



# The League of Women Voters of Washington County, AR

P.O. Box 4, Fayetteville, AR 72702

[www.lwvarwc.org](http://www.lwvarwc.org)

October, 2011 VOL. 58, ISSUE 6

## CALENDAR

**OCTOBER 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2011 – LWV MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** (Information/Form page 13)

**OCTOBER 7 (Friday) – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, HISPANIC WOMENS’ ORGANIZATION OF ARKANSAS (HWOA) “ONE NATION, MANY STORIES” CONFERENCE** at the Jones Center in Springdale (<http://www.hwoa.org/en/component/eventlist/details/7-hwoa-11th-annual-conference>)

**OCTOBER 9 (Sunday) – 4:00 – 5:00 PM, LECTURE & RECEPTION, ROBERT SWAN/OFFICER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE** speaks on polar exploration hikes and his mission to inspire youth leadership in sustainability and promote use of renewable energy for a sustainable future in the UA Willard J. Walker Hall Auditorium. Parking in the Harmon Parking Deck. (<http://www.ozarksunbound.com/polar-explorer-speaks-oct-9-about-effort-to-preserve-antarctic-announcement/17616>)

**OCTOBER 10 (Monday) – 5:30 PM, LWVWC BOARD MEETING** at Joyce Hale's residence, 285 W. Cleburn St., Fayetteville. All LWVWC Members welcomed to attend.

**OCTOBER 11 (Tuesday) – SPECIAL ELECTION to Renew Fayetteville’s 1% Local Sales and Use Tax** (See –Fayetteville Sales Tax Renewal Information” on page 2)

**OCTOBER 19 (Wednesday) – 6:30 PM, FORUM for LWVUS NATIONAL STUDY on Federal Role in Public Education** at the Pat Walker Center for Seniors Auditorium, at the corner of Appleby and North Hills Boulevard on the WRMC Campus (See –Education Study Begins” on page 3, Consensus Questions on pages 5 & 6)

**OCTOBER 20 (Thursday) – 5:00 – 7:00 PM, DROP-IN OPEN HOUSE with the Arkansas Public Policy Panel/Citizens’ First Congress**, Joyce Hale's residence, 285 W. Cleburn St., Fayetteville. Learn more about Arkansas Public Policy Panel/Citizens’ First Congress commitment to public education and legislative action pertaining to gas drilling and the efforts to protect water, air, and community health in Arkansas (See –Fayetteville Shale: The Ongoing Saga” on page 4)



**OCTOBER 21 (Friday) – 11:30 – 1:00 PM, BROWN-BAG LUNCHEON** at the HWOA Office, JTL Shops - Center for Non-Profits, 614 East Emma, Suite 231 (See –Come Join the Beginning Conversation with Hispanic Women Leaders” on page 4)

**NOVEMBER 7 (Monday) – 11:30 AM – 1 PM, LWVWC LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON** in the Washington County Cooperative Extension Auditorium, 2536 North McConnell Avenue, Fayetteville (See –Annual LWVWC Legislative Luncheon” on page 7)

**NOVEMBER 16 (Wednesday) – 6:30 – 8:00 PM, EDUCATION STUDY CONSENSUS** at the Pat Walker Center for Seniors Auditorium, at the corner of Appleby and North Hills Boulevard on the WRMC Campus (See –Education Study Begins” on page 3, Consensus Questions on pages 5 & 6)

**DECEMBER 31 – FAYETTEVILLE COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT PROJECT TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETING RESIDENTIAL HABITAT CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT** (See –Habitat Certification” on page 8)

**From the LWVWC President**  
**By Mary Alice Serafini**

Welcome to our new members and our renewing members! We enjoyed the membership gathering which begins a year of solid non-partisan discussion and study. I hope everyone felt the common goal to continuously strive to be informed voters and to seek accurate information from our legislators, other public officials, experts and members of our community. In saying this, we are off to a year of engagement in our community with televised interviews of school board candidates, as well as representation at the SalsaFest and Moving Planet Day. Advocacy for improved public transit as well as safer gas drilling continues and a very determined committee on the national education study will bring us to consensus through an educational process on October 19 and November 16. Thank you to everyone for sharing the responsibilities of the League and for moving forward on important issues.

