



LWV LEHIGH COUNTY VOTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

April

5 Thurs		Deadline to re-serve for Hot Topics lunch
9 Mon	11:30 am	Hot Topics Lunch
12 Thurs	4 pm	Board Meeting
16 Tues	All day	FDPA Rally, Harrisburg. Last day to register, re-register to vote

May

3 Thurs	10:30	Voters' Guide bundling
12 Sat	11:30	Annual Meeting
15 Tues		Primary Election

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See inside for invitation to LWVLC's annual meeting—Saturday, May 12, 2018.

Dear League Members,

Spring is almost here and we learned at the Hot Topics Luncheon for March that more birds are in danger from flying into glass windows in the spring and fall than in winter or summer.

Twenty-seven people, including the speaker, listened to "Development and The Effect on Our Bird Populations." Twenty-five were members and nine attendees, including the speaker, Daniel Klem, Pr., Ph.D., were men.

For this issue, Mary Erdman has written a piece about the presentation. In keeping with our environmental theme for the spring, Barbara Williams found a speaker who will speak about "Climate Change" at our luncheon on April 9. Inside, Barbara writes about what points Randy Gyory, Citizens Climate Lobby of the Lehigh Valley. Citizens' Climate Lobby will cover.

The Fight for Pay Equity: A State Road Map for Pennsylvania: At the December Hot Topics Luncheon. Toni Hoffman and Susan McNamara, Past Public Policy Chairs, American Association of University Women, spoke on the extent of the gender wage gap and what to do about it. According to the AAUW, as efforts stall at the federal level, states can enact legislation to help women and families at the local level.

Pennsylvania has some equal pay protections, but they are incomplete. To close the pay gap in the Commonwealth, the Equal Pay Act must be amended to include the five elements: cover all employees, offer protections, clarify employer defenses, establish

strong legal procedures and remedies and comparable worth.

At the Lehigh Valley Women's Advocacy Coalition March Meeting, we learned that there are five bills in the state house in Harrisburg to carry out these five goals to a greater or lesser degree. Four of these bills pale in comparison to HB1243, Equal Pay Legislation. Brian Sims, D-182, Philadelphia, is the prime sponsor of that bill. It supports all five goals. The bill was referred to the House Labor and Industry Committee on April 19, 2017. That is almost a year ago! Let's contact our local representatives and tell them how much closing the gender wage gap means to us.



We should thank the two representatives from our county who are co-sponsors: Peter Schweyer, D-22, and Jeanne McNeill, D-133. Representative McNeill is one of two from Lehigh County who are members of the Labor and Industry Committee. The other is Ryan E. Mackenzie, R-134. You can ask them to ask the chairs of the Labor and Industry Committee to vote the equal pay legislation out of committee. Please contact me if you would like more information about this issue.

Janet Little, LWVLC President

BOARD NOTES

The Board of Lehigh County League of Women Voters met Thursday March 8, 2018, at the Woodlands Personal Care Home. Here are the highlights of the meeting.

Barb Williams and Mary Bongiorno presented the proposed budget for 2018-19 year. Our estimated income for next year will be \$8,860 and our estimated expenditures will be \$8,860. The proposed budget will be presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting in May.

Barb Williams, Treasurer, presented financials for the month of February. The balance for the month ending

February 28 was \$20,255.

Jan Little will join a conference call with other state members to discuss the state league's voters guide, Vote411. Barbara Williams shared information about the call with counterparts in the Northampton County League. Our main concern is that the word limit on Vote411's bio form will match the word limit set by The Morning Call.

Ann Bartholomew and Kaitlyn Moyer are close to completing the 2018-19 Government Directory. Bids for the printing will go out shortly.

The Lehigh County and Northamp-

ton County Leagues will put on a joint Meet the Candidates Night for the PA 7th Congressional seat. It will be held at the Northampton Community College on May 2. We will share more information, including the start time, with the membership soon.

Straight Scoop on Shale: The PA League has received grant money from the Heinz Endowments to sponsor an informational program on the shale-based plastic industry in PA. This could be a topic for a Hot Topics Luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Dunn

FAIR DISTRICTS PA OVERVIEW FOR SPRING 2018

RESOLUTIONS

We are working with residents in counties & municipalities across the state to pass resolutions supporting the formation of an independent citizens commission to draw state and congressional legislative district boundaries.

PLEASE NOTE: If you live, or know someone who lives, in a municipality listed in the *Resolutions Pending* section below, we invite you to attend the public meeting to show your support. No need to speak, but if you would like to speak during the public input period and have some questions, contact our local Resolutions Coordinator, Rochelle Kaplan, at kaplanr@ptd.net.

Statewide

Resolutions passed in **16** counties and **190** municipalities representing **about 40%** of PA residents. If all **162** pending resolutions get passed, counties and municipalities representing **77%** of Pennsylvanians would be in favor of creating fair districts.

Lehigh Valley

Resolutions Passed:

Both Lehigh & Northampton counties.

11 Municipalities: North Whitehall Twp, Weisenberg Twp, Upper Saucon Twp, Upper Milford Twp, Williams Twp, South Whitehall Twp, Bethlehem, Lower Macungie Twp, Bethlehem Twp, Easton, Whitehall Twp.

Resolutions Pending (upcoming meetings):

Allentown, Coopersburg Boro (April 2 and April 17),
Palmer Twp (April 9), **Lowhill Twp** (April 12),
Macungie Boro (April 16).

Please attend if you are a resident.

Resolution Requests Needed:

If you, or someone you know, lives in a municipality not listed above, consider making a resolution request to the board; contact Rochelle at kaplanr@ptd.net for help.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For more info on events listed below and other events across the state go to www.FairDistrictsPA.com, select "Events" in upper right corner, scroll through events list.

Statewide

March 26–28: Members of California's independent citizen commission talk about redistricting (several locations across the state)

April 16: Reclaiming Our Democracy: Rally to End Gerrymandering, Harrisburg

Lehigh Valley

April 3: Introduction to Gerrymandering and Fair Districts- Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bangor, 7:00pm

Pending resolution presentations, see list above.

Terry Schettini

MARCH HOT TOPIC REVIEW: BIRDS IN DANGER

Dr. Dan Klem mesmerized us with incredible facts about bird collisions during the March Hot Topics lunch.

Daniel Klem, Sarkis Acopian Professor of Ornithology at Muhlenberg College, spoke about the topic of collisions killing almost a billion defenseless birds annually in United States! Worldwide, the numbers are in the multi-billions every single year, as more and more builders are using plate glass as the façade of most new buildings and high rises.

Dr. Klem explained that, unfortunately, this is not always a newsworthy topic as it may get some coverage only during the fall and spring migratory periods. To put the number in perspective, he stated that, even though the Exxon Valdez accident of 1989 is still referenced today (as far as the quantity of bird killed), it would take 333 Valdez oil spills to come anywhere near the number of bird kills that occur every year!

Considered by most to be the world's leading expert in bird-collision mortality, Dr. Klem explained that he has learned after forty-five years of research that birds and plate glass windows are a very bad combination. The physiology of the birds' eyes does not permit them to see a few yards in front of them as their eyes are focused ahead on the tree line. Because of this, they cannot detect the glass windows in front of them; they see the reflection of the sky and trees and are unable to detect the glass.

He also explained that the true number of bird kills is probably even more than stated for many reasons: animal

scavengers will take away carcasses, vegetation close to buildings will hide the unfortunate birds, and the majority of people are just not looking for these birds. Dr. Klem also explained that most often it is head trauma that kills the birds; if not killing them outright, will lead to paralysis and, later, death from brain injury.

As a worldwide consultant and researcher into how to prevent the unbelievable number of bird kills, Dr. Klem has determined that the design of the glass can go a long way toward reducing the number. The problem right now is the cost of research, production, and sale of treated glass on a large-scale basis to builders. That said, in a number of places glass with various patterns and markings has been proven to reduce or eliminate the rate of mortality. Some examples of effective glass installation are the Observation Tower at The Niagara Falls State Park, the new science building at Swarthmore College and the glass corridor between the science



(Continued on page 4)

APRIL HOT TOPIC: A MARKET-BASED SOLUTION FOR A HEALTHY, LIVABLE CLIMATE



Are you concerned about extreme weather disruptions around the world due to climate change? Are you looking for impactful solutions to preserve our planet? April's program will be presented by the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) which is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. Their consistently respectful, non-partisan approach to climate education is designed to create a broad, sustainable foundation for climate action across all geographic regions and political

inclinations. By building upon shared values rather than partisan divides, and empowering supporters to work in keeping with the concerns of their local communities, they work towards the adoption of fair, effective, and sustainable climate change solutions—a solution for a healthy and livable planet.

The presentation by Randy Gyory, Pennsylvania State Co-Coordinator for CCL, will focus on CCL's legislative proposal, Revenue Neutral Carbon Fee & Dividend and how it works. CCL's objective is to have this pro-

posal introduced by a member of Congress and passed as legislation.

Please join us on Monday, April 9, at 11:30 a.m. at the Superior Restaurant, 102 State Avenue, Emmaus, PA.

Non members: Please register by emailing lwvlehigh@yahoo.com by Thursday, April 5. Optional \$11:00 lunch buffet.

Members: Chris Herbener will email you about making a reservation for this program.

Barbara Williams

MEMBERSHIP, APRIL 2018**Margie Dunn**

The membership booklet is completed and ready for the printers. They will be distributed at the Hot Topics Luncheon on April 9. If you are not able to attend, I will mail it to you.

In the March Voter, I stated that Jeannie Grubb was a doctor at Lehigh Valley Hospital. I discovered that this was incorrect. Jeannie is not a doctor. I apologize for the error.

I am pleased to announce we had a new member join our League in March. Geraldine Green works at Re/Max Unlimited. She believes more people should be involved in voter registration and hopes to learn more about community issues through the League.

Geraldine Green, 14 Cottonwood St., Allentown 18104
484 951-0012; ggreen4homes@gmail.com

LEHIGH VALLEY WOMEN'S ADVOCACY COALITION MARCH MEETING

We had a very informative meeting on March 13th. Henry Moore of The Lazarus House Project spoke to us about finding homes for men and women being released from prison. This project can use financial support, volunteers, mentors and donations. Mr. Moore can be reached at hmoore@lehighchurches.org

For more information on that project as well as the Lehigh Conference of Churches, visit lehighchurches.org.

Emily Reiser of the Crime Victims Council mentioned that April is Sexual Assault Prevention Month and the CVC will be holding events during the month. See the flier below for one event.

Bonnie Winfield, a retired Lafayette College professor, has worked and continues to work with women who are in

prison. She uses art as a way to help these women. Bonnie can be reached at BonnieWinfield@mac.com.

We also spoke about the status of bills in Harrisburg that are of concern to our members as well as the current administration's proposal to permit personal beliefs to dictate health care.*

Mark your calendars now for our next meeting, May 8.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting.

*Susan McNamara and Toni Hoffman, Co-Chairs,
Lehigh Valley Women's Advocacy Coalition*

* League members, please contact Janet Little if you want to see the documents we received at the meeting,

MARCH HOT TOPIC

(Continued from page 3)

buildings at Muhlenberg College. The latter has recorded no bird kills since installation. Incidentally, Dr. Klem was honored for his work at Niagara Falls with a plaque that was erected just outside the tower building.

Even though the price of treated plate glass has come down significantly, Dr. Klem is still very disappointed that environmentally sound and "green" building codes still do not have any building requirements to use this glass at all. He met with the developer(s) of downtown Allentown and was disappointed that, right in his own back yard, there was no interest in using the treated glass as more glass façade buildings will line the landscape of the downtown.

It was disappointing to hear that even at the Johnson Wax Cornell Building of Ornithology and the Hawk Mountain Center care was not taken to use the type of glass that could prevent or lower the number of bird kills! He also shared with the audience that there are far fewer bird kills with wind turbines, especially if they are not placed in sensitive ecological areas.

Dr. Klem shared many fascinating stories with the audience about his: worldwide consultant experiences, his patents, and how he is determined to continue his research, educate the public and private sectors, and write a book to help spread the word about this tragic phenomenon. Daniel Klem is quite an impressive individual; with all of his science background and impressive research he still sees our role as human beings as stewards of the earth with a duty to protect the lives of these indefensible and beautiful creatures.

Dr. Klem brought a handout with him, describing what we can do as homeowners to try to prevent birds from flying into our windows. We ran out of them. If you are interested in printing one at home, please go to our website, www.lwvlv.org, where you will find a link to the flyer in the section about events.

