



The Voter

November 2021

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

100+ Years



In This Issue:

New OCC President To Speak On Moving Forward Together	1
President's Letter	2
Upcoming Meetings	3
Holiday Luncheon Will Be Held December 14	3
New Membership Directories	3
Voter Guides and Candidates Forum Made Possible by Many	4
In Memoriam	4

Please note:

While in-person meetings have resumed, Topical Tuesday events still require advance registration.

This can be done online at way.library.info or by calling 419-874-3135, ext. 119

November Topical Tuesday:

Newly Appointed OCC President To Speak on Moving Forward Together

Dr. Dione Dorsey Somerville, the newly appointed president of Owens Community College, will be our guest speaker on Tuesday, November 9, at 7 p.m. at Way Library.

This program is part of the Topical Tuesday series presented by The Perrysburg League of Women Voters and the library.

Dr. Somerville will speak on how the college and the community can move forward together.

Her professional accomplishments span strategic planning, student success, organized change, managing complex budgets, enrollment management, assessment, campus planning and construction, program development, Title IX compliance, community relations, and fundraising.

She previously served as executive vice president at Hawkeye Community College in Iowa; vice president for student affairs at Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania; dean of students at Iowa State University, and director of enrollment services/registrar at Lorain County Community College in Ohio.

Dr. Somerville earned a doctorate in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania, master's degree in college student personnel from Bowling Green State University and bachelor's degree in English/writing from Ohio Northern University.

She was a fellow at the Association of Governing Boards Institute for Leadership and Governance in its inaugural year. She participated in the Harvard University Institute for Education Management and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Millennium Leadership Institute.

Registration for Topical Tuesdays is required and seating is limited. Registration closes three hours before the beginning of the program. **You may register online at waylibrary.info or by calling 419-874-3135, Extension 119.**

Masks are currently required for all indoor Way Library programs regardless of vaccination status.



League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

President:

Jacki Stedman
stedmanfamily@sbcglobal.net
419-787-7092

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>

Board Letter

Dear League Members,



This time during the pandemic has been an opportunity for self-reflection as I have spent more time at home than I can ever remember. I suspect that what I'm about to share will ring true to many, as we have struggled with the fear, the loneliness, the often contradicting messages as the government, the health scientists and our community have dealt with the virus. In spite of all this, some positive things have developed in my life that I would like to share, and I hope to continue.

With COVID my siblings have scheduled a family time together once a week on zoom. While I have been close to my family, this weekly contact has been an opportunity to share activities, exchange the information regarding COVID, and experience more support because we have this dedicated time for each other that did not exist before COVID. We've extended our zoom contacts, on occasion, to cousins that I have not seen for years, and the plan is to continue the dedicated time for us to chat. I do not think I'm alone in appreciating more the value of family and the support they provide to us in our life.

I have rediscovered the value of community and we have many. I have met some neighbors that I did not know in my extended walks around the neighborhood. I have had neighbors call and check on me that I had previously just briefly chatted. Our League community has managed to be creative in bringing programming and our other important activities to our Perrysburg residents. The behind-the-scenes extra effort required to pull these events together should get applause from all of us. And we've had some wonderful partners to help with technology. Our members have continued to volunteer and keep our mission on track. Our church communities have managed to embrace technology as well as they have found ways to provide opportunities for worship. And maybe some of this new technology may be valuable to continue use as we move from the COVID isolation. As I have struggled with the loss of what I experienced in community growing up, it has been nice to look at those valuable communities that are still part of Perrysburg.

And as an older citizen, I have appreciated the science that has provided a protection for dealing with COVID. The fear of contracting the virus prior to vaccinations contributed to the depression of being house bound. Having lived prior to the development of polio vaccines, measles, etc., it has been a surprise to have so many concerned about the vaccines. My appreciation is based on my generational experience. Those in my age group will have known someone who experienced polio. I had an aunt who lived in a machine to help her breathe as well as two classmates who missed a year of school and had health issues later in life because of polio. Many younger generations have not experienced these, because the vaccines were developed to prevent these conditions. While we all have cheered progress on other conditions and diseases, I have a new admiration for those who came quickly to the COVID crisis and have provided solutions both in the prevention and the care of COVID.

