



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Lexington Voter September 2019

The League of Women Voters of Lexington



Photo by Barbara Sterrett

Madeline McDowell Breckenridge Attends New Member Social

The Lexington League of Women Voters held a new member social on August, 25, 2019 at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Lexington. Approximately 45 people - prospective members, present members and community members watched a Kentucky Humanities Chautauqua presentation of the life of Kentucky Suffragist Madeline McDowell Breckenridge.

As acted by Kelly O'Connell Brengelman, the audience was enthralled by the life of Madeline Breckenridge who lectured, wrote and traveled on behalf of all women in the United States in helping to gain passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. Following Ms. Brengelman's performance and questions from the audience, Sorello's gelato was served and the group socialized and learned more about the League's efforts in registering voters and educating the public on community issues.

Learn About the Candidates! Join Us and Submit Questions!

Local Forums: Sunday, September 29: Lexington Public Library, Main Branch, 140 E. Main Street
2:00-2:30 p.m. Candidates for Circuit Court Judge, 22nd Circuit, Division 4
2:45-3:15 p.m. Candidates for Fayette County Board of Education, Division 1
Free and open to the public. These forums will be videotaped and available on our website no later than Oct. 8.



State Debate: Candidates for Governor

Tuesday, October 15: Doors close at 6:45 p.m. for 7:00-8:00 p.m. televised event

University of Kentucky Singletary Center, Rose and Avenue of Champions

Sponsors: Gray Television, UK Student Government Association, LWV of Kentucky/Lexington

Tickets are required but free. Check Events at lwvlexington.com for more details.

Bags, backpacks or purses larger than 6.5 X 4.5 inches will not be allowed.

This debate will be televised live on the WKYT's CW Lexington Channel 5 and streamed live at and available after the debate at WKYT.com.

Candidates for Lt. Governor Tuesday, October 1: Cancelled

Submit questions for the candidates to lexingtonlwv@gmail.com no less than one week prior to the events.

Judy Johnson 1939-2019

As this edition of the VOTER was being put to bed, we learned of the death of our dear friend and League member, Judy Johnson on September 9. Judy served the Lexington League as editor of the *Lexington VOTER*, including helping with this edition. She also served as chair of the Essay Contest, member of the Board, chair of the KY LWV Felon Disenfranchisement Committee and volunteer extraordinaire—always willing to help when she was available. She will be missed.

Voter Registration Training

The League has been hosting voter registration trainings this year with more members ready to spring into action to register voters before the October 7th voter registration deadline. We piloted a 1 hour "Lunch Express" Voter Registration Training condensing the material from the usual 90 minute training into 60 minutes during the lunch hour, designed for people who are already familiar with voter registration and are also proficient with a computer.

One new volunteer is interested in registering voters on UK's and Transy's campuses, motivated by poor college student voter turnout. We have found there is some confusion among college students whether they should register in Lexington or in their hometown. Students are allowed to register to vote in either location: at their parent's address or their college address. There are advantages and disadvantages to both strategies. Students may be more familiar with elections in their hometown, however, it would require them to travel home on Election Day or to obtaining an absentee ballot. Traveling home could cause missed class or study time, and the process for requesting and obtaining an absentee ballot through the mail is a timely process. On the other hand, students may be less familiar with the local elections in Lexington, however, it would be very easy to vote locally, saving the time and potentially increasing voter turnout. The LWV is here to help students learn how to educate themselves about upcoming elections through Vote 411 and candidate forums.

Check the website under the Events page for future Voter Registration Trainings this fall. If you are interested in helping Get Out the Vote: Please contact Jenn Jackson lexlwvvoterservices@gmail.com.



Can You Help? Here's Where!

Festival Latino de Lexington (Lexington Latino Festival)

September 14, 4-9 PM

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

On Common Ground

Sept 17, 7-10 p.m.

The Kentucky Theatre 214 East Main Street Lexington, KY

Voter registration at the "On Common Ground" Event—a public conversation about immigration, identity and how we define community. (No table, "walking" registration) <https://signup.com/go/mDLOmzA>

Connie Griffith Manor

Sept 19, 10-11:30 p.m.

Voter registration during the monthly commissary distribution at this public housing complex. <https://signup.com/go/qzmochX>

The ARC of KY Candidate Forum Voter Registration Booth

Sept 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Eastside Branch Lexington Public Library

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

Making a Difference

Our efforts at Connie Griffith Manor are starting to result in citizen buy-in to the voting process. I was very excited that one gentleman decided to register. He is in his mid-50's and has never voted; he had the opinion that his vote didn't matter. My reply, "People may want you to believe that your vote doesn't matter, but the only way your vote is guaranteed not to matter is if you *don't* vote." *He said I convinced him voting was important and he completed his voter registration that morning!* Jenn Jackson, Voter Services Chair



CONCERNED ABOUT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC?

