

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS\*  
OF THE AKRON AREA  
**THE AKRON VOTER**  
*Newsletter for LWVAA Members and Supporters*

February, 2020

Check your email for opportunities to register voters by February 18!

**PRIMARY ELECTION FORUM**

Meet the Candidates in Competitive\* Primary Races for:

**U.S. Congress - Districts 11, 13, 14 & 16**

**State Representative - District 36**

**Summit County Sheriff**

**Summit County Council - District 5**

**Domestic Relations Judge**

for the March 17, 2020 Primary Election

\* The forum will cover only those races where there is more than one candidate from either party seeking nomination to run in the November General Election.

**When: Wednesday, February 26, 2020**

**Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Where: Akron-Summit County Public Library  
60 South High Street, Akron**

**Moderator: Karen Leith, Ph.D., LWV of Ohio Board Member  
and Past President, LWV Hudson**

**A Non-Partisan Informational Event, Free & Open to the Public**

There has been much focus on the U.S. Presidential Primary, but we have important state and county-level races where multiple candidates are seeking your vote as well. This forum is your opportunity to learn about the candidates in person.

Sponsored by:



Co-sponsored by:



Learn more by visiting [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) for a customized voters guide





**LWVAA**

## **Upcoming Events**

**February 10,  
2020**

**All Member Book  
Club**

6:00 p.m.  
Pub Bricco, 1841  
Merriman Road,  
Akron

***American Women's  
History: A Very  
Short Introduction,*  
by Susan Ware,  
2015**

Enjoy a glass of wine and discuss the richly diverse experiences of American women as they were shaped by factors such as race, class, religion, geographical location, age, and sexual orientation.

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## **A Message From the President**

Dear Members,

There's a Primary Election coming to your polling place on March 17. In addition to voting on Presidential candidates that you've heard so much about, we have four, yes that's four U.S. Congressional primary races here in Summit County.

Currently there are about 700,000 people in a U.S. Congressional district; Summit County has about 550,000 people. So why are Summit County residents represented by four different U.S. representatives? That can be answered in one word: Gerrymandering.

The net effect of this meticulous carving up is that Summit County residents have become forgotten segments of our representatives' constituencies.

On February 26, LWVAA in collaboration with LWV Hudson and our co-sponsors will be hosting a Primary Candidate forum where you can hear from candidates in competitive races vying for their party's nomination.

That includes Summit County's U.S. Congressional districts, the 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (see if you can find them on the map) where there are several candidates competing against incumbents for these seats. We hope to meet them.

Candidates running for Ohio's legislature are also very important: Winners of those races in November will be charged with re-drawing our US Congressional and Statehouse districts.



**Women Power the Vote Day of Action**

**Check your email for the Sign Up Genius to volunteer!**

**February 5: Stark State**

**February 5: University of Akron**

Our organization is rooted in a 100-year history of fighting to strengthen our democracy, and we will demonstrate our continued power through a coordinated Day of Action.

[Click here](#) for more details on events around the U.S.

LWVAA is hosting two Day of Action events to register voters, check voting status, and sign up to volunteer.

Join us February 5! Click [here](#) for Stark State and click [here](#) for University of Akron.

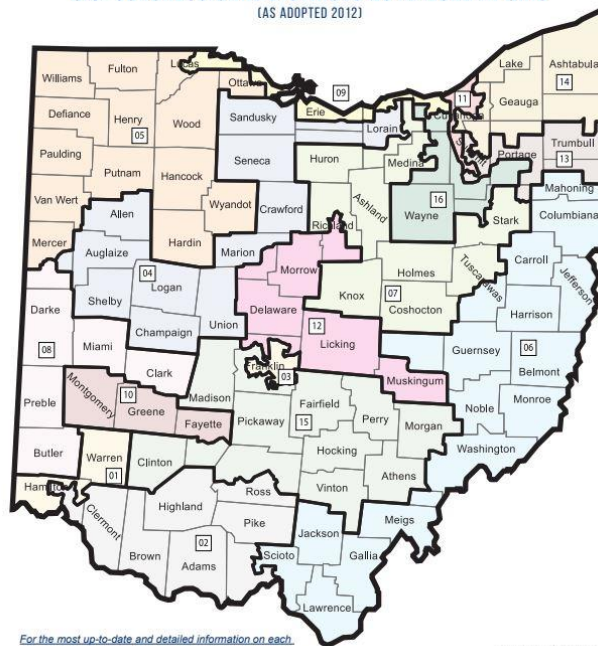
**February 18, 2020**

**Ohio Voter Registration Deadline for the Primary Election**

**FRANK LAROSE**  
Ohio Secretary of State



**U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS 2012-2022 IN OHIO**  
(AS ADOPTED 2012)



*For the most up-to-date and detailed information on each district, please contact the local county board of elections.*

Last Revised 02/2018

[Link to map](#) (opens a PDF)

Need more candidate information? Go to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) beginning February 19 to obtain a personalized ballot of candidates and issues based on your address. There you'll find candidate background information and responses to our questions that reflect candidate's positions on issues facing our community.