And, we all share in our memories of the remarkable and unique Marion Orton. As the Northwest Arkansas Times said, "How did she do it all?" Marion left a lasting impact on each of us that we continue to feel as we take on important environmental and community issues. When we recycle, we know who started it. When we film a candidate's forum, we know who taught us that access to community television builds a community. When we have a study to attack, we know that Marion's tenacious and courageous approach to anyone who has knowledge about a study is what works. When we speak to our public officials, we know how to model Marion's direct, informed and determined approach. Plus, we know Marion knew how to enjoy life with all her travels, her remarkable family, her horses and her great way of finding fun and humor in just about anything. No doubt in my mind, Marion's legacy lives on and will give us the strength and courage to tackle the toughest of issues. Thank you, Marion, League Member Extraordinaire!

**Fayetteville Sales Tax Renewal Information**  
**By Libby Wheeler**

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, Fayetteville voters will decide whether to renew the existing 1% sales tax, which they voted for in 1993 and renewed by vote again in 2002. The current tax does not expire until 2013, but because the tax provides for more than 27% of Fayetteville's General Revenue budget, the City Council is seeking a vote now to facilitate future planning.

The City's 1% sales tax currently generates yearly \$9.2 million for General Fund operations (police and fire protection, District Court, parks, streets, trails, sidewalks, library, etc.) and \$6.2 million for the Sales Tax Capital Fund used for new construction, equipment, roads, etc.. The City estimates that, since 82% of the General Fund expenditures are for personnel, failure to renew the tax would eliminate 148 city positions, with 55 of these being police and 38 firemen. At stake also are funding contracts with the Boys and Girls Club, Fayetteville Senior Center, Public Library, Ozark Regional Transit, etc. The 6.2 Capital Improvements Program would disappear.

The October 11<sup>th</sup> ballot question will read:

- ( ) FOR adoption of a 1% local sales and use tax within the City of Fayetteville to begin July 1, 2013 to replace the current 1% local sales and use tax. This replacement tax shall expire on June 30, 2023.
- ( ) AGAINST adoption of a 1% local sales and use tax within the City of Fayetteville to begin July 1, 2013 to replace the current 1% local sales and use tax. This replacement tax shall expire on June 30, 2023.

Please make an informed vote on October 11, 2011.

(Adapted from information provided by the City of Fayetteville)

## Education Study Begins By Genie Donovan

Have you noticed? Every newspaper, every magazine, and many internet blogs contain articles about the state of public schools and their funding. The President’s recent speech to the country emphasized the connection between the economy and education. The League of Women Voters is at the forefront of this concern and has taken the issue on as a National League program.

–The LWVUS Education Study includes the following areas under the role of the federal government in public education (preK through grade 12): the history (Figure 1), funding and equity issues which are addressed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Figure 2), and the common core standards/assessments which are required for many federal grant programs but are national, not federal. The culminating position will address only those issues delineated in the scope.” (Excerpted from the Public Education Webpage on the LWVUS Website: <http://www.lwv.org/>)

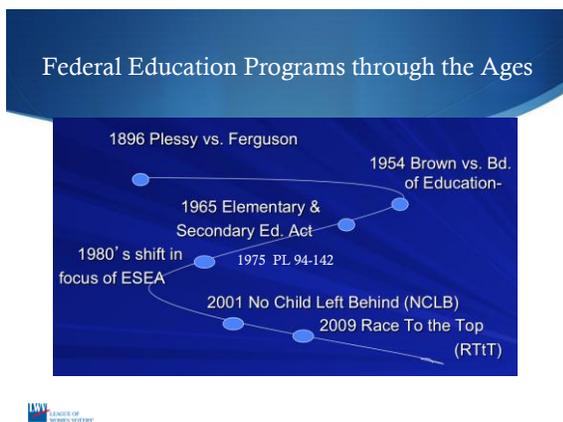


Figure 1

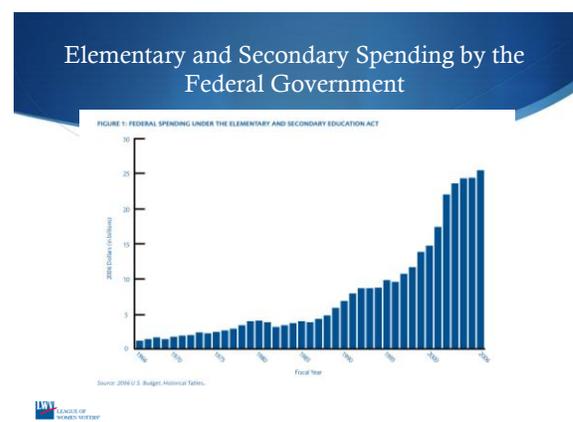


Figure 2

The League’s study of *The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education* is ready for member participation. The first member meeting of the League’s “new” calendar year will take place Wednesday, October 19, 6:30 p.m., in the Pat Walker Auditorium in the Senior Center (WRMC).

