

LWW VOTER

League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County

September 2023

The Impact of AI on Elections — Sept. 29

LWVCDC is very excited to bring you Hot Topic — The Impact of AI on Elections, Friday, Sept. 29 at Noon on Zoom. A research and legal expert from [The Brennan Center for Justice](#), a nonpartisan law and policy institute, and the CEO and founder of [AlandYou](#) will help us understand the impact of artificial intelligence on elections and democracy.

Powerful artificial intelligence tools will soon allow anyone to create fake narratives, images, video and audio that are realistic enough to fool voters and perhaps sway an election. According to an AP (Associated Press) article; “Generative AI can not only rapidly produce targeted campaign emails, texts or videos, it also could be used to mislead voters, impersonate candidates and undermine elections on a scale and at a speed not yet seen.”

Presenters



Mekela Panditharatne serves as counsel for the Brennan Center’s Democracy Program, where her work focuses on election reform, election security, governance, voting, truth and information.

Mekela will share analysis from a recent Brennan Center report, [How AI Puts Elections at Risk — And the Needed Safeguards](#), which highlights how artificial intelligence tools could help fuel the spread of disinformation and create hazards to democracy.

Susan Gonzales is the founder of [AlandYou.org](#), which she launched after spending more than 20 years in tech and telecom industries working in



Susan Gonzales

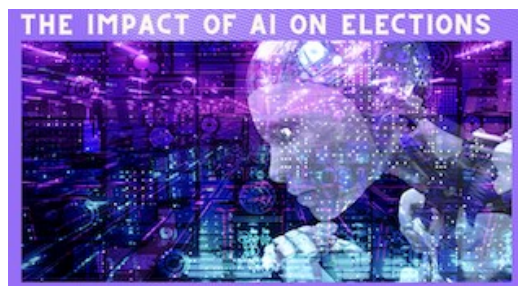
policy and community engagement. Susan is a member of President Biden’s National AI Advisory Committee (NAIAC), a board member of EqualAI, and co-author of [“A Blueprint for Inclusivity in AI”](#)

World Economic Forum 2022 report. She was director of Community Engagement policy for Facebook 2011 - 2016 and senior director of external affairs for Comcast for eight years before that in Washington, D.C.

Moderator

Cathy Yungmann will be the moderator. She is vice president of the League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County, chair of the LWVCDC Communications Committee and communications professor emerita, Cabrini University.

This program is FREE but to receive the link to the Zoom Virtual Presentation via email you MUST Register. Click [HERE](#) to register.



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President's Message

During the Spring of 2023 the League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County embarked on a Strategic Planning Initiative for 2023-2025. To help us develop goals, objectives and action steps we conducted a member survey and asked members to complete the survey to help our League discern what is important to our members so we can continue to engage and advance the LWV mission to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy.

To view 2023 Member Survey Result Slides - click [HERE](#).

As a result of the survey findings, our LWV developed the following goals:

- Goal 1: Increase the membership of LWV CDC by 10 percent, further membership diversity and develop a stable and diverse financial structure.
- Goal 2: Increase engagement by members.
- Goal 3: Present ourselves effectively as a provider of nonpartisan public-policy information (education/voter-service).
- Goal 4: Build on the effectiveness of internal and external communications by increasing methods of outreach.

Over the summer months members volunteered to work in teams to set objectives and action steps and develop resources to help implement the goals.

In future President messages I will share the work of each of these teams. If you are serving on a goal team, thank you, but if you would like to serve, please email me at amosakowski@gmail.com with your contact information and what goal(s) you are interested in helping with to keep our League a vital and trusted organization.

Thank you!

Anne Mosakowski

DELAWARE COUNTY NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

The League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County has been invited by the presiding Judge to be present at the Sept. 13 naturalization ceremony at the Delaware County Courthouse to give each new citizen a packet on voting and a voter registration form.

Because of limited seating, only the new citizens and their family members may attend. LWV is proud to be included. To read about the process of becoming a naturalized citizen and the naturalization ceremony, click [HERE](#).

Let's Talk: Kids and Social Media

Join a FREE multi-League of Women Voters southeastern regional, live-streamed event **Let's Talk: Kids and Social Media on Thursday, Oct. 5, at 7:00 PM** via YouTube. Social Media researcher, author, and parent Devorah Heitner, Ph.D. will present insights from her just-released book, **Growing Up in Public: Coming of Age in a Digital World**. It was written to help meet the digital challenge of tweens and teens navigating boundaries, identity, privacy and reputation.

Do you notice that people rarely talk face-to-face? We text to connect. We meet via Zoom. We hold virtual worship services. We share our photos on Instagram. We post what's happening in our lives online. We view viral videos on TikTok. Who knows what X (formerly Twitter) and AI will bring?

