



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

# The Lexington Voter December 2018

The League of Women Voters of Lexington



**WED. DEC. 12th 6:30 P.M.**

Come! Enjoy a little holiday cheer at a member's private home with your friends in the Lexington League of Women Voters. Celebrate our good work with other civic minded individuals. If you are new to the League learn how you can get more involved with League activities in 2019.

-  Bring an appetizer to share.
-  Wine and a special holiday drink will be served.
-  Please RSVP by calling or texting 404-593-5397 or emailing [LexLWVoterservices@gmail.com](mailto:LexLWVoterservices@gmail.com).

*See you there!*



## LWV Panelists Discuss Fake News



Braving the cold and snow of a wintery evening, a small but enthusiastic audience gathered Thursday, November 15 to question journalists on a topic that has become a buzz word, “fake news.” Panel members in the photo are, left to right, Ryan Craig, Student Media Adviser in the Department of Communication and Information at the University of Kentucky and editor and owner of the *Todd County Standard*; Elizabeth Hansen, Professor Emerita, Department of Communications at Eastern Kentucky University; and Tom Eblen, Columnist and former Managing Editor for the Lexington *Herald Leader*.

Ryan Craig began the conversation differentiating three commonly seen examples of fake news: 1.) **propaganda** (we are familiar with wartime use by dictators); 2.) **rums or speculation** planted in the media as fact to misinform the public; and 3.) **use of something negative but accurate** that portrays a public leader’s point of view while not presenting other facts that give a more complete and balanced picture.

There was thoughtful engagement on the part of the audience. The journalists answered questions from even the youngest participants like an elementary school age youngster who asked the difficult question, “Why would people create fake news?”

The panelists shared handouts with the audience including one that ranked news agencies based on their level of truthfulness and their political leanings from most extreme right to most extreme left. Another listed numerous online fact-checking resources readily available to the public such as Politifact, FactCheck.org, the *Washington Post* Fact Checker and Snopes.com.

The evening’s program was recorded and, along with PDFs of the handouts, is available at:

<https://www.lwvlexington.com/community-conversations>.

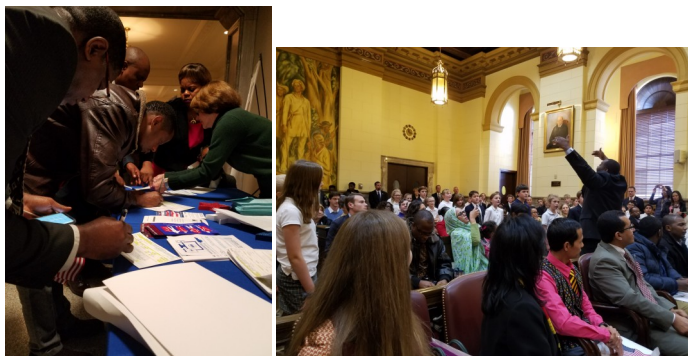
## Lexington LWV Celebrates a Year of Reading

The annual social gathering of the Lexington LWV Book Club is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 18, at the usual location—the Hilary J. Boone Center of the University of Kentucky, 500 Rose St. It is a time for good food, fellowship, sharing memories of past good reads and making suggestions for the 2019 reading list.



Reservations have been made but Terry Naydan confirmed that a guest or two could still be added to the group. If you have a question about the book club—perhaps you would like to join in 2019—please email Terry at [terrinnaydan@aol.com](mailto:terrinnaydan@aol.com).

## November Naturalization Ceremony the Last for This Year



ABOVE LEFT: LWV volunteer Susan Entwistle assists new citizens as they register to vote. ABOVE RIGHT: Enthusiastic applicant for citizenship introduces himself to the audience of friends and family.

On Friday, November 16, 43 applicants from 27 different countries took the oath of citizenship in the renovated U.S. District Court. Naturalization ceremonies are always special events but this one was even more memorable because fifth grade students from the Lexington Middle School sang several patriotic ballads during the ceremony. Their music included the *Star Spangled Banner* and *America the Beautiful*.

Welcoming the applicants for citizenship were Secretary of State Allison Lundergan Grimes, Jennifer Jackson from the Lexington LWV and representatives from several different chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution. Secretary Grimes reported a 47% turnout for the recent election, a better than average number but she emphasized to the soon-to-be new citizens that it was still less than half the number of registered voters eligible to vote. She encouraged her listeners to register to vote and exercise that right in all elections.

After the ceremony League volunteers were busy registering 11 new voters at the table and providing information for several others who wished to apply online. It should be noted that almost one third of the new citizens took advantage of the opportunity to register to vote. League volunteers included **Frank and Susan Entwistle, Theresa McCarty, Nancy Barnett and Jennifer Jackson.**

The League is proud to participate in these naturalization ceremonies. If you have not volunteered before, consider signing up in 2019. Just email [lexlwvoterservices@gmail.com](mailto:lexlwvoterservices@gmail.com) to volunteer or to receive updates of future naturalization events.

## What Does the League Stand For?

Sometimes a friend might ask what is important to the League beyond voting issues, what other areas are we working on? And sometimes we draw a blank trying to think of the best answer. Here are a quick run down on three big areas where the League is working to make changes:

1. **IMMIGRATION:** Immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet economic, business and employment needs; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises.
2. **HEALTH CARE REFORM:** Every U.S. resident should have access to affordable, quality health care, including birth control and the privacy to make reproductive choices.
3. **THE ENVIRONMENT:** As citizens of the world we must protect our planet from the physical, economic and public health effects of climate change while also providing pathways to economic prosperity.

We are proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

Do you want to do something positive right now? Go to the LWVUS website <https://www.lwv.org/> and click on the **TAKE ACTION** button. Quickly sign and send petitions to your legislators regarding three important pieces of legislation they need to act on NOW! If we all speak with one voice, they will listen.

**REMEMBER....the next issue of the VOTER will be the Winter issue which is published in late January. To keep up with issues and and other League news, check the website [lexingtonlwv@gmail.com](mailto:lexingtonlwv@gmail.com).**

**VOTER editor is Judy Johnson. If you have a question about or information for the newsletter please contact her at [lwvlexvoter@gmail.com](mailto:lwvlexvoter@gmail.com).**



Return Service Requested

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## Calendar

LWV of Lexington Website: [www.lwvlexington.com](http://www.lwvlexington.com)  
Phone: 859-494-3203 Email: [lexingtonlwv@gmail.com](mailto:lexingtonlwv@gmail.com)  
P.O. Box 22045, Lexington, 40522 Facebook: League of Women Voters of Lexington, KY

NOTE: Board meetings are open to all MEMBERS; programs are open to the public.

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| <b>WED.</b>  | <b>DEC. 12</b> | <b>6:30 P.M.</b> | <b>Lexington LWV Holiday Party.<br/>Directions to location when you<br/>RSVP.</b>                 |
| <b>TUES.</b> | <b>DEC. 18</b> | <b>12 NOON</b>   | <b>Lexington LWV Book Club Holi-<br/>day Luncheon at Hilary J. Boone<br/>Center, 500 Rose St.</b> |

**Vol. 18-19 Issue 5** The Lexington VOTER is published nine times a year (Summer, September, October, November, December, Winter, March, April and May) by the League of Women Voters of Lexington.