Questions related to Federal Government and Public Education are included on pages 5 & 6 in this issue of the **VOTER**. You may find that you need more information to answer these questions to prepare for our November 16<sup>th</sup> consensus meeting discussion on the Federal government’s involvement in our public schools. Providing you with that information is the purpose of our member meeting on October 19.

The Education Committee (Berta Seitz, Betty Solis, Judy Carey, Genie Donovan, Anita Bukey, and Mary Kennedy) have prepared a power point presentation to share information with you. You might want to bring the sheet of questions with you to help organize your thoughts pertaining to this complex study.

Additional *Role of the Federal Government in Public Education* study references may be accessed on LWVWC website Educational Resources link: <http://www.lwvarwc.org/educationresources.htm>

Remember that we will gather again on November 16 to reach a consensus on these questions. The purpose of such a consensus is to make sure that the LWVUS is expressing our thoughts when they advocate on our behalf with the Federal government. These meetings are the essence of a democratic process and your participation is vital to its success. The LWVUS deadline for submission of the Public Education Consensus Response form by local Leagues is November 30, 2011.

Come to the LWVWC meeting on October 19 and bring interested friends.

## Fayetteville Shale: The Ongoing Saga

By Joyce Hale

The interim study of the Arkansas Legislature's Agriculture Committee heard presentations Sept. 13 about the impacts of natural gas drilling and took another look at seven regulatory bills that were not considered in the last full session. A great deal of drilling activity has occurred since the bills were first presented, along with earthquakes, major spills, continued low market pricing for NG, and a sale of Chesapeake Energy's 486,000 acres of lease holdings to Australian mining giant, BHP Billiton. A review of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission (AOGC) regulations is going to be evaluated by STRONGER, a national organization made up of industry and environmental interests. There is no enforcement or regulatory capability with this group, but recommendations acknowledge standard practice improvements that many states observe.

Three Fayetteville Shale reports have also been prepared by the Arkansas Public Policy Panel to help with public and legislative education. They provide basic information on a variety of topics including the gas extraction process, related natural gas industry issues, and drilling regulations accepted by other states giving more protection than Arkansas's requirements. In addition, the Arkansas Public Policy Panel prepares reports on violations and individual company records. These reports may be seen online at <http://arpanel.org/content/index.php>, under the heading *Arkansas in the Balance*.

The **Arkansas Public Policy Panel** and its political arm, **Citizens' First Congress**, are providing the leadership to take on the legislative reforms needed to make gas drilling safer for the health of communities and individuals. They have hired a full time staff coordinator to work with all groups throughout the state, who are concerned about drilling impacts. A drop-in open-house to learn more about this organization's work and support its commitment will be held Thursday, October 20 from 5:00 to 7:30 at the home of Joyce and Jay Hale. This will be an opportunity to support important public education and legislative action that gas drilling in Arkansas needs. Drop by for refreshments and encourage the work being done for the protection of water, air, and community health. For more information contact Joyce at 527-2777.

### Come Join the Beginning Conversation with Hispanic Women Leaders



An informal brown-bag luncheon to begin a plan of action between Hispanic women and members of the LWVWC will meet for the second time at the office of Hispanic Women's Organization of Arkansas on Friday, October 21 at 11:30 – 1:00.

If you are interested in helping bring new citizens into their full voting potential you will want to be part of this conversation. The HWOA Office is located in the JTL Shops/Center for Non-Profits, 614 East Emma, Suite 231. We will begin discussion about voter education and teen citizen participation. If interested, please contact Joyce Hale, 527-2777 or [joycehale43@gmail.com](mailto:joycehale43@gmail.com).