Join us for a Community Conversation

The League of Women Voters of Lexington will host a community conversation about opioids in support of 2019 National Recovery Awareness Month.

WHEN: Sunday, September 15 at 2:30-3:30 p.m.

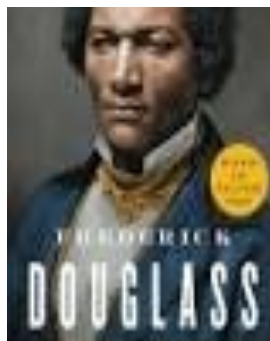
WHERE: Beaumont Branch of the Lexington Public Library, 3080 Fieldstone Way, large meeting room

In alignment with this year's theme: "Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Are Stronger," the LWV seeks to engage community members in a discussion to determine actions that the League can take to support community efforts to become recovery friendly in the midst of the opioid epidemic. Andrea James, the Mayor's Special Projects Coordinator will share updates of her work, and attendees will participate in small table conversations to share ideas of how to address the opioid crisis as a community and how the LWV might move ideas forward. The meeting is free and open to the public, who are invited to participate.

Christian Muslim Dialogue—

September 28, 10 am-Noon, Potluck follows
Speaker: Laura Schade, PhD, Faculty member, Lexington Theological Seminary, Author of *Preaching in the Purple Zone*
Topic: "Islamophobia, Interfaith Relations, and Preaching Insights from *The Purple Zone*"
 Q and A and discussion follows the talk.
Location: Mosque Bilal, 1545 Russell Cave Road, 40505. Ample parking in the rear. Enter through the door off the parking lot. Invite a friend.

LWV Book Club Meets Tuesday, September 17



Frederick Douglass, Prophet of Freedom by David W. Blight, tells the story of this remarkable man who was born a slave, escaped at a young age and went on to become a powerful spokesperson for the abolition of slavery.

The LWV book club will meet on Tuesday, **September 17**. Discussion, led by Richard Heine, will begin at 1:30 p.m. The location is Terry Naydan's house, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd.

The group will meet next on **Tuesday, October 15**, to discuss David McCullough's *The Pilgrimage: The Heroic Story of the Settlers Who Brought the American Ideal West*.

If you have not attended before and want to join, please contact Terry Naydan at terrynaydan@aol.com.

Women's Equality Day Celebration Monday Aug 26

Mayor Linda Gorton and the Breaking the Bronze Ceiling Committee hosted a special celebration of Women's Equality Day by announcing the location of a new monument commemorating women and the passage of the 19th amendment to the Constitution in 1920, giving women the right to vote. The statue will be at the base of the Lexington Financial Center, or "big, blue building". The design will be chosen from the four finalist, and their ideas will be on display in September.

Breaking the Bronze Ceiling has raised a little less than \$250,000 of the \$500,000 needed for the sculpture. Consider donating to this permanent display, that will celebrate women's suffrage for generations to come! <https://breakingthebronzeceiling.com>. Mary Hughes, Jenn Jackson and Carol Pauly represented the League of Women Voters at this event.

The VOTER is in need of an Editor. If you have an interest in helping with this important task, please contact us at 859-494-3203 or lwwlexvoter@gmail.com.



Return Service Requested

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LWV of Lexington Website: www.lwvlexington.com

Phone: 859-494-3203 Email: lexingtonlwv@gmail.com

Facebook: League of Women Voters of Lexington, KY

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

CALENDAR

- Sun., Sept 15, 2:30-3:30 p.m.** **LWV Community Forum, Opioid Crisis, Beaumont Branch of the Lexington Public Library, 3080 Fieldstone Way**
- Tues., Sept. 17, 1:30** **LWV Book Club Meeting at Terry Naydan’s home, 3013 Charleston Gardens Blvd. (call if you have not attended previously, 859-971-7227)**
- Tues., Sept 17, 7-10 p.m.** **On Common Ground; The Kentucky Theatre, 214 East Main Street**
- Sat., Sept. 28, 10-noon** **Christian-Muslim Dialogue, Mosque Bilal, 1545 Russell Cave Road, 40505**
- Sun., Sept. 29, 2-3:15 p.m.** **Candidate Forums, Lexington Public Library, Main Branch, 140 East Main St.**
- Tues., Oct 1** **Candidate Debate for Lt. Governor: UK Gatton Student Center: CANCELLED**
- Mon., Oct. 7** **Last day to register to vote for the November General Election**
- Tues., Oct. 8, 4:00 p.m.** **Wendell Ford Lecture Series: ‘The Increasing Role of Women in Public Policy’ UK Gatton Student Center; Free and open to the public**
- Tues., Oct 15, 6:45-8 p.m.** **Candidate Debate for Governor, UK Singletary Center for the Arts, (tickets are free but required. Check Events at lwvlexington.com for more details.**