



# VOTER

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County, Delaware

Summer 2016

[www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org](http://www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org)

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The Mission of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities.

## VOTER OUTREACH

### CANDIDATE DEBATES

- League of Women Voters of New Castle County and the Triangle Neighborhood Association will sponsor **Wilmington Mayoral Debate, Thursday, September 8, 6:30 pm, at Salesianum High School Auditorium, 1801 N Broom Street, Wilmington, DE 19802.**

The City of Wilmington directly or indirectly impacts every citizen in Delaware! Delaware is a small state and the climate of the City impacts all of us. Plan to attend the Mayoral Candidate Night whether or not you are a city resident.

The League is partnering with Triangle Neighborhood Association to provide this important service to Delaware. All candidates are expected to attend.

Carole Walsh, NCC League member, will serve as moderator. We thank the staff at Sallies for providing this terrific venue.

Suggestions for questions may be emailed to Loren [lgmozik@earthlink.net](mailto:lgmozik@earthlink.net) or attend the Debate and bring your questions. Questions from emails and the audience will be asked.

*Carole Walsh and Judy Taggart*

**Delaware Nature Society invites you to participate in Environmental Forums to ensure that water quality and other environmental concerns are a priority in 2016. The LWV of New Castle County and other organizations are co-sponsors of the City of Wilmington Mayoral Forum and LWV Delaware is a co-sponsor of the Lt. Governor's Forum**

- **Mayoral Forum, Thursday, August 25th, 2016, 6:30-8:00 pm at the DuPont Environmental Education Center 1400 Delmarva Lane, Wilmington, DE 19801** Submit your question and Register at: [www.delawarenaturesociety.org/advocacy](http://www.delawarenaturesociety.org/advocacy).
- **Lt. Governor's Forum, Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 6:30-8:00 pm at the Ashland Nature Center, 3511 Barley Mill Road, Wilmington, DE 19707**

Submit your questions and register at: [www.delawarenaturesociety.org/advocacy](http://www.delawarenaturesociety.org/advocacy). For questions or to RSVP please contact: Brenna Goggin, Director of Advocacy [brenna@delnature.org](mailto:brenna@delnature.org) or (302) 239-2334 ext. 132.

- The League of Women Voters of Kent County will cosponsor a **Candidates Night for Kent County on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, at 7:00 P.M. in the Palmer Room of Modern Maturity Center in Dover**. This event is being hosted by the League of Women Voters of Kent County, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Dover Chapter, and Modern Maturity Center. The list of invited candidates includes those running for State Senate (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Districts) and State Representative (11<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> Districts) from Kent County, Kent County Levy Court Commissioner, Kent County Clerk of the Peace and Kent County Register of Wills.

*Ellen O, Wasfi, Candidates Night Chair. LWVKC/LWVDE*

(Continued on page 2 *Debates*)

(Continued from page 1 *Debates*)

- The League of Women Voters of Delaware will cosponsor a **Candidates Night for statewide and federal offices on Wednesday, October 26, 2016, at 7:00 P.M. in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, Parlor C, at Delaware State University.** This event is being hosted by the League of Women Voters of Kent County, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Dover Chapter, and Delaware State University. The list of invited candidates includes those running for U.S. Representative, Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Insurance Commissioner.

During both events, members of the audience will be given index cards at the entry door and throughout the program on which to pose questions directly to the candidates. The League of Women Voters will moderate the debate. These events provide the public with the opportunity to ask the candidates where they stand on issues of major concern.

*Ellen O. Wasfi, Candidates Night Chair. LWVKC/LWVDE*

### VOTER REGISTRATION REPORT



*(Pictured at Left: Carole Walsh discussing issues about voting. Larry Diswood enjoying the scene.)*

We have been busy setting up voter information tables and registering people at libraries, health care centers, People's Festival, WHA housing, community centers, and churches in August, but I can see that activity will really start kicking up. We have had various organizations offer to assist us. This will be of great help when we start the push in September and October. In order to accommodate these groups, we need to



*(Above: Attendees at the People's Festival in Wilmington.)*

schedule an informal training session on registering using the Universal form and identification requirements. Letty and I are looking into the time and place to hold such a session.

