

DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF WILLOW VALLEY

NEWSLETTER

June 2025

Paid for by Democratic Club of Willow Valley

Treasurer, Steve Wright

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Addressing the Issues

IN THIS ISSUE

Political News:

Key PA Issue: State Budget	2
Protest Now or Regret Forever	10
Sunday Thought	14

Club/Local News:

Scholarship Winners	17
Coming Events	18
Meeting Minutes	20

Key PA Issue: State Budget



Shapiro renews calls for legal weed, regulated skill games in budget that would send \$526M to poorest schools

by Stephen Caruso, Kate Huangpu, and Katie Meyer of Spotlight PA

Feb. 4, 2025



HARRISBURG — Democratic Gov. Josh Shapiro is asking the Pennsylvania legislature to legalize recreational cannabis, tax popular gaming terminals, and direct more than \$500 million to the state's poorest schools as part of his \$51.4 billion budget plan.

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

The governor's latest budget pitch, which he unveiled Tuesday, would send an additional \$290 million to the state's public transit agencies, invest more in a new student-teacher stipend, and set a base tuition rate for cyber charter schools.

In his hour-and-a-half-long address, Shapiro also threw his support for the first time behind bipartisan proposals to expunge certain eviction records and increase state oversight of private equity acquisitions of hospitals and nursing homes. In addition, his full budget proposal includes [a sweeping energy plan](#) that targets emissions while offering industry tax credits.

"These are commonsense Pennsylvania priorities that I know we all share," Shapiro told state lawmakers gathered in the Capitol. "Some of us may have a different approach to these objectives, but we've got to work at it together."

The state will enter the coming fiscal year with about a \$3 billion surplus in its general fund, which works like the state's checking account, and [about \\$7 billion](#) in its rainy day fund, which functions as a savings account.

The Shapiro administration projects that the state will bring in \$46.6 billion in tax revenue in the next fiscal year, although revenue appears to be slightly underperforming those projections. To pay for the governor's \$51.4 billion plan — which proposes an 8% increase over current spending — the state would be required to use the last of its surplus and take about \$1.6 billion out of its rainy day fund.

That proposed spending immediately received heavy opposition from the GOP-controlled state Senate, whose members pointed to [Pennsylvania's long-running structural deficit](#).

"We don't have the money," President Pro Tempore Kim Ward (R., Westmoreland) told reporters after Shapiro's address. "It's irresponsible to spend what we don't have. Because in the end ... people here are going to pay higher taxes."

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

Budget projections are never exact. Lawmakers all tend to bake in slightly different assumptions about how revenue will rise or fall, or how expensive massive programs will end up being. Senate Republicans argue that even without factoring in his new spending proposals, Shapiro is overestimating revenue by billions of dollars over the next five years, compared with projections from the state's Independent Fiscal Office.

State Sen. Scott Martin (R., Lancaster), who chairs his chamber's Appropriations Committee, said he had "never seen more inflated numbers in my life."

"If we were to approve this budget ... a year from now we'll be negotiating a '26-27 budget where we have over a \$3.5 billion hole," he said.

Caucus leaders told reporters they thought Shapiro could cut additional costs by trying to lower spending on Medicaid, and by looking more closely at per-pupil education spending.

State House Democrats pushed back, with Rep. Jordan Harris of Philadelphia, who leads the chamber's powerful Appropriations Committee, saying, "My question to my colleagues is, well, if we can't afford that, then what is it that you're willing to cut?"

"We're saying, 'Let's make targeted and strategic investments that benefit us, while also making sure that we are creating a business climate here in Pennsylvania where businesses want to come,'" Harris said.

More money for public education, no voucher proposal

Apart from mandatory state spending bumps on federal programs like Medicaid, one of the biggest financial obligations lawmakers have in the budget is education. That has been particularly true since 2023, when a state judge ordered lawmakers to fix widespread spending inequity in public schools.

[The budget passed last year](#) included an estimate of how much money Pennsylvania will need to send to poor schools to fulfill the terms of that ruling: \$4.5 billion. It put about \$500 million toward that specific need, which lawmakers have termed an "adequacy gap."

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

This year, Shapiro is proposing that another \$526 million go toward closing the adequacy gap.

Donna Cooper, a former state secretary of policy and planning under former Democratic Gov. Ed Rendell, told Spotlight PA she sees that number as “a terrific way to start the negotiation.”

