

## April 3, 2024

#### **Letter From the President**

Hello Hudson League!

I can't believe it's April! It sure will be nice for the Citizen Not Politicians signature gather-ers to have warmer temps!

League of Women Voters and our partners are committed to this Issue. If you are not trained, please see below for links to get trained. If you are trained, PLEASE choose a date and location on the Sign-Up Genius to get the petition signed.



Ohioans have been talking about Gerrymandered District Maps for a decade. The public is 1) kinda sick of hearing about unfair maps, 2) not at all clear about what Gerrymandering actually is, and 3) have no idea how unfair maps affect them.

Educate yourselves, educate others. Let's get this ON the ballot and PASSED in November!

#### FUN Stuff:

The Climate Sustainability Committee at the Community Roundtable "Living Sustainably: Energy in the Home" April 18th at the Hudson High School Media Room, 7:00 p.m. Tell your friends and neighbors. Learn about solar panels, heat pumps and energy efficiency in your home! LWVH volunteers are needed to greet and direct guests, register participants, register voters, and host the tables. Sign up Here!

#### MORE Stuff:

- May 9th 6:30 pm, Thursday, is the Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend. We need your input and votes for for all the new, cool stuff on the horizon! (See below.)
- June 27 30, LWV National Convention in Washington DC. We

can send (and help pay) for two voting members to go but all members can attend. Let me know if you want to go. There is also a virtual option.

#### **BEST Stuff:**

A belated **CONGRATULATIONS** to the volunteers who registered high school seniors at Stow, Nordonia, and Walsh Jesuit High Schools, and Western Reserve Academy. Ohio has **120** newly registered voters! Thank you Arlene Grohl for spearheading this effort!

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

### **Please Volunteer**





### in Summit County

Sign up @ bit.ly/CNPSUMMIT

#### SAT, APRIL 6

Spring Home Expo Summit County Fairgrounds

Sakura Festival Lock 2 Park, Akron

Rubber Ducks Home Opener Canal Park, Akron

#### SUN, APRIL 7

Spring Home Expo Summit County Fairgrounds

Rubber Ducks Canal Park, Akron

SAT, MARCH 30

330 Day at House <u>Three Thirty</u>

House Three Thirty,

THUR, APRIL 4

Valerie Bertinelli

Hudson Library

FRI, APRIL 5

2024"

Sight & Sound of

Akron Civic Theater

**Pink Floyd "Eclipse** 

Keith Sweat Concert Akron Civic Theater

Akron

#### MON, APRIL 8

ECLIPSE DAY Events

- Downtown Akron
- Summit County
  Fairgrounds
- Downtown
  Cuyahoga Falls
- Jilly's Music Room and Northside



## **Citizens Not Politicians**

# The Citizens Not Politicians



## Amendment Can Fix It!

What does Citizens Not Politicians mean? It means that CITIZENS will draw the new district maps for voting, and NOT POLITICIANS. The bi-partisan group who were charged with drawing the maps a few years ago did not draw fair districts. So, now let's let non-politicians draw the maps. But, first we have to get the petition signatures so the issue can be put to the vote in the Nov. 2024 election. So, let's all get trained on how to collect signatures for this very important petition to stop gerrymandering:

- April 17, noon, zoom meeting, <u>REGISTER</u>
- April 30, 6pm, zoom meeting<u>REGISTER</u>
- OR, listen to this <u>recording</u>, look at these <u>slides</u>, then take this <u>quiz</u>.

If you have any questions contact <u>Trevor Martin</u>

To be fully informed review these documents:

- Petition Language
- <u>Recording of Sept Huddle</u> with intro to the policy
- FAQ Petition Collection
- <u>A few slides explaining the Citizens Not Politicians process</u>
- <u>Recording of the Citizens Not Politicians Policy Deep Dive</u>

Unable to collect signatures? Then please help by doing the following: Write postcards, or pick up and deliver petitions. Just contact our own Hudson Captains: <u>Hillary Sullivan</u> or <u>Lorann Murphy</u>

#### About the Petition:

The LWV of Ohio is joining forces with other Leagues and Common Cause Ohio to obtain signatures on the Citizens Not Politicians Amendment. This amendment:

- Creates the 15-member Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission made up of Democratic, Republican, and Independent citizens who broadly represent the different geographic areas and demographics of the state.
- Bans current or former politicians, political party officials, lobbyists, and large political donors from the Commission.
- Requires fair and impartial districts by making it unconstitutional to draw voting districts that discriminate against or favor any political party or individual politician.
- Requires the commission to operate under an open and independent process.

