

LEAGUE LINE

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

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Greetings from your new Leadership Team (aka "Board of Directors") for 2025-2026! In case you missed the Annual Meeting on June 10th, (or were there and need a little more information), here's what's happening:

We are calling ourselves a "Leadership Team" because we are slightly unconventional in our makeup: no President, Vice President, or Secretary. We will be using the 'Leadership Team' model that other Leagues in our situation have used – sharing board responsibilities and forming Committees to work on projects important to our League (LWVLA). We have met over the summer to start figuring out how this will work. And we will continue to meet, to gather information and decide which issues and activities to work on, and where to best allocate resources to complete them. So please have patience and.... stay tuned!

There will likely be some changes to our traditional activities. Due to resource limitations, we won't automatically be doing all of the things we've done in the past, but here's what we will continue to do:

- Fall Voters Guide
- Some Forums this fall
- Mauch Millennial Project
- *League Line*

Member involvement is crucial to the running of this League, and we encourage each of you, as a League member, to be a part of this League's revitalization!

As a team, we are excited to work together to take this organization in the direction you, the members, want to go. To help members come together:

- There will be a Membership Social this fall (tentatively October 9th)
- We will be inviting everyone to join a Committee to help us accomplish the activities that the organization chooses to work on.

All of the new Leadership Team members will have shared access to all lines of communication, so rest assured you will be heard! Please send any suggestions or concerns that you have to us. We have created a form available for this purpose (see page 4 of this newsletter), which you can send to our League addresses: either email (LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com) or

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, August 15th. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

Tuesday, September 23rd, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING
Mary Zimmerman's home

Thursday, October 9th, 4:00-6:00p.m.

MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL
The Commons at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village
6 Tressler Blvd.

Monday, October 20th

LAST DAY to REGISTER to VOTE!

Tuesday, October 28th

LAST DAY to APPLY for MAIL-IN ballot

Tuesday, November 4th

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

postal mail (PO Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837-0206).

Thank you for this opportunity to be creative and forward-thinking in our efforts to inspire our membership to get more involved! This is an exciting time.

Leadership Team: Hood Johnston, Teri MacBride, Dawn Maneval, Pat Marolo, Jeff Scheckter, Jenni Stieler, Mary Zimmerman

NANCY NEUMAN CITIZENSHIP AWARD COMMITTEE

The Nancy Neuman Scholarship is awarded annually to two high school seniors who have implemented projects to address a local, national or international issue and submitted an essay describing their work. Diane Gottlieb, chair of the Nancy Neuman Scholarship Committee has decided to step down after faithfully leading this group for 8 years. At some time during her tenure, Diane has managed all aspects of this committee, from meeting with guidance counsellors, procuring, reading and discussing essays with committee members, presenting the awards, recruiting committee members, and many other tasks. We thank her for her dedication to

this committee, and years of service and will miss her thoughtful guidance. She is currently residing in the personal care area of Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village with her beloved cat, Lily; visitors welcomed.

If you are interested in chairing or joining the Nancy Neuman Citizenship Award Committee, please contact Betsy Noyce: betsynoyce@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Social

Please plan to join us at our LWVLA Membership Social, on October 9th from 4:00 to 6:00p.m. at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village at the Village Commons building. This gathering will include:

- An update from the Leadership Team
- Information about the upcoming online renewal process
- Other committee updates too.

The idea is to get current members, new members, and prospective members to hear more about LWVLA.

The Village Commons can be accessed from Reitz Boulevard, turning right on Tressler Drive if you are traveling south and turning left on to Tressler if you are traveling north. RSVP to MaryAnn Griffin, Membership Co-Chair by September 25th at griffma1993@gmail.com.

Membership Renewal Changes

Starting this fall, we, along with all local Leagues, are implementing a new dues renewal process. You may have seen previous notices and information about this change. The national League of Women Voters (LWVUS) will initiate emails to each individual starting in November, when they roll out the new system. The Leadership Team and Membership Committee will provide directions and help in the coming months.

Renewals will be done on our website (lwvlewisburgarea.org), or can be done on the state or national website (lwv.org). Renewals will be due by December 31st, 2025. The LWVLA Leadership Team plans to provide more about this process in the coming months. In the meanwhile, be aware of this change. You will no longer receive a renewal letter and form from us in the mail this month.

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Thanks for your patience as we work through the changes. Questions can be sent to us at LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to each of our new members: Kathy Graham, Carol Graybeal, Julie Vandivere and Leslie Dietterick!

Our Past President

All of the Lewisburg League members send heartfelt wishes for a full recovery to our past President, Kandy Duncan, as she continues to heal from unplanned back surgery in late August.

*MaryAnn Griffin, Jenni Stieler, Membership
Co-chairs*

UPCOMING FORUMS

The Forum Committee is working on speakers and programs for the coming year. Several are close to being ready to announce, but arrangements are not yet final. We're going to try a late-afternoon schedule this year, hoping more members and potential members will be attracted to that time slot.

We hope to have an October speaker, probably another in November or December, and two more in 2026. Watch for updates in the next *League Line* and emails from LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.