Mary Erdman, Program Chair

FAIR DISTRICTS PA UPDATE

This past month has been a very busy and productive month for both of the local chapters in Lehigh and Northampton counties as well as our statewide efforts. As we head into spring, we are getting closer to the date of June 30th, when we need to see a bill passed by both houses to continue the process of creating an amendment to the State Constitution. As a reminder, this amendment will take the redrawing of district lines out of the hands of politicians and into the hands of an independent citizens' commission of 11 people: four Democrats, four Republicans and three citizens who are NOT registered with either of the two major parties.

Each of our activities is part of a groundswell of support for this amendment, one as important as the others. If you can participate in *any* of our activities; you will be contributing to a very worthy cause of bringing back representative democracy to the citizens of Pennsylvania. We need your help *now!* Here is a listing of activities:

Resolutions: In a separate article on page 3, Terry Schettini (League member and public speaker for FDPA) updates us on municipalities that are in the process of adopting or that have adopted resolutions to show their support for impartial, fair, and transparent redistricting, and call on all levels of government above them to do the same. The numbers of local and state-wide municipalities that have supported fair redistricting practices are quite impressive. Is your municipality on the list?

Public information and action meetings: We have had successful turnouts in Bethlehem and in Macungie of citizens from each of the legislative districts where those legislators have refused to sponsor HB 722. We just had a very productive public information session at the Union Lutheran Church in Schnecksville on March 11. **All** of our State Senators in Lehigh and Northampton counties have co-authored or supported SB 22: Mario Scavello (R), Lisa Boscola (D) and Pat Browne (R). The only state representatives from Lehigh County who have **NOT** supported HB 722 are Ryan Mackenzie (R), Zach Mako (R) and Gary Day (R). In Northampton County, we are hoping to get the support of Marcia Hahn (R) and Bob Emrick (R). We are beginning to see some movement in at least one of these state representatives.

Legislative visits: We continue to assist constituents who would like to visit their representatives and express their desire to see these legislators co-sponsor HB 722. We now have 109 legislative (state representative) cosponsors. That means that 54 percent of the state house co-sponsors the bill, breaking the record for the most number of cosponsors in a *single* legislative session. But, we really would like to see the outstanding local representatives become co-sponsors and push that number higher.

Letters to the Editor: We have been averaging about a letter a week in both The Morning Call and the Easton Express. We welcome our members to contribute a letter to the editor and we will assist you in any way we can.

Postcards: We will provide you with postcards to either "thank" your legislator or to "request" your legislator to support HB 722.

Requests for Speakers: If you would like a speaker from Fair Districts to come to your organization or even to your home (groups of about 15), to give a background on gerrymandering and answer any of your questions, we will be more than happy to fulfill your request. Both **Terry Schettini** and I (**Mary Erdman**) are League members as well as Public Speakers for Fair Districts PA. Fritz Walker is also a Public Speaker for FDPA; however, as a board member of Cease Fire PA, he is very, very busy with many gun-issue-related activities right now, which is discussed in a separate article.

Two special upcoming events: These are described in two separate articles: Rally Day in Harrisburg and Town Halls with three members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

If you are interested in participating in any of the above, please contact me at maryc.erdman@gmail.com or Terry-Schettini@gmail.com and we will help direct you. We need as many of you as possible to help make your vote count and to rid Pennsylvania of gerrymandering!

Mary Erdman

ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET

At the May annual meeting we will adopt a budget for 2018–2019. The board approved the budget prepared by the budget committee, chaired by Mary Bongiorno, at the April board meeting.

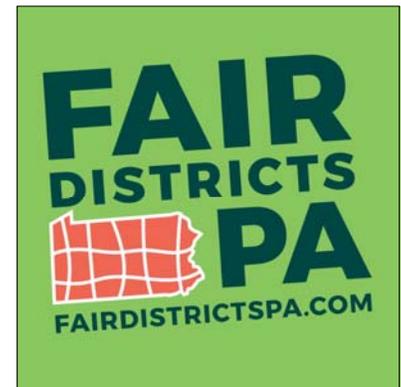
Our bylaws require members to see a copy in advance of voting at the annual meeting. It is attached to this Voter, but only in the edition that is being sent to members.

Please look through the budget and make notes if you have any questions. Don't forget to make your reservation for the annual meeting lunch!

