



**April 2011**

## **President's Keyboard**

Dear Members and Friends,

Your League has been very busy this winter with several projects. We had a successful Legislative Brunch at Generations Restaurant and heard from some Delco elected representatives as they answered LWVPA questions and made other comments about what is happening in Harrisburg. Our interview with Greg Vitali can be seen in this issue, with the same state interview questions being asked by Jane Al-Mashat, Rosemary Kesling, and Cathy Yungmann. We are awaiting a time to interview our new U.S. Representative, Pat Meehan, whose schedule makes meeting with him locally a bit difficult.

We are also putting together a consensus for our region of Pennsylvania with two issues related to Marcellus Shale drilling. We are learning about are "pooling," the potential policy of including all properties when a majority in an area are agreeing to drilling. The other consensus issue is "pipeline," a look at the location of underground pipelines for extracted natural gas. Recent explosions in PA and CA show us the dangers of older underground pipes that may deteriorate over time.

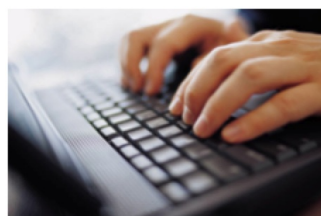
We are also continuing to observe what is happening in our Township and in Marple and Lower Merion with permits for new larger electronic billboards, and we are monitoring proposed legislation regarding public tax funding for vouchers and charter schools.

Also, I was in touch with the Inquirer for an article they printed on the lack of a county-wide health system for Delaware County.

Please consider attending one of our Board meetings and volunteering to help with some of these important issues!

**Kate deRiel**

**email: [katederiel@verizon.net](mailto:katederiel@verizon.net)**



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Newsletter Edited by:  
Cathy Yungmann

Know someone who should be  
receiving this newsletter, but isn't?  
Contact Rosemary Kesling at  
610-789-2680

# Candidates Set for May Primary

The primary election in May will have a total of 21 candidates running for Haverford Township offices including the Board of School Directors, a district judge and Board of Commissioners.

Voters will select directors for five of the nine School Board seats, with only current member Karen Renshaw not seeking reelection. Current members Maxine Murdoch, Lawrence Feinberg, Patricia Giambuzzi, Joseph Martin are on the ballot and have all cross-filed as both Democrats and Republicans. Additional candidate Colleen Bennet has also cross-filed. Matthew Kenney filed as a Republican only. The only School Board primary contest will be among Republicans, with five seats open and six candidates.

Haverford Township Board of Commissioner seats are up for election in the odd-numbered wards. The only primary contest will be on the First Ward Republican side, where incumbent Steve D'Emilio is challenged by Jon Tancredi. Tom Shiffer filed as a Democrat in the First Ward.

Current Third Ward Commissioner Rob Trumbull (D) did not file petitions for re-election. One candidate from each party will be running, Jeff Miller (D) and Jane Hall (R).

In the Fifth Ward, Darin Hayton filed as a Democrat and incumbent Jeffery Heilmann as a Republican.

Seventh Ward Democrat Lawrence Chrzan will run against incumbent Republican James E. McGarrity.

In the Ninth Ward, Republican incumbent William F. Wechsler will run against Democrat Patricia Loomer.

In the contest for three seats on Delaware County Council there are three Republicans and three Democrats running. For District Attorney, there is also one candidate from each party. Five candidates will be nominated in each party for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas: 5 candidates are cross-filed for the position and 3 additional Democrats have filed.

On the state-wide ballot, candidates are vying for 10 year terms as Judge of the Superior Court and Judge of the Commonwealth Court.

For Magisterial District Judge in District 32-1-25, both incumbent Judge Robert Burke and Philip Lozano cross-filed as Republicans and Democrats. In District 32-1-24, Robert M. D'Agostino and Patrick T. Henigan are also cross-filed. Incumbent John P. Capuzzi is not running for re-election to this position although he is running for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Delaware County.



## **Election Calendar**

**April 18 - Last day to REGISTER before primary**

**May 10 – Last day to apply for civilian absentee ballot**

**May 13 – Last day for Country Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballot**

**May 17 – MUNICIPAL PRIMARY**

## **LWVPA Convention Nearby!**

The LWVPA state convention is scheduled for **June 3, 4 and 5** at the Sheraton Bucks County Hotel in Langhorne.

The featured speaker at the Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> luncheon will be Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Professor of Communication and Director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania. Her specialty is political communication.

Our local League will be represented. Please contact Kate (610-446-8383) for registration information and for a ride on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> to Langhorne. The more of us who attend, the more fun it will be and the more we will learn!