Teri MacBride for the Forum Committee

MAUCH COMMITTEE

High School Internship

In May 2025, Janice Bigelow and Elaine Hopkins interviewed two candidates for the '25-'26 high school internship. The students were nominated by Lucie Gosson-Roy and Mariah Drexler, last year's interns. We were very impressed with Katelyn Chen and Cecilia Cunado-James (daughter of Michael James, our Bucknell political science department liaison), who are current seniors and just as passionate and committed as Lucie and Mariah were last year. Cecilia and Katelyn planned to talk over the summer to decide what their project will be. We will meet with them again in September to hear what they have decided.

Bucknell Mauch Fellows

We hire Bucknell Mauch Fellows only during national election years, so this year will be an off year. Louise Knight and Elaine Hopkins are the liaisons to Bucknell for that project.

Lewisburg Children's Museum

Our partnership with the Lewisburg Children's Museum (LCM) is ad hoc, and we normally contact them to propose a project when we have an idea. Mary Zimmerman and MaryAnn Griffin are our liaisons to the LCM.

Elaine Hopkins for the Mauch Project

LEAGUE LINE

SEPT. 2025

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

It is typically published from
September to April, and available
by the first of the month.

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

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Key Contacts

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Facebook Page

facebook.com/lwvla

Website

LWVLewisburgArea.org

VOTER SERVICES

November Municipal Election

Who will you be voting for in the Municipal Election on November 4th, 2025? Here's a list of the races that will be on the fall ballot, listed by all county and then by individual townships. The final list of candidates for those races will be available on Vote411.org.

All of the Union County voters will vote for:

- PA Appellate Courts
Pennsylvania Judge of the Superior Court
Pennsylvania Judge of the Commonwealth Court
- Union County
Sheriff
Prothonotary & Clerk of the Courts
Coroner

Voters in townships and boroughs:

- Lewisburg borough and East Buffalo 1-4, Kelly 1-2, and Union townships:
Magisterial District Judge
- All boroughs in Union County:
Mayor and Borough Council
- All townships in Union County:
Supervisors
- All boroughs and townships in Union County:
Tax Collector and Auditor
- All precincts in Union County:
Judge of Elections
Inspector of Elections

For School Directors, voters in:

- Lewisburg Borough, Townships of East Buffalo, Kelly, Precinct of Union:
Lewisburg Area School District
School Directors (Vote for 4)
- New Berlin Borough, Townships of Buffalo, Limestone, Precinct of Union-Independent:
Mifflinburg Area School District, Region 1
(Vote for 1)

- Mifflinburg Borough, West Buffalo Township:
Mifflinburg Area School District, Region 2
(Vote for 1)
- Harleton Borough, Hartley and Lewis Townships:
Mifflinburg Area School District, Region 3
(Vote for 1)
- White Deer Township:
Milton Area School District, Region 3
(Vote for 1)
- Gregg Township:
Warrior Run Area School District, Region 1
(Vote for 2)

Change of Polling Place

Attention voters in East Buffalo 4:

According to the Union County Election Office, voters in East Buffalo 4 will return to their polling place at Bucknell's Weis Center.

Facts for Voters

LWVLA's *Facts for Voters* pamphlet is a non-partisan publication that provides residents of Union County with information about voting and their elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels. It is published once a year, available usually by the end of February. For 2025, *Facts for Voters* was published in both an online and printed version. The online version can be downloaded from our website at:

lwvlewisburgarea.org/facts-voters

The printed version is available in the libraries, post offices, and some businesses in Union County.

The status of a 2026 version of *Facts for Voters*, however, is currently uncertain. We have a great team of information checkers (thanks, Ann Longanbach, Mary Lotspeich, and Helen Nunn) and a designer (Dawn Maneval). However, we need an Editor to oversee the process of creating this pamphlet once a year. Work usually starts in December and is done by early spring. Our current team has prepared *Facts for Voters* for several years and would be more than willing to help someone new to this position learn the Editor job.

Can we interest anyone in helping to make *Facts for Voters* a reality for 2026 and beyond by becoming its Editor? If you are interested or have questions, please contact us at LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.

Vote411

VOTE411.org is the LWV website for candidate information. Information for the upcoming Municipal Election is publicly available in Vote411.org now. November candidates are listed, and candidate responses should be updated by September 9th. **VOTE411.org** contains the same candidate information as our printed *Voters Guide*, but it allows you to see what will be on your ballot based on your

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address. You can also link to state-level voter information and registration websites from VOTE411.org.

Voters Guide

The printed *Voters Guide* for the upcoming Municipal Election will be out in October. The Voters Guide team (Liz Clement, Carole Madle, Linda Harris, Dawn Maneval), led by Editor Sheri Stayton, will begin work on this publication with a kick-off meeting in August.

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION

Our State League (LWVPA) holds a biennial convention to which each League in Pennsylvania may send representatives. This convention discusses the “State of the League”, the LWVPA budget, changes to its by-laws, and possible state-level studies. In addition, it provides “breakout sessions” on topics of interest to the individual Pennsylvania Leagues.