TWO NOTEWORTHY FDPA EVENTS

1. **First Senate Hearing of SB 22.** Since February of 2017, SB 22 has sat in the Senate State Government Committee without any discussion, debates or vote. Finally, Senator Mike Folmer (R), Chairman of the Committee, has agreed to hold a hearing on SB 22 as well as SB 243, SB 464 and SB 767. All of these bills address changing the process of how the redrawing of districts is determined.

Everyone is invited to attend this hearing on: Tuesday, March 27, 2018, at 9:00 am in Hearing Room 1 of the North Office Building. You are also invited to wear Fair Districts t-shirts.



2. **Three members of the award-winning California citizens independent redistricting commission** will be sharing their experiences at four town hall meetings. The times and places are listed below. If you are interested, go to the Fair Districts PA website to register. The sessions are free. Invite your friends, elected officials and legislators to attend as well. Dates and Locations:

Monday, March 26, 7 PM - Widener Law School Auditorium, Harrisburg

Tuesday, March 27, 7 PM - Park Forest Middle School, State College

Wednesday, March 28, 2 PM - Montgomery County Community College Science Center, Blue Bell

Wednesday, March 28, 7 PM - PA Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia

If you are interested; please consider carpooling to any of these events.

FDPA RALLY DAY



Mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 16th, and join us for a state-wide rally at the Capitol Building to show your support for Fair Districts. The Rally will be organized by FDPA and endorsing organizations, allies, supporters and friends are all welcome to join us in Harrisburg to reclaim our democracy!

The day will be packed with many activities besides the actual rally. Here is the tentative schedule:

10:30 am: Arrive, take tours, attend House or Senate sessions. Gather at The State Museum of PA to get t-shirts and other rally materials and attend information sessions.

11:00 am – 12:30 pm: Half-hour information and update sessions in The State Museum of PA auditorium.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm: Bring your own lunch, visit a nearby eatery or get lunch in the Capitol cafeteria.

1:30 pm: Walk to the Pennsylvania State Capitol building for the Rally, which will be inside the Rotunda. Leave time to get through security.

2:30 pm: Rally begins.

4:00 pm: Meet buses to head home.

Transportation – FDPA-organized rally buses. Go to the website and let them know you are coming. Based on responses, there will be details about the buses later.

For information, go to the Fair Districts PA website www.fairdistrictspa.com and stay tuned for updated information. Look under EVENTS.



ELECTION 2018

The deadline has passed for candidates in the 2018 General Primary Election who have filed their nominating petitions to have their names withdrawn. We have some interesting races in Lehigh County, in addition to the contest for election in the new 7th Congressional District. As League members, we are expected to know more than many of us do in fact know, so here's your crib sheet for when your friends ask you who is running for state rep or state senator.

State Legislative Districts in numerical order:

District 22: Allentown wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (div 1), 7, 8 (divs 1, 2), 9, 10 (div 1), 11 (divs 1, 2), 12, 14 (div 2), 16, 19.

Democratic ballot:

Peter Schweyer, Allentown

Republican ballot: No candidates

District 131: In Lehigh County, Townships of Lower Milford; Salisbury (Ward 3, div 1); Upper Milford; Upper Saucon. Boroughs of Coopersburg, Emmaus. In Northampton County: part of Lower Saucon Township. In Montgomery County, Upper Hanover Township, Boroughs of East Greenville, Pennsburg, Red Hill.

Democratic ballot:

Andy Lee, Upper Saucon Township

Republican ballot:

Vicki Lightcap, Pennsburg Borough

Bev Plosa-Bowser, Upper Hanover Township

Justin J Simmons, Upper Saucon Township

District 132: Allentown wards 6 (div 2), 8 (divs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7), 10 (divs 3, 4), 11 (divs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7), 13, 14 (div 1), 15, 17, 18. South Whitehall Twp districts 1, 2, 7.

Democratic Ballot:

Mike Schlossberg, Allentown

Republican Ballot: No candidates

District 133: Lehigh County portion of the City of Bethlehem. Townships of Hanover; Salisbury wards 1, 2, 3 (div 2); Whitehall districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12. Boroughs of Catasauqua, Coplay, Fountain Hill.

