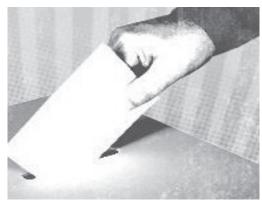


The Vigil

ACLU-TN Launches Voter Empowerment Campaign For November Election



In preparation for the November 4th election. ACLU-TN has launched its statewide "Let People Vote" campaign to provide Tennesseans with the information and tools they need to exercise their voting rights.

The campaign includes an online voting rights

resource center, participation in public education events, and statewide distribution of educational materials on topics such as getting ready to vote, Tennessee's photo ID law, re-enfranchisement for people with felony convictions, your rights at the polls and more.

These free documents can be ordered or downloaded at the campaign's online resource center at http://bit.ly/y8BA9Y.

On Tuesday, November 4, 2014, Tennesseans will vote on Amendment 1, a constitutional amendment intended to ultimately make abortion illegal or unavailable in Tennessee.

ACLU-TN is joining with our statewide partners to mount an aggressive public awareness campaign about Amendment 1's alarming realities. Politicians should not be involved in a woman's personal medical decision about her pregnancy, and woman in Tennessee should have options when making



decisions about her reproductive health care.

Want to learn more about the dangers of **Amendment One?** Visit www.voteno1.org to find out how you can protect reproductive freedom in Tennessee.

Clergy Discuss Dangers of Amendment 1

The Tennessee Reproductive Justice *Network (TRJN) is a statewide group* of clergy, organized by ACLU-TN, who support access to comprehensive reproductive health care. Members come from across the religious spectrum, including the Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopalian, Disciples of Christ, Congregational, African Methodist Episcopalian, Corinthian, Reform Jewish, United Church of Christ, Unitarian and First Congregational denominations.

The following is adapted from an oped by TRJN member the Rev. Laura Bogle of Maryville, which appeared in the Knoxville News Sentinel. To read

more op-eds by TRJN members or to join TRJN, visit http://www. aclu-tn.org/ TR.JN.html.



As a minister I am privileged to walk

with people through all aspects of life, from birth to death, through joyful times and the most painful times. All of life is sacred, and it is full of making difficult ethical decisions, including whether to end an unintended pregnancy.

If Tennessee voters approve Amendment 1 in November, it would remove women's privacy rights, giving carte blanche to legislators hoping to pass burdensome restrictions to safe, legal and accessible abortion services.

Almost half of all pregnancies in Continued on p.2

From the Executive Director...

Hedy Weinberg

If we are fortunate, we have family, friends, and colleagues in our lives who inspire and challenge us. I was fortunate to have two such wonderful colleagues and friends—John Seigenthaler and George Barrett—who were sources of inspiration and insight to me until their deaths this summer.

Both men-passionate champions of civil liberties and civil rights-fiercely defended our constitutional freedoms for over five decades and both received ACLU-TN Lifetime Achievement awards for their work.



George Barrett (left) with John Seigenthaler (center) and friends at ACLU-TN's 2013 Bill of Rights Celebration. Photo courtesy of Michael W. Bunch, NFocus Magazine.

John, the highly acclaimed "newspaperman" who promoted probing investigative journalism on the civil rights movement and race relations was a long-time member of the national ACLU Advisory Council. He was also the moral conscience of our community, ensuring that those without a voice had their stories told—from the Freedom Riders to those on death row.

George, the nationally-recognized labor and civil rights attorney, represented the marginalized and disenfranchised, and was an ACLU cooperating attorney long before we had an attorney on staff. Most recently, he sought to ensure access to the ballot box by challenging Tennessee's photo ID law. Although he lost this case, he remained undaunted in his pursuit of the franchise for all citizens.

Both men dedicated their lives to translating the promises of the Bill of Rights into a living reality for everyday Tennesseans, strategically advocating on a range of issues, from religious freedom to freedom of speech, from fair treatment of immigrants to abolition of the death penalty.

I will miss our conversations and their insights, but they have passed the baton on to the next generation of activists pursuing fairness and justice in our increasingly diverse society. Their voices will continue to inspire and show the way.

Continued from p.1 the United States are unintended. My support for a woman's right to choose from a range of reproductive health options, including abortion, stems from my faith's fundamental affirmation of the worth and dignity of every person. Women can and should be trusted to make deeply personal and important moral decisions about their lives and their bodies. Because life is so sacred, bringing a child into the world should be under free, intentional and thoughtful conditions.

Around the country, abortion restrictions in the past year included forced ultrasounds; bans on abortion after 6, 12 and 20 weeks; bans on abortion coverage in comprehensive health care policies; requirements that doctors have hospital privileges to perform abortions; a 72-hour waiting period; and restricted days for abortion services.

