

# LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS<sup>®</sup> OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CAPITAL REGION Newsletter

## December 9 get-together

To celebrate 2023 for all the good work accomplished and to plan for 2024 for all the good work to come, please join your fellow members on **Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 2:00pm to 3:30pm** for cookies and beverages in the upstairs community room at the Giant Food store at 2300 Linglestown Road in the Blue Mountain Commons. Please plan to attend and share your thoughts. RSVP by November 28, 2023 to [lilliangrieco@verizon.net](mailto:lilliangrieco@verizon.net).



Save the date! Kevin Wagner, a Social Studies teacher at Carlisle Area School District, was instrumental in working with students to obtain the Governor's Award for registering young voters 6 years in a row. He will be joining us on **Thursday, January 11 at 6:30** on Zoom to discuss his experience with the Governor's Civic Engagement Award and high school voter registration. The PA Department of State has been asked to join and talk about the program from their side as well. More info to come from Jess. Questions to [jessica.myers@palwv.org](mailto:jessica.myers@palwv.org).



Several members attended the NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner on October 14.

## **Censorship in Schools**

The recording of the webinar "Censorship in Schools: What Can You Do?" is available to view on the LWVPA website. <https://www.palwv.org/events>. Look under Past Events.

## The Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Team News

Next virtual team meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 13, at 6:30pm. If interested in attending, please email Patty at [President@lwvpacapreg.org](mailto:President@lwvpacapreg.org) or Lillian at [Liliangrieco@verizon.net](mailto:Liliangrieco@verizon.net).

October is **National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)**. Recommended readings are firstly *“Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century”* by Alice Wong, a collective anthology of short essays, interview transcripts, articles, blog posts, creative prose and more to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). Secondly, we recommend *“Life Without Limits”* by Nick Vujicic. Born without arms or legs, Nick tells the story of his physical disabilities and the emotional battle he endured learning to deal with them. A recommended movie is *“Still: A Michael J. Fox Movie”*, a new critically acclaimed documentary film that premiered on Apple TV+. The film spans Fox’s career and examines his optimistic, upbeat attitude to Parkinson’s disease, having been diagnosed at 29 years of age.

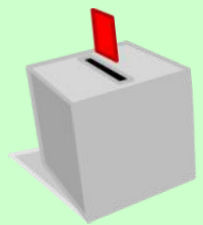


November’s special observance is Native American Indian Heritage Month. Please submit suggestions for book/movie, museum or exhibit recommendations to Lillian or Patty.

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania is partnering with the Associated Press on an **Election Day Voter Turnout Pilot Project** – and we need your help!

If you are planning to vote on Election Day (or if you are working at the polls), please sign up to volunteer. It’s easy to do and will only take a few minutes of your time. You’ll be helping the Associated Press provide faster and more accurate results on Election Night. You can sign up by sending an email to the AP with your name, your county and your precinct location to [PATurnout@ap.org](mailto:PATurnout@ap.org). Reid Magney, the project coordinator, will confirm your participation and send you detailed instructions. Here’s a sneak peek:

When you vote on Election Day, make sure you ask the poll worker what number voter you were (i.e., you were the 250th voter so far today). Also, remember exactly what time you voted. After you vote on Election Day, call the AP’s Election Call Center at the toll-free number you will be provided. Tell them your name, the name of your county and precinct, the time you voted, and your voter number. If you are working at the polls on Election Day, you can call the AP a few times throughout the day and provide the number of voters so far at your precinct. That’s it!



### Voter registration team update

The team had a table at the Climate Convergence event in Harrisburg, with moderate success, and is doing high school registrations at Bishop McDevitt and Susquehanna Township High School. The Dauphin County Technical School requested voter registration forms, and posters containing the QR voter registration code were provided to Derry Township High School.



## Team Updates and Opportunities

**Communications Team** Check out our Instagram and Facebook accounts. They can be accessed through our website at [www.lwvpacapreg.org](http://www.lwvpacapreg.org). Krysta P. is the lead person ([PavascoK@gmail.com](mailto:PavascoK@gmail.com)).