I would still like to get into long term care facilities and schools to hold registration. Providing contact information is very important and the key for me to make arrangements. If anyone has a contact to arrange voter registration opportunities, please let me know - I NEED THE PERSON'S NAME, TITLE, EMAIL ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER AND LOCATION. If I don't have this, I get shuttled through the system and never connect. If you have any questions please contact me.



**Let's get the VOTE -out!!**

Patti Christopher, Voter Registration Chair, LWVNCC [wjcr4@verizon.net](mailto:wjcr4@verizon.net), 302-764-0309

**The League of Women Voters of Delaware will sponsor a program to commemorate Constitution Day  
Saturday, September 17, 2016**

at the Dover Public Library, Multipurpose Room B  
35 E. Lookerman Street, Dover, DE 19901.

**The program will begin at 10:30 A.M. Light refreshments will be served.**

**Keynote speaker: Dean Rod Smolla**

**Professor of Law at Delaware Law School**

**Topic: *Delaware's Constitution: Equal Protection / Equal Rights.***

**LWVDE members Beverly Jackson and Ellen Wasfi will summarize the process and the conclusions of the 2015 LWVUS consensuses on Constitutional Amendment and Money in Politics.**

## HIGHLIGHTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (EXPLOITATION) FORUM HELD IN JUNE.

The forum was sponsored by LWNCC, AAUW, ZOE Ministries, and Prison Ministries, and held at First Presbyterian Church, Newark, DE.

Article below was taken from *The News Journal*.

### "Forum at church raises awareness of human trafficking in Delaware"

The issue pervades in many communities, panel explains  
SARANAC HALE SPENCER  
THE NEWS JOURNAL



Most people in Delaware don't think there's a human trafficking problem in the state – Mary McDonough didn't think so either, until she discovered it in her courtroom.

She now heads a special human trafficking program in the Court of Common Pleas that began four years ago and has had over 100 people go through it.

On Monday night, McDonough told a crowd of about 40 (65 edit) gathered at the First Presbyterian Church of Newark about the program and the larger issue of trafficking in Delaware. The League of Women Voters and Prison Ministries of Delaware organized the event.

The issue of human trafficking has been slowly gaining awareness in the First State over the last few years – a bill specifically addressing it passed in 2014 and a special commission has been named to work toward further combating it. Many of those who are on the front line of that battle were on a panel at the church on Monday.

"It happens in every single county," said Yolanda Schlabach, founder of an organization dedicated to helping victims of human trafficking called Zoe Ministries. She is based in Sussex County, but the issue pervades all three counties in the state and often follows the major highways that cut through it, she said.



With the issue of human trafficking, society is today where it was 20 years ago on domestic violence, McDonough said. "I think we need a paradigm shift," she said, explaining often, the victim ends up getting blamed.

From the beginning of 2012 to April of this year, 71 percent of arrests related to prostitution were made against the prostituted person, McDonough said. Twenty four percent were against the "Johns" and just 5 percent were against the pimps, or traffickers.

"We need much more awareness of the problem of human trafficking," McDonough said.

## 2016 LWV National Convention *(Report written by Suzanne Hain for the LWVSC Voter)*

LWVSC selected Suzanne Hain to attend the 2016 National Convention held in Washington DC, June 16-19. The Delaware state attendees also included Letty Diswood, Patti Christopher and Chad Tolman of New Castle County. All materials are available for review. Here's a summary:

### June 17 Plenary Session Votes:

- Approved the Program Adoption Process to retain all current LWVUS positions in the areas of Government, International Relations, Natural Resources, and Social Policy for the 2016-18 biennium.
- Approved the "Making Democracy Work" campaign, which includes:
  - Voter protection and mobilization
  - Election reform
  - Money in politics, constitutional amendment and
- redistricting



*(Patti Christopher, Chad Tolman, Letty Diswood, Suzanne Hain)*

### June 18 Plenary Session Votes:

- Proposal 3: Change Voting Members. [Citizens] PERSONS at least 18 years of age ... This change to persons from citizens ultimately required a card vote to pass.
- Proposal 4: Persons at least [18] 16 years of age ... This change was the most contested vote of the session. Minnesota wanted all persons of any age to be voting members. Many people were concerned about safety and insurance concerns of underage people at our events. The age reduction took two card votes and the majority opted only to reduce it to 16 years.
- Proposal 5: The proposal on associate members was not voted on or discussed.

