

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

April, 2020

[Absentee Ballots for the Ohio Primary are due by April 28! Click here for details!](#)



HOW TO VOTE IN THE 2020 OHIO PRIMARY

The 2020 primary election has changed! Make sure you know the facts and how to make your voice heard!

Absentee voting has been extended through...

**APRIL
28**

If you have not voted yet, you must request a ballot by...



Calling your local board of elections



Visiting voteohio.gov

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Ballots start to be mailed

**MARCH
27**

Ballots applications must be received

**APRIL
25**

Ballots must be returned

**APRIL
28**

(Thanks and credit to Common Cause Ohio)



LWVAA

Upcoming

Events

**Absentee Ballot
Voting for Primary
Election due
on April 28**

If you haven't voted yet, click [here](#) to print an absentee ballot request form or call 330-643-5200 to request a form be sent to you.

Launch our online voters guide at VOTE411.ORG

[Click here](#) for tips to fill out the Absentee Ballot, including 5 common mistakes.



**Because of
COVID-19, all**

A Message From the President

Dear Members,

These are truly strange days as we shelter in place doing our small part to “flatten the curve” of the coronavirus peak. I have been very impressed by the leadership of Governor DeWine and in particular Dr. Amy Acton, Director of the Department of Health, through this crisis to date. Their early data-driven approach to preparing the state for the pandemic undoubtedly will save lives.

Not all has been perfect. The last minute decision to eliminate in-person voting on March 17, while consistent with the state’s sheltering in place guidelines, created a lot of confusion for voters, poll workers and boards of election.

Despite extensive lobbying by LWV Ohio and its partners to ensure a fair primary voting process, we are now playing catch up with a vote-by-mail extension approved by the legislature that doesn’t allow for additional voter registration as required by the National Voter Registration Act, and is too short and too cumbersome particularly for the poor and minorities, who may not have printer access, envelopes, or stamps.

On March 30, the ACLU, the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and Dēmos filed a lawsuit on behalf of LWV Ohio and others that addresses these issues. Click [here](#) to read the press release.

There have been many questions about the Primary Election lawsuit. LWVAA Board Members will be contacting members within the next week to answer your questions. Can't wait? You can always leave a question on our voicemail at 330-836-7079 or [email us](#).

LWVAA in-person events are postponed until new guidelines are issued

Respond today to the U.S. Census

You should have received an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census, and some households will also receive paper questionnaires.

For more information and to complete the census online (it only takes 5 minutes), go to 2020census.gov

Thank you to Liz King for all of your efforts as the LWVAA liaison for the Summit County census. As of April 1, the response rate was 42.1%.

April 13, 2020

LWVAA Virtual All Member Book Club - now online!

6:00p.m - 7:30p.m.

Drink your own wine! We'll connect by phone:

**Dial-in number (US):
(605) 472-5310
Access code: 206092#**

This month we're reading *African American*

The March 17 primary election fix discussed above was part of HB 197, a bill that addresses a number of emergency issues facing the state and its citizens during the pandemic - from easing unemployment requirements to freezing the number of schools eligible for EdChoice vouchers (a short-term patch, but a needed stop gap to save public schools). HB 197 passed with uncharacteristic speed and bipartisan unanimity. Such collaboration is a welcome change.

Beware of opportunism. But emergencies such as the one we're in often lead to government overreach and the move by Attorney General Yost to classify abortion as nonessential is a good example.

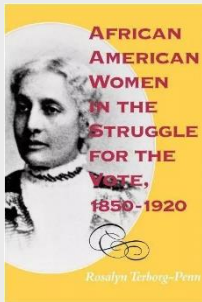
In response the ACLU, Planned Parenthood and others filed a federal lawsuit on March 30 and several hours later a federal judge ordered a temporary halt to the state's order defining the procedures as nonessential. Click [here](#) for the story by Andrew Tobias on cleveland.com.

Goodness prevails. Our spirits are lifted by the selfless efforts of healthcare workers who are putting patient needs ahead of their own, by volunteers packing and delivering meals to the homebound and by religious leaders, zookeepers, musicians and other artists who are finding new ways to brighten our spirits during difficult times.

Knowing you, our members, you surely are finding ways to maintain social distance and help others too. Be safe and be well.

Best,
Jackie Derrow, LWVAA President

Women in the Struggle for the Vote, 1850-1920, by Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, 1998, 166 pgs.



African American women saw gaining the vote as a way to improve access to opportunities for advancement for themselves and their communities.

But while the path to the vote for white women was long and hard, the path for Black women was so much harder.

LWVAA Board Meetings

April	9
May	7
June	4
August	6
September	3
October	1
November	5
December 3	

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Online meetings will be held until further notice due to COVID-19

When the guidelines allow, we will return to 1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio



Ohio Primary Election absentee ballots due April 28

Absentee voting for the 2020 Primary Election has been extended to April 28. If you haven't voted yet, click [here](#) to print an absentee ballot request form or call 330-643-5200 to request a form be sent to you.

