



# The Voter

April 2020

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

*100 Years*



*Defending  
Democracy*

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## All LWVPA April Meetings Canceled; May Annual Meeting To Be Rescheduled

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and subsequent call for social distancing, all League meetings scheduled for April have been canceled.

In addition, the Annual Meeting and May luncheon also have been canceled. At the present time the plan is to combine the Annual Meeting with our Stranahan Award ceremony on Sunday, August 9, at the 577 Foundation. Please look for an announcement with more details in the upcoming months.

Meanwhile, the Perrysburg League board is continuing to carry on business via email and video conferencing. The regular April board meeting has been postponed until April 8 and will be conducted by video conference.

During these unusual times, please keep a lookout for league news from the LWVPA president, board members and possibly extra editions of *The Voter*. We will resume our regular meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.



### Know Your LWVPA Committee Chairpersons:

*Program* — Nancy Kelley  
*Voter Service* — Debra Gorman  
*Membership* — Sue Hoffman and Starr Wlodarski  
*Observers* — Starr Wlodarski  
*Natural Resources* — Carol Hall  
*Publicity* — Sue Brotje  
*Harrison Rally Days* — Donna Burke, Judy Reitzel, Carol Shepard

In three words I can sum up everything  
I've learned in life. It goes on.

*Robert Frost*



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**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](https://my.lwv.org/ohio/perrysburg-area)**

## Board Letter

Hello League Members!

This month I would like to use this letter to tell a story that is based on a Jewish folktale, taken from a book *Stories for Telling* by William R. White.

There was once a man who promised to give all 10 of his children 100 gold coins on the day of his death. At the time that he made the promise, the man had far more than the promised amount. In his last days, however, he fell on hard times. He soon found that he was short of the money needed to keep his word to all his children.

On the day of his death, the children gathered beside their father's bed at his request. One by one they stepped forward, embraced their father, and received a purse with 100 gold coins. When it was time for the youngest son to be paid, the father waved everyone out of the room.

"My son," the dying man began, "I have terrible news. Though I have been able to give each of your brothers and sisters 100 gold coins, I have but 20 for you."

"Father," the youngest child protested, "if you knew this why did you not make adjustments with all of your children?"

"It is better that I keep my word to as many as possible, the father said, "Although I can not give you as many gold coins as I promised, I can give you my greatest treasure. In addition to the 20 gold coins which I have for you, I offer you my ten closest companions. Their friendship is worth more than all the gold I have ever possessed. I urge you to treat them kindly." Shortly after he spoke, the man died.

When the period of mourning was over, the nine oldest children, thrilled by their sudden wealth, left for an extended vacation. The youngest child remained home, deeply disappointed. When he paid off his debts he found he had only four coins remaining. Though he had no great desire to see his father's friends, he decided he must honor his beloved father's last request. Reluctantly, he spent the remaining portion of his inheritance and invited the ten companions to dinner.

When the meal was over, the old men said to one another, "This is the only child who treats us with kindness. Let us return his affection."

The next morning each of his father's friends sent two cattle and a small purse of money to the youngest son. Several of the old men provided assistance in breeding the cattle. Soon the youngest child had a large herd. Others offered advice on how to invest money. It was not long before the youngest son had greater wealth than any of the other nine. Above his desk he wrote these words, "Friendship is of more value than gold."

Stay well, wash your hands and keep in touch with each other.

*Nancy Kelley*

Second Vice President



## Upcoming Meetings

**Tuesday, May 12** — 7 p.m.

*The Kurdish Militias as US Allies, Syrian Secessionists and Turkish Terrorists,*

Neal Englehart

**Sunday, August 9** — 2

p.m, Annual Meeting and Stranahan Award

Ceremony, 577 Foundation

**Saturday, September 19** -

10 a.m. Harrison Rally Day, Downtown Perrysburg

*\* All programs will be at Way Library, unless otherwise noted.*

## League Scholarship Winner Announced

The winner of the 2020 League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area Scholarship with a value of \$500 is Lincy Chen.

Lincy intends to focus on data science in college. Lincy is bothered by injustice, and she feels that statistics can be used to address the inequalities of workers in the US. Lincy gained first hand knowledge of this situation through her parents, immigrants from China. Each week Lincy mentors second grade immigrant children and witnesses the family struggles.

*Carol Hall*

*Scholarship Committee Chairperson*

## 2020 Stranahan Citizenship Award

The 2020 Virginia Secor Stranahan Citizenship Award is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area. They are pleased to announce that for the second time since 2002 an entire group, St. Timothy's Clothesline, will be honored this year instead of just one individual.

