

LEAGUE LINE

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I always find this time of year a period of reflection. I suppose it comes from the flurry of activities surrounding the holidays, family gatherings, the changes of seasons, and of course, the ending of one year and the beginning of another. It can be a time to contemplate the past and hopefully, examine a life well spent. It can be an evaluation of past shortcomings or dreams yet to accomplish. Spending time with family invokes a wealth of memories. The journey from one year to the next reveals new possibilities and unknown opportunities.

As each of you look back on your accomplishments, failures, and dreams to pursue, never lose sight that as individuals we can make so much difference in each other's lives by a simple act or word of kindness.

Over the past couple of years, the world as we have known it, has changed dramatically. There are times that it seems kindness and common courtesy have become things of the past. With all the political animosity, the fear of "super" bugs (COVID), the erratic weather patterns causing so much destruction, not to mention the mass shootings in our own country and the threat of nuclear war across the world, it can be hard to see beyond to kinder, gentler times.

My hope for each of you is to give, as well as receive, your fair share of kindness. I hope that your dreams will be fulfilled. I hope your coming year is filled with joy and happiness but most of all, laughter. I hope that whatever life has in store for you or whichever path you choose to take, it allows you, above all, peace of mind.

Kandy Duncan, President

HOLIDAY PARTY!

We welcome you to join us at a Holiday Gathering for all members on Thursday, December 15th. It will be held at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village from 4:00-6:00p.m. and will feature appetizers provided by **Kitch it to the Curb** from the Miller Center plus wine and beer. This is purely a social gathering and a wonderful opportunity for members to meet and enjoy each other's company. If you intend to attend, please RSVP by December 12th, to the League at: lwvlewisburgarea@gmail.com. We truly hope to see you all there!

NOVEMBER FORUM

On November 15th, Dr. Gregory Krohn, Bucknell Professor Emeritus of Economics, spoke on *Inflation: Causes, Consequences and Cures*.

The talk covered causes, consequences, and potential cures for recent inflation in the wake of the short, sharp recession caused by Covid-19 which ultimately led to a million deaths in the US. Professor Krohn showed how a confluence of the following forces led to increasing prices: decreased supply and overloaded supply chains due to Covid-19;

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The following events are current as of publication date, December 1st. Coronavirus containment measures may cause delays or cancellations. Please check our website, LWVLewisburgArea.org, frequently for the most current updates.

Tuesday, December 13th, 10a.m.

BOOK CLUB
via Zoom

Thursday, December 15th, 4:00-6:00p.m.

HOLIDAY PARTY!!
Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village Commons

Monday, January 2nd, 4:00p.m.

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

Tuesday, January 17th, 12:00-1:00p.m.

FORUM
Christi Buker, Executive Director, PA Library Association
"Libraries, Books, Bans and Censorship in Pennsylvania"

Live: La Primavera, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, of Lewisburg OR Zoom simulcast
Please **PREREGISTER** if you will attend either in-person or via Zoom by January 15th.

inflation might be cured. Dealing with inflation through higher interest rates comes at a cost of increased unemployment.

Copies of Professor Krohn's slides and talk are available at the "What you Missed" section of the LWVLA website at:

LWVLewisburgArea.org/whats-happening/what-you-missed

The virtual connection for this talk was poor and the recording was not satisfactory. Therefore, it will not be shared on the website.

To better estimate attendance at La Primavera's future Forums, we will now ask members to give advance indication of in-person attendance plans. This is neither obligatory, nor a commitment to attend. We simply ask in these continued unusual times for your help to ensure the room is properly set up and the correct number of meals are prepared. Thanks in advance.

Teri MacBride, Forum Committee Chair

JANUARY FORUM

PLEASE NOTE: All Forums can now be attended live or via Zoom with **REGISTRATION**.

On Tuesday, January 17th, from noon to 1p.m., the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area's Educational Forum series will continue with a hybrid presentation by Christi Buker, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Library Association. Her talk, entitled *Libraries, Books, Bans and Censorship in Pennsylvania*, is timely and relevant.

