



League of Women Voters-Central Delaware County

VOTER

February 2017

County Council Lunch Feb. 15

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2015

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Reserve your seat now for lunch with the Delaware County Council Wednesday, Feb. 15 at Fellini Café, 106 W. State St., State St., Media. The luncheon is hosted by the LWV of Delaware County, which is made up of the three local Leagues, Radnor, Haverford and our own Central Delaware County. Have lunch with the members of County Council and hear firsthand what they're doing to solve local problems. Ask them questions and share your concerns face to face. We also will be celebrating the 97th birthday of the League of Women Voters with cake for all. The event starts at noon and costs \$24 per person. To make a reservation,

call Marita Green at (610) 724-1376 or email her at [mar-](mailto:maritagreen6@gmail.com)



Delaware County Council

itagreen6@gmail.com. You can mail your check to LWV Delaware County at PO Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086. or you can pay at the door as long as you have made a reservation in advance.

Hot Topics: Behavioral Health and Addiction

Our next Hot Topics luncheon will be Friday, March 10, 11:45, in the Community Room of the Media Borough Hall, 301 N. Jackson St., Media. "Behavioral/ Mental Health Services in Delaware County: Structure, Access and Availability." Guest speakers are Ms. Donna Holiday, Deputy Mental Health Administrator and Ms. Tracey Halliday, Director of Mental Health, both from the Delaware County Office of Behavioral Health. This presentation will provide an introduction to and background information for the upcoming local LWV study on mental and behavioral health policy, resources and needs. A meatless entree will be available for Lent. To make a reservation call Hank Thorne at (610) 566-5474 or email him at hthorne@verizon.net. You can mail your check to LWV CDC at PO Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086 or you can pay at the door. See Page 5 for study details.



President's Message

Punxsutawney Phil, the pleasantly plump Pennsylvania groundhog, has predicted 6 more weeks of winter, but he's not always right. Let's hope this is one of those times!

In January, we had a good turnout at our PA Election Laws Consensus Meeting Part 1, due partly to a group of members from the Radnor League. The discussion was lively and informative. Many thanks to Lora Lavin, Jack Nagle and Marita Green for all their work and also to all the members who attended the meeting.

This month, we've had Part 2 of the Consensus scheduled for Feb. 9, but may have to reschedule because of snow (thanks a lot, Phil), so stay tuned.

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, we'll have our annual lunch with Delaware County Council at Fellini Cafe in Media. We'll also be celebrating the birthday of the League of Women Voters. See page 1.

Then, starting on Feb. 17, we'll be holding our Legislative Interviews with some of our state representatives and state senators, and possibly, a US Congressman. This is a great opportunity to meet your elected officials in person, representing the League and asking questions prepared by the State League. Every League member should try to do this at least once. See below.

Now onto March: On March 10 at noon, we'll be resuming our "Hot Topics" Luncheons with a kick-off to our County Behavioral Health Study with two speakers from the Delaware County Office of Behavioral Health. See page 5 for details.

Our annual Jeanette Ross Environmental Lecture will be held on March 22 at 7 pm. This is always an evening meeting with light refreshments. Our speaker will be Aurora Winslade, Director of Sustainability at Swarthmore College. See page 3 for more information. Looking ahead to April, our timely "Hot Topic" on April 7 at noon will be The Supreme Court, presented by Carol Nackenoff, Professor of Political Science at Swarthmore College. See page 5.

And, last but not least, here's the first notice for our Spring Theater Outing. The show will be The Full Monty at Players Club of Swarthmore on Thursday, April 27, at 7:30 pm. See page 6 for details. Looking forward to seeing you at some of our events!

Joanna Nealon

Join Us for Legislative Interviews

LWV-CDC will be conducting interviews with the following state legislators:

Leanne Krueger-Bransky, PA State Representative, 161st. District: Fri. Feb. 17, 3:30 p.m.

Alex Charlton, PA State Representative, 165th. District: Thurs. Feb. 23, 10 a.m.

Tom McGarrigle, PA State Senator, 26th. District: Thurs. Feb. 23, 1 p.m.

Patrick Meehan, U.S. Congressman, 7th. District, TBA
Christopher Quinn, Pa State Representative, 168th

District, Thurs. Feb. 23, 2:30 pm.

Tom Killion, PA State Senator, 9th. District: TBA
Questions have been prepared by the State League and will include the following topics: Redistricting Reform, Voter Access Reforms, Education Funding Reform, and Environmental Protection.

If you would like to join us for any of these interviews, or have any questions, please contact Joanna Nealon (610-543-6647 or joanna_nealon@yahoo.com).

Jeannette Ross Lecture: Protecting the Environment in the Face of Today's Challenges

Please join us on March 22, 2017 for the Jeanette Ross Memorial Lecture, *Creating the World We Want in Uncertain Times - Case Studies in Sustainable Transformation from Higher Education*, by Aurora Winslade, Sustainability Director, Office of the President, Swarthmore College.

