

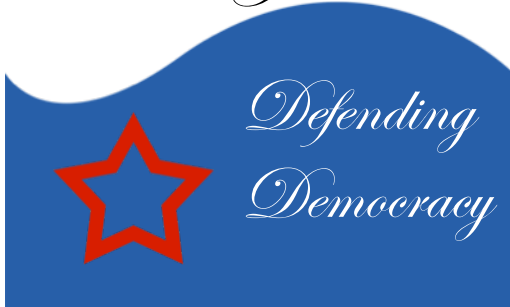


The Voter

April/May 2022

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

100+ Years



April Topical Tuesday:

BG Professor Will Offer Instruction On How to Best Communicate With Our Public Officials

The League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area in conjunction with Way Library will welcome Dr. Niki Kalaf-Hughes, Associate Professor of Political Science at Bowling Green State University, on Tuesday, April 19, at 7 p.m. for a Topical Tuesday Program. She will discuss constituent communications with elected officials.

On Monday, April 25, at 7 p.m., Dr. Kalaf-Hughes will host a follow-up workshop on writing effective communications with elected officials. The workshop will be presented by Way Library, in cooperation with the Institute for Culture and Society, Bowling Green State University, and will be held at Way Library.

The United States Constitution gives citizens the right to petition elected officials, and research shows constituent communications to be key for aspects of a democracy considered normatively important, such as the accountability of elected officials and a legislator's policy focus. At the same time, evidence suggests a level of bias in government responses, implying not all constituent petitions receive comparable attention from elected officials.

This problem has been heightened during the pandemic, as state and local elected officials have received an unprecedented volume of communications from within and outside of their districts. Further, as communications between individuals and elected officials are often private, little is known about what communications say, what type of response they generate, and when and how they influence policy. **What makes for an effective appeal? How can you influence policy? How can you write so elected officials will listen?**

During the workshop, Dr. Kalaf-Hughes will share the results of research on when and how individuals communicate with their elected officials, and discuss what makes for an effective constituent appeal. Attendees will have the opportunity to brainstorm and draft letters to their own elected officials.

Registration is required for the workshop and seating is limited.

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Please note:

In person meetings at Way Library no longer require advance registration. Workshop registration can be done online at way.library.info or by calling 419-874-3135, ext. 119



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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>

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

Board Letter



Dear League Members,

On February 21, the Natural Resource Committee of the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area welcomed Bob Clark-Phelps, Ph.D., local coordinator of the Citizens Climate Lobby, Perrysburg, Ohio Chapter, to our meeting. Bob discussed how human emissions of greenhouse gases are changing the climate, resulting in trapping too much heat. How is this affecting us in Wood County? You may have noted that we often have downpours, a result of warmer air. Downpour intensity is up 42% in the Midwest. Downpours cause flooding. In 2019, 40% of farm fields in Wood County were not planted due to flooding.

To hold warming to a relatively safe level, we must cut carbon emissions 50% in 10 years. How can this be done? Dr. Clark-Phelps is promoting HR 2307. This act is also known as the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. This ACT would place a fee on emissions from coal, oil, and gas. Ultimately the purpose of the act is to reduce emissions and spur growth in solar, wind, nuclear, electric vehicles, conservation, and carbon capture.

The LWVUS position on carbon emissions pricing (2018) is as follows: The League of Women Voters stands united with, and in support of, efforts to price carbon emissions, whether cap-and-trade, carbon tax/fee, or other viable pricing mechanisms. The League does not have a position on how the revenue generated is to be used. We do not espouse any single method of pricing carbon over another. We will evaluate all proposed methods based on their effectiveness to abate emissions and whether the method can be successfully implemented.

For more information on CCL go to <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/>.

Best regards,

Carol Hall

Director

Co-Chair Natural Resources Committee



Upcoming Meetings

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

[League Calendar](#)

Tuesday, April 19 —

7 p.m. *How People Communicate with Their Elected Officials*, Dr. Niki Kalaf-Hughes, BGSU Assoc. Prof. Political Science.

Monday, April 25 —

7 p.m. *Workshop on Tools to Communicate with Elected Officials*, Dr. Niki Kalaf-Hughes.

Tuesday, May 10 —

11 p.m. *Annual Meeting*, Noon Luncheon and presentation by Metroparks Toledo, Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Levis Commons

Tuesday, May 31 —

7 p.m. *Importance of Voting Rights*, Jen Miller, Exec. Director LWV Ohio

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

Mark Your Calendar Today! Annual Meeting and Spring Luncheon Will Be Held May 10 At the Garden Hilton Inn



Please plan on joining your League colleagues and guests – IN PERSON — for our Annual Meeting and luncheon program on Tuesday, May 10, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn at Levis Commons. This will be our first time together for the annual meeting since 2019!

The business portion of the meeting is for members only and begins at 11 a.m. The business meeting typically lasts 45 minutes. This is a time for us to vote on our program and budgets for the upcoming year and elect the LWVPA board.

You will find the proposed changes to the program and the nominees for the board in this issue of the Voter. The budget will be sent to you via email for your consideration. If you have any questions about these items, please reach out to a board member before the meeting, or bring your questions with you on May 10. A quorum is necessary, so your attendance and your voice are critically important!