## LWVUS STUDY: ROLE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

### GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. The current role of the federal government in public education is
  - Much too small / Too small / About right / Too large / Much too large
2. What should be the role of the federal government in public education? (Rank)
  - a. To ensure that all students preK-12 receive a quality education.
  - b. To develop accountability measures that will study the progress of all students so that they achieve adequate yearly progress.
  - c. To mandate Common Core Standards for all students K-12.
  - d. To monitor state efforts for funding
  - e. To measure teacher effectiveness through test data.
3. A quality public education is important to perpetuate a strong and viable democracy.
  - Strongly agree / Agree / No consensus / Disagree / Strongly disagree

### COMMON CORE STANDARDS

4. Currently the governors and state education officers have developed Common Core Standards that are national but not federal. Should the standards be mandated of the states in order to obtain federal funding? (Choose one)
  - a. Special grant programs such as Race to the Top
  - b. All programs under Elementary and Secondary Education Act where the needs qualify for funding.
  - c. All programs receiving federal funding from any source
  - d. All of the above
  - e. None of the above
5. Should there be a **national assessment aligned** with the common cores standards?
  - Yes / NoIf Yes, Should implementation be voluntary or federally mandated? (choose one)
  - a. Voluntary
  - b. Mandated
  - c. Mandated, if fully fundedIf No, what other accountability measures might you suggest? (choose one)
  - a. Continue to allow the states to develop their own assessments.
  - b. Suggest that the local education districts use their own assessments or adopt one that is a nationally norm referenced assessment such as the *Stanford Achievement Test* or *Iowa Test of Basic Skills*.
  - c. Suggest that districts use a portfolio type of assessment where student projects and activities would be scored holistically
6. National standards should lead to: (choose one)
  - a. A nationally mandated curriculum to be aligned to the national standards and assessments.
  - b. A national curriculum that is only suggested but not mandated.
  - c. A suggested structure for states and local education agencies to develop their own curriculum.
  - d. No national curriculum.
7. What role should the national assessment consortia play in student evaluation? (Rank order)
  - a. Provide an assessment system that is aligned to the Common Core Standards.
  - b. Provide comparison data showing progress toward reaching Common Core Standards.
  - c. Provide criteria for determining readiness for college and careers.
  - d. Provide information to students, parents, teachers and school districts about student achievement.
  - e. Provide diagnostic information on each child.

8. Data from the national assessments are often difficult for parents, teachers and others to understand. If we have a national assessment, what information is most important to be reported to parents, teachers, students and the community? (choose one)

- Data should be ~~norm~~ "norm referenced" (where students are ranked) for district comparison only.
- Data should be ~~criterion~~ "criterion referenced" and clearly informative so that teachers, parents, and students know how individual students have mastered criteria established at a national level.
- Data should be used to determine ~~cut~~ "cut" scores knowing if students have mastered requirements for special grade levels.

9. Information from nationally required assessment data should be used to (Choose one):

- Sanction schools not measuring up to the specific levels
- Reward schools that achieve high scores
- Rank teachers based on student test score data
- Reward teachers who have exemplary scores
- Inform districts how their population compares to others similar to theirs.

## FUNDING AND EQUITY

10. In the past most of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding has been non-competitive based on need. All/Any Schools that prove they fall under the federal guidelines for funding receive those funds. However, competitive grants are now being proposed to states/districts who meet certain federal requirements, such as Race to the Top. Which would be appropriate: (choose one)

- Non-competitive funding for all applicants meeting requirements
- A combination of non-competitive and competitive grants
- Competitive grants only
- No federal funding

11. If the federal government's role is the concern of the ~~om~~ "common good" then: (choose one) a. Mandates only should be sanctioned.

- Mandates and funding should both be provided.
- Funding should be provided through grants only.
- A combination of funded mandates and grants should apply.
- No mandates should be required and limited grants for innovation available.

12. Equity in public education means equitable access to: (Rank order)

- High quality teaching/learning
- Adequate and current learning materials
- Clean and well maintained physical facilities
- Food and health care
- Safe and secure neighborhoods
- Secure housing

13. Currently Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding is considered ~~cate~~ "categorical" rather than for general use. This means that it can only be used with special populations for special purposes. ESEA should remain targeted toward poverty and special needs.

- Strongly agree / Agree / No consensus / Disagree / Strongly disagree

14. The federal government has a role in supporting early childhood education, birth to 5, for all children?

- Strongly agree / Agree / No consensus / Disagree / Strongly disagree

15. Federal support for early childhood education programs ( e.g. Head Start, Title I, Special Education, Early Start) should include funding for parent education and support regarding child development, child health and nutrition, and access to other supportive services, such as mental health as needed.

