March 2020

VOLUME 97, ISSUE 3



THE VOTER

A Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

WEBSITE: Iwvdayton.org | EMAIL: league@lwvdayton.org | PHONE: 937.228.4041 | FACEBOOK: LWV Dayton OH



Celebrating 100 years of Voting Rights for Women... Well, Sort Of

By the time this newsletter is delivered, Dangerous Dames of Dayton 2020 will be just a few days away. This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and all its promises to provide women with equal voting rights by stating, "the right of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex."



Women's Suffrage Statue in Central Park, New York

After 72 years the suffragist movement had worked its magic. Carrie Chapman Catt founded the League of Women Voters in February 1920, six months before the 19th Amendment was ratified. Our Greater Dayton Area League of Women Voters was founded in May 1920, readying the women in our community to take charge of their lives—and the laws that ruled their lives—through the power of the vote. It had been a long haul. For the women who had suffered the disappointment of the 14th and 15th Amendments, the 19th Amendment was a huge victory for some, but not for all.

For black women who had fought the battle for the same rights alongside their white counterparts, the 19th Amendment was bittersweet, as their battle for the right to vote was not yet over. It would continue for another 45 years. Not until the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson did all the legal barriers to the ballot box, based on racial discrimination, end. A true and final victory for all women and every citizen.

This 45-year delay in no way diminishes the significance of the 19th Amendment or the activism and sacrifice that led to its ratification. However, it is also right to celebrate August 6, 1965 as the date that secured the right to vote for racial minorities throughout the country, especially in the South, and most especially for women. It seems fitting, then, that National Women's Equality Day celebrating the 19th Amendment is also celebrated in August.

To recognize the united efforts of all suffragists who fought together for the same cause, it seems only fitting that this year our League will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act in August. It gave every woman the right to vote. We have no details nor an exact date, but invite you to stay tuned to this space to hear more. One thing for sure, it will be a well-deserved celebration for **every** woman who values equality for all.

DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

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Rose Fox, Theresa Gasper, Carolyn Rice, Stephanie Smith, Noreen Willhelm

Education Fund—a 501(c)(3)entity

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^{*}In-kind contribution **In-kind contribution + monetary contribution



March 3
3:00 - 10:00 pm
WARPED WING
BREWERY
26 Wyandot St
Dayton
Live music from

"Top Secret"

FREE

CRAFTTHEVOTE.NET

What a fun way to engage the community in the importance of voter registration and participation in our political process. Tell your friends and neighbors! The League will be there to help participants register to vote.



LWV Reading Series

In honor of the centennial ratification of the 19th Amendment and Women's Right to Vote, the League of Women Voters Greater Dayton Area is hosting its own reading series. The books are about the amazing accomplishments of women—before, during, and after the vote—that somehow did not make it into the history books. So borrow or buy the book, and then make plans to join us for a discussion of what women were doing 70 - 100 years ago.

Radium Girls:

the Dark Story of America's Shining Women By Kate Moore

Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 pm

Lily's Bistro, 329 E 5th St (in the Oregon District)

In the early 20th Century, one of the best jobs young girls and women in America could have involved something exciting and brand new: radium. Sparkling, glowing, and beautiful, radium was also, according to the companies that employed these young women, completely harmless. A century later the truth about radium and its assorted isotopes is known all too well. This is the story of these young women, seemingly so fortunate, who were poisoned by the jobs they felt so lucky to have. [NY Times Bestseller; USA Today Bestseller; Wall Street Journal Bestseller; Amazon Charts Bestseller]

RSVP by Friday, May 8, to DJ Shade at **wendellshade@gmail.com**, in order to give the restaurant a head count.



SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING DISCUSSIONS:

Tuesday, August 11

We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of the American Women Trapped on Bataan, By Elizabeth Norman

"Ohio is leading the nation in cyber security!"

~Secretary of State Frank LaRose

Ohio's Secretary of State, Frank LaRose, was the keynote speaker for the League's recent 2020 Capitol Chat, held at The Dayton Club on the evening of January 14.

Secretary LaRose reminded us that Ohio will hold its Presidential Primary Election on March 17, 2020. By the time you read this article, absentee ballots for those serving overseas have been sent out and early voting has started.