The second portion of the event starts at noon with a luncheon and speaker. We will have a salad and potato bar including coffee, tea and dessert for lunch. The cost is \$25 per person, and invitations will be mailed to your home in a few weeks. Please feel free to bring a friend! After lunch we will recognize our LWVPA scholarship winner, Hana El Nemr, followed by an engaging speaker from the Toledo Metroparks. The Toledo Metroparks are jewels of our area, and we will learn about the exciting plans for new parks and the programs offered.

LWVPA 2022 Scholarship Winner

Our Perrysburg High School Scholarship Winner Hana El Nemr wants to major in political science and journalism.

She is interested in law, human rights, immigration and criminal justice.

Importance of Voter Rights Will Be Subject of Meeting

League of Women Voter Ohio Executive Director Jen Miller will speak on *The Importance of Voter Rights* on Tuesday, May 31 at 7 p.m. at Way Library.

This meeting is a Topical Tuesday meeting, held in conjunction with Way Library.

LWVPA PROGRAM

LWVPA Areas of Interest Priorities

Clean and Sustainable Water
 Voter Participation
 Public Safety Local Government
 Education

Changes:
 Deleted Wording in Blue
 New Wording in Red

LWVPA Other Areas of Interest Positions

Human Resources and Social Policy

Education: Monitor current issues in education with continued support of to ensure effective academic programs for the Perrysburg School District (including Penta County) for an effective 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. Study Review and analyze 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.

Parks, Recreation and Arts: Support the Perrysburg area recreation needs and their financing with continued support for a well-rounded program for parks and recreation by city, township and county.

Health and Welfare: Support effective services to meet the basic physical and mental health needs of Wood County residents with consideration of programs to meet future needs.

Youth Issues: Support youth services in Wood County to achieve maximum benefit of available funding to alleviate youth problems.

Human Trafficking: Support efforts to combat human forced labor and sex trafficking. Support creation and improvements of services to victims of human trafficking to facilitate their integration into the community. Support efforts of local and state agencies to aggressively enforce the trafficking laws and prosecute traffickers and offenders (consumers). Support training and education of the public, law enforcement, and service providers regarding human trafficking.

Aging in Place: Support efforts to allow residents to age in place in Perrysburg and Perrysburg Township.

Government

Public Transportation: Support and advocate for public transportation in the Perrysburg area with particular attention to the special needs of the physically and economically challenged. Continue to advocate for public transportation in the Perrysburg area.

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

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Library Services: Support good library services with adequate funding.

Finances: Monitor the financial accountability in Perrysburg City local governments (city, township and county) with consideration of hiring, overtime, purchases, collective bargaining and budgeting.

Regional Planning: Support participation of City and Township in regional planning and regional projects.

Natural Resources

Climate Change: Support climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations.

Clean Water: Support public access to clean and safe water. This support would include, but not be limited to:

- a. Improved waste water transportation and treatment systems, economical system for sludge disposal and monitoring of water quality.
- b. Precautionary moratorium on all new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that produce untreated animal waste that jeopardizes ground water quality.
- c. Monitoring of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and outcomes that may endanger water access and quality.
- d. Protection of water quality in the local aquifer, the waters of Perrysburg Township, the City of Perrysburg, the Maumee River and Lake Erie.
- e. Support efforts to educate community and reduce use of plastics in League and City activities.

Transportation of Hazardous Materials: Support state signage and traffic patterns for all state and interstate highways, including access roads and rail transportation routes where hazardous materials are transported.

Recycling Waste: Support recycling in the Perrysburg area, including curbside recycling availability.

Land Use

Community Planning: Support of community planning (land use policies and procedures) to meet the changing needs of the Perrysburg area. Keeping currently abreast and monitoring planning, zoning, zoning appeals commissions in the City, Township and County, with emphasis on promoting orderly growth.

Historic Preservation: Support historic preservation which should be of benefit to the Perrysburg area and the City's historic zoning ordinance.

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Voter Participation

Support efforts to educate community members on the importance of voting activities **to democracy that may include voter registration, how and where to vote, candidate information and promoting maximum turnout at all elections and citizen participation in government.** **Support may include, but not be limited to:**

- a. voter registration
- b. how and where to vote
- c. candidate information
- d. promoting maximum turnout at all elections
- e. citizen participation in government.

Proposed 2022-2023 Slate of Officers

The following League members have been nominated for positions on the 2022-23 board of directors. These positions will be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting on May 10.

Co-Third Vice Presidents (Membership) — Sue Hoffman, Starr Wlodarski

Recording Secretary — Kathy Donahue

Treasurer — Sara Weisenburger

Co-Directors (Observers) — Carol Russell, Stephanie Johnstone

Director at Large — Carol Shepard

Director at Large (Co-Chair Natural Resources) — Carol Hall, One Year Term

Other Positions (Non-Board)

Web Master — Deb Gorman

2023 Nominating Committee — Josette McCarthy, Judy Reitzel

Education Fund Trustees — Roseanne Barker, Nancy Kelley, Carol Russell, Carol Shepard, Jacki Stedman, Sara Weisenburger

2022 Nominating Committee

Josette McCarthy

Judy Reitzel

Nancy Kelley