

# THE VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MURFREESBORO/RUTHERFORD COUNTY

## LOCAL LWV NEWS

Tennessee is one of two states where LWV-US is targeting messages to promote disclosure and campaign finance reform. An advertising and public relations campaign called "Flood of Money" began May 24th with radio ads running in Chattanooga and Nashville where Senators Alexander and Corker are based, and encourages them to help bring sunshine and disclosure to the secret money pouring into American elections.

LWV-TN is supporting this campaign and needs your help. Margie Parsley, LWVTN President, has submitted an Op-Ed column to the Tennessean and the Chattanooga Times-Free Press, and the Tennessean planned to run it the week of May 28th.

We are asking members to submit letters to your hometown Editorial Page Editor (online, if possible) or community newspaper. Sample letters are below. Personal letters from members will reinforce an appearance of public concern and strengthen our League position.

Also, we encourage you to comment online immediately following publication of a letter from a League member, or State Op-Ed piece when it runs. Personal comments of support online have been important methods of pushing issues forward in recent times.

Here is a link to the radio ad: <http://www.lwv.org/multimedia/stop-flood-secret-money>

Here is a link to the blog: <http://www.lwv.org/blog/flood-secret-money>

Here is a link to the LWV-US press release on its webpage:

<http://www.lwv.org/press-releases/new-radio-ads-urge-tennessee-senators-alexander-and-corker-and-main-senators-collins>

Submitted by: Margie Parsley, LWVTN President

If you have any questions please contact Co-Presidents Leslie Collum, 867-6875, or Amy Greene, 545-2812.

### **Sample letters:**

"TN Senators Can Lead the Way"

To the Editor:

I love my state. Tennessee is my home and I am proud of what we stand for. I'm proud to stand beside my neighbors and share my voice in my community. I don't want to live in a state that loses the voices of its citizens to that of special interests.

I believe that TN Volunteers should always lead the way, and that's why I believe that Senator Corker can make sure my voice continues to matter. I know he cares about me and my community and will make sure that my voice is always heard.

That's why I know Senator Corker will lead the way to fight the flood of secret money into our political system. He knows who should have the real power in our Democracy: the voters.

Name

Contact info

"Stop the Flood of Secret Money"

To the Editor:

Secret money threatens to drown out the voice of real people in our political system. More and more money from special interests pours into our political system every day in an attempt to drown out voices of real Mainers trying to do right by their families and neighbors.

I'm tired of special interests and corporate lobbyists trying to run our government. I'm tired of negative campaign ads from secret funders. And I'm tired of the flood of big money in our political elections.

The League of Women Voters is right. We should be asking Senator Corker and Senator Alexander to lead the fight against big money. Let's put transparency back in our political system. Let's put elections back in the hands of the people and let the voters decide what's best for this state. Senators, it's your time to lead the fight and stop the flood of secret money.

Name

Contact Info

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN  
VOTERS OF  
MURFREESBORO/  
RUTHERFORD  
COUNTY**

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Officers and Directors for  
2012-2013

Co-Presidents: Leslie Collum  
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Nominating Committee Chair:  
Carolyn Strang

Past President:  
Charlotte Molloy



*Making Democracy  
Work.*

**UPCOMING LOCAL LEAGUE EVENTS**

June 8-12 - National Convention (Washington D.C.)

June 28 - Rutherford County School Board Forum—County Courthouse

The County School Board election will be on August 2nd. There are two zones contested with a total of six candidates.

August 2- Tennessee State Primary and County General Elections

August 13 - LWV Board Meeting at NHC, 14th Floor

August 20 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, County Comprehensive Plan

September 17th - Constitution Day, celebrated at MTSU

October 15 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, National Convention Update—Judy Poulson

November 6 - State and Federal General Elections

November 19 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, Recycle Rutherford

January 14 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, Legislative Update—Rep. Brenda Gilmore

February 11 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, Panel on Basic Human Needs

March 18 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, Chamber of Commerce Update

April 15 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center, Water/Sewer Update

May 20 - Membership Meeting at Heritage Center

*(We are still confirming speakers and topics, be aware that some of the topics may be moved to another date.)*

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**Student Member Sponsorship Award**

We are currently working on providing a sponsorship to three students. These member sponsorships with a value of \$30 each will be awarded annually, with three recipients being selected each year.

Any student, 18 years or older, residing in Murfreesboro and/or Rutherford County, TN who would like to participate as a member of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/Rutherford County may apply for one of these sponsorships, with the understanding that the sponsorship is to be used for the designated membership year (beginning April 1 of the membership year and ending March 31 of the membership year). Please be sure to spread the word to anyone you think may be interested.

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**Reminder: Membership fees are due—\$50**

*If you have already paid your 2012 dues, thank you! If you haven't sent your money in yet, please send to Suma Clark at:*

*LWV of Murfreesboro/Rutherford Co.*

*P.O. Box 4108*

*Murfreesboro, TN 37129*

*If you are unsure if you have paid or not, email or call Suma—895-3525 or [sclark@mtsu.edu](mailto:sclark@mtsu.edu)*