- Strongly Agree / Agree / No consensus / Disagree / Strongly Disagree
- This funding should be extended to
  - All children / Only those with special needs / Special needs first

**Annual LWVWC Legislative Luncheon**



**Reserve Your Luncheon Tickets NOW !**

**Reservation Deadline Tuesday, November 1**

Don't miss your chance to hear what Washington County's representatives and senators have to say about the Legislative finance session coming soon in January, 2012. Do they know how you feel about how our limited tax dollars should be used?

This event will take place in the meeting room/auditorium of the Washington County Cooperative Extension on Monday, November 7 from 11:30 to 1:00. This is at 2536 North McConnell Avenue near the

Washington County Fair Grounds and the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Arena. A box lunch will be provided by Southern Hospitality for \$10.00. Contact Joyce Hale at 527-2777 or [joycehale43@gmail.com](mailto:joycehale43@gmail.com) for reservations.

**Western Beltway Study Update**

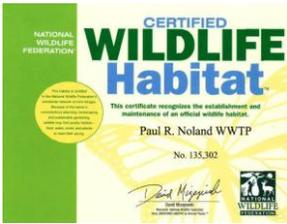
**By Karen Rollet-Crocker**

On September 15, the Steering Committee for the planning of the Western Beltway received an interim report. The study is approximately 67% done. John McClarty of the Regional Planning Office gave the League the following information:

<p><b>Would the Beltway solve traffic problems in our area?</b></p>	<p>The future estimate for traffic on the Western Beltway in 2035 is 45,000 cars a day. However, in view of population growth projections and because I-540 is more useful to the developed areas of our Northwest Arkansas region, the new highway to the west would not reduce traffic on I-540. Traffic on the Western Beltway would primarily come from cars passing through the area, not from motorists accessing local businesses or commuting. Plans for extra lanes on I-540, a Hwy 412 bypass around Springdale, the Bella Vista bypass, and an access road between Hwy 412 and the airport would be much more important.</p>
<p><b>What about a tollway?</b></p>	<p>Several more issues were studied. One examined the practicality of a Western Tollway in light of the limited state and federal funds for road building. The tollway would potentially reduce I-540 traffic to 15,000 vehicles a day. Given the cost of the road, tolls would pay only 10%. A second issue pertained to the use of the new highway as a pathway for freight to and from Mexico. It was determined that other urban areas would more likely be selected for this corridor.</p>
<p><b>Given the negative results, should be study be completed?</b></p>	<p>A discussion on the feasibility of completing the study, given the negative results of the interim report, included consideration of use of the Benton County section of the Western Beltway as a way to get to the NWA airport and tie into the Bella Vista Bypass.</p> <p>A suggestion by the Steering Committee was to finish the study and present it to the public. This will provide closure to a plan that has generated a lot of local concern. The Planning Commission will vote on these recommendations.</p>
<p><b>Can the rest of the funds be spent on a study for public transit?</b></p>	<p>Unfortunately, the study cannot analyze public transportation alternatives to our future traffic problems. However, population counts and traffic counts will serve as an information backup for a federal grant for an —Alternatives Analysis” study. Application has been made in the last few years with negative results, and, as time goes by, we will see more and more traffic, requiring the need for such a study.</p>

## HABITAT CERTIFICATION

By Doug James for NW Arkansas Audubon Society  
(Adapted for LWVWC by Dot Neely)



Fayetteville is approaching an important milestone and will soon enjoy the enviable distinction of becoming the first city in Arkansas to be certified for the high quality of its urban habitat for wildlife. The Community Wildlife Habitat Project is coordinated and monitored by the National Wildlife Federation. The process requires that a minimum of 200 homes in the city apply for and receive wildlife habitat certification for their yards (NWF Garden for Wildlife Link: <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife.aspx>).

Five criteria for residential landscape certification are: 1) Plantings that provide food for wildlife from fruit, seed, or nectar; 2) Year-round source of water such as a bird bath, a large shallow pan, or a water feature; 3) Cover for wildlife consisting of shrubbery and evergreens; 4) Shelter and nesting sites in trees, shrubs, or nest boxes; 5) Sustainable gardening practices including using mulch and composting.



The application form provides many more examples in each category and only 1 to 3 items per category are needed to meet the criteria.

