



## **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS FLORENCE AREA NOVEMBER 2011 E-NEWSLETTER**

### **What's happening in our community to keep crime under control?**

Come hear what **Florence County Solicitor Ed Clements** has to say on **Monday, November 28, 5:30 p.m.**, Central United Methodist Church, Spears Community Room. Enter under the portico on the Irby St. side.

**Check It Out** - Thanks to Becky Carr our website is full of information. Visit us at [www.florencearea.sc.lwvnet.org](http://www.florencearea.sc.lwvnet.org)

**Welcome to** - New members **Debbie Dickinson**, 2535 Ben Hogan Cr. 29506 [sylvancities@sc.rr.com](mailto:sylvancities@sc.rr.com); **Marie Raia**, 3823 Palmer Dr. 29506, [traia@sc.rr.com](mailto:traia@sc.rr.com) and **Ann Williamson**, 1311 Oaklyn Rd., Darlington, 29532, [ann.williamson@me.com](mailto:ann.williamson@me.com)

**And, Thank You Soooo much!...**to **Melinda Lott, Dolores Miller, Sara Stewart, Barbara Sylvester and Barbara Thayer** who came to Arbor One to register voters and update voter information.

**FYI - Peggy Brown, Sheila Gallagher, Rachel Hyman and Hannah Reig** joined League members from Charleston, Darlington, and Horry on Saturday, November 12, to participate in a Leadership Development workshop held at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Florence, and led by Kelly McFarland of the LWV-US office in Washington, DC.

### **FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER**

(All programs will be held at Central Methodist at 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

**January 30 Natural Resources** -- Guest speaker **Sara Nuckles**, District 5 member of the South Carolina Department of Transportation Board of Commissioners.

**February 11 Annual Fund Raiser** - Home of Belva High 10:30 a.m. - Noon

**March 26 Education**-- Panel discussion concerning evaluating teachers

**April 21 Annual Meeting** - Top Hat Special Teas 11:30 a.m.

### **Other Important Dates**

**Board Meetings** (open to all members) **January 16, and March 19**  
6 p.m.at the home of Rebecca Smith, 809 Indian Drive

## Information from the State League

### Voters Service and Citizen Education

Youth Voter Registration Project-- LWVEF is offering South Carolina's state and local Leagues a total grant of \$4,000 to support efforts to register South Carolina youth to vote in 2012. LWVSC project coordinator Paula Egelson (paulaserv@aol.com.) is checking with LWVEF regarding some of the grant's stipulations and will be in touch with local League presidents as soon as answers are available. **(Note: We will be participating in this project and need volunteers to go into the high schools. Contact June Ferguson, junedfer1125@aol.com or call 665-9265 if interested)**

### Voter Photo ID

South Carolina's voter photo ID law has not gone into effect yet. South Carolina needs Section 5 pre-clearance from the federal government before implementing any change to state voting procedures. S.C. Attorney General Wilson sent the legislation to the U.S. Department of Justice in late May, initiating a 60-day review period during which individuals and groups could submit comments to the DOJ. DOJ has extended the review period and has requested additional information from the state about the law's impact and the state's plans for voter education. The new requirement for a current and valid government-issued photo ID will go into effect when and if DOJ approves the law. Until then, procedures for voting are unchanged. Currently, the state Department of Motor Vehicles is offering photo IDs free of charge to voters. Taking the DMV route requires presenting a certified birth certificate along with documentation of any name change. An easier course of action for registered voters is to go to their county election office when photo ID-making equipment is available (currently the equipment is not in place); at county election offices, only a S.C. Voter Registration Card without photo, or a utility bill, bank statement, paycheck/stub, or government document with name and address in your county of registration is needed. Thus, it is important to register as many eligible citizens as voters as possible.

The state League is implementing Save All Votes (SAV), a campaign to educate voters about voting procedures, identify eligible voters who lack a required photo id to vote and help them obtain one, assist concerned citizens with submitting comments to the DOJ, and register new voters. You can find the SAV Toolkit at <http://lwvsc.org/voterphotoid.html>. Thanks to LWV/Greenville County members for their work on producing these materials. A new pocket-size "take-away" card and flyer with voter information has been added to the Toolkit.