



The Lexington Voter May 2019

LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

Judicial Primary Election Candidates

With the primary election coming up **Tues., May 21**, it is time to meet and learn about candidates. Often voters only vote for the top of the ticket, the offices and individuals that get the most media attention. Names at the bottom of the ticket, seeking positions like district and circuit court judges, go unnoticed.

On Thurs., April 25, the Lexington LWV sponsored a forum for Circuit Court Judge candidates vying for the seat formerly held by Judge Pamela Goodwine who moved up to the Court of Appeals.. The top two vote getters will move on to the Nov. election. Don't worry if you missed the forum. Simply go to www.lwvlexington.com, the League website and click on the link there to view the video of the entire event. You will be a better educated voter if you do. And invite your family, neighbors and co-workers to take this opportunity to view the forum, too.



L to R: Todd S. Page, Thomas "Tommy" Todd, Julie Muth Goodman, LWV Moderator Lynne Flynn, Steven Stadler, and John Reynolds.

Gubernatorial Debate

A gubernatorial forum co-sponsored by the University of Kentucky Student Government Association, Gray Television (WKYT in Lexington, WAVE in Louisville, WXIX in Cincinnati, WYMT in Hazard, WBKO in Bowling Green, WSAZ in Huntington, WFIE in Evansville, KFVS in Cape Girardeau/Paducah, and WVLT in Knoxville) and the League of Women Voters of KY/Lexington is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15. Details are yet to be finalized because of the potential special legislative session.

WATCH FOR AN EMAIL WITH FINAL DETAILS.

TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT "WE THE PEOPLE ACT"

League of Women Voters members across the country are making phone calls, writing postcards, letters and emails, all addressed to Sen. Mitch McConnell, encouraging him, as majority leader, to allow the Senate to hear HR 1--the We the People Act. This legislation, which easily passed in the House, addresses many of the obstacles citizens encounter when trying to exercise their civic right to vote. It deals with voter suppression, the influence of corporate money, denial of voter access, unprotected and inefficient voting systems, the need to restore the Voting Rights Act and reforming our redistricting process.

It is not too late to add your voice. Call or write the offices of Sen. Mitch McConnell and Rand Paul. Tell them this is too important to ignore. The LWVUS makes it very easy to speak up. Just go to www.lwv.org. On the LWVUS home page is a link **Support the For the People Act in the Senate**. Click it and you will be on your way to sending message to Kentucky Senators. Please act now!



Lexington LWV board member Toni Reiss helped send the first batch of 80 postcards.

Results of Annual Meeting

Members and friends gathered at the Lexington LWV Annual Meeting on Sat., April 6, at Faith Lutheran Church to elect officers and board members and conduct yearly business.

I. Officers:

President—**Tammy Fagley**
 First Vice-President—**Jenn Jackson**
 Second Vice-President—**Judy Johnson**
 Treasurer—**Barbara Sterrett**
 Secretary—**Richard Heine**

III. Program Goals for 2019-2020:

- Research and increase voter participation
- Redistricting
- Restoration of voting rights for ex-felons
- Increase membership to over 100
- Continue and increase community engagement

II. Board of Directors:

Chrysantia Carr-Seals, Liza Holland, Mary Hughes, Shayla Lynch, Shambra Mulder, Toni Reiss, Marlena Sanchez, Barbara Welch

IV. Actions by the League:

- Recommended that **Diana Clewett** be appointed a director and **Sadie Bograd** a student member of the board.
- Adopted program goals.
- Updated and approved bylaws. The complete Handbook will soon be available to members on the website.
- Elected **Marlena Sanchez, Terry Naydan** and **Carolyn Holmes** to the Nominating Committee.

After the business meeting DeBraun Thomas joined the group to talk about “Take Back Cheapside,” the initiative founded in 2016 to ensure that Lexington’s official history honestly reflects the memories of all people. He recounted the story behind the removal of the statues of John Breckenridge and John Hunt Morgan from the Courthouse property to Lexington Cemetery. He provided much to think about as Lexington’s downtown area begins to reflect the untold stories of its past.