Look for ads promoting [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) circulating on Metro RTA buses beginning February 17. Your contributions to the LWVAA Education Fund helped make this happen. Many thanks!

Be informed. Vote Informed.

Jackie Derrow, LWVAA President

Click [here](#) to register to vote, check your registration status, or change your address

## February 19, 2020

### Early Voting Begins for the Primary Election

Click [here](#) for details on hours and location

## February 26, 2020

### 2020 Primary Election Forum

5:00 - 7:30 p.m..

Akron-Summit County Public Library Auditorium, 60 S High St, Akron, Ohio

Moderator: Karen Leith, Ph.D., LWV Ohio Board Member

There has been much focus on the U.S. Presidential Primary, but we also have important state and county races.

This forum is an opportunity to learn about the candidates in person.

Co-sponsored by LWV Hudson, Alpha Kappa

## Educational Event

# Fair Courts 101

Why do judges consistently receive low vote totals in local elections? Perhaps it's because most of us don't have a good understanding of the Ohio court system and how the courts impact our daily lives.

**When:** Monday, March 9, 2020  
**Time:** 6 PM in Room 2AB  
**Where:** Akron-Summit County Public Library  
60 South High Street, Akron

**Presenter:** Catherine Turcer, Executive Director, Common Cause Ohio  
**Facilitator:** Liz King, LWVAA

## Nonpartisan, Free and Open to the Public

Join us to discuss how Ohio's courts work and the opportunities within the courts that could lead to better outcomes for individuals and the community overall.

**Sponsored By:**



**Primary Election Date is March 17th.**  
Learn more by visiting [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org) for a customized Voters Guide



## March 9 Fair Courts 101

Confused about the Ohio Court System and your local Courts?

Do you want to learn how our Courts impact us on a daily basis?

Let's discuss the challenges and opportunities facing Ohio's Justice System.

Join us for a presentation by Common Cause of Ohio Executive Director Catherine Turcer, facilitated by LWVAA Board Member Liz King.

March 9, 2020 at 6:00PM at the Main Branch of the Akron-Summit County Public Library, Room 2 AB across from the auditorium

Alpha Sorority, Inc.,  
Zeta Theta Omega  
Chapter; Akron NAACP;  
and the Akron Alumnae  
Chapter of Delta Sigma  
Theta Sorority, Inc.

**March 9, 2020**

**Fair Courts 101**

6:00 p.m..

Akron-Summit County  
Public Library, Room  
2 AB Akron, Ohio

Discuss challenges  
and opportunities  
facing Ohio's Justice  
System

Common Cause of  
Ohio Executive  
Director Catherine  
Turcer will present

**March 17, 2020**

**Summit County  
Primary Election**

Polls open 6:30a.m -  
7:30p.m.

Click [here](#) to stay  
updated

Get your personalized  
candidate information  
at VOTE411.ORG



Nonpartisan, free, and open to the public.

## New LWV Ohio website

LWV Ohio has launched a new and more user-friendly website. [Click here](#) to see what's new and different!

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## 2020 Key Election Dates

Submitted by Jessie Coffey, LWVAA  
Communications

2020 is such a big election year, both in Ohio and nationally. With an early primary election, and thousands of voters purged, it's important to be informed about where and when to vote.

LWV Ohio has centralized all of the dates you need to know to register, vote early, vote absentee, and more. Check it out [here!](#)

Make sure you [confirm your registration](#) in advance, especially if you moved or haven't voted recently.

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## Observer Corps Training

Submitted by Jodie DeLamatre

LWVAA and LWV Hudson will host Observer Corps Training on April 1 at the Akron-Summit Public Library. It will be led by Pat Simons of the LWV Hudson.

Training will focus on the role of the Observer Corps to ensure transparency, i.e., "sunshine laws" are followed in public meetings including County Council, City Council, school and library boards,

## April 1, 2020

### Observer Corps Training

6:00 p.m..

Akron-Summit County  
Public Library Akron,  
Ohio

Led by Pat Simons,  
LWV Hudson

etc. Training will include a process to observe how issues are being addressed, whether proper notice is given before issues are discussed and voted on, whether public input is solicited and whether open meeting laws are followed.

Sending members to public meetings is an important component of the League's mission. Please consider joining the Observer Corps and attending this rarely offered training. Current Observer Corps members are also encouraged to attend.

