

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE AKRON AREA

**THE AKRON VOTER**

*Newsletter for LWVAA Members and Supporters*

November, 2019

**[VOTE! Ohio General Election is Tuesday, November 5! Click here for the LWVAA Voter's Guide presented through VOTE411.ORG](#)**



**COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE**

Join members from LWV of the Akron Area and LWV Hudson for a special holiday luncheon event. Learn about the woman's suffrage movement, challenges faced by early women leaders, and why suffrage still matters today. Explore the synergies of the suffrage and abolition movements as well as the many challenges faced by black women who continue to struggle for both gender and racial equality.

**When:** **Saturday, December 7, 2019**  
11:30 am - Meet and Greet  
12:00 pm - Buffet Luncheon  
1:00 pm - Presentation - Women's Suffrage:  
Commemorating 100 Years and Reflecting on Today

**Where:** **Sheraton Suites Akron Cuyahoga Falls, 1989 Front Street, 44221**

**Two Ways**

**to Attend:** Lunch and presentation - \$30. To RSVP, go to [LWVAA.org](http://LWVAA.org) or send checks to LWVAA at PO Box 5449, Akron OH 44334. **\*\*Checks must be received by December 2\*\***  
Presentation at 1:00 pm - Free and open to the public. To RSVP, leave your name, email and event name at [lwvhudsonohio@gmail.com](mailto:lwvhudsonohio@gmail.com)

**RSVP by Monday, December 2.**

**Speakers:** Dr. Carol Lasser, Emerita Professor of History at Oberlin College  
Dr. Treva B. Lindsey, Associate Professor of Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies at The Ohio State University  
Jen Miller, LWV Ohio Executive Director

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF AKRON AREA

**Ohio**  
**HUMANITIES**

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF HUDSON



**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OHIO

This event is made possible, in part, by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment of the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations at this event do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



**LWVAA**

## **Upcoming Events**

**November 5, 2019**

**General Election**

Polls open 6:30a.m -  
7:30p.m.  
Click [here](#) to stay updated

Get your personalized  
candidate information  
after October 6 at  
VOTE411.ORG

**November 11,  
2019**

**All Member Meeting:  
Automatic Voter  
Registration**

6:00 p.m.

Akron-Summit Public  
Library, 60 S. High  
Street, Akron

Join special guest, State  
Senator Vernon Sykes in

---

## **A Message From the President**

Dear Members,

### **November 5 is Election Day**

Local elections don't garner nearly the attention as national elections, but they are so important. Local officials shape policies that affect our everyday health, safety, work and recreation. Local officials often earn their chops on municipal courts, city councils and school boards and if they're talented, move on to higher offices.

We need to identify and elect high quality leaders at every level to serve us well today and for some, to groom them for the future. Our role is to elect the very best and to do so by learning about the candidates and voting.

### **Election Information You Need: VOTE411.org**

If you haven't visited VOTE411.org, please take a moment to do so. Type in VOTE411.org in your web browser, click on "Find What's On Your Ballot," type in your address and bingo, you'll see a listing of all candidates and issues for which you're eligible to vote. Candidates respond to questions posed by the League – we do no editing.

Several of us met with librarians throughout the county to demonstrate VOTE411 and they were delighted with the site's ease of use and the quality of information. Try it!

### **Next on Deck!**

#### **All Member Meeting: Automatic Voter Registration**

6:00pm, Monday, November 11, Akron Summit  
Public Library, 60 S. High St.

a discussion facilitated by  
Rosanne Winter.



**December 7, 2019**

**Annual Holiday  
Gathering:  
Commemorating the  
Centennial of Women's  
Suffrage**

11:30 a.m. Meet & Greet  
12:00 p.m. Buffet  
Luncheon  
1:00 p.m. Presentation &  
Speakers

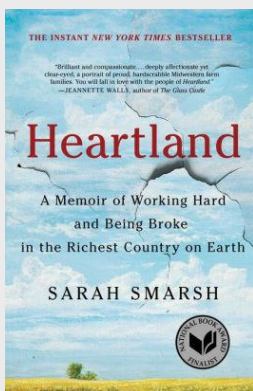
Sheraton, 1989 Front  
Street, Cuyahoga Falls

Please [RSVP](#) by Monday,  
December 2

**December 9, 2019**

**All Member Book Club**

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



Tired of paper voter forms and low registration capture rates? Join special guest, State Senator Vernon Sykes in a discussion facilitated by Rosanne Winter on Automatic Voter Registration at our All-Member Meeting.

