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# League Update

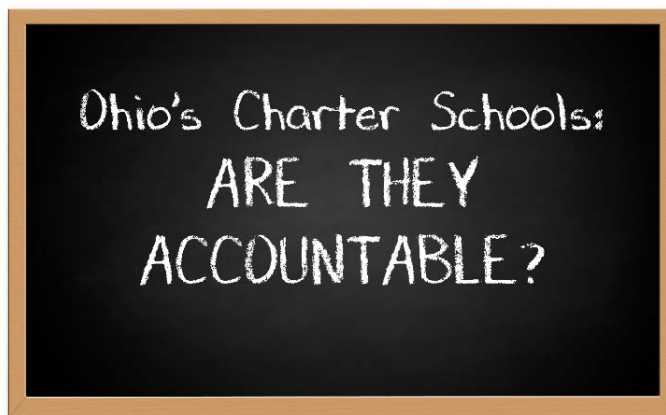
Serving the people of the Greater Cincinnati Area



## Forum on Ohio's Charter Schools Monday April 20, 7 p.m.

By *Burt Roehr, Education Committee Chair*

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Join us!



### Say Goodbye to Becky

Please join us as for a farewell pizza social for Office Manager Becky Haltermon, as she leaves to explore new opportunities out of state.



12 p.m. Friday, April 17

The Social Hall at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church (103 Wm. H. Taft Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45219)

Join us at the Clifton Recreation Center (320 McAlpin Avenue, Cincinnati 45220) for a public forum that will present varied perspectives on Ohio's "community schools," commonly referred to as charters.

Panelists for "Ohio's Charter Schools: Are They Accountable?" will include Aaron Churchill, research analyst of the Thomas Fordham Institute, a charter school sponsor; Steve Dyer, an attorney and education policy fellow of Innovation Ohio; Ohio Senator Bill Seitz representing the 8th District; and Mary Ronan, superintendent of Cincinnati Public Schools. Journalist Krista Ramsey will serve as moderator for the forum.

Charter Schools were authorized by the Ohio legislature in 1997 to offer urban school children an alternative to their public schools. Have they lived up to their promise?

The panel will cover basic facts about the founding and funding for charter schools, as well as their promise, performance and strategies for improvement. Speakers will present their findings and answer questions from the audience.

The League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area sponsors the forum with these cosponsors: the Xavier University School of Education; University of Cincinnati College of Education,

RSVP at 513-281-8683 or [info@lwvcincinnati.org](mailto:info@lwvcincinnati.org).

Criminal Justice and Human Service; Cincinnati Association; Parents for Public Schools of Greater Cincinnati; Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati; Applied Information Resources, Inc.; Prepare the Future Ohio, a project of Faith & Community Alliance; and the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio.

For more information and questions, call 513-281-VOTE (8683) or [email the LWVCA office](mailto:info@lwvcincinnati.org).

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## New Member Spring Social

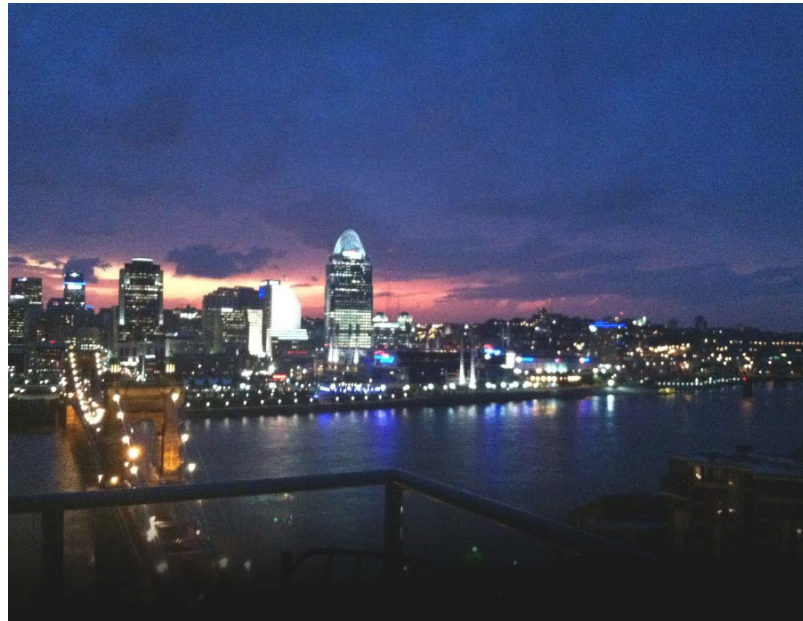
**Thursday, April 23, 6 to 9 p.m. Drop-In**

*By Felicity Hill,  
Membership Director*

Newer members and those who would like to better connect with the LWVCA are invited to join us for an evening of networking and refreshments at the Ascent (The Ascent at Roebling's Bridge Condominiums, 1 Roebling Way, Covington, KY 41011).

