



# THE VOTER

## It is All About Advocacy Local, State, and National

### League of Women Voters US

■ACTION ALERT: It's Discrimination Against Women and We Won't Stand for It! Information on the Alert on page 4.

■A LWVEF study on the privatization of government services is now ready for consensus. Join us on April 4 to discuss this hot topic. For information on this meeting and the study go to page 4.



### League of Women Voters of Ohio

■Every second and fourth Tuesday the specialists for the Ohio League gather to discuss the activities at the Ohio Statehouse. On March 13 fracking took the center stage after reports on reproductive rights and redistricting. Specialist Al Rosenfield summarizes the fracking discussion on page 3.

■The 2012 Statehouse Day is scheduled for April 10 with discussions on fracking, human trafficking, redistricting and more. See page 4.



According to LWVO policy "Action is our League effort to bring about governmental change based on the positions we derive through member study and consensus." The Road from Study to Action: A Guide to Local Program



### League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus

■The Regional Planning and Land Use Committee has wrapped up work on its recent study and is asking local members to join them on April 18 for the development of a new local position through consensus. The study materials, consensus questions and meeting information can be found on page 5.

■Local MC League members are also invited to meet with the Board of Trustees for consensus of the Delaware's County League's study of human trafficking. More information on page 9.

**Consensus.** The preferred and most commonly used decision-making process in the League is called "consensus." It is defined as "collective opinion or accord." It is NOT simple majority or unanimity, but a general and substantial agreement of the members present at the meeting. It is an evolutionary process reached through exhaustive and free-flowing discussion among members in which all points of view have been considered and a "sense of the group" emerges. Voting is *not* a part of the process. Minority opinions are always noted but they do not affect the final consensus response.

**Concurrence.** Another member-agreement technique sometimes used by the League is called "concurrence," defined as "agreement with a position previously reached by another person or group."

# LWVMC President's Message

Kitty Burcsu



"The League salutes Dirty Frank's."

It isn't often that we get a request to raise funds for the League! In February, Dirty Frank's Hot Dog Palace asked if we would like to be the recipient of a Community Partner Day fundraiser on March 12. On a Community Partner Day, a designated non-profit organization receives 10 % of the proceeds of that day's food sales. That non-profit is encouraged to promote its organization with literature and representatives on hand to answer questions. Servers also wear T-shirts of their Community Partner. A special cocktail is featured and the Community Partner receives 25% of the sale of every drink. (Our special cocktail was the *Dirty Frances!*) A novel and fun way to support and promote community organizations!

Our Community Partner Day was a great success and raised over \$ 225.00. In addition to the dollars, the name of the League was front and center that entire day for the diverse clientele that patronizes Dirty Frank's. And many of us had the opportunity to sample Dirty Frank's unique and

delicious fare for the very first time! Special thanks to Tonya Harris and the crew of Dirty Frank's for choosing LWVMC as a Community Partner. Thanks to Kim Young for organizing our participation. Thanks to all of you who supported the League by patronizing Dirty Frank's Hot Dog Palace on March 12.



The restaurant, located at 248 South Fourth Street (between Main and Rich), offers a menu of hot dogs and related fare, including vegetarian dogs, as well as a full drink menu.



## MC League Workers Staff the WBNS-10TV Phone Bank on Election Day

Thanks to Esther Connors, Peg Rosenfield, Beth Taggart and all the League volunteers for providing voting information through the phone bank on May 6.

If you missed out, do not fret. There will be an exciting opportunity to help with voter education all day on Election Day, November 6.

Mark on your calendar today!



## LWVVO Advocacy, continued from page 1

### Fracking, continued

At Lobby Lunch on March 13, Ohio LWV had a spirited discussion on how to deal with fracking. We are looking to focus on the environmental costs of gas drilling. Two fees were discussed: a severance tax on production and a water-usage fee. We plan to propose that the severance tax be used to repair the damage imparted to roads, etc. The water-usage fee would be levied because fracking uses huge amounts of water. Our ideas will be fleshed out in the next few weeks and incorporated into Legislative testimony.

Al Rosefield, LWVVO Energy Specialist

#### What is a Severance Tax?

States that rely on natural resources for a substantial share of state revenues derive them from both state severance taxes and resource leases on federal lands within their borders.

