

LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I love hats...on someone else! I would never wear one as I believe that I look rather like a toad in one, no matter the style. Whenever I voice that opinion to anyone, the inevitable response is something along the lines of, "Oh, I think you would look fine in a hat." Here's the thing. We all have one of two thoughts in our head each time we walk away from the mirror; you either think, "Yes! That is exactly the look I was going for!" or "Well, that is as good as its going get!" I've learned over time that in the end, it doesn't really matter what others think; it matters how you feel about how you look in that mirror.

So it goes with the League (you knew I would get there!). The prevailing thought is that we are a Democrat-based organization. In the end, it really doesn't matter. If we stay true to our main principle of non-partisanship and our primary function of education, we will be fine and we will feel good about the work that we do.

We have been very busy with that education lately, with the candidate panels, *Voters Guide*, and Vote411. We had a very engaging speaker at the Forum this month, and we're looking forward to the November Forum on Critical Race Theory. We had tables for voter registration and education at both the local library re-dedication and the Lewisburg Farmers Market. Additionally, the Book Club is gearing up for its first session of the season on December 14th. So you see, it doesn't really matter what others think, as long as we feel good about ourselves and what we are doing to forward our mission. I, for one, feel very good about what we are accomplishing.

As always, please stay safe and well.

Kandy Duncan, President

NOVEMBER FORUM

PLEASE NOTE: All Forums until further notice will be held via Zoom, and will require registration.

On November 16th from noon to 1p.m. the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area's Educational Forum series presents a virtual talk by Sue Ellen Henry, Professor of Education at Bucknell University. Her talk is entitled, "What is Critical Race Theory and What are People Afraid of About It." She will examine current concerns about the teaching of Critical Race Theory in public schools. What are these concerns about? What do they mean for teachers and anti-racism education? Professor Henry is also the author of *Children's Bodies in Schools: Corporeal Performances of Social Class*, which explores the influence of social class position on non-verbal communication in schools.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, November 1st. Coronavirus containment measures may cause delays or cancellations. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

Monday, November 1st, 3:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING
*Buffalo Township Building
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg*

Tuesday, November 2nd

MUNICIPAL ELECTION
In-Person voting: Polls open from 7:00a.m. to 8:00p.m.

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots, in person or by mail, by 8:00p.m.

Tuesday, November 16, 12:00-1:00pm

FORUM
Professor Sue Ellen Henry
"Critical race theory and local K-12 policy"
See November Forum article for details.

Thursday, December 9th, 5:00p.m.

SAVE THE DATE - Winter Social
*Buffalo Valley Commons
Details to be determined*

Tuesday, December 14th, 10:00a.m.

BOOK CLUB
Via ZOOM
See Book Club article for details.

All participants must pre-register. The Zoom room opens at 11:30a.m. Immediately after the presentation, participants may join an optional small group discussion.

To register for the October Forum, send an email with your name to:

LWVLAForum@gmail.com

The registration deadline is Sunday, November 14th. A unique Zoom meeting link, and instructions will be sent only to those who preregister.

As always, the LWVLA welcomes all to register and attend via Zoom. Subsequent recordings will be posted on the League website LWVLewisburgArea.org

Teri MacBride, Forum Committee

OCTOBER FORUM

On October 19th, Judith Grisel, a behavioral neuroscientist and Bucknell Professor of Psychology spoke on Neuroscience and the Experience of Addiction. A recording of this talk is available on our LWVLA Website at: LWVLewisburgArea.org/whats-happening/what-you-missed

Dr. Grisel's recent book, *Never Enough, The Neuroscience and Experience of Addiction*, also addresses this topic.

Dr. Grisel reviewed relevant neuroanatomy and neurophysiology along with the concept of homeostasis. Substance abuse disorders are mental illnesses and very lethal. The CDC reports a record high of more than 96,779 overdose deaths in the United States for the 12 month period ending March of 2021. Causes of addiction include genetic, with many genes influencing vulnerability; environmental, such as surrounding culture, peers, stressors; and developmental, including adolescence, with less well developed prefrontal cortex, need for autonomy, low impulse control and more risk taking. Ninety percent of individuals who have a problem with addiction start before age eighteen. She shared stories to illustrate the facts.