Enjoy fantastic views of Cincinnati and stellar conversations with members both new and veteran.

Contact the LWVCA office at [info@lwvcincinnati.org](mailto:info@lwvcincinnati.org) or 513-281-8683 to RSVP.



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## Running from Crazy: A Life Journey with Mariel Hemingway

**Thursday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.**

*By Woman's City Club*

Woman's City Club (WCC) is very excited to announce that Mariel Hemingway, famed actor and longtime advocate for mental health awareness, will be the guest speaker at WCC's twenty-second annual fundraising event at Music Hall in historic Over-The-Rhine.

Mariel Hemingway's presentation "Running from Crazy: A Life Journey with Mariel Hemingway" will address her own family experience and her work with mental health organizations nationally. Her grandfather, literary icon Ernest Hemingway,



and her sister, supermodel Margaux Hemingway, both committed suicide. Mariel has since courageously devoted her work to restoring balance to her own life through healthy living and, in her words, “raising consciousness and awareness that we as human beings are self-healing, self-sufficient and self-sustaining.”

Individual tickets are \$40. For more information, call 513-751-0100 or [visit WCC online](#)»

## Responding to the Critical Need for Affordable Housing in Cincinnati: Lessons on Overcoming Local Governance and Community Opposition

Thursday, April 23, 12 p.m.

By *Applied Information Resources*

Many times, the general public may believe that it is funding or lack of available land that prevents the development of affordable housing. However, even when funding and land is available, it can be community resistance that prevents the housing from being built.

Join us for a forum at Christ Church Cathedral Forum Room (Third Floor, 318 East Fourth Street) featuring a panel who will share four stories of local affordable housing

that was developed despite community resistance. These case studies provide the context in which to understand local housing needs, the complexity and competing interests among the stakeholders and ultimately, how the local community opposition was overcome.

Lunch can be purchased for \$6, or you can bring a brown bag. Parking is available in the garage of the building across the street from the Cathedral on 4th Street between Broadway and Sycamore.



For video clips of past Forums, go to [www.airinc.org](http://www.airinc.org)»

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## Side-by-Side: Neil and Blackwell

Tuesday, April 28, 5:30 p.m.

By *Beyond Civility*

Join Beyond Civility for a Side-by-Side featuring Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil and Cincinnati Police Chief Jeffrey Blackwell at DePaul Cristo Rey High School. A reception will take place from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., with the program starting promptly at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy some small bites, meet the leaders of our local safety organizations and hear powerful stories.



Chief Blackwell

### Beyond Civility Side-by-Side Series

Cincinnati Police Chief Jeffrey Blackwell  
Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil



Sheriff Neil

About

Side-by-Sides: Side-by-Side events are designed to break down stereotypes and invite audiences to come to know local public figures by posing questions created to elicit stories and reflections on their formative early life experiences.

To make a reservation, call Sean Comer at 513-713-5928 or [visit Beyond Civility](#)»

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## Air Quality Advisory

Formerly Known as Smog Alerts

The name may have changed but the goal of the new program is the same: alert people in the area about pending poor air quality and encourage a response.

The [Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency](#), in partnership with [OKI Regional Council of Governments](#), changed the name of the SMOG ALERTS program to AIR QUALITY ADVISORY on April 1. The new program aims to re-energize the public before stricter Environmental Protection Agency ozone standards go into effect this fall.



AIR QUALITY ADVISORY will bring attention to conditions expected the next day that will raise ozone levels to an “unhealthy for sensitive groups” range. If conditions are such that a pollutant will exceed an EPA established standard, the Air Quality Advisory

will issue an alert. The pollutants that are monitored include: carbon monoxide, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, ozone and lead.

The alerts are designed to encourage a variety of responses. People with respiratory conditions will

be encouraged to take precautions such as remaining indoors and avoiding excessive exertion. Those utilizing gas powered equipment such as cars and lawn mowers will be encouraged to refuel their vehicles after sundown, which reduces contributions to smog formation. Residents will be encouraged to use alternative means of transportation such as transit, bicycles and walking.

For more information and to sign up for a newsletter see [www.SouthwestOhioAir.org](http://www.SouthwestOhioAir.org)»

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## Are You Up for a Challenge?

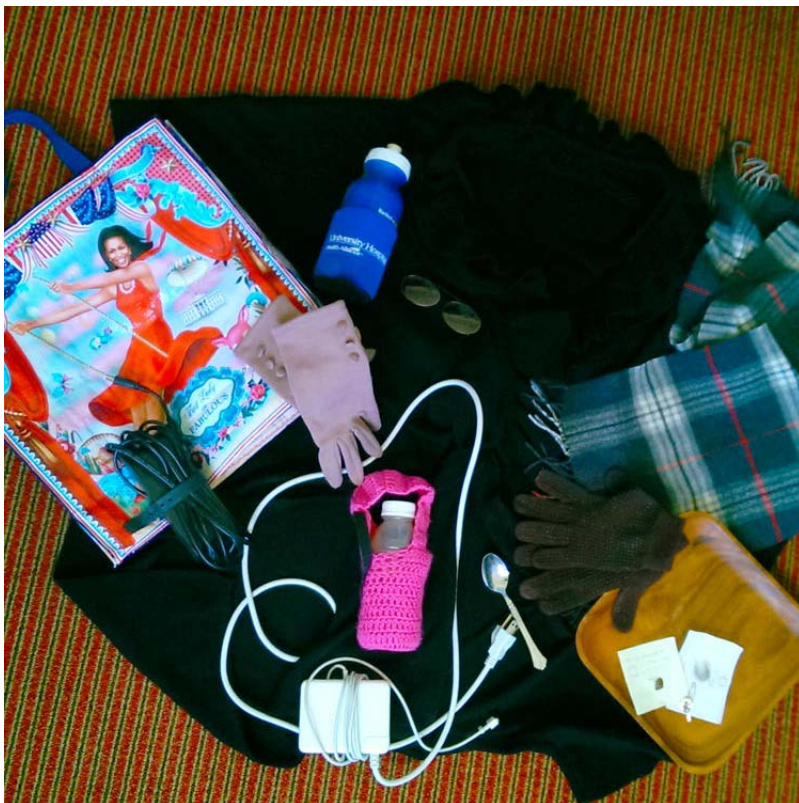
*By Mary Kay Gardner, Office Volunteer Coordinator*

Leaguers respond to a challenge or need always. And we have one! Needed are several people for the League office! We've had some retirements and have a real need for regulars and subs for the office. Hours are going to be a little more convenient for your schedules after May, and we can set the day to suit your schedule. It's three hours a day, usually one day a month.

To learn more, please contact the office [by email](#) or call 513-281-8683.

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## Lost and Found



Are you missing a lovely black knitted poncho?

Or perhaps you've lost track of your Michele Obama bag?

Have your gloves gone AWOL?

Has your power cord disappeared?

Call the LWVCA office at 513-281-8683 or [email us](#) to reclaim your belongings!

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## In Memoriam

**Gretchen Langdon**, a longtime LWVCA member, passed away on Saturday, March 21. During her many years as a member, Gretchen held numerous leadership roles for LWVCA. She was an active board member for several terms, serving as the Program Director, Health Committee Chair and as a superlative Voter Service Vice President. She was a member of the Central Evening Unit.

**Florence E. (nee Allen) Voige** passed away Sunday, April 5, 2015, at the age of 90. A member of the LWVCA since 1995, Flo, as she was known, was a long time member of the Hilltop North Unit. A visitation was held at Ascension & Holy Trinity Church (334 Burns Ave., Wyoming, OH 45215) Saturday, April 11. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the church.

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## Upcoming Events

### April 15

3:30 p.m. - Education Committee Meeting

### April 17

9:30 a.m. - Workbook I Mailing with the Central Evening Unit

12 p.m. Farewell Pizza Social for Office Manager

Becky Haltermon

### April 20

7 p.m. - Charter School Reform Forum

### April 21

6:30 p.m. - Investment Committee Meeting

### April 22

6 p.m. - Program Development Committee (PDC) Meeting

### April 23

6 p.m. - Spring Social for New Members

7:30 p.m. - Mariel Hemingway, "Running from Crazy"

### May 1

May *Electronic Voter* Deadline

For event details, please visit the [LWVCA Calendar](#)»

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Visit our LWVCA website at [lwwcincinnati.org](http://lwwcincinnati.org).

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