

# LWV VOTER

League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County

May 2024

## Annual Meeting June 11 — in Person

Our **2024 LWV CDC Annual Meeting** is **Tuesday, June 11**, from **4:00 PM to 6:00 PM** at the **Helen Kate Furness Free Library**, 100 N Providence Rd, Wallingford, PA. **This is a FREE Member ONLY event.** The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to conduct the important business of our League of Women Voters.

During the business portion of our meeting we will be electing the 2024-2025 Board of Directors, adopting our 2024-2025 Budget and Local Program and sharing reports from our committees about our volunteer efforts throughout our communities.

The League will present its annual **Outstanding Community Service Award** to **Kayla Cocci** for her work with **Understanding. Devotion. Take Action. Justice.** UDTAJ, an organization that fights for equality and justice based on race, gender identity, sexual orientation, and across all intersectional identities. Kayla is a student member of LWV CDC.

We need a quorum to conduct business so we hope

you will attend the annual meeting and participate in the voting and discussions. We will email a digital version of the 2024 Annual Meeting Booklet prior to the meeting to all those who register. **Food will be provided at no cost but donations at the door will be appreciated.** To register [CLICK HERE](#)



## Last Call: Immigration in SE Pennsylvania — May 10

Don't forget to sign up for **Immigration Issues in SE Pennsylvania — The Big Picture.** Please join LWV CDC for this important program about the immigrants living among us, **May 10, 1 p.m., by Zoom.**

Our speakers will be Steven Larin, the Deputy Director of the Nationalities Service Center (NSC) and Exequiel (Zeke) Hernandez, professor at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Larin is an attorney specializing in removal defense, asylum, and immigrant youth issues. He leads NSC's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program.

Professor Hernandez publishes pioneering research examining how immigration patterns affect

the investment choices, strategic decisions, and performance of firms in foreign markets. His work on the linkage between immigration and economic growth has crucial implications for immigration policy.

His forthcoming book, *The Truth About Immigration: Why Successful Societies Welcome Newcomers*, will be published June 4 from St. Martin's Press.

The program is free but you must register to get the Zoom link. Please register [HERE](#). The event will be recorded and will be sent to all that register.

Event contact is [Ralf Graves](#), chair of the LWV CDC Civic Education Committee.

## LWV-CDC Officers 2021-2022

Anne Mosakowski, President

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Rosemary Kesling, secretary

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Denyse McCurdy, treasurer

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### Board Members

Marilyn Berberich

Carol Butler

Linda Carpenter

Marita Green

Joe Lesniak

Rose Marie Lord

Rebecca Michael

Joanna Nealon

Gloria Rabinowitz

Olivia Thorne

Judith Wertheimer

Peggy Wilson

### Voter Editor

Jodine Mayberry

[jodinemayberry@comcast.net](mailto:jodinemayberry@comcast.net)

## New Members

We welcome four new members, Nancy Carroll of Swarthmore, Linda Blickman of Bryn Mawr, Anne Brandt of Springfield and Jackie Danilewitz of Haverford, to LWV CDC.

Please come to your first LWV CDC Annual Meeting June 11 and let us meet you in person. See Page 3.



# President's Message

The League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County 2023-2024 fiscal year has been very busy and I want to thank ALL our members, our League leaders, committee chairs, board members (past, present, and incoming) for your interest in being part of the League of Women Voters nonpartisan team to improve our government and engage our communities in promoting positive solutions through the democratic process.

As a group of volunteers, we have given freely of our talents and interests that have translated into **thousands of volunteer hours**.

### July 2023 - June 2024 Highlights Included:

- Coordinated **34** Voter Registration/Information/Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) Events
- Received **Youth Voter Registration Grant** from the League of Women Voters of the United States
- Received a **Defenders of Democracy Grant** from the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania
- **Topic Presentations** via Zoom (527 Registered and 334 Views on YouTube as of 4/30)
- **Nine in-person International Relations Study Group** using Great Decisions Topics
- **Four in-person Membership Meetings** (which includes 2 New Member Meet & Greets)
- **10 Board Meetings via Zoom**
- **Communications:** Shared LWV CDC information in The Voter, our Newsletter (8 editions); posted on Facebook; regularly emailed members, and continually updated our website.
- **Tracked legislation** important to the work of the League and alerted members to take action.
- **Conducted Legislative Outreach** with our elected representatives.
- **Participated in two Lobbying Days at the Capitol in Harrisburg:** CeaseFire PA & LWVPA
- **Collaborated with LWVPA Initiatives**, such as, Fair Districts PA, Equity Initiative, Voter Services, Environmental Policy, Government Policy, Social Policy Initiative.
- **Sending 4 Voting Delegates to the LWVUS Convention** in Washington DC in June
- **Fundraised:** Participated in the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends
- **Continued member participation in the LWV of Delaware County Committees:** Regional Adolescent Sleep Needs Coalition (RASNC), Health, Environment, and Criminal Justice.
- **Continued outreach with community organizations, schools, government departments such as;** Delaware County Community College, CeaseFire PA, America 250PA Delco, Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living (CRCQL), Chester Senior Center, Chester Eastside, Broomall Manor, NAACP Chester Branch, NAACP Media Branch, Fellowship of Urban Suburban Engagement (FUSE) of Delaware County, Media Fellowship House, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, Rotary Club of Swarthmore, and many more.

