

## Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy

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

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County invites you to its' monthly  
**TED X Talk Discussion**

**1# The Next Outbreak? We Are Not Ready.**

**#2 How We Must Respond to the Coronavirus Pandemic**

**Saturday, April 18, at 1:00 p.m.**

The format is to watch the TED X Talk and then discuss the Ideas Worth Sharing.

Join us for an engaging discussion from your location on your computer, ipad or cell phone via Zoom.

Simply go to <https://zoom.us/j/4678140425>.

The meeting ID number is 467 814 0425. Or you can dial in to: 1(929) 205-6099.

This month's TED Talk discussion speaks to the special time that we are living in. The discussion will be centered on **two TED Talks by Bill Gates**. The first talk is titled, ***The Next Outbreak? We Are Not Ready***. Mr. Gates presented this talk in 2015 following the Ebola outbreak in 2014. As noted in the talk the world avoided a global outbreak as a result of "some very good luck" and thousands of selfless health workers. In the talk Mr. Gates talks to the lessons learned and putting the good ideas into practice in readiness for the next potential outbreak. The presentation is thought provoking and we are now living in the 'next outbreak'. We will then consider a segment of Mr. Gates insights into our current situation in an interview, recorded on March 24, with Chris Anderson, the person behind the TED Talk organization. This interview is titled, ***How We Must Respond to The Coronavirus Pandemic***.



Bill Gates is the cofounder and former CEO of Microsoft. In 2008 he joined his wife Melinda Gates to form the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The foundation is focused on providing vital guidance and creative funding to programs in global health and education. In the TED Talk description Mr. Gates is described as: "A passionate techie and a shrewd businessman, Bill Gates changed the world while leading Microsoft to dizzying success. Now he's doing it again with his own style of philanthropy and passion for innovation."

We will review the TED Talks together during the scheduled time. However, if you would like to preview them or have interest in reviewing again after, the links are:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/bill\\_gates\\_the\\_next\\_outbreak\\_we\\_re\\_not\\_ready](https://www.ted.com/talks/bill_gates_the_next_outbreak_we_re_not_ready)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/bill\\_gates\\_how\\_we\\_must\\_respond\\_to\\_the\\_coronavirus\\_pandemic](https://www.ted.com/talks/bill_gates_how_we_must_respond_to_the_coronavirus_pandemic)

Contact Kay Palmer if you have any questions – [kaypalmer@42llc.com](mailto:kaypalmer@42llc.com)

(Continued on page 2 TED X Talk)

(Continued from page 1 **TED X Talk**)

**NOTE:** Zoom is free to you to join into this video presentation. If this is your first time using Zoom you may want to go to the Zoom app a little before the 1:00 start of the discussion to download the application. Zoom will allow us to see each other (if you are interested, have a web camera in your computer, and select the video option) for the discussion. Kay will be able to share her computer screen so that you will be able to see the TED Talk video. [Make sure that your volume is turned on and up to ensure that you have the right volume for your hearing preference.](#)

## President's Message -----

 by **Marj Johnson**



As we have heard so often lately, we are living in difficult, trying times and I hope that you are staying at home, practicing social distancing and staying well. In these unprecedented conditions, the LWVNCC has still been trying to do the work of preserving democracy as you will see below, and we are working on alternative ways to provide voters with as much information and education as we can. It has been a steep learning curve to adapt to new technologies and to learn new ways of communicating.

We are disappointed that so many events regarding the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of both the League and the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment are having to be cancelled. We were looking forward to great celebrations and learning experiences, in collaboration with various partners. And even while the legislature is not in session, our various committees are hard at work to be ready when it resumes.

But in the end, we are most concerned about everyone's health and so I leave you with the following:

*Prayer for a Pandemic* - Cameron Bellm

May we who are merely inconvenienced, remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors, remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close, remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember, those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market, remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home, remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

**WASH YOUR HANDS!**

## Delaware VOTE411

The Delaware VOTE411 voter guide for school board elections will launch on May 4, 2020 (rather than the planned date in early April). This will give candidates time to formulate their responses when the current preoccupation with more pressing business has eased. If you want to join this project and help inform Delaware voters about the candidates on their ballots, contact Kim Wells at 302-650-6897 or [kimwells19702@gmail.com](mailto:kimwells19702@gