



The Voter

January 2018

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

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Gender Pay Gap Will Be Topic Discussed At January 23 Meeting Of Perrysburg League

We have another hot topic scheduled for our January Meeting in conjunction with Way Library's Topical Tuesday.

Dr. David McClough, the James F. Dicke Associate Professor of Economics at Ohio Northern University, will make a presentation on the gender pay gap.



Dr. David McClough

The meeting will be held at **2 p.m.** on Tuesday, January 23, at Way Library.

Dr. McClough will discuss how the gap has narrowed in recent decades and discuss the factors that inhibit gender pay equality

Dr. McClough is the past president of the Ohio Association of Economists and Political Scientists.

This program is open to the public, so please bring a friend or two. Refreshments will be served.

Please note that this meeting will take place in the afternoon.

We Need Observers

Call Starr Wlodarski at 419-872-0064 if you are willing to serve as an observer at School Board or Township Meetings.

... and Don't Forget to Attend Our Program Meeting On January 16 at Way Library

Our annual Program Planning Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 16, at noon in the Lower Level Meeting Rooms at Way Library. It will be **for members only** and will include a soup and salad plus light dessert buffet prepared by our board members.

What is a League Program Planning Meeting? The answer is it is the one time of the year that we look at the program or mission that we locally have voted on and the areas we have decided to concentrate our time and efforts.

The program can be found in the front of your Membership Directory. Please bring that with you when you come to the meeting.

There will also be discussion on amending our bylaws and a possible vote. It is important to have as many members present as possible.



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,

On January 4, 2018 President Trump's Election Integrity Commission was dissolved. The LWVUS announced this and sent talking points that are quite interesting and worth reading. I will include some of them in this letter, which I hope will help you to understand the importance of this dissolution.

1. The end of Trump's election Commission is a victory for voters who value the security and fairness of our elections. From the start, this commission was focused on the wrong issues and led by the wrong people.
2. President Trump has consistently made false claims regarding supposed widespread voter fraud in the 2016 election. These claims are dangerous and unfounded. The dissolution of the Commission ends the unnecessary distraction from legitimate threats to our democracy.
3. We must make voting fair and accessible so that all Americans can have their voices heard and their vote counted. Without this, a democracy of, for, and by the people is but an empty promise.
4. The League will remain vigilant in our fight to protect voters and ensure that our elections are free, fair and accessible. We will keep a watchful eye over further attempts to suppress voters at all levels and in all departments of government.

Happy New Year to all of our members,

Nancy Kelley

Finance Drive Report

The Finance Drive Committee recently sent out letters to LWVPA members and non-members who have been supporters in the past asking for donations to our League.

To date, we have received \$2,015 from members and \$845 from non-members for a total of \$2,860.

The Finance Drive is ongoing, so there is still time to make a contribution. Please send your checks to LWVPA, P.O. Box 712, Perrysburg, OH 43552.



Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, Jan. 16 — Noon
Annual Program Meeting.
Luncheon

Tuesday, Jan. 23 — 2 p.m.
The Gender Wage Differential. Dr. David McClough, College of Business Administration, Ohio Northern University

Tuesday, Feb. 13 — 2 p.m.
State of the City of Perrysburg, Bridgett Kabat, Perrysburg City Administrator

Tuesday, March 13 — 7 p.m.
Voter Participation, Wood County Board of Elections Representative

April Meeting — 7 p.m.
Regional Water Authority, a panel discussion

Tuesday, May 22 — 11 a.m.
Annual Meeting. Noon Luncheon, Sheila Otto, Storyteller

** All programs will be at Way Library, unless otherwise noted.*

Natural Resources

Let's Look at Water Pollution from Fracking

By Sue Hoffman Natural Resources Chair

As we start this new year, let's focus on being better stewards of the earth; water is one area that concerns all of us. Without water, we can not live. Polluted water threatens us all over the country, and one pollution is the result of fracking. For January let's see how fracking affects our water supply and our lives.

The following information comes from *Food and Water Watch*.
(www.foodandwaterwatch.org)

Did you know:

- Fracking a single well requires millions of gallons of water depleting groundwater and drying up streams.
- Fracking creates massive volumes of toxic and radioactive waste. Conventional treatment plants are not equipped to treat fracking wastewater, and injecting it underground causes earthquakes and puts our drinking water at risk.
- Corporations don't have to disclose what chemicals they are using in their fracking fluid. Many of these can cause cancer, neurological problems and widespread health and environmental effects.
- Fracking is linked to birth defects. A study conducted by researchers at the Colorado School of Public Health and Brown University has found an association between the density and proximity of natural gas wells within a 10 mile radius of the maternal residence and the prevalence of congenital heart defects as well as links to defects of the brain and spinal cord
- Fracking causes thousands of accidents, leaks and spills every year.
- Fracking is expanding at an alarming rate. Fracking corporations are banking on being able to drill and frack for as much oil and gas as possible, including national parks and in densely populated areas of the country.
- Fracking locks in utterly disruptive climate change. Fracking wells release large amounts of methane gas, which is known to trap 87 times more heat than carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, exacerbating global warming.
- Methane leaks from drilling and fracking have caused houses and water wells to explode, causing deaths, injuries and loss of property
- Fracking corporations are exempt from critical statutes in all the major environmental laws.

Please continue to read more on this, make your voice known and keep doing what you can to make sure our water is protected.

September Through January 2, 2018 Observer Report

Perrysburg City Council Meetings Observed

- 12/05/17, 12/19/17 and 01/02/18

Observations of these City Council Meetings

12/19/17 Meeting

- Council went into Executive Session regarding employee benefits.

01/02/18 Meeting

- Council members elected in the 11/07/17 General Election were sworn into office. They are Deborah Born; Haraz Ghanbari; Jim Matuszak, and Barry VanHoozen.
- Council approved the appointment of Jim Matuszak as President of City Council.
- Council approved the appointment of Council members to the following committees:



1. Finance & Economic Development: Jim Matuszak/Chair, Becky Williams and Tim McCarthy
 2. Service: Barry VanHoozen/Chair, Haraz Ghanbari and Deborah Born
 3. Safety: Haraz Ghanbari/Chair, Deborah Born and Jim Matuszak
 4. Recreation: Deborah Born/Chair, Jim Matuszak and Jonathan Smith
 5. Planning & Zoning: Tim McCarthy/Chair, Jonathan Smith and Becky Williams
 6. Personnel: Becky Williams/Chair, Tim McCarthy and Barry VanHoozen
 7. Public Utilities: Jonathan Smith/Chair, Barry VanHoozen and Haraz Ghanbari
- In other business, Karlene Henderson, Law Director, announced that approximately seven acres for the new fire station has been acquired.

Debra Greenley Gorman
Observer