



February 2020

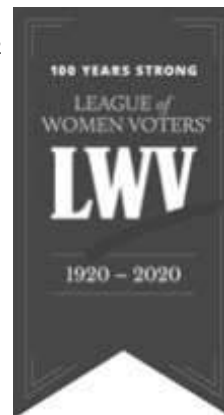
VOLUME 97, ISSUE 2

THE VOTER

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

1920 - 2020

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Celebrating 100 Years of a Great Idea with DANGEROUS DAMES OF DAYTON

July 1848 was a turning point for women. The “gentle sex” (as they were considered then) traveled on horseback, in wagons, and on foot, to reach a tiny patch of soil in Seneca Falls, New York, to take their stand. Together they committed to their own version of the Declaration of Independence in the form of the Declaration of Sentiments.

“...when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty to throw off such a government and to provide her guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the women under this government and such is now the necessity which constrains them to demand the equal station to which they are entitled.” Among the many injustices listed, the women mostly wanted to “exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise.” They wanted to vote.

In February 1920, with an optimistic belief the 19th amendment would pass, the League of Women Voters was founded by Carrie Chapman Catt. The League began as a “mighty political experiment” designed to help women carry out their new responsibilities as voters . . . to use their new power to participate in shaping public policy. What a great idea!

How very fitting that 100 years later 2020 is being called the Year of the Woman. More women are now in elected office and, in 2020, more are on the ballot across the nation. Women are also being touted as a new and powerful voting bloc. In 2010 the Dayton League began honoring women making a difference, with the inception of Dangerous Dames of Dayton. Its name pays homage to our local suffragists who marched and protested for the right to vote, so were dubbed in the local media as “dangerous to polite society.”

During the last decade we chose to honor women who might not normally be recognized, such as a WWII WASP and a WWII Wave; first female police chief; first woman to run for office; first woman to run for office and win!; first female justice; women in the media; women in business; and women who have moved our Dayton League forward.

On Saturday, March 7, we will have a special, 100-year celebration of the League and the Vote, with Dangerous Dames of Dayton 2020 at the Dayton Art Institute. Join us as we begin the next century as the founders of the longest and most successful women’s movement in the country.

We will celebrate the women we are because of the women they were!

P.S. Look for details on the back pages of this newsletter.

*~Susan Hesselgesser,
Executive Director, LWVGD*

DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

General Fund - a 501(c)(4) entity

MAJOR LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

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Jo Columbro Bequest
Talbot Tower Management*

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Barbara Buddendeck
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Sinclair College
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Juanita Wehrle-Einhorn

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Susan Byerly
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Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association
Paul Gruner, Montgomery County Engineer
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Education Fund - a 501(c)(3) entity

CURRENT MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Nancy Adkins**
Susan Barde
Charles D. Berry
Peggy Berry
David & Susan Bodary
Pat Bradley-Falke
Frieda & Mike Brigner
Barbara Buddendeck**
Vincent & Andrea Cobb
DATV*
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald L. Fletcher

Bill Gerhard, in memory of Judy
Gerhard
Carol Graff, in memory of
Bryon L. Schatzley
Sharon Harmer
Susan Hesselgesser
Hanauer & Spiegel Fund
Kendall Printing*
Paul Lamberger
Leppla Associates, Ltd.
LWVO Voter Registration Grant

Michelle M. Maciorowski Law
Paula MacIlwaine – Women
Making A Difference
Earl McDaniel
Pat & Jackie McGohan
Sandy McHugh & Jerry Sutton
Anthony McIlvaine
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Marian Simmons Estate Bequest
MVCC*
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Macy Reynolds
Gayle Rominger
Sinclair College
Dr. William Spou &
Dr. Margaret Dunn
The Virginia W. Kettering
Foundation
Women's History Project Greene
County

*In-kind contribution **In-kind contribution + monetary contribution

Recent Contributions Appreciated

General Fund – a 501(c)(4) entity:

Patsy Thurin, Juanita Wehrle-Einhorn in memory of Robert Wehrle-Eihorn, Mary Winfree

Education Fund—a 501(c)(3) entity:

Pat Bradley-Falke, Vincent & Andy Cobb, Leppla Associates Ltd, LWVUS, Preferred Planning Associates, Marian Simmons Bequest, University of Dayton

Thank you!



