

LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Two years ago, it would have been hard to imagine what a global pandemic would look like, if the thought even crossed our minds. A year later we were totally immersed in virtual meetings, social distancing, and the ever-present masks. Life was boring, the holidays came and went, kids were not in school. In some ways, life was simpler; we hated it but the rules seemed clear.

As the year progressed, we anxiously awaited a vaccine, we got the vaccine (hopefully!) and things started opening up. Life seemed within sight. Enter the Delta variant!

Things are not so simple now. There are far more decisions to make. The fear, not all that far from the surface, has returned. It has become a balancing act as to whether to have events in person, indoors, outdoors, masked or unmasked.

The League had been planning several events that until recently, have been slated as in-person events. The first of these events was to be our first Educational Forum on Sept. 21st at La Primavera. In the time since that initial decision was made, the world has again taken a wrong turn. The numbers of cases and deaths from COVID have increased. The number of pediatric cases is nothing short of frightening. The number of vaccinations that have been given has increased, but needs to be on a much steeper trajectory. The need for a third “booster” shot for vaccinated individuals has been identified.

The LWVLA Board of Directors met on September 1st and discussed the wisdom of having an in-person event that is indoors and offers a buffet lunch. It was the Board’s decision that, in the interest of the health and well-being of the League members and guests attending the Forum, Zoom would be the better format. You will find information on that Forum and how to register in the Forum article of this *League Line*, on our website, and soon, it will be sent to all members. We will be evaluating all potential in-person events according to the prevailing information as we move forward.

These are not easy decisions to make. Be aware that it is the safety and wellbeing of our members that is utmost in our minds. We would all like to be together and we believe we can help make that happen in the near future, hopefully by Christmas. Meanwhile, we will all continue to try to do our part to craft a safer future. Stay well!

Kandy Duncan, President

WHAT’S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, September 2nd. Coronavirus containment measures may cause delays or cancellations. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

Friday, September 17th

First day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot for 2021 Municipal Election

Saturday, September 18th, 11:00am-4:00pm

REDISCOVER! Celebration
The Library for Union County Rededication
LWVLA educational activities and information table
See *Voter Services* article for details

Monday, September 20th

Appellate Court Candidates Virtual Forum
See article below

Tuesday, September 21st, 12:00-1:00pm

FORUM
Scott Meinke, Bucknell Professor Political Science,
“The Battle Over Voting”
Via Zoom opening at 11:30am.

Monday, October 4th, 3:00pm

BOARD MEETING
Buffalo Township Building
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg

Monday, October 18th

Last day to change your voter registration for 2021 Municipal Election

Tuesday, October 19th, 12:00-1:00pm

FORUM
Bucknell Professor Judith Grisel
“The Neuroscience of Addiction”
Via Zoom opening at 11:30a.m.

CANDIDATES FOR APPELLATE COURTS VIRTUAL FORUM

On Monday, September 20th, at 7:00pm, Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts and the Free Library of Philadelphia will host a virtual forum with the candidates for all of Pennsylvania’s appellate courts, including the Supreme Court, Superior Court, and Commonwealth Court. The LWV of PA is a sponsor of the forum. This event will include all of the candidates on the ballot and will provide viewers with an opportunity to get to know the candidates through a moderated forum. Attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions for the candidates. You must register to attend at:

pmconline.org/events/2021-appellate-courts-candidates-forum

Mary Zimmerman

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER FORUMS

PLEASE NOTE: All Forums until further notice will be held via Zoom, and will require registration.

The first two fall Forums will be virtual using the Zoom platform, due to ongoing Covid conditions. On Tuesday, September 21st, from noon to 1pm., Scott Meinke, Bucknell Professor of Political Science, will speak on “The Battle over Voting: How Courts, Congress and the States are Expanding and Restricting Access to the Ballot.” Afterward, participants may join an optional small group discussion. On Tuesday, October 19th, the Forum speaker will be Bucknell Professor Judith Grisel, speaking on the neuroscience of addiction.

Zoom rooms for these events open at 11:30am. Preregistration is required to participate.

To register for the **September** Forum, email LWVLAForum@gmail.com before **Sunday, September 19th**. Include your name, state your interest in the September 21st Forum. A unique Zoom meeting link, and instructions will be sent only to those who preregister.

As always, the LWVLA welcomes all to register and attend via Zoom. Subsequent recordings will be posted on the League website LWVLewisburgArea.org

Teri MacBride, Forum Committee

STATE CONVENTION

The LWVLA had five voting delegates attend the virtual 54th PA State Convention on June 18th and 19th. Sheri Stayton, Liz Clement, Linda Harris, Mary Zimmerman, and Kandy Duncan. The theme this year was “The League: Keystone of Democracy.”

Along with other highlights of the convention, there were some hometown stars. Sheri Stayton and Liz Clements were added to the Anna Estes Strawbridge Honor Roll for the outstanding, ongoing work on **Vote411**. Additionally, Mary Beth Clark and Mary Zimmerman were asked to speak to the convention illustrating how our Educational Forums attract new members and promote civic education.

Kandy Duncan

LOCAL PROGRAM

Program is the heart and soul of the League, and serves as the basis from which we as an organization educate and advocate.