Severance taxes are excise taxes on natural resources "severed" from the earth. They are measured by the quantity or value of the resource removed or produced. In the majority of states, the taxes are applied to specific industries such as coal or iron mining and natural gas or oil production. They are usually payable by the severer or producer, although in a few states payment is made by the first purchaser. The taxes usually are imposed at a flat rate per unit of measure, with coal and ore mining taxes levied on a tonnage basis, oil production taxes on a per barrel basis, and gas production taxes on a per foot basis, although the rates may be graduated based on volume of production or value of the products. "Value" may mean market value in some states and gross value in others. Taxable net value or net proceeds are determined by deducting certain items from the gross value or gross proceeds. Examples of deductions include production costs, ad valorem taxes and royalties paid. Evaporation for gas wells also might qualify as a deduction. A variety of taxes appear under the general heading of severance taxes.

By Judy Zelio and Lisa Houlihan, National Conference of State Legislatures. For more information about other states and severance tax go to [www.ncsl.org/issues-research/budget/state-energy-revenues-update.aspx](http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/budget/state-energy-revenues-update.aspx).

### Ohio Lobby Corp

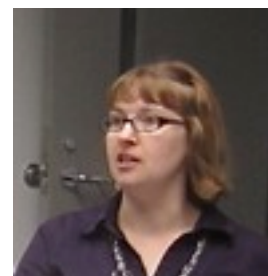
If you are interested in fracking, redistricting, or other state issues, the Lobby Corp meets for lunch every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at noon at the Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 South Grant Ave., Columbus 43215. Contact Nancy Brown, [ngbrown@columbus.rr.com](mailto:ngbrown@columbus.rr.com) if you have questions about the work of this group.

Issues covered by the Lobby Corp include Representative Government, International Relations, Social Policy, and Natural Resources. League Positions can be found in [Agenda For Action](#) (Ohio Positions) and [Impact on Issues](#) (US Positions). Both publications can be found on the MC website, [lvcols.org](http://lvcols.org), under the button "taking action, where we stand".

### New News from the LWV Ohio

#### Carrie Davis to Lead LWV Ohio/Ed Fund

The League of Women Voters of Ohio/Education Fund welcomes Carrie Davis as Executive Director. Carrie brings to the League her leadership and experience in advocating for voting rights and good government in the courtroom, the Statehouse, and in local communities. Prior to joining the League, Carrie served as staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio, where election law was a focus of her work. As a community activist, Carrie has experience training advocates and working with volunteers on policy issues. You can meet Carrie at the Lobby Corp lunches or at this year's Statehouse and Council Day (see page 4).





## LWVO Advocacy, continued from page 1

NEW this year the LWV Ohio Action Center. Be sure to stop by to check it out!

**League of Women Voters of Ohio  
Statehouse Day and Council  
Vern Riffe Center  
77 South High Street 31st floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
April 10, 2012  
Registration 8:30 am**

Read more about Statehouse Day and issues such as Redistricting in the LWVO Winter 2012 Newsletter online at [lwvo.org](http://lwvo.org).

Join us for Statehouse Day and Council 2012! The day will be full of engaging presentations on important issues such as redistricting reform, fracking, voter protection, human trafficking and good government. For this event, you also have the option to attend the whole day or just the luncheon with the keynote speaker.

Sessions Include:

- ✓ A Closer Look at Human Trafficking
- ✓ Voting in 2012
- ✓ The Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission: Will it be an agent for change?
- ✓ Unintended Consequences: Incumbency, Redistricting, and the Success of Women Candidates
- ✓ Redistricting Reform Workshop followed by Council
- ✓ Fracking: What is it? What does it mean for your community?

**Please register by March 30, 2012 at [lwvohio.org](http://lwvohio.org) or call (614) 469-1505.**

## LWVUS/EF Advocacy, continued from page 1

### Action Alert

Tell your Senators to oppose the Blunt-Rubio amendment! The Blunt-Rubio amendment would limit access to contraceptive health care for women and would deny Americans access to needed health care coverage based on ill-defined religious or moral objections. This legislation should be soundly rejected by the Senate.

**Send your Senators a message now!** Tell them to vote against the Blunt-Rubio amendment because it will block contraceptive services and discriminate against women. Tell them not to limit access to health care based on ill-defined "religious or moral objections."

Write your Senator or go to [lwv.org](http://lwv.org) to act!

