



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Lexington Voter September 2018

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

Recent Events



Doraine Bailey, dressed as a Suffragist, spoke about issues in KY at the time when women were working to get the right to vote.

On Sunday afternoon, August 25, the Lexington League of Women Voters and invited guests filled the meeting space at Crank and Boom Ice Cream Lounge. They came to hear speakers, engage in conversation and enjoy delicious samples of the popular C & B ice cream.

Doraine Bailey, dressed as a Suffragist, led off the agenda discussing the important efforts of women who fought to win the right to vote. 2020 will be the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the Constitution which gave women that right and several volunteers have formed a Suffrage Choir to perform at events through 2020.



There were many new faces among the crowd that gathered for ice cream and information at Crank and Boom.

Stephanie Spires, Fayette County Public Schools Board member, talked about many issues facing the school system and efforts to address them, including the proposed 5 cent per \$100 increase in property tax assessments that will fund a comprehensive plan for school safety. The plan includes training, added personnel and equipment and enhanced technology.

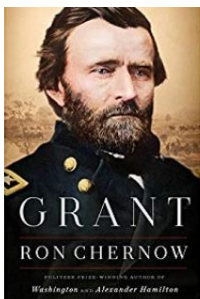


FCPSBoard member Stephanie Spires brought us up to date on issues facing the public school system.

LWV Voter Services Chair Jennifer Jackson encouraged members and visitors alike to join in our effort to register as many voters as possible before the November election. She provided a list of events where the League will have a booth. Guests were given copies of the official list of candidates on the November ballot and information about the League candidate forums coming up this month.

In the crowd were several candidates for office who introduced themselves and explained the offices they are seeking. They included Tyler Murphy (Board of Education, Dist. 2), Libby Messer (Div.1, Family Court), Lindsey Hughes Thurston (Circuit Court, Div. 3), John Tackett (Circuit Court, Div. 5), Ronnie Baston (Mayor), and Ann Cormican (KY House, Dist. 72).

More than 60 people participated in the lively discussions and frosty refreshments. The afternoon was deemed a very successful opportunity to increase understanding about issues and public offices. A great way to begin a busy fall season!



REMINDER.....

The LWV Book Club will meet Tuesday, Sept. 18th, at 1:30 p.m. at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens. The book featured for discussion is "Grant" by Ron Chernow. New members who wish to participate can email Terry at terrinnaydan@aol.com.

Volunteers Make Voter Registration Happen!

Summer has been busy for members of the Lexington League of Women Voters. We have been attending various events in the community to provide voter registration and information for citizens. On **Saturday, Aug. 4**, we set up shop at the *Tates Creek Back to School Rally* at the Gainesway Community Center. We registered several voters and we spoke with others who are working towards their citizenship. We assured them that we would be at their naturalization ceremony in November to offer them voter registration on the day they officially become United States citizens!

On **Saturday, Aug. 11**, we sponsored a booth at the *Walk to Bridge the Gap to Success* event sponsored by the Arc of Kentucky. There we were able to help quite a few disabled citizens verify or update their voter registrations. We also made several community connections that will lead to other opportunities for speaking engagements and voter registration in the future.

On Thursday, **Aug. 16**, we set up our monthly booth at Connie Griffith Manor. At this senior residence we consistently get several new registrations. Residents are also interested in contacting their representatives and restoring ex-felon voting rights.



On **Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 18 and 19**, we offered voter information at the *Woodland Art Fair*. This year our booth was located at the corner of Kentucky Avenue and High Street, which put us right in the stream of foot traffic. Rain interrupted the event but staffing the booth was a good experience for members new to voter registration and members of Mercy Huddle who joined our effort. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped out this month!

On **Monday, Aug. 27**, LWV volunteers gave out registration information at the Kentucky Theater prior to the showing of the movie "Suffragette," an event sponsored by the *Breaking the Bronze Ceiling* group. This group was formed to raise awareness and funds for monuments recognizing Kentucky women of historical significance. A Suffrage Choir entertained before the movie began. These women in period dresses will become quite a familiar sight in the area between now and August of 2020, the centennial anniversary of ratification of the 19th amendment to the Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.