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP**  
**Proposed Budget 2011-2012 as approved by the Board**

Expenses	2010-2011 Budgeted	Actual to 28 Feb 2011	2011-2012 Proposed
<b>Operating Cost</b>			
Bank Charges	\$0.00		\$0.00
General Supplies	\$20.00		\$0.00
Insurance – Liability	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
<b>Board – Admin. Commitments</b>			
President	\$0.00		\$0.00
Secretary/Treasurer	\$0.00		\$0.00
Board Tools/Expenses	\$0.00		\$0.00
Non-program portfolios:			
Membership	\$50.00	\$28.16	\$50.00
Public Relations	\$20.00		\$20.00
Finance Drive	\$50.00		\$50.00
Fund-raising	\$100.00		\$0.00
Website	\$150.00		\$125.00
<b>Delegates/Travel/Affiliations</b>			
To State Convention	\$200.00		\$0.00
To National Convention	\$00.00		\$100.00
Local Meeting Expense	\$50.00		\$150.00
Workshops/Legislative Day	\$0.00		\$0.00
Civic Council	\$10.00		\$10.00
Hav. Twp. Day	\$0.00		\$0.00
Darby Creek Ass'n	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00
<b>Support for LWV</b>			
National	\$1100.00	\$634.86	\$1099.00 <sup>a</sup>
State	\$750.00	\$427.50	\$740.00 <sup>b</sup>
County	\$70.00		\$70.00
SEPR	\$15.00		\$15.00
<b>Newsletter</b>			
Supplies & duplicating	\$300.00		\$150.00
Postage	\$220.00	\$44.00	\$180.00
<b>Educational Activities</b>			
Pubs-purchase/distrib.	\$20.00		\$00.00
Pubs-produce/distrib.	\$100.00	\$111.30	\$100.00
Board program committees	\$20.00		\$20.00
Voters' Guide	\$400.00	\$194.00	\$450.00
Other voter services*	\$300.00		\$300.00
<b>Position Support</b>			
Pubs. On LWV positions	\$10.00		\$10.00
Actions/activities**	\$100.00		\$175.00
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>\$4195.00</b>	<b>\$1599.82</b>	<b>\$3974.00</b>
<b>Membership Dues</b>			
Individuals	\$1760.00 (32)	\$1485.00 (27)	\$1680.00
Households	\$332.00 (4)	\$415.00 (5)	\$540.00
<b>Contributions<sup>1</sup></b>			
Members	\$500.00	\$856.00	\$500.00
Non-Members	\$200.00	\$390.00	\$300.00
<b>Other Sources</b>			
Fund-raising	\$500.00	\$113.00	\$100.00
Interest	\$120.00	\$6.24	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3712.00</b>	<b>\$3265.24</b>	<b>\$3120.00</b>
Amount from reserves to meet expenses	\$483.00	\$0.00	\$764.00

# **Legislative Interview - Greg Vitali (D), PA State Representative 166th District**

## **by Rosemary Kesling, LWV - Haverford Twp. Past-president**

### **GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY**

Greg supports a total gift ban for legislators and judges. If that cannot be achieved, he would favor a "First Penny" disclosure whereby all gifts are disclosed.

He is hoping that all of Haverford Township will still be in his district after redistricting.

### **NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION FROM MARCELLUS SHALE**

Greg is interested in environmental issues, especially this issue. He is sponsoring House Bill 33 which would impose a severance tax that is slightly less than that currently imposed in West Virginia. One third of the revenue from the tax would go into the general fund, one third into environmental programs, especially Growing Greener, and one third to local governments affected by the drilling. He does not know if the bill will pass or not, and if it does, he does not know if the Governor will sign it, but he would like the League's help in creating public pressure for its passage.

He is diligent in examining line items in the budget for clues that the Governor is interested in leasing additional state forest land for drilling or in reducing funding for environmental programs and doing other things that affect this issue. He does not feel that the Department of Environmental Protection has enough people working on permitting and supervising activities in the Marcellus Shale area.

Greg has also drafted three other bills; 2 have been introduced already. One deals with the spacing of wells and the other proposes a moratorium on drilling in state forest land. His third bill concerns alternate energy.

### **EDUCATION FINANCE**

Greg does not support school vouchers for nonpublic schools. He feels that the government should support one public school system that is open to all. If a school is failing, he feels that we should figure out what the problems are and then give the school the resources it needs to fix them. He doesn't know if the voucher bill will pass, but he is concerned about it because the legislature is much more conservative now than in the last session. He feels that we are not funding public schools adequately now and so any measure that will take monies away from the public schools is not a good idea.

