

LWV VOTER

League of Women Voters of Central Delaware

November-December 2022

Come to Holiday Gathering Dec. 17

Our Holiday Gathering: 2022 Celebration of Our League, is being held as an in-person event on Saturday, Dec. 17 at The Springhaven Club, 600 S Providence Rd, Wallingford. Doors open at 11:30 AM with lunch served at Noon in the Large

Dining Room, which allows for social distancing while enjoying our luncheon celebration.

The League will recognize the hard work of our members leading up to the 2022 Midterm Election.

That included numerous people who registered voters, staged candidates' forums and participated in get-out-the-vote events. Our new Voter Engagement Coalition advanced the League's policy supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion with partner organizations in Chester City. We held four election-related Hot Topics programs and promoted Vote411.org

throughout Delaware County in collaboration with the Delaware County Library System.



Part of the Crowd at Last Year's Gathering

To reserve your seat at the celebration [CLICK HERE](#). Please answer this question on the registration form: How important to you is the work of the League of Women Voters in defending free, fair and secure elections? Why?

- **Menu Options:** choice of Chicken Piccata or Vegetarian Risotto
 - **Cost:** \$35.00 per meal
 - **Reservation Dead-line:** Monday, December 12
- Payment Options:
- Check (Payable to LWV Central Delaware County & Mailed to PO Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086.
 - Cash at the door (But please register beforehand).
 - Online via the LWV CDC DONATE BUTTON - [CLICK HERE](#).

Contact Judy Wertheimer - judywertheimer@comcast.net for questions or information.

Delaware County Unofficial Election Results

With the fear of losing reproductive rights, angst over the economy and "democracy on the ballot," Delaware County voted overwhelmingly to elect Democrats as governor (Josh Shapiro), U.S. senator (John Fetterman) and U.S. Congress member (incumbent Mary Gay Scanlon). In Pennsylvania House and Senate races, all Democratic incumbents were re-elected in Delaware County.

Democratic challenger Lisa Borowski defeated incumbent Republican Chris Quinn in the reapportioned 168th House District that now includes Radnor Township. Democrat Carol Kazeem beat Republican Ruth Moton in the 159th House District, which encompasses parts of the city of Chester. Incumbent Republican Craig Williams narrowly defeated Challenger Cathy Spahr in the 160th House District, which includes parts of Delaware (where she lost) and Chester Counties (where she won by a handful of votes). Unofficial Delco results are [here](#). Unofficial Chester County results are [here](#).

Military, overseas and provisional ballots are still to be counted, but it appears that a few thousand fewer people voted this year than in the 2018 midterms. In 2018 — before paper ballots and mail-in voting — some 251,000 Delco voters cast ballots in the U.S. Senate race that pitted incumbent Democrat Bob Casey against Republican challenger Lou Barletta, and 249,000 voted in the gubernatorial race between incumbent Democrat Tom Wolf and Republican Scott Wagner. This year, 242,009 Delaware County votes had been counted by Nov. 9 in the U.S. senate race and 242,252 in the governor's race, both open seats.

LWV-CDC Officers 2021-2022

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New Members

New Members since August:

Daren and Karen Jones of Chester, James McLaughlin of Springfield, Donna Francher of Swarthmore, Patricia O'Shea of Glen Mills and Valerie Rousse of Media.

If you haven't paid your 2022 dues, please pay them [here](#) now so we can close our books on dues for the current year.



President's Message

For this edition of The Voter the President's message will focus on the work of our League of Women Voters (LWV) during 2022. I would like to extend a big thank you to our LWV CDC Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and our members for supporting the work of our League. Here are the highlights:

Seventeen Voter Education and Voter Engagement Events Via Zoom & In-person

- Eight Hot Topic presentations via Zoom and Four in-person member events
- Jeanette Ross Environmental Lecture via Zoom
- Three diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) events - one in-person in the City of Chester and two via Zoom focusing on the rights of Women and on the use of digital devices on the mental health of youth
- Gathering with Delaware County Council via Zoom in conjunction with the League of Women Voters of Delaware County ILO

