



**League of Women Voters of Chemung  
County, Inc. Newsletter  
February, 2010**

**Warm Greetings in the Frosty Weather !**

**News & Notes: National and State Front -**

\*The LWVUS in Washington is closed this past week, as has been much of Washington, recovering from 30 feet of snow - hence no report from there.

\*The Health Care bill seems to be languishing in Washington. Some observers note that President Obama is willing to compromise with Republicans in order to get some health care reforms passed, and realizes this will be a longer-term project. This contrasts to the Clinton Administration Health Care approach in the 90's, which was to insist on no compromises resulting in no Bill. It will be interesting to see how this progresses.

\*What do you think should or will happen with this legislation? -- Email or write us and we'll share your views. (See email and snail mail addresses at the end of this Newsletter.)

\*Happy 90th Birthday to the League of Women Voters -- On Feb. 14, 1920, six months before the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, the League was formally organized in Chicago as the National League of Women Voters.

\***Note the LWVUS 2010 Legislative Priorities (NEW)** -- After a review of congressional action in 2009 and a discussion of expected activity in 2010, the LWVUS Board of Directors has adopted the following Legislative Priorities for 2010: Global Climate Change, Health Care Reform, and Money in Elections (campaign finance reform). On the Legislative Watch List are: Arms Control, DC Voting Rights, Election Reform, Ethics and Lobbying Reform, and UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This Watch List includes issues which need to be monitored for action opportunities in the 111th Congress. It is understood that the Board will have opportunities to review the priorities throughout the year to make changes if the situation requires it. It should also be noted that DC Voting Rights and CEDAW are perennial legislative priorities that the LWV has worked hard for in the past and is committed to working for successful passage. For a tally of the member recommended items for advocacy, see the [Report on Member Recommended LWV Priorities for Advocacy 2010](#)

**\*Great News for State LWV!** -- The state League has just launched a blog on New York State politics, thanks to Jay Gallagher, retired Albany Bureau Chief for Gannett News. Jay will be writing about Albany happenings and posting his stories on our blog. You can read the blog simply by visiting the site:

<http://lwny-blog.blogspot.com>.

### **Local LWV News and Notes:**

\*Important environment educational meeting on Saturday, Feb. 20th at the Heights Theater on 14th Street in Elmira Heights regarding the impact of horizontal natural gas drilling and hydrofracking on air and water quality, followed by a Q&A session. Calvin Tillman, Mayor of Dish, Texas will talk about his town's experience with gas drilling. This event starts with light breakfast from 8:30-9:15am, presentation from 9:30-11am. The event is co-sponsored by several local groups, including the LWVCC as an opportunity to learn about this very much debated issue in our communities today. For more information contact Doug Couchon <dcouchon@yahoo.com>

### **JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!!!**

On TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 6:30-8:30 at the CHEMUNG COUNTY HISTORIC SOCIETY on EAST WATER STREET, ELMIRA, the Chemung County Council of Women, of which the LWVCC is a member, will be kicking off the celebration of *Women's History Month* here in Chemung County with **SALUTE YOUR FAVORITE WOMEN IN HISTORY!**

This reception will give you the opportunity enjoy refreshments while sharing information about *your* favorite woman in history, whether she be real or fictional, historic or an acquaintance of your lifetime.

There will be opportunity to meet women of our local history (in character) and view a power point presentation compiled by our local Historical Society. In addition, current exhibits, including "A Women's Work is Never Done," will be open to review.

In preparation for this event you may choose to select a character to portray or contribute to the Bibliography we are compiling of favorite books (adult and children; fiction and non-fiction). If you wish to participate in any way, please contact Maureen Pugliese at 239-0516 as soon as possible.

\*Mark Your Calendars - Annual Pay Gap Lunch, April 20th -- Join us for the latest information on the pay gap between men and women and what is being done about it today. Share your experiences and perspectives and learn more about it! It will be held at Steele Memorial Library in Elmira, co-sponsored by our League and the Elmira-Corning AAUW.

**\*Want more information about our local League or how to to be become member? Want give us some feed-back? Contact us. See following board member list:**

**LWVCC Board Members:**

Vice President - Barb Luther -<bluther@stny.rr.com> 734-1321  
Treasure - Leslie Potter <lesliepotter@hotmail.com> 739-9624  
Secretary - Marty Oldfield - <mjoldfield@stny.rr.com> 739-9577  
Voter Service Director and Membership -  
Maureen Pugliese - <mapugliese@netzero.com> 734-4173  
President - Mary Hungerford, see address and phone below

*Members and friends of the **League**, this is **your** newsletter. Send in your opinions or items, that you would like to see in the newsletter by the end of 4th week of the month, 6 pm.*

*Also Send us your personal announcements so that we keep in touch with each other or other announcements and articles.. Email your items or any questions or comments you have to: <maryohungerford@gmail.com> or snail mail to: Mary Hungerford - 1727 Genesee Rd., Elmira NY 14905 Phone: 737-6182*

***LWV Mission Statement: The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.***

***Diversity Policy: The LWV, in both its values and practices affirms its belief and commitments to diversity and pluralism, which means that there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the LWV on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.***