

LEAGUE LINE

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

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Board of LWVLA met on August 26th, 2025 at East Buffalo Township Building. They accepted a notice of leave-of-absence from the Board from Jenni Steiler, due to a family emergency. MaryAnn Griffin has agreed to take over responsibility for planning the fall Membership Social on October 9th, in Jenni's absence.

At the August meeting, the Board approved:

- Plans for the October 9th membership meeting and discussed the program to be presented.
- A new nonpartisan policy which will give a little more freedom to leadership team members in attending partisan activities
- A number of small changes in the *Voters Guide* that were requested by the editor (Sheri Stayton)

Also, Teri MacBride reported that other Pennsylvania Leagues' members are having considerable difficulty with the new renewal policy instituted by the National League (LWV). The Board discussed various strategies to help our members with the renewal policy. Stay tuned.

Please remember that 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! If you haven't already done so, please share your thoughts with us by filling out the **Survey of Member Interests** (see page 4 of this newsletter), which you can send to one of our League addresses: either email (LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com) or postal mail (PO Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837-0206).

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

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Social: Oct. 9th

Members and friends are cordially invited to a Fall Membership Meeting from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Thursday, October 9th, 2025 at the Village Commons Building at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, 6 Tressler Boulevard, Lewisburg, PA.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, October 1st. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

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

MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL

Guest speaker: Amy Widestrom, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania League of Women Voters

The Commons at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village

6 Tressler Blvd., Lewisburg

Tuesday, October 14th, 4:00-5:30p.m.*

**FORUM (Doors open at 3:30p.m.)*

Nicholas Clark, Professor of Political Science, Susquehanna University

"What to Expect in Next Year's Mid-Term Elections"

The Library for Union County, Community Room

255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg

**Note: The Forum is meeting at a new time.*

Monday, October 20th

LAST DAY to REGISTER to VOTE!

Tuesday, October 21st, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING

Mary Zimmerman's home

Tuesday, October 28th

LAST DAY to APPLY for MAIL-IN ballot

Tuesday, November 4th

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

We have an exciting agenda featuring:

- A presentation by Amy Widestrom, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania League of Women Voters. She will share why the League's nonpartisan stance has been, and continues to be, its greatest strength. Amy will discuss how the local, State and National Leagues work together through their federated structure to amplify our collective voice, and the distinct benefits of being part of the League today: belonging to a community grounded in nonpartisan principles, building civic power together, and ensuring every voice can shape our democracy.

- Several members of our LWVLA Leadership Team will provide updates on our local League activities, including the new, online, membership renewal process. Information will be suited for new and long-time League members but also be interesting to those who know little about us. We love to meet prospective members! Please bring a friend (or two!) who would be interested to learn more about our organization.

Refreshments will be served. We appreciate your response by Tuesday, September 30th to help prepare for the meeting, so please confirm your participation by replying TODAY to griffma1993@gmail.com!

MaryAnn Griffin, Membership Co-Chair

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.

For more information about this new renewal process, attend out Membership Social on October 9th (previously described in the "Membership Social: Oct. 9th" above).

In Memorium

In the last two months the Lewisburg League lost two cherished members. We send our condolences to the friends and families of Norma Mandel, who passed away on August 23rd, and Diane Gottlieb who passed away September 10th. Diane's family thanks all who visited or sent cards during this difficult time.

UPCOMING FORUMS

October Forum

The League of Women Voters of Lewisburg Area Educational Forum series will open on Tuesday, October 14th, 2025, with an afternoon talk by Dr. Nicholas Clark, Professor of Political Science from Susquehanna University. Dr. Clark will discuss *What to Expect in Next Year's Mid-Term Elections*. The Forum will be held at the Public Library for Union County

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in the Community Room, 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg. Doors will open at 3:30 p.m. for registration; the presentation is scheduled from 4 to 5:30 p.m. This later time of day better accommodates speakers' schedules and we hope will be convenient for members.

Professor Clark has written and lectured extensively on voting behavior, issues, and institutions affecting election outcomes. His talk will focus on recent political developments, including redistricting efforts, and current divergent expectations for what might happen in the mid-term elections. He will also reflect on how fast paced, numerous, and ongoing political developments have been received by the public. His full bio is here:

www.susqu.edu/profiles/clarkn

This free presentation is open to members and the public. All are welcome. There is no charge to attend this talk. For more information, email LWVLAForum@gmail.com.

Future Forums

This year, the Forums will be held at the Public Library for Union County in the Community Room. The time has changed to 4p.m. Registration will begin at 3:30. The later time of day better accommodates speaker schedules and we hope will be convenient for members.

Mark your calendars for the four forums listed below:

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 @4p.m.,

Public Library for Union County

Topic: Immigration

Speaker: Janice Butler

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 @4p.m.,

Public Library for Union County

Title: "Education without Boundaries: Virtual, Blended, and Innovative Teaching and Learning"

Speaker: Dr. Bernadette Boerckel, Chief Outreach Officer, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) with Mr. Vincent Hoover, Assistant Superintendent, Lewisburg Area School District

Tuesday, March 17, 2026 @4p.m.,

Public Library for Union County

Title: "Shaping Union County's Future," an overview of the updated Union County Comprehensive Plan — its goals, guiding principles, and strategic priorities

Speaker: Mr. Shawn McLaughlin, Planning & Economic Development Director, Union County Pennsylvania

Please invite friends to attend with you. Forums are free, and open to the public.

