

LEAGUE LINE

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is a season of change...changing seasons, changing colors, changing time, changing climate, changing political environment, to name a few. It seems that change is our new constant!

The leaves and foliage change colors and present us with a wide array of beauty that would be hard to duplicate.

We change time in a couple weeks. I hate this practice but it will be nice to have my car clock once again correct, if only until spring.

The climate around us is changing at an ever-increasing rate. Even though we have been warned, we seem powerless to have an effect on the enormity of the issue.

So too, is the political environment changing. The immense complexity of the chaos we are witnessing in our multi-party system also seems beyond our control.

I used to say that nobody liked change except a wet baby but then I realized that even they will kick while getting dry diapers. It is human nature to be suspicious of change, even if it is for our own good. If the change is negative, it becomes a far larger issue.

As we try to come to terms with the pandemonium of our world's events, it seems that we must keep a clear and focused head. I know that if I spend too much time watching the evening news and pondering possible consequences of others' actions, it becomes hard for me to clear my mind to be able to sleep. Without a good night's sleep and a focused outlook the next day, the problems seem much bigger as our ability to cope diminishes.

Keep a clear head, remember what is important in your lives, appreciate the positive influences and treasure the gift of friends and family. Stay safe and take care of yourselves and your loved ones. We need you to help fight the battle!

Kandy Duncan, President

INTEGRITY OF THE BALLOT TASK FORCE

After a successful "kick-off" following the September Forum, the Integrity of the Ballot (IOB) team is moving ahead by presenting a series of modules to allow for open discussion on various topics surrounding the election.

The topic for the October module was "The various ways we vote". Patty Johnston presented a synopsis and facilitated a discussion that generated questions, observations, and some clarification.

The line up of topics for future discussions follows:

November - Security surrounding the "voting machines"

January - Definition of the roles of the various players

February - How the votes are counted

The ultimate ongoing goal of this project is two fold. The team would first like to provide a venue for open discussion for members. The committee will ultimately compile all the information, questions and clarifications into a permanent vehicle to offer to the public.

Kandy Duncan, Representative

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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

Monday, November 6th, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING
East Buffalo Township Municipal Building
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg

Tuesday, November 7th, 7:00a.m.-8:00p.m.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 21st, 12:00-1:00p.m.

FORUM
Sarah Silky, Lycoming College Professor of History
"Ida B. Wells and the Struggle Against Racist Violence"

La Primavera, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg

JOB OPEN DISCUSSION

Immediately following the Forum
Topic: "Security Surrounding Voting Machines"

La Primavera, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg

Monday, December 4th, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING
East Buffalo Township Municipal Building
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg

Thursday, December 14th, 1:00p.m.

BOOK CLUB
Union County Public Library and Zoom
(See article for Zoom option's link)
255 Reitz Blvd, Lewisburg

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT: COMMUNICATION REVIEW

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Joanne Troutman has accepted the leadership role in taking a broad look at all of the League's communication pieces: Website, Facebook, Media publicity, *League Line*. We look forward to seeing how this project proceeds.

NOVEMBER FORUM AND IOB DISCUSSION

The LWVLA's Education Forum program will continue on Tuesday November 21st, 2023, from noon to 1p.m., at La Primavera restaurant in Lewisburg. Dr. Sarah Silkey, Professor of History, Lycoming College will discuss *Ida B. Wells and the Struggle Against Racist Violence*. League members and the general public are invited to attend the presentation and enjoy an optional lunch available for \$15.50 starting at 11:30 when the doors open.

Following the presentation, members of the Integrity of the Ballot Task Force (IOB) will lead a discussion on security surrounding voting machines.

We hope to make recordings available after each forum via the League website:

LWVLewisburgArea.org

OCTOBER FORUM

On October 17th, 2023 the Forum speaker for the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area was Christopher Baxter, head of Spotlight PA. Mr. Baxter spoke on the declining resources of traditional print media and the necessity for strong reporting in a democracy. He focused on the role of Spotlight PA as a non-profit investigative news organization, able to support reporting that is unaffected by demands of publishers or advertisers. He gave several strong examples of cases where reporting by Spotlight PA has made a substantive difference in Pennsylvania. Please go to the LWVLA website to view a complete recording of his enthusiastic informative talk.

Mary Zimmerman, Forum Committee Co-Chair

FORUM COMMITTEE REQUEST

League Forums are offered to both members and the general public. While the Forums are posted to our website as a convenience, recent Forum attendance has been lackluster. We hope it's not a function of the topics or invited speakers; ***what's keeping so many away?***

We need to maintain a certain turnout to continue these meetings at La Primavera. Please write a note to us if you have comments, and consider bringing a friend along to one of the meetings.

Yours in League,
Teri and Mary, Forum Committee Co-chairs
(pa2albania@yahoo.com and nvzimmm@gmail.com)

BOOK CLUB

We invite you to explore the topic of Artificial Intelligence with us at our December discussion. It will be held Thursday, December 14th at 1:00p.m., in person at the Public Library Meeting Room A, or via Zoom (see link below).

To join via Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81275780494>
Meeting ID: 812 7578 0494

There are two books we think may lead to interesting conversation. The first is *The Coming Wave: Technology, Power and the 21st Century's Greatest Dilemma* by Mustafa Suleyman. The second title is a mystery novella that was written using several AI tools entitled *Death of an Author* by Aiden Marchine. You do not need to have read the books to participate in the conversation. Hope to see you in December!