Subsequent discussion included the limited therapeutic value of cannabinoids; considerations involved in legalization and mixed messages involved; and the particular risk of early use of alcohol/binge drinking.

Barbara Kolmen, Forum Committee

BOOK CLUB

For our winter Book Club meetings, we selected books that are timely and topical. They are books suggested by our members as well as being read by other League Book Clubs around the country. Both meetings will be by Zoom.

Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 10:00a.m.

***Kill Switch: The Rise of the Modern Senate and the Crippling of American Democracy* (Adam Jentleson, 2021)**

This book will allow us to discuss the frustration many are experiencing with the dysfunction of our legislature and to become more educated on the debate over whether the answer is reforming the filibuster.

Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 10a.m.

***Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* (Heather McGhee, 2021)**

The title says it all. This book explores inequality from a different perspective: Racism has a cost for everyone, not just for people of color. McGhee finds proof of what she calls the Solidarity Dividend.

Mary Beth Clark

VOTER SERVICES REPORT

Important Voting Dates for 2021

November 2nd — MUNICIPAL ELECTION

In-Person voting: Polls open from 7:00a.m. to 8:00p.m.

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots, in person or by mail, by 8:00p.m.

PLEASE VOTE on NOVEMBER 2ND!
BE INFORMED!

For all your election information, visit our [LWVLA website](http://LWVLA.org), where you will also find the most up-to-date information about our voter education efforts.

Vote411.org

Are you still unfamiliar with Vote411?

Vote411.org is the national voting information website sponsored by the League of Women Voters. 411 is the number for information, similar to 911 being the number for emergencies.

Vote411 = voting information

Why use Vote411.org in addition to the Voters Guide?

1. Candidates provide information in their own words, directly to **Vote411**, unedited by the League of Women Voters. We use that information to make our printed *Voters Guide*. On the Vote411.org website, when candidates submit changes, their information is updated quickly, so even after the *Voters Guide* has been printed, you read what is most current.
2. The Vote411.org website takes you directly to races on your ballot, when you enter a street address in the "Find Out What's on Your Ballot" field. Your address is not saved; it is used solely to pinpoint the correct races in your area.

LEAGUE LINE

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Voters Guide

The [Voters Guide](#) is now available in paper around our communities, and on our website, where it can be downloaded: from any web page, just click on the blue **Download Voters Guide** button in the left margin.

Candidate Information

Candidate Panels

LWVLA hosted two virtual Candidate Panels in October:

- **1st panel:** New Berlin Mayoral and Borough Council candidates
- **2nd panel:** candidates for East Buffalo and Union Township Supervisors, and Lewisburg Borough Council from Ward 4

Videos of these panels are available at:
LWVLewisburgArea.org/voter-resources/candidate-information#videos4november

Videos from two previous Candidate Panels are also available:

- **The Appellate Courts Candidate Forum:** including races for the Justice of the PA Supreme Court, Justice of the PA Superior Court, and Judge of the Commonwealth Court
- **Spring 2021 Primary Candidates Panels:** Common Pleas Judge, Lewisburg Mayor, Lewisburg School Directors, and the Milton (Region 3) School Directors

These videos are available on our website at:
LWVLewisburgArea.org/voter-resources/candidate-information#Candidatevideos

LASD School Director Videos

Candidates for Lewisburg Area School Director were asked whether schools should follow CDC recommendations on masking. You can watch videos of those candidates who answered on our website at:

LWVLewisburgArea.org/voter-resources/candidate-information#videos4november

Linda Harris, Voter Services chair

MEMBERSHIP

Approximately half of the members have renewed their membership. There is still time but if you find that you have lost or misplaced your renewal form, let us know by emailing lwvlewisburgarea@gmail.com or by clicking the **JOIN** button at the top of any web page on our LWVLA website (click the blue **Download Application** button at the bottom of the **Join** web page).

We are still struggling with the big decision of virtual vs in-person gatherings. As booster shots become available, we are hoping for better numbers from the CDC which we will diligently monitor. We are hoping to host an in-person winter holiday social event at Buffalo Valley Commons on December 9th. We are looking for interested members to help plan the party. Let us know!

Membership