Amendment 1 would move Tennessee one step closer to taking away a woman's right to access safe and legal reproductive health care, without exceptions for victims of rape or incest, or for the health of the pregnant woman.

Though the language of the ballot initiative is vague and misleading, the intention is clear: to ultimately make abortion illegal or unavailable in Tennessee. The vote in November will determine if women have the right to make private medical decisions. If it passes, further legislative restrictions moving towards the closure of clinics are sure to follow.

Forty-one years after Roe v. Wade, instead of infringing on our fellow citizens' private decisions, let us work together to make sure that all people have access to the information, resources and health care they need to lead healthy, whole and responsible lives.



Tom Negri, Recipient c Bill of R

Keynote Address By

Van Jones. Author and President of Rebuild the Dream

Thursday, No

6:30 P.N Montgomery Bell Academy

I/WE WANT TO SPONSOR THE

SPECIAL SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

All sponsor levels include invitations to a special Patron Party on October 30, 20 GUARDIAN OF LIBERTY (\$2,500 - includes invitation to pre-celebration VIP reception with Van Jones, table for ten and event program listing) CONSTITUTIONAL CHAMPION (\$1,200 - includes invitation to pre-celeb VIP reception with Van Jones, two dinner tickets and event program listic FRIEND OF FREEDOM (\$600 - includes two dinner tickets and event program listing)

BILL OF RIGHTS CELEBRATION TICKETS

Please note desired quantity below:

DINNER TICKETS (\$125 per person) ____ TABLE FOR TEN (\$1,250 per table) ____

\$85 of each reservation or \$850 per table is tax-deductible. Individual dinner tickets purchased after November 12, 2014 are \$150.

PLEASE RSVP BY SENDING THIS CARD TO ACLU-TN, P.O. BOX 120160, NASHVILLE, TN 37212 OR ONLINE AT HTTP://BIT.LY/BORC2014 BY WED, OCT. 22, 2014.

	Please join us for
	ACLU-TN's 2014
K	BILL OF RIGHTS CELERRATION
Hono	ring
Recipient of tl Bill of Rigł	he Benjamin S. Pressnell hts Award
By	Special Performance By
resident of m	Jonell Mosser, Renowned Recording Artist
sday, November 20, 2014 6:30 P.M 9:00 P.M. Il Academy, 4001 Harding Pike, Nashville	
VELS	14 BILL OF RIGHTS CELEBRATION!
Party on October 30, 2014: ation to pre-celebration	Name(s):
nt program listing) invitation to pre-celebration nd event program listing)	Please list me/us in program: as written as anonymous Address:
her tickets and event	Phone:
TICKETS ow:	Email:
N (\$1,250 per table) tax-deductible. per 12, 2014 are \$150.	Exp: Security Code: I cannot attend; please accept my tax-deductible gift of \$

Why Ferguson is **Any City, USA**

The killing of Michael Brown, an unarmed African-American 18-year-old by a white police officer in Ferguson, MO last month threw the racial inequalities in our criminal justice system into stark relief. Then, the excessive military force used by the predominately white local police on the largely African-American community further highlighted the



sobering realities of racial strife.

ACLU has been working on the ground in Ferguson and across the country to compel law enforcement to be more transparent, to protect the public and the media's ability to videotape police and to protest, to ban racial profiling, to urge police to use body cameras while properly respecting the right to due process and privacy, and to demilitarize local law enforcement (see ACLU's report "War Comes Home" here: http://bit.ly/1ooStVf).

ACLU will continue to advocate for racial justice in communities like Ferguson, in Tennessee and nationwide.

Marriage Equality Goes Before the 6th Circuit

On August 6, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit heard oral arguments in six marriage equality lawsuits from



Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan, including Tennessee's Tanco v. Haslam. ACLU directly represented parties in one of the Ohio cases and filed amicus briefs in the Tennessee, Kentucky, and Michigan cases, arguing

that laws that discriminate based on sexual orientation should be subjected to a higher level of scrutiny.

ACLU National LGBT Project director James Esseks and staff attorney Chase Strangio joined ACLU-TN legal director Thomas H. Castelli in Nashville for a moot court to prepare lawyers from Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio for oral arguments.

Since the Supreme Court issued its historic opinion striking down the Defense of Marriage Act last year, 34 federal, district and state courts have issued decisions supporting the freedom to marry in states across the country. Three other courts of appeals, the 10th, 7th and 4th Circuits, have already upheld district court decisions in favor of marriage.

There are currently five marriage equality cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Court is considering whether or not to take up marriage equality in the coming term.

One Step Forward, Two Steps Back?

