



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

## The Voter

A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Washington County, Arkansas

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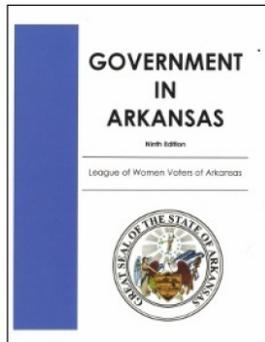
### LWVWC CALENDAR

November 2	Candidates may file for office	
November 6	<a href="#">ACLU Cocktail Social</a>	Fresco Cafe and Pub @ 5:00
November 9	Filing Period Ends	
November 18	Children's Mental Health Needs and Resources	First United Presbyterian Church @ 6:15
December 7	Holiday Party to Benefit the Magdalene House	Butterfield Trail Lodge 6:00pm-8pm

**Children's Mental Health Needs and Resources**

The League of

**Women Voters of  
Arkansas' Signature  
Publication**



If you want to better understand how Arkansas government operates, this book is perfect! A non-partisan, easy-to-read description of the state's structure and function is an excellent resource and reference. **BECOME AN INFORMED CITIZEN.**

PRICE: \$15 per copy plus tax and shipping  
[ORDER HERE!](#)

**First United Presbyterian Church  
November 18, 6:15pm  
Fellowship Hall  
695 E Calvin St., Fayetteville**



This program, organized by Mental Health America, is part of the Wonderful Wednesday Program of the church and is co-sponsored by our League. The panelists will be Erica Baughfman, PhD, Director of OG School-Based Counseling Services; Lauri Balk, PsyD, psychologist in private practice; and Matthew Reel, LCSW, Director of Vantage Point Clinical Services. They will discuss the continuum of care options for mental health diagnosis and treatment in NWAR for children and adolescents.

*Please note that Continuing Education Units available for mental health practitioners.*

For those interested, a modest supper will be served by the church at 5:45 (donation optional), and reservations for supper must be made by noon Monday, November 16th at 442-4411. League members are asked to share this information with their Facebook friends.

**Owl Creek Votes!**

## Middle School Student Council Elections

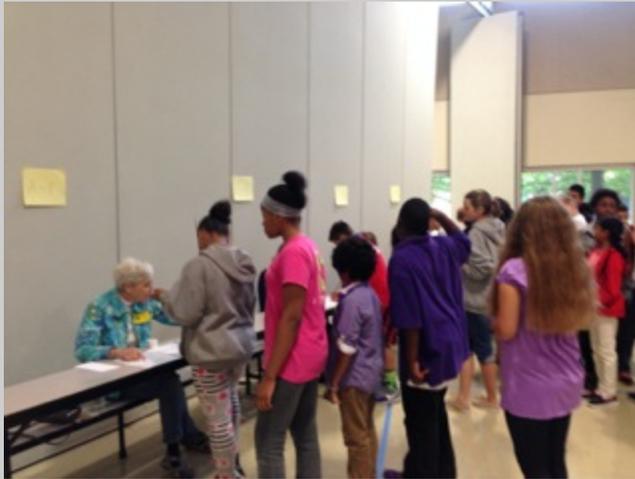
*Libby Wheeler*

On September 21st, League members Sherri Lewis, Anita Bukey, and Libby Wheeler oversaw the list of eligible student voters who signed in to cast their ballots for their Student Council elections. The previous week, candidates for offices gave lunchtime platform speeches. On election day, the voters arrived by class at specified times.



A future voter takes his responsibility seriously.

The County Clerk's Office provided cardboard voting booths and a ballot box. It was fun to see the enthusiasm of these young voters who were especially proud of their "I voted" sticker.

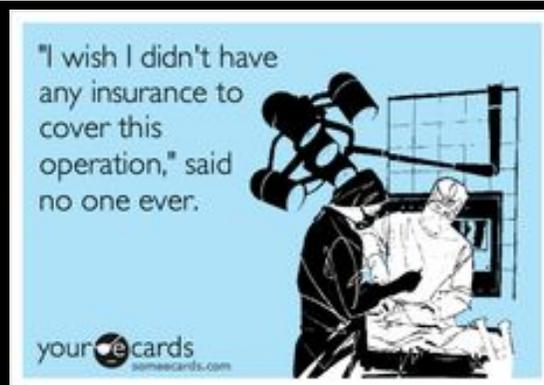


Our own Libby Wheeler making mini-democracy work!

## **Candlelight Vigil Honors those Struggling with Mental Illness**

The League's interest in mental health reform brought members to the 11th Mental Health Candlelight Vigil on Sunday, October 4th in the lovely chapel at the First United Methodist Church in Springdale. The theme was "Hope Starts with You." Mental Health America in Northwest Arkansas and the Springdale chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) organized the event, which featured the lighting of 11 candles representing various populations suffering from mental illness (children, adults, family members, veterans, etc.)

The program began with the lighting of the Living Candle, which unites us all, and ended with the Candle of Hope. The program rekindled our commitment to advocacy for those suffering from the mental illness.



## **Got Health Insurance? Open Enrollment for Health Coverage**

*Laura Kellams*

It's time again for open enrollment for health coverage under the Affordable Care Act. If you are uninsured (or just unsure about the coverage you do have), now is the time to seek out information about what options may be available to you. Open enrollment runs from November 1 to January 31, 2016. If you want your coverage to begin on

January 1, you should enroll by December 15.) It can be confusing trying to choose a plan, find the best deal, or just make sure you take advantage of any tax breaks that may be coming your way to help purchase coverage. One way to find help is at the website AR Enroll, at [www.arenroll.org](http://www.arenroll.org). On the site, you can input your zip code and find a list of organizations that employ in-person assisters. They are trained to help consumers find the coverage options available to them.

The website is operated by Arkansans for Coverage, a project of Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families.

## Vote 411

*Kelly King*



One of the core missions of the League of Women Voters is to provide quality information on candidates seeking office at all levels of government. This is a responsibility we have shared over the years with media outlets, like newspapers and television, advocacy groups, and others.

Many voters, however, find it difficult to gather even basic information on candidates running for local offices. From elected board membership on water districts to mayoral candidates in small municipalities, quality information is hard to come by. The LWVWC is moving forward with an exploration of VOTE411, a digital resource for voters. If you are interested in assisting with selecting and managing a handful of elections this fall, please contact [Kelly King](mailto:Kelly.King@lwvwc.org).

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