### US Privatization Study

**April 4, 2010**

**7:00 PM**

**Columbus Board of Realtors, 2700 Airport Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43219**

A national study on the privatization of government services is now ready for consensus. Join us on April 4 to discuss this hot topic here in Ohio and across the country. The purpose of this study was to identify those parameters and policy issues to be considered in connection with proposals to transfer federal, state or local government services, assets and/or functions to the private sector. The study reviewed the community impact of such transfers, and identified strategies to ensure transparency, accountability, and preservation of the common good. Metro member Ann Henkener, who served on the national study committee, will be there to review the papers. We will also have a special guest from Policy Matters Ohio, which authored a helpful paper on privatization in Ohio. continued page 11

# LWVMN Advocacy

## REGIONAL PLANNING AND LAND USE

### A Study with Consensus Questions

#### **Consensus Meeting - Regional Planning and Land Use Study**

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012**

**6:00 pm**

**The Columbus Board of Realtors  
2700 Airport Drive, Columbus 43219**

In preparing for our consensus discussion, you may find it helpful to refer to the material that has been written during the course of our two-year study. It is available at <http://www.lwvcols.org/theleague/displaynews.php?id=281?> .

### **INTRODUCTION**

As undeveloped land becomes scarcer, land in itself becomes a more precious commodity. How land is used within cities and by suburbs and rural communities then becomes an object of greater concern. Past land use patterns are now being questioned, and in some cases replaced by the application of balanced growth objectives. Simultaneously, quality of life and environmental issues are causing us to reconsider living patterns.

As governments and developers realize the value of balanced growth (i.e. a balance between development and conservation), changes are beginning to occur in many areas including regional planning, neighborhood revitalization, and zoning for environmental and economic sustainability.

The uses of land in a city and in its region are closely interrelated. We live in a time when regionalism is key. It is not at all unusual, for instance, for a resident of Worthington to work in Dublin, dine in Grandview and attend the theater in Columbus, all in the same day. Not only do driving patterns reflect regional land usage, but also changes in land use in one sector directly impact patterns of living in other sectors. For example, the 2010 U. S. Census shows that the Central Ohio population (Franklin County and the counties contiguous to it) grew 12.7 percent during the past decade. The core of the city, however, (with the exception of a few communities) experienced a decline. At the same time, more people moved into bigger houses on larger lots on previously agricultural land, leaving behind in many areas of the core city a greater concentration of low income residents and an increasing number of vacant properties.

Recently, the current recession has only exacerbated this problem, by creating a foreclosure crisis in the suburbs as well as in the central city. Factors impacting the core city are now also affecting some suburban residential and commercial areas, negatively influencing social cohesion and economic viability. While this recession is causing many families to postpone new home purchases and to seek less costly housing, it may have the positive long-term effect of slowing suburban growth and of supporting more compact land use patterns.

Moreover, people have begun to realize that long commutes in heavy traffic, living patterns that isolate families, vanishing farmland, and the disappearance of locally owned small businesses that added to the social fabric have all contributed to a feeling of sterility in parts of the region. As a result, many land use practices that responded to the needs and desires of those moving to the suburbs in the past are now being questioned.

Today more people are looking for places to live that are conducive to the formation of vibrant communities, a healthy lifestyle and the preservation of the environment. Quality of place matters. Creating neighborhoods that promote higher densities with more population diversity, mixed commercial and residential uses, a sustainable environment and effective public transit have the potential to modify historic trends and construct a more livable formula for land use in the future.

# LWVMC Reports: REGIONAL PLANNING AND LAND USE

## A Study with Consensus Questions, continued from page 5

### **PROPOSED POSITION**

The Regional Planning and Land Use Committee proposes that the League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus adopt the following position:

#### **1. Neighborhood Planning**

Both older and newer neighborhoods should be vital, diverse, and have a sense of community. The following characteristics should be sought:

- a) A range of housing opportunities with a variety of good quality ownership and rental housing choices, densities, and affordabilities suitable for a diversity of income and life styles.
- b) Life-long communities that meet the needs of all age groups.
- c) A mixture of housing opportunities based on adoption and implementation of planning and zoning standards that reflect the shifting land use patterns in the central city and the changing lifestyles throughout the region.
- d) Government incentives that encourage in both older and newer areas private sector development that reflects these land use planning and zoning standards.
- e) Sustainable and walkable neighborhoods with sidewalks, commercial establishments, public services, parks and recreational facilities.
- f) A wide choice of affordable, accessible and convenient transportation modes.
- g) Accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- h) Preservation of historic neighborhoods.