**Events & Programs Team** The Program committee holds regular, monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss areas of interest that we should focus on this year and welcome any and all ideas. Right now, we are thinking through presentations on: the role of school directors, sustainability, storm water management, observation corps, and BallotPA report. If you have other ideas or recommendations, please contact Jess Myers at [jessica.myers@palwv.org](mailto:jessica.myers@palwv.org).

**Membership Team** This team aims to grow membership and engagement. Our League currently has more than 100 members. If interested in joining this team, please contact Rae N. at [Raeneubaum@aol.com](mailto:Raeneubaum@aol.com).

**Nominations Team** This team seeks nominees for the Steering Committee and board of officers. If interested in joining this team, please contact Deb E. at [Debendres6@gmail.com](mailto:Debendres6@gmail.com).

**Voter Services & Registration Team** This team coordinates and staffs voter registration drives in various local settings. If interested in joining this team, please contact Deb E. at [Debendres6@gmail.com](mailto:Debendres6@gmail.com) or Iris I. at [iozzia@comcast.net](mailto:iozzia@comcast.net).

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Team** If interested in joining this team, please contact Patty L. at [President@lwvpacapreg.org](mailto:President@lwvpacapreg.org).

### What's happening in the State Legislature?

[Legis.state.pa.us](http://Legis.state.pa.us) is the website where the public can see and track bills going through the Senate or House. You may sign up to get daily updates. Election-related bills go through the State Government House and Senate committees. Interesting bills include HR 31, which deals with computational redistricting (using algorithms to draw districts). It was sponsored by Rep. Joe Webster of Montgomery County. A current Senate bill is SB 904, sponsored by Sen. Maria Collett, also from Montgomery County, and dealing with allowing young voters to preregister once they turn 16. There are several other election-related bills which may or may not ever be voted on. Thank you to Joe M. for keeping us abreast on what is happening in our state legislature.



## Candidate forum season was busy!



Cumberland Valley candidates

The Cumberland Valley school board forum on October 12 was organized by Lia G. The Carlisle school board forum was arranged by Pat F. in conjunction with AAUW. News coverage was very positive. The Camp Hill forum was organized by Shirley M. Attendees found the events very helpful. Several League members assisted at each forum.



Carlisle candidates



Carlisle volunteers

Camp Hill candidates



## Your League at work - Guide to Voting

Through a grant from the Patricia L. Murray Fund, a charitable fund of the Greater Harrisburg Community Foundation, a regional foundation of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, we are having our Guide to Voting translated into six languages. We met with several groups and identified the six languages to be translated: Arabic, Nepalese, Somali, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Michele E. has researched the various immigrant groups so we can be assured our target audience is reached. We are also having our videos—The Importance of Voting, Voting Rights, and Walk Through Voting that were created by our former intern, Gabe Pinsker, translated into these six languages as well.

Our next big step will be distribution of the translated materials into the hands of the immigrant populations. Dickinson College's CCLA (Center for Civic Learning & Action) department has offered a grant for a student to work with us on this.

Senator Casey's office put us in contact with the Central PA Bhutanese Community Center (BCC). About 40,000 Bhutanese live in the midstate area. They speak Nepalese. The BCC has asked we train volunteers and perhaps attend social events to include voter registration. There is a real need for our translated materials among people in the community who desire to expand voter registration and voting.

We had our first ever voter registration at a Bhutanese cricket match!

Michele E. also met with and trained student volunteers. More than 20 voters registered.



**In League,**  
**Sherry R, President, LWVCAPIREG,**  
[President@lwvpacapreg.org](mailto:President@lwvpacapreg.org)  
Visit our website at [www.lwvpacapreg.org](http://www.lwvpacapreg.org).

### Membership Reminder

Our membership year runs from **July 1st to June 30th**. Renew using this link at our website: <https://www.lwvpacapreg.org/membership>.