

VOTER

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County, Delaware

October Voter 2018 President: Marj Johnson www.lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org

Vol. 23, No.3 Editor: Letty Diswood

Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy.

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

League of Women Voters of New Castle County

HOT TOPIC LUNCH Monday, October 22, 2018 11:30 A.M - 1 P.M.

Michael's Restaurant, 1000 Churchman's Rd, Newark, DE 19713

Future Wind Power Off Delaware's Shore



Guest speaker will be Joy Weber, Skipjack Project Manager from Deepwater Wind. Deepwater Wind is the off-shore wind energy development group that built the Block Island Wind Farm in Rhode Island, the first in the nation. Skipjack is the name of the off-shore wind project 19 miles off the coast of Delaware. The plans are that the construction of the wind turbines and platforms will begin in 2023.

The public is invited to all Hot Topic meetings to become informed on a wide variety of topics. It is also a time to check in with members of LWV, make new friends, invite your neighbors and colleagues to experience the League in an informal setting.

MICHAEL'S RESTAURANT, 1000 Churchman's Rd, Newark, DE 19713, Buffet lunch is \$15.00 paid at time of the buffet luncheon. Please pay in cash if at all possible.

RSVP <u>lwvde@comcast.net</u> or 302-571-8948 by Sunday, October 28, so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect. If you need a ride, leave a message on the League Office phone or e-mail when you RSVP 302-571-8948. If you have not made a reservation please come anyway.

You're invited to TED Talk, "There's No Such Thing As Not Voting."

Oct. 13, 2018, 1:00 pm at the Greene Turtle Restaurant, 425 Stanton Christiana Rd, Christiana.

The TED Talk for this month is focused on voting. With the general midterm election right around the corner, Eric Liu, author, educator and civic entrepreneur shares his views on the importance of voting in his TED Talk, "There's No Such thing As Not Voting". In this talk Mr. Liu speaks to reviving the joy of voting. It is a great message for the League of Women Voters as we work to register new voters, support Vote 411 for informed voting, and provide rides to the polls., along with the other work the organization is doing. In all these efforts we have an opportunity to 'revive the joy of voting.".





Mr. Liu is the founder and CEO of Citizen University, which promotes and teaches the art of great citizenship through a portfolio of national programs as He is also, and has written several books, including "You're More Powerful than You Think: A Citizen's Guide to Making Change Happen."

Please join us for a lively discussion. The format is simple... we watch the inspiring, thought-provoking TED video, and then talk about it afterward. Food and beverages can be ordered

from the regular menu as desired. See www.meetup.com/TED and other community events sponsored by LWVNCC for more information or lwvdelaware-newcastlecounty.org to RSVP. Kay Palmer will lead an informal discussion among attendees afterward.

Kay W. Palmer, Coordinator 302.983.6946





CANDIDATE FORUMS

LWV sponsored or cosponsored candidate forums are planned:

October 14, 2018 for Attorney General and Dist. 4 candidates (CANCELLED)

October 24, 2018 for statewide candidates Hosted by LWV of Delaware and LWVKC, 7-9 p.m. at Delaware State University, Dover DE

CIVIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION:

Registration drives and voter education tables have been set up in all NCC Libraries and in many high schools, farmers' markets, day care centers, grocery stores and Community events. Thanks to all our volunteers and partner organizations including the Indivisible Groups from Highlands in Wilmington, Newark and Bear. What an incredible job. Thanks go to Alan Evantash and Patti Christopher for coordinating all the above. (Right - Patti Christopher training the Indivisible Group in Newark at the Coop market.)



NEW CITIZEN CEREMONY HELD SEPTEMBER 17TH



I wanted to share some details regarding the recent ceremony. Judge Mary Pat Thynge, United States Chief Magistrate Judge, District of Delaware, presided over the Naturalization Ceremony on Monday, September 17, 2018. The ceremony commenced at 11:00 a.m. at the Federal Courthouse (4th floor, Courtroom 4B). Immigration provided a list of **72 individuals** to be naturalized, from **36 countries**.

Greetings to the New Citizens were delivered by Chris Coons, United States Senator for Delaware.

Lorraine Botticelli, Co-chair



VOTER SERVICES

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR RIDES TO THE POLLS FOR GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2018

Thank you to all who volunteered for rides to the polls for the September Primaries.

The LWV of New Castle County is organizing volunteers to provide rides to the polls for the NOVEMBER 6, 2018 GENERAL ELECTION.

We have not been overwhelmed in the past. Here is what is needed:

- 1. Volunteer's name
- 2. Cell or home telephone
- 3. Your address, including development
- 4. What hours of the day you can volunteer 8 am 8 pm
- 5. For which area you will provide rides (example: north Wilmington, Bear, Newark, New Castle, City of Wilmington, Prices Corner area, etc.).
- 6. Type of car you will use: (example: SUV, or a compact car-reason, some people will not be able to climb up...)

NEXT – how it works:

Letty will have a list in the office of volunteers.

A call comes in and she will request:

- 1. The name of the person who needs the ride.
- 2. Her/his address, with development
- 3. A contact number
- 4. Which polling place ride is needed
- 5. Letty will call the closest volunteer living in the area the call came from and give all pertinent information to that
- 6. The volunteer contacts the person who needs the ride and makes all the arrangements.
- 7. Letty will call the person who needs the ride with the name of the volunteer, but not the telephone or address
- 8. Please call Letty once you are ready for the next ride.

Office Telephone: 302-571-8948 Letty Diswood cell: 302-438-6590



Community Day in Newark



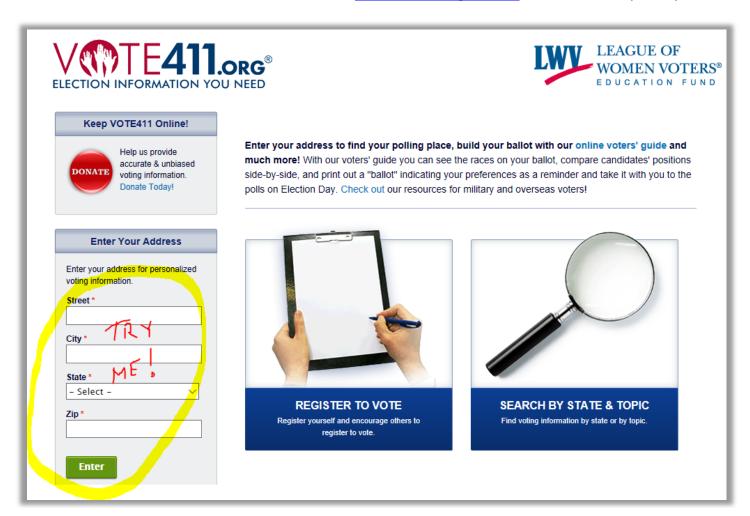
VOTE411.ORG ONLINE VOTERS GUIDE UPDATE

Delaware's 2018 **primary** election VOTE411 guide was a big success! We finished with 80% of candidates participating, and over 5,000 Delawareans visited VOTE411.org in advance of the Sept. 6 primary election. Keep talking it up with friends and neighbors... it is working! Thanks for helping inform Delaware's voting public.

We're in the final push now to prepare and promote Delaware's VOTE411 **general** election guide. This release of the VOTE411 guide reflects the voter's ballot for the Tuesday, November 6, state-wide general election.

As of the end of September, about 2/3^{rds} of Delaware general election candidates have submitted their information to VOTE411. We want to go higher! Please visit www.VOTE411.org and enter your own address to pull up your personalized ballot information. If you see blank profiles for any of your own representatives, or new candidates in your districts, contact them and encourage them to submit their information to the VOTE411 guide! Tell them they are missing a free and easy opportunity to reach current or potential constituents like you.

October is also the perfect time to help spread the word about VOTE411 via social media, third-party newsletters or websites, a letter to the editor of your local paper, etc. If you need more information or graphics to share, please contact 2018 Delaware VOTE411 Coordinator Kim Wells, kimwells19702@gmail.com, or 302-650-6897 (mobile).



GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP

What: Great Decisions: "South Africa's fragile democracy."

When: Monday, October 15, 1:30 -3:30 p.m. Where: Newark Free Library

What else: Lunch, for those who wish it. When: Before discussion, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Where: At 11:30 at Skipjack Restaurant in the Shops at Louviers on Paper Mill Road.

How: Contact Flo Waibel fmwaibel@udel.edu All welcome.