To learn more go to www.citizensnotpoliticians.org

#### News on Legislation from LWV Ohio

Twice a month LWV Ohio has a Lobby Corps virtual meeting at noon on Tuesdays. They discuss the status of certain bills in the Ohio legislature that LWV Ohio is watching. Any member can join the calls; just register. Click <u>here</u> to register for the April 9 meeting.



Here's a quick summary of legislation being watched:

HB 215: Prohibit Foreign National Contributions for Ballot issues HB 344: Replacement Levy bill

- HB 339: Education Savings Accounts for Non-chartered Schools
- SB 137: Prohibit Ranked Choice Voting
- **SB 168: Education Regulation Reform**

Please check out the <u>advocacy page</u> on the website which explains the process of advocacy and has more information on these bills and other information on how to track bills, etc.

## **2024 Annual Meeting**



*Photos from Last Year's Annual Meeting. Above:* Kathy Gerrard gives a presentation. *Top R:* Hillary Sullivan, Connie Blohm, Diana Kunze, Marcia Boote, Rosanne Thomas *Bottom R:* Karen Leith, Carol O'Connell and Kate Jones.





Our Annual Meeting is May 9th at 6:30pm at the NGE Clubhouse. At this meeting we will discuss and vote on upcoming LWVH action. A quorum of members is required for this meeting so please plan to attend.

1) LWVUS is changing the membership system. Members will pay LWVUS directly. Currently you pay your local chapter then our treasurer pays LWVUS and LWVO their portion of your dues. The new system will work in reverse with the local chapters receiving payment from LWVUS. There are a lot of questions still to be answered.

We expect that this new system will allow us to change our communication platform. This will be less cumbersome for our committee but generally seamless for our members. *If you have technical, social media, or writing skills the communications committee could really use your help!* 

2) LWVH is considering changing from a 501c4 to a 501c3. At the Annual Meeting you can expect to hear the pros and cons of each and then we'll vote on how to proceed and if needed, vote on the appropriate amendments to our Bylaws.

3) We will vote in new LWVH Board Officers. If you are interested in joining the board, the nominating committee is interested in you! Contact <u>Arlene</u>.

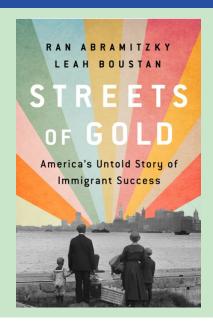
4) Member input requested! Do you have any suggestions for a possible study or particular program?

# LWV US Convention is June 27-30 in Washington DC



You can register now <u>here</u>. You can also attend virtually.

## **Book Club's Next Book**



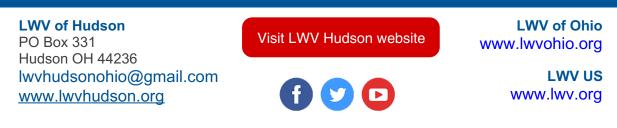
Streets of Gold: The Untold Story of Immigrant Success by Ran Abramitzky and Leah Boustan

Next meeting will be on Thursday, May 23, 7pm at the home of Kathy Battaglia

Bring a friend. Non-members are invited! Immigration is one of the most misunderstood topics in America. What we believe about immigration is based largely on myth, not facts. In Streets of Gold, authors Ran Abramitzky and Leah Boustan, provide ten years of pioneering research and new evidence about the past and present of the American Dream, debunking the myths.

Topics cover immigrants' upward mobility, assimilation, effect on the economy and why many current policy proposals are so misguided. Join us at our next book club meeting where discussions are always lively and informative! Please RSVP to <u>Kathy</u>.

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



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