Democratic Ballot:

Jeanne McNeill, Whitehall Township

Republican Ballot: No candidates

District 134: In Lehigh County, Townships of Lower Macungie; Salisbury wards 4, 5; South Whitehall districts 3, 4. Boroughs of Alburtis, Macungie. In Berks County: Townships of Hereford, Longswamp, Richmond, Rockland; Borough of Topton.

Democratic Ballot:

Tom Applebach, Lower Macungie Township

Republican Ballot:

Ron Beitler, Lower Macungie Township

Ryan E. Mackenzie, Lower Macungie Township

District 183: in Lehigh County, Townships of South Whitehall districts 5, 6, 8; Washington; Whitehall districts 7, 10, 11. Borough of Slatington. In Northampton County: Allen Township, Lehigh Township, Moore Township, Beersville and Klecknersville districts. Boroughs of North Catasauqua, Northampton, Walnutport.

Democratic Ballot:

Jason Ruff, Slatington

Republican Ballot:

Zach Mako, Lehigh Township

Cindy Miller, Lehigh Township

District 187, In Lehigh County, Townships of Heidelberg, Lowhill, Lynn, North Whitehall, Upper Macungie, Weisenberg. In Berks County, Maxatawny Township; Boroughs of Kutztown, Lyons.

Democratic Ballot:

Archie Follweiler, Kutztown

Republican Ballot:

Gary Day, Heidelberg Township

State Senatorial Districts, in numerical order:

District 16, City of Allentown. Townships of Heidelberg, Lower Macungie, Lower Milford, Lowhill, Lynn, North Whitehall, South Whitehall, Upper Macungie, Upper Milford, Upper Saucon, Washington, Weisenberg. Boroughs of Alburtis, Coopersburg, Macungie, Slatington.

Democratic Ballot:

Mark Pinsley, South Whitehall Township

Republican Ballot:

Pat Browne, Allentown

District 18, Lehigh County portion of City of Bethlehem. Townships of Hanover, Salisbury, Whitehall. Boroughs of Catasauqua, Coplay, Emmaus, Fountain Hill. Part of Northampton County.

Democratic Ballot:

Lisa Boscola, Bethlehem Township

Republican Ballot: No candidates



League of Women Voters of Lehigh County

P. O. Box 3275
Allentown, PA 18106
610-432-1456
LWVPA Hotline: 1-800-692-7281

President: Janet Little,
610-398-7228
610-442-1733 (cell)
Membership: Margie Dunn,
610-298-8946



Mary Faust, Editor
Email: mfaust11@ptd.net
Phone: 610-965-6974



League of Women Voters of Lehigh County
2018 Annual Meeting

Morgan's
3079 Willow Street, Allentown 18104
At the intersection of
Cedar Crest Boulevard & Willow Street
(610-769-4100)

Saturday, May 12th, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Individual ordering from the menu
(Soup & Sandwiches, Salads, Pastas or Entrees)
11:30 p.m. - Cash Bar
12:00 p.m. - Lunch
Program begins at 12:30 p.m.

Name: _____

Guest(s): _____

No. of Reservations: Total _____

Deadline for reservations is Friday, May 4, 2018

Mail to: Barbara Williams

4313 Crest Lane
Allentown PA 18104

E-mail: wils48@ptd.net

Text to Phone: 610-762-4009

Lehigh Valley Friends of Cease Fire Supports Events

Cease Fire PA and Friends support the Second Amendment as well as the rights of law-abiding gun owners. They also support a number of common sense laws that will go much further in protecting lives throughout the State of PA in our homes, cities, towns, rural areas and schools. Saving lives is the ultimate goal.

As we go to press, a number of events will have occurred: the March 14 #Enough National School Walkout, the March 21 Demand the Ban action in Philadelphia and the March 24 March for Our Lives in several state, including Pennsylvania, and in the District of Columbia.

This month we have:

April 9-12 - The House Judiciary Committee will hold hearings on gun violence. Room 140 Main Capitol Bldg. Check times for each day. All are invited to attend.

April 11, 10:00 AM - Cease Fire PA will be holding a rally in the Capitol Rotunda. All are invited to attend and show your support.

For more information go to the "Lehigh Valley Friends of Cease Fire PA" facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lvfcfpa/>. Fritz Walker, a member of the FDPA Leadership Team, also organizes the Cease Fire PA activities and events in the Lehigh Valley.