



MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: April 30, 2025

SUBJECT: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KENT ORGANIZES FREE PUBLIC MEETING ON FOOD AND FARM POLICY

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Have you noticed the price of eggs? Who hasn't! How do government actions and tariffs impact the livelihoods of farmers in Northeast Ohio and beyond? And what does that mean for consumers, especially as far as food safety? The public is invited to hear presentations on the significant changes in food and farm policy, Thursday, May 22, 7 p.m., Hobbs Hall, Kent.

The League of Women Voters of Kent and partners Haymaker Farmers' Market, the Ohio Farmers Union and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent will sponsor a free educational event to address the growing concerns regarding tariffs, food safety and farming. Professionals will discuss current farm/food policies and how this affects farmers, distributors and consumers.

The presentation will begin at 7 p.m. at Hobbs Hall, 217 N. Mantua St., Kent, Ohio. Hobbs Hall is a facility of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent.

Speakers

Joe Logan

Logan is a 5th generation family farmer from Northeastern Ohio. The farm has specialized in producing a variety of products including milk, grass-fed beef, non-GMO grains, maple syrup and organic crops. Logan has served as the President of the Ohio Farmers Union, a Director of Agricultural Programs for the Ohio Environmental Council, a Director for the National Farmers Union Board, and a member of the Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Committee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Matt Herbruck

Matt Herbruck has been an organic farmer for 30 years. He currently owns and operates Birdsong Farm in Hiram, Portage County. There he grows USDA certified organic vegetables, herbs and flowers which he sells locally through several area farmers markets as well as a Community Supported Agriculture program. He also works with Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association on the Soil Health Initiative and the Farmer Mentor Program.

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government through education and advocacy and does not support or oppose political candidates or parties. We are committed to the core values of diversity, equity and inclusion.

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The purpose of this presentation is to provide facts and answer questions to help attendees make informed decisions. The event is free and open to the public. For more information: lwkent@gmail.com.

The Ohio Farmers Union (OFU) is a non-profit, nonpartisan, member driven association. OFU is part of the National Farmers Union, established in 1902. Both organizations provide strong voices for family farmers, communities, and consumers. OFU opposes the dominance of corporate agribusinesses in food and farm policies. The Ohio Farmers Union adheres to the principals of education, legislation advocacy and cooperative development. You can learn more at <https://ohfarmersunion.org>.

Haymaker Farmers' Market, Portage County's oldest producer's only farmers' market, provides a connection between producers of local food and the community by creating a vibrant and sustainable gathering place promoting direct access to fresh and prepared food, agricultural and environmental education and the arts. Open year-round, it is located in downtown Kent on Franklin Ave, under Haymaker Parkway (Ohio 59) bridge. For information about the market hours, go here: <https://www.haymakermarket.com>.

The League of Women Voters of Kent is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. The Kent League is committed to building a diverse organization that supports a community of respect, celebration and empowerment for people of all backgrounds, generations and cultures to participate in government. All other information about the league can be found at kentlww.org or on the Facebook page at League of Women Voters of Kent.

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