November 8th General Election.

At 5 p.m. there will be an optional dinner at Erie Station for members and friends. We encourage new members, especially, to join us and learn more about League in this comfortable, informal setting.



Marlene Fire awaits your reservation at 330-633-3829, or you may email: mgfire@gmail.com.



Tallmadge Chamber of Commerce Report

by Rose Strebler

After introductions and lunch, executive director **Mary Cea** introduced **Lisa Ryan, Chief Appreciation Strategist at Grategy, Positive Thinkers Network**. She speaks about Appreciation Strategies and encourages audiences to *“harness the power of gratitude to become happier, healthier and more successful – in business and in life.”* A study has shown that when a customer leaves, 68% of the time it is because he or she feels ignored, unappreciated or taken for granted.



Ms. Ryan suggested three strategies that could “improve health, build better relationships and keep customers and/or employees happier and more satisfied:”

1. ***Create a gratitude journal*** and write a few sentences each day about what you are grateful for, even though in the middle of sadness and tragedies this might be difficult.
2. ***Acknowledge and notice others and cause them to smile.*** Appreciate people who work with you and for you. Employees and service people will be more productive if acknowledged in some way.
3. ***Do unexpected things.*** Two-thirds of employees feel unappreciated and ignored. Do things no one else is doing, which will indicate your interest.

At the October Chamber meeting, Tallmadge **Mayor Dave Kline** and **Megan Raber, Assistant Director of Law**, will review the sixteen proposed Charter amendments that will be voted upon at the November election.

October 2011 Tallmadge City Council Report

by Linda Poinar, *Ward 4 Council*

Council approved a zoning change to a 19 acre parcel adjacent to the Tallmadge/Brimfield Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) and at the end of Hughes Drive. This Tallmadge acreage is a portion of a very large parcel crossing into Brimfield. It will provide further development in the JEDD. An 800,000 sq. ft. building providing manufacturing/warehousing jobs is proposed for this site.

The zoning change included attention to storm water concerns in the Howe and Hughes Drive area and to a conservation easement on the Tallmadge parcel to provide a buffer between the development and nearby homes. This proposed project is a great addition to the JEDD!

Council is considering legislation to **redistrict the city**, to equalize the number of residents within its four wards, based on the 2010 census. Wards 1 and 3 are most populous. A small portion of Ward 1 may join Ward 2, and a small portion of Ward 3 may go to the 4th Ward to more evenly distribute the population. There will be a public hearing on the ward boundary changes on October 13 at the regular council meeting. Any boundary changes would not go into effect until 2012.

On a “greener” note, council explores solar panels for the Tallmadge Recreation Center as it pursues energy and cost savings.

Beggar’s Night will be October 27 from 5:30–7pm, followed by the Halloween Street Dance outside the Rec Center. *See you there!*

The Clean Air PROMISE



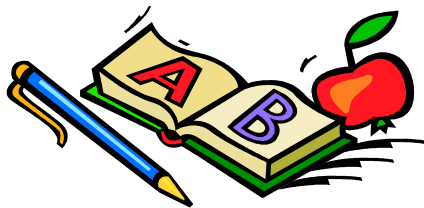
On September 23, 2011 the House of Representatives passed a sweeping anti-environment bill that blocks two landmark public health safeguards against air pollution. The TRAIN Act, H.R. 2401, blocks standards that would curb mercury emissions from power plants and reduce pollution that travels across state lines and endangers communities. Leading environmental and public health groups, including the League of Women Voters of the United States, issued the following statement after the House vote:

"We are heartened by the President's strong stand against the TRAIN Act and against pollution with his promise to veto this dangerous legislation. His leadership will keep Americans from being forced to breathe smog and other dangerous air pollutants. We call on the U.S. Senate to stand strong and reject the TRAIN Act and its deadly impacts on public health. Hundreds of thousands of asthma attacks and heart attacks and tens of thousands of premature deaths can be prevented with common sense clean air safeguards proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency."

The League is engaged in a campaign to change the debate over the Clean Air Act from a focus on the cost of regulation to a focus on the public health cost of bad air quality. The campaign seeks to elicit the following promise from politicians, community leaders, League members and the general public:

"I promise to protect America's children and families from dangerous air pollution. Because toxics and pollutants such as mercury, smog, carbon, and soot, cause thousands of hospital visits, asthma attacks, and even deaths, I will support clean air policies and other protections that scientists and public health experts have recommended to the EPA to safeguard our air quality."

If this is an issue that stirs your blood, there is an opportunity join other Leagues in getting involved locally by engaging community leaders, politicians and the general public. Call Nancy Treichler – 330-633-6308 or email: nancyt@neo.rr.com for more information.



BOARD BYTES *October 2011*

by **Valorie Prulhiere**, *Tallmadge Board of Education*

The Board, with the input of parents, community members, district professional and support staff has adopted a **5 year strategic plan**. The vision of being recognized as a top 5% district in Ohio will be realized by efforts in the following areas: communication/community outreach, funding, academics, facilities, technology.

Tallmadge schools AGAIN achieved the designation of “**Excellent**” for the 2010–11 school year. Congratulations to our students and staff!

Bowling is now a competitive team sport at THS. After 3 years as a club, there are varsity and junior varsity teams for boys and girls.

The **elementary grade configuration** of Tallmadge City Schools looked a bit different when classes resumed for the 2011–12 school year. K–2 is now housed at Dunbar and grades 3–5 are at Munroe. The closing of Overdale has saved the district an estimated \$750,000.

The **district is pursuing additional cost savings programs**. Two efforts I’d like to highlight in this report are related to energy. **Natural Gas**: We are one of 146 districts working together to purchase natural gas at a discounted rate through the Ohio Schools Council. **Solar Panels** are being installed on the roofs of the auditorium and gymnasium of THS in an agreement with Ener-G Solution Partners. The district will not only realize cost savings with the discounted purchase of energy, but also reap the benefits of academic enhancements in the Sciences. Additionally, the schools will be creating a model of “green” living for the community.

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**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

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.

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 Tallmadge League of Women Voters
 Claudia Markwald, Editor

Contributions to our newsletter are always welcome. Please email articles by the 30th of each month to Nancy Treichler at nancyt@neo.rr.com

We're on the Web!!

For more information, visit:
www.lwvtallmadge.org



Editor's note: Many thanks to Lisa Zeno Carano for Salad Supper photos and to all contributors.