Last spring, Mary Beth Clark conducted a member review of LWVLA programs. We have three programs involving education, voting, and regional cooperation. As a result of the review, it was concluded that the Lewisburg League needs to revise the voting

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and regional cooperation programs, and replace the education program. We are asking any members who are interested in this project to remain after the September Forum to discuss moving forward on those changes. If you are unable to take part in the September Forum, but are interested in this project, please contact Mary Zimmerman at nvzimm@gmail.com.

Mary Zimmerman

VOTER SERVICES REPORT

What You Need to Know

Two Ways to Learn About Who's Running in Upcoming Elections

1. **The 2021 Fall Voters Guide**: *Voters Guides* are back in a **printed** format! LWVLA will be printing *Voters Guides* and distributing them in our community. Drop-off sites may vary due to increases in Covid rates. Check the website for updates and locations. The Union County Libraries and Post Offices will definitely have copies available. The *Voters Guide* will also be online on the League's website at:

lwvlewisburgarea.org/voter-resources/voters-guide

2. **Vote411.org**: The National League's website has an innovative, "one-stop-shop" for non-partisan election-related information, both general and state-specific: Vote411.org. You can compare candidates' information side-by-side, and create your own custom ballot based on your address. **Vote411** also provides links to register to vote or check your voter registration, find your polling place, discover upcoming debates in your area, and much more!

Candidates Night

We are planning at least 2 virtual events. Check the website for dates and races represented.

Voter Registration Opportunities

On Saturday, September 18th from 11am-4pm, our League will have a table at the Union County Public Library's celebration for the rededication of the library's recent renovation. The ReDiscover! celebration will include live music, food, and children's activities. Volunteers needed!

Voters Guide

The *Voters Guide* staff (Sheri Stayton, Dawn Maneval, Liz Clement, and Carole Madle) has begun work to gather information on local candidates running in the Fall 2021 Municipal Election. The goal is to have candidate information available on **Vote411.org**, in a printed "newspaper", and online by the time mail-in ballots are available.

LEAGUE LINE

SEPT. 2021

League Line is published monthly by the
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE LEWISBURG AREA.**

Deadline for submission of articles is
the 15th of each month.

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Important Voting Dates for 2021

September 17th — First day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot for the 2021 Municipal Election

October 18th — Last day to register to vote or change party affiliation before the 2021 Municipal Election.

Note: If you register to vote by mail, the signed voter registration form must be received by your county election office 15 days before an election; that is, by October 18th, 2021 for the Fall Municipal Election.

October 26th — Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot for the 2021 Municipal Election.

Note: If you apply for a mail-in ballot by mail, the mail-in ballot application must be received by your county election office by 5:00pm on this date.

November 2nd — MUNICIPAL ELECTION

In-Person voting: Polls open from 7:00am to 8:00pm

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots, in person or by mail, by 8:p.m.

November 3rd — First day to register after the Municipal Election

November 9th — Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots for the Fall Municipal Election

Note: If you vote a military or overseas absentee ballot, the absentee ballot must be submitted.

Linda Harris, *Voter Services chair*

MEMBERSHIP

We are in the midst of membership renewal. Everyone should have received the membership letter a couple weeks ago. If you did not receive one, please let us know. Also, note the new membership page on our website that features a printable pdf of the membership application. Feel free to share it with any friend or family members who may want to join. The page is accessed by clicking on the "Join" button.

Several social events are in various stages of planning.

- **September 18th**: we will sponsor an educational/informational table at the Library for Union County celebratory event saluting the opening of the new renovations. The reception will be from 11am to 4pm.
- The Fall Prospective Member event, tentatively planned for September 23rd, has been postponed to a date to be announced later.
- **December 9th**: The Winter Holiday event will be at Buffalo Valley Commons. More information will be shared when it is available.
- **After the first of the year**: We would also like to have a Spring New Member Tea. This would be a new member orientation.
- **May 11th** (backup date of **May 18th**): The Annual Meeting will be held at Ards. Again, details to follow.

We will need people to help with each of these events so please let us know if you have any interest.

Membership



Dear Members,

Having successfully navigated a year of virtual activity, we are cautiously emerging from this pandemic stronger than ever. The work of the League is now transitioning to in-person meetings, face to face events, and much needed social gatherings.

In order for your League to continue to provide a clear and present voice during these tumultuous times, it needs YOU, the members who volunteer, support our activities financially, and work toward our goal of keeping citizens informed about their government.

Another year has gone by and it is time once again to renew memberships for 2022. Please support the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area in its ongoing work **by renewing your membership today.**

Dues September 1, 2021—January 31, 2022

- \$55 One-year individual membership**
- \$80 Household (+\$25 for additional household member)**
- \$35 35 years of age or younger**
- \$10 One-year student membership**

Please take a moment to fill out the attached form and mail your check payable to LWVLA, PO Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837.

Thank you!
Kandy Duncan, President
League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area

For more information, please visit our website, www.lwvlewisburgarea.org, or email us at lwvlewisburgarea@gmail.com

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I wish to renew my membership in the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone #s(home, work and/or cell) _____

Special Interest: Voters Service _____; Forums _____; Studies _____; Special Events _____

Second Household Member: _____

E-mail _____

Phone #s (home, work and or cell) _____

Special Interest: Voters Service _____; Forums _____; Studies _____; Special Events _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ .

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