



The Voter

March 2015

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

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Would you like to be an observer at School Board meetings?

The league is looking for volunteers to observe from one to all meetings throughout the year.

Also if any members attend other meetings, you are welcome to report on any controversial issues, a brief summary of discussions, passage of any motions that could affect citizens and our members, or any violations of the Sunshine Law.

**Please reply to Sue Hoffman
if you are interested.
Phone 419-874-3753 or
Email -rshuffyburg@bex.net**

New March Meeting Date

Pretty in Pink: Princess Culture And Gender Norms in the New Millenium

Dr. Parama Sarkar from the University of Toledo will speak on gender, advertising and popular culture at our Tuesday, March 31 meeting. **This is a change from the previously announced date.**

The program is being presented by the Perrysburg League of Women Voters in cooperation with Way Library and will take place at the library at 7 p.m.

Dr. Sarkar is an assistant professor at the University of Toledo and specializes in postcolonial literature and culture, South Asian diasporic literature and film, Indian cinema, nineteenth and twentieth-century British literature and gender studies.

She earned her Ph.D. from Michigan State University and is the author of articles and book reviews in *The Journal of Commonwealth* and *Postcolonial Studies*, *South Asian Review* and *MELUS*.

Her book *Postcolonial Contexts* is forthcoming.

Dr. Sarkar teaches a range of courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including courses on Literature of the British Empire, World Literature and Cultures and single author courses on Salman Rushdie and Zadie Smith. She was recently awarded a Master Teacher Award and Fellowship by the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences at the University of Toledo for 2013 to 2015.

This program is made possible with support from the Humanities Institute at the University of Toledo. Please join us for this compelling program.



Dr. Parama Sarkar



League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

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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**

President's Letter

Dear League Members:

At the National League of Women Voter's Convention 2014 an ambitious program focused on the key structures of democracy was adopted. Three committees have been selected to collect and disseminate information on **redistricting in the various states, money in politics and the process of amending the Constitution.**

As these committees go about their work, there are things that local Leagues can do to better inform themselves and our communities about these essential topics. According to the National League, "This is a good time to identify scholars and pundits to work with the League in developing forums for community education. This is also a good time to consider what reforms are needed in our local and state communities. The key structures of democracy operate at all levels of democracy and reform is needed everywhere, not just in Washington."

The LWVUS has posted suggestions, including a reading list to get started. Our local program committee will begin thinking of ideas on how to incorporate these topics into our programs for next year. If any member has any suggestions please forward them to me or Carol Russell, our current program chair.

It is very clear there will be no shortage of work for the League throughout 2015.

Nancy Kelley

*Historic Perrysburg Inc. cordially invites you to their
Strong Women in History Ladies Tea*

Tea with Virginia Secor Stranahan

Saturday, March 28
11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Carranor Hunt and Polo Club
502 E. Second Street, Perrysburg

RSVP by March 21 to
P.O. Box 703, Perrysburg, OH 43552
Cost: \$25

Checks payable to Historic Perrysburg Inc.



Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, March 31 – 7 p.m. *Pretty in Pink: the Princess Culture and Gender Norms in the New Millennium*, Dr. Parama Sarkar, Asst. Prof. University of Toledo, Way Public Library*

Tuesday, April 14 – 7 p.m. *Protecting Our Natural Heritage*, Sarah Brokamp, Advancement Coordinator for Black Swamp Conservancy, Way Public Library

Tuesday, May 12– 7 p.m. *Local Resources Fighting Hunger/ Malnutrition in Our Community*, Stephanie Cihon, Community Relations Director for Promedica, Way Public Library

Tuesday, May 19 – 11 a.m. Annual Meeting
Noon - Luncheon.
Location: Carranor Club. Speaker: TBA

** Please note the change in meeting date.*

February Observer Reports

Perrysburg City Council Meeting February 3, 2015

- A request was made to hire a company in regards to right-of-way acquisition for the Carronade/Eckel Junction round-about. The committee is waiting for more information before moving forward.
- The administration gave a presentation on historical data regarding Fire Division run times. The goal is to use this data to determine if a second station is needed and where the station should be located. An ordinance was passed to increase the hourly rate for part-time firefighters.
- The updates to the waste water treatment plant are 70% complete, five months ahead of schedule and expected to be completed in October of 2015.
- A water rate study was completed and there is not expected to be an additional increase this year. The committee requested that the administration forecast the need for replacing and updating infrastructure so Perrysburg does not fall behind like Toledo. An ordinance was passed amending the water division rules to allow the City to charge a fee to residents who have not set up a time to have their water meters converted to "radio-read." It is estimated this could effect several hundred residents.

Perrysburg City Council Meeting February 3, 2015

- The proposed amendments to the 2015 budget were given to council. The first reading of the budget amendments will be done at the first Council meeting in March. Some larger items to note, a \$891,352 transfer to the Reserve Fund, \$175,000 for additional road salt, \$160,000 for downtown restrooms, \$500,000 in additional resurfacing dollars, \$2,200,000 for riverfront development and \$75,000 for Rotary Park development.
- Income tax collections for January were \$1.6 million, up 3.3% over the same time period last year.
- There was an executive session to discuss possible purchase of real property.
- The City Pool season is scheduled to end August 16th. The administration is looking into extending that date.
- The administration is requesting support for designing and updating Riverside Park. The Committee requested more information before moving forward.
- Four ordinances were passed authorizing continued sidewalk lease agreements with Swig, Casa Baron, O-DEER Diner and Stella's.

*Sarah Weisenburger
Observer*