Calendar: October 15, South Africa's Democracy, November 19, Global Health

Welcome New Members

Judith Magee, magee02@comcast.net, 302-478-1273 Susan Case and Kenneth Case, casiecasie25@yahoo.com, 302-368-9461 Mary Elmlinger, mptelm@gmail.com, 423-530-4707 Jo deCos, jedecos@usa.net, 302-479-9467

REMINDER: If you have received a membership renewal letter in July or August please don't cast that letter on a pile of to-do mail, and forget about it. This is an election year and your renewal and contribution keep the League financially able to do its work. Thank you in advance. We need you.

Thank you to our members and friends who have made a financial contribution, and thanks to all the volunteers who make the LWV vital and effective in this election year.

LWV of New Castle County

Harriet Ainbinder Debra Berke Carol Boncelet Judith Butler Sheila Cassells Rosalyn Chasin Barbara Crowell

Jane Dilley Connie Georgov Jackie Harris

Joann and Bob Hasse

Jill Itzkowitz Marj Johnson George-Anne Kelly Vicky Kleinman Janet and Brian Kramer

Jacqueline Kuehn Virginia Mayforth Sheila Mensch Sarah Mibury-Steen Katharine Olinchak Susan and Mike Soltys Pat Todd Kim Wells

Education Fund (NCC)

Harriet Ainbinder Linda Barnett Connie and David Beattie Judith Butler Susan Brynteson Catriona Binder-Macleod Mary Ann Champion

Jane Dilley Larry and Letty Diswood Nancy Frederick Connie Georgov Jill Itzkowitz Kay Jenson Marj Johnson Moonyeen and Robert Klopfenstein Janet and Brian Kramer Meta Little Constance Malin Lois Myoda Katharine Olinchak Nancy Weldin Kim Wells

Letter from Chris Carlson, President of the LWV of US - Senate hearings

Dear State Leaders,

One in five American women have survived rape or attempted rape. So, like many of you, I watched the Senate hearings this week with anticipation, anger, and heartbreak.

Dr. Christine Blasey Ford was a portrait of dignity and incredible courage, sharing the most intimate details of her sexual assault in high school. Her testimony, along with additional sexual misconduct allegations, raises serious concerns about a nominee who could make decisions that will shape the future for women for generations to come.

As a Board, we made the decision that we could not sit silent. This is an important moment in our history and the League must demand a process that will uphold the integrity of the U.S. Supreme Court. We stood with a number of nonpartisan organizations, including the American Bar Association, which asked the Senate to delay a floor vote pending a full investigation into the allegations of sexual misconduct. We made a strong statement and issued an Action Alert encouraging the public to call their senators to encourage them to delay a vote.

It came as a tremendous relief that cooler heads prevailed in the Senate and a final vote was not rushed through. The reopening of the FBI background investigation announced yesterday is the very least that can be done to ensure the Senate has sufficient information before voting on a lifetime appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court.

We will be monitoring the results of this investigation as well as the response that our coalition partners may be organizing and will provide additional guidance in the days ahead. We encourage state and local Leagues to engage in local actions that address the problems we have identified with the overall confirmation process.

Thank you.

Chris Carson, President lwv.org Facebook | Twitter



JUSTICE ISSUES

Saturday, October 13, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Location: Contact [camiseward@gmail.com] Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow

What is Restorative Justice and How Can We Bring it to Delaware?

Join the discussion of those who have read *The Little Book of Restorative Justice* and restorative justice practitioner Barbie Fischer, Executive Director of Restorative Encounters of Philadelphia, to help us understand and explore ways to bring restorative justice to the First State.

Ms. Fischer has over 15 years of experience in restorative justice, working in community and program development with various organizations around the world.

A WHITE HISTORIAN CONFRONTS RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION

Monday, October 15, 6:00 -7:30 p.m.

Newark Monthly Meeting, St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, 276 South College Ave. Newark, DE 19711 Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow Meetings - all welcome

Although neighborhood segregation is so common in the United States that it almost seems natural, black people and white people lived in close proximity in early American cities. "A White Historian Confronts Residential Segregation" explores how that changed. Presenter Susan Strasser is Richards Professor Emerita of American History at the University of Delaware, an award-winning historian and a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians.

Contact Cami Seward [camiseward@gmail.com] for further information.