Looking to the future, we have several registration opportunities coming up including the *Taste of Lexington* on **Friday, Sept. 7** at Transylvania's Campus Center Gym on the corner of Broadway and Fourth St., the *Roots and Heritage Festival* on **Saturday, Sept. 8** on Elm Tree Lane between Short and Third Sts., the *Bluegrass Autism Walk* on **Sunday, Sept. 9** at Kroger Field on UK campus, and the *Festival Latino* on **Friday, Sept. 14** at the Courthouse Plaza. We are also excited to be partnering with Hop Cat Craft Beer Hub at 410 W. Short St. in October for a voter registration event on **Saturday, Oct. 6**. Here are links to volunteer sign up sites:

Taste of Lexington, Friday, Sept. 7, 8:00-10:00 p.m., <http://signup.com/go/OLNxzRk>

Roots and Heritage Festival, Saturday, Sept. 8, 7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. <http://signup.com/go/itJEJVn>

Bluegrass Autism Walk, Sunday, Sept. 9, 2:00-5:00 p.m. <http://signup.com/go/hQjiuBD>

Festival Latino, Saturday, Sept. 15 4:00-7:30 p.m. <http://signup.com/go/tVOBDxc>

DATES TO REMEMBER: Oct. 9th is the last day to register to vote in the Nov. election; Dec. 31 is the last day to change party affiliation before the primary election in 2019.

Jenn Jackson

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Candidate Forums in Sept.—mark your calendar! **Sept. 15, 16, 22, 29** at the Lexington Public Library Central Branch. With this issue of the newsletter you will receive a copy of the current forum schedule.

Volunteers are needed to work these events. (New members, this is a great way to plunge into the work of the League.) **Contact the Lexington LWV by phone at 859-494-3203 or email at lexingtonlww@gmail.com.**

LWV Tribute to Senator McCain

LWV President Chris Carson issued this statement on the passing of Sen. John McCain:

"Senator John McCain dedicated his life to serving the American people; first as a heroic naval pilot and later as a Congressman and U.S. Senator for more than thirty years.

"The League was proud to work with Senator McCain on his bipartisan campaign-finance reform efforts. The McCain-Feingold bill was a game-changer to limit political campaign contributions from corporations, unions, and wealthy donors. In the years before Super PACs dominated American elections, Senator McCain had the vision for how money influences our politics, taking the power away from American voters.

"As his party's nominee for president facing the first African American nominee by a major party, then-candidate McCain defended Barack Obama from racist attacks on the campaign trail. He famously rejected the racism and bigotry hurled at his opponent, and instead focused on issues and policy. It was a testament to his character and his commitment to American democracy and its values.

"Senator McCain was a hero, a statesman, and a political 'maverick' known for reaching across the aisle. He embodied what it means to serve. The League sends our condolences to the entire McCain family--a family itself the picture of diversity and inclusion--during this difficult time."

Washington, D.C. 8/26/2018

Women's Equality Day

By Cindy Heine



L to R: Dr. Rebecca Harmon, LWV and moderator, with Dr. Tori Murden McClure, Dr. Susan Donovan and Dr. Neeli Bendapudi.

On **Saturday, August 25**, the Louisville League of Women Voters served as a co-host for *Women's Equality Day* at the Frazier History Museum in downtown Louisville. Three women currently serving as university presidents, were keynote speakers who provided inspiration for the day:

- **Tori Murden McClure**, president of Spalding University, reminded the audience of the importance of Title IX, which focuses on the broad scope of education, not just athletics. It is critical in empowering women to enroll in graduate programs qualifying them to serve as professors, administrators and presidents!
- **Susan Donovan**, a first generation college graduate in her family, said it was an honor to be the first woman president at Bellarmine University.
- **Neeli Bendapudi**, the first woman and the first person of color to be named president of the University of Louisville, reminded us that it is difficult to become something you cannot see, and she is proud to be a role model for young women. She also told us that election day in India is called the "Festival of Voting," signifying the value of exercising the right to vote.

During the event, six women were recognized for their service as members of the Metro Council. Mayor Greg Fischer launched Louisville's 2020 Centennial Celebration and Frazier Museum director, Penny Peavler, announced plans for celebrating women over the next two years.

VOTER editor is Judy Johnson. If you have a question about or information for the newsletter please contact her at judylex@twc.com.



Return Service Requested

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Calendar

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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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| Tues., Sept. 4 | 1:30 p.m. | LWV Book Club meeting at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. |
| Sat., Sept. 15 | 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Candidate Forums at the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St. |
| Sun., Sept 16 | 1:30 to 4:15 p.m. | Candidate Forums at the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St. |
| Sat., Sept 22 | 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. | Candidate Forums at the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St. |
| Sat. Sept. 29 | 9:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. | Candidate Forums at the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St. |
| Wed., Sept. 26 | 6:00 p.m. | LWV Board meeting at Faith House, Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek Blvd. |

And don't forget the various events throughout Sept. listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

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