

# LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area  
Vol. 64, No. 6; March 2020

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations continue! How wonderful to celebrate our foremothers' and forefathers' actions which gained women the right to vote and led Carrie Chapman Catt to create the League of Women Voters. I hope to see you at our March 8<sup>th</sup> Campus Theatre event, appropriate for all ages. It's "not to be missed"! And please be sure to check out the exhibit at the Union County Library on our Lewisburg League History. Your League Board and Committee members are hard at work, and yes, we are having fun!

Census action is a US League priority with the pace picking up now. The Census rolls out mid-March and for the first time, responses will primarily be collected online. Residents may opt to phone in their responses or use a paper mail-in form to complete the national survey, but many will use computers and smart devices.

Significant community organizing and advocacy on the US Census is expected in the coming months. The League is deploying a 3-part supportive approach: a focus on education, *Get Out the Count*, and watchdog advocacy. Getting an accurate count is important as the numbers determine our representation in the US Congress and boundaries of voting districts, as well as the amount of government funding available for social services, public safety, and infrastructure. Census data identify community needs and offer a truer understanding of who makes up our community. Check out this good overview of "What's at Stake". Census takers here in Union County and surrounding counties are sorely needed and the job pay is fair (\$17.50/hr.). As supporters, League members are encouraged to get involved in our Census by contacting Janice Butler at [janice.r.butler@2020census.gov](mailto:janice.r.butler@2020census.gov).

*Teri MacBride, president*

## CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, LWVLA recognizes two leaders in our community. Please note this call to nominate individuals for awards to be announced at the May 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. (This is another good reason to attend our annual gathering!)

The Judy Anderson Community Service Award is presented to an individual or organization in recognition of noteworthy contributions to our community. This LWVLA award honors local service and commitment to making life better for all. Judy Anderson Award Criteria:

- Service in the Union County community
- Resident of Union County for at least five years who is older than 21 years
- Significant amount of time to one or more organizations/projects
- Exclusions: Service supporting a political candidate/issue; Involvement in religious activities, unless designed to benefit the entire community (E.g. a fund-raiser for church or synagogue would not be considered, but leader of a church team for the Crop Walk would); Service given as part of a paid job

The Jill Reynolds Award recognizes individuals who work tirelessly for the League and

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

*Please place the following events on your personal calendar.*

**Monday, Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3:00pm**

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

**Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>**

SUFFRAGE AND LEWISBURG LEAGUE HISTORY EXHIBIT  
*Public Library for Union County  
255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg  
(Open M, T, Th 9:30am-8:30pm; W, F, Sat 9:30am-5:30pm. Closed Sun.)*

**Sunday, Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-3:30pm**

100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
*Campus Theater, 413 Market Street,  
Lewisburg  
\*Public welcome! Please bring friends of all ages.\**

**Sunday, Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>**

ANNUAL AWARDS SUBMISSION DEADLINE  
*See article and contact Teri MacBride for discussion.*

**Tuesday, Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am-1:00pm**

LUNCH FORUM  
Scott Meinke, Bucknell Professor of Political Science  
"What Works and What Doesn't; The Political Science of Political Reforms"  
*La Primavera (Lunch served at 11:30; \$13)*

**Thursday, Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:00-6:00pm**

\*NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION MEETING  
*Lewisburg residence; please RSVP for specific directions  
\*Newer members should expect an email invitation shortly.*

**Monday, Apr. 6<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm**

BOARD MEETING  
*East Buffalo Township Municipal Bldg.  
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg*

**Saturday, Apr. 11<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am**

HISTORIC CEMETERY WALKING TOUR:  
Women Suffragists and Leaders  
Cemetery Chapel, Lewisburg  
*(More info contact: Bert Dunkerly: [bd1754@yahoo.com](mailto:bd1754@yahoo.com), or Nancy Neuman: [neuman.nancy@gmail.com](mailto:neuman.nancy@gmail.com))*

**Tuesday, Apr. 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00-8:30pm**

\*EVENING (NOT LUNCH) FORUM  
Preston Boop, Jeff Reber and Stacy Richards,  
Union County Commissioners  
*East Buffalo Township Municipal Building,  
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg  
\*This Forum replaces our usual monthly lunch.*

**Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – Save the date!**

LWVLA ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER  
*The Cellars, Brookpark Farm  
Expect your mailed invitation and meeting materials in early April.*

consistently take on tasks to fulfill our organization's goals. Jill Reynolds Award Criteria are:

- Current member of the LWVLA
- Not currently serving on LWVLA Board

For appropriate application forms, contact me or download:

<http://lwvlewisburgarea.org/Information.html>

Your League Board is accepting nominations for our two annual awards through March 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Teri MacBride, president*

## STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

February's Board meeting was a big milestone for our LWVLA strategy. With the benefit of 2019-2020 strategy workshops, research, member focus groups, member 'town halls,' informal discussions, and Board discernment, a Vision and Priorities were approved, subject to member ratification in May at the Annual Meeting.

