



VOTER

January 2019

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Toss Your Hat in the Ring

Have you ever thought of running for local elected office? Pennsylvania's system of local government puts many decisions about land use, economic development, taxation, local roads and our children's education in the hands of township supervisors, borough and city council members and school district directors. Local government is where the action is. You can help make decisions about how your community will grow, what shape the streets are in and which services are most important.

No matter your party, here is your chance to learn how to run for office. This includes how to circulate and file nominating petitions, prepare financial reports, manage campaign contributions and meet other requirements of the Department of State and the Delaware County Election Bureau.

Penn State Extension and the League of Women Voters of Delaware County are offering the workshop "Toss your Hat in the Ring" at the Media Borough Hall

Community Room on Jan. 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. Snow date is Jan. 30. Cost is \$25 and you are asked to register online at <https://extension.psu.edu/toss-your-hat>.

The workshop will include "lessons from the trenches," a panel of local elected officials who will share their experiences. For more information, contact Penn State Extension Community Development Educator Peter Wulfhorst at ptw3@psu.edu or call 570-296-3400.



County Council Luncheon

Get a chance to meet with members of Delaware County Council and talk about issues that affect the county. Each council member will describe their role on council and there will be time for questions. New voting machines, the county prison and a need for a county health department will be discussed but you can ask about your own issues. This is also the

League's 99th anniversary celebration luncheon. The luncheon and discussion will be held on Feb. 13 at 12 noon, DiFabio's Restaurant, 1243 N. Providence Rd., Media Pa. Cost is \$25. Reservations are required. Please mail your check, payable to LWV Delaware County, to P.O. Box 131, Wallingford PA 19086. For further information [email Rosemary Kesling](mailto:email.Rosemary.Kesling) or call her at 610-789-2680.



President's Message

Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year!

On Thursday, Jan. 17, join us for State Program Planning at the Helen Furness Library in Wallingford on the lower level at 1 pm. This planning session is to plan for the 53rd Biennial Pennsylvania League of Women Voters convention coming up this summer and to review current programs.

Now that the excitement of the midterm election has subsided and citizen engagement in local politics is still energized, you may be thinking about running for office yourself. School board, borough councils, township boards and county offices are just as important, in some respects more important, than national offices in making decisions that affect your life and your community.

The Penn State Extension, in conjunction with the League of Women Voters of Delaware County, is conducting a workshop, Toss your Hat in the Ring, Jan. 23 (snow date is Jan 30). See P. 1.

On February 13, the Delaware County Interleague will be holding its annual lunch with the Delaware County Council. Come meet your representatives on County Council. The Interleague is made up of the Central Delaware County, Haverford and Radnor Leagues. See P. 1.

And on March 8, once the inclement weather is over, we'll resume our Hot Topics Luncheons, starting with a panel discussion with representatives from the NAACP, HIAS (founded as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) and Temple Ohav Shalom to discuss strategies to combat bigotry and hate, defend democratic ideals, protect civil rights and promote civil discourse for all.

We'll also have the annual Jeanette Ross environmental lecture on April 24 in the evening at 7 p.m. addressing the topic of deregulation at the EPA.

We have many interesting and educational programs planned in 2019 and we hope to see you at one or more of our events!

Barbara Amstutz

Remembering Mary Mangelsdorf

Mary Burnside Mangelsdorf, 91, died peacefully, after a brief illness, Oct. 24, 2018, at Ridley Hospital in Media, surrounded by family. A member of the Religious Society of Friends, Mary worked for 17 years as the meeting secretary for Swarthmore Friends Meeting in Swarthmore.

Mary is survived by her four children and their spouses: Helen Mangelsdorf and Roman Tybinko of Philadelphia; Paul Mangelsdorf III and Laurice Mangelsdorf of Atlanta, Ga, Sarah Mangelsdorf and Karl Rosengren of Madison,

Wisc. and Martha Mangelsdorf and Roy Peabody of Boston, Mass. Mary was predeceased by her husband Paul, who died in 2015. They were married 65 years.

Mary served as a member of the board of managers of the Quaker magazine Friends Journal for more than a dozen years during the 1980s and 1990s. She was also a longtime member of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the League of Women Voters and the Friends Historical Association.



Mary Mangelsdorf

New Voting Machines on Our 'To-Do' List

On Nov. 14, Delaware County Interleague President Olivia Thorne made the following statement to the Delaware County Council, which will be selecting new voting machines for the county this year. Several members of the three Delco Leagues traveled to Bucks County in December to see the five machines expected to be certified by the state within a few months. The county has budgeted \$7 million for new machines.

