

LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area
Vol. 63, No. 2; October 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Linda Harris, the chair of Voter Services, has put in long hours attempting to arrange a Candidates Night. We are unable to hold a Candidates Night for Federal Elections unless both candidates are present. Congressman Marino was not able to arrange any date; so although Marc Friedenberg was flexible on a date, we are unable to hold a Candidates Night for the Congressional race. Representative Fred Keller has also declined to attend a Candidates Night. Only Jennifer Rager-Kay is willing to participate from the State Representative race. Because holding an event for one candidate would essentially become a campaign event for that candidate, it is with great reluctance that the LWVLA has decided to forego holding Candidates Night this election cycle.

Candidates Nights are the only situation where the voters can personally interact with the candidates. League of Women Voters Candidates Nights are totally non-partisan unlike many other forums. While we hope that our *Voters Guide* is an extremely valuable tool for the voter and while all the candidates have responded to the questions in the *Voters Guide*, it is not the same as being able to directly and personally interact with the candidates. I am deeply sorry that LWVLA has not been able to supply this valuable service to the voters of Union County. I want to assure the membership of the LWVLA that Linda Harris and her Voter Services Committee did everything possible to try to hold a Candidates Night.

Mary Zimmerman, President

SEPTEMBER FORUM

Elizabeth Durden, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Bucknell University, spoke at the September 18th Forum on "Issues in Immigration, Federal and State." Dr. Durden's work is centered on Mexican immigrants. She provided an overview of the broad patterns of immigration in the United States, but focused primarily on Mexican immigration, her area of expertise.

The largest single group of immigrants to the United States since World War II has been Mexican. Dr. Durden stated that for a long period immigration was a fluid situation. It cost approximately \$600 for an immigrant to illegally enter the United States. Immigrants would come, work and then return to México. Dr. Durden used graphs to illustrate rather dramatically that as border enforcement increased, the cost of crossing the border increased to a current figure of approximately \$4,700. The risk increased as well. Instead of returning home after the seasonal work, immigrants stayed because the cost of coming back in to the United States was too great. Then they began to bring their families since seasonal workers were no longer returning to Mexico. One of

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please place the following events on your personal calendar.

Monday, Oct. 1st, 4:00pm

BOARD MEETING
East Buffalo Township Building

Tuesday, Oct. 9th

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE

Tuesday, Oct. 16th, 11:30am-1:00pm

LUNCH FORUM
Brenda Benner, SEDA-COG President
and Chair of Perry County Board of
Commissioners
"Leadership Opportunities as a Local
Official"
La Primavera (Lunch served at 11:30; \$13)

Friday, Nov. 6th

ELECTION DAY!!!

Saturday, Nov. 17th, 8:00am-3:00pm

HOW TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE
Union County Government Center
155 N 15th St, Lewisburg, PA 17837

Tuesday, Nov. 20th, 11:30am-1:00pm

LUNCH FORUM
Dr. Chris Magee, Asst. Professor of
Economics, Bucknell University
"Economic Implications of US Trade
Policies"
La Primavera (Lunch served at 11:30; \$13)

Friday, Nov. 30th

YEAR-END COCKTAIL PARTY
Buffalo Valley Common Room

the unintended consequences of increased border security has been that immigrants stay and, over time, increase in number rather than being a work force which revolves in and out.

Dr. Durden also emphasized that there are a number of other factors affecting immigrants such as economic conditions. During the Great Recession, immigration fell off dramatically because work was not available. Also, as economic conditions in Mexico have improved, the number of immigrants has decreased slightly.

There was an extensive question and answer period following Dr. Durden's presentation.

Mary Zimmerman

OCTOBER FORUM

The October Forum will be held on Tuesday, October 16th at 11:30am at La Primavera Restaurant. Our speaker for this Forum will be Brenda Benner, SEDA-COG President and Chair of the Perry County Board of Commissioners. She will discuss the unique public leadership opportunities inherent in being a local elected official. Lunch will be served at a cost of \$13. Those with gluten allergies may order a special meal by contacting me at 570-523-0089 or emailing me a srichard@ptd.net

Doors open at 11:30. Our speaker begins at noon.

Stacy Richards, Forum Committee chair

VOTER SERVICES REPORT

Candidates Night

We will NOT be hosting Candidates Night this fall, as both incumbents for the US Representative in the 12th district and PA 85th district have declined our invitation to participate.

How to Run for Office

We will hold "How to Run for Office", on November 17th, 2018. This all-day workshop is appropriate for anyone considering running for office, or who simply wants to be exposed to the information. Look for more information on our LWVLA website and in the next issue of the *League Line*.

Voters Guide

Work has already started on the *Voters Guide* under the very capable direction of editor, Sheri Stayton, with the editorial assistance of Liz Clement, Carole Madle, Sue Travis, and with Dawn Maneval serving as designer. The schedule indicates we should be ready for distribution by October 24th.

Voters Guide Distribution List

Phyllis Dyer and the other distributors are amazing and will be getting out both the *Voters Guide* and *Facts for Voters*. We can always use additional volunteers to help distribute the fall *Guide* to a variety of locations in the region. If you can help with this distribution effort, please contact Linda at 267-337-5986 or at lsb413@hotmail.com.