Annual Visions of Justice Conference on Victim-Centric Models

Please join the Delaware Center for Justice on Friday, October 26th for its Annual Visions of Justice Conference on Victim-Centric Models for Addressing Crime. This year attendees will have the opportunity to hear from restorative justice experts who work directly with the victims' community to interrupt the cycle of crime. Speakers will address how restorative justice can be a powerful tool to address violence and reduce mass incarceration. The agenda will include a variety of breakout sessions, presentations, and plenty of informational materials to take away. RSVP Today! Space is limited.

- Aswad Thomas, MSW- Chapter Development Director, Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice
- Erika Sasson- Director of Restorative Practices, Center for Court Innovation
- Barbie Fischer- Executive Director, Restorative Encounters
- Danielle Sered- Director, Common Justice

And many more! General Admission includes light breakfast, access to all breakout sessions, lunch, three Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Credits, and much more! \$10 - Register Now! Delaware Center for Justice, 100 W. 10th Street, Suite 905, Wilmington, DE 19801

President's Message ____ LWVNCC STRATEGIC PLANNING



by Marj Johnson



The LWVNCC Board met on Sept. 12, 2018 to determine what direction the League wants to go and how to get there. There was a consensus that the focus for the League should be voting, with emphasis on voter education when we are at voter registration events. It has become apparent that while many people are registered, they are not informed about absentee voting, being able to

vote as a felon, or on their candidates and the issues. We are concerned about getting out the vote for school board elections, as well, and will work to partner with DelCAN regarding this effort. The other focus for the League should be fundraising, because as you will see below, there are many activities we would like to initiate, but they all require money.

In addition to the current Board Positions, we recommended that we have a Public Relations Chair for getting the word out through multiple medias and to network with other groups, a Student Outreach Chair, to relate to students in high school and college and with the faculties of those schools where we can initiate education regarding voting and issues, and an outreach person to communicate and plan events with members and incorporate new members into activities. We would like to see 4 social events for members throughout the year.

We need to maximize our relationships with other groups in order to be relevant and effective, and it was recommended that we all get out of our comfort zones and attend meetings or events we have never been to before.

We considered the following, without regard to how we are going to pay for them, hence the need for fundraising: Convert LWVNCC to a 501c3. This will cost around \$800 and probably take at least a year to complete. We felt this would put us in a better place for donations as well as in applying for grants, and also simplify book keeping, but there were many questions and we referred this to our Finance Committee to research and make a recommendation.

Convert our website from LEW to MyLo, which will cost an extra \$150. While we like our current website, this will provide a better search engine, better security, and the ability to share information with other leagues on the MyLo site.

Board Training and Nominating Committee Training: DANA provides excellent board training, for members and leaders, financial officers, and nominating committees that would enhance how effective the board is and how the board is selected. Some board members have already paid for training with DANA but it would be worthwhile to have a rotating system to be able to send new officers for training as they come on, without them having to incur the expense. This might run up to \$600-800 but could be split between years to stagger the training.

(Continued from page 7 Strategic Planning)

Candidate Forums which run \$300. We will try to partner with other organizations for sponsoring these.

If we wish to convert our financial records to a computerized system like Quickbooks, this might cost around \$200 over a 3 year period. We may be able to share this with the State if they are using Quickbooks. Currently, our treasurer is using a spread sheet with which she is comfortable and familiar.

We brainstormed about the 100th anniversary of the League and of the 19th Amendment in 2020, and came up with the following ideas. So far, LWVUS has not published any events, and LWVDE is working on ideas.

- 1. Showing Iron Jawed Angels at Theatre N as a fundraiser
- 2. Get libraries in the state to promote The Woman's Hour by Elaine Weiss
- 3. A women's march in Historic New Castle, or in Newark (or perhaps there will be one in DC)
- 4. Big event (like the CCC) to celebrate 100 years
- 5. Meet and Greets, Social Events, throughout the year
- 6. Get Woman's History Museum Travel Exhibit to come to DE
- 7. Involve Del History Museum, Winterthur, Art Museum, etc to do programs or exhibits throughout the year.
- 8. A fundraising event of poets, music, dance, auction
- 9. Involve UD, Wilm U, Widener, Del Tech, Goldey Beacom, and high schools in a civics exercise to learn about how this amendment came to be
- 10. Partner with Latino groups, the NAACP, Black sororities, for programming
- 11. Public Relations announcements on radio, social media
- 12. Trip to Seneca Falls, UN, or DC as a fundraiser

We have exciting times coming for the League. Gather your energy and participate, and contribute as you are able so that we can continue our important work.

