The Voter

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

100 Years

Defending Democracy

In This Issue:

LWV Member Frank Butwin is the featured speaker at a free monthly lecture for Lourdes University Lifelong Learning. He will be portraying Francis Scott Key from 10 to 11 a.m. on Friday, October 16, virtually. Frank loves history and has portrayed a number of historical characters. Call the Lifelong Learning Office at 419-824-3707 to find out how to access this lecture.

2020 CANDIDATE FORUM

We're thinking outside the COVID box!

VIRTUAL Candidates Forum

Sunday, October 4 at 7 P.M.

Live Streaming the evening of the Forum
Available On-Demand on LWVPA's Website after the Forum
Details Coming for Viewing & Submitting Candidate Questions
Go to LWVPA Website after 09/15/20 for Updates

Candidates for these races will be invited to participate:

- U.S. House District 5
- State Senate District 2
- State House Representative District 3
- Wood County Commissioner
- Wood County Recorder
- Wood County Sheriff
- Judge of Court of Appeal District 6
- Judge of Wood County Court of Common Pleas, General/Domestic

Hosted by LWV Bowling Green in partnership with LWVPA.

President's Letter

Hello League Members!

Sometimes it takes more than just the facts — why providing ongoing educational events is important

With the recent political conventions, plus daily Facebook scrolling, I find myself routinely needing to visit fact-checking sites such as Politifact, Factcheck.org and Snopes. Sometimes I am surprised by the answers I find … something I was sure was true, may be partially correct or false, and other times I am happy to know I am correct.

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Political Science, found that the effectiveness of fact checking "depends upon what we knew about an issue before encountering the fact check."[1]

They surveyed 500 Americans and grouped them into 4 categories of "informedness":

- Informed – people who know a fact and are confident they know it.

- Uninformed – people who are aware they don't know something and will answer "I don't know".

- Ambiguously informed – people who guess (sometimes correctly and sometimes incorrectly) but admit they are not sure.

- Misinformed – people who are confident they know a fact, when they are actually mistaken.

The researchers gave participants a quiz of 25 facts that had been fact-checked through a group such as Politifact or Factcheck.org and asked them how sure they were of their answer –- thus classifying the participant as one of the four groups above. They then showed the participants a fact-check on one of the issues from the quiz.

The results showed that those who were categorized as "informed" or "uninformed" before seeing the fact-check were most likely to the answer correctly when quizzed again. Even the ambiguously informed group –- those who were guessing –- showed improvement after seeing the fact-check. The misinformed group were "least helped by reading a fact-check."

At first, I was disheartened by these results. I thought, "If only the skeptical, misinformed group would just listen to the facts." Then I realized our opportunity is with the uninformed and the ambiguously informed. As the League we must continue to offer educational opportunities for our members and the community that challenge us to think. Let's think of creative ways to attract members and attendees who don't have all the answers or are unsure of the answers. Along the way, we may make progress with those who hold deeply to their facts.

Although the article has some limitations -- it was not published in a peer-reviewed journal and did not give the total number of participants in each group -- I think it can inspire valuable dialogue about our important role in providing factual, educational opportunities for our community.

I hope you take time to check what you hear and read every day!

Jacki Stedman

1. https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/when-are-readers-likely-to-believe-a-fact-check/

Upcoming Meetings

The Program Committee, headed by Nancy Kelley and Way Library's programming specialist Natalie Diehlman, are busy planning this season's Topical Tuesdays.

These virtual programs will be announced on our web page as soon as the dates are secured.

League Meetings Will Be Virtual This Year

The League and Way Library will again this year be partnering to present monthly Topical Tuesdays. Because of the Covid Virus, the meetings will be virtual Zoom presentations and an invite will be sent out a few days before each program. They will begin at 7 p.m. and will last an hour.

On September 29, Reem Subei, an attorney for ABLE (Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.) will present Immigration 101 and include current updates as to what is happening to the children.

On October 13, Melissa K. Miller, a professor at Bowling Green State University, will speak on the topic *Who knows more about politics? A Dual Explanation for the Gender Gap.*

More programs will be announced once they are confirmed.

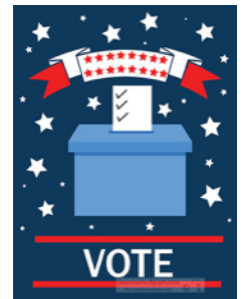## *What to Do to Make Sure Your Vote Counts …*

⭐ Contact your legislator and ask for more drop boxes in our community.

⭐ Because of mail delays … ***Vote Early!***

⭐ If you do not plan to vote at your polling place, apply for an absentee ballot early.

Poll Workers Needed!

Ohio Needs Poll Workers . . . also known as Precinct Election Officials (PEO)

Get paid for your time, defend democracy, and help make this November a successful election!

Wood County residents who are 17 years of age or older, should go to the Wood County Board of Elections' (BOE) website for details. (Residents of other counties should go to their local BOE's website.)

Do You Know an Attorney?

Listen to Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor on CBS News "promote a plan to have Ohio lawyers volunteer as poll workers." After you've listened, share this with your attorney friends. (It takes a few seconds for her story to come up on the video.)

2020 General Election Dates

Key Election Dates

Monday	10/05	Voter Registration Deadline
Tuesday	10/06	Absentee and In-Person Voting Begins
Saturday	10/31	Absentee Ballot Request Deadline at Noon
Monday	11/02	Postmark Deadline for Absentee Ballots
Tuesday	11/03	**Election Day! Polls open 6:30 a.m. — 7:30 p.m. **Drop off Absentee Ballots at Wood County BOE by 7:30 p.m. **Voters outside Wood County, check with your local BOE for drop-off location

Early Voting Hours

**Wood County residents vote at Wood County Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Square, Bowling Green
**Voters outside Wood County, check with your local BOE fror locations.

Tues — Fri	10/06 — 10/09	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Mon — Fri	10/12 — 10/16	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Mon — Fri	10/19 — 10/23	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday	10/24	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday	10/25	1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Mon — Fri	10/26 — 10/30	8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday	10/31	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday	11/01	1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday	11/02	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Did You Know?

Did you know that you can get absentee ballot request forms, change of address forms and/or register to vote forms at Way Library?

If you fill them out there, the library will even mail the forms to the Wood County Board of Elections for you.

2020 General Election FAQ

Q: May I drop off my Absentee Ballot Application at the office of the Wood County Board of Elections (WCBOE)?

> Yes. There is a Drop-Box available 24/7 outside the main entrance to the Wood County Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Square, Bowling Green.

Q: Do I have to drop off my Absentee Ballot Application? May I mail it?

> Yes -- but, mail it today! The mailing address is: WCBOE, 1 Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, OH 43402-2427

Q: For previous elections, I have done Early In-Person voting at the WCBOE's office. The space was small and the voting booths were very close together. Will it be the same this year?

> No. Early In-Person voting booths will be set up in the Wood County Courthouse Atrium and hallway to allow for physical distancing. (Early In-Person voting starts Tuesday, 10/06/20, at 8:00 AM.)

Q: What's Happening Now?
- ✓ [Voter Registration and Update your Registration due to name or address change.](#)
- ✓ [Verify Your Registration](#)
- ✓ [Ballot Applications](#) – mail it now if you want to Vote By Mail.

[Ohio Secretary of State FAQ](#)

Have You Paid Your Dues Yet?

… If not, please send a check made out to LWVPA for $65 to LWVPA, P.O. Box 712, Perrysburg, OH 43552.