



The VOTER

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

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Dr. David Jackson to Speak on Gerrymandering At October 9 Topical Tuesday Program at Way

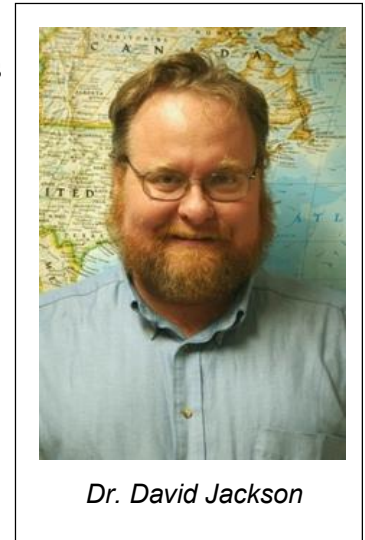
The Perrysburg League of Women Voters and Way Public Library are partnering to present a program on gerrymandering on Tuesday, October 9.

This Topical Tuesday program will be held at 7 p.m. in a library downstairs meeting room and will feature Dr. David Jackson as speaker.

Dr. Jackson, an associate professor of political science at Bowling Green State University, will talk about gerrymandering and redistricting. He will cover the topic from a historical perspective, as well as discuss the November 6 ballot proposal to change the way Ohio redraws congressional districts.

Dr. Jackson earned his doctorate at Wayne State University in 1999. He teaches courses on United States politics, research methods, American political thought, politics and mass media, and Canadian government.

Refreshments will be served and the program is open to the public.



Dr. David Jackson

Did You See the Voters' Guide in the October 3 Messenger Journal?

If you missed the Voters' Guide in last week's Perrysburg Messenger Journal, you can view it on the newspaper's web site at:

<http://perrysburg.com/>



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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:

As we approach the upcoming election I've thought about how much we take for granted. Of the hundreds of nations in the world, only a fraction of those are democracies and only a few therefore, enjoy the right to vote, to choose their leaders.

It seems to me that we've had a very busy election season because of both state and local issues. Transportation in Perrysburg has come front and center, not only for our community, but also for the greater community of Northwest Ohio. While many of us do not use public transportation, it is a very important issue for persons who do not have a car or cannot drive because of physical limitations. Our local LWV has taken a position supporting public transportation. The proposed solution may not be perfect for everyone, but will offer services very close to what we had with TARTA for just a little more than half the cost. An important consideration is that we will also have more control, more input in working with this service and flexibility to adjust services as we find what works well, and what might work better. If you can personally support this issue, please encourage family, neighbors, and friends to vote for it.

State Issue 2 has also been front and center because of the coalition of nonpartisan organizations led by the LWV Ohio. We are partnering with Way Library to present an excellent program on gerrymandering and redistricting scheduled for October. This is an educational event. Our hope is that this program will give people some basic information on gerrymandering and the negative impact it has on the democratic process.

And last but not least, our upcoming Candidate's Night. An important part of having the right to vote in a democracy is taking some time to learn about your elected officials and the positions they hold that will affect governance/problem solving in our community. Our annual candidate's night is scheduled for Sunday, October 14, in Bowling Green. Circle these dates on your calendar and bring a neighbor or friend to two great programs in the best tradition of our LWV.

Carol Russell



Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, Oct. 9 — 7 p.m.

Redistricting/Gerrymandering. Speaker: David Jackson, PHD, BGSU. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Sunday, Oct. 14 — 6:30 p.m.

Doors Open

CandidatesøForum. Program at 7 p.m. Location: First Methodist Church, 1526 E. Wooster, Bowling Green.

Tuesday, Nov. 13 — 7 p.m.

Election Analysis. Speaker: Dr. Melissa Miller, BGSU. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Dec. 11 — Noon

Holiday Luncheon. Speaker: TBA Location: Carranor Club, 502 E. 2nd St.

Tuesday, Jan. 8 — Noon

Luncheon

LWVPA Program Planning Session. *Members only*. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Feb. 12 — 7 p.m.

Perrysburg in the 21st Century Speaker: Bridgett Kabatt, Perrysburg City Administrator.

Location: Way Library Meeting Room*

Tuesday, March 19— 7 p.m.

The Asian Carp Situation in the Great Lakes . Speaker: Sandy Bihn, Exec. Dir. /Water-Keeper. Location: Way Library

Tuesday, April 9— 7 p.m.