Wanda Clark & Linda McGann, Co-chairs

VOTER SERVICES

Voters Guide

The Fall 2023 *Voters Guide* for the November 7th election has been distributed. You can find them at libraries, post offices and stores, and online at our website. Many thanks to the following volunteers who distributed our guides: Janice Bigelow, Diane Gottlieb, Kathy Martin, Mary Zimmerman, Helen Nunn, Pat Marolo, Liz Clements, Martha Verbrugge, Priscilla Waggoner, Carol Crichley, Betsy Noyce, Joanne Troutman, and Judy Ellis.

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Special thanks to Diane Gottlieb who picked up a last-minute route, in addition to her own.

We need volunteers to distribute the *Voters Guide* for the spring primary in 2024. We deliver one month before the election. Please contact me, Lsharris323@gmail.com, if you are willing to distribute copies of the *Voters Guide* to several locations around our county. It's only an hour of your time.

Join Us!

New Members wanted! Join the Voter Services Committee!

The Voter Services Committee meets monthly at the Chairperson's home to discuss ways to engage our community in the election process, to increase voter registration, to disseminate candidate information through the *Voters Guide*, and *Facts for Voters*, and to keep our community informed via candidate events. Contact Linda Harris via email: Lsharris323@gmail.com.

Distribution List Manager

Here's another opportunity for you to get involved with your League. We are looking for someone to manage the distribution of our publications.

The Voter Services Committee needs a **Distribution List Manager**.

Qualifications: Since we already have an established list of volunteers, the main job is to maintain the distributors' lists which we use to distribute the semi-annual *Voters Guide* and the yearly *Facts for Voters*. The manager will contact volunteers through email and phone calls. S/he will also need to contact LWVLA members to fill vacancies. This position offers a chance to get to know and talk with members. The Distribution Manager will communicate with distributors three times per year at least eight weeks before the two election cycles and before the disbursement date of the *Facts for Voters* to determine their availability. Very basic knowledge of Excel would be helpful. Training is available.

Who's Running in the Upcoming Elections?

What you need to know!

Here are two ways to learn about who's running in the upcoming elections:

- 1. The Fall 2023 *Voters Guide*

In Print: LWVLA will be printing *Voters Guides* and distributing them to 124 sites. When you go to a store/library/post office that doesn't have any visible copies of the *Voters Guide*, ask if it is available. If not, and the proprietor is willing to provide them, contact me and I'll drop some off. We currently provide the *Voters Guide* to the Union County libraries and post offices.

Online: The *Voters Guide* will be available on our local League's website at:

LWVLewisburgArea.org/voter-resources/voters-guide

- 2. VOTE411.org



VOTE411.org is the LWVUS (National League's) innovative "one-stop-shop" for non-partisan election-related information, both general and state-specific. Compare candidates' information side-by-side, and create your own custom ballot based on your address. **VOTE411** tends to have the

LEAGUE LINE

NOVEMBER 2023

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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most up-to-date information, because candidates who don't answer the questions in time for the *Voters Guide* printing cut-off date can do so on the **VOTE411** website up to the day of the election. **VOTE411** also provides links to register to vote, check your voter registration, find your polling place, discover upcoming debates in your area, and much more!

Races on the November Ballot

Who will you be voting for in the upcoming November 7th election?

These are the contested races:

- **PA APPELLATE COURTS:**
 - * Justice of the Supreme Court
 - * Judge of the Superior Court
 - * Judge of the Commonwealth Court
- **UNION COUNTY:**
 - * Commissioners
 - * District Attorney: To view the candidate debate for this office, go to *The Daily Item's* Facebook page.

* County Auditor: Voters may choose no more than two of the three candidates. However, this race is not actually contested because there are three open positions and three candidates.

- **TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS:**
 - * East Buffalo: To view the Oct. 26th Candidates Night for this office, click [here](#) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kh1c367vXDg>).
 - * New Berlin
 - * Union
 - **SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**
 - * Lewisburg
 - * Mifflinburg Regions 1, 2, and 3
 - * Warrior Run, Region 1
- To view the Oct. 18th Candidates Night for Lewisburg and Warrior Run, Region 1, click [here](#) (<https://youtu.be/MXyrKsL-0XE>).

Important Election Dates - Fall 2023

October 31st – Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot for the November election

November 7th – Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00p.m.)

November 7th – Municipal Election

November 8th – First day to register after the election

November 14th – Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots for the fall election (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59p.m. on November 6th)

Linda Harris, Voter Services Chair

MEMBERSHIP

We continue in the Membership renewal mode. If you haven't renewed your membership, please remember to do so. If you have misplaced your renewal form, let us know and we will happily replace it OR you can use the form below.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

September 2023 — January 31, 2024

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Individual (1 year) - \$55; Household - \$80 (+\$25 for additional member)
35 years of age or younger - \$35; Student (1 year) - \$10

I wish to renew my membership in the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE LEWISBURG AREA.

NAME _____

2ND HOUSEHOLD MEMBER _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE #'s (home, work or cell) _____

SPECIAL INTEREST:

Voter Services _____ Forums _____ Studies _____ Special Events _____

PAYMENT: Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
(Please make your check payable to LWVLA)

Mail your check and form to:

LWVLA Membership, P.O. Box 206, Lewisburg, PA 17837-0206

For more information, phone 570-524-4439 or email lwvlewisburg@gmail.com.

Thank you!