Additional National Wildlife Federation criteria for community qualification have been met or exceeded by the City of Fayetteville:

- Habitat certification at 5 schools - 9 Fayetteville Schools are now certified
- Certification of 6 common areas such as parks and the Botanical Garden - 30 Fayetteville parks have been certified ([http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/parks\\_and\\_recreation/parks\\_gardens\\_trails/parks\\_gardens\\_trails.cfm](http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/parks_and_recreation/parks_gardens_trails/parks_gardens_trails.cfm))
  - An outreach program such as a habitat lecture series - The Fayetteville Community Wildlife Habitat Project Summer 2011 Speaker Series recently concluded at the Fayetteville Public Library (Summer 2011 Lecture Topics: <http://www.ozarksunbound.com/wildlife-habitat-speaker-series-starts-monday-at-fpl-announcement/16335>)
  - Public Education & Volunteer Opportunities pertaining to invasive plant removal and trail and stream clean-up – Fayetteville sponsors continuing environment improvement efforts. Links to more information on Invasive/ Nuisance Plant Species Identification and Removal, Parks and Trails clean-up, and urban stream/ riparian zone restoration: <http://www.nwaonline.com/photos/2011/apr/08/93073/>  
[http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/projects/Gulley\\_Park\\_Stream\\_Restoration/index.cfm](http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/projects/Gulley_Park_Stream_Restoration/index.cfm)



### About 60 more homes are needed to complete the Community Wildlife Habitat Certification process, so get busy Leaguers and certify your yard!

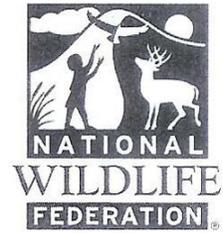
To register by mail, please complete the **Backyard Wildlife Habitat Certification Registration Form provided on pages 9 & 10**, for your convenience. You may also register online on the National Wildlife Federation website: <[www.nwf.org/nwfgarden](http://www.nwf.org/nwfgarden)>.

There is a \$20 registration fee. The Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association has provided funding to cover registration fees for 50 applicants. Email Terri Lane at [treehuggerlane@cox.net](mailto:treehuggerlane@cox.net) to request a fee-paid printed copy of the registration form to complete and mail. Access the brochure and learn more about this community effort at the links provided:

- [http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/neighborhood\\_resources/documents/Information\\_and\\_Resources/Fayetteville\\_Habitat\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/neighborhood_resources/documents/Information_and_Resources/Fayetteville_Habitat_Brochure.pdf)
- [http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/neighborhood\\_resources/Habitat/index.cfm](http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/neighborhood_resources/Habitat/index.cfm)

# Habitat Certification Application

Use this form to certify a wildlife-friendly space in your yard, school, or anywhere in your community. Do your best to answer the questions and we'll make suggestions if something is missing. If your habitat meets the requirements, you'll receive a personalized certificate suitable for framing and become a member of National Wildlife Federation, receiving our award-winning National Wildlife® magazine and a 10% discount on all NWF catalog merchandise. For questions call 1-800-822-9919 or certify online at [www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife)



Have you ever certified before?  Yes  No If yes, what is your habitat # \_\_\_\_\_?

If yes, have you moved \_\_\_\_\_ or is this for a second property \_\_\_\_\_?

Property owner or organization \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are filling out this application for someone else, please write their name in the space provided above.*

If organization, contact person \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to Appear on Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum 30 characters, spaces included.

Address of Habitat \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

**In what type of area is your property?**

Urban  Suburban  Rural

**What is the size of your property?**

< 1/8 acre  1/8 - 1/4 acre  
 1/4 - 1 acre  1 - 5 acres  
 5 - 10 acres  > 10 acres

**Check the option that best describes your habitat.**

Home  Apartment/Balcony  
 Workplace  Park/Community Garden  
 Farm  Place of Worship  
 School/Educational Setting

**FOOD SOURCES:** Plants provide the basic foods for wildlife. Feeders can be used as a supplemental source of food. Remember that some creatures will become food for others in a balanced habitat. Encourage a natural diversity of wildlife in your yard to ensure a healthy ecosystem. How do you provide food for wildlife? **(Minimum requirement: 3)**

**Plant Foods:**  Seeds  Nuts  Pollen  
 Berries  Fruits  Foliage/  
 Nectar  Sap  Twigs

**Supplemental Feeders:**  Seed  Suet  
 Squirrel  Butterfly  
 Hummingbird

**WATER SOURCES:** Wildlife need a clean water source for drinking and bathing. How do you provide water for wildlife? **(Minimum requirement: 1)**