“When I was in the governor’s office, going in with \$526 million for the poorest school districts — that would have been a dramatic policy. That’s spectacular,” she said.

But despite commending Shapiro for prioritizing poor districts, Cooper also said his proposal would put Pennsylvania on a path to fill the adequacy gap — and meet the terms of the court ruling — too slowly.

If the commonwealth makes investments of roughly this size annually, it’s on track to fill the gap in about nine years. Cooper and other advocates think it should happen in four. The longer it takes, she said, “the more we are robbing the fortunes and futures of our kids.”

Shapiro also wants an additional \$75 million to go to basic education and another \$40 million for special education — [significantly smaller increases than what were included in last year’s budget](#).

That was a particular point of concern for some education advocates. The Education Law Center and Public Interest Law Center, two groups that brought the initial school funding suit, argued in a joint statement that the numbers for basic and special education “fall far below the rate of inflation.”

“Underfunding other line items will prevent many school districts from ever reaching adequacy, as they use that funding to fill budget holes, rather than investing in new school staff and programs,” they wrote.

Other asks in Shapiro’s proposal include \$25 million for school infrastructure projects, \$15 million for Pennsylvania’s Pre-K Counts program, and \$20 million for a relatively new student-teacher stipend program.

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

The plan also includes some policy changes, most notably for cyber charter schools. The number of students who attend these schools has ballooned since the pandemic. They are funded using almost the same decades-old formula as brick-and-mortar charter schools, which public schools argue badly overfunds them.

Shapiro is proposing a statewide, per-student base rate of \$8,000 for all cyber charters, an approach he also pitched last year. Tuition, which public schools pay to charters, is currently based on district spending and varies widely.

State Senate Republicans have repeatedly pushed to increase students' access to alternatives to public schools, arguing for increasing funding for tax credits that fund scholarship programs or authorizing a controversial school voucher program.

Shapiro supports using taxpayer money to fund private school vouchers, but he did not include such a proposal — which temporarily derailed last year's budget — in his plan.

GOP senators criticized Shapiro for “not delivering” on the voucher program.

“We're going to work to deliver educational opportunities for every child,” Ward said.

Another transit boost

The governor's budget again calls for \$290 million more in state revenue to go to the commonwealth's public transit agencies — which range from rural systems that deliver homebound older adults to medical appointments to multicounty bus and rail networks — to help them pay for operating expenses like worker salaries.

The state already provides these agencies with about \$2 billion in direct aid. The increase comes from raising the annual share of the state's sales tax revenue that goes to transit agencies by 1.75%.

The issue has been [brewing for years](#) — state House Democrats first pitched an increase in fall 2023 — and is particularly pressing for SEPTA, the transit agency serving Philadelphia and its suburbs. SEPTA threatened fare hikes and service cuts

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

without new funding, leading Shapiro to [flex federal highway dollars](#) to the agency in November 2024 as a stopgap.

Still, the agency warns those cuts are coming in July without a deal for more state aid, and Republicans have said they will proceed with a deal only if it's tied to more money for roads and bridges as well as new state revenue.

Shapiro didn't call for any new highway funding, but senior administration officials said the state is already putting more state money into car-centered projects by [reducing the amount of gas tax dollars](#) that are diverted to fund State Police.

How to pay for it all?

Shapiro is proposing two major new sources of revenue to cover some of these costs: [legalizing recreational marijuana](#) and regulating slot-like skill games. Both were also included in last year's budget proposal.

His marijuana legalization proposal calls for a 20% tax on wholesale cannabis, the same rate as his plan last year. Shapiro says this will bring in \$536.5 million in revenue in the first fiscal year, counting one-time licensing fees, an increase from projected revenue in Shapiro's address last year.

Senior Shapiro administration officials said the increase is due to updated data on cannabis sales. They added that the governor would like to see the state's agriculture and health departments oversee the regulation of recreational sales.

Shapiro also specified that \$52.2 million of the cannabis revenue would go to restorative justice and social equity programs, such as loans for "new small and diverse" businesses attempting to enter the market. The remaining revenue would go to the general fund.

In the past, state Senate Republican leaders have been skeptical about legalization, saying that the matter should be left up to the federal government.

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

Another proposal would tax and regulate skill games, slot-like gaming devices that have popped up in bars, clubs, and convenience stores across the commonwealth.

In his budget pitch, Shapiro proposed a 52% tax on the gross revenue of skill games, as well as on similar video gaming terminals that are allowed only in truck stops. The 52% rate is roughly what casinos pay in slots taxes, and is markedly higher than the 42% tax Shapiro included in [his budget pitch last year](#).

Politically powerful casino operators have pushed for skill games to be taxed at similar rates as their slot machines, while skill games lobbyists, who also hold sway in Harrisburg, have pushed for a much smaller tax.

Shapiro says the tax, which he estimates will be levied against 30,000 skill games and VGTs, would bring \$368.9 million into the state's general fund during its first year. He said another roughly \$40 million would also go into the state's lottery fund.

State Senate Republican leaders have [indicated](#) that they are generally on board with regulating and taxing skill games, and introduced a co-sponsorship [memo](#) for legislation that would do so. It does not include specific details, however.

On both skill games and recreational marijuana, though, GOP leaders said they need Shapiro to take a more prominent role in working out a deal.

"Those are two big items that the governor talked about last year and this year, but the governor needs to lead on something," Ward said. "If he wants something done, he needs to lead on it."

Shapiro also proposed lowering the state's corporate net income tax more quickly to reach a target of a 4.99% tax by 2029, two years earlier than currently planned.

He proposed the cut in conjunction with closing the tax loophole that allows large corporations to skirt the corporate net income tax by registering out of state, also known as the "Delaware Loophole."

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Key PA Issue: State Budget (cont'd)

Administration officials argue that axing the loophole will impact only 11% of state businesses, but that the end result would be a net increase of \$264 million in corporate income taxes annually.

Senior administration officials added that the state is looking to cut costs when able. That includes closing two state prisons, repealing three little-used state tax credits, and ending leases for state office space made redundant by remote or hybrid work. Combined, they said they hope those efforts will save tens of millions of dollars in the coming years.

The plan to close prisons has already seen pushback from the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association, which issued a statement saying the move would “endanger officers and inmates, devastate working families and potentially destroy local economies.”

Senate GOP leaders, however, said they support the idea.



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Protest Now or Regret Forever

As America honors the fallen this Memorial Day, citizens rise in defiance of Trump's authoritarian policies, demanding answers, justice, and an end to the greed, chaos, and constitutional carnage.

MICHAEL COHEN

May 25, 2025

As Memorial Day approaches; a sacred day when we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our democracy, we're faced with a sick irony: the very democracy they died for is under siege, and not by some foreign enemy, but by a malignant force within. And now; now, people are finally waking up.

Don't get me wrong, I'm glad Americans are standing up. Protests are sweeping across the country; from the shores of California to the heartland in Nebraska, down through Tennessee and all the way up to Massachusetts. It's happening in Buffalo and Charlotte, in the deserts of Utah and the bustling streets of Chicago. They're calling it Hands Across America 2.0, but this time it's Hands Across Chicago, Buffalo, Utah, Massachusetts, Tennessee, California, Virginia, Nebraska, Michigan, Arizona, and North Carolina. The outrage is real. The fear is palpable. But here's what I want to know:

Where the hell were you when I was yelling from the rooftops that this was coming?

I screamed until my voice was hoarse, warning that Trump would trample the Constitution, bulldoze our institutions, and remake America in the image of his own narcissism. And now, as Trump 2.0 burns down the house, the alarm bells are deafening. The big beautiful bill, jammed through Congress at 1 a.m. while most Americans were asleep, should've been your wake-up call. If that didn't get you out of bed, maybe the laundry list of cuts will: Medicaid slashed, children's health programs gutted, the FAA grounded by funding

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Protest Now or Regret Forever (cont'd)

reductions, NOAA; our eyes on the climate and weather, crippled, USAID dismantled, and oh yeah, machine guns? Now totally legal. Because that's what freedom means in this twisted new world, apparently.

Let me ask you something; how many national parks have to disappear before you realize the con is complete? 300 billboards now dot this country, crying out against the desecration of America's natural heritage. That's not some partisan stunt; that's citizens from every walk of life saying, "Enough of this bullshit."

But still, you've got to wonder: what finally broke through? Was it the \$400 million aircraft gifted to us by Qatar like some Third World autocracy that gets bribed with a shiny new toys? Or was it the quiet thud of your kid's health benefits evaporating while billionaires get tax breaks so big they need a separate offshore account just to store the receipts?

People ask me why I'm so pissed off. It's simple. Because I lived it. I was in the room where it happened. I know the lengths this man and his enablers will go to destroy the truth, crush dissent, and make you believe up is down and treason is patriotism. I lost everything for it; my law license, my business, my family's happiness, my finances. My freedom. And now, the GOP; the party of Lincoln, has morphed into a cult of personality so grotesque they'd rather sell off America's soul than lose a primary.

They cheered when machine guns were legalized, as if more violence is the answer to a nation already drowning in it. They cut Medicaid and FAA funding and called it fiscal responsibility while handing out defense contracts like Halloween candy. They sabotaged foreign aid, not because it saves us money, but because helping vulnerable people doesn't play well on cable news.

So yes, I'm thrilled Americans are finally pouring into the streets, demanding answers, refusing to be gaslit one more second. But I'm also asking: What took you so long?

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Protest Now or Regret Forever (cont'd)

When the history books are written; and make no mistake, they will be, your grandchildren won't ask how high the stock market was or what the GDP looked like. They'll ask what side you were on when it all came crashing down. They'll want to know if you stood by as your neighbors were deported, your parks paved over, your freedoms bled dry. Or if you stood up and said, not on my fuckin watch.

Memorial Day is about honoring sacrifice. But honoring isn't enough. No, we need to emulate the courage of those who died for this country by refusing to let it be desecrated by greed, ego, and authoritarianism.

You know where I stand. I've stood here all along, even when it cost me everything. I've walked the halls of power and seen what happens when fear and ambition replace principle and patriotism. And I can promise you this; if we don't fight now, we may never get another chance.

So take your rage and your heartbreak and your disbelief, as I do, and turn it into something bigger than yourself. Join the protests. Put up the billboards. Write the damn letters. Vote like your life depends on it; because it does.

We cannot sleep on the power of protest, or we are doomed to watch our republic slip through our fingers like sand. If Trumpism is the disease, then resistance is the cure.

It's almost Memorial Day, America. Time to remember. And the time to act is now!

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PERSONAL NOTE:

ARE YOU WITH ME? I CAN'T DO THIS ALONE!

If you're reading this, it means you care. You care about truth. About justice. About saving our democracy from the grip of grifters, liars, and power-hungry con men. But let's be real; I can't carry this weight on my own.

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Protest Now or Regret Forever (cont'd)

I'm asking, no, urging you, my loyal Substack readers, to help grow this platform into a force they can't ignore. We're not building a newsletter; we're building a movement. One loud enough, sharp enough, and relentless enough to push back against the lies and hold the corrupt to account.

Now more than ever, independent journalism needs you. Your support keeps this alive; not corporate sponsors, not shady billionaires with agendas. You.

*And yes; as a personal thank you, the first 240 Founding Members will receive a rare, signed, numbered Substack edition of my New York Times bestseller, *Revenge: How Donald Trump Weaponized the U.S. Department of Justice Against His Critics*. A collector's item, and a statement.*

But this is bigger than a book. It's about standing up while others stay silent. It's about building a community that calls out the bullshit and fights like hell for what's right.

So here's what you can do: 1) Become a supporter. 2) Share this Substack with family and friends. 3) Bring your people into the fight.

Do your part. Stand up. Speak out. The time is now; and together, we will be heard.



Sunday Thought

Sunday Thought

Time for non-violent civil disobedience

Robert Reich April 8, 2025



Friends,

What is our moral responsibility as citizens of the United States when the President of the United States moves to deploy thousands of American soldiers against us?

Trump signed a memo late yesterday [June 7] ordering 2,000 members of the National Guard to be deployed in Los Angeles County after federal immigration

continued

Sunday Thought (cont'd)

agents in riot gear squared off with hundreds of protesters for a second consecutive day.

Trump's action is extreme although technically legal. Title 10 of the United States Code allows a president to federalize the National Guard units of states to suppress "any insurrection, domestic violence, unlawful combination, or conspiracy." In a [presidential memo](#), Trump said, "To the extent that protests or acts of violence directly inhibit the execution of the laws, they constitute a form of rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States."

Why is he doing it, and why *now*?

Because Trump can't stand to be humiliated — as he has been in the last two weeks. By senate Republicans refusal to quickly enact his so-called One Big Beautiful Bill. By Xi Jinping's refusal to back down on trade (and restrict shipments of China's rare earths, which American industry depends on). By Putin's refusal to end the war in Ukraine. By the federal courts pushing back against his immigration policy. And, now, by insults and smears from the richest person in the world, who has a larger social media following than does Trump.

So what does Trump do when he's humiliated? He deflects public attention. Like any bully, he tries to find another way to display his power — especially over people whom he doesn't consider "his" people.

He has despised California since the 2016 election when the state overwhelmingly voted against him.

And what better Ground Zero for him to try out his police state than Los Angeles — a city teeming with immigrants, with Hollywood celebrities who demonize him, and wealthy moguls who despise him?

He is calling out the National Guard to provoke violence. As California governor Gavin Newsom said, "that move is purposefully inflammatory and will only escalate tensions."

Exactly. Trump *wants* to escalate tensions. He wants a replay of the violence that occurred in the wake of the George Floyd murder — riots, mayhem, and destruction

continued

Sunday Thought (cont'd)

that allow him to escalate his police state further — imposing curfews, closing down parts of Los Angeles, perhaps seeking to subdue the entire state. And beyond.

Please do not give him this. Don't fall into his trap.

We cannot be silent in the face of Trump's dictatorial move. But we must not succumb to violence.

What is needed is peaceful civil disobedience. Americans locking arms to protect those who need protection. Americans sitting in the way of armored cars. Americans singing and chanting in the face of the Americans whom Trump is drafting into his handmade civil war.

Americans who do not attempt to strike back, but who do what many of us did during the Civil Rights and anti-Vietnam War movements — peacefully but unambiguously reject tyranny.

A humiliated Trump is the most dangerous Trump. But he will overreach. He already has. And this overreach will ultimately be his undoing.

As long as we keep our heads.

May we look back on this hellish time and feel proud of what we did.

Be strong. Be safe. Hug your loved ones.

On June 14th, “**No Kings Day**” there is a nationwide rally uniting organizations across the country with one goal in mind, a National Day of Action. This is a chance to join with your community in collective action.

**NO KINGS Rally - Saturday, June 14th -- 11 AM -- BINN'S PARK,
LANCASTER -RSVP Here: [NO KINGS Lancaster PA.](#)**

Indivisible Lancaster, Indivisible Manheim Township, Solidarity Lancaster, and Lancaster Stands Up are working together to make this our biggest rally for democracy yet! Join us on Saturday, June 14th at 11 a.m. at Binn's Park in Lancaster.

Please plan to join if you can.

Scholarship Winners

Truman Horst

community-service
scholarship winner

Mason Heiserman

technical-school
scholarship winner

Each will be awarded \$1000

Congratulations!

The word "Congratulations!" is written in a large, black, cursive font. It is surrounded by several small, five-pointed stars of varying sizes and orientations, some in black and some in grey, scattered around the text.

Coming Events

Understanding Our Democracy



Monday, June 9th at 1:30 PM
Cultural Center Education Room

Billionaires Win! Families Lose!

We will look at the Reconciliation Bill that just passed the US House.
Everyone is welcome!

Understanding Our Democracy



Thursday, June 12th at 1:30 PM
Cultural Center Education Room

Political Advocacy as Friendly Persuasion

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) is the oldest faith-based lobbying group in Washington. For decades it has been a successful vehicle in advocacy for causes Quakers hold dear: peace and justice. The FCNL lobbying approach uses a format that emphasizes interactive dialogue, seeking common ground, and building long-term working relationships with legislators. During the past decade FCNL has built a grassroots network of Advocacy Teams in 49 states and D.C. These teams—composed of Quakers and non-Quakers allies--use the FCNL lobbying approach to engage with their representatives in Congress. The local Lancaster FCNL Advocacy Team will share the FCNL method of advocacy and demonstrate it in a simulated lobby visit. Please join us ... everyone is welcome.

Dems Club General Meeting

Tuesday, June 24th at 1 PM
Cultural Center Education Room

Come hear Representative Izzy Smith-Wade-El discuss what's going on with the key issues in Pennsylvania House of Representatives.
Everyone is welcome!

Coming Events

Milagro House Field Trips

Chose between:

Wed., July 23rd 2:00 – 3:15 PM or

Tue., July 29th 10:00 – 11:15 AM



Contact Ross Fairweather to register at rossfair63@gmail.com or 717-405-8447. She will arrange transportation for you due to limited parking at Milagro House.

Milagro House is not just a safe place to stay but also a place to call home for the mothers and their children who live there. The mothers residing at Milagro House work together to care for their home and often to care for and support one another. While living at Milagro House, women are committed to pursuing their education full-time, with a focus on completing their high school equivalency degree and/or a post-secondary degree or certification.