St. Timothy's Clothesline is an outreach mission of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church which is located at 871 E. Boundary St., Perrysburg. The Clothesline began in the spring of 2009 and offers free gently used men's, women's and children's clothing and accessories. Used seasonal clothing is collected in a covered area in back of the church. An on-site shop is open every Friday and coincides with the Perrysburg Christians United Food Pantry, and the Zoar Lutheran Church free monthly lunch. While shopping, guests are invited to share refreshments and conversation in a small café area. St. Tim's Mobile Clothesline also takes clothing and personal products to two sites in Toledo, partnering with the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo's monthly mobile food pantry.

Due to the coronavirus, the tea and award ceremony, formerly scheduled for March 22 at the Manor House at the 577 Foundation, has been delayed until Sunday, August 9, at 2 p.m. Hope Jarvis and Kay Bunke will be accepting the award for the group. They will share the history of the organization and tell some heartwarming stories of their experiences while working at the Clothesline. As Hope says, "Over the years we have developed close relationships, both with our guests and with local assistance agencies, so that this ministry has become more than just a clothing give away. It is a community where all are welcome, all have access to our physical and informational resources, and where we all lovingly, and spiritually support each other."

The public is encouraged to attend this event on August 9.

## Dishwasher Detergent ... What's the best Choice for the Environment?

By Carol Hall,  
Natural Resources Committee

So you are ready to purchase dishwasher detergent.

Your choices:

- a. Plastic container filled with liquid detergent.
- b. Plastic box filled with tabs wrapped in plastic.
- c. Cardboard box filled with tabs wrapped in foil.
- d. Cardboard box filled with powder.

Answers:

- a. Plastic-Eek.
- b. Plastic Plastic- Eek Eek.
- c. No Plastic Foil. BETTER.
- d. No Plastic No Foil. BEST.

YES! D is your best choice for planet Earth!



## Celebrating Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Thanks to Judy Kehrle, LWV Toledo/Lucas County, women of northwest Ohio are being highlighted on WGTE in 60-second segments.

Judy compiled short biographies of some amazing women from the book, *In Search of Our Past: Women of Northwest Ohio*, published by Women Alive! Coalition – a book you may want to pick up.

“As we celebrate the anniversary of women’s right to vote, we salute the women who paved the way, facilitated change and left a legacy.”



WGTE / LWV presents:  
*School Vouchers*  
April 24 at 8:30 PM on WGTE

## LWVO Virtual Statehouse Day

To ensure the health and safety of our fellow members, our communities and staff, the LWVO board has decided to postpone the in-person Statehouse Day event scheduled on April 16. We are working to modify the format of the event to be virtual which will include a series of exceptional speakers, breakout sessions, and keynote. We hope you will still plan to attend Statehouse Day 2020 (virtually) on Thursday, April 16th. Event details will be provided in the days ahead.

# LWV of Perrysburg — Our Beginnings

*by Nancy J. Kelley*

## Part 7: 1985-1989 ( From the Perrysburg Messenger Journal)

**March 27, 1985** — LWV of US announced support of a broad-based federal income tax with a progressive rate structure and minimal tax preferences. Local Leagues will begin studying the federal deficit in the fall of 1985.

**July 24, 1985** — On July 16 the LWV of PB met in the home of Jean Duston for a day-long orientation. Mary Lewis of Tiffin, past treasurer of the LWV of Ohio, presented the orientation to new board members and continuing board members.

**August 21 & 29, 1985** — Recreation survey report issued by LWV of PB and Community Education Program. A random sample-mail survey of every tenth household in both the City and Township of Perrysburg produced a return of 486 of the 1,078 households polled for a 45.08 % response. The three most needed ranked by total response were: (1) bike trails, (2) indoor Olympic pool, and (3) walking trails. (NOTE: Not much has happened on these even today.)

**September 18, 1985** — Even though there are four candidates running for mayor, there will be no primary; city charter revision planned. (This means that a candidate receiving 26% of the vote could be elected.) The League, in order to provide the public with more information about each candidate's opinion on various issues will publish responses to one question each week until a week before the election in the PMJ with a limit of 150 words.

**September 25, 1985** — The four candidates running for mayor are Martha Baldoni, Jan Gordon, Samuel Hunter and Ruth Witzeman. Question #1 "Do you feel Perrysburg needs to update the Comprehensive Plan? If so, how should it be implemented? If not, why not?" (All agreed it should be updated).

**October 2, 1985** — Question #2 "Do you think the citizens of PB are satisfied with their existing tax base or do they want the tax base broadened?" (All agreed it should be.)

**October 9, 16, 23, 30, 1985** — Each week another question was asked for a total of seven questions. Martha Baldoni was elected Mayor of Perrysburg and served one term, 1986-1989. (Martha has been a 50 year plus member of the PB League.)

**March 27, 1986** — At a LWV meeting, Tom Davis, a district inspector for the Bureau of Explosives with the Association of American RR, stated that, "There are no poisonous gases or explosives carried through PB. Hazardous materials being transported through the city include flammable liquids and gasses and some mild acids that will burn you, but won't eat your arm off."