"During this era of certain climate weirding and rising violence against those who are 'different,' and while many of our political leaders continue to engage in denialism, what is the role of the community and the individual to be part of solutions? This talk will explore frameworks for making sense of the mess we find ourselves in and the pathways that have the potential to lead us out of them," Winslade said. She will talk about strategies to improve overall quality of life: carbon pricing, culture change, and sustainability planning and will use case stories to illustrate how people are finding ways to build better communities together and to create a healthy and resilient world.



Aurora Winslade

Winslade brings more than a decade of experience in higher education and energy efficiency efforts in the private sector. In 2012, Winslade launched the sustainability office of the University of Hawaii. As a student at the University of California, Santa Cruz and as its first sustainability director, Winslade spent more than 10 years developing a range of sustainability programs. In her role at Swarthmore, Winslade works closely with an array of campus constituencies to ensure that the College's sustainability programs reflect its Quaker roots and the long tradition of honoring the natural environment.

The lecture is an evening program that begins at 7 p.m. at Media Borough Hall Community Room. The talk is about 45- 50 minutes followed by a question and answer session as well as discussion. Light snacks and beverages will be served. Free and open to the public.

February-April Events

Feb. 15 (Wednesday) County Council Luncheon: Hosted by LWV Delaware County. Have lunch with the members of County Council and hear what they're doing. Noon, at Fellini Café, 106 W. State St., State St., Media, \$25.

March 10 (Friday) Hot Topics Luncheon: Community Room, Media Borough Hall, 11:45 a.m.- Behavioral/ Mental Health Services in Delaware County. Speakers Donna Holiday and Tracy Halliday. Community Room, Media Borough Hall, 301 N. Jackson St., Media, Pa. 11:45 a.m., \$18.

March 18, 2017 (Saturday) - Workshop: Connecting with Millennials: Communication and Recruitment." Guest Speaker: Amy Hjerstedt, National LWV Board Member. All are welcome. Helen Kate Furness Library, Wallingford, PA, 11 a.m. (No charge).

March 22, 2017 (Wednesday) Jeanette Ross Lecture: 7 p.m., Community Room, Media Borough Hall, 301 N. Jackson St., Media, Pa. Aurora Winslade of Swarthmore College will speak on "Sustainability and the Environment."

April 7, 2017 (Friday) Hot Topics Luncheon: Community Room, Media Borough Hall, 301 N. Jackson St., Media, Pa. 11:45 AM - Dr. Carol Nackenoff, Professor of Political Science at Swarthmore College will speak about the Supreme Court. \$18.

10 Ways You Can Help Defend Our Democracy

By Sarah Courtney

1. [Sign the League of Women Voter's Petition](#)

"I stand with the League to ensure that elections are always free, fair and accessible. I will work with the

League to stop voter suppression tactics that threaten our democracy and the right to vote."

2. **Become an e-Activist**

Receive updates from the League and hold your elected officials accountable by taking action on the League's key voting rights and other priorities.

3. **Volunteer Your Time**

We are working to make a difference and actively engaging people in more than 700 communities. Sign up to volunteer!

4. [Donate to our Defend Democracy Fund](#)

Your support makes it possible for LWV to take a stand in statehouses and courtrooms across the country.

5. **Spread the Word**

Stay engaged every day, and leverage your social media followers to get involved too! Follow the League on Twitter and Facebook to find out how to make an impact.

6. **Attend Community and Local government Meetings**

Learn about local issues and hear from elected officials. You can connect and organize with people already active in your community. Check your local government's website or [contact LWV-CDC](#).

7. **Register to Vote and help others Register**

Make sure your family and neighbors are up to date on their registration. The League works year-round at schools and community events to prepare eligible voters. Check out [VOTE411.org](#) for more information.

8. **Contact your Representatives**

Elected officials work for the people and need to hear from concerned citizens like you.

9. **Run for Office**

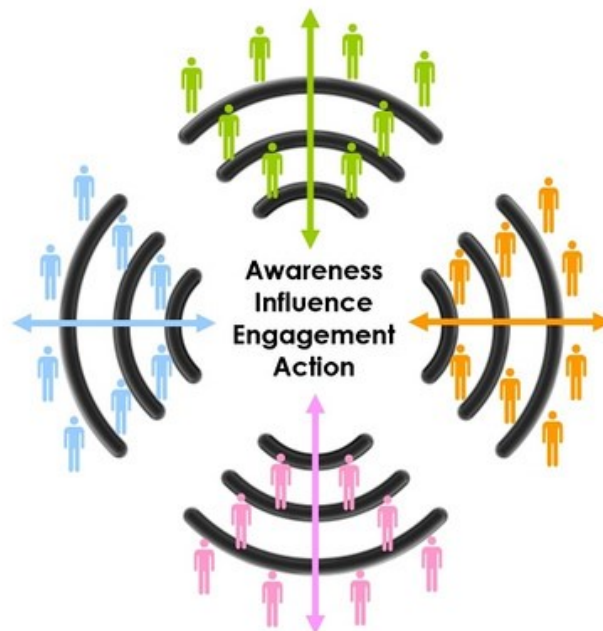
You can directly contribute to the direction of local politics in your own back yard. From school board to the state house, there are many opportunities to run for office and make a difference.