SEPTEMBER HOT TOPIC focused on the effort to make DC a state with voting representation.

Thanks go to presenters Ann Loikow and Mr. Loikow, from LWVDC, who provided a historical background of the DC area and what efforts are taking place including the politics that have shaped the debate.

Frequently Asked Questions about Statehood for the People of DC

Why do residents of Washington, DC want Statehood?

The people of Washington, D.C. deserve the same rights that the people in the 50 states enjoy. District residents are required to fulfill all the obligations of U.S. citizenship, paying taxes, voting, and serving on juries and in the military. Yet for over 200 years, we have been denied a voice in our national government and sovereignty over state and local affairs. Admitting the residential and commercial parts of DC as a state will at last give us representation in Congress and control over our state and local government.

How will Statehood be achieved?

Statehood will be achieved by the House and Senate passing and the President signing legislation admitting the new state. Statehood legislation, which requires a simple majority vote and cannot be repealed, is the way that every state, except for the original 13, became part of the United States. The people of the District of Columbia have voted in support of statehood, have approved a state constitution, a representative form of government and the proposed boundaries. The next step is Congressional passage of statehood legislation such as the State of Washington DC Admission Act, which was introduced in the 115th Congress.

Wouldn't it make more sense for DC to join neighboring Maryland or Virginia?

The District of Columbia has been separate from Maryland and Virginia for over 200 years. While DC, Maryland, and (Continued on page 9 Frequently Asked Questions)

(Continued from page 8 Frequently Asked Questions)

Virginia work cooperatively on many regional issues, neither Maryland nor Virginia residents are interested in annexing the District of Columbia. Likewise, DC residents prefer the full autonomy that only Statehood can provide. Thirteen Members of Congress from Maryland and Virginia are sponsoring the Admission Act in the 115th Congress.

Isn't DC already represented in the US Congress by Eleanor Holmes Norton?

Yes and no. DC's Delegate in the US House of Representatives (currently Eleanor Holmes Norton) can sit on and vote in Committees, can introduce legislation, can participate in legislative debates, but she cannot vote on bills being considered by the full House. We have no representation in the US Senate.

Is it Constitutional for the federal district to be reduced in size and the residential and commercial portions of DC to become a State?

Yes. Article I. Section 8 of the Constitution sets only a maximum size (" ... not exceeding ten Miles square ... ") for the federal "Seat of the Government of the United States". Congress has the authority to redefine the borders of the federal district. (Congress did so, for instance, in 1846 when a portion of the original territory of the District of Columbia west of the Potomac River was retroceded to Virginia.)

If DC becomes the 51st State, what will happen to the federal seat of government, monuments and museums?

This area is unpopulated, will be clearly mapped and will remain in place under federal jurisdiction. Only the residential and commercial areas of the District of Columbia will be part of the new 51st State. Of course, these areas include some federal properties that will continue to function just as all federal properties do in the 50 states.

Can DC afford to be a State?

Yes. Washington, DC now operates as if it was a State and its vibrant urban economy has a bigger gross domestic product than many States. DC pays over \$26 billion/year in federal taxes - more than many states. DC has balanced its budgets year-after-year for at least 20 years and now enjoys a credit rating that is the envy of jurisdictions across the country. Local taxes, not federal dollars, constitute the vast majority of the District's budget. When the new state is admitted, it will also take back the judicial branch from the federal government, including the prison system, which will increase the size of the budget. Establishing reciprocal tax arrangements with neighboring states will help to pay those costs.

Isn't DC too small to be a State?

No. The population of the District of Columbia is nearly 700,000 -- more than the States of Wyoming and Vermont. In any case, there are no population or geographic size criteria for Statehood in the US Constitution.

Where do things now stand with DC's quest to become the 51st State?

The State of Washington DC Admission Act has been introduced in both the Senate and the House with multiple cosponsors representing many States. The next step is to pass such legislation and get it signed into law. To do that will require the support of Americans from DC and across the country, the support of a majority in the US Congress, and the support of the President.