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.

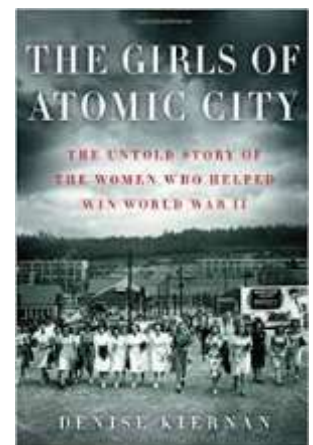
The Girls of Atomic City:

the Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win WW II
By Denise Kierman

Tuesday, February 11 at 6:30 pm

Thai 9 Restaurant, 11 Brown Street (in the Oregon District)

This book tells the story of the young women of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, who unwittingly played a crucial role in one of the most significant moments in U.S. History. The Tennessee town of Oak Ridge was created from scratch in 1942. One of the Manhattan Project's secret cities, it did not appear on any map until 1949, and yet at the Project's height it was using more electricity than New York City. Oak Ridge was home to 75,000 people, many of whom were young women recruited from small towns across the South. Their jobs were shrouded in mystery, but they were buoyed by a sense of shared purpose. [NY Times Bestseller; LA Times Bestseller; NPR Bestseller]



RSVP by Friday, February 7, to DJ Shade at wendellshade@gmail.com, in order to give the restaurant a head count.

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING DISCUSSIONS:

- **Tuesday, May 12**
Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women, By Katie Moore
- **Tuesday, August 11**
We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of the American Women Trapped on Bataan, By Elizabeth Norman



February 18 is the deadline
to register to vote in the
2020 Primary Election

Tell your family, friends, and
neighbors. Your vote is your voice!

**FREE AND
OPEN TO ALL**

The Complicated Struggle for Woman Suffrage

An informative discussion on the lesser known struggle of diverse women to win the right to vote, leading to the passage of the 19th Amendment 100 years ago. Presented by League of Women Voters of Ohio.

Thursday, February 13
6 pm

Goodwill Easter Seals of the Miami Valley
660 S Main St, Dayton



The Matriarch: Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty — authored by Susan Page, Keynote Speaker at our Centennial Anniversary Celebration, March 7 — is **available now** in our League office and at League events throughout the month. To reserve your copy in time for our big event, call the League at **937.228.4041**.



Around the League Office in January



Our League office window looked especially festive this Christmas thanks to office manager Bobbie Beach and member Patsy Thurin. Thank them for their artistic creation the next time you see them at the office or an event.



Everyone admired the portrait of Ohio suffragist legend and first president of the Dayton League of Women Voters Minnie Stanley, at our Dayton First Friday Open House event January 3. The portrait is now displayed in our office this entire year, thanks to her grandson, Tom Maher.

HELLO!

New Members!

Jean Tarr
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VOLUNTEER VOICES



Lucy Anne McKosky and her dedicated team are working on the 2020 *Directory of Public Officials* (DPO), to be distributed mid-March, and could use additional help. Specifically, proofreaders are needed in late February.

The DPO is updated every year and includes names and contact information for all federal, state, and local elected officials representing Montgomery and Greene Counties, along with information and assistance numbers for political parties and social service agencies. The DPO costs just \$3 for LWVGDA members, \$6 for nonmembers, and \$5 each for orders of 10 or more copies and includes hand delivery.

Additionally, Lucy Anne and the *Voters Guide* team are busy getting ready for the March primary. They are updating the online *Voters Guide* at **VOTE411.org**, a "one-stop-shop" for election-related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public, with both general and state-specific information on the following aspects of the election process:

- Absentee ballot information
- Ballot measure information
- Early voting options
- Election dates
- Factual data on candidates in various races
- General information on pertinent topics
- ID requirements
- Polling place locations
- Registration deadlines
- Voter qualifications
- Voter registration forms
- Voting machines



The League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) has sponsored **VOTE411.org** since 2006. The LWVGDA gathers information on candidates and issues in Montgomery and Greene Counties, and the League of Women Voters of Ohio provides information on statewide candidates and issues. All candidates are invited to participate, and they enter their own responses directly. The League does not edit or correct candidate responses.