Important dates and details:

- **Absentee ballot (vote-by-mail) requests must be received by the Summit County Board of Elections by 4/25. We recommend you mail in your request ASAP.**
- **Voted ballots must be mailed back with a postmark of no later than 4/27, or for Summit County residents, dropped off by 4/28 at the Summit County Board of Elections, 470 Grant St., Akron, OH 44311-1193, 8:00am - 4:30pm, M-F.**
- The Secretary of State's office will mail voters a **postcard** with information about how to request a vote-by-mail application.
- **Once you receive your ballot by mail, the return envelope will have pre-paid postage.**
- There will be limited in-person voting, but only for those with disabilities and for some without access to the postal service like the homeless from 6:30am - 7:30pm, April 28 at the Summit County Board of Elections.
- To track your ballot, click [here](#).
- For information about the candidates and issues on your ballot, go to VOTE411.org.
- For more information about the election, consult [Secretary of State Primary FAQ](#).



Important Dates

HOW THE 2020 CENSUS WILL INVITE EVERYONE TO RESPOND

WHAT THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU WILL SEND IN THE MAIL	
On or between	You'll receive:
<i>March 12 - 20</i>	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
<i>March 16 - 24</i>	A reminder letter.
	If you haven't responded yet:
<i>March 26 - April 3</i>	A reminder postcard.
<i>April 8 - 16</i>	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.
<i>April 20 - 27</i>	A final reminder postcard before the U.S. Census Bureau follows up in person.

- Every household that hasn't already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn't matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it - the U.S. Census Bureau will follow up in person with all households that do not respond.

For more information, please visit
web: 2020census.gov
email: 2020census@summitoh.net

Your Library: Always at Your Service

Submitted by Jodie Grasgreen DeLamatre

Whether you are working from home or needing some diversion while staying at home, remember the incredible, accessible resources provided to you from your neighborhood

library and neighboring libraries. My experience is with Akron Summit County Public Library and the Hudson Library & Historical Society part of the Clevelnet consortium (from where I currently work remotely).

The Hudson Library & Historical Society and other libraries have many business and job search online databases-unique collections of specialized information for your information needs. We continue to take patron questions at askus@hudson.lib.oh.us

For kids & teens find Homework Resources TumbleMath, WorldBook, EbscoHost, and more.

Both library systems maintain a vast digital resource collection. There are some similarities but they are different so explore both. Some of the highlights include:

- eBooks and eAudiobooks through Overdrive, hoopla and RBDigital – no late fees!
- Online learning options include Lynda, a leading online platform that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills and The Great Courses online featuring 150 of the most popular courses taught by the world's top professors.
- Movies, TV and more: Acorn TV, which provides access to British TV shows and Stingray Quello, which offers on-demand full-length concert films and music documentaries. Hoopla, Kanopy also offer movies and TV and more.
- Current Issues of popular magazines such as Time, Rolling Stone and People Magazine available through services like Flipster and RBDigital.

Need a card? As long as you permanently reside in Ohio, own property in Ohio, or live in Ohio while attending school this semester, you can register for a free eCard, which grants you access to the Hudson Library's entire digital collection. [Click here](#) to register for an eCard.

During this extraordinary time, some of our vendors have allowed remote access to many of our in-house only databases during this national health emergency. Resources now temporarily accessible off-site with a library card include Ancestry (Library Edition), Gale Virtual Reference Library and Value Line Investment Survey. Stay safe and hope to see you soon.



Film Corner: Profiles in Advocacy

Submitted by Jackie Darrow, LWVAA President

There's never been a better time to snuggle up on the couch and watch a film. Here are three inspiring stories to remind you of the power of fighting for something you believe in. Find them on Netflix. [Send us](#) your suggestions for films and books that inspire you.

Iron Jawed Angels, 2004

"Katja van Garnier's film, **Iron Jawed Angels**, tells the remarkable and little known story of a group of passionate and dynamic young women led by Alice Paul (Hilary Swank) and her friend Lucy Burns (Frances O'Connor) who put their lives on the line to fight for women's right to vote."

Made in Dagenham, 2010

"Based on a true story, **Made in Dagenham** explores the movement that caused a significant law reform. Rita O'Grady (played by Sally Hawkins) leads the 1968 Ford sewing machinists strike at the Ford Dagenham plant, where female workers walk out in protest against sexual discrimination, demanding equal pay." The film is a testament to women's solidarity and resolve as they faced incredible odds.

Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution, 2020

Friendships formed at Camp Jened, a groundbreaking summer camp for teens with disabilities, become the core of a movement fighting for disability rights. **Crip Camp** uses footage from the 1970s to today to document the campers who turned themselves into the activists who spawned a movement. Barack and Michelle Obama, executive producers.



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

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