Teri MacBride for the Forum Committee

LWVLA ANNUAL MEETING

Our LWVLA Annual Meeting was held this past summer, on June 10th at La Primavera Restaurant. More than 60 members enjoyed an evening of good company, good food, great (pot luck) desserts, and took care of the

LEAGUE LINE

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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE LEWISBURG AREA.**

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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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Website

LWVLEwisburgArea.org

business needed to keep our League going another year. Good-bye to our amazing President Kandy Duncan and the outgoing Board (see photo below).



From left to right: Hood Johnston, Mary Lahner, Kandy Duncan, Jeff Scheckter, Elaine Hopkins and Linda Harris (missing: Lisa Tranquillo)

And welcome to the new Leadership Team (see photo below).



From left to right: Teri MacBride, Hood Johnston, Jenni Stielor, Jeff Scheckter, Dawn Maneval and Pat Marolo (missing: Mary Zimmerman)

In addition, our annual awards were presented:

- **Nancy Neuman Award:** Riya Johal & Erin de Santos, both from Lewisburg H.S.
- **Judy Anderson Award:** Phyllis Dyer
- **Jill Reynolds Award:** Betsy Noyce

Congratulations to all award recipients! And thanks to all who made the Annual Meeting happen!

Dawn Maneval for the Leadership Team

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.

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Facts for Voters

Second Appeal! We need an Editor to oversee the process of creating the 2026 version of *Facts for Voters*! LWVLA's *Facts for Voters* pamphlet is a nonpartisan publication that provides residents of Union County with information about voting and their elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels.

We have a great team of information checkers (thanks, Ann Longanbach, Mary Lotspeich, and Helen Nunn) and a designer (Dawn Maneval). However, without an Editor, the *Facts for Voters* cannot be published this year. The Editor oversees 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.

Is anyone interested in keeping this useful pamphlet available to the public? If you are, or if you have questions, please contact us at LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.

Vote411

The VOTE411.org website now contains information for all candidates for the upcoming Municipal Election on November 4th. This information includes candidates for the two newly added municipal races: Mifflinburg School Board (4-year unexpired term) and Buffalo Township (4-year unexpired term). 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 address. You can also link to state-level voter information and registration websites from VOTE411.org. Check it out!

Voters Guide

The *Voters Guide* team (Liz Clement, Carole Madle, Linda Harris, Dawn Maneval), led by Editor Sheri Stayton, have begun work on our Fall *Voters Guide* publication.

For the upcoming Municipal Election, the printed *Voters Guide* will be available in mid-October, with distribution occurring around October 11th. If you are interested in helping to distribute the *Voters Guide*, contact Linda Harris at Lsharris323@gmail.com.

ISSUES, ACTIVITIES, AND ACTIONS: UPDATES

Are you getting news, notices and updates from the Pennsylvania and National Leagues? Information comes electronically these days. Check out these sites to learn what's happening at the state and local levels:

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

Here are a few 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: lww.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.
- Follow our national League (LWVUS) on social media: Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and TikTok.

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.

LWVUS POLICY: REDISTRICTING

The League stands for fair districts. Here's a letter from the LWVUS President, Diana Wynn, about this issue and what you can do to tell our legislators that we want fairness to determine voting districts:

Why LWV Opposes Gerrymandering and Mid-Cycle Redistricting

As a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to empowering voters and defending democracy, the League of Women Voters believes that redistricting should only happen every 10 years based on the population, should always put communities of interest first, and should establish fair maps that reflect an inclusive democracy.

The reality is that mid-cycle redistricting is happening now in states across the country. So, what does that mean for us?

For many decades, the League has consistently opposed gerrymandering because these tactics disenfranchise voters, especially Black and brown voters. LWV's policy position on redistricting stands firmly against gerrymandering that dilutes the power of communities of interest.

Like all our policy positions, the League's position on redistricting was adopted by a majority of our membership in a grassroots process. According to our organizational bylaws, the League must adhere to its policy positions until and unless they are changed by our membership.

The Texas legislature passed new congressional maps that reduce the electoral power of black and Latino voters. LWV of Texas and LWVUS condemned this action. One state League's stance on redistricting in their

state affects the work of other state Leagues. A consistent stance across states on redistricting strengthens our nonpartisan credibility that many state Leagues rely on to do critical work in their community, including protecting voters.

The League of Women Voters is committed to voters, our communities, and our members. Thank you for your dedication to empowering voters and defending democracy.

Diana Wynn, President LWV of the United States

NEW LEAGUE STUDIES COMING!

Through its Program, the League of Women Voters can recommend a study. A study is based on an issue chosen by the League, at either the state or national level. It is the local Leagues that form the local study committees to actually perform the study.

As defined in the State Convention booklet:

"a research committee [at the state or national level] gathers information for local study committees to read, consider and discuss - that is, to do a study. Local study committees may supplement the information as needed with interviews of local officials, residents, or professionals and by further fact-finding through reading and research."

The goal of the local study committee is to reach a consensus of opinion and send that opinion back to the level at which the study originated (state or national). It's one big circle of inputs and outputs:



At the 2025 State Convention, several studies were passed. Look for a summary of these studies in next month's issue of the *League Line*.

LWVLA FACEBOOK PAGE



League of Women Voters, Lewisburg Area
236 followers · 4 following

Is anyone interested in Facebook-ing for our League? After years (and years) of Janice Bigelow posting useful information and amazing graphics on the LWVLA Facebook page at facebook.com/lwvla (Thank you so much, Janice!), Janice is ready to pass on the baton. We would love to have this important source of information kept current with the events of our local League, as well as the state, and national Leagues.

Is anyone interested in keeping this useful resource updated? If you are, or if you have questions, please contact us at LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.



“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 #) : _____

LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com

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