CALENDAR		
Wednesday, October 3, 2018 9:30am-noon	Legislative Hall 411 Legislative Ave Dover, DE 19901	LWVDE ADVOCACY CORPS Meeting. For details or to attend, contact committee chair Sandy Spence or our <u>Office Manager</u> .
Thursday, October 4, 2018	Federal Building Wilmington, DE	New Citizen Naturalization Ceremony. Naturalization Proceedings for the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware. Contact <u>Lorraine</u> <u>Botticelli</u> if you'd like to help distribute welcome packets at the ceremony.
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 11am-1pm	Lemon Leaf Café 2 North Main St Smyrna, DE 19977	LWVDE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE meeting. Second meeting of a new LWV state advocacy committee covering voting and elections in Delaware. If you are interested in voting/elections legislation and lobbying, contact Letty Diswood for details.

Saturday, October 13, 2018	For details go to https://ivote.de.gov	Register to Vote in the General Election. DEADLINE for unregistered citizens to register to vote before the November General Election.
Saturday, October 13, 2018 1-3pm	The Greene Turtle 425 Stanton Christiana Rd Newark, DE 19713	TED TALK - There's No Such Thing as Not Voting. Author, educator and civic entrepreneur Eric Liu speaks to reviving the joy of voting in his 2016 TED Talk, " <i>There's No Such Thing As Not Voting.</i> " Kay Palmer will lead an informal discussion among attendees afterward. Saturday afternoon at The Greene Turtle in Christiana. Order from the regular menu as desired.
Monday, October 15, 2018 1:30-3:30pm	Newark Free Library 750 Library Ave. Newark, DE 19711	GREAT DECISIONS - South Africa. The group will discuss the topic "South Africa's fragile democracy." As usual, many of the group will meet beforehand for lunch at Skipjack, The Shoppes of Louviers, 401 Louviers Dr., Newark, DE 19711. Contact Flo Waibel for information.
Monday, October 22, 2018 11:30am-1pm	Michaels Restaurant 1000 Churchman's Rd Newark, DE 19713	HOT TOPIC LUNCH - Delaware off-shore wind project. Joy Weber, Skipjack Project Manager from Deepwater Wind, will tell us about this project off Delaware's coast. The turbines and platforms are scheduled to begin construction in 2023. \$15 buffet lunch; RSVP to the Office Manager. The public is cordially invited to attend.
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 7pm	DSU Bank of America Building, Room 113 (Auditorium) 1200 N DuPont Hwy Dover, DE 19901	LWVDE Candidates Forum for Statewide Offices. The League of Women Voters of Delaware is planning a candidate forum for statewide offices at Delaware State University in Dover. Candidates for U.S. Senate, U.S. House, state Attorney General, and State Auditor are expected to attend.
Thursday, November 1, 2018	Federal Building Wilmington, DE	New Citizen Naturalization Ceremony. Naturalization Proceedings for the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware. Contact Lorraine Botticelli if you'd like to help distribute welcome packets at the ceremony.
Monday, November 5, 2018 6:30 - 8:30pm	Immanuel Church, Highlands 2400 W 17th Street Wilmington, DE 19806	LWVNCC BOARD MEETING. Monthly meeting of the League of Women Voters of New Castle County Board of Directors. Community Room of Immanuel Highlands Church.
Tuesday, November 6, 2018 7am-8pm	(your polling place)	General Election. Vote for one U.S. Senator, our Representative in Congress, State Attorney General, Treasurer and Auditor, half of our State Senators and all State Representatives.
Monday, November 19, 2018 1:30-3:30pm	Newark Free Library 750 Library Ave. Newark, DE 19711	GREAT DECISIONS - Global Health. The group will discuss the topic "Global health: progress and challenges." As usual, many of the group will meet beforehand for lunch at Skipjack, The Shoppes of Louviers, 401 Louviers Dr., Newark, DE 19711. Contact Flo Waibel for information.
Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 5:30-7:45pm	DSU MLK Student Center, RTE 13 Dover, DE.	LWVDE Board Meeting. Board meeting for the Delaware state-level combined League and Ed Fund. RSVP to <u>Joann Hasse</u> .
Thursday, December 6, 2018	Federal Building Wilmington, DE	New Citizen Naturalization Ceremony. Naturalization Proceedings for the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware. Contact Lorraine Botticelli if you'd like to help distribute welcome packets at the ceremony.

League of Women Voters of New Castle County 2400 W 17th Street, Clash Wing, Room 1, Lower Level Wilmington, DE 19806

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