Voter Services Events and Initiatives - 23 In-person Events

- Voter Registration Drives and Get-Out-the-Vote Events
- Delaware County Naturalization Ceremony with the LWV of Delaware County
- High School Student Voter Registration and Civic Education Programs with Upper Darby High School, Chester Upland High School, and the Chester Charter Scholars Academy
- Voter Registration Caseworker Training at the George W. Hill Correctional Facility
- Recruit Poll Workers

Promotion of [Vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org)

- Distribution of 30 Vote411.org yard signs to local libraries

Two Virtual Candidate Forums - combined got over 2,300 views on YouTube

- US House of Representative 5th Congressional District
- PA House of Representative 159th District

Two League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Grants

- **Building Equity Is Local** Grant to promote diversity, equity and inclusion
- **Local Democracy Defenders** Grant to promote [Vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org) yard signs

Good Governance and Public Policy Initiatives

- Conducted Local Legislator Interviews
- Attended in-person or monitored virtually Delaware County Council and Election Board meetings
- Attended rallies focusing on the rights of women and voting rights
- Submitted Op-Ed Articles on voting issues
- Spoke on in radio interviews on CMP Radio and WURD Radio about the work of the League and the importance of voting
- Attended conferences and committee meetings of the LWV US and LWV PA
- Engaged in environmental justice initiatives with state, region, county and municipal levels
- Participated in meetings of LWV and community partners focusing on health.

I encourage you to visit our website [lwvcdc.org](https://www.lwvcdc.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and share our videos on our [YouTube Channel](#) to get or stay involved in the work and mission of the League to **Empower Voters & Defend Democracy**.

Anne Mosakowski

LWV-CDC Voter Engagement Coalition Launches

By Anne Mosakowski and Barbara Amstutz

As an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in principle and in practice, LWV-CDC knew that a DEI lens was essential to the current and future success of our work engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy. This is the premise that we started with when we formed the Voter Engagement Coalition in January 2021.

With a laser focus in Chester City, and a desire to build voter engagement in all its facets – voter registration initiatives, confidence in the electoral process, participation as poll workers and to create a platform to address important policy issues, we reached out to experienced community advocates, leaders and stakeholders in Chester.

Over the past two years, the LWV Voter Service Committee has been working collaboratively to coordinate a wide array of voter service, advocacy and educational initiatives in Chester.

High Schools: At Chester High School, Chester Charter Scholar Academy and other high schools in Delco, several voter registration drives and peer-to-peer training educated students on the importance of voting, the registration process and the value of an informed voter. Most recently, the League is invited to support civics and voting at the STEM Academy in Chester.

Partnerships: Through Invitation of our Chester partners, LWV-CDC have been invited to participate in a variety of Chester City events: June 19/Juneteenth Celebration and advocacy and community organizing seminars (Sept 26 and Oct 24) sponsored by Kearni Warren, one of Chester's most active leaders.

Other partners include Zulene Mayfield representing Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living. CRCQL (circle) holds a monthly meeting that members of the LWV Voter Coalition attend regularly. A LWV environmental justice unit is forming under the Direction of Kathy Cook, LWVPA Environmental Policy Director, to work with our partners to address the issues of a potential Natural Gas Terminal and other environmental justice issues in Chester.

Candidate Forums: September 28, at 7 pm, a Virtual/ live streamed candidate forum was held for Carol Kazeem and Ruth Moton for [PA House 159th District](#) – Chester City. This

event was well attended live and has received **428** views to date of the recorded program. Oct 10th at 7 pm, a Virtual Candidate forum was held for the U.S. [House of Representatives PA 5th Congressional District](#) with Mary Gay Scanlon and David Galluch. This event was well attended live and received **2,214** views to date of the recorded program.

Chester City Rocks GOTV: Starting in August, a planning committee of community partners and the LWV meet regularly by Zoom to implement a Get Out the Vote celebration - *Chester City Rocks – Voting Matters* on Oct 8th that included speakers Delaware County Councilman Richard Womack; Christina Iacono, Delaware County poll worker coordinator, and Dyneco Gibson, regional director for the New Pennsylvania Project in Chester. Over 50 people gathered at Vittles Food Hall in Chester, to learn about free, fair and secure elections in Delco; how to participate as a poll worker (five poll workers were recruited), and how to access LWV voting and elections resources.