Note: There is no business meeting in July.



Meeting Minutes

Democratic Club of Willow Valley General Meeting May 27, 2025

Attendance: 78

President Jen Porter opened the meeting at 1p.m. and introduced speaker Chris Baxter, CEO and President of SpotlightPA.

Mr. Baxter: The Future of News and Our Democracy

Mr. Baxter began with background of the decline of journalism for the past 20 years. As the internet has grown, nonpartisan, bipartisan and in-depth journalism has declined while many newspapers have ceased to exist. As a result, voters lack information needed to call for accountability of elected officials, especially in state and local offices. The role of SpotlightPA, established in September 2019, has been to restore impartial, unbiased journalism guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment, the right to gather information and to report it to the public.

- SpotlightPA is nonpartisan and nonprofit, contains no opinions such as op-eds or letters to the editor.
- Among issues SpotlightPA covers are elections and voting, criminal justice, news from Harrisburg, PA's health system, and education.
- The organization shares, without cost, its information with over 125 communities in Pennsylvania, resulting in more community connections.
- Spotlight has over 50,000 subscribers and 32 full-time employees.
- Since its existence, there have been 36 policy changes, 14 new pieces of legislation, and 8 legal victories as a result of its reporting.

Mr. Baxter opened the floor to Q&A. Questions involved funding, employment opportunities, along with specific issues such as homelessness and housing costs.

Business Meeting

Treasury: Current balance is unchanged: \$2,522.22 with \$3,432 set aside for Scholarship, leaving a negative balance of \$908.78. This balance will be remedied by membership enrollment.

Scholarships: Two recipients have been selected for the L-SHS 2025 Scholarship of \$1,000 each: Mason Heiserman and Truman Horst. Mason will attend Thaddeus Stevens and Truman either Messiah University or Grove City College.

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Meeting Minutes

Advocacy: Jerry Henige presented three key issues for PA

- **The 2025 budget** with key spending issues of workforce development, health care, public safety, economic development, infrastructure and public transportation, energy, and revenue sources.
- **Education funding proposal:**
 - increases in Basic Education Funding (\$75M) and Adequacy Supplement for underfunded schools (\$526M)
 - \$40M to Special Education
 - base cyber charter school tuition rate of \$8K per student
 - funding for school safety, mental health grants and student teacher stipend
 - State Senator Scott Martin is a key player in this area.
- **Housing Action Plan:**
 - 20% of homeowners and almost 50% of renters are “housing cost burdened” due to a lack of affordable housing.
 - A draft plan for Governor Shapiro’s September 12, 2024, Executive Order directing development of Housing Action Plans to address housing costs is due September 12, 2025.
- Advocacy Co-Chair Barbara Bonanno collected the contacts to legislators, totaling 175 for April.
- On June 14, No Kings Day rally will take place in Lancaster, information to follow.
- A sign-up sheet for writers for Letters to the Editor was available.

Website: (www.demswvc.com) Ross Fairweather demonstrated the new website and explained the steps to sign up for membership, new and renewing. Since our calendar year runs January 1 through December 31st, the June membership is for the fiscal year. We will have our 2026 membership drive in the first quarter next year.

Primary Election Results: Jerry Henige reported that all Democratic candidates sailed through on May 20.

Brandon Neuman – PA Superior Court

Stella Tsai – PA Commonwealth Court

Sarah Cook and Kirk Williard – L-S School Board

Tracy Arnold – West Lampeter Supervisor

Elaine Austin (Lakes) and Susan Highfield (Locust) – Inspector of Elections

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Meeting Minutes

Both Lakes and Locust precincts had high turnout, Lakes with 46%, Locust 39%. County average was 21%. President Porter presented a slide with the names of those who volunteered to work at the polls on May 20 and thanked them for their dedication.

Upcoming Events

Understanding Our Democracy series: two June events. Both take place in the Cultural Center Education Room at **1:30-3:00 p.m.**

- **Monday, June 9**, topic the Reconciliation Bill that recently passed the U.S. House
- **Thursday, June 12**, Lancaster County Quaker Meeting House will share their advocacy efforts with our elected officials.

Next General Meeting:

Tuesday, June 24, 1 p.m. Cultural Center Education Room with Speaker PA Representative Izzy Smith-Wade-El.

Lucy Painter, Secretary



Bennett Chattanooga Times Free Press