#### **2. Regional Planning and Cooperation**

*(Note: It is important to keep in mind that Ohio is a Home Rule state, meaning that it is written in the Constitution that each local jurisdiction has the final say as to what happens within its borders. It is important, then, for each government entity to be able to show its citizens how they will ultimately benefit from cooperating with their neighboring governments.)*

Regionalism should be promoted in order to encourage a high quality of life for all Central Ohio residents. Some ways to do that are by:

- a) Seeking a balance between suburban growth and farmland preservation.
- b) Using incentives to encourage development conducive to a balanced use of land and environmental standards.
- c) Encouraging cooperation among government entities.
- d) Designating areas, natural or man-made, for specific purposes such as wildlife, pedestrians and bicycles.
- e) Distributing locally undesirable land uses (Lulus) equitably.
- f) Encouraging units of government and business to work with public transit to improve access to jobs and to develop residential and commercial areas adjacent to transit systems.

#### **3. Citizen Input**

A wide range of citizen input is key to developing successful urban and regional plans and in the review of development proposals.

# LWVMC Reports: REGIONAL PLANNING AND LAND USE

## A Study with Consensus Questions, continued from page 6

### **CONSENSUS QUESTIONS**

#### **1. Neighborhood Planning**

Should the goal of neighborhood planning be to create both older and newer neighborhoods that are vital, diverse, and have a sense of community? To that end, should neighborhoods strive to incorporate the following characteristics?

- a) A range of housing opportunities with a variety of good quality ownership and rental housing choices, densities, and affordabilities suitable for a diversity of income and life styles.
- b) A mixture of housing opportunities based on adoption and implementation of planning and zoning standards that reflect the shifting land use patterns in the central city and the changing lifestyles throughout the region.
- c) Government incentives that encourage in both older and newer areas private sector development that reflects these land use planning and zoning standards.
- d) Sustainable and walkable neighborhoods with sidewalks, commercial establishments, public services, parks and recreational facilities.
- e) A wide choice of affordable, accessible and convenient transportation modes.
- f) Accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- g) Preservation of historic neighborhoods.

#### **Pros:**

Life-long communities offer more opportunities for people to remain in the same community as their needs change, resulting in a healthy mix of various age groups.

Sustainable neighborhoods support the environment and offer more residential and lifestyles options.

A variety of housing types and densities limits isolation and encourages social support systems.

Walkable neighborhoods allow commercial areas to retain their viability as active local resources that can anticipate and respond to local needs.

Diversity of housing types allows for a better platform of choices in transportation modes.

Historic preservation enhances the character and value of a community.

#### **Cons:**

The imposition of unwanted development creates unpredictable effects and negative impacts that can produce fear, confusion and backlash.

Government mandates and actions produce the potential for infringement of private property rights.

Provision of neighborhood amenities, such as sidewalks, enhanced street lighting, and parks, increases housing costs and tax burdens.

Government involvement in development and redevelopment may incur numerous regulations that deter development.

The imposition of regulation in historic neighborhoods has the potential of limiting property owners' options.

Diminishing governmental housing funds limit the ability of low income persons to remain in gentrifying neighborhoods.

**"Every man holds his property subject to the general right of the community to regulate its use to whatever degree the public welfare may require it."**

**- Theodore Roosevelt**

# LWVMC Reports: REGIONAL PLANNING AND LAND USE

## A Study with Consensus Questions, continued from page 7

### **CONSENSUS QUESTIONS, continued**

#### **2. Regional Planning and Cooperation**

Should regionalism be promoted in order to encourage a high quality of life for all Central Ohio residents? To that end, should the following practices be encouraged?

- a) Seeking a balance between suburban growth and farmland preservation.
- b) Life-long communities that meet the needs of all age groups.
- c) Using incentives to encourage development conducive to a balanced use of land and environmental standards
- d) Encouraging cooperation among government entities.
- e) Designating areas, natural or man-made, for specific purposes such as wildlife, pedestrians and bicycles
- f) Distributing locally undesirable land uses (Lulus) equitably.
- g) Encouraging units of government and business to work with public transit to improve access to jobs and to develop residential and commercial areas adjacent to transit systems.

