

The Voter

October 2023

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area



In This Issue:

Northwest Ohio Sight Center Director Will Speak in October	1
President's Letter	2
Upcoming Meetings	3
LWVO Statehouse Day Report	3
Citizens Not Politicians	3
Vote 411	4
November Election Dates	4
School Board School	4

Welcome to Our Newest Member —

Jodi Pfaff

October Topical Tuesday:

Northwest Ohio Sight Center Director Will Speak on October 10 at 7 P.M.

The League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area and Way Library will welcome Tim Tegge, Executive Director for The Sight Center of

Northwest Ohio, on October 10, at 7 p.m. for a presentation on this local nonprofit.

Motivated by mission, The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio offers a unique blend of programs and services that can help people of all ages work, learn, play and live independently with permanent vision loss.

Tim Tegge is the Executive Director for The Sight Center of



Tim Tegge
Executive Director
The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio

Northwest Ohio, a local nonprofit that empowers independence and enriches the lives of people who are blind or visually impaired. Tim's experience with The Sight Center has been extensive — first as a low-vision client, then a two-term board member, and since 2015 a member of the staff. In November 2022 he was named Executive Director, becoming only the second leader in the organization's 100 years to have low vision. His professional background is diverse, with experience in community service, sales, marketing, development, communications, and volunteer management in nonprofit and private sector settings with local and national organizations.



Don't Forget to Vote November 7!!



League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

President:

Debra Greenley Gorman debra.greenleygorman @gmail.com 419-343-3627

Voter Editor:

Roseanne Barker roseannebarker@ sbcglobal.net 419-214-8448

LWVPA P.O. Box 712 Perrysburg, Ohio 43552

LWVPA E-Mail lwvperrysburg@gmail.com

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Web Site https://my.lwv.org/ohio/ perrysburg-area

> The deadline for Voter articles is the 25th of each month.

October 2023 Page 2 of 4

President's Letter

Happy Autumn, LWVPA Members!



Last month my <u>President's Letter</u> distinguished between LWV's Voter Services work and our Advocacy work.

Our Voter Services work is where our activities/materials are designed to "provide citizens with unbiased, factual information that they can use as a basis for reaching their own decision." Our Voter Services work has come into play with the very recent LWV Ohio's (LWVO) decision to remain neutral on Issue 1 which relates to reproductive health care. This issue will be on the upcoming General Election ballot.

Per Pam Wilson, LWVO Board President, one of the reasons for remaining neutral on Issue 1 is, "We do not have consensus in our membership, at the state or local League level." By remaining neutral, however, we can educate the public and combat misinformation.

In her explanation to all LWVO members about our neutral position, Ms. Wilson went on to say in part, "We remain focused on our main mission, Protecting Democracy. This decision allows LWVO staff to invest resources in an earned media campaign to factcheck ads and combat misinformation. A neutral stance also allows LWVO to provide Local Leagues with tools, resources, and hands-on technical assistance to host issue forums, ensuring that voters are fully informed about what the amendment does and does not do."

If asked by a voter what LWV's position is on Issue 1, the answer is, "We are remaining neutral on the issue." Next, suggest they read about the issue on Vote411.org > Find What's on Your Ballot. When they get to their ballot, they can click on Issue 1 and read the Certified Ballot Language, an explanation of what a "yes" vote means, what a "no" vote means, the "pros" and the "cons".

Just a final note about <u>Vote411.org</u>. All voters, including you, should go to this site "to find what's on your ballot." After entering your address, you will find the races and issues that will be on your November 7 ballot. You can read Q&A with the candidates and find official ballot language for issues.

Be informed this November 7.

Debra Greenley Gorman

President



Upcoming Meetings

For the most up-to-date information on League activities, click on

League Calendar

Tuesday, October 10 — 7 p.m. Empowering the Blind and Visually Impaired, Tim Tegge, Exec. Dir. Sight Center of Northwest Ohio

Tuesday, November 28 — 7 p.m. *Algal Blooms in Lake Victoria*, Dr. Kefa Otiso, BGSU Professor of Geology

Tuesday, December 12—11:30 a.m. *Holiday Luncheon,* Belmont Country Club

Tuesday, December 19 — 7 p.m., *Climate Change*, Bob Clark-Phelps, Citizens' Climate Lobby

January Date TBA — 7 p.m. Panel Discussion in Food Insecurity

February Date TBA—

Perrysburg State of the City

Presentation, Council

Chambers

March Date TBA — What's Happening in Perrysburg Township

All meetings will be held at Way Library unless otherwise noted.

All programs will be announced on our web page and in *The Voter* as soon as the dates are secured.

The Voter October 2023 Page 3 of 4

LWVO Statehouse Day Report

By Karen Roderick-Lingeman

This year Kevin Rantanen and I were able to attend LWVO Statehouse Day in Columbus. On the agenda were a number of speakers discussing a variety of topics, including school funding and vouchers, media literacy, rank choice voting (SB 137), open and closed primary elections (SB 147 & HB 208), creating an Election Integrity Division in the Office of the Secretary of State (SB 51), educating voters about reproductive healthcare, and information regarding the nonpartisan Ohio Debate Commission.



We also had the opportunity to visit with new and returning league members from Youngstown, Akron, Columbus, Cincinnati, Toledo, and Bowling Green. I highly recommend attending future Statehouse Day events!

It's Time to End Gerrymandering in Ohio

Right now in Ohio, politicians and lobbyists manipulate voting districts to protect their interests and guarantee their re-election. As a result, incumbents running for reelection almost never lose. In other words, we let politicians choose their voters ...



Before you know it, we'll be collecting signatures for the **Citizens Not Politicians** ballot initiative! Be ready to hit the ground running as soon as the petition is ready to go.

The Ohio Voter Rights Coalition (of which LWV Ohio is a partner) is offering online training sessions on the ins and outs of collecting signatures.

Choose one to attend and be ready to collect those signatures!

Tuesday, 10/17/23, 6:00 PM

Thursday, 10/26/23, Noon



- ✓ Q&A with Candidates
- ✓ Candidate Bios
- ✓ Links to Candidate Websites or Social Media
- ✓ Compare Candidates
- ✓ Find Information on Ballot Issues





Be informed about the roles, responsibilities, and functions of a school board when you go to the polls this election season. LWVO, in partnership with School Board School, is sponsoring a virtual forum that will be beneficial in understanding the role of school board members. Register below.

Wednesday, 10/11/23, 6:00 PM