What is AVR? It's a simplified method for registering voters when they interact with a government agency. With AVR, when an eligible citizen interacts with an agency like the BMV to apply for a new or updated driver's license or ID, the citizen will be automatically registered to vote unless they affirmatively decline. And, importantly, the person's identifying information will be electronically transferred to the Board of Elections.

According to the Brennan Center for Justice, 16 states have already adopted AVR and 39 states either enacted AVR or introduced AVR legislation in 2019. Senator Sykes and Senator Nathan Manning have introduced a bipartisan bill that would be a first step towards AVR. Bring your questions. Friends welcome, too! Continue the conversation over wine and nibbles at Crave, just a short block away.

Please plan to join us for our Annual Holiday Gathering with LWV Hudson on December 7, more details in the flyer above and article below. We will also have one more Book Club this year on December 9.

I would love to [hear your ideas](#) for future meetings and topics for exploration.

Jackie Derrow, LWVAA President

---

**NEW BOOK, NEW TIME!** *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*, by Sarah Smarsh, 2018. 321 pages.

Enjoy a glass of wine and discuss this most affecting story of the lives of the author and her family as they face the hardships of working the land in rural Kansas.

Smarsh weaves through her family narrative the roadblocks to overcoming poverty imposed by government policies that favor big business and the wealthy.

### **LWVAA Board Meetings**

**November** 7  
**December** 5

6:30-8:00 p.m.  
1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio



## **Annual Holiday Gathering**

**Annual Holiday Gathering: Commemorating the Centennial of Women's Suffrage**  
**Saturday, December 7 at 11:30am**  
**Sheraton, 1989 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls**

Connect with new and old friends from LWVAA and LWV Hudson for a buffet luncheon followed by a moderated discussion on the women's suffrage movement. Learn about challenges faced by early women leaders and why suffrage still matters today.

**Please RSVP by Monday, December 2, 2019!**

### Two ways to attend

**Luncheon and presentation - \$30**

To RSVP and pay through our secure site, click [here](#)

To RSVP and pay by check, send payment to LWVAA, PO Box 5449, Akron OH 44334. **Checks must be received by Monday, December 2, 2019.**

**Presentation only - Free and open to the public.** To RSVP, [email](#) your name, email and event name.

This event is made possible, in part, by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment of the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations at this event do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

---

## **VOTE411.ORG and Rides to the Polls**

Submitted by Kathy Duncan, Voter Service Co-Chair

LWVAA sent out over 100 invitations to Summit County candidates on October 6 encouraging candidates to participate in the online [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) Voter Guide. Approximately 60 candidates chose to do so and entered their photo, biographical data and answers to questions posed by the Hudson and Akron Leagues.

League volunteers in Hudson and Akron distributed posters and postcards throughout the area publicizing the Guide and reminding voters that a condensed printed Guide would be available in the Akron Beacon Journal on October 27. Unfortunately due to an ABJ production problem the printed Guide was not available until October 30.

### **Rides to the Polls**

Interested in helping voters get to the polls on Election Day? Ohio Votes is coordinating drivers in our area. They don't expect much demand this year but want the community to begin building awareness of the service. [Sign up here](#) to help.

---

## **Voter registration and education**

Submitted by Roseanne Winter, President-Elect

LWVAA's October emphasis switched from Voter Registration to Voter Education! We provided support to Richfield as they held their Candidate Night and their School Board Forum (thank you Liz King, Kathy Duncan, Jackie Derrow and Barbara Hunsicker).

We also conducted three sessions of Voting 101 and ended the month at the Akron School's Dream Day for High School Seniors, where we taught students, vendors and teachers about [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org).

---



[LOG IN](#)[Register](#)  
[Forgot password](#)

BECAUSE DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT

- ★ LWVAA HOME PAGE
- ★ ABOUT
  - Action and Advocacy
  - Leadership
  - Organization Policies
  - Get Involved
- ★ JOIN/RENEW
- ★ DONATE
- ★ VOTING/VOTER GUIDE
- ★ ACTION ALERTS
- ★ NEWSLETTERS
  - September 2019 Akron Voter
- ★ UPCOMING EVENTS
- ★ POLICES/POSITIONS
  - Candidate Forum Policy
- ★ LWVAA ED FUND
- ★ CONTACT US



**Welcome to the League of Women Voters of Akron Area!**

LWVAA is the local chapter of the nation's largest, most respected grassroots citizen's organization, the League of Women Voters.

[Learn more about the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area](#)

**Akron Area**

**The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, working to improve our democracy since 1920.**



Information and links found throughout our website will provide you with the tools to get involved in the democratic process at the local, state and national levels, whether you are interested in voter information, learning about public policy issues, or taking action.