LaRose predicts the March Primary and the November General Election will have a high turnout. To prepare for this large turnout and to assure that our vote is safe and secure, Ohio purchased new voting equipment. "They are the most secure, reliable machines available," LaRose said. Many counties in Ohio (including Montgomery County)

used the new election equipment during the 2019 General Election. In addition to purchasing the new system, LaRose's office has worked tirelessly to keep his website and the websites of all 88 County Boards of Elections safe from cyber criminals by creating a "human firewall," which requires multi-factor authentication and complicated passwords. Additionally, background checks

are conducted on all vendors who service the election machines or any other piece of equipment in an Ohio Board of Elections.

After sharing a lot of interesting information with us and answering our every question, Secretary LaRose's parting words were, "No Ohioan should skip the right to make their voice heard every time we have an election." Be informed and vote!



Linda A Marshall 2043 Brandy Mill Lane Centerville, OH 45459-1195 lamarshall715@gmail.com

> Pat Diven 21 W McPherson St Dayton, OH 45405 pdiven@att.net

Zella Falcon Cook 989 N. Clayton Rd New Lebanon, OH 45345 **zelfalcon@aol.com**



2020 Census Postcards will be sent to all households in mid-March. NEW! Complete your census questionnaire online or by phone for a quick and easy reply. Encourage everyone to complete this year's census to ensure government resources STAY in Greater Dayton.

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VOLUNTEER VOICES



One and Done and Quick Fixes: New Ways to Volunteer

Have you ever wanted to volunteer with the League but aren't available for a long-term or open-ended commitment? The League's new "One and Done" and "Quick Fixes" programs may appeal to you!

Specifically, volunteering at the League office to prepare the newsletter to mail or at Dayton's House of Bread to prepare and serve a hot lunch are no longer open-ended



commitments. Below you will see dates where volunteers are needed for both the mailing committee and at the House of Bread. If you are available for one or more of these dates, let me know and I'll connect you to the program coordinator for more information.

Not sure when you're available or what you'd like to do? Sign up for Quick Fixes by contacting me or checking that box on the Member Interest Survey, and someone may be in touch via email or phone, as needed, for a substitute or a short-term request. You can decide then if it's something you're able to help with. None of these require advance training or special skills, just your time and energy.

Our hope is that both the One-and-Done and Quick Fixes volunteering options will allow more members to get involved. Give it a try! Contact me at **laurel.kerr@sbcglobal.net** or text/call **937.409.0536** if you're interested.

Mailing Committee, meets at LWV office, 9:30 am-11:30 am (approx):

Thursdays: Mar 12, Apr 23, May 21, Jun 25, Jul 23, Sep 24

Tuesday: Aug 25

Mondays: Oct 26, Nov 23

House of Bread volunteer, meets at 9 Orth Ave, Dayton, 9:00 am-2:00 pm:

Fourth Tuesday every month: Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26, Jun 23, Jul 28, Aug 25, Sep 22, Oct 27, Nov 24, Dec 22

LEAGUE NEWS AROUND THE STATE AND NATION



April 16, 2020 LWVO Statehouse Day

LWV Ohio's Annual Statehouse Day event focuses on state-level public policy issues that affect our democracy and women's rights, while allowing everyday Ohioans to lobby the General Assembly.

Information about registration and program details TBD.

NEW Action Alerts make it easy to communicate with Ohio legislators

With a tap on a link, you can now quickly craft a message to your legislator on important issues to League members facing pending action in the Ohio legislature.

You can find LWV Ohio Action Alerts at https://www.lwvohio.org/action-alerts

Pending issues:

- Voter Verification & Registration
- Saving Funding for Public Schools
- Election Security

Upcoming Election Deadlines

- **March 14** Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for the March 17, 2020 presidential primary election must be received by boards of elections by noon (three days before presidential primary election).
- March 17 Primary Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm.

 Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls.
- March 27 Absentee ballots returned by U.S. mail must be postmarked no later than March 16 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after presidential primary election).



- See what's on your ballot
- ♦ Find your polling place
- Discover upcoming debates and forums in your area
- Get other personalized voting information and much more!





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"Now that you have the vote, what are you going to do with it?"

~founder Carrie Chapman Catt

a	For up-to-date League happenings, legislative alerts and news, check out our Facebook page,
	LWV Dayton OH.

Then SHARE our page with friends and family!

Current Resident or:		

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Craft the Vote @ Warped Wing	4 April <i>Voter</i> articles due	5	6	7 Centennial Anniversary Celebration
8 International Women's Day	9 Board Meeting	10	11	12 Mailing Committee	13	14
15	16 Freedom of Information Day	17 PRIMARY ELECTIONS	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 House of Bread	25	26	27 Absentee ballots due @ Board of election	28
29	30	31 National Equal Pay Day				