



## Music to Sweeten Lang House Fund Raiser

By **IVONNE ROVIRA**

Melvin Dickinson, longtime conductor of the Louisville Bach Society, will host a delightful afternoon of music as a fundraiser for Lang House, home of the League of Women Voters of Louisville.

The fund raiser had originally been slated for last September, but had to be rescheduled when the host fell ill.

The new date will **Feb. 26 at 3 p.m.** The musical event will be at the **Louisville Bach Haus, 4607 Hanford Lane.**

The suggested contribution for the 90-minute event is \$50. Wine and cheese will be served.



Longtime Louisville Bach Society director Melvin Dickinson conducts the orchestra in an undated photo. The orchestra usually numbered 60 to 70.

Photo, used with the permission of the Louisville Bach Society

Nationally renowned teen cellist Anne Richardson will play, both singly and in a cello quartet. Dickinson's wife, Margaret, herself a noted musician in her own right, will also perform, playing on a custom-built

organ.

Richardson is a "child prodigy that's making quite a name for herself nationally," Melvin Dickinson said.

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## Tell Frankfort: 'Justice Is Not for Sale!'

By **GARY DREHMEL**

Come join the coalition to establish Clean Elections for Kentucky judges.

Recent court decisions have removed any restrictions on contributions to judges. Because of that, judges are now quite vulnerable to undue influence from big campaign contributors and will have to waste valuable time raising mind-boggling amounts of money in or-

der to match fund raising from campaigns controlled by Big Money. Maintaining the impartiality of the judiciary is an important action for the state League this year.

The League will need at **least four members** to lobby at the State Capitol on the following dates:

**Tuesday, Jan. 10;**

**Wednesday, Jan. 18;**

**Tuesday, Jan. 24;**

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- *Important General Meeting on Monday, Jan. 9, from 5:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.*
- *The Kentucky League of Women Voters has authorized a study on the juvenile drug court program.*
- *See more information on p. 2.*

## LWV Members to Decide on Juvenile Drug Court Program

By BEVERLY MOORE

League delegates at the 2011 state League of Women Voters meeting authorized a state study looking into the juvenile drug court program.

League members will have the opportunity to make a decision on this important matter at the General Meeting on **Jan. 9 at Lang House**.

Until 2010, the program was being implemented in 20 Kentucky counties; at that time, a budget shortfall ended the program. Now that the state is recovering financially, it is important to reconsider funding priorities.

The state study seeks to determine the success of previous juvenile drug programs and whether they should be a funding priority for the next two years. The study will also reveal the various ways in which the growing juvenile drug problems are being addressed throughout the state.

### General Meeting

Monday, Jan. 9

5:45 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

The first step will be a local survey concerning juvenile drug court in Jefferson County.

Then, the consensus questions to be

considered are

1. In your county, or others surveyed, are the best practices for confronting juvenile drug abuse being followed?
2. Do you think the state government has a responsibility to help local governments fight early drug abuse by funding juvenile drug programs?

## Bach Haus Fund Raiser for Lang House

**Continued from p. 1**

Richardson is a ninth-grader at St. Francis High School. Despite her youth, she has appeared on NPR's "From the Top," which features the nation's best youthful classical musicians.

All contributions are appreciated.

Seating is limited, so call now for reservations!

For more information, contact Susan Baker at 895-4319 or Lang House at 895-4218.

## *Pre-filed Bill Would Provide Clean Elections for Kentucky's Judges*

**Continued from p. 1**

**Wednesday, Feb. 1; Tuesday, Feb. 7; Wednesday, Feb. 15; Tuesday, Feb. 21, and Wednesday, Feb. 28.**

Contact Gary Drehmel at gdrehmel@aol.com for more information. Those who can't make it to Frankfort should contact their state legislators to ask them to co-sponsor or support the Judicial Election Bill, BR 211, sponsored by state Rep. Jim Wayne. Just call (800) 372-7181 and leave a message for your state representative and senator.

The American Bar Association's Commission on Public Financing recommends that states offer public

financing for contested judicial elections. Such a move protects the impartiality of the judiciary, which has fallen into question in some states due to expensive judicial races funded by special interests. In return for public financing, judicial candidates would agree to sensible spending limits. The Kentucky Supreme Court could levy each member of the Kentucky Bar Association to pay \$25 to fund Clean Elections for judges. In addition, citizens could designate donations on their state income tax returns. A state budget appropriation would be allowed, although it is not required.