**Thank you for supporting the work of our League!**

*Anne Mosakowski*

# Lobby Days Are Here Again

**On May 7**, several League members will join with CeaseFirePa to lobby our senators in Harrisburg to support three important gun safety bills that were narrowly passed by the Democrat-controlled House and are languishing in the Republican-controlled Senate.

**House Bill 1018** would create a process by which firearms could be removed from at-risk individuals.

**House Bill 714** would close the gun show loophole on



Membership Chair Olivia Thorne and President Anne Mosakowski at the 4th Annual Earth Justice March April 20.

background checks when purchasing firearms in PA.

**House Bill 777** would ban ghost guns (made on 3-D printers). It is not too late to sign up: Go to CeaseFirePA, and fill out the [registration form](#).

Note: there will be a bus from Delaware County leaving from the Springfield Mall parking lot.

**On May 8**, the League has been invited to take part in LWVPA's annual lobby day. We will be lobbying our legislators on election laws, open primaries, criminal justice, health care and other LWV issues.

We have arranged meetings with [State Sen. Anthony Williams](#), who represents the eastern portion of Delaware County from Yeadon to Tinicum, and staffers for Rep. Greg Vitali and Speaker of the House [Joanna McClinton](#), who represents Darby, Yeadon and part of Philadelphia.

[Click here to register](#). **Registration closes on May 3rd!** The registration is with the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania

Contact [Anne Mosakowski](#) if you want to go. We will be carpooling and will have to arrange rides.

## Nominees to LWVDC Board for 2024-25

The nominations for officers for 2024-2026 are:

**President:** Anne Mosakowski

**Secretary:** Rosemary Kesling

**Directors:**

Marita Green

Joanna Nealon

Olivia Thorne

Judy Wertheimer

**Nominating Committee:** Joan Hazbun, Viola Crawford and Gloria Rabinowitz.

See the full list of officers and board members in the Annual Meeting booklet., which will be provided electronically to members who register before the meeting.

You can register [HERE](#) as well as on the front page.

## Around the League — We Are Busy

Our **Voter Services Committee** was busy both before the primary election and continuing after it. This month they will staff tables at the [Swarthmore Rotary Fun Fair](#), Swarthmore, 12-4, and the Chester [River Fest](#), Suburu Park, 1-4, both May 19. They will have a table at the [Delaware County Pride festival](#) June 8, 1-6, Upper Darby, and they may do Juneteenth events as well. To join the committee, contact [Kathy Knight](#) or [Marilyn Gilroy](#).

League members met with U.S. Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon and with two state legislators — Senator Tim Kearny and Rep. Lisa Borowski during March and April. They are still trying to get a firm date with Rep. Jennifer O'Mara.

The LWVDC Environment Committee will staff a table at the [3rd Annual Sustainability Conference](#) at Widener University, May 30, and demonstrate the new county League's clearinghouse site, [envirodelco.org](#).

The Membership Committee will host a "meet and greet" for new members May 16 to help them become oriented to the League. Contact [Judy Wertheimer](#).

Four LWVDC delegates will go to the LWVUS National Convention June 27-30 in Washington, D.C. Voting delegates have been chosen but members are welcome to go as non-voting observers or to go virtually, at their own expense. For more information, click [HERE](#).

# What Do We Mean by ‘Nonpartisan’?

**Note: One of LWV CDC’s goals for 2024 was to better explain to the public what nonpartisanship means to the League of Women Voters. The LWV CDC Strategic Planning Committee met its goal by producing this explanatory statement:**

## **Nonpartisanship Defined**

The League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, grassroots organization. We adhere to the League of Women Voters nonpartisan principle and we **do NOT support or oppose any political party or candidate**. The League **DOES investigate and advocate on good governance and social policy [issues](#)**.

## **Issues are Not Partisan**

The League of Women Voters (LWV) advocacy work is issue-based, and we arrive at [our positions](#) based on careful study and input from members at all levels of the LWV (national, state and local). We can agree with a politician or candidate on an issue — but we never endorse the candidate. **Our organization NEVER provides funding to political candidates.**

Nonpartisan doesn't mean the League doesn't have positions about policies. It means that our positions are not informed by party politics.

## **Our Nonpartisan Activities**

- Voter registration
- Voter education, including nonpartisan candidate forums and [Vote411](#), our nonpartisan guide to voting and candidates
- Advocacy in line with our official positions
- Litigation on our issues
- Promote diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging and accessibility
- Fight against voter suppression

Protect the ballot box by promoting free, fair and accessible elections

## **Membership Explained**

When you join the League of Women Voters at the local level you will become a member of the national and state levels. League members are committed to making democracy work, no matter their political affiliation and we never request information on our members’ political affiliations.

The LWV Board of Directors are elected by our members to serve two-year terms and agree to accept the nonpartisan policy of that League.

**For over a hundred years the mission of the League of Women Voters is to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy.**

**Voting Is People Power - [Join Us](#)**