**LWVLA Vision (subject to member ratification)**

We envision increased Union County voter registration, voter turnout, and informed participation in local democracy. Over the next five years, LWVLA will build on our history and strengths to:

- be a trusted local leader in voter and issues education
- have members and collaborations that reflect the diversity of Union County
- actively collaborate with political, governmental and community organizations

**2020-2025 Priorities (subject to member ratification)**

- Increase voter registration and voter turnout
- Collaborate to increase League reach and impact
- Use technology to increase access to civics information and participation
- Design/implement civics education
- Design/implement voter education on issues
- Provide a venue for issue consensus, advocacy and activism
- Increase number of candidates running for office

There's a lot more strategy work to do before its implementation is handed off to next year's Board. If you want to be part of this design activity, please contact Becky Perez.

*Becky Perez, Strategic Planning coordinator*

## LUNCH FORUMS

**February Forum**

February Forum speakers, Superintendents Dan Lichtel and Steve Skalka, discussed challenges Union County public schools face. Issues include support for increasing numbers of students from lower income families, rising student mental health needs, implementing safety measures, updating facilities, and decreasing funding due to for profit/cyber schools. The full presentation is available online at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZJrxyMoqfX9YLSUGIPIkjmJk-cZCgY8v>

**March Forum**

The March Forum speaker is Bucknell Political Science Professor and Department Chair, Scott Meinke. The title of his talk is, "What Works and What Doesn't? The Political Science of Election Reforms". La Primavera's lunch buffet begins at 11:30am, at a cost of \$13.00. The speaker begins at noon.

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### April Forum

The April Forum will be an evening meeting. This was scheduled to deliver an interesting program to more of you at a different time of day. This decision was informed by member feedback gathered during the Strategic Planning Process.

Mary Zimmerman, Forum Committee

### **MAUCH COMMITTEE**

The Mauch Committee has been busy working on several projects. Janice Bigelow with Kahla DeSmit, the new director of the Lewisburg Children's Museum, have been planning a multifaceted exhibit for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage at the museum. We are eager to see the result when the exhibit opens in March.

We have been invited to partner with a student at Lewisburg Area High School (LAHS) whose senior project includes a voter registration drive on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Several members of the committee will be on hand to help, along with Linda Harris, who is bringing a voting machine to demonstrate.

Imanni Burg has been working with the director of the Office of Civic Engagement and Service Learning at Bucknell on a voter registration drive on campus. Our LAHS intern, Hanna Aboueid, has completed revisions on the *Student Guide to Voting*. Find a link to it on the LWVLA website.

Pat Longley and Elaine Hopkins are working with Prof. Scott Meinke to select the two Bucknell students who will be our Mauch Fellows, who will hold a series of issues-based forums on campus next fall leading up to the election. The pool is exceptionally strong, so we are expecting them to do excellent work. This year we are asking the Fellows to do a presentation about their experience for the general LWVLA membership in December or January, so stay tuned!

Elaine Hopkins, Mauch Committee chair

### **VOTER SERVICES REPORT**

#### Facts for Voters

The 2020 *Facts for Voters* pamphlet has been distributed throughout Union County and is available online on the LWVLA website. The pamphlet includes ACT 77 election law changes and information about the new voting machines. Check out new dates for absentee and mail-in ballots. Congratulations to editor, Jane Mitchell and the staff for *Facts for Voters*: Imanni Burg, Mary Lotspeich, Nancy Morgan; designer, Dawn Maneval, and to all involved in distribution: Kathleen Martin, Phyllis Dyer, Janice Bigelow, Marion Brown, Carol Crichley, Judy Ellis, Patty and Hood Johnston, Ann Longabach, Marilyn Murphy, Diane Meixell, Margaret Moyer, Betsy Noyce, Becky Perez, Priscilla Waggoner, Susan Waggoner, Mary Zimmerman. A job well done!

#### Voters Guide

*Voters Guide* editorial staff have begun to create the 2020 Primary issue. Contested positions are: U.S. President, PA Attorney General, PA Auditor General, State Treasurer, U.S. Congress 12<sup>th</sup> District, PA Senator District 23, PA Representative in the General Assembly District 84 and 85. We continue to work with the League's national website, VOTE411. We encourage you to use it to create your ballot based on your address.

#### Voter Registration

Voter registration events include the Lewisburg Area High School, March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> to register senior students, in conjunction with

### **LEAGUE LINE MAR. 2020**

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**Website**  
[lwvlewisburgarea.org](http://lwvlewisburgarea.org)

Mauch Millennial project. At Bucknell, we are assisting a committee created with Dept. of Civic Engagement to register students more easily using technical Interface. We are working on confirming other registration and voting machine demonstration sites. If you have a community/church or other group that wants to host an event, please contact Linda Harris, [Lsharris323@gmail.com](mailto:Lsharris323@gmail.com).

