



# THE AKRON VOTER

Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area

March 2016

[Click to build your March 15, 2016 Ohio Primary ballot](#)

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

### Get involved with LWVAA!

Each month in The Akron Voter we will feature the top ways to be more active with League, click [here](#) for a complete list or fill out this [form](#).

- Voter Services Committee to work on Vote411 (replacing Voter's Guide)
- Update the National Database (ongoing)
- Review the Annual budget
- Committee for LWVAA Office relocation
- Review Bylaws in time for Annual Meeting

To volunteer, email [lwvaa@lwvaa.org](mailto:lwvaa@lwvaa.org)



## President's Message

Dear Members,

The march of the presidential nominees continues and on March 15 Ohio voters will cast their ballots for their favorite candidates for the final round of the general election. Ohio is one of eleven states to have a “winner take all” Primary, where the top Democratic and Republican candidates receive all their party’s delegate votes. The typical distribution is proportional to the percentage of votes each contender receives. By the time the March 15 votes are counted, voters will have a good, but not necessarily definite knowledge of which candidates will run in the General Election.

With all the attention on the Presidential Primary, it is understandable that voters may be less focused on other races that are also very important in shaping the makeup of our State and County government for the next several years. In Summit County, one U.S. Senate and four Congressional seats will be contested. In addition, the Chief Justice and two Justice Seats on the Ohio Supreme Court along with 9th district court of

# LWVAA Upcoming Events

**March 15, 2016**

**VOTE!**

**Ohio Primary Election**



[Summit County Early Voting Hours](#)  
(.PDF will open)

**March 30-April 10, 2016**  
**CIFF 2016 screening of "Cecilia"**

Wednesday, April 06, 2016 at 2:10 p.m.  
Thursday, April 07, 2016 at 7:15 p.m.

LWVAA is a proud Community Partner for the Cleveland International Film Festival for the second year in a row! Members and supporters can use this Discount Code for \$2.00 off any ticket purchase is **LWVAA** (restrictions may apply).

This year's sponsored film is "Cecilia" which presents a vivid look into human trafficking. For more details, launch: <http://www.clevelandfilm.org/films/2016/cecilia>

appeals judges are up for election. Several state representatives and one State senate seat are up for election. And closest to home, most County Council seats as well as elected county officials are running.

By now you have seen information on the LWVUS-sponsored national online voter guide, [VOTE411](#), a one-stop site to view candidates' responses to questions applicable to the position they are seeking. The Akron Area, Hudson and Tallmadge Leagues worked collaboratively to invite all candidates to tell voters their positions on various topics. While we made a good start, many of the candidates, mostly those who have no opposition within their party, opted not to participate for the primary election. Even though the unopposed candidates are sure to proceed to the general election, our hope was that they would see communicating with the voters in this way as a service and responsibility to the electorate.

Barbara Hunsicker, President

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## CIFF 2016

LWVAA is thrilled to announce our second year as a Community Partner for the Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF)! This year's festival will be held March 30 - April 10, 2016, hosted at Tower City and other locations around NE Ohio.

Members and supporters can use this Discount Code for \$2.00 off any ticket purchase: **LWVAA** (restrictions may apply). Tickets go on sale to the general public on Friday, March 18 at 11:00 a.m.



cleveland international  
film festival

**April 7, 2016**  
**LWVAA Board Meeting**

380 Mineola Ave. Akron  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

**April 14, 2016**  
**Joint Program with Sierra Club**

Location TBD  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Are Drilling, Fracking and Compressor  
Station Emissions Bad for Your  
Health?**

In conjunction with the Sierra Club, we are excited to bring representatives who conducted an intensive study sponsored by the LWV of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund to the Akron Area for this program.

The presentation will include a brief overview of components of shale gas development (drilling, fracking, transmission etc.); an explanation of relevant research criteria; discussion of specific health impacts and current research; and what can be done to address health issues at a policy level. There will also be time set aside for questions.

This year we will be co-sponsoring another important film about a difficult topic, human trafficking. There will be two screenings at Tower City Cinemas, and a representative from LWVAA will share brief opening remarks and have information on LWV.

Wednesday, April 06, 2016 at 2:10 p.m.

Thursday, April 07, 2016 at 7:15 p.m.

Pankaj Johar's film "Cecilia" explores the efforts of a tribal woman to seek justice for the sudden death of her teenaged daughter in Delhi. Follow this link for more details and history on how this film came to fruition.



