

LEAGUE LINE

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

ALL MEMBER MEETING

The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area members, and friends met on October 7th, at the Buffalo Valley Common. The featured speaker was Amy Widstrom, executive director of the League of Women Voters of the State of Pennsylvania.

Ms. Widstrom provided valuable information in four areas. She spoke about the ability of the Pennsylvania League to support local leagues with training and educational materials. The goals of the state office are to build capacity and community through new partnerships and more face to face interactions. The state League also aims to build trust through being a source of authentic communication and factual information. Lastly, she stated that building power is important.

Ms. Widstrom gave the background for the court case which the Pennsylvania League had just filed over misleading campaign materials which are being issued about the current Supreme Court ballot measure. She clarified the non-partisan policy of the League, providing examples of how all Leagues, national to local, can take stands on issues, but not on candidates, to maintain the League's non-partisanship. She and Hood Johnston outlined the new process for renewal or enrollment as league members.

The Lewisburg Area League's Leadership Team members reported on the current state of our league and the projects this team hopes to move forward. Those include the Voters Guide, Facts for Voters, and the Forums. Other needs, and possible projects, were:

- *Studies to determine policy
- *Book club
- An Observer Corps
- Facebook page manager
- Nancy Neuman award and Voter Services committees: members/chair

The Team's underlying theme was that members need to step up engagement/participation if Lewisburg is to have more than a skeleton League. Please contact the Leadership Team with your strengths and interests so local League activities can grow.

*see articles below for further clarification

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

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.

Tuesday, November 4th

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 18th, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING

Mary Zimmerman's home

Tuesday, December 9th, 3:30-5:30p.m.*

FORUM

Janice Butler and Nick Moffa, Esq.

"Separating Fact from Fiction: The Immigration Crackdown"

Public Library for Union County
Community Room

255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg

Tuesday December 16th, 4:00p.m.

BOARD MEETING

Mary Zimmerman's home, Lewisburg

Tuesday January 20th, 2026; 3:30-5:00p.m.

FORUM

Dr. Bernadette Boerckel, Chief Outreach

Officer, CSIU and Vincent Hoover,
Superintendent, LASD

"Education without Borders: Virtual, Blended,
and Innovative Teaching and Learning"

Public Library for Union County
Community Room

255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg

DECEMBER FORUM

Join us on Tuesday, December 9th, for the next LWVLA educational Forum, at the Public Library for Union County. Learn what we can do to support one another locally and for a special holiday talk by two passionate individuals who will address "Separating Fact from Fiction: The Immigration Crackdown" Who are the immigrants among us today and how is federal action impacting households and neighborhoods? What are the consequences of Department of Homeland Security policies and Immigration and Customs Enforcement practices — not only for immigrants, but for U.S. citizens?

Lewisburg resident, and LWVLA member, Janice Butler teams up with Nick Moffa, Esquire, experienced immigration attorney, to explain how America's rural and urban communities have benefitted from the contributions of immigrants for centuries.

Janice will discuss the current context and point out common myths and realities. Nick has represented unaccompanied immigrant children in immigration and state court with a particular focus on children detained in federal government custody. He will share his experiences detailing how recent changes in immigration law and increased investment in immigration detention are affecting families across the country.

League members and the public are invited to attend the presentation at the Public Library for Union County Community Room, 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Doors open at 3:30 and the talk begins at 4p.m. The event will run until 5:30. All are invited to stay for social time and holiday cheer immediately following the program. Snacks and drinks will be available.

Teri MacBride for the Forum Committee

OCTOBER FORUM

The LWVLA held the first Forum of the year at the Union County Public Library on October 14th. Dr. Nick Clark from Susquehanna University spoke on the 2026 congressional elections.

Dr. Clark started with a survey of the literature on congressional elections in non-presidential years. Among the topics covered were: who votes, who does not vote, the role of the economy, and the impact of issue voters. Dr. Clark proceeded to discuss factors specific to the 2026 election year such as polling data on the incumbent president and the possible impact of both Republican and Democratic gerrymandering. His talk was followed by an extremely illuminating question and answer period.

Mary Zimmerman for the Forum Committee

MAUCH MILLENNIAL PROJECT

Our two high school interns, Katelyn Chen and Cecilia Cunado-James, met with MaryAnn Griffin and Elaine Hopkins in September to talk through some ideas for the high school

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project. Afterward, they sent an outline; the lightly-edited version appears below. We don't know at this point which of these ideas they are actively pursuing; we don't ask for regular updates, but we will invite them to a meeting of the committee toward the end of the year to report on what they did.

Goals:

- Encourage civic engagement in high schoolers
- Educate, incentivize

Ideas:

- Field trip for eligible seniors to go vote in November election
- drive themselves with parent permission during study halls, etc.
- Set up an info/registration table for easy access (deadline October 20th)
- study halls set up near cafeteria, LC
- fliers and posters around school
- homeroom competition: the room that has the most people stop by and either register (those eligible) or pledge to do so, or make some other gesture, gets a prize (donut party, etc.)
- those who stop by get stickers and candy
- Go around to senior homerooms and do a crash course on local/state/national politics and civic duty
- Set up some sort of lasting tradition that will (hopefully) permanently cement civic engagement as a part of LHS's culture
- small committee/student organized collective?

Elaine Hopkins, Mauch Millennial Project

BOOK CLUB IS BACK!!

The Lewisburg League Book Club is back!!