#### **Pros:**

Environmental sustainability, containment of urban sprawl, balanced growth, clean water, and agricultural land preservation support the need for regional planning and cooperation.

Regional planning and cooperation can help conserve increasingly limited public and private resources used for future development.

Regional cooperation among government entities provides for the effective sharing of human and economic resources, and enhances the economic wellbeing of individual communities.

Efficient and convenient transportation depends on regional planning and cooperation.

Equitable distribution of locally undesirable land uses (Lulus) limits the impact on any one area.

#### **Cons:**

Regional decision making can limit local government control, citizen input and community responsiveness.

Regional agreements can constrain the ability of local government to compete for needed business and tax revenues.

Limiting suburban growth may restrict the options for those who prefer low density lifestyles.

Land use plans may interfere with the rights of property owners to develop their properties as they choose.

Equitable distribution of locally undesirable land uses (Lulus) can create a NIMBY backlash, a deterioration of stable neighborhoods and an economic cost to local governments.

#### **3. Citizen Input**

Should citizen input play an important role in developing successful urban and regional plans and in the review of development proposals?

**This is a long-standing League position.**

If you would like to read more about this topic, one excellent source is: [Suburban Sprawl: The Rise of Sprawl and the Decline of the American Dream](#) by Andre Duany, et al, either the 2000 or 2010 edition.

Submitted by members of the LWVMC Regional Planning and Land Use Committee:

Judy Brachman (co-chair), Ellen Haider (co-chair), Barbara Crabill, Mary Kaul, Carolyn Piper, Emma Rose, Stuart Wright, and Jane Young.



# Delaware County Reports: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## A Study with Consensus Questions

### Consensus Meeting - Human Trafficking Study

Monday, April 23, 2012 6:00 pm

The Columbus Board of Realtors  
2700 Airport Drive, Columbus 43219

### Introduction

Although one of the League's principles is that the League believes in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States, that principle alone, without a supporting study and consensus, is not enough for the League to act on human trafficking issues. Also known as modern-day slavery, trafficking has become a major human rights problem in Ohio and elsewhere.

LWV Ohio adopted a state study of human trafficking at its convention in May 2011. It was expected that the study would draw significantly from the work of the Ohio Attorney General's Trafficking in Persons Study (TIPS) Commission. A 2010 year-end report formed the basis for the League's consensus questions in that they address continuing issues; in fact, the new attorney general, Mike DeWine, has continued the study commission. House Bill 262—a "safe harbor" bill—is pending and would provide for victim services. A law passed in 2010 made trafficking in persons a stand-alone offense and easier to prosecute, but much work remained to be done. (As an example of Ohio's shortcomings, Shared Hope International's Protected Innocence Initiative recently gave Ohio a grade of D because Ohio law does not distinguish between sex trafficking of an adult or a child and requires proof of the use of force, fraud or coercion. It provides insufficient protection of child victims. Also, training for law enforcement on human trafficking is not mandated.)

The scope of the LWVO study was to review the recommendations of the Ohio TIPS Commission 2010 Year End Report as well as other research materials, and determine what steps can be taken legislatively and through community coalitions to address the issues. Its purposes are to 1) allow the state and local Leagues to advocate for legislation assuring victims' rights, with a focus on how minor victims of sex trafficking are treated by the criminal justice system; 2) join in coalition with other organizations in their own communities, working to provide community-based services to victims; and 3) educate communities on how to recognize and report human trafficking. While prosecution of traffickers is important, equally important are the identification and rescue and rehabilitation of victims.

### Background

Standard definitions:

The federal Trafficking in Victims Protection Act of 2000 defines "severe forms of trafficking in persons" as:

1. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
2. The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

These are the generally accepted definitions for any discussion of human trafficking.

More background information on Human Trafficking can be found on [www.lwvdelawarecountyohio.com](http://www.lwvdelawarecountyohio.com) or on the MC League's webpage [www.lwvcols.org](http://www.lwvcols.org) or call the office at 837-1089.

Approximately 80 percent of human trafficking victims are women and girls, and up to 50 percent are minors.  
U.S. Department of State

## Delaware County Reports: HUMAN TRAFFICKING, continued

### A Study with Consensus Questions

#### Consensus Questions:

Please circle your answer or indicate by check mark, as appropriate.