## April 25, 2020

### LWVAA Benefit Concert

6:00p.m - 8:00p.m.

Quirk Cultural Center,  
1201 Grant Ave,  
Cuyahoga Falls

Four Shillings Short  
Celtic, Folk, and  
World Music

All proceeds go to  
LWVAA

[Click here](#) to learn  
more

### LWVAA Board Meetings

February	6
March	5
April	2
May 7	

6:30-8:00 p.m.

1250 W. Exchange  
St., Akron, Ohio



**WHY: THE 2020 CENSUS WILL DETERMINE HOW \$675 BILLION IS SPENT TO SUPPORT YOUR STATE, COUNTY, AND COMMUNITY'S PROGRAMS**

**WHO: EVERYONE IS COUNTED**

**WHAT: 2020 CENSUS**

**WHEN: APRIL 1, 2020**

**WHERE: ONLINE, BY PHONE, BY MAIL**

**IMPORTANT: YOUR CENSUS RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL**

*For more information, please visit*

**web: 2020census.gov**

**email: 2020census@summitoh.net**

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## Legislative Updates

Submitted by Jackie Derrow

### **EdChoice, 1/28/2020, Innovation Ohio and 1/25/2020, LWVO.**

The Statehouse is racing against the clock to arrive at an EdChoice program fix. Changes in state law have caused the number of Ohio school districts affected by the expansion of the EdChoice voucher program to explode, and local school districts have been left scrambling trying to figure out how to pick up the tab.

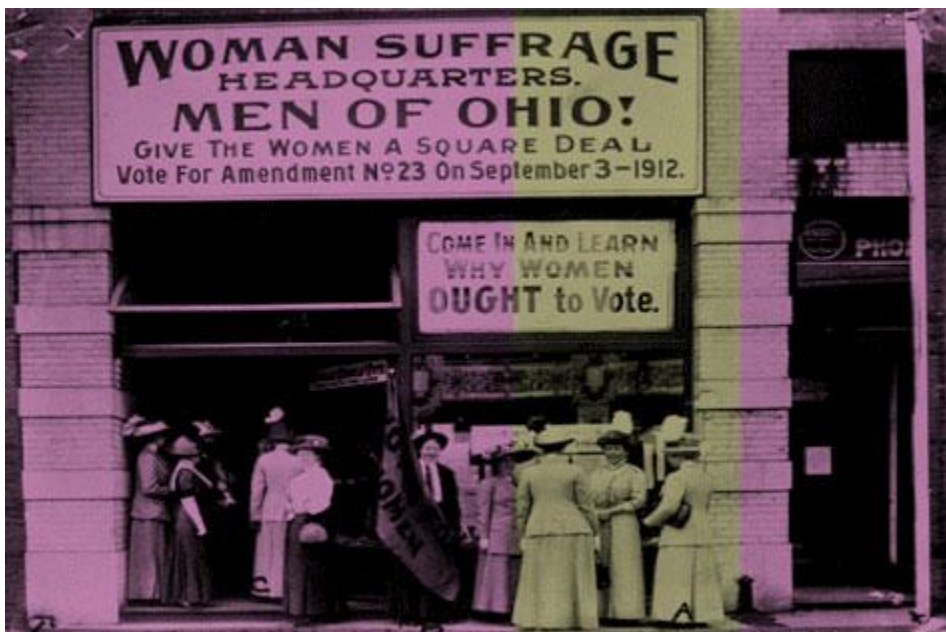
The unrestricted growth of the program endangers public education in Ohio. Legislators must make this happen before Friday, January 31 in order to prevent another round of funding losses to hit public school districts.

Thanks to all who have contacted their legislators on this issue in response to LWVO's Action Alert. The League's Position on Primary and Secondary Education is: "Support the use of public funds only for public schools."

### **Protesters Protest Bill Strengthening Penalties For Damages Sustained During Protests, 1/29/2020, Andy Chow, Ohio Statehouse News.**

"A coalition of advocates say the bill, which creates a new criminal mischief prohibition, can have a chilling effect on protesting at places like oil and gas pipelines. The bill, SB33, expressly prohibits a person from knowingly destroying or improperly tampering with a "critical infrastructure facility."

The bill passed out of the House Public Utilities Committee on Wednesday and now awaits a floor vote in the Ohio House. It has already passed out of the Ohio Senate. For the full article, [click here](#).



## Centennial Corner

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed the right to vote for many women. This was an important step to ensuring women are

equal members of society.

Launch [Summit Suffrage Centennial](#) to learn more and to see details about upcoming events.



[Join us today](#) to support democracy, nonpartisan political action, and voter rights in your community.

Stay up-to-date with LWV Ohio

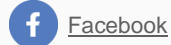
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[The Ohio Voter](#)

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