- Birdbath       Water Garden/Pond
- Shallow Dish     Butterfly Puddling Area
- Lake             Rain Garden
- Stream/River     Spring
- Seasonal Pool    Ocean

**PLACES FOR COVER:** Wildlife need shelter from bad weather and hiding places—for both predators and prey. How do you provide cover for wildlife? **(Minimum requirement: 2)**

- Wooded Area       Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- Bramble Patch     Evergreens
- Ground Cover      Brush/Log Pile
- Rock Pile/Wall    Burrow
- Cave               Meadow/Prairie
- Roosting Box      Water Garden/Pond

**PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG:** In order to provide complete habitat, you must provide places for wildlife to engage in courtship behavior and to mate, and then to bear and raise their young. How do you provide places to raise young for wildlife? **(Minimum requirement: 2)**

- Mature Trees       Dead Trees/Snags
- Meadow/Prairie    Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- Nesting Box        Water Garden/Pond
- Wetland            Burrow
- Host Plants for Caterpillars    Cave

**SUSTAINABLE GARDENING PRACTICES:** How you manage your garden or landscape can have an effect on the health of the soil, air, water and habitat for native wildlife as well as the human community. What sustainable gardening techniques do you employ to help conserve resources? **(Minimum requirement: 2)**

**Soil and Water Conservation:**

- Riparian Buffer
- Capture Rain Water from Roof
- Xeriscape (water-wise landscaping)
- Drip or Soaker Hose for Irrigation
- Limit Water Use
- Reduce Erosion (i.e. ground cover, terraces)
- Use Mulch
- Rain Garden

**Controlling Exotic Species:**

- Practice Integrated Pest Management
- Remove Invasive Plants & Animals
- Use Native Plants
- Reduce Lawn Areas

**Organic Practices:**

- Eliminate Chemical Pesticides
- Eliminate Chemical Fertilizers
- Compost

**To apply, please send:**  Completed application - REQUIRED  
 \$20 non-refundable application fee - REQUIRED

**TO:** NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION ♦ P.O. Box 1583 ♦ Merrifield, VA 22116-1583  
 Allow 4-6 weeks for processing. Please keep a copy of this application for your records.

 Printed on paper that contains 30% post-consumer waste fiber

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## Moving Planet Day

### By Shannon Neely Joyce



Moving Planet is a day designated for putting our demands for climate action into motion—marching, biking, skating—and calling for the world to go beyond fossil fuels. This year, on the fourth weekend in September, over 2000 events in 175+ countries were organized to let leaders know that a global movement is rising to steer our planet toward a clean energy future.

Fayetteville hosted Moving Planet Day at the University of Arkansas' Old Main Lawn on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 200 guests came out to listen to an array of great speakers which included

Arkansas House Representative Uvalde Lindsey, Dr. Nick Brown/UA Campus Sustainability Director, Orlo and Mary Stitt/Stitt Energy Systems, Michele Halsell/Walton College of Business Outreach Director, Philomena Tanui/UA, Lev Guter/Sierra Club, and Mikel Lolley/Treadwell Institute. Musical guest included Dan Dean, Guy Ames and Sotet. The day started with a "kick-off" family bicycle ride from the Fayetteville Town Center along the trail and ending up on Old Main Lawn. Phat Tire bike shop was on hand to do free bicycle tune ups.

A light drizzle faded fast as the morning progressed and the sun soon graced all with her face. Children sat under a large oak tree creating collages with twigs, leaves, berries and feathers with assistance from Donna Stjerna, costumed and in character as "Mother Nature." Following the art activity, Liz Hill and Dagen Ames read "The Lorax" as the children watched attentively and listened.



Over 20 organizations and companies came out to showcase sustainable measures that the community can implement at home to become better stewards of this planet. There was also a Free Cycle area where gently used items contributed by local residents were set out for event participants to browse and take. Free Cycling was hugely successful and provided a great opportunity to reuse functional items that would otherwise have ended up in a landfill.

## Zone One School Board Candidates Forum

By Bettie Lu Lancaster

Our forum for Zone One School Board candidates, Steve Percival and James McGinty, was televised by the Government Channel. Thanks go to moderator, Mary Dillard, and timers Mary Alice Serafini and Libby Wheeler.

## LWVWC Budget Report

By Susan Rausch

A note from the Treasurer...The League of Women Voters of Washington County is starting the new fiscal year on solid ground financially! We have a budget of \$4,770 and are carrying over \$1762 that was unspent from last year's budget.