1. Human forced labor and sex trafficking should be stopped through legislation and changes in public policy.  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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2. Victims of human trafficking should be provided with services on an as-needed basis to facilitate integration into the community, including but not limited to.... (Check all items to be included)

<input type="checkbox"/> Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/> Job training
<input type="checkbox"/> Drug and alcohol treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> ESL/GED/education
<input type="checkbox"/> Safe housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment assistance
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical and mental health care	
<input type="checkbox"/> Legal representation	
  
3. Minors who have been commercially sexually exploited or forced into slave labor should be legally considered as victims and given special physical and mental health care.  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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4. Cooperation and collaboration among state and local agencies is necessary to enforce prohibitions and prosecute traffickers and other offenders (consumers).  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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5. There should be aggressive enforcement of laws dealing with traffickers and offenders (consumers).  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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6. Strategies to reduce the demand for commercial sex and forced labor trafficking should be employed by law enforcement agencies and the courts (an example would be court-ordered attendance at "john schools").  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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7. Training and education of the public, law enforcement, and service providers should be widely available.  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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8. Funding (state and local) should be provided as necessary to treat victims, prosecute traffickers and consumers, and enhance awareness of the issue through training.  

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No consensus
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# LWVEF Study Committee on Privatization of Government Services, Assets and Functions.

## A Study with Consensus Questions

### Introduction

Federal, state and local governments own extensive assets and are major employers. Governments often consider selling assets, and outsourcing some functions and services to the private sector, including “core” government services such as providing for the safety, security and general welfare (public well-being) of citizens, the economy, and our country. Privatization of these government assets, services and functions has been occurring for decades at all levels of government. The consequences of “privatizing” a government service or function, in particular, may enhance the function or service. Alternatively, it may reduce or alter functions and services. Government revenues may be reduced or lost and jobs may be cut. In some instances, this may have a detrimental effect on the “common good” or public well-being.

One state, for instance, has declared as a matter of state law and policy that “using private contractors to provide public services formerly provided by state employees does not always promote the public interest. To ensure that citizens..... receive high quality public services at low cost, with due regard for tax payers..... and the needs of public and private workers, the (legislature) finds it necessary to regulate such privatization contracts throughout the state.”

The purpose of this study is to identify policies and parameters that should be considered when any governmental entity is planning to undertake some type of privatization process.

### Background

Articles and Study Questions can be found at <http://lww.org/member-resources/privatization> along with the article, [Federal Privatization: The Ryan Plan](#), by Ann Henkener. If you do not have access to these documents please contact the office, 837-1089.

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### The Great Ohio Sell-Off

The new state budget calls for a massive sell-off of Ohio public assets worth billions of dollars. Among the properties that may be privatized are the Ohio Turnpike, six prisons and the liquor distribution business. The budget also authorizes local and exempted village school districts to contract out their bus transportation, universities to enter into agreements transferring buildings and parking facilities to outside entities for up to 99 years, and cities to lease their parking meters for up to 30 years. Little evidence has been put forward that the public will benefit from these privatization moves, which raise numerous questions. Just one of them: Will the public be able to find out how well services are being delivered and keep tabs on the private monopolies that will be providing these services?

The rest of this article can be found from Policy Matters Ohio, <http://www.policymattersohio.org/the-great-ohio-sell-off>.

Another article of Ohio interest can be found from Policy Matters Ohio, <http://www.policymattersohio.org/prison-privatization-dec2011>.

# LWVMC Activities

## **The Membership Committee Announces Beyond the Units: A Look at Re-Development in the Weinland Park Area**

**Saturday, Apr. 21, 2012, 9:00 am**

**The Schoenbaum Family Center at Weinland Park  
175 E. 7th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43201**

Meet new LWVMC members while experiencing one of Columbus newest urban re-developments. The event will begin with a light breakfast and a discussion about the rehabilitation of the neighborhood with panelists Joyce Hughes, Civic Association and resident, Michael Wilkos, Columbus Foundation and resident, Mark Wagenbrenner, Developer. Then participants will tour the neighborhood on foot or by van.

The Membership Committee sees this event as a time for ALL members, new and seasoned, to meet and share a 'hands on' experience relevant to the MC League's Regional Planning and Land Use Committee's new position on development in central Ohio. (The consensus meeting on that position will be held on April 18 at 6:00 pm at the Columbus Board of Realtors, 2700 Airport Drive, Columbus 43219.