The lack of conversation is troubling. Dialogue is important. What can be done? Social media has changed the playing field not only in political campaigns but also in our daily lives. As an organization designed to promote civic responsibility and active participation in government, this is an issue that cannot be ignored nor addressed in a vacuum. Thus, the LWV is working in collaboration with our library systems in Delaware, Chester, and Montgomery Counties to begin this discussion with Let's Talk: Kids and Social Media. This event is



Devorah Heitner

partially funded by area Rotary Clubs.

Devorah will provide a webinar designed to promote conversation about navigating social media and help answer these questions:

- How can we keep our youth safe on their communication devices?
- What should be made public and what should be private?
- What does it take to thrive in a digital world?
- How does social media impact relationships and a sense of self?
- Why is it important to help our family become screenwise?

Devorah's earlier work, **Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) in Their Digital World**, guides parents to help their families develop healthy tech habits. In addition to her books, Devorah is the founder of [Raising Digital Natives](#).

She has her own blog and provides free email courses on digital topics, such as Phonewise. She even has free SOS Guides with tested advice and sample scripts on Sexting and Damage Control!

The webinar is FREE.

We encourage you to tell your friends and neighbors, organize watch parties and post the flier below in your local library or share with book clubs, churches and other organizations. You MUST register to receive the link to this live-streamed event via your email.

Click [HERE](#) to register. Click [HERE](#) for share the Event Flier.

LWVCDC Honors Libraries

At our annual meeting in June LWVCDC presented the Delaware County Library System with our Outstanding Community Service award for the many years' of collaboration between the libraries and the League to help county residents find voter registration, election and candidates information.

The award was delivered virtually at the meeting and later delivered in person by President Anne Mosakowski and Board Member Joanna Nealon. Last year, the county's libraries allowed LWV to place lawn signs in front of their facilities to advertise Vote411.org, the League's non-partisan online voters guide to candidates, ballots and voter registration information.



Diane Arnold (left), reference and outreach coordinator for the Delaware County Library System, receives the award from LWVCDC President Anne Mosakowski and Board Member Joanna Nealon.

Bosco's Friends Helping Friends

We had so much fun participating in Bosco's annual Friends Helping Friends day last year, we thought we'd do it again.

Here's how it works: You buy a shopping pass from LWVDC in exchange for a \$5 donation that goes 100% to our league and you use the pass all day on Oct. 18 to buy items in the Granite Run store for 25% off each item, in addition to any other sales markdown. You can also register for a \$100 gift card.

We are asking members to volunteer to man tables for two hours on one of four presale days or on Oct. 18 itself to sell the passes to the public. This was a terrific fund-raiser for us last year, raising about \$300, and we hope to better our numbers this year.

Manning the tables gives you an opportunity to meet and talk to people from everywhere in Delaware County about LWV, elections and voting, and about whatever they want to talk about. It may not sound like fun, but surprisingly, it can be. You never know what people want to talk about.

The four presale tabling days are Sept. 16, 23 and 30 and Oct. 14. We will need one or two volunteers for two hours each of those days between 12 and 5 p.m. On Oct. 18, the day of the sale, we will need two volunteers for each two-hour shift. To volunteer or purchase passes, fill out this [form](#) or contact Gloria Rab-

inowitz at 302-521-7743, gloriarabinowitz@gmail.com, or Rosemarie Lord at 610-722-5526, mlord1006@gmail.com. To purchase passes by mail, please fill out and send in the form below or submit the online form and send in a check. We ask that you purchase a minimum of two passes. Send a check payable to LWV Central Delaware County to PO Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086.

Please have your order in by Sept. 30 so we will have time to process the payment and send you the passes. Either fill out one of the forms (online or below) or include your name, address, telephone number and email with your check so we can mail the passes to you and contact you in the event of any problems.

If you just want to purchase passes at the store on Oct. 18, you will have to find our table. We never know where we're going to be stationed in the store.



Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

Email _____

I want to buy _____ pass(es). \$5 each.

Enclose a check for correct amount made out to LWV Central Delaware County and mail to PO Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086

Be a Poll Worker: a Worker for Democracy



Have you ever wondered where those Election Day workers at your polling place come from? They come from your community, and you can do it as well.

It's a 15-hour day and requires some advance preparation, but it pays \$240 for the training and one-day's work and it can give you great satisfaction to be helping your neighbors carry out their democratic duty. It seems complicated, and it is a little, but don't worry that you don't know how. You'll get training beforehand and plenty of help from your fellow volunteers on Election Day.

To find out how to sign up, click [here](#) or go to LWVDC's Voter Toolbox [here](#).

We Work for Environmental Justice



LWV members were at the Aug. 22 hearing before the Philadelphia LNG Task Force to join our voices with about 150 other community members to lend our support in delivering a resounding “NO” to building a polluting and potentially very dangerous LNG export terminal in Chester.