### June 19 Plenary Session Votes:

- Keeping the PMP the same was approved by voice vote.
- Approved the budget. See note below on the discussion.
- Six resolutions were proposed and approved: Gun violence, CDC study on gun safety, DC statehood, Amicus Brief on Children's Trust (climate change), UN Paris Agreement (climate change), and EPA Clean Power Plan.
- Elected the new officers

### Budget Issue

The proposed budget was very confusing to most members. This generated a lot of discussion on Friday (June 18th) and resulted in the addition of a Breakout session, hosted by the Budget Committee, the new CEO and the COO.

Here's my summary of that breakout discussion:

- High costs were due to three things:
  1. In 2013/4 the LWV reserve fund lost a great deal of money, through bad financial advice.
  2. The CRM database was purchased and that cost took a lot of money, at a time when reserve fund was losing money.
  3. LWVUS took out a 10-year lease and have not been able to find tenants to help cover the cost
- Financial employee was fired and search for new CEO and COO was implemented.
- The new COO, Anisa Tootla, has restructured the budget to be more in line with approved financial practices. This is the reason that the line by line comparisons were confusing.
- To address the losses, the permanent staff was reduced to 14, from 30, the new CEO is actively looking for grants and funding, which is part of the reason she was selected, and the search for tenants continues.

### League Easy Web (LEW) Issue

- The National group refused to address this in the full sessions, as ruled very abruptly by the president without discussion.
- **The Breakout session was attended by more than 50 people and the concerns were. What is the National office's plans for a website? Should we stay with LEW? How do we learn to use it? California is optimistic.**

*(Continued on page 5 2016 National Convention)*

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### New CEO and COO



- CEO: Wylecia Wiggs Harris. Her main message is that we have a new three-pronged plan – Impact, Relevance, & Visibility. She said, “We must evolve to be relevant to the future change environment.” Mostly appears to be a fundraiser.
- COO: Anisa Tootla: The new COO mostly spoke through her new Budget and Internal Financial Statement. Both have been turned over to Lorna Dempsey for review. My impression is one of relief that a trained professional with no agenda is now in charge of the money.

There were several very moving speakers that made the conference more exciting. Two that stood out were Joe Goldman of the Democracy Fund and Ari Berman, author of “Give Us the Ballot: The Modern for Voting Rights in America.”

Suzanne Hain



*TO OUR VOLUNTEERS who did the following work during June, July and August.: To Carole Walsh and Judy Taggart for organizing the candidate forums. To Patti Christopher for coordinating many voter registration events. Set up and registrars included Judy Taggart, Alice Davis, Larry and Letty Diswood, Marj Johnson, Moonyeen Klopfenstein, Nancy Lopez, Carole and Bill Walsh, and Emily White. To Bob Hasse who collated welcome packets for new citizens for the naturalization ceremonies. Thanks to helpers at the new citizen ceremonies Sheila Cassels, Emily White, and all those whose names I don't have. Thanks also to Connie Georgov who coordinates the new citizen ceremonies. To Vicky Kleinman for organizing the Great Decisions group that meets at the Newark Library nearly every month. Thank you to Fay Whittle and her team who planned the Human Trafficking programs for Hot Topic June.*

### IN MEMORIAM - John F. Harris, Jr. Age 91, Hockessin, DE

John F. Harris, Jr., a resident of Cokesbury Village, passed away on June 22<sup>nd</sup> after a long illness. He was a longtime member of the LWV and is the husband of Jackie Harris, who has served as president of the LWVDE and LWVNCC. In 1943 the U.S. Navy sent him to the University of Pennsylvania to study engineering, where he met Jacqueline, his future wife for over 66 years. After the war he returned to complete his B.A. M.S. and Ph.D. in chemistry and then went to work for over 30 years in the Central Research Dept. at DuPont in nearby Delaware. While at DuPont he received a Guggenheim Fellowship to do post-doctorate work at the University of Cologne, Germany, living there for a year with his wife and three children. Retiring in 1985, he went regularly to the Penn Museum, becoming an expert at deciphering Maya hieroglyphs and a consulting scholar. His Museum-published book on glyph decipherment is now used by universities nationwide. For his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday he was awarded a large stele modeled after one at Piedras Negras, Mexico. The Maya inscription translated said “To John Harris, 5 katun lord, great wise one and good man.” John is survived by his wife Jackie, his children - Mark (Karen), John (Jane) and Katherine; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. A memorial service was held on August 13, 11 at Cokesbury.

### GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP -

What: Great Decisions: United Nations

When: 3rd Monday, September 19th; 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Where: KIRKWOOD Library, 6000 Kirkwood Highway

Who: Louise Little will lead the discussion

When: Noon to 1:15 pm, before the library discussion

What else: Lunch for those who wish it

When: 11:45 am

Where: Bamboo House

How: Call Vicky Kleinman [302-731-4950] to arrange for adequate seating

## CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 17, 2016, 6-8:30 pm	CenDel Building, 101 W. Loockerman St. & Bradford St. Dover, DE	<b>LWVDE &amp; Education Fund board meetings.</b> ---parking lot at end of the block of Bradford.
Thursday, August 25th, 2016, 6:30-8:00 pm	DuPont Environmental Education Center 1400 Delmarva Lane, Wilmington, DE 19801	<b>City of Wilmington Mayoral Environmental Forum</b> hosted by Delaware Nature Society, LWVNCC and other groups.
Tuesday, August 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2016, 6:30-8:00 pm	Ashland Nature Center, 3511 Barley Mill Rd, Wilmington, DE 19707	<b>Lt. Governor's Environmental Forum</b> hosted by Delaware Nature Society, LWVDE and LWVNCC and other groups.
Wednesday, September 7, 2016, 9:30 am-12:00 pm	Legislative Hall 411 Legislative Avenue Dover, DE 19901	<b>LWVDE Advocacy Corps meeting.</b> LWVDE Advocacy Corps meeting. Contact Committee Chair for details or call 302-841-2882.
Thursday, September 8, 2016, 6:30-8:30 pm	Salesianum High School Auditorium, 1801 North Broom Street, Wilmington, DE 19802	<b>Candidate forum for Mayor of the City of Wilmington.</b> Cosponsored with the Triangle Neighborhood Association.
Monday, September 12, 2016, 6:30-8:30 pm	League office, 2400 W 17th Street, Room 1, Lower Level, Wilmington, DE 1980	<b>LWV of NCC Board Meeting.</b> Monthly meeting of the NCC board of directors.
Tuesday, September 13, 2016 1:30-3:30 pm	Home of Peggy Schultz. Please call 302-235-7182, or email <a href="mailto:schultz_peggy@yahoo.com">schultz_peggy@yahoo.com</a> , for directions.	<b>LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING.</b> The Land Use/Transportation Committee of the LWVNCC and of the LWVDE will discuss current issues related to the Coastal Zone Act, as well as the statewide Complete Streets program. All are welcome!
Saturday, September 17, 2016, 10:30 am-1 pm	Dover Public Library, Multipurpose Room B 35 E. Lookerman Street, Dover, DE 19901.	<b>LWVDE celebrates Constitution Day with speakers and light refreshments .</b> The focus of the first part of the program will be the US Constitution and the Citizens United decision. Second part of program will focus on the state Constitution. Keynote speaker: Dean Rod Smolla, Professor of Law at Delaware Law School. Topic: <i>Delaware's Constitution: Equal Protection / Equal Rights.</i>
Monday, September 19; 1:30 -3:30 pm	Newark Free Library 750 Library Ave Newark, DE 19711	<b>Monday Great Decisions Group</b> from 1:30 to 3:30. As usual, many of the attendees will meet for lunch at noon Bamboo House, Newark beforehand. Please contact Vicky Kleinman 302-731-4950 for more details.
Wednesday, September 21, 6-8:30 pm	CenDel Building, 101 W. Loockerman St. & Bradford St. Dover, DE	<b>LWVDE &amp; Education Fund board meetings.</b> -- parking lot at end of the block of Bradford
Thursday, September 22, 2016 evening	MOT Senior Center (Middletown Odessa Townsend), 300 So. Scott St., Middletown	<b>Human Trafficking (Exploitation) presentation and discussion.</b> This meeting is a continuation of the June forum on Human Trafficking designed to educate and inform the public.

**League of Women Voters of New Castle County**  
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