BR 211 has been endorsed by the



Kentucky League of Women Voters; the National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section; Common Cause/Kentucky, and the Kentucky State AFL-CIO.

## League to Study Privatization of Gov't Services

By BEVERLY MOORE

When government services are transferred into private hands, what then becomes of the public's right of access to information regarding the provisions of those services?

The League is seeking members to read the national LWV materials, summarize information for the Louisville League and, if desirable, set up meetings to inform members of the study in May 2012. Please volunteer if you can find a little time to work on this project. We have the opportunity to influence the direction of the country on this important issue.

The purpose of this study is to identify those parameters and policy issues to be considered in connection with proposals to transfer federal, state or local government services, assets and/or functions to the private sector. It will review the stated goals and the community impact of such transfers, and identify strategies to ensure transparency, accountability and preservation of the common good.

## Commemoration

In memory of Mary Elizabeth Baker: Elizabeth and M. Harmon Leeke

In memory of Joy Bale Boone: Karl Bottigheimer

In memory of Katherine Bottigheimer: Karl Bottigheimer

In memory of Katie Miller Kamin: Barbara Cambron

In memory of Elsie Ahrens Lang: Karl Bottigheimer, Helen Lang, the PEO Sisterhood

In memory of Jane LaPin: Ruth R. Dietrich, Deirdre LaPin

In memory of Blanche Mahoney: William Mahoney

In memory of Nell McGlothlin: Beverly Moore

In memory of Shirley Major: Filomena Farley

In memory of Beverly Rosenblum: Beverly Moore

In memory of Karolyn Simons: Steven Block, Karl Bottigheimer

In honor of Katy Christopherson: Karl Bottigheimer, Walter Christopherson, Jane and Bert Emke

In honor of Teena Halbig: Dolores Delahanty

In honor of Dot Ridings: Jane and Bert Emke

In honor of Fran Wagner: Carol Fust, Pat Murrell, Kathleen Reno

In honor of Marsha Weinstein: Jan Phillips

The proposed timeline for the actions related to this study are to provide information to local and state Leagues by May 2012.

## Schuster to Update on Upcoming Health Care Bills

By BEVERLY MOORE

Psychologist Sheila Schuster, the Federal Advocacy Coordinator and Legislative Liaison for the Kentucky Psychological Association, will address the Dinner & Democracy general membership meeting on **Monday, Jan. 30**. Her topic will be action on health care in the Kentucky Legislature.

Dr. Schuster, who is also the executive director of the Advocacy Action Network, will provide an update on developments on health care

expected when the General Assembly meets this month.

The Advocacy Action Network is an umbrella group that includes the Kentucky Mental Health Coalition, the Medicaid Consortium, and the United 874K Disabilities Coalition.

Dinner at the Jan. 30 meeting will be served at 5:15 p.m., and the program will begin at 6 p.m. Please RSVP for the dinner at 895-5218 or at [info@lwvlouisville.org](mailto:info@lwvlouisville.org).





## The Voter

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*The League of Women  
Voters of Louisville is one  
of the oldest Leagues in  
country, created in 1920,  
the same year as the  
League of Women Voters  
of the United States!*

**We're on the Web!**

[www.LWVLouisville.org](http://www.LWVLouisville.org)

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## Calendar

**Monday, Jan. 9, 5:45 p.m.:**  
General Membership consensus meeting on juvenile drug court program. **Lang House.**

**Thursday, Jan. 19, noon:** Unit Meeting on Juvenile Drug Court. **University Club.**

**Monday, Jan. 30, 5:15 p.m.:**  
Dinner & Democracy, Dr. Sheila Schuster, executive director of the Advocacy Action Network, will provide an update on developments on health care expected during the General Assembly. **Lang House.**

**Wednesday, Feb. 8, 10 a.m.:**  
LWV Orientation and Program Planning Unit Meeting. **Lang House.**

**Monday, Feb. 13, 6 p.m.:** LWV Orientation and Program Planning Unit Meeting. **Lang House.**

**Thursday, Feb. 16, noon:**  
LWV Orientation and Program Planning Unit Meeting. **University Club.**

**Sunday, Feb. 26, 3 p.m.:** Musical fund raiser for Lang House. **Louisville Bach Haus, 4607 Hanford Lane.** Cello prodigy Anne Richardson, featured.

**Thursday, March 22, noon:**  
Unit Meeting. **University Club.**

**Monday, March 19, 5:15 p.m.:**  
Dinner & Democracy, Jefferson County Public Schools' alternative schools. **Lang House.**