Volunteer for Voter Services Activities

1. **Voices HEaRd event, Sat., May 11— :voter registration/League awareness booth:**

<https://signup.com/go/NeFuftP>

2. **Connie Griffith Manor Voter Registration:**

<https://signup.com/go/LnpcVsM>

3. **July 4th Festival Downtown.** Check "Events" on League website for information to be posted.

4. **Naturalization Ceremony July 19th.** Arrive at 10:40 for ceremony at 11A.M. at District Courthouse. <https://signup.com/go/qSsGdyQ>

Remember all volunteers need to have completed Voter Registration Training to register voters at League events. Check the LWV website for next training session.



Kentucky Refugee & Immigrant Inclusion Summit

Thursday, June 20th
9AM-5PM

Lexington Public Library - Central Branch
(140 E Main St.)

Attend a full day of sessions to gather more strategies for working with our refugee & immigrant neighbors.

Talk with other community members and service providers to learn about best practices.

View the full session list and descriptions [here](#).

\$25 registration fee includes lunch and parking for the day in the Library's garage.

Register [here](#)

Sponsored by GLOBAL LEX.

Looking for Ways to Be Heard?

The LWVUS website offers both information and links to action. Go to www.lwv.org and click on the tab for TAKE ACTION. You will be presented with four issues the League is working on right now:

- Tell Congress to Pass Sensible Gun Laws.
- The Census Counts. So Do You.
- Demand a Hearing on the For the People Act.
- Stop Voter Suppression. Stand with the League to Ensure That All Elections Are Free, Fair and Accessible.

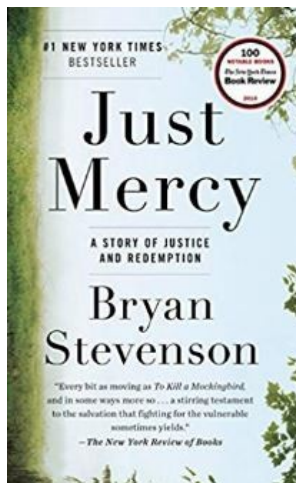
Without leaving your computer you can make your voice heard!

With sadness we note the passing of two long time members—

Marie Costich and Rose Lucas

These women worked through several organizations, including the LWV, to improve their community. They will be missed.

LWV Book Club to Meet May 21



The Lexington LWV book club will meet **Tues., May 21**, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss Bryan Stevenson's book *Just Mercy*. This volume presents the story of the Equal Justice Initiative, the people it represents and the importance of confronting injustice.

Mr. Stevenson is a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to representing the poor, the incarcerated and the condemned. He and his staff have won reversals, release or relief for over 125 wrongly condemned prisoners on death row.

The book club meets at Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. Members are invited to participate in the discussion that Chris Seiber will lead. If you have not previously been a part of this group, contact Terry at terrinnaydan@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Just a reminder that membership fees for 2019-2020 are now due. The deadline is June 20. For your convenience, a membership form accompanies this newsletter.

Summer Break

The VOTER will not be published again until late July, however, you can count on remaining up to the minute on new developments and activities through the website and email announcements.

VOTER editor is Judy Johnson. If you have a question about or information for the newsletter please contact her at lwvlex-voter@gmail.com.



Return Service Requested

Lexington League of Women Voters
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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.

- Sat. May 11 Voices HEaRd event at Downtown Arts Center (See separate ANNOUNCEMENT email or check the website for details.)
- Tues. May 14 6:00 p.m. Tates Creek Branch Public Library, 3628 Walden Dr.
- Wed. May 15 Gubernatorial Forum—more details to come.
- Tues. May 21 1:30 p.m. LWV Book Club meets at Terry Naydan’s house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd.

TUESDAY, MAY 21 IS PRIMARY ELECTION DAY. POLLS OPEN FROM 6 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

- Thurs. June 20 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. KY Refugee and Immigrant Inclusion Summit at Central Branch Public Library, 140 E. Main St.

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