Daytime Tour of Maritime Academy of Toledo. Location: 803 Water St., Toledo

Tuesday, May 21— 10:30 a.m.

Annual Meeting, LWVPA 2012 Way Computer Lab

Noon Luncheon

LWVPA Scholarship presentation. Speaker: TBA Location: Way Library Meeting Room

*New location for meeting

Report on Harrison Rally Days

Contributed by Carol Russell

While there was some concern regarding our location for the Harrison Rally Days, people seemed to find us on Second Street. We registered 35 people downtown for voting, and handed out many more registration applications and applications for absentee voting. A few of our candidates also stopped by to say hello. The Library crew registered 10 voters, so we had a grand total of 45 for the day. A special thank you to the members who helped set up the booth and then helped with the stand: Kevin Rantanen, Dodie Strauss, Regina Hyldahl, Ann Dana, Jacki Stedman, Carol Shepard, and Steve Long. The library crew included Martha Baldoni, Bev Seeman, and Tom Galway.

This year we participated in National Voter Registration Day on September 25 by doing Voter Registration at the Library as well as the High school. While we did not match the numbers for Harrison Rally Days, we had the opportunity to talk to the high school students about voting, and about the League of Women Voters. Next year we should plan to conduct voter registration in conjunction with the senior registration day. Our smiling registration team included Ann Hymel, Judy Reitzel, Walter Hales, Nancy Kelley, Jean Emch, Bud and Thurid Campbell.

Voter Registration is one of the important things we can do to support and encourage citizens to participate in their democracy!

Vote Yes on Issue 2

Gerrymandering has occurred for years as the party in power draws the districts to serve the politicians and special interest lobbyists rather than drawing them so that all candidates have a fair shot to compete for citizen votes. This system contributes to having extreme politicians in office who are more concerned with protecting their seats and power rather than serving all members of their district. This is what issue 2 is all about í a process that makes elections fair and when elections are fair, we the people win.

It is not hard to create a fair system. As most of you are aware, the Ohio LWV co-sponsored a contest in collaboration with the Secretary of State's office to redraw the districts so that they would be fair and represent the interests of the electorate. The state league had several submitted plans that met national established guidelines. In addition, other plans were submitted í all deemed õmore fairö than the plan adopted for our most recent redistricting process.

Issue 2 is a step in the right direction. It offers a process that will be more balanced, more transparent, and allow for more accountability from those politicians that represent us, so that neither party can unfairly draw lines to their own advantage. With this amendment to the constitution, an independent Citizens Commission of Ohioans will be in charge í a short term assignment. Once the plan is decided upon, the Commission is disbanded.

It is important that we end up with politicians who are concerned about issues and finding solutions to move our state and country forward.

Phyllis Morton Receives 2012 Stranahan Citizenship Award

On Sunday, September 23, LWVPA members and guests met to honor an extraordinary community volunteer, Phyllis Morton. Mrs. Morton was chosen to receive the League's 2012 Virginia Secor Stranahan Citizenship Award.

At a reception held at the 577 Foundation Manor House, Mrs. Morton was recognized for her many contributions to the community which include acting as an advocate for both senior citizens and children. In addition to her volunteer work, Mrs. Morton served for 30 years as the manager for the Zoar Lutheran Church's Abundant Life Center until her retirement. She also raised six children as a widow and is now the grandmother of 16.

In conjunction with the League award, Mayor Nelson Evans presented a proclamation honoring Mrs. Morton as a "Distinguished Citizen."



Mrs. Morton with League Member Ann Hymel, who created the pottery award that was presented to her.

Thank You from Phyllis Morton

Dear LWV :

How nice of you to honor me in the name of such a special lady, Virginia Stranahan. Those of us who enjoy volunteering just do it, so it is a surprise when it's recognized. Thank you so much for doing so. I really appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Morton

Board Votes to Support Transportation Levy

The Board of the Perrysburg League of Women Voters voted this month to support the Transportation Levy for the City of Perrysburg.

The 1.45 mill, five-year transit levy will provide public transportation for city of Perrysburg residents. The cost will be half what city taxpayers were paying when Perrysburg was a member of TARTA.

Studies have shown that the local economy and local real estate values benefit when access to public transportation is available in a community. In addition, the levy will provide transportation for many who are elderly or disabled.

If the levy passes, the city plans to contract with a private company for five years in order to give voters the ability to control the quality and costs of the services provided.