



The VOTER

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

P.O. Box 712, Perrysburg, Ohio 43552

September 2013

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September Meeting Will Feature Award Ceremony And Faces of Perrysburg City Government

Community Volunteer Rose Marie Gerkovich will be presented with the 2013 Virginia Secor Stranahan Citizen of the Year on Sunday, September 29, at the former Secor home, now known as the 577 Foundation.

Mrs. Gerkovich's volunteer activities are numerous. To mention just a few, she has been an AARP volunteer tax accountant for 27 years; served on the Perrysburg Planning Commission for four years; served as a board member of a local credit union, and worked on the South of the Border Festival Committee. She has also served on a number of committees for her church, including acting as the St. Rose Communion Distributor for Heartland nursing home. In addition, Mrs. Gerkovich has been on the Board of Directors of Way Library for eight years, been book sale volunteer for 15 years and worked as a technical processing volunteer for the library for 18 years.

She has been described as "a loving, compassionate, faith-filled woman who has devoted her life to family, community and church."

The LWVPA presents the Citizen of the Year award to someone whose volunteer activities and contributions to the community best perpetuate the memory of Mrs. Stranahan, who was herself a model of benevolence. Mrs. Gerkovich's name will be inscribed on a silver bowl which bears the names of all previous winners and rests on a shelf in the 577 Residence.

The reception will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at the manor. A presentation titled *Faces of Perrysburg City Government* will also take place at the event. Cynthia Silvis (Executive Secretary), Jon Eckel (Director of Public Service), Brody Walters (Director of Planning and Zoning), and Patrick McGuffin (Detective, Police Department) will speak about their jobs with the city. These people hold important positions in our community, but not everyone is familiar with their faces. Our September meeting will give members a chance to remedy that.

This is the League's first meeting of the year and is open to the public. Members are encouraged to bring guests who might be interested in the day's program or would like to learn more about the League.



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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:

When asked why I accepted the nomination to be president of the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area, I answered why not? When I stop to think about it I actually can think of 10 good reasons. They are listed below and not in any particular order.

1. I am retired so I will have more time to devote to the organization.
2. The League is a great group to belong to for men and women of all ages.
3. The League Board and membership consists of people who step forward to volunteer when asked and when they say yes they always come through.
4. Sometimes these same people have to say no because they have a conflict, but then they say ask me later and they mean what they say when asked for some other task or event they usually say yes!
5. The Perrysburg community appreciates and respects the League. Indeed they count on our publications such as the *Voters' Guide* and the *Directory of Public Officials*.
6. I am a self-labeled political junkie and I like talking with League members to hear their views on different topics.
7. Not everyone likes to talk or study about topics such as clean water, immigration, fracking, voters rights - the list could go on - but League members do, and I do too.
8. The League presents programs on the above topics and its great to hear the attendees say thank you for arranging speakers on these topics. I learned so much!
9. On many of these programs the League partners with the Way Library, my former place of employment, thus I get to work with several of the library staff members, something I enjoy doing.
10. For all of the above reasons one can understand that it all boils down to the simple fact -I NEED THE LEAGUE.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on September 29, at the 577 Foundation for the Stranahan Citizen Award Ceremony and program to follow.

Nancy J. Kelley



Upcoming Meetings

Sunday, Sept. 29 — 2-4 p.m.
Reception to present Virginia Stranahan Citizen of the Year Award and Faces of Perrysburg Presentation. Location: 577

Foundation, 577 E. Front St.

Sunday, Oct. 13— 1:30 p.m.
Doors Open

Candidates Forum. Program at 2 p.m. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Oct. 22 — 7 p.m.
Clean Streams Panel Discussion. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Nov. 19— 7 p.m.
Ohio Tax Changes ð Impact on Schools, City and County. Panelists: Tom Hosler, Steve Bronder, Mike Sibbersen. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Dec. 10 — Noon
Holiday Luncheon. Speaker: Lee Conklin, News Anchor for Channel 13. Location: Carranor Club, 502 E. 2nd St., Perrysburg

Tuesday, Jan. 14 — Noon Luncheon
LWVPA Program Planning Session. *Members only.* Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, Feb. 11— 7 p.m.
Vision for Perrysburg. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, March 11— 7 p.m.
Women Engaged in Public Service, Dr. Shannon Orr, BGSU. Panelists Doris Herringshaw, Jill Engle and Sara Weisenberger. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, April 15— 7 p.m.
Human Trafficking, Theresa Fedor, Ohio House Representative, 45th District. Location: Way Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, May 13— 10:30 a.m.
Annual Meeting, LWVPA 2012
Noon Luncheon
LWVPA Scholarship presentation. Speaker: TBA Location: Carranor Club, 502 E. 2nd St., Perrysburg

LWVPA Members Help Students Register to Vote

LWVPA spent the morning of August 19 registering high school voters at the Senior Orientation Day at Perrysburg High School.

Students were able to complete their registration form if their birthday fell on or before the general election day of November 5. The League registered 13 voters and gave forms to an additional five. Volunteers included Mary Turain, Judy Reitzel, Carol Russell, Nancy Kelley and Jacki Stedman.

Immigration Will Be Subject of Topical Tuesday

Join us on Tuesday, September 10, at 7 p.m. for *Immigration: History, Legislation, Concerns and the Future.*

Dr. Dale Lanigan, Lourdes University, will discuss the history of immigration policy, the current state of immigration in the United States and the debate over the immigration bill.

Dr. Lanigan has an master's degree in theological studies and a doctorate in educational sociology. He is chairperson of the Department of Sociology and Justice Studies at Lourdes University and has made numerous presentations on issues related to health care, immigration, and diversity at conferences and other venues across the Midwest.

In Memoriam

The League Board was saddened to learn of the recent death of Joan Gordon, past president of the Bowling Green League of Women Voters.

Joan was the retired executive director of the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce. She also served on the Wood County Committee on Aging, for which she managed many projects throughout Wood County.

As a member of the BG LWV, she worked with the Perrysburg League on a number of joint ventures, including our combined Candidates' Nights, and attended many of our meetings. She will be missed.

Volunteers for Harrison Rally Day Needed

Anyone interested in working at the LWVPA booth on Harrison Rally Day, Saturday, September 21, please call Carol Shepard at 419-872-9436. Members are asked to help hand out voter registration forms, League program brochures and answer questions about the Perrysburg League.

Natural Resources Position Needs to Be Filled

Do you have a particular interest in the environment? Concerns over clean water? If you do, we are in need of a chairman for Natural Resources Committee and you would make the perfect candidate. Anyone interested in helping out in this area, please contact Nancy Kelley.



SAVE THE DATE!

Candidates Forum

Sunday October 13, 2013

Doors open at 1:30 p.m.
Program begins at 2:00 p.m.

Location: Way Public Library
Meeting Room
101 E. Indiana Avenue
Perrysburg, OH

Sponsored by League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area