**RSVP to Mim Brierley, [mimb@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mimb@columbus.rr.com) or  
Jean Byrd, [jeanbyrd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeanbyrd@sbcglobal.net) or 261-0601.**

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## **DINNER UNIT RESCHEDULED FROM March 28 to April 25**

### **Poverty-Hunger Issues**

**April 25 \*\*\* Rescheduled date**

**Dinner at 5:30pm**

**Presentation at 7:00pm**

**Bob Erickson the Director of the Hunger Network in Ohio**

**The Spaghetti Warehouse**

**397 West Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215**

If you are coming on Broad from Downtown the building is just after the old train station on the left. It is the building in back of the parking lot.

\*\*Please note- the Spaghetti Warehouse has provided a new room that is not the same room as the first Dinner Unit where it was difficult to hear.

RSVP to Danielle Smith at [daniellesmith5215@gmail.com](mailto:daniellesmith5215@gmail.com) or 419-937-8393.

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## **A Note From Amy Pulles**

Thank you to the League for a WONDERFUL farewell party! It made me feel so good to see so many League members there to wish me well. All the comments people made help boost my confidence and reassure me that I could be successful in my new position with the Red Cross. I look forward to my "volunteer" position with the League and joining the Board in June.



# LWVMC Activities

## Democracy In Action 2012

The 2012 Democracy in Action recipient is **Matt Habash**, President and CEO of Mid-Ohio Food Bank. Please join League members and friends at this year's award ceremony and reception.

Join Honorary Co-Chairs Phil Cass, CEO Columbus Medical Association; Melinda Swan, Founder of Collective Genius; and Evelyn Behm, former Senior VP of the Food Bank to honor Matt Habash's years of contributing to our community.

**In the spirit of reinventing our League, DIA will be held at a new place at a new time:  
The Atrium of Mid-Ohio Food Bank  
3960 Brookham Drive, Grove City, OH 43123  
Thursday, May 10, 2010  
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM**

Plan for an evening of food, fun and kudos for Matt Habash as we support his work and the work of the League.

Optional tour of the Foodbank and new food pantry at the conclusion of the event.  
Tickets are available by contacting the League at [vote@lwvcols.org](mailto:vote@lwvcols.org). Mark you calendar!

**You are not too late. You can still volunteer for Democracy In Action**

### Democracy In Action Committee Members Needed

This year the League is honoring Matt Habash of the Mid-Ohio Food bank on Thursday, May 10 at our Annual Democracy In Action Award Ceremony. We need of members to join the committee to help with corporate fundraising, mailing invitations, program book production, and hospitality the night of the event.

If you are interested in getting involved with Democracy In Action, please contact the office today at [vote@lwvcols.org](mailto:vote@lwvcols.org) or (614) 837-1089.

The invitations for Democracy In Action need stuffing into envelopes.

A stuffing gathering will be held on April 4 at 5:30 PM before the LWVEF Privatization meeting at the Columbus Board of Realtors, 2700 Airport Drive, Columbus 43219. Contact LWVMC office at [vote@lwvcols.org](mailto:vote@lwvcols.org) if you can help.

### Board Members Wanted

The Nominating Committee is looking for potential Board Members to serve on the Board of Directors from June 2012-June 2014. If you are interested, please contact the office at [vote@lwvcols.org](mailto:vote@lwvcols.org) or (614) 837-1089. We welcome all members to serve on our Board, whether you've been a member for less than 1 year or for the past 50 years. The 4R Committee will have finished its work and implementing plans will be an exciting aspect of the coming Board term.

## League Activities

DIA Stuffing Party	Wed., Apr. 4	5:30 PM	Columbus Board of Realtors
Privatization Study	Wed., Apr. 4	7:00 PM	Columbus Board of Realtors
State House Day/State Council	Tues., Apr. 10	8:30 AM	Vern Riffe Center
Land Use Consensus Meeting	Wed., Apr. 18	6:00 PM	Columbus Board of Realtors
Beyond the Units: Weinland Park	Sat., Apr. 21	9:00 AM	Schoenbaum Family Center
Trafficking Consensus Meeting	Mon., Apr. 23	6:00 PM	Columbus Board of Realtors
Democracy In Action	Thur., May 10	5:30 PM	Mid-Ohio Food Bank
Annual Meeting	Mon., Jun. 4	6:00 PM	TBA