



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Lexington Voter

March 2018

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

Lexington League Combines Annual Meeting with KY LWV Council Meeting

Early Notice of League Meeting Changes and Events

The Lexington board decided to combine our annual meeting (formerly scheduled April 7 which is a spring break weekend) with the Kentucky LWV Council, scheduled April 13-14 here in Lexington. Lexington members are encouraged to attend the KY Council meeting events which include these guests:



Fayette County Clerk Don Blevins, Jr. His topic will be *"Does My Vote Still Count or Is the Whole System Compromised?"*



Allyson Cox Taylor, the Executive Director of the Office of Child Abuse and Exploitation Prevention in the Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Kentucky, will discuss the *"State of Child Trafficking in Kentucky."*

KY Council program will include:

- **Friday, April 13 reception and dinner** at the Hilary J. Boone Center, 500 Rose St., Lexington.
 - 6:00 p.m. Reception (cash bar)
 - 6:30 p.m. Buffet dinner
 - 7:15 p.m. Guest speaker Don Blevins, Jr.
- **Saturday, April 14 KY Council meeting** at Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek Rd, Lexington.
 - 9:00 a.m. Local League Reports, Legislative Recap and presentation of the newly released LWV Redistricting Report.
 - 12:00-1:30 p.m. Lunch with guest speaker Allyson Cox Taylor at 1:30
 - 1:30-2:45 p.m. Business session

The Lexington LWV will meet right after the Saturday Council events at 3:00 p.m. to conduct our annual business—election of officers and board members and adopting the budget for 2018-19 as well as program plans for the next year. If you would like to participate in the KY Council proceedings, complete and return the registration form sent with this newsletter and posted on the Lexington League's website. If you plan to join us only for the local League's annual meeting, come to Faith Lutheran Church.

- Registration cost for the KY LWV Council is \$30.
- Cost of Friday evening dinner is \$35 (which includes gratuity).
- **There is no cost for the local League annual meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 14 at Faith Lutheran Church.**

2017-18 LWV Essay Contest Results

After much spirited deliberation among members of the contest committee, prizes have been awarded to the following student writers in Fayette County schools:

First Place with a prize of \$250 went to **Theo Ehrenborg**, 11th grader at Henry Clay HS for his essay “*Searching for Real News*” which can be read on the League website www.lwvlexington.com.

Second Place with a prize of \$150 went to **Sadie Bograd**, 9th grader at Henry Clay HS.

Third Place with a prize of \$100 went to **Grace Simpson**, 11th grader at Lafayette HS.

This year, because of the equal merit of two papers, **Special Recognition** with \$100 went to **Michelle Velasquez De Los Santos** and **Mehmet Helvaci**, both 12th graders at Lafayette HS.

Our appreciation to the sponsoring teachers—Scott Brown of Henry Clay HS and Joanne Trammell and Tim Mitsumori of Lafayette HS—was noted with an honorarium to each.



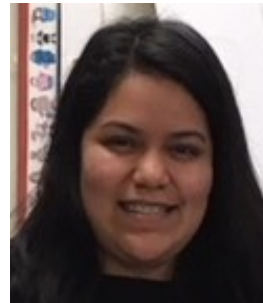
L to R: HCHS teacher Scott Brown, Theo Ehrenborg and his parents Margaret Readdy and Richard Ebreborg, LWV representative Christine Seiber and HCHS principal Paul Little.



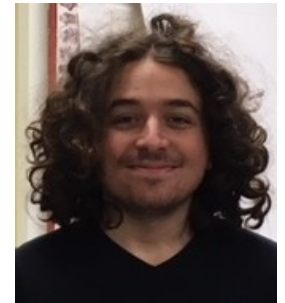
Sadie Bograd



Grace Simpson



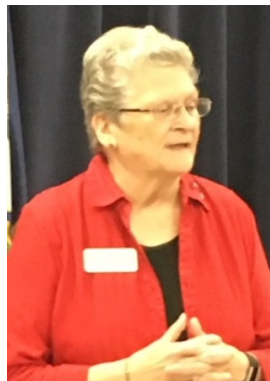
Michelle Velasquez
De Los Santos



Mehmet Helvaci

Thanks to the LWV Essay Contest Committee for their hard work making this a rewarding opportunity to educate and challenge young citizens: **Lynne Flynn, Jennifer Jackson, Judy Johnson, Shayla Johnson, Carol O'Reilly, Christine Seiber, Barbara Sterrett and Ellie Sutter.**

League Day Feb. 14 —We Lobbied and Learned!

