

Toni Saldivar. "The League Looks at Community Involvement: League of Women Voters of Oxford Continues Its Role in the Community." *The Oxford Press*. 11 Sept. 2016" A3

In its sixty-second year as a community organization, members of the League of Women Voters of Oxford continue their involvement in Oxford area activities that contribute to residents' quality of life.

On August 26, Women's Equality Day, League members toured the job site of the new Kramer Elementary School. Michael Davis, Talawanda School Board treasurer, offered the tour through Anna Kelly, League of Women Voters of Oxford School Board Observer. Davis wanted the League to see "tax dollars at work" in this new facility which will meet standards for a "green" school at a cost of about \$15 million at completion. Kelly noted that the construction of the new Kramer school did not require a new local levy because of Davis' "ability to research and apply for and receive money from a state grant which covers 65% of the total cost." Among Kramer's innovative features are redesigned special education classrooms to improve learning for children with special needs. Supporting public education as voters has been a high priority for the League since its founding.

For almost a century, August 26th has commemorated the day in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was formally adopted into the US Constitution and women finally gained their right to vote. August 26 also commemorates the founding of The League of Women Voters at that time. For the last 96 years, this nonpartisan, national organization has promoted voter registration, voter education, and voter participation in our democracy.

The Oxford League local chapter, founded in 1954, actively participates in the Oxford and Talawanda School District communities with the principal goal to "make democracy work" at all levels of government: local, state and national.

This year, the LWV of Oxford is under the leadership of three Co-Presidents: Sibyl Harris Miller, Co-President for Organization; Sandi Woy-Hazleton, Co-President for Program; and Pure Dana, Co-President for Voter Service. True to its mission, the League registered voters during the Oxford Independence Day celebration in July; on the Miami University campus in August; and at the uptown Oxford Community Picnic on the first of September, sponsored by the Oxford Police Department. On October 8, the League will partner with the NAACP for the first of three Saturdays of voter registration at Kroger's from 9:00am to 3:00pm. League member Becky Quay, organizer, welcomes League volunteers for assistance on those Saturdays.

The League's public programs for the fall of 2016, are as follows:

Town Hall meeting on the topic of communication to address the question: "How do we find out what is happening in our community?" The public is invited to participate this forum on September 21 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the Undercroft of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.

Candidates' Forum. The public is encouraged to meet candidates seeking to be elected in November and to engage them in the League's innovative round table discussions to be held on October 5, from 7:00 until 9:00 PM at The Knolls of Oxford.

Brown Bag Lunch meeting, entitled "Analysis of an Election," to take place on November 14 at Patterson Place on Miami's Western Campus at noon.

Reception for newly elected local officials on December 7, from 5:00-7:00 PM in the Oxford Community Arts Center.

League events open to the public in the spring of 2017 will focus on underserved groups in local education, on land use for parks, trails, and recreation, and on celebrating Women's History Month.

More information and updates can be found on the League of Women Voters of Oxford Facebook and on its website [www.oxford.oh.lwvnet.org].