



League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area

For Immediate Release
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Vote Centers - Two Events Set to Inform Public

Two events are planned to provide information and promote public discussion about the proposed implementation of vote centers in St. Joseph County. Authorized by the Indiana General Assembly in 2011, vote centers would replace existing precinct polling places with an estimated 25 vote centers across St. Joseph County as early as the November election.

Commissioner Andy Kostielney of the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners will speak and answer questions at the April Lunch with the League on Friday, April 13, 12:00 noon, at the South Bend Chocolate Café, 122 S. Michigan, South Bend. The event, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area, is free and open to the public. Those wishing to order lunch from the menu should arrive at 11:30am.

On Tuesday, April 17, 2012, 6:00-7:30pm, a Public Forum on Vote Centers will take place at the St. Joseph County Public Library, Colfax Auditorium, 304 S. Main Street, South Bend. The forum will provide information about how other Indiana counties have implemented vote centers, what is proposed for St. Joseph County, and some of the advantages and disadvantages of vote centers for voters and the election process. Participants will have an opportunity to express opinions about the proposed vote centers.

Speakers will include Betty Doversberger, a member of the State Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Indiana and the former Chancellor of Ivy Tech in Lafayette; Terri Rethlake, St. Joseph County Clerk and County Elections' Officer; and Robert E. Smith, Chairperson of the Michiana Voting Coalition and Chairman of the Board of the Martin Luther King Jr. Senior Men's Club.

Sponsors of the event include the Community Forum for Economic Development, the League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area, the North Central Indiana Central Labor Council and the Michiana Voting Coalition. This program is free and open to the public.

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