He thinks that there should be more supervision of cyber charter schools—he suspects that they are being over compensated. He also feels that a student who has access to a cyber charter school in his own district should be required to go to that school if he chooses that type of education. He should not be compensated for going to a cyber charter outside of his district. Greg also feels that all charter schools must be held accountable for outcomes.

### **JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE**

Greg is in favor of merit selection of judges. Regular people usually do not know enough about a judge to make a meaningful choice. Greg, however, does not sense that this issue is important right now. Legislators are more concerned about other issues.

**Continued on next page.....**

## **Vitali Legislative Interview**

**continued from page 4**

### **OPTIONAL QUESTION ON LEGISLATOR'S OWN PRIORITIES**

**Environmental concerns are the focus of Greg's attention right now. As a member of the minority party, he feels that his role is to monitor environmental problems and play defense. Because the legislature is so conservative, he expects an assault on environmental programs. He sees his role as defensive—he will devote his energy to preventing problems. He feels that he can be more effective if he focuses his attention on one issue.**

**As an aside, we asked Greg his opinion on state liquor stores. He has decided that it would be better to leave the system the way it is—the state receives a dependable money stream from the stores every year; the employees have good jobs; and the system works well enough.**

## **Public Education Study Update**

The LWVUS study on the "Role of the Federal Government in Public Education" is well underway. The target schedule is for Leagues to receive the materials (papers, consensus questions and a Leaders Guide for taking consensus) in May. Local Leagues will have from May through November to conduct their local study and take consensus. The study committee is writing papers; as they are completed, they will be posted on the LWVUS website.



President Kate deRiel thanks School Board Director Larry Feinberg for his talk at our December meeting.

## **Local League News**

Charter schools and school vouchers are issues of interest to LWV-Haverford Township members. School Board Director Larry Feinberg spoke about the issues to our members before the December 2010 Board meeting at the Quadrangle.

We are hoping to make charter schools and vouchers the presentation topic of our annual public meeting in June. More information to follow.

Rosemary is again spearheading the primary election Voter's Guide. Preliminary plans call for the Guide to be published in the News of Delaware County two weeks before the election.

Our annual reorganization meeting will be a potluck dinner held June 28 at 6:30pm at Rosemary's home. Our new officers will then begin their work. **We need volunteers to help with League positions, especially Secretary, for 2011- 2013.** The Secretary does not need to take notes on the computer – paper and pen are fine too!

We'd like to bring new members into the League, so please encourage your friends and neighbors to join and attend board meetings.

## **Save Trees and Stay Informed: Digital Information about Haverford Township**

The **Informed Citizens Network** is a digital newsletter sponsored by the **Haverford Township Civic Council**. It lists and describes township and school district events, such as Freedom Playground updates, the Oakmont Farmer's Market news, the township Heritage Festival, Grange Estate information, and school plays. The newsletter's aim is "to promote civic involvement and community spirit."

To subscribe, email your name and email address to Jeanne Angell at [angellsrus@comcast.net](mailto:angellsrus@comcast.net).

Hyper-local journalism concentrates on news about specific neighborhoods and towns. **AOL** has launched a nationwide project called **Patch.com** featuring individual web sites about smaller communities. The Haverford Township "patch" is updated daily with local news at <http://haverford.patch.com/>

The **Haverford Township Department of Parks and Recreation** publishes and mails out a quarterly newsletter call **HavaGood Times**. You can help both save trees (paper) and the township budget by opting to receive this publication only via email. To opt out of the printed edition, email your name, street address and email address to: [recinfo@haverfordtownship.org](mailto:recinfo@haverfordtownship.org)



**Upcoming Events:**

May 3, 2011 - LWV-Haverford Twp. Board Meeting at 7:30pm at the home of Kate deRiel, 24 Strathmore Road, Havertown, PA. Phone: 610-446-8383

TBA – (During first 2 weeks in June) LWV-Haverford Twp. Annual Public Meeting

June 3 – 5, 2011 - LWVPA Convention, Sheraton Bucks County Hotel, Langhorne, PA

June 5, 2011 – Haverford Twp. Heritage Festival on Karakung Drive – Look for the LWV-Haverford Twp. table 11am – 4pm.

June 28, 2011 - LWV-Haverford Twp. potluck and reorganization meeting at 6:30pm at the home of Rosemary Kesling, 248 Friendship Rd., Drexel Hill PA. Phone: 610-789-2680

**League of Women Voters of Haverford Twp.**

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