**April 21, 1987** — Hazardous materials was again the topic a year later at a League meeting, but this time with different speakers and concerned the I-75 and Rt. 795 intersection in PB. Township.

**March 15, 1989** — In a meeting on Feb. 21 at the board offices with Dr. Joe Bailey, Supt. of Schools, Joe Klein, Treasurer, Dave Bringham, Dir. Of Transportation, Blds. and Grounds, and the LWV Education Committee began its research on the bond levy to be placed on the May 2 ballot. Dr. Bailey and his staff responded in writing to 21 previously submitted questions. These answers, and answers to other questions were discussed. Many of these same subjects will be reviewed at an open meeting of the LWV at Way Library on March 21 at noon.

**June 21, 1989** — An award for excellence in informing the public was given the new Perrysburg booklet *Perrysburg 43551* at the State Convention of the LWV.

## The Primary Election scheduled for March 17, 2020 has been extended until **April 28, 2020**.



**All voting will be Vote-By-Mail (VBM)** except for voters with a disability who require in-person voting and voters who do not have a home mailing address.

**Do nothing if you have already voted in this Primary Election.** Your vote will be counted.

**You must have been registered to vote by February 18, 2020** to vote in this Primary Election.

### **VBM is a two-step process.**

- **Step 1: Request a VBM form (also called an Absentee Ballot) before 04/25/20.**
  - Request an absentee ballot using a VBM application. Residents of Wood County may click here for a [VBM Application](#) that you can print, fill out, and mail. Call the Wood County Board of Elections (WCBOE), 419-354-9120, if you do not have a printer. **(Non-Wood County residents should contact their own county Board of Elections.)**
  - Follow the instructions on the VBM application and enter ALL required information. Phone number and email is not required, but recommended.
  - Mail your completed VBM application, postmarked on or before 04/25/20, to: WCBOE, One Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, OH 43402. Add postage to your envelope.
  - WCBOE will mail you a ballot once they have received and processed your application.
- **Step 2: Complete and mail in your ballot postmarked on or before 04/27/20.**
  - Mail your completed ballot to: WCBOE, One Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, OH 43402. Add postage to your envelope.

### **Other Important Information**

- **Limited In-Person Voting is on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 6:30 AM – 7:30 PM.**
  - In-Person Voting is limited to voters with a disability who require in-person voting and voters who do not have a home mailing address.
  - Vote at: WCBOE, One Courthouse Square, Bowling Green. Do not vote at your regular polling location.
- **Suggested Best Practices: Do It Now**
  - Mail your VBM application in early April. Don't wait until the deadline.
  - Mail your completed ballot a week before the deadline of 04/27/20.
- **Resources**
  - Wood County Board of Elections, 419-354-9120, [www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE](http://www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE)
  - Track your VBM request & ballot [WCBOE Ballot Search](#).
  - Check your registration at [WCBOE Voter Registration](#).

See what's on your ballot and read about the candidates at [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org)



## Proposed LWVPA Program Changes for 2019-20

*At our annual Program Planning meeting the attending members voted to make the following changes in LWVPA Program. **Additions** to the Program are printed in red and **deletions** in bold italic.*

*These changes will be voted on at our Annual Meeting on August 9, at the 577 Foundation.*

### PROGRAM

#### Major Areas of Interest

Clean and Sustainable Water

Voter Participation

Public Safety

Education

#### Human Resources and Social Policy

*Education:* Study of current trends in education with continued support of the Perrysburg School District (including Penta County) for a good academic program. Support levies (both property and income tax) when shown to be needed to sustain current educational standards and/or to provide specific needed improvements or maintenance. **Support Study and analyze of** bond levies to finance new buildings, additions to current buildings and/or purchase of existing buildings when designed for economy and flexibility in adapting to future space and program needs.

#### Government

*Public Safety:* Study public safety, including police and fire departments of Northern Wood County, **the transportation of hazardous waste**, and safety in schools and other public areas.

*Library Services:* Support of good library service with adequate funding. **Support the expanding boundaries of Way Library district in order to enlarge the tax base.**

*Finances:* **Study Monitor of** the financial accountability in Perrysburg city and township government with consideration of hiring, overtime, purchases, collective bargaining and budgeting.

## LWVPA Proposed Slate of Officers for 2020-2022

The Nominations Committee was comprised of Stephanie Johnstone, Chairman; Carol Russell, and Judy Reitzel.

Co-Vice Presidents Membership: Sue

Hoffman and Starr Wlodarski

Treasurer: Sara Weisenburger

Recording Secretary: Kathy Donahue

#### Directors:

Observers: Stephanie Johnstone

Publicity: Carol Shepard

Director at Large: Carol Russell  
(Harrison Rally Days)

Voter: Roseanne Barker

The Nominations Committee for 2020 will consist of Josette McCarthy, Donna Burke and a Board member.