

Keeping the public informed

Awareness is League of Women Voters' task

By BONNIE MORTER
Collegian Staff Writer

"My vote won't count. Besides, I don't like any of the candidates."

These excuses are often heard from those who would rather risk being labeled politically apathetic than risk making a political choice.

Members of the League of Women Voters of the State College Area say they strive to make the politically indifferent citizen an endangered species. By conducting monthly meetings on contemporary issues and sponsoring candidate nights prior to local elections, league members say they try to breed unbiased political awareness.

"Our concern is in keeping the voting public well informed," membership Chairwoman Mary Schmidt said. "We don't take a stand for or against any party, but simply aim to get the citizen involved."

The league, active nationally since 1920 and locally since 1953, is open to male and female citizens 18 and older.

"The league would like a greater cross-section of members," Schmidt said. "We don't want all women or all middle-aged members."

What the league would like is greater representation from the University, which composes less than 5 percent of the total membership.

Although political apathy is a problem in Centre County, the percentage of active registered voters is higher than the national average.

"I would say the county averages above 50 percent turn-out," League President Betsy Vogely said.

Annual dues of \$25 entitle members to detailed information on state government issues, including what bills are being discussed and where state representatives stand on controversial issues.

In addition, members meet the second Tuesday of each month in a league member's home to study and discuss contemporary topics. The meeting is held again at noon the following day at the Hotel State College for those unable to attend the first meeting.

During the month, some of the members cover the borough council meetings and follow Centre County's committees and boards. This system helps keep the league up-to-date on continuing issues and informed of new developments, Vogely said.

Future league topics include local storm water management and hazardous waste and the latest plans for a local high technology park. League members also study issues of a broader nature, such as national security.

The group publishes a directory of government officials annually and conducts voter registration seminars.

Centre County Government Day will be sponsored by the league today.

The day will begin with the Centre County Commissioners meeting from 10 a.m. to noon at the Willowbank Building in Bellefonte.

"The meeting offers a great time for citizens to find out what decisions the Commissioners make, what services are available to county citizens and exactly where our tax money goes," Schmidt said.

Those interested in participating should gather at the Peoples National Bank in the Westery Parkway Shopping Center by 9 a.m. for car-pooling to Bellefonte.

Candidate Night, co-sponsored with the Undergraduate Student Government, will be held at the Wesley Foundation, 256 E. College Ave., Oct. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Candidates in the following races will speak: the U.S. House, 23rd District; state Senate, 34th District; state House, 7th and 11st districts. Each candidate will talk for four minutes.

"Candidates Night is the best way for citizens to decide who they want to vote for," Vogely said. "Come out and see them in person."

Future League meetings include speaker Robert B. Donaldson Jr., executive director of Centre County Planning Commission.

collegian notes

• The Society of Mineral Economists will meet at 7:30 tonight in 109 Walker.

• The Vocational Industrial Clubs of America will meet at 7:30 tonight in 201 Rackley.

• University Readers will present "I'm in Marsport without Hilda" at 7:30 tonight and tomorrow night in the HUB Assembly Room.

• Student counselors from the Office of Student Affairs will meet during sixth period today in 109 Boucke.

• The Society of Women Engineers will meet at 7 tonight in 301 HUB.

• The Middle East Cultures Club Association will meet at 7 tonight in 219 Willard.

• The Model Railroad Club will meet at 7:30 tonight in 304 Willard.

• Felix Lukacic will speak on "Multinational Corporations: Exploitation or Benefaction of the Developing Countries" at 7:30 tonight in 112 Armsby. The speech is sponsored by the local chapter of the World Agriculture Service Society.

• The student escort service, sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs, is now in operation. For an escort, call 863-2029.

• The Orthodox Christian Fellowship will hold vespers services at 7 tonight in Eisenhower Chapel. For more information call Stephanie Kundrat at 865-3083.

• Jeanne Chenuat Porter, associate professor of art history, will speak on "The Baroque Phenomenon: Searching for a Definition" at 10:30 this morning at the Museum of Art.

• A vegetarian cooking class, sponsored by Free University, will look at health considerations at 6 tonight in 282 Willard.

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police log

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• Employees of Centre Beverage, 127 N. Sparks St., told State College police that unknown persons twisted the driveshaft of one of the company's trucks in an attempt to start it. Damage to the truck is estimated at \$700 to \$800, police said.

• Gina Marino, 715 Pennypacker, told University police that a textbook was missing from the lounge on seventh floor Pennypacker Hall on Sunday. The value of the textbook was estimated at \$37, police said.

• Keith Bohn, 924 Bellaire Ave., told the State College Police Department that a car owned by Debra Moore had been damaged while it was parked outside Bohn's residence on Sunday. Damage to the hood of the car is estimated at \$50, police said.

• Cassandra Holl, 1108 Mayberry Lane, told State College police that a wallet was missing from her car parked at the Westery Parkway shopping center on Sunday. The wallet contents are valued at about \$30, police said.

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Local A&P stores close their doors

By RON CROW
Collegian Staff Writer

The local A&P stores have closed their doors for the last time.

The Phillipsburg and both State College stores closed Friday and the Bellefonte store closed Thursday.

All four stores ran "50 percent off" sales last week in an effort to clear their shelves. The stores were scheduled to close Sept. 13, but remained open on a day-to-day basis last week.

A&P officials could not be reached regarding their plans for the empty stores. Richard Pasewark, director of advertising for Giant Foods Inc. of Carlisle, said earlier this month that Giant is actively looking for a store site in this area.

A&P decided to close 40 of 66 stores in its Altoona division, including the four Centre County stores, after members of Local 590 of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union voted 305 to 270 to reject contract concessions Aug. 18.

A&P employees tried to get a revote on the contract concessions, but the union would not grant a revote.

Helen Levchik of Johnston filed a charge against the union for not scheduling a revote on the contract concessions.

"We'll make another attempt to contact USG, but we'll appoint the rest of the committee at our October board meeting — whether USG is ready or not," Miller said.

CATA has been waiting for a nominee from USG since Summer Term, Miller said.

The nine-member advisory committee will consist of an on-campus student, an off-campus student, a representative from the handicapped community, a senior citizen representative and several riders-at-large.

In other action, the board instructed CATA Managing Director Paul Oversier to notify the Neoplan USA Corp. of a change in CATA's order for 12 new buses.

CATA now wants 10 40-foot buses and two 35-foot buses instead of the eight 40-foot buses and four 35-foot buses it originally ordered. The bigger buses provide more seats and standing room.

Sabbaticals shortened under semesters

By RON CROW
Collegian Staff Writer

When the University changes to semesters next fall, faculty members who go on sabbatical leave will have to serve only one year of post-sabbatical work after returning to the University instead of two, which is the current policy.

James R. Dungan, secretary of the Calendar Conversion Council, said the sabbatical policies of most universities are similar to the one requiring only one year of post-sabbatical work.

"Everyone urged the passage of the new sabbatical policy because it brings us more in line with what other universities do," Dungan said. "Also, the word 'term' in the policy will have no meaning under the semester system."

Faculty contracts will only be offered for 36 or 48 weeks. Previously, faculty members could have contracts for 36 or 48 weeks or anything in between.

"Most faculty members are hired on either the 36 or 48 week contract anyway," Dungan said. "In the future, though, anyone with a different contract will have their negotiated separately each year."

The contract policy also includes seven statements that should be included in a letter offering a position to a candidate.

"In most cases, these were already in the letter of offer," Dungan said. "It was a sort of gentleman's agreement before; now it is clearer and simpler."

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