For more details on "Cecilia," launch:

<http://www.clevelandfilm.org/films/2016/cecilia>

Visit [www.clevelandfilm.org](http://www.clevelandfilm.org) for program updates about the 40th CIFF. All Rapid Transit (RTA) train lines provide direct service to Tower City Center and operate seven days a week. Visit [www.riderta.com/ciff](http://www.riderta.com/ciff) for information about routes and schedules.

We also want to thank Jodie and Ned DeLamatre for

**April 26, 2016**

**LWV Ohio Statehouse Day**

[Sheraton Hotel](#)

Capitol Square

75 E. State St., Columbus, 43215

Join us for LWV Ohio Statehouse Day on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. Our theme this year is "What the Candidates Should Be Talking About (But Aren't)."

We will be exploring some of the big issues affecting Ohio - issues that people want solved but are left waiting for government to act. [Click here](#) to register today!

Registration is the same price as last year - \$40 for members, \$45 for non-members, \$25 for students. Registration closes one week before the event, and a flat fee of \$50 will apply to any walk-ins who are not registered.

**Sponsorships are available!**

Please contact the LWVO office at 614-469-1505 if you, another organization you belong to, or your business are interested in sponsoring this event. Due to our nonpartisan policy we cannot accept sponsorships from political parties, candidates, or campaigns.

**June 2, 2016**

**LWVAA Annual Meeting**

**5:30-8:00p.m.**



Café Bricco

3150 West Market Street, Fairlawn, Ohio

connecting LWVAA with CIFF, and facilitating this wonderful opportunity.

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[Submit an article or idea for The Akron Voter](#)

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## LWVAA Committee Updates

### Voter Services

LWVAA printed and distributed 3,000 Primary Election information cards with: 1) early voting hours, dates and identification needed; and 2) web addresses for Vote411.org and other sites where voters can find candidate and other election-related information. Thank you Jackie Derrow, Barbara Hunsicker, and Jessie Coffey for dropping off these cards! - submitted by Jackie Derrow, Voter Services Chair

### Change (of address) is Coming

The board recently learned that the church where the LWVAA office has been housed for over 30 years will be vacated by mid-year. The Christ United Methodist Church can no longer afford the necessary maintenance to keep the building safe and up-to-date. This means that the LWVAA will be moving as well.

A committee has begun looking for space at another church or nonprofit that would fit our needs and budget. As the committee explores possibilities, we also will consider whether the League should opt for a virtual office, as some Local Leagues have done. We will keep you informed of developments as they occur.

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Photo by Jeffrey Gibson

## **Summary of the February 26 Lecture and Discussion on the Health of the Cuyahoga River**

In partnership with the National Park Service, Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Cleveland Metroparks, Summit Metro Parks, Friends of the Crooked River, Cuyahoga River Restoration, and Ohio EPA, LWVAA co-sponsored a special evening event on Friday, February 26 with 146 attendees (including volunteers).

Thank you to Board Member Arrye Rosser, LWVAA Natural Resources Chair, for all of her hard work and for bringing this opportunity to LWVAA!





The keynote was delivered by Lyceum Distinguished Speaker Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Deputy Director of Watershed Programs, [Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District](#). She opened with a comprehensive overview of the issues surrounding Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) which is found in 126 locations in NE Ohio. When the Sewer District was founded in 1972 there were nine billion gallons of untreated CSO emptied into the water, this has been reduced in half. She outlined three key issues that are impacting CSO:

1. Development
2. Lack of places for storm water to go
3. Erosion

There are two programs in place to address CSO, and time was spent covering both of them: [Project Clean Lake](#) and the [Regional Storm Water Management Program](#). The programs are being funded by fees collected based on the amount of impervious surfaces, which was put on hold during litigation, but will resume in the second half of 2016.

Individuals can [make a difference](#) on the impact of storm water (which impacts CSO), and also help by reducing the amount of impervious surfaces. This could

reduce the Sewer District fees which are based on the size of the impervious surfaces. Some examples include installing a cistern, adding a [rain garden](#), and many other options.

After the presentation, the audience split into several smaller groups to give input and learn from the sponsors. This was a great way to drive true dialogue and engagement, and included creative ideas to celebrate the 50th anniversary in 2019 of the Cuyahoga River catching fire.



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