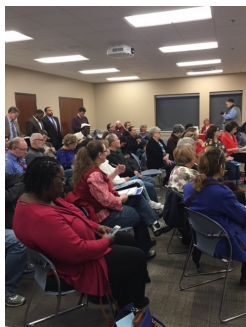


Lexington LWV members (see Nita Smith, Cecile Schubert and Cindy Heine in group photo) joined other League representatives from across the state. We shared ideas, visited committee hearings and individual-legislators, listened to invited guests like Dr. Sheila Schuster (also LWV member) and participated in a press conference unveiling the LWV Redistricting Report led by Cindy Heine. The day was too short and there was too much to do and see. If you have not attended a Lobby Day, plan now to do so next year.

Conversation on Crime and Violence

The League's Community *Conversation about Crime and Violence in Lexington*, held on Thursday, Mar. 1, brought out a large crowd.

Genia McKee from the Fayette County Injury Prevention Research Center, **Bryna Reed** of BUILD, **Carolyn DuPont** from Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, and **Daniel Whitley**, attorney, presented information and answered questions. We hope the discussion that ensued was educational for several candidates for public office who attended and that community members left knowing that their concerns had been heard.



LWV BOOK CLUB... will take up "Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America" by Wil Haygood on Tuesday, Mar. 20 at 1:30 p.m. The location for the meeting is Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. Maureen Tarpey will lead the discussion. Members are always welcome. Just call Terry at (859)-971-7227.

CHRISTIAN MUSLIM DIALOGUE

Saturday, March 24 from 10:00 a.m. to noon, the Christian Muslim Dialogue will host Myong Soen (Daniela Herzog) who will explain "A Buddhist Approach To Connection and Reconciliation." There are more details on the website www.cmdlex.org.

This event will be held at Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden. As always, a potluck meal will be served after the discussion. All are invited to the presentation and encouraged to stay for more casual conversation during the meal. If you stay for lunch you are asked to bring a dish to share.

Legislative Update

On Wed. last week the Capitol Annex was filled with active and retired teachers, as well as other school personnel, many of whom are LWV members. They came to voice their demand for full funding of full pension benefits in **SB 1** (J. Bowen). When the bill was due to be discussed in the State and Local Government Committee, a substitute was introduced which raised even more questions. Missing was an actuarial assessment of the changed bill. The committee plans to consider this bill in some version this week. **We will monitor.**

The House budget plan passed committee and will go to the full House for discussion probably on Thursday. **We will monitor.**

Bills that passed one house and were sent to the other:

- **HB 1** (D. Meade et al) attempts to overhaul the KY foster care system. **We support.**
- **HB 55** (Bipartisan) calls for drug prevention programs in public schools. **We will monitor.**

HB 548 (Kay) reforming redistricting process has been introduced. **We support.**

Another big concern this week was safety in our schools. A "March for Our Lives" event is planned at the Capitol on **Tues., March 20**. A teach-in will take place in Capitol Annex Room 131 from 1:30-4:00 p.m. A rally is planned to begin on the steps of the Capitol at 5:00 p.m. For more information visit www.marchforourlivesky.org.

Terry Naydan and Nita Smith
LWV Legislative Liaisons



Save the Date

Sat. March 24 at 4 p.m.

Courthouse Plaza

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

Student-organized, student-led rally, march and community organization networking afterwards

Candidate Forums Coming Up—Help Needed

Please mark your calendars now for the weekend of April 21 and 22. There is a full slate of candidates for many state and local offices so the forums will require time at the central branch of the public library all day Sat. and the afternoon of Sun. To run smoothly, the events call for many volunteers. Check the April VOTER for the schedule. Plan to attend. Plan to volunteer!

PAY MEMBER DUES NOW FOR 2018-19

Accompanying this email is a copy of the membership form which should be returned with your check to the League address: P O Box 22045, Lexington, 40522. Please return as soon as possible.

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



Return Service Requested

Lexington League of Women Voters
 PO Box 22045
 Lexington KY 40522



Calendar

LWV of Lexington Website: www.lwvlexington.com
Phone: 859-494-3203 Email: 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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| Tues., Mar. 20 | 1:30 p.m. | “March for Our Lives” events at the Capitol—teach-in in the Annex Rm. 131 at 1:30 p.m. and march from the Capitol steps at 5:00 p.m. |
| Tues., Mar. 20 | 1:30 p.m. | LWV book club meeting at Terry Naydan’s house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. |
| Sat., Mar 24 | 10:00 a.m. | Christian-Muslim Dialogue at Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden, followed by potluck meal at noon |
| Sat., Mar 24 | 4:00 p.m. | “March for Our Lives” Lexington rally/march at the Courthouse Plaza |
| Fri. and Sat., April 13,14 | | KY LWV Council meeting. Fri. at Hilary J. Boone Center, 500 Rose St.; Sat. at Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek Rd. |
| Sat., April 14 | 3:00 p.m. | Lexington LWV Annual Meeting at Faith Lutheran Church |
| Sat. and Sun., April 21, 22 | | Lexington LWV Candidate Forums at the central branch of Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St. |

Vol. 17-18 Issue 7 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.