In accordance with LWVUS and PALWV’s stands on climate change and environmental justice, the League’s new environmental committee is also working with allies and partners on several local environmental [issues](#).

We will be commenting on the County’s sustainability master plan and the Zero Waste 10-year solid waste disposal plan. We will also be asking for Delaware County Council to adopt LWVUS’s [climate emergency](#) resolution.

If you want to join the committee or just learn more, please contact Carol Butler at butlercarol@verizon.net.

We Work on Jail, Bail and Juvenile Justice Reform

The LWV Delaware County League (made up of members from both LWV Central Delaware County and LWV Radnor) is expanding its Criminal Justice Committee. The committee will observe, learn, report and be actively involved in actions and issues related to criminal justice issues in Delaware County plus network with other League Committees and other organizations.

The committee will also learn and become involved in Bail, Public Defender, and Juvenile Justice Issues. Alicia Granor will be the new chair of the Committee.

If you wish to serve on the committee or learn more contact Alicia Granor, alicia.g@alumni.upenn.edu or Olivia Thorne, olivia.thorne@verizon.net.



We Work to Keep Our Members Informed and Engaged



Watch our members Jennifer Breen (C) and Peggy Wilson ably explain the League on this [YouTube](#) interview with CMP Radio host Jean-Pierre Brice.

The Communication/Marketing Committee spreads the word about the League news and events to members, partners and the public. Committee members assist with LWV branded social media posts, website updates, video, print media and email communications.

If you like to write, can post on social media, are interested in graphics, have an eye for photography or would like to cultivate your communication skills, the committee welcomes your help. Members will teach you the software, so don’t let that stop you from joining!

The committee organizes League Zoom meetings and maintains our YouTube channel. It is also responsible for the creation and distribution of this monthly Voter and for sending op-ed pieces to other publications. Contact Cathy Yungmann at cyungmann@gmail.com to join or for info.

Voter Information Tabling Schedule

Our hard-working Voter Services Committee has set the following schedule for staffing voter information tables in September and October. We are not calling them “voter registration tables” any more because we are doing so much more — educating voters about mail-in voting, telling them how to become poll workers, informing them about the work of the League, and encouraging them to make a plan to vote this fall.

Although the November 7 election is a municipal election, County Council candidates and judges, including a crucial state supreme court race, will be on the ballot. If you want to volunteer for one or more of these dates or have other opportunities to suggest, email Marilyn Gilroy at zzipixel@yahoo.com, Kathy Knight at kathyknight7@gmail.com or Kathleen Peterson at kmpeterso@hotmail.com. Feel free to drop by and visit our table if you’re at the event.

These dates are also posted on our [events page](#). Additional dates will be posted there as they come up.

Sept. 18 — National Constitution Day — Delaware County Community College, Marple Campus, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sept. 19 — National Voter Registration Day — DCCC, Marple Campus, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sept. 30 — Upper Darby International Festival, [100 Garrett Rd., Upper Darby](#) 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Sept. 21 — Senior Expo, Brookhaven Municipal Building, Cambridge Dr., Brookhaven, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Oct. 7 — Swarthmore Farmers Market, [121 Park Ave., Swarthmore](#), 9 a.m. to Noon.

Oct. 12 — Senior Expo, Concord Twp, BYC Gymnasium, [41 Thornton Rd., Glen Mills](#), 9 a.m. to Noon.



LWVDC's Marita Green received the Anna Estes Strawbridge award at the PALWV convention this summer in Harrisburg, along with our president, Anne Mosakowski. Marita was honored for many years of work leading our Voter Service team. Anna Strawbridge was a driving force for LWV during the League's early years and is remembered for keeping the League solvent during the Great Depression.

Tune in to These PALWV Ballot Box Basic Programs

The state League is sponsoring three very timely free webinars ahead of the Nov. 7 election:

Combatting Mis- and Dis-Information: The program will feature the League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh leading a discussion on combatting mis and disinformation. Sept. 12, 5:30 p.m. To register, click [HERE](#).

The PA Judicial System: With a very important state Supreme Court race on the ballot in November, the webinar will feature Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts for a discussion on the PA Judiciary. Sept. 20, 5:30 p.m. To register, click [HERE](#).

What Does Municipal Government Do?: Pat Christmas of the Committee of Seventy will cover the inner workings of municipal governments. Oct. 10, 5:30. To register, click [HERE](#).

You might also want to watch these two PALWV programs from last spring. Both are relevant to the general election.

School Board Elections: the importance of school board elections and how to make a voting plan for 2023. The Panel was led by Susan Spicka, Executive Director at [Education Voters PA](#). Click [HERE](#) to watch.

The Importance of Municipal Elections: why municipal elections matter, election day information for 2023, how to research your candidates, and more! Krystle Knight of [Vote Riders](#) also spoke on voter ID requirements. Click [HERE](#) to watch.