The hybrid forums are offered in two formats:

- **IN-PERSON:** Participants may attend live at La Primavera, 2593 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg. Doors open at 11:30a.m., and an optional buffet lunch will be available for \$15.50. The presentation begins at noon. To better estimate in-person attendance, members are asked to give advance indication if they intend to be present at La Primavera. This is neither obligatory, nor a commitment to attend. We simply ask in these continued unusual times for help to ensure the room is properly set up and the correct number of meals are prepared.
- **VIRTUAL:** For people unable to attend in person, the forum will be available for viewing in live time, via Zoom with preregistration. Registrants will receive a unique link for the presentation. Virtual attendees should log in by 11:45a.m. to assure connection.

Please email LWVLAForum@gmail.com about your plans to participate in person or via Zoom no later than Sunday, January 15th.

As always, the LWVLA Educational Forums are open to everyone. You do not need to be a member of the League to participate.

Subsequent recordings will be posted on the League website LWVLewisburgArea.org.

Teri MacBride, Forum Committee Chair

increased demand due to federal stimulus programs; the Fed's low interest rate policy; economic recovery. The situation was complicated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which affected energy supplies and prices. Despite all these factors, aggregate household wealth and real weekly earnings are higher now than at the start of the pandemic. Professor Krohn also discussed the effects of inflation, both expected and unexpected, and how

Have you **RENEWED** your membership to:



We are in the middle of the **annual membership renewal period.**

.....
If you have not renewed, please do !

We need your ideas and support !

.....
If you have any questions OR you need another renewal form, please email:
lwvlewisburgarea@gmail.com

BALLOT INTEGRITY

Recently the Board approved a project that will be completed before the 2024 election. The topic of the project is Ballot Integrity. The Board acknowledges that the vote and security of the ballot is under attack. In addition to the primary work that the League already is engaged in, this undertaking will focus on helping the electorate regain trust regarding the security of the election.

A task force has started the preliminary work in producing a product that can assist voters and the general public in gaining a clear picture of the election process. The initial phase of this endeavor is to outline the actual election procedures and all their moving parts. The plan is for the group to interview Greg Katherman, the Director of Elections, at some point after the election. The emphasis is to clarify how many safeguards and security measures are actually in place to ensure a safe and transparent election.

The group is made up of Louise Knight, Patty Johnston, Janice Bigelow, Linda Harris, Mary Lahner, and Kandy Duncan. They are going to be working on possible questions for the upcoming interview. If any member has a question that is of particular interest to them, please send email to:

lwlewisburgarea@gmail.com

MAUCH MILLENNIAL PROJECT

The votes are in and the winner has been announced!



In partnership with the Mauch Millennial Project, the Lewisburg Children's Museum selected three items from their wish list—a xylophone, a set of career costumes, and an easel—and invited children to vote for their favorite between October 15th and November 7th. There were almost 250 votes cast and the children chose...the easel, which will now be purchased for the museum by the Mauch Millennial Project! We are very proud of this partnership and look forward to future collaborations that teach children about the importance of voting and having their voices count.

Elaine Hopkins, Mauch Committee

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, December 13th, 2022 @ 10a.m. via Zoom:

Maus by Art Spiegelman

This non-fiction book is not our typical, as it is a graphic novel. It deals with the Holocaust and is the winner of the American Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. This book will prepare us for our January Forum speaker on Banned

LEAGUE LINE

DEC. 2022/JAN. 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.

Betsy Noyce, *editor*
570-524-2104 / betsynoyce@gmail.com
Dawn Maneval, *designer*
570-523-7372 / dmaneval922@gmail.com

Key Contacts

Kandy Duncan, *president*
570-524-4439 / lwlewisburgarea@gmail.com

Facebook Page
facebook.com/lwvla

Website
LWVLewisburgArea.org

Books as it has been banned by schools. Also, Bucknell Professor Chase Gregory, who spoke about *Maus* locally during Banned Book Week, has agreed to join our discussion. The public library has a copy and Pat Longley and I have copies we are happy to share.