The League of Women Voters of Delaware County strongly supports the state directive that all counties in Pennsylvania have new voting machines by 2020. We believe voting machines with a paper trail are essential for a fair and accurate voting process. There are some additional points that we'd like to make to help Delaware County make a smooth transition to new voting machines.

- * We must put money in the 2019 budget for new voting machines.
- * It is essential that we have new voting machines in place for the November 2019 election. Local municipal election officials need to go through one election before the 2020 Presidential Election season begins. New machines take some getting used and both voters and election officials need one election to go through the process before we have 90 percent-plus turnout in 2020.
- * The County needs to provide an opportunity for voters to see the machines being recommended

by the Federal Election Commission and the Pa. Department of State. Their thoughts and input will help the county select a machine that meets our need for a paper trail and is easy for handicapped voters to use.

- * Demonstrations of selected voting machines must be available at local libraries and/or community centers prior to the first use of the new voting machine so all eligible voters get a chance to see the new process and how voting will take place with the new machines. The League of Women Voters helped with these demonstrations when the Danaher machines were introduced and we would be happy to assist again in 2019.



The new machines all work on the same basic principle: the voter hand marks a ballot, then casts the vote by feeding the ballot into a scanner that verifies the voter's selections and drops the ballot into a locked box to preserve it for re-counting. Handicapped voters can use a separate large-print touch screen to print paper ballots, which are then also fed into the scanner. One important requirement is that the machines not be accessible online so they can't be hacked.

January-February Events

January 17 (Thursday) — Program planning for 2019 Pennsylvania Biennial Convention to review current positions and discuss new studies and updates. 1 p.m., Lower Level, Helen Kate Furness Library, 100 North Providence Rd., Wallingford, Pa. All League members welcome.

January 23 (Wednesday) — Toss Your Hat in the Ring, How to Run for Office. 7 -9 p.m. Moderator Peter Wulfhorst., Penn State Extension. Snow date Jan. 30. \$25. Media Borough Hall Community Room, 301 N. Jackson St., Media.

February 13 (Wednesday) — Delaware Council Luncheon. 12 noon. \$25. DiFabio's Restaurant, 1243 N. Providence Rd., Media, Pa.

March 8 (Friday) — Hot Topics Luncheon: Panel discussion on civil discourse and fighting bigotry. 12 noon, Media Borough Hall Community Room, 301 N. Jackson St., Media, 301 N. Jackson St. Media.

PALWV President Appointed to New Redistricting Commission

On November 29, Governor Tom Wolf signed an executive order establishing a redistricting reform commission to examine ways to improve the state's redistricting process. David Thornburgh, Executive Director of the Committee of Seventy, was named chair of the commission, and Susan Carty, President of the Pennsylvania League of Women Voters, will also serve on the commission. The commission will be comprised of members from diverse backgrounds, including current and former legislators, leaders from nonpartisan civic organizations, and members of the administration.



Susan Carty

The commission can only make recommendations to the Legislature for changes in the current process. It will be required to hold at least six public

hearings throughout the state as well as provide an online public forum to encourage people to become involved in the work of gerrymandering reform.

"The League is proud to serve as a member of this commission and we thank Governor Wolf for the opportunity to lend our voice to this effort," Carty said. "We are confident that this nonpartisan effort will work to adequately address Pennsylvania's redistricting problem in a thoughtful, deliberative way and help make Pennsylvania's elections fairer and more democratic."

The League encourages members to remain engaged in the fight against gerrymandering and support the aims of the commission by attending one or more of the six public hearings that will be held around the state and submitting online comments supporting redistricting reform.

Please Re-up Your Membership by the End of January

Consider this a cry for help - a simple nudge or a plea from a desperate woman! National LWV has a Jan. 31 deadline for membership renewals, which means we have to get ours in by that deadline as well!

If you believe you have paid, please check your checking account to see if your check has cleared! If you are not renewing for any reason, please call me at 610-566-8674 and let me know. You know I care about you! If you just misplaced your form, use the one on the website! <http://www.lwvcdc.org/> Thank You and Happy New Year! ~ Membership Chair Joyce Ellis

Civics Ed Project Gearing up For 2019 Local Elections

The League's Civics Education Committee will meet Monday, Jan. 14t at 1 p.m., at 151 Creek Road, Glen Mills, to make plans for offering opportunities to members and the general public to learn more about their government. We will have school board, municipal, county council and judicial elections this year. In addition to the printed materials and power point presentations we've made available in the past, we'd like to be more innovative in 2019. For this we need fresh ideas and new committee members. If you're interested in joining, need directions or have questions, call Nancy Philippi at 219 229 9845 or email her at nsphilippi@comcast.net.



Vote411 got a huge shoutout from John Oliver on his Last Week Tonight show on HBO in October as he was explaining to viewers how to get basic information on their local candidates.