10. **Write a Letter to the Editor**

Newspapers print concerns from readers and love to hear about local concerns. Tailor the issue for your community and support local newspapers when possible.

Sarah Courtney is the LWV-US senior director of communications & digital strategy

The Social Media Democracy



"Democratizing" social media allows organizations to leverage employees, customers, vendors and other brand influencers to stretch social capacity - expanding the content and communication base to help nurture awareness, influence, engagement and action.

© Mark Smiciklas, New Marketing & Social Media Strategist, IntersectionConsulting.com

Why We Are Studying Behavioral Health

Mental and behavioral health and drug addiction may seem an odd topic for an organization dedicated to voting rights to tackle, but the League of Women Voters studies and speaks out on many issues where public policies affect any aspect of American lives. Nationwide, the Affordable Care Act mandated mental health care parity and mental health care greatly improved as a result, but that may be changing. In addition, Delaware County has become a national leader in dealing with drug addiction. After much discussion, the local Leagues have decided we need to know a great deal more about what is happening within the county so we can be more actively involved in this critically important issue.



Donna Holiday and Tracey Halliday from the Delaware County Behavioral Health Department will be our kick off speakers at the March 10 Hot Topics Luncheon. They will talk about what their department is doing for the residents of Delaware County. Mental health and drug addiction are services administered by two separate divisions, but Holiday tells us that about 83 percent of the county's clients have co-morbidities or dual problems and there are a lot of crossovers between the two. Noon in the Community Room of Media Borough Hall. Cost is \$18.

We need to find out what the key issues are facing Delaware County, what resources are available to adults and children to deal with those issues, what services are most frequently utilized and where the gaps are. For example, did you know in 2013 the Excellence in Mental Health Act was passed to amend the US Public Health Service Act? Some states and counties are getting funding but is Pennsylvania or Delaware County

among them? We need to learn about how the Affordable Care Act impacts behavioral health and what changes to the act might impact people in Delaware County. We need to know more about which services are being provided and whether this is another reason for a County Health Department.

The League would like to speak out on this issue and at our last national convention we adopted a position on Behavioral Health <http://forum.lwv.org/member-resources/article/notice-intent-lwvus-board-propose-concurrence-behavioral-health>. However before we can speak we need to learn more about what treatment and support resources are available, funding sources, organizations working on this issue and what is happening in general on this critically important issue. Please contact Jane Brennan – brennanbj@aol.com – 610-353-4757 or Olivia Thorne – olivia.thorne@verizon.net – 610-566-5474 if you would like to be part of the committee.

TWENTY-TWO NEW MEMBERS AND COUNTING!!

There is a lot of interest in politics these days and the League is reaping fruits of their concerns. Our Grand Total as of 1/31/17 when National closed the books to figure our dues payment for the year is 130. We lost a few more this year, due to attrition but we are working our way back to being one of the biggest and most active Leagues in the state.

Your dues, by the way, are shared with State and Regional levels too. Every new member brings in about

\$2.50 for our local League. And you wondered why we are always trying to raise money! There is much to be done and a lot of it costs more than sweat and tears.

There is a lot going on and we hope that more folks will take advantage of our "join any time" policy. The League knows all politics is local and members are encouraged to take an active role in their communities. One of our most important functions is education and we all learn from being active in the League.

~ Joyce Ellis, Membership Chair

LWV-CDC SPRING THEATER OUTING

Please join the League of Women Voters on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., to see the 10-time Tony Award nominee, ***The Full Monty***, at Players Club of Swarthmore. This pop, rock, musical comedy by the team of Terrence McNally (*Ragtime*) and David Yazbek (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*) was one of Britain's smash hits. A gritty yet touching story became a box office sensation.



(Photo from a performance in London's West End)

Unemployed Jerry Lukowski talks his ex-steelworker buddies into starting a striptease act with hilarious consequences. Among the backdrop of stark unemployment and depression, six unemployed Sheffield men decide to come together and overcome their pride and personal struggles to form their very own strip act. Here is what people say about Players Club of Swarthmore:

*"EXCELLENT Value for Quality Theater in Delco, Honestly Better than Downtown."
"Love this little playhouse."*

Please join us at 5:30 before the show for great food and conversation at Swarthmore Pizza, 601 South Chester Road, Swarthmore, PA. Come enjoy a full menu of Italian specialties and pizza.

Here is what people say about Swarthmore Pizza:

"Best pizza in Media. Thin crust with the perfect amount of crispness. If you like thick, doughy, fake cheese and greasy pizza, go elsewhere. Great variety of pizza types and fresh"

Please make a reservation for the show with Barbara Amstutz svhmdi53bwa@outlook.com
Cost for the show is \$32 (dinner is not included). Checks made out to LWV-CDC can be sent to PO Box 131, Wallingford, PA 19086.