

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE AKRON AREA  
**THE AKRON VOTER**  
*Newsletter for LWVAA Members and Supporters*

February, 2019

FREE PUBLIC POLICY FORUM

# VOTING RIGHTS FORUM: what have we learned about how to run elections?

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 7, 2019  
7:00 pm

**COST:** Free & Open to the Public

**WHERE:** CWRU Beachwood Facility  
25700 Science Park Dr #100, Beachwood 44122

**MODERATOR:** Rich Exner  
*Cleveland.com*

**PANELISTS:** Frank LaRose  
Ohio Secretary of State

**Michael Li**  
Senior Counsel  
Brennan Center for Justice  
Democracy Program

**Camille Wimbish**  
Director, Ohio Voters Rights Coalition



Co-sponsored by Cleveland.com and The Plain Dealer, Case Western Reserve University Siegal Lifelong Learning Program, League of Women Voters-Greater Cleveland, League of Women Voters-Akron, Bliss Institute for Applied Politics at the University of Akron, Common Cause Ohio.

Corporate Sponsor: First Interstate Properties, Ltd.

For more information: [teachingcleveland@earthlink.net](mailto:teachingcleveland@earthlink.net)



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LIFELONG LEARNING  
PROGRAM



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LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF GREATER CLEVELAND



## LWVAA Upcoming Events

**March 1, 2019**

**Crooked  
Chronicles: A  
Century of River  
Cleanup in  
Cuyahoga Valley**

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Doors open at 6:00

**Happy Days Lodge**  
1403 West Hines Hill  
Rd, Peninsula, Ohio

A panel of experts piece together the 100-year story within Cuyahoga Valley using historic photos, archival documents, and personal memories.

**March 7, 2019**

**LWVAA Book  
Discussion  
"The Women's**

## A Message From the President

Dear Members,

### Positions and Priorities Meeting

A stalwart group of about 20 members met to review the LWV of Ohio positions and make recommendations for the 2019—2021 biennium. Our recommendations included:

- **Top legislative priority: Apportionment / Redistricting.** Monitoring of compliance when districts are redrawn. Support for ACLU lawsuit to begin the new redistricting methodology for the 2020 election. Additional priorities include voter rights and increased voter access, e.g., through automatic voter registration (AVR).
- **Concurrence with the 14 other state and local leagues on voter representation/ election process approaches.** We believe the position provides a flexible base of principles to explore election method reforms, e.g. ranked choice voting, and take action when appropriate.
- **Concurrence with the Greater Cleveland LWV on its position update on high-stakes testing in the schools.** We firmly agree that within schools: the assessment of student learning should include measures other than standardized tests; and that assessments and their consequences should be modified based on student needs, such as students with disabilities or students who are English language learners.

Many thanks to the volunteers who made this event a success.



**Hour: The Great Fight to Win the War" by Elaine Weiss**

10:30 a.m.

Panera Back Room  
Montrose location  
2895 Medina Road,  
Akron, Ohio

In preparation for the author's appearance at the Hudson Library on March 18

*Have you read a great book recently? Let us know and maybe we'll include it in a future Akron Voter and Book Discussion!*

**March 19, 2019**

**The 2020 Census: What's New, What are the Challenges, Why it's Important to You**

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Akron-Summit County  
Public Library  
60 South High Street  
Akron, Ohio

**Moderator:** Barbara Hunsicker, LWVAA Past President

**Panelists:**

**We will be setting our local priorities from 7-8:30pm, March 7 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1250 W. Exchange St.** after the scheduled Board Meeting. All members are invited to attend and share their input; voting will be limited to the Board.

I for one am grateful for the big thaw. As we're defrosting, keep an eye out for LWVO notices on requested outreach to your representatives on bills that will soon be emerging from the legislature. Thanks as always for your support.

Jackie Derrow

LWVAA President

**Centennial committee begins brainstorming**

A core committee met recently to share ideas on collaborations, programs and other activities in preparation for the 100-year celebration of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment giving women the right to vote.

The committee chair, Rosanne Winter, and I will be meeting with local area League leaders to begin the collaboration process next month. As we identify activities we'll be reaching out to all members to assist.

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## **Volunteer Corner**

Watch for SignUpGenius requests for volunteer opportunities for upcoming programs. In addition, Ardith Keck, membership chair, is looking for someone to print and mail the Voter newsletter to nine members who do not have an email account. [Email](#) Ardith to let her know you want to assist.

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Kent Camino,  
Partnership Specialist  
for Summit County,  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce - Bureau  
of the Census

Additional Speakers  
TBD



**March 27, 2019**

**LWV Ohio  
Statehouse Day**

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sheraton Columbus  
Hotel, 75 E. State St.,  
Columbus, Ohio

**April 10, 2019**

**Money in Politics  
Forum: The Impact  
of Unchecked  
Campaign  
Financing**

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Olin Hall, Room 124  
University of Akron  
160 E Buchtel Ave,  
Akron, Ohio

**Moderator:** Bruce



LWAA Environmental Services Chair Arrye Rosser speaking  
at the January LWV Kent meeting.