Voter Registration

The Voter Registration committee met on September 26th. We are working on registration opportunities in the local high school. Please contact me if interested in participating in any capacity at 267-337-5986.

Here are a few crucial dates related to the November 6th, 2018 state and federal elections:

- **October 9th** - Last day to register, or to change your party, your address, or your name before the general election.
- **October 30th** - Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot.
- **November 2nd** - Last day for your County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots.
- **November 6th – Election Day!!**
Voters can use our website to learn about candidates running for office in this fall's election

Facts for Voters

We welcome Jane Mitchell as she starts her new position as editor of *Facts for Voters*. Dawn Maneval will be the designer.

Linda Harris, Voters Service chair

BOOK CLUB

The December Book Club book is: *Our Towns: A 100,000 Mile Journey Into the Heart of America*, by James & Deborah Fallows. The day and time the Book Club meeting will be announced in next month's newsletter.

Mary Beth Clark, Book Club chair

MAUCH MILLENNIAL PROJECT UPDATE

The Mauch Millennial Project is working on several fronts:

- High school liaison
- Outreach to "millennials"
- Bucknell student fellowships (2)
- A new eighth grade initiative

Committee member Diane Sprunt worked with teacher Betsy VanBuskirk to propose support of licenses for eight graders to join an on-line educational program called "Checkology". Here is how its website describes the program:

What is the Checkology virtual classroom?

It's where students learn how to navigate the challenging information landscape by mastering the skills of news literacy. The virtual classroom's lessons help educators equip their students with the tools to evaluate and interpret the news and learn how to determine what news and other information to trust, share and act on.

Leading journalists, along with First Amendment and digital media experts, guide students through the platform's interactive multimedia lessons. These e-learning experiences use real-world examples of news and information that test students' emerging skills and lead them to mastery.

The October 3rd candidates' "Meet and Greet," in conjunction with a local young professionals group, has been canceled for primarily logistical reasons (candidates' schedules, etc.). We will continue to seek out ways to reach this segment of our population to foster civic engagement and voter education.

The committee's next meeting will be on October 17th at 9am at the home of Pat Longley, 402 Lakeside Drive, Lewisburg. Anyone interested is warmly welcome to attend. If you have questions, please call me at 570-523-8311, home, or 570-850-6388, cell.

Ruth Burnham, MMP Advisory Committee

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

New Members

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members since our last issue of *League Line*:

Mark Giesen

Samuel Howe (student)

Judith Harris and David Schoepf

Clare Sammels and Chris Exner

Lana Snyder

Catie Zorn (student)

It is wonderful that we are continuing to grow, thanks to all of you who are sharing the League with your friends and family and inviting them to join us.

LEAGUE LINE

OCT. 2018

League Line is published monthly by the **League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area**. Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month.

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LWVLA Membership Renewal

2019 membership renewal letters were mailed at the end of August to all members. If you have not responded or have misplaced your form, please fill out the form below. LWVLA is vibrant in our community due to our members' support, which enables us to provide non-partisan forums and the *Voters Guide* for the region. Your local membership makes you a part of the state and national organizations. According to the state League office we are the SECOND largest League in the state. Let's keep that going! If we haven't heard from you by the end of October you will receive another reminder letter.

Membership Social

About 35 members and guests attended the Membership Social on Monday, September 24th, at Ruth Burnham's lovely home in Lewisburg. Many thanks go to all of our members for bringing guests to this event as well as to the many members who brought delectable wine and appetizers. Ruth deserves special thanks for hosting. Nancy Neuman, former LWVUS president, shared some stories and photos of her experiences as national president in the late 80's. Everyone had a wonderful time; one of the special things about our League is our parties!! Please keep in mind that a person can join the League any time of the year, so keep thinking of potential members, bring them to our upcoming meetings and share your interest and love of the League.

Year-End Cocktail Reception

We are trying something a little different this year to celebrate the end of a fabulous League year. Instead of a potluck supper we are going to have a cocktail reception at the Buffalo Valley Common Room at 6 Tressler Boulevard, November 30th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. There are so many activities and other events going on this time of year and particularly around the end of November and the beginning of December. The membership committee wanted to try something different that might fit everyone's busy schedule. This is a FUN social event, so please bring your spouse, significant other or friend to join us.

Marilyn Brill, Membership chair



I WANT YOU TO RUN FOR OFFICE

HOW TO RUN FOR OFFICE

A workshop for those who are thinking of running for public office now or in the future.

DATE: Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018
TIME: 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM
PLACE: Union County Government Center
155 N 15th St, Lewisburg, PA 17837

Additional information will be available on our League's website at:
<http://lwvlewisburgarea.org/>

LWVLA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM 2019 (September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019)

Membership dues: Individual \$55; Additional Household \$30 each; Student \$25. Dues include membership to the local, state, and national League, as well as information and notifications from all three levels (*League Line*, *Pennsylvania Voter* and *National Voter Online*).

I/We wish to join or renew my/our membership the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area.
Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone (cell, work or home) _____

Email _____

I am interested in participating in the following League activities:

____ Voter Services ____ Study Groups ____ Community Forums ____ Special Events

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. For more information, phone 570-522-9254 or email mfb@dejazzd.com. Thank you!

Marilyn Brill, Membership chair