

# LEAGUE LINE

A Bulletin of The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area  
Vol. 63, No. 3; November 2018

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board of Directors of the Lewisburg League voted at their board meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup> to start a strategic planning process for the Lewisburg League. The Board felt it would be useful to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Lewisburg League. There are a number of extremely practical issues such as the intense burden which is placed on Voter Services and the unspecified roles of the vice presidents. There are issues of whether we are meeting the needs of our membership. Questions have been raised as to whether the League should continue to devote itself almost exclusively to voter education or whether the Lewisburg League should study and take positions on local issues. Concerns have been expressed about the perception of the non-partisan nature of the League in the community. There is concern about how we reach out to a younger demographic and if we need to change our basic means of communication in order to do so. The Board felt that it was time to assess what we do, what we want to do, and what we should do. Board member, Becky Perez, who has considerable corporate experience with strategic planning, is going to help guide us through this process. Please see her article in this *League Line* (see next article) explaining her vision for this process.

*Mary Zimmerman, President*

## STRATEGY 2025

At our September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board of Directors committed to a strategy refresh for the League of Women Voters – Lewisburg Area. This initiative, referred to as *Strategy 2025*, will begin this autumn and continue mid-way through 2019. While the Board will be fully immersed, our entire chapter membership and various community stakeholders will be invited to participate via interviews, surveys, and ongoing communication. Deliverables include: guidance to this and subsequent Boards on what LVWLA wants to be in 2025, the unique difference it intends to make for the Lewisburg area, and how we will know if we're successful. The initiative will also consider structure and capabilities necessary to achieve that strategic intent. Collectively, the output from this strategic energy can be input for annual operational planning by future Boards.

The *Strategy 2025* initiative was prompted by our stability and maturity as a chapter. Unlike other less-established chapters who are preoccupied with gaining members to reach critical mass, we have the luxury of pausing to reflect on how our activities can make an even bigger impact in a rapidly changing world. Among the numerous factors to consider, a few include: internet-speed access to information; shifting demographics – age, gender, nationality and

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please place the following events on your personal calendar.

**Monday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm**  
BOARD MEETING  
589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg

**Tuesday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>**  
ELECTION DAY!!!

**Saturday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am-3:00pm**  
HOW TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE  
Union County Government Center  
155 N 15th St, Lewisburg, PA 17837

**Tuesday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am-1:00pm**  
LUNCH FORUM  
Dr. Chris Magee, Asst. Professor of  
Economics, Bucknell University  
"Economic Implications of U.S. Trade  
Policies"  
La Primavera (Lunch served at 11:30; \$13)

**Friday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm-7:30pm**  
YEAR-END COCKTAIL PARTY  
Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village,  
Common Room

race; polarized political and social discourse; shifts in global and national loci of power. Our environment is very different than it was even 10 years ago, and we can expect it to be radically different even in the next 7. *Strategy 2025* is the LWVLA opportunity to make sure we are positively relevant in the context of this change.

*Becky Perez, Board Member*

## HOW TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE WORKSHOP

Are you thinking of running for public office now or in the future? Are you a campaign worker? Are you a civic leader? Are you a teacher? Are you interested in the electoral process? Then the LWVLA *How to Run for Public Office* Workshop is for you! The date is Saturday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The place is the Union County Government Center in Lewisburg.

Topics to be covered are:

- What are the **unique challenges and opportunities for women** running for office?
- Why should **you** run **now** for this **office**?
- What are the **preliminary steps** you need to take to run?

Get **real world advice on best practices** for running a campaign! Learn about the **procedures and legalities** from Election Board Officials! Do some **networking and coalition building** by talking to political party representatives, and the panelists!

Here are the people who will be doing the workshop:

**Moderators:** Sue Green & Stacy Richards

**Panelists:**

- Brenda Benner, Perry Co. Commissioner
- Peggy Chamberlain Roup, Snyder Co. Commissioner
- David Cooney, Mifflinburg Mayor

Marc Friedenbarg, Candidate U.S. Congress  
Fred Keller, PA Representative  
Kathryn Morris, Lewisburg Borough Council President  
Steven Ranck, Kelly Twp. Supervisor  
Pat Saylor, Campaign Manager  
Linda Schlegel, Culver-PA Representative  
John Showers, Union Co. Commissioner  
Linda Sosniak, Candidate PA Representative  
Steva Stowell-Hardcastle, Campaign Manager  
Kathy Swope, LASD Board President  
Greg Katherman, Union Co. Elections Board  
Pat Nace, Snyder Co. Elections Board  
Carolyn Connor, Union Co. Republican Party Chair  
Rick Thomas, Union Co. Democratic Party Chair

For more information, go to our website at:  
[lwvlewisburgarea.org/files/HTRFPO\\_2018\\_INFO\\_Registration.pdf](http://lwvlewisburgarea.org/files/HTRFPO_2018_INFO_Registration.pdf)  
or call 570-522-0944.