Image Source:

[http://lioneldjordanformayoroffayetteville.blogspot.com/2008\\_11\\_01\\_archive.html](http://lioneldjordanformayoroffayetteville.blogspot.com/2008_11_01_archive.html)



Image Source:

<http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/2008/02/marion-orton-honored-as-unsung-heroine.html>



## Remembering Marion Orton By Genie Donovan

When I moved to Fayetteville in 1969, I was introduced to Marion Orton. I consider that one of my luckiest or unluckiest days because Marion was president of the League of Women Voters and she lost no time finding a job for me in the League. Since then my life has never been the same.

That's what Marion did. She changed people's lives. She was a ground breaker where she sowed seeds to improve life for all of us in our community. She broke ground when she circulated the petition to eliminate the poll tax that placed a burden on prospective voters in the 1960s. She helped with the League-initiated summer school to prepare African-American students for integrated education.

She broke ground when she introduced Fayetteville to recycling when most of us had no idea what that word meant, managing the Fayetteville Recycling Center from 1970-1974. She continued her quest for a healthy sustainable environment serving on the City of Fayetteville Board of Directors for twelve years, 1969-1981. She was Mayor of Fayetteville for two years and a driving force behind the City Sign Ordinance that continues to enhance the beauty of Fayetteville. When the League needed a chair for an environmental study, Marion was called for. She led the battle for trees and landscape, water, wastewater treatment and parks management. The State League of Women Voters has also benefited from Marion's expertise serving on the State Board as Environmental Chair for the past several years. She also wrote the history of the League of Women Voters in Arkansas.

Marion's passion for informing citizens led her to help establish the Fayetteville Community Access Television station where for many years the League conducted its "Meet the Candidates" forums. She was an ardent believer in free speech and the public's right to express itself.

With all of these League activities, Marion found time to raise four children, nurture many foreign students, and take an active role in the Presbyterian Church.

Because of Marion Orton, all of us in Fayetteville and Arkansas are leading better lives. She will be greatly missed, but she will live on as new leaders come on to emulate the example she leaves for all of us.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME**

By Susan Rausch

**Thank you to our members who have just joined or renewed for the 2011-2012 fiscal year:**

Cristi Beaumont	Harriet H. Jansma	Susan Rausch
Wanda Belzung	Sally Kelley	Karen Rollet-Crocker
Anita F. Bukey	Mary Lynn Kennedy	Phil Serafini
Lynn Donald Carver	Bettie Lu Lancaster	Mary Alice Serafini
Mary Dillard	Uvalde Lindsey	Betty Solis
Eugenia Donovan	Nancy McCartney	Wanda B. Stephens
Jenni Echols	Jeanine Neuse	Beth Sylvester
Patsy Ferritor	Steven M. Neuse	Martha Ward
Jay Hale	Cindy Nimmo	Elizabeth Wheeler
Joyce Hale	Kristen Parnell	Marge Zinke
Michelle Halsell	Polly Parnell	Dr. Otto Zinke

National LWVUS increased the Per Member Payment (PMP). In order to offset the increase and allow local Leagues to keep their dues at the same level this year, the LWVAR Board voted to reduce the State membership fees from \$10.00 to \$5.00 per member.

If you still need to renew, the information (below) is requested.

**New Member or Renewal Application & Interest Survey Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ New/Renewal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail (Please print carefully) \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES: Individual Membership - \$40 Family Membership - \$60 Student - \$20**

**If preferred payment is by check and delivery by mail, write check payable to "LWVWC" and send to the following address: LWVWC / P. O. Box 4 / Fayetteville, AR 72702**

Check LWVWC activities for which you may be interested in volunteering:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend City Council, Planning Commission, Task Force, Quorum Court, etc. Meetings when needed | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobby State Legislature               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration  | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide a Facility/Home for Meetings  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with TV Candidate Forums   | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Transportation to Meetings    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Publicity, Displays, or Posters   | <input type="checkbox"/> Video Record or Photograph Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with Mailings  | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Writing                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with Telephoning   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Food for Events   |  |

I wish to receive calls to action on specific issues of interest: All League Concerns \_\_\_\_\_ Education \_\_\_\_\_  
 Environment \_\_\_\_\_ Social Policies \_\_\_\_\_ Voting & Governance \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to limit my membership to receiving the newsletter. \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to join, but would like to make a contribution (any amount appreciated). \_\_\_\_\_

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY  
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