#### Important Dates

**March 4<sup>th</sup>**: Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions

**April 13<sup>th</sup>**: Last day to REGISTER before the primary

**April 21<sup>st</sup>**: Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot

**April 28<sup>th</sup>**: Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8pm)

**April 28<sup>th</sup>**: GENERAL PRIMARY  
(Polls are open from 7am to 8pm.)  
Linda Harris, *Voter Services chair*

### **FINANCE DRIVE**

Your mail will soon include a request to contribute to our annual Members and Friends Finance Drive. Most of our annual dues go toward membership in the PA and National Leagues. To fund our many local efforts, LWVLA is dependent on contributions from members, friends, and businesses. Please read the letter from Teri and give serious consideration to making a donation to help us continue to do what we do in the year ahead.

Carole Madle,  
*Members & Friends Finance Drive chair*

### **100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY REPORT**

In our continuing effort to celebrate and honor the women who fought the fight for women's suffrage, our League is sponsoring an exhibit at the Public Library for Union County at 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg. This exhibit features pins, postcards, and posters from the

personal collection of Nancy Neuman, former national president of the League of Women Voters. March is Women's History month so it is fitting that the exhibit will be there from March 2<sup>nd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. Pam Mauger is lending her skills to set up Nancy's collected items of women's suffrage history.

Janice Bigelow,  
*100th Anniversary Celebrations chair*

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### New Members

We extend a warm welcome to new members **Kathy Bohinski** and **Janice Butler**.

We continue to grow! If you or someone you know would like to join the League, please follow this link to find the membership form: [http://lwvlewisburgarea.org/join\\_form.html](http://lwvlewisburgarea.org/join_form.html)

A new member orientation meeting will be held Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, at a Lewisburg member's home. Specific directions will be provided to those who RSVP. Watch for your invitation if you've joined the League in the last few years. It will be a nice opportunity to learn more about what we do, meet other League members, and find out how you can be involved in a vibrant, growing organization.

#### Membership Renewal

Anyone who had not sent in a membership renewal by January 31<sup>st</sup> has now been removed from the rolls. If you're in this "club" and it was an oversight, we'd love to have you back! \$30 will get you through till next September's renewal drive and entitle you to all the news and events you're accustomed to.

#### Annual Meeting

Plan on attending this year's Annual Meeting and Dinner in its new venue at The Cellars in Brookpark Farm on May 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be an especially festive combination of business and pleasure as we continue to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the LWV.

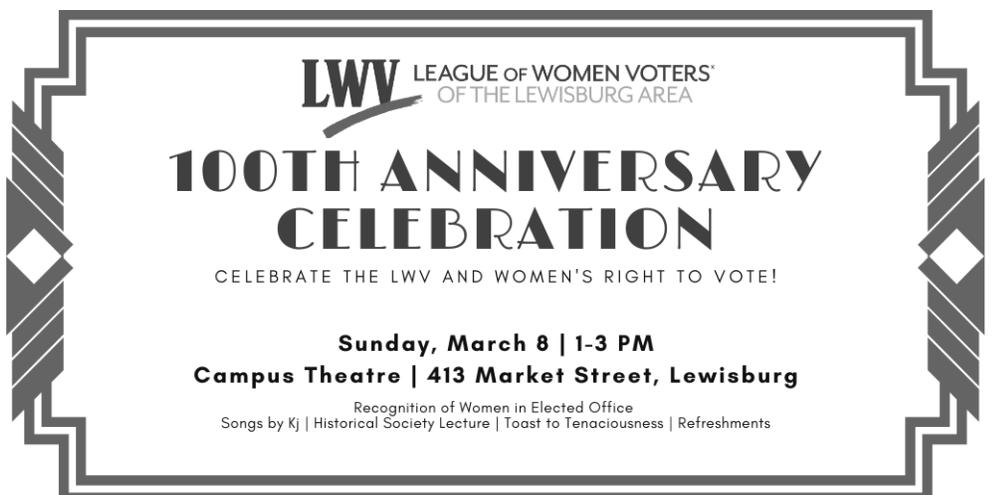
Ruth Burnham, *Membership Committee chair*



LWVLA  
*Annual Meeting  
and Dinner*

*Wednesday, May 13th  
The Cellars,  
Brookpark Farm*

*Expect your invitation  
in early April*



**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'  
OF THE LEWISBURG AREA

## 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

CELEBRATE THE LWV AND WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE!

**Sunday, March 8 | 1-3 PM**  
**Campus Theatre | 413 Market Street, Lewisburg**

Recognition of Women in Elected Office  
Songs by KJ | Historical Society Lecture | Toast to Tenaciousness | Refreshments