*Janice Bigelow, Committee chair*

## NOVEMBER FORUM

This month's forum will be held on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am at La Primavera Restaurant. Our speaker is Dr. Chris Magee, Assistant Professor of Economics at Bucknell University. He will discuss the economic implications of current US international trade policies relative to historic trade policy intent and outcomes. 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 by emailing me at [srichard@ptd.net](mailto:srichard@ptd.net). Doors open at 11:30. Our speaker begins at noon.

*Stacy Richards, Forum Committee chair*

## OCTOBER FORUM

Brenda Benner, Perry County Commissioner and President of the SEDA-COG Board of Directors, spoke to the League on October 16<sup>th</sup>, kicking off our *How to Run for Public Office* workshop to be held on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Benner addressed the subject of leadership opportunities as a local official from her vantage point as a township supervisor for nineteen years, as a county commissioner for nine years, and as President of SEDA-COG's Board. Brenda noted that she initially became involved in public service because of dissatisfaction with the way government was operating. She collected the necessary ten signatures on her petition for supervisor, was placed on the ballot, and became the first woman supervisor in Perry County, a predominantly rural district between Harrisburg and State College.

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Ms. Benner indicated that her experience in the public sector taught her that collaborating across political boundaries leads to effective governance. On a township level, cross boundary deteriorating roads were repaired on the basis of a handshake between supervisors. On a county level, expenses were shared on equipment with neighboring Cumberland County and on staff (Jury Commissioner and Domestic Relations) with neighboring Juniata County. Moreover, serving on the boards of various health agencies, Ms. Benner was able to start the Perry County Health Coalition. With the financial help of the Coalition, she was instrumental in the establishment of the Hamilton Health Center that provides medical services to an underserved region. Brenda emphasized that elected officials are best advised to work with other public officials, respecting them and the offices they hold. If they do so, and listen to their constituencies, they can make a difference.

Pat Longley

### VOTER SERVICES REPORT

We will hold a workshop, *How to Run for Public Office* on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Please see Janice Bigelow's article (on the first page of this issue *League Line*) for more information about the event, as she is the event organizer.

#### Voters Guide

The *Voters Guide* is now at the printer, thanks to the very capable direction of Editor Sheri Stayton, with the editorial assistance of Liz Clement, Carole Madle, Sue Travis, and new member, Imanni Burg, and with Dawn Maneval serving as Designer. We should be ready for distribution by October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding the *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 *Voters 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](mailto:lsb413@hotmail.com).

#### Voter Registration

The Voter Services committee met on September 26<sup>th</sup>. We were not able to register eligible seniors at the Lewisburg Area High School because the administrators chose instead to have high school students (rather than outside groups) conduct voter registration efforts on school grounds. We held a voter registration event at the Annual Gathering of Community, which took place this year in Trout Auditorium, on Bucknell's campus. We reminded students who stopped at the table that they needed to vote by absentee ballot if they wouldn't be home by November 6<sup>th</sup>. We were pleased that a faculty member stopped by to pick up absentee ballot applications for her students.

### LEAGUE LINE NOV. 2018

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

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#### Website

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

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

- *October 30<sup>th</sup>* - Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot.
- *November 2<sup>nd</sup>* - Last day for your County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots.

Voters can use our LWVLA website ([lewisburgarea.org](http://lewisburgarea.org)) to access an online version of our *Voters Guide* in order to learn about candidates running for office and to make an informed choice in this fall's election.

Linda Harris, *Voters Service chair*

#### LWVLA BOOK CLUB

The League of Women Voters Book Club will meet on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am at the Public Library of Union County. The book to be discussed is: *Our Towns; A 100,000 Mile Journey into the Heart of America* by James and Deborah Fallows.

All are welcome. If you have any questions contact Mary Beth Clark at [moffa5@comcast.net](mailto:moffa5@comcast.net).

Mary Beth Clark, *Book Club chair*

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

#### Year-End Cocktail Reception

November 30<sup>th</sup>, Buffalo Valley Common Room

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 Common Room of the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village (6 Tressler Boulevard) on November 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. 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 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. Also please bring an hors d'oeuvre or finger food to share as well as your favorite bottle of wine. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Murphy 570-522-5004 or Kathy Fornataro 570-522-0713.

#### LWVLA Membership Renewal

It is still membership renewal time! So far we have received renewals from most of our members—THANK YOU! If you have not yet responded or have misplaced your form, please don't delay; just fill out and return the form below with your check. If we don't hear from you, we will be contacting you shortly, first by letter and then by phone; we don't want to lose you. We need to get our final membership count to LWVUS by January. Please keep bringing your friends and neighbors to our meetings and introducing them to the League. All of you are part of the Membership Committee and you make our task so much easier!

Marilyn Brill, *Membership chair*

### 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](mailto:mfb@dejazzd.com). Thank you!

Marilyn Brill, *Membership chair*