You can help by getting the word out about these two resources. Add a tagline to your email, or bring them up in discussions about candidates or issues. Education and information are the heart of the League's mission—spread the word!

The League of Women Voters of Greater Dayton Area

Invites you to our

Centennial Anniversary Celebration

Honoring our 2020 Dangerous Dames of Dayton
*Jill Kingston | Judge Alice O. McCollum | Mayor Nan Whaley
and Jo Columbro (posthumously)*

Saturday, March 7, 2020

*5:45 pm: Registration, Cash Bar, Silent Auction
6:30 pm: Dinner*

Dayton Art Institute
456 Belmonte Park North, Dayton, OH 45405

Keynote Speaker: Susan Page

Bureau Chief for USA Today, political contributor for CNN and MSNBC, past president of the White House Correspondents Association, and currently touring the country with her newest book: "The Matriarch, Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty"

Our 2020 Dangerous Dames of Dayton

Jo Columbro (posthumously): Jo was a long-time member of the League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton area and served as our president from 2011-2013. She was a loving woman who quietly shared her zest for all things environmental and her knowledge of information technology. After a courageous struggle with cancer, Jo died on November 16, 2014. Jo's generous legacy ensures our League will be serving the Greater Dayton Area into the next century.

Jill Kingston: As a result of her experiences fostering drug-dependent newborn babies, as well as her desire to support these babies' biological parents in their own recovery, Jill founded Brigid's Path in 2014, an in-house healing residence for babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). At Brigid's Path, each baby receives one-to-one adult care for a rapid dose of cuddles and love, 24/7. There is only one other place in the country that specifically treats NAS babies.

Judge Alice McCollum: Judge McCollum is the first woman to serve on the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas Probate Division, having been first elected in 2002, then re-elected in 2008 and again in 2014. Prior to sitting on the bench in the Probate Division, she was the first and only woman elected to the Dayton Municipal Court bench. Judge McCollum served the Dayton Municipal Court for 24 years. She received her law degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a BA in Mathematics.

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley (in absentia): The city of Dayton had a difficult year in 2019: An unprecedented and potentially unpredictable Ku Klux Klan rally in May; devastating tornadoes that leveled parts of the greater Dayton area over Memorial Day weekend; a horrific mass shooting in the Oregon District in August; and then, in November, the shocking killing of one of Dayton's most well-loved police officers: Detective Jorge Del Rio. Mayor Nan Whaley courageously and professionally led the city through each of these extraordinary events. She was a beacon of strength and hope that resounded throughout the city and beyond.

See the back page of this *Voter* for information on how you can reserve your seat at this celebration now!

Centennial Anniversary Celebration REGISTRATION FORM

Fill out the reservation information below for our March 7 once-in-a-lifetime celebration!

We must receive your reservations **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 21, 2020**

Mail to: The League of Women Voters – 127 N. Ludlow St. Dayton, OH 45402
Or use your credit card on our website: www.lwvdayton.org



Your Name _____

Email _____

Daytime Phone _____

_____ tickets at \$100 each Indicate Chicken or Vegetarian dinner option

Reservation Names. Table seats 8.
Please list anyone with whom you wish to be seated;
Please enclose your check with your reservation.

_____	Dinner option _____
_____	Dinner option _____
_____	Dinner option _____
_____	Dinner option _____
_____	Dinner option _____
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_____	Dinner option _____
_____	Dinner option _____
_____	Dinner option _____

Make checks out to LWV Education Fund. For more information call **937.228.4041**.



Honor YOUR Dangerous Dames in our program

We must receive your words of tribute (50 word limit) and your check for \$25 for each tribute no later than February 21, 2020.

If you include your tributes with your reservation, please note "tribute" in the check memo line.



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Talbot Tower
127 N. Ludlow Street
Dayton, OH 45402-1703

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

~founder Carrie Chapman Catt



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:

DON'T MISS THE PARTY OF THE CENTURY!

The Centennial Anniversary Celebration

**Honoring our 2020
Dangerous Dames of Dayton
Saturday, March 7, 2020**

5:45 pm registration
at the beautiful Dayton Art Institute
456 Belmonte Park N., Dayton, OH 45405