We will hold our next book discussion on Tuesday, February 17th, 2026 at 4p.m. at the Public Library for Union County in Lewisburg on Reitz Blvd.

The selection for this session is a book that is being read and discussed by many other League chapters nationally: *Attack From Within: How Disinformation is Sabotaging America*, by Barbara McQuade. The book is available at our local public library. I am reading it now and will have a copy I am happy to lend out, so let me know if you want to borrow it or have any questions about the Book Club.

Disinformation is the deliberate spreading of lies disguised as truth. In her book, Barbara McQuade identifies how disinformation is seeping into all facets of our society, causing havoc in our voting systems, schools, hospitals, workplaces, and the Capitol. McQuade, an MSNBC legal analyst and former federal prosecutor, confronts the ways disinformation is being weaponized to polarize voters, degrade our legal structures, and leverage the political influence of manipulators and authoritarians.

LEAGUE LINE

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League Line is published by the

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

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As always, you do not have to have read the book to join in the discussion. Please join us and bring a friend.

Mary Beth Clark, moffa5@comcast.net

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 can be found in the Fall *Voters Guide* and on Vote411.org.

All of the Union County voters will vote for:

- **PA Judicial Retention**
 - 3 Pennsylvania Justices of the Supreme Court
 - 1 Pennsylvania Judge of the Superior Court
 - 1 Pennsylvania Judge of the Commonwealth Court
- 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 or fewer)
- 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 or fewer)

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

Going, Going..... Gone? We need your help! LWVLA's *Facts for Voters* needs an Editor in order to continue to be produced!

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.

Isn't there any member 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, has finished work on our Fall *Voters Guide*. And our mighty Distribution Team has delivered the printed version throughout Union County.

Printed copies are available at most post offices, libraries, and government buildings. To get the online version, you can either:

- Go to our website (LWVLewisburgArea.org) and click the blue **Download Voters Guide** button
- Click [here](#).

POSSIBLE FOCUS AREAS FOR STUDY

Would you be interested in forming groups to study aspects of voting and elections? The League, at both National (LWVUS) and State (LWVPA) levels, provides suggested topics for study, as well as recommended materials to include as part of such a study.

LWVUS

- **Unite and Rise 8.5:** “engage and mobilize 8.5 million voters to protect and preserve our democracy” - for more information, see the LWVUS write-up at: lwv.org/uniteandrise

LWVPA

LWVPA is following several interesting issues and legislation (palwv.org/issues-2):

- **SAVE Act:** “The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act imposes new restrictions on voter eligibility and registration in an effort to address alleged voter fraud in American elections. However, these provisions create significant barriers for many eligible voters, making it harder for them to participate in the electoral process. While the Act’s goal is to ensure voter eligibility, its provisions introduce severe barriers that will disproportionately affect women, marginalized groups, and under-resourced communities...” - for more information, see [this LWVPA write-up](#).
- **PA Election Reform:** “Pennsylvania’s

election laws are in flux, with major legislative changes under consideration. Two bills, House Bill 771 and House Bill 1396, will shape how elections are conducted in the state. These bills have significant implications for voter access and election security.”

HB 771 proposes a voter ID requirement, which could restrict access to the polls for marginalized groups.

HB 1396 offers comprehensive reforms that could expand voter access, including early voting, absentee ballot improvements, and the use of ballot drop boxes.

For more information, see [this LWVPA write-up](#).

- **Response to Executive Order “Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of the American Elections”:** “On March 25th, President Trump issued a new Executive Order, targeting the heart of American elections and claiming a power the federal government does not have, according to constitutional law scholars. The provisions of this Executive Order seek to radically change the way elections are conducted in the United States, including the way we register to vote and the way our votes are cast and counted...” For more information, see [this LWVPA write-up](#).

LWVLA

- What does it mean for our League to be nonpartisan? How can our League usefully incorporate the LWV definition of “nonpartisan” into our projects, to make the work we do more relevant to more members of these communities?

Interested?

The only thing we need to start studying one or more of these topics is you! If you are interested in joining a group of folks to learn more about any of these, just let us know at lwvlewisburgarea@gmail.com.

Dawn Maneval for the Leadership Team

ACTIONS AND ADVOCACY

Below are some of the other ways you can become active with ongoing state and national initiatives of the League of Women Voters.

Webinars and Virtual Meetings

2025 Federal Advocacy Wrapped:

November 20th, 3p.m. ET

Join the LWVUS advocacy team to reflect on the first half of the 119th Congress and hear updates on legislation and executive actions LWVUS has been engaged with. [Learn More!](#)

Actions

Join [League in Action](#) and share these action alerts with your network:

- **Take Action: [Tell Your Senators to Oppose the SAVE Act](#)**
- **Take Action: [Tell Your Representatives to Protect Equal Voting Rights](#):**

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.

League in the News

- The League of Women Voters of Illinois and LWVUS denounced the federal militarization of Illinois communities amid news of the National Guard being deployed to Chicago. Read our statement [here](#).
- LWV welcomed Claudia Ortega Hogue to the national Board of Directors. Learn more about Claudia [here](#).

Information about LWV

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: lwv.org

If you need help signing up for these notices, email: LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.

LWVLA FACEBOOK PAGE



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.

It would be great if some member would volunteer to [keep this useful resource updated!](#) If you are that person, or if you have questions, please contact us at:

LWVLewisburgArea@gmail.com.

