

March 11, 2025

THE HUDSON VOTER

Keeping you updated LWVH:

The Hudson Board of Education (BOE) held an emergency meeting on March 2. All board members were in attendance and there was a large crowd of citizens. Like all Special Sessions, this one was not televised.

At issue was the letter received on 2/14/2025 from the US Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) with a deadline to respond to eliminating DEI in our school system. Without action, Hudson City Schools would lose \$1.7 million in funding.



Tracey Mackay, President LWVH

The BOE handled this issue respectful of the US directive. The Board modified the Hudson School's Mission statement and passed three motions that the DEI Coordinator will be renamed Coordinator of Engagement and Achievement. The Coordinator continues to be Ms. Wilkerson, who is also the coordinator of Gifted and Talented Program. This position will have the same salary and will continue to have a 6 day extended pay. The Hudson BOE expressed strong support for both the position and Ms. Wilkerson.

Our LWVH Observers were satisfied and even pleased with the process and outcome of this meeting. Thank you to Bev & Kathy for your report!

Speaking of Observers! Maura McCaughey hosted her annual Observer Corp meeting. Always a delicious success. She has trained three new Observers and has more members scheduled for training. Observing public meetings is one of LWVH's superpowers. We will start sharing anecdotes and feedback in this newsletter going forward.

Speaking of Observing Transparency in Government! I look forward to seeing you Thursday, March 13, 6:30pm at the Library for the LWVH presentation open to the public on Sunshine Laws: the history, how transparency of government affects citizens and how citizens can get involved.

AND - let's all meet up at the Hudson City Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 7:30pm to commemorate Sunshine Week together. Other board

meetings include: Hudson Library and Historical Society Board, March 24, 7pm; Hudson Board of Education, March 24, 7-8pm, Hudson High School.

Please consider attending our State Representatives upcoming town halls. Casey Weinstein will be at the Hudson Library April 3, 6pm. A Facebook event is being organized to sign up.

Derrick Hall's first Town Hall is April 7, 7pm at the Stow Safety Center Community Room at 3800 Darrow Rd., Stow. He plans to give us an inperson update on his activities in Columbus and get your feedback on important issues.

Also, the Summit County Board of Elections will begin testing equipment for voting logic and accuracy this month and April. If you would like to attend a session on Thursday April 17, 2025 at 9am, please contact Hillary Sullivan, who is organizing a group to attend. She needs a headcount, so please let her know if you are interested. The group may go for coffee or lunch afterwards.

Get more involved in League! We have four Board Positions opening for the 2025-2027 term. They are: Vice President, Treasurer, and two Elected Board Members. The 2025 Nominating Committee is: Arlene Grohl, Dr. Carol O'Connell, Kathy Cybulski, Connie Blohm, and June Futia. Please contact one of them if you have any interest in joining the Board. (And, be aware, one of them may contact you!!!)

Any interest in participating in the Memorial Day Parade? Volunteer to be the LWVH Parade Master for this event. We need participants and a cool vehicle.

Reminder: Early bird fees deadline for the LWVO convention is March 12!

Tracey Mackay presidentlwvhudson@gmail.com 330-608-5264

Calendar of Events

March 13, 6:30-7:30pm, Sunshine Meeting, Hudson Library. Test your knowledge of Sunshine laws. We expect a lively discussion of what government should or should not do.

March 18, 7:30pm, Attend Hudson City Council Meeting at Town Hall to observe governance in action.

March 20, 7pm, Book Club at Kathy Battiglia's home.

March 27, 7pm, Trivia Night with United SHE Stands & Friends at HiHO Brewing in Cuyahoga Falls. See below for more info.

April 17, 9am, Summit County BOE, Board of Elections observation.

April 19, Hudson's Earth Day. Details to follow.

May 15, 6-8pm, Annual Meeting, Hudson Library. We need a quorum for

this meeting. Please plan to attend.

May 16-18, State Convention in Aurora, OH.All are welcome. Register below!



Advocacy Corner

Gov. DeWine recently proposed a state budget that cuts school funding for public schools and raises funding for charter schools and private school vouchers. Public schools would lose over \$103 million over the next 2 years, while up to \$500 million could be spent for private or charter schools, even though 90% of children in Ohio attend public school.

Please consider writing a Letter to the Editor for a local paper expressing your opinion. Sign it and send it under your own name, since only the president of LWVH, can represent our league. More voices need to be heard.

P.S. We'd like to form a LWVH Education Committee to keep members informed about Ohio's changing Educational landscape. If you have interest, please contact Tracey Mackay.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) on March 8 is an annual celebration to educate society on the remarkable women's rights movement. Over recent years, it has been identified that women hold only 10% of top executive positions,



demonstrating the importance of educating society on the need for change. In recognition of issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and abuse against women, it has become a key date in the equality calendar. This year's theme is "Accelerate Action!" At the current rate of progress, it will take 134 years to reach full gender parity in 2158, which is roughly five generations from now, according to data from the World Economic Forum. So, together, let's do more to speed up the rate of progress!

Let's Kill It at Trivia on March 27

MARCH 27, 2025, 7PM HiHO Brewing Co. 1707 Front St



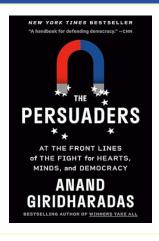
Join us for a night out at HiHO Brewing Co. United SHE Stands will be hosting a fun trivia night with topics focused on civics and democracy! A number of local political groups will be there along with the Akron LWV, Rank the Vote Ohio, and many others. We GOT THIS category, right? See you there. Sign up!

Give to the LWV US to Defend Democracy

In the wake of the election, LWV US needs your help to increase civic participation and trust in the democratic process. Mis- and disinformation and anti-voter laws remain a threat to our democracy. Your donation will help the League's ongoing legal efforts addressing voting rights, fair redistricting, and more. Please donate before March 15. Every gift strengthens the fight for a free and fair democracy.



Book Club's Next Book



The Persuaders: At the Front Lines of the Fight for Hearts, Minds and Democracy

by Anand Giridharadas

March 20, 2025, 7pm at Kathy Battaglia's home

Join our discussion about The Persuaders, a book about movements for justice. The book grapples with how to "call out" threats and injustices while "calling in" those who don't agree with them -- but just might one day-- and point a way to healing and changing a broken country.

You do not have to be a member to join our meeting. Bring a friend! Please be sure to RSVP.

Next State Convention for LWV Ohio

You are invited to attend

LWVO's 66th State Convention

May 16-18, 2025

Bertram Inn and Convention Center, 600 North Aurora Road Aurora, Ohio 44202



Early Bird Registration Fees (until March 12, 2025)

Whole Weekend – \$300 Saturday Only – \$235 Sunday Only – \$70 Student Rate (Whole Weekend) – \$115

We're wondering if LWVH should reserve a table for 8 at the Gala (fundraising and keynote speaker) on Saturday May 17. The cost for early purchase of a single Gala ticket is \$125. If we reserve a table, it would be \$100 per person. Let Tracey know!

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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Visit LWV Hudson website

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