This is probably more than you bargained in a *VOTER* newsletter. However, the LWV Community is alive and well, and we are lucky to be a part of it. We've all had opportunities to reflect on our lives this past year, and I hope you have had some positive outcomes in spite of COVID.

Carol Russell

Director



Upcoming Meetings

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

[League Calendar](#)

Tuesday, November 9 — 7 p.m. *How the Community and College Can Move Forward Together*, Dr. Dione Somerville, President of Owens Community College

Tuesday, December 14 — 11:30 Social Time Noon Luncheon, *Annual Holiday Luncheon, Experiences With Storm Chasing*, Ryan Wichman, WTOL Meteorologist

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

The Program Committee, headed by Nancy Kelley and Way Library's Programming Specialist Natalie Diehlman, are busy planning next season's Topical Tuesdays.

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

Mark Your Calendars!



Holiday Luncheon Will Be Held December 14

Please join us for the Perrysburg League of Women Voters Annual Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 14, at the **Hilton Garden Inn Levis Commons**. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the luncheon will begin at noon.

Our guest speaker will be Ryan Wichman, WTOL Meteorologist and Storm Chaser, Ryan is the weekday morning meteorologist for WTOL from 4:30 a.m.



Ryan Wichman

to 9 a.m. He grew up in Bowling Green and graduated from Bowling Green High School in 2005, before going on to Western Illinois University. In 2019, Ryan and his wife Kaley started the not-for-profit Wood County Plays, which is dedicated to building inclusive play spaces for families in our community. The first playground was completed this summer at Rotary Community Park in Perrysburg.

The luncheon will feature three menu choices:

- *Hilton Cubano Sandwich (ham, swiss cheese, mustard in ciabatta wrap)*
- *Veggie Wrap (avocado, spinach, basil, tomato, onion)*
- *Apple Chicken Salad (apples, cranberries, almonds, feta cheese)*

Choose one of the above. Please note that all sandwiches are served with sliced fruit and the salad is served with rolls and butter. All meals come with a choice of coffee, iced tea or tazo teas.

The cost of the luncheon is \$22. Please mail your check (made out to LWV of the PB Area) with your meal choice to Nancy Kelley, 14650 Dexter Falls Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551.

The reservation deadline is December 9. Guests are welcome.

New Membership Directories

The 2021-2022 LWVPA Membership Directories have been printed and are being delivered to members.

Please check your information and let *The Voter* editor know if anything is not correct or needs to be updated. We depend on you to help us keep the directory up to date.

2021 Voter Guides and Candidates Forum Made Possible by Many

Voter Guide and Vote411.org

Carol Russell, Christy Besozzi, Debra Gorman, Kathy Donahue, and Judy Reitzel teamed up to produce our Voter Guides. They worked very hard preparing good, fair questions for the Guides, communicated with Candidates, and proofread the final printed Guide. Deby Dempsey, from the Perrysburg Messenger Journal, formatted the info collected by the team into the printed Guide.

Candidates Forum

We relied upon both newer and long-time members to ensure everything went smoothly for our all-virtual Forum – including sitting in on a practice session without candidates – and they didn't let us down! Thanks to Shirley Johnson, Roseanne Barker, Nancy Kelley, Marlene Mills, Debra Gorman, Christy Besozzi, and Carol Russell.

Jacki Stedman, our President and Forum Host, and Colleen Boff, Member and Forum Moderator, did amazing jobs of hosting and moderating the Forum. They made it look so easy! Their professionalism and easy manner reflected well on our League.

The Forum was in partnership with the Way Public Library. Their IT staff ensured we had the right technology, location, and equipment. We are happy to have worked with Rachel Henck Bentley, Nicholas Sluka, and Adam Marier. Truly, we could not have done it without them.

Thank you to all!

In Memoriam

It was with sadness that we learned of the passing of long-time League member Martha Baldoni. Martha, a 50 year plus member, died October 25 at the age of 92. She was a lifelong activist, a former city council president and Perrysburg's only female mayor. A memorial Mass will begin at 11a.m. November 26, at St. Rose Church.