The State Convention was held this year, from Friday, June 13th to Sunday, June 15th in Lancaster, PA. Our LWVLA sent three delegates: Jenni Stieler, Teri MacBride, and Dawn Maneval. Jenni is new to our League, so this was her “big introduction” on how the League works. Teri is the experienced one, having been to several state conventions before. Dawn, while not new to the League, had never been to a state convention before. The three of us brought a range of perspectives to the conference.

We gathered lots of information, made new contacts, and got ideas for how to better use the State League to support our own League. As all three of us are members of the LWVLA Board, we hope to incorporate what we learned into the plans for moving our League forward.

Dawn Maneval for the 2025 State Convention Delegates

ISSUES, ACTIVITIES, AND ACTIONS: UPDATES

Are you getting news, notices and updates from the Pennsylvania and National Leagues? Information comes electronically these days. Gone are the days of *The National Voter* magazine that arrived by postal mail.

I think you’ll be impressed, like I was, when you visit the state and national websites. Check out these sites to learn what’s happening at the state and local levels:

- State League website: palwv.org
- National League website: lwv.org

Here are ways that you can get involved at the national level:

- Commit to the **Unite and Rise 8.5 Campaign** to defend our constitution, protect the rule of law, demand the preservation of checks and balances, safeguard the right to vote, and build a

democracy where every person and every voice counts.

- Sign up for **League in Action** to take national actions at: lwv.org/league-action-outreachcircle

League in Action is a digital platform where anyone who believes in our mission can directly connect and take action on issues impacting their communities.

- Check out VOTE411.org, our “one-stop shop” election information website
- Explore our website blog for insights into the state of democracy and voting rights across the country.
- Follow our national League (LWVUS) on social media: Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and TikTok.

For a more detailed understanding of what it means to be a member of the League, you can review our Member Rights and Responsibilities Policy.

As a LWV member, you can expect to receive monthly highlights emails, legislative action alerts, and other occasional announcements, in addition to membership renewal reminders. If you need help signing up for these notices, email LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com. We’re here to help!

Teri MacBride for the Leadership Team

LWVUS POLICY: FAIR DISTRICTS

The League stands for fair districts. Here’s what LWVUS has said on this issue and what you can do to tell our legislators that we want fairness to determine voting districts:

1. Mid-cycle redistricting threatens the fairness and stability of our democracy.
 - District maps should be drawn once every 10 years, after the census, to reflect population changes. Mid-cycle redistricting undermines this stable process and invites partisan manipulation.
 - Frequent changes to district lines create confusion for voters, dilute community voices, and can be used to entrench political power at the expense of fair representation.
 - Mid-cycle redraws are too often driven by political motivations rather than the needs of communities — they open the door to gerrymandering, where politicians choose their voters instead of voters choosing their leaders.
2. Redistricting must always be transparent, participatory, and community-centered.
 - Fair maps must be drawn legally, with public input, and with full transparency; whether during the standard redistricting cycle or in rare cases when a redraw is necessary due to court rulings aimed at correcting legal violations.

- Communities of interest, groups of people with shared interests or identities, must be kept together in a single district where their voices aren’t diluted.
- We call on legislators and commissions to hold public hearings, release draft maps, and provide clear explanations for any proposed map changes.
- 3. Racial equity and legal compliance must remain at the forefront.
 - Any redistricting effort, mid-cycle or otherwise, must comply with the Voting Rights Act and protect the voting power of communities of color and lower income communities.
 - Mid-cycle changes often disempower historically marginalized communities, including people of color, women, language minorities, and youth. These changes must be closely scrutinized and challenged if they reduce fair representation.
- The League is committed to ensuring that maps are drawn equitably, and that Black, Latino, Indigenous, Asian American, and other communities of color are fully represented and included in the process.
- 4. Redistricting is a political act, but it must remain nonpartisan.
 - The League of Women Voters position on redistricting is rooted in fairness for voters, not political expediency.
 - The League has fought for decades to ensure redistricting processes represent voters, not politicians or parties. We will not stop now.
 - States have different rules on redistricting, and some state constitutions do not allow for it.
 - The League can, and will, leverage every tool in our toolbox to make sure, where mid-cycle redistricting occurs, that voters have a say.

Call to Action: Defend Fair Maps Now

- The League urges the public to stay informed and engaged: attend hearings, submit public comments, and join local advocacy efforts to stop unjustified mid-cycle redistricting.
- Redistricting should serve the people, not politicians. Let’s keep the power in the hands of voters, not in the backrooms of political gamesmanship.
- Share the truth: redistricting is just the tool being used, but the real game is trying to keep us from knowing the corruption happening within the highest levels of power in DC.

Contact your legislators to tell them you stand for fair districts!



“to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. We empower voters and defend democracy through advocacy, education, and litigation, at the local, state, and national levels.” (lww.org)

- Are there services or activities that this League has been providing that you feel are important to continue, or to discontinue?
- Are there services or activities that you think this League could provide that we currently do not?
- Is there something in particular that you would like to work on to support the role of our League in the community?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

NAME: _____

CONTACT (EMAIL OR PHONE #) : _____

LWVLA Member-Interest Survey, P.O. Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837-0206

LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com

Thank you, from all of us on the Leadership Team!