



The VOTER

The Monthly Publication of the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

P.O. Box 712, Perrysburg, Ohio 43552

January 2012

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Annual Planning Program to Feature Soup and Salad Luncheon at Way Library

The January meeting of the League will be held Tuesday, January 17, at noon. It will be a soup and salad luncheon for members only and will be held in the Lower Level Meeting Rooms at Way Library.

This is our annual Program Planning Session. You may want to go to our LWV of the Perrysburg Area Web site, click on *Programs*, and copy the current position statements (3 pages) and bring this copy to the meeting. This will be a good chance to review the scope of our major areas of interest which are: *Human Resources and Social Policy, Government, Natural Resources and Land Use*.

Because of the upcoming public transportation issue on the March ballot, transportation will be a hot topic for the program meeting. There will also be much to discuss for Natural Resources.

Mark your calendars for January 17, as the more people that attend this meeting the better the discussion will be!

Transportation Panel Discussion

The League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area, in partnership with Way Library, will present a panel discussion on Public Transportation for our city on Tuesday, February 28, at the library. The purpose of the meeting will be to inform citizens of the services provided by TARTA and City Council's proposals for providing services should the voters decide to withdraw.

Representatives from TARTA will be on the panel to explain what they are providing now, improvements they are making and answer questions. Representatives of City Council will explain the city government's plans for public transportation and how it could be financed and also answer questions.

League members will moderate and provide information they have gained through their study and participation on the mayor's committee to improve TARTA. This meeting is not intended to be a debate, but rather an opportunity for the public to have questions answered in preparation for voting intelligently. All are welcome.

**Welcome to new member
Kathleen Gibson!**

**Please add her information to
your membership booklet:**

Kathleen Gibson (nickname Kitty)
29639 Duxbury Lane
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419-666-6586
keg@wcnet.org

Kitty is interested in land use and willing to serve on committees and help with special events.



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Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Web Site:

**www.perrysburg.
oh.lwvnet.org**

Presidents' Letter

Dear League Members:

We wish you a Happy New Year. For many of us it is an opportunity for reflection, renewal, and perhaps thanksgiving for all of the blessings we truly enjoy.

We have some excellent programs coming up in this new year. On February 28, we will focus on transportation in Perrysburg and the issue in regards to TARTA. It is certainly a timely topic as we will have the vote for ending our current relationship with TARTA in early March. Many of you have been Perrysburg residents for a long time and have had a history with TARTA. We hope that the meeting will offer an opportunity to learn about the consequences of the vote outcome, as well as understand the current Perrysburg City Council plans for transition in developing a new system.

In March, we are co-sponsoring a program on fracking with the Bowling Green LWV and topical Tuesdays at Way Library. This process in getting gas from shale in many areas here in Ohio as well as across the country has become controversial because of concern regarding contamination of water and air, as well as contributing to setting off earthquakes. Just last week, drilling has been stopped in the Akron area because they identified the drilling as the cause of a series of earthquakes in the northeast Ohio area. We have an excellent speaker. Once again, it is an issue of environmental risks in order to provide gas resources.

Both of these programs are opportunities for information and education. These would be great programs to bring neighbors and friends.

And last, but not least a reminder about our program meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 17. This is an opportunity for all members to look at issues and concerns, locally and statewide, as we plan our programs. This is truly a time to reflect on the mission of the League, and how we can offer opportunities in our community to support the mission. As a bonus to the "introspection" that we will require of members, wonderful soups and salads will be offered for the luncheon meeting scheduled at noon, Way Library.

We all look forward to seeing you soon.

Carol Russell and Josette McCarthy



Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, Jan. 17— Noon
Luncheon. LWVPA Program Planning Session. Members only. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Feb. 28 — 7 p.m.
Topic: Transportation in Perrysburg.
Location: Way Library Meeting Room
***Please note meeting date change**

Tuesday, March 20 — 7 p.m. Fracking+ (Hydraulic fracturing for gas and oil)
Speaker: Al Rosenfeld, Energy Specialist for LWVPA
Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, April 17— 7 p.m.
Reggio Emilia- Early Childhood Education. Speaker: Owens Community College representative.
Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, May 15— 11 a.m.
Annual Meeting with LWVPA Scholarship Presentation in Way Library Tech Lab
Noon Luncheon- Lasting Impact of Early Literacy Experiences, Speaker: Dr. Elizabeth Ruppert.
Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Two Meetings to Address Topic of Fracking

Why are we members of LWV? The League strives to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Gloria Green and I have spent multiple meetings with the Bowling Green Land Use Committee to prepare for two meetings about fracking.

You can educate yourself by participating in one or both of these meetings. The first will be hosted by BGLWV on Friday, February 24, at 12:15 p.m. at the Bowling Green Public Library on Main Street. Selections from the documentary *Gasland* will be shown. Facts about Ohio's situation will be presented by Land Use Committee members. The public is invited.

Perrysburg's Way Library will host a joint meeting of the LWVPA and BGLWV at a Topical Tuesday meeting on May 20, at 7 p.m. The speaker will be Al Rosenfeld, Energy Specialist for the LWV of Ohio. Prior to this meeting on two separate days, Way Library will show the documentary *Gasland*, once in the evening and once during the day. League members will be present.

This is an important issue. The new hydraulic fracturing has many environmental impacts. Some states have a moratorium on allowing it due to concern about contamination of watersheds used for public drinking water. Ohio has allowed drilling in state parks. The EPA will have rules in place in 2012. Should we not wait for these rules?

Issues on March Ballot for City of Perrysburg

There will be two local issues on the March 2, 2012 Primary Election for voters in the City of Perrysburg.

Way Public Library will have a 1.5 mill renewal levy on the ballot. This levy is for current expenses for the next four years.

There will also be a proposed resolution by the City of Perrysburg to withdraw from the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA).



Natural Resources Committee

Thurid Campbell,
Co-Chairman

Directory of Public Officials will be out soon.

Thank You Note from Stranahan Award Winner

We received the following thank you note from Judith Justus, our Virginia Stranahan Award Winner. Unfortunately, it was too late to make the November newsletter. The note is as follows:

LWV Perrysburg Area:

I am humbled by the honor you bestowed on me as the 2011 Citizen of the Year.

I only hope that I can continue to emulate the example of Virginia Stranahan's support for community service.

The tea, white rose corsage, and fellowship were extraordinary kind of you to present. And of course, the blue plaque tile will always be treasured by me.

I enjoyed meeting your members and chatting with my friends. I was thankful that my eclectic friends and family didn't decide to publicly roast me!

Thank you so very much."

Sincerely,

Judy

New Member Opportunity

The new year offers an opportunity for half price membership for new members. Now is a good time to think about who you know that might be interested in the LWV and to try it out. We still have five months of programs and an opportunity for someone to join for \$32.50, which is half price of our annual membership.

Please contact Stephanie Johnstone if you need an application for membership or have questions about this half price opportunity.