## Upcoming Community Events

**Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

Elaine Weiss, author of [The Women's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote](#) will be at the Hudson Library to speak about her book. Click [here](#) to register or call (330) 653-6658.

This year marks 100 years since the passage of the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote. Weiss' book recounts the nail-biting climax of one of the greatest political battles in American history.

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## News in Brief

Submitted by Laurie Curfman

**Cleveland.com** - 1/30/19 The ACLU's federal lawsuit aimed at redrawing Ohio's politically gerrymandered congressional district map in time for the 2020 election faces a potential timing hurdle, reports Rich Exner.

Winges, VP & Editor  
Akron Beacon  
Journal

**Panelists:**

**Cynda Miller Cole,**  
Bliss Institute for  
Public Policy, U. of  
Akron

**William D.  
Rich,** Emeritus  
Professor, University  
of Akron School of  
Law; Chairman,  
Summit County Board  
of Elections

**Catherine  
Turcer,** Executive  
Director, Common  
Cause Ohio

**Co-sponsored by:**  
The Bliss Institute of  
Applied Politics,  
University of Akron;  
The League of  
Women Voters of the  
Akron Area; The  
League of Women  
Voters of Greater  
Cleveland; Common  
Cause Ohio



**May 10-12, 2019**

**LWV Ohio State  
Convention**

The Attorney General's office this week asked the court to delay the March 4 start of the trial until after the U.S. Supreme Court rules later this year on gerrymandering cases from North Carolina and Maryland.

Such a delay would "severely jeopardize" efforts to put a more fairly drawn map in place for next year's election, even if the suit is successful, said Freda Levenson, lead attorney in the case for the ACLU of Ohio.

**Cleveland.com** – 1/29/19 – Three federal appeals judges are expected to hear arguments Wednesday on whether a lower court properly put on hold an Ohio law barring abortions if medical tests show a fetus has Down syndrome.

[House Bill 214](#), known as the "Antidiscrimination Law," seeks to stop what the anti-abortion movement describes as discrimination against unborn children with Down syndrome.

Physicians performing or attempting to perform an abortion who know a woman's decision was partially or entirely because of a genetic test indicating the fetus may have Down syndrome face a fourth-degree felony, punishable by up to 18 months in prison and a \$15,000 fine, and a loss of an Ohio medical license.

**Dayton Daily News** – 1/25/19 Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose announced Friday that his office is putting the Miami County Board of Elections on administrative oversight, effective immediately.

The move comes in the wake of disclosure that Miami County failed to count more than 6,200 ballots cast in the Nov. 6 general election.

Nationwide Hotel and  
Conference Center,  
100 Green Meadows  
Dr, Lewis Center,  
Ohio

**June 6, 2019**

**LWVAA Annual  
Meeting**

More details soon

**LWVAA Board  
Meetings**

March 7  
6:00-7:00 p.m.  
Board members  
only  
7:00-8:30 p.m. All  
members invited to  
review /  
recommend local  
priorities

April 4  
May 2  
June 6 (Annual  
Meeting)

6:30-8:00 p.m.

1250 W. Exchange  
St., Akron, Ohio

Board Members only

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## Crooked Chronicles: Century of River Cleanup in Cuyahoga Valley

Submitted by Arrye Rosser, Environmental Services Chair

How was the Cuyahoga River transformed from a health hazard to the centerpiece of a national park?

A panel of experts piece together the 100-year story within Cuyahoga Valley using historic photos, archival documents, and personal memories. The event will be moderated by the League of Women Voters Akron Area, and supported by [West Creek Conservancy](#), Xtinguish Celebration, [Ohio Humanities](#) and [Cleveland Humanities Festival](#).

Free admission, but advance registration is preferred.

The event will take place at Happy Days Lodge from 7 – 9 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. with drop-in tables about current environmental projects with various organizations.



Photo credit: Rick Hanger

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# Public Policy Event

## The 2020 Census: What's New, What Are the Challenges and Why It's Important to You

**Date:** Tuesday, March 19

**Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 PM

**Where:** Akron-Summit County Public Library  
60 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308

**Free & Open to the Public**

Every 10 years the U.S. government is mandated to conduct a headcount of everyone - citizens and non-citizens - residing in the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. territorial islands. Headcount numbers are used to allocate federal dollars to state and local communities and are central to determining U.S. Congressional representation when districts are redrawn in 2021. But new methods including increased reliance on electronic participation and the current climate of mistrust in the government could impede participation.

**PANELISTS:** **Kent Camino**,  
Partnership Specialist for Summit County, U.S. Department of  
Commerce - Bureau of the Census  
**Additional Speakers TBD**

**MODERATOR:** **Barbara Hunsicker**, Past President, LWVAA

Sponsored by: The League of Women Voters' of the Akron Area



[Join us today](#) to support democracy,  
nonpartisan political action, and voter  
rights in your community.

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