Please come even if you have not read the book! We always welcome anyone with an interest in the topic to our meetings. To obtain the Zoom meeting link please email me at: mbclark112@gmail.com

Mary Beth Clark

MEMBERSHIP

The League of Women Voters Lewisburg Area extends a warm welcome to new member:

Sarah B. Stigerwalt-Egan
sseган.law@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing her at the December Holiday Party and at future forums.

A reminder that we are in the middle of annual membership renewal period. If you have not renewed, please do. If you have any questions or need another renewal form, please email lwlewisburgarea@gmail.com.

VOTER SERVICES REPORT

Be a Poll Worker!

Picture it: Election Day, November 8th, 2022, 5:45a.m., driving to a polling site in Union County. I am, you guessed it, a poll worker, for the first time. My experience started the night before the election by assisting with the polling site set up. You'll remember that in 2020 our league helped the Union County election office train community members on using the new Unisys voting machines. We took the new ballot marking devices to more than 20 sites to demonstrate their use. Now I was finally going to see them in action with voters. As a poll worker, I was observing voters filling out provisional ballots when they didn't bring in their mail-in ballots, helping voters who had moved discover their correct polling sites, and assisting voters with special needs who brought their helpers so they could vote. The team I worked with was well-coordinated and really helpful, not just to me but also to the members of the community who were voting at our polling place.

I was thrilled to be able to watch our democracy in action in a very convivial, direct fashion. I hope to be able to participate again, and I encourage other League members to consider working at the polls to understand how crucial the League's work is, in educating

voters, helping them register, and teaching them the importance of the vote.

VOTE411

VOTE411 continues to educate more voters every year.

As you all know, our local League is a member of VOTE411. We use this site to provide content for our local *Voters Guide*. The *Voters Guide* editor, Sheri Stayton, is also the VOTE411 manager for the entire state of Pennsylvania. *Voters Guide* staff member, Liz Clement, worked closely with Sheri and tracked down non-responding candidates to encourage them to respond to VOTE411. Here are the National numbers for VOTE411:

- 304 *Voters Guides* were created in 43 states, 913 administrators
- 52,397 candidates responded to VOTE411 questions in 27,906 races
- More than 21 million page views for www.vote411.org, and more than 4.67 million users visited the site, logging 5.96 million sessions.

This year saw the most VOTE411 content ever, with the lowest website bounce rate, meaning that people accessed the site and spent time exploring it rather than simply closing it or clicking away directly.

For races on VOTE411 that were open to PA voters, we received an 86% response rate from candidates, broken down as follows:

- US Congress: 2/2 (100%) responded to VOTE411 questions.
- State-wide races: 14/15 candidates responded to VOTE411 questions.
- Locally: 50% of candidates for the PA State House of Representatives responded.

Overall response rate: 18/21 = 86%! Thank you, candidates, for taking the time to provide voters with your ideas.

Fall Voters Guide Distribution

Thanks to the following people who distributed the printed *Voters Guide* within our community: Janice Bigelow, Marion Brown, Carol Crichley, Phyllis Dyer (Distribution Hub Manager), Judy Ellis, Diane Gottlieb, Linda Harris, Ann Longabach, Mary Lotspeich, Pat Marolo, Kathy Martin, Betsy Noyce, Helen Nunn, Claire Sammells, Priscilla Wagonner, and Mary Zimmerman.

Facts for Voters

The editorial staff, including editor, Lisa Tranquillo, with Mary Lotspeich, and Nancy Morgan, will be starting to gather information for the upcoming 2023 *Facts for Voters* after the new year. The 2022 *Facts for Voters* can be found on our website:

LWVLewisburgArea.org/facts-voters

If you are interested in becoming part of the editorial/writing staff, please contact me: Lsharris323@gmail.com

LWVLA Website updates

Thanks go to Dawn Maneval, designer, and Carole Madle, editor, for all of the voter services updates they provided to our website. We appreciate the efforts of Becky Perez, website manager, and Bev Zorn, website designer, to implement the changes that we provided. To see these changes, visit LWVLewisburgArea.org, where you will also find the most up-to-date information about our voter education efforts.

Linda Harris, Voter Services Chair