While marriage equality for Tennessee may be advancing in the courts, two other efforts to advance LGBT equality in Tennessee suffered setbacks.

The city of Chattanooga voted to overturn its non-discrimination and partner benefits ordinance, stripping city employees and their families of protections in the workplace. The loss came despite the efforts of the "YES! Chattanooga" campaign, a coalition of state and nationwide organizations, including ACLU-TN, working to mobilize voters for the August 7th primary. Just a few weeks later, the Shelby County Commission failed to approve a similar nondiscrimination ordinance for its county workers.



Despite these setbacks, ACLU-TN and its coalition partners are determined to keep fighting to advance equality for LGBT people and their families in Tennessee.

The School-To-Prison Pipeline: A Community Conversation

This September, nearly a hundred community activists, policymakers, students and educators joined ACLU-TN for "Betraying Brown: How the School-to-Prison Pipeline Denies Opportunity to Children of Color." The "school-to-prison pipeline," refers to the policies and practices that push schoolchildren out of classrooms and into the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

The dialogue, led by ACLU National Racial Justice Project director Dennis Parker, explored the reasons for the pipeline's rising presence in American schools and its impact on students.



"There is a central guestion of 'value' when we discuss the school-toprison pipeline: how much do we value each

ACLU National Racial Justice Project director Dennis Parker leads the community discussion on the school-to-prison pipeline.

of our individual students, regardless of their race or ethnicity or their income level? And until we address that question, we will continue to deal with these problems," Parker said.

Parker described ACLU's work to combat the school-to-prison pipeline and racial bias in the criminal justice system. Please join our e-alert list for more information on how you can be a part of this effort: http://bit.ly/ACLU-TNAlerts.

Protect Your Privacy and Your Family's Safety

ACLU-TN is seeking plaintiffs to challenge two

dangerous laws that went into effect in Tennessee this summer. The first requires some TANF applicants to submit to bodily fluid searches without probable cause, while the other singles out new mothers struggling with addiction for criminal assault charges, a violation of equal treatment under the law.

We urge anyone concerned about the impact either law will have on them or their families to contact us at www.aclu-tn.org/ gethelp.htm.

ACLU-TN continued to protect the First Amendment rights of Occupy Nashville protesters this summer, arguing before the 6th Circuit as two Tennessee officials appealed last summer's federal court ruling that they violated the protesters' rights in October 2011.

weeks.

Oral arguments for the appeal were heard on

ACLU-TN Asks U.S. District Court to Uphold 4th Amendment

Several years after initially filing Nunez Escobar, et. al., v. Gaines, et. al., ACLU recently argued before the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee to protect the Fourth Amendment rights of 14 plaintiffs, including a child. The plaintiffs' rights were violated in a large-scale, warrantless immigration raid on a predominantly Latino apartment complex in Nashville in 2011. During the raid, ICE agents knocked in the front door of one apartment and shattered a window, shouting racial slurs and storming into bedrooms, holding guns to some people's heads.

The Fourth Amendment strictly prohibits warrantless intrusions into private homes and the Constitution's protections apply to both citizens and non-citizens alike. In the absence of a judicially-authorized warrant, Continued on p. 6

Tennesseans' Free Speech is Back in Court

ACLU-TN filed the lawsuit Occupy Nashville et. al., v. Haslam et. al after the State of Tennessee met in secret and revised the rules for engaging in assembly activity on Legislative Plaza, including implementing a curfew and requiring \$1,000,000 in liability insurance for protestors. The



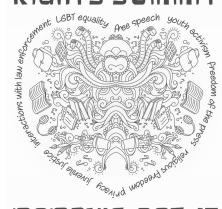
state then arrested the Occupy Nashville demonstrators under the new rules. Prior to their arrests, the demonstrators had been gathered at Legislative Plaza in downtown Nashville to peacefully express their frustration with the government for a couple of

Continued on p. 6



P.O. Box 120160 Nashville, TN 37212 NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID NASHVILLE, TN PERMIT NO. 3169





Save the Date:

Your Rights, Your World: Students' Rights Summit

Memphis Oct 17

Friday, October 17th Memphis For more information, visit: http://bit.ly/srsgkyc14

Escobar, continued from p.5

there must be voluntary and knowing consent; ICE officers forcing themselves into someone's home does not constitute consent.

Federal District Court Judge Todd J. Campbell denied motions for summary judgment and the case is currently scheduled to go to trial in December.

Occupy, continued from p. 5

August 25 and we are now waiting on a decision.

ACLU-TN trusts that the 6th Circuit will recognize that the state cannot just arbitrarily limit free speech and will safeguard the essential guarantees of the First Amendment for Tennesseans.