Coalition partners Zulene Mayfield of Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living and Charles Eillison of WURD Radio with League members Barbara Amstutz and Viola Crawford

Several Chester leaders, NAACP members, media personalities and the press attended and eight students from the Chester Charter Scholars Academy staffed a voter registration table and connected with many of Chester's civic leaders. Working with young people to recognize the power of their own voice as informed voters is an essential part of our message. Read the article - [League of Women Voters urges Chester residents to be active in elections.](#)

Radio Interview: Through the coordinated effort of League partners, LWV-CDC was invited on [Radio WURD Reality Check](#) with Charles Ellison to participate in an interview on voter engagement in Chester. Joann Bell and Rita Hill hosts of the "Source" with the Black Women's Leadership Council on WURD radio also invited the LWV-CDC to serve as a guest and resource for their upcoming civic engagement programs.

Many thanks to all the LWV Voter Engagement Coalition Partners and LWV volunteers for their many contributions. We are working on follow-up initiatives and we welcome your input. If you are interested in joining the Voter Engagement Coalition, please contact Anne Mosakowski amosakowski@gmail.com or Barbara Amstutz swhmdi53-bwa@outlook.com.

Legislative Report — PA Amendments Probably Dead

By Jodine Mayberry

While Governor Tom Wolf's challenge to SB 106 — the five combined election and abortion proposed constitutional amendments — winds its way through the appellate courts, the Republicans in the State Legislature tried hedging their bets with two new bills, one on elections and one on abortion, that were making their way through the legislature in October.

HB 1596: Sets the voting age at 18 (as already required by the 26th Amendment) and requires government-issued IDs and signature matching. It would set a deadline of 30 days before the election for voter registration (now 15 days) and require the election of the secretary of the commonwealth (who is appointed by the governor now).

SB 956: This is a stand-alone version of the abortion provision in SB 106. It uses the same wording — "Nothing in this Constitution grants or secures any right relating to abortion or the public funding thereof. Nothing in this Constitution requires taxpayer funding of abortion." That was the wording of the bill that went down to resounding defeat in Kansas in August.

These two bills were swiftly voted out of committee, but on Nov. 8, the Democrats may have taken back the Pennsylvania House. That wasn't certain at press time but if they have flipped the House, that would mean Republican efforts to legislate by constitutional amendment are all but dead. They have no hope of passing these and many other amendments for a second time in the next legislative session, which begins Jan. 3. Even if Republicans retain the House, voters delivered a strong message Nov. 8 about how they might vote on election suppression and abortion amendments if put on the ballot.

LNG Task Force: The Legislature passed and the governor signed a bill, **HB 2458**, creating a Philadelphia LNG task force to promote construction of a liquified natural gas terminal

somewhere along the Delaware River in Philadelphia or Chester. If Pennsylvania is going to cash in on LNG exports, it will be along the Philadelphia or Delaware County riverfront because the river is unnavigable above Philadelphia. The task force will be made up of state and local officials. The LNG terminal is supported by the fracking industry, the business community and construction unions.

LWV-CDC and Delaware County LWV are in the process of forming an environmental justice committee to learn about and educate the community about how an LNG terminal could impact the health and safety of our local communities. We are planning a program on the subject in March.



LWV-CDC Vice President Cathy Yungmann points to "League of Women Voters of NYC" in a painting titled Vote by Pink Lady, Sandra Fabara, that she painted live during a voter registration event in 2014. Cathy saw the painting at the New York Historical Society Museum.

Holiday Gathering, Dec. 17, Noon: See Page 1. If you do NOT register online or pay via PayPal, use this form to sign up and send the form and a check to LWV Central Delaware County P.O. Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086.

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

No. Attending _____ Entrée Choice: Chicken Piccata _____ Vegetarian Risotto _____

Please Provide your best answer to this question: How important to you is the work of the League of Women Voters in defending free, fair and secure elections? Why? _____