**New LWVAA website!**

Submitted by Jackie Derrow, President

If you've connected to [lwvaa.org](http://lwvaa.org) recently, you've noticed we have a brand new site! Many thanks to John Fitzpatrick, who led the website transformation effort, and our committee of Dick Klosterman (our new webmaster!), Rosanne Winter, Bill Winter and Barbara Hunsicker.

The committee worked through the summer and early fall to migrate data and organize information to make it more accessible and readable for users. We hope you like it and of course welcome your suggestions for improvement.

We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Bruce Greer who developed our original website over 12 years ago and managed it until this transition. Bruce had wished to "retire" earlier this year, but indulged us as we worked through the larger than expected task of site migration.

Bruce, you are the best. We all thank you so much for your dedication, creativity and commitment to making timely information available to League members and the general public. You are our hero!

**Collect those Acme receipts through December 28. LWVAA gets 7% back on select products because we registered early!**

---

## October Candidate Forum Recap

Submitted by Kathy Duncan, Voter Service Co-Chair

LWVAA welcomed 18 Akron candidates and the community to the Candidate Forum held at the Akron-Summit County Public Library in downtown Akron October 15. Ward candidates visited informally with their constituents; municipal court judicial candidates presented timed statements about their candidacy; and moderated question and answer sessions were conducted with City Council-at-Large and Akron School Board candidates.

We were grateful for the help and support received from our co-sponsors, the Akron chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the NAACP. Many thanks go to LWVAA Forum Committee members Kay Clark, Jackie Darrow, Barbara Hunsicker, Gloria Irwin, Mary Ann Jopperi, Kim Nelson, Michelle Mostow and Susan Ross for their work on planning, publicizing and facilitating the event.

---

## Legislative Updates

Many bills of interest to the League have been making their way through the legislative process. Below is a sample of the bills LWVVO has been tracking over the past month. For a full listing, see the [LWV Ohio Legislative Tracker](#).

### Elections & Voting

**SB 194**, which includes a number of measures that would make voter registration systems more secure, has also had regular hearings throughout October. The League has been a strong supporter of this bill and has worked with Senator Rulli to ensure the strongest version of this bill passes.

**SB 52**, which will create the civilian cyber security reserve forces and requires election results to be audited (among other security measures) passed the House and was signed into law by the Governor.

### Environment

**HB 202**, which would establish the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Study Committee, had its fourth hearings in the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee.

**HB 7**, which would create the H2Ohio Trust Fund for the protection and preservation of Ohio's water quality, passed the House in June and had its first hearing in the Senate Finance Committee on October 22.

**SB 222**, which would prohibit the imposition of a tax or fee on the use of disposable containers/bags, was introduced in October and referred to the Senate Local Government Committee. A similar bill was voted out of committee in the House – House Bill 242 – in June.

### Women and Families

**SB 146**, would expand the offense of domestic violence to also prohibit a person from choking a family or household member, had its third hearing in the Senate Judiciary on October 2 in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

**House Bill 19**, which will exempt feminine hygiene products from sales tax, was incorporated into SB 26 - now a tax omnibus bill that also gives teachers a tax break on school supply purchases and allows lobbyists and attorneys to apply for the small business tax deduction.

---



## Centennial Corner

LWVAA is one of many community organizations that have come together under County Executive Ilene Shapiro's leadership to share ideas and events that educate and involve the public in the Women's Suffrage Movement's history. A new website was recently launched to pull together Centennial events throughout the County. Find this wonderful resource [here](#).

### LWVAA 2020 Women's Vote Centennial

The Summit County Centennial Committee has formed three subcommittees and LWVAA is on the Culminating Activity Subcommittee. Our Centennial Committee is focusing on the program for that activity and invited Leianne Neff-Heppner, Head of the Summit County Historical Society to our October meeting.

Our discussion with Leianne focused on ideas and resources for program content. Those resources included, among others, The Women's History Project, the book "Politics and Women of Summit County" by Linda Frye and Cheryl Urban, The Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, and the website [blog.uakron.edu/womenshistory](http://blog.uakron.edu/womenshistory).

The committee will continue to refine the program content and delivery method.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2019, 2:30 – 4:00 PM, Highland Square Branch Library, 807 W. Market Street Akron, Ohio.



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



Stay up-to-date with LWV Ohio


[Website](#)

[The Ohio Voter](#)


Stay up-to-date with LWVUS

[Website](#)

[The National Voter](#)


 [Facebook](#)

 [Twitter](#)

 [Instagram](#)

 [YouTube](#)

 [Email](#)

 [Website](#)

*Copyright © 2019 \*League of Women Voters of the Akron Area\*, All rights reserved.*

**Contact us:**

lwvaa@lwvaa.org

PO Box 5449, Akron, 44334