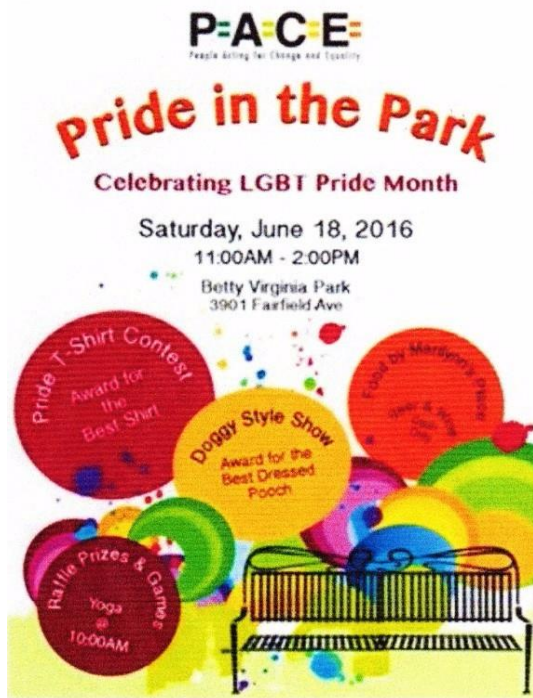




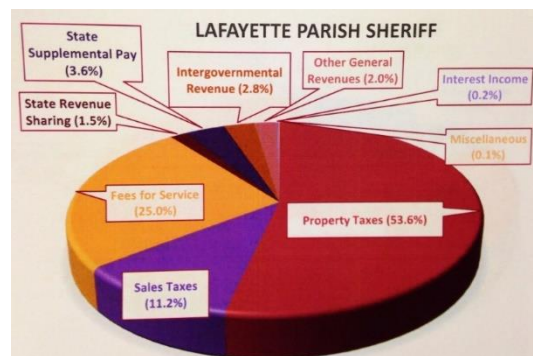
***BRIEF
LEAGUE
REPORTS***
summer 2016

LWV OF CADDO-BOSSIER



LWV C-B registered new voters at a Pride in the Park picnic celebrating LGBT Pride Month. Volunteers collected eleven voter registration forms. The political parties the new voters selected were very diverse: two Democrats, one Republican, one Green Party, one Libertarian, and six No Party. This was a good example of democracy in action.

LWV OF LAFAYETTE





Lafayette Parish ranks near the bottom in Louisiana in total millage, while it is the sixth largest parish in population. The March public round table discussion, “Talking Taxes,” was moderated by Kathleen Espinoza, LWV-Lafayette. With two-minute time limits per question, all sent in advance by the League, responses by Lafayette Parish’s ten taxing authorities were brisk and to the point. LWV-Lafayette’s study team for its long-term "Know Your Local Government" web guide project also prepared handouts of its research, including pie charts showing the percentage of parish property and sales tax in total revenues for each entity.

LWV OF NATCHITOCHEs



LWV Natchitoches held a meeting to plan future activities such as compiling a voters guide for candidates in local elections, conducting voter registration drives, and hosting public forums. LWVLA MLD Committee chair Thetis Cusimano, provided guidance for building the local league. Pictured are Cusimano and Ann Manger (front), and (back) Casey Green, LWVN resident Meg Barnum, Emily Allen, Connie Conine, and Ellen Torgrimson.

LWV OF NEW ORLEANS



Congratulations to LWVNO! It was chosen as a finalist in the LWVUS "Strengthening Democracy Award for Expanding Citizenship Projects." This nomination recognized the efforts of LWVNO volunteers, coordinated by Sue Dicharry, to register new citizens each Friday following a naturalization ceremony at the U.S. Immigration Office in New Orleans. Sue also applied for and won a \$1,000 grant from the LWVUS to help fund this program.



The LWVNO awarded its two annual \$1,000 Polly Guthrie Service Awards to graduating students selected by their universities as having contributed outstanding community service. (Left) Brett

Kemka, Dean of Student Affairs at UNO, Rosalind Cook, President of LWVNO, and UNO awardee Derreck Blake Deason. (Right) Samuel Okpechi, SUNO awardee, and Rosalind Cook.



New officers and Board of Directors members were elected at the Annual Meeting of the LWV of New Orleans. Left to right, Jessie Nieblas, vice president, Carol Billings, secretary, Pat Bedenbaugh, Board member, Rosalind Cook, president, Wendy King, Barbara LaFleur and Sue Dicharry, Board members, and Yvonne Mitchell-Grubb, treasurer.

LWV OF ST. TAMMANY



At their Annual Meeting in Mandeville, LWV of St. Tammany elected a leadership team consisting of (left, center and right) Jan Harrison, Eileen deHaro, and Kada Harris. Jan Moller, the guest speaker, reviewed Louisiana's Current Budget Status, and Linda Hawkins presented a video "Fix It" which explained the benefits of single payer insurance.

LWV OF LOUISIANA - HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE



LWVLA Healthcare Committee chair Linda Hawkins and LWVLA Board of Directors member and veteran Alfred Doucette, Jr., provided information to attendees at the Louisiana Veterans Festival in Slidell.

LWV OF LA - VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Linda Walker, chair of the LWVLA Voter Service Committee, presented the results of a League commissioned survey to the Press Club in Baton Rouge. The survey, conducted by Dr. Edward Chervenak of UNO, asked what changes in the election process might increase voter turn-out. Two out of three respondents replied they would be more likely to vote if they had more information about the candidates. The full survey report can be found at <http://lwvofla.org/>.



LWV OF US CONVENTION



The LWVLA was represented at the 2016 LWV National Convention by Rosalind Cook, Jessie Nieblas, the LWVLA Leadership Initiative Trainee, and Rosemarie Dewey. For a detailed report on what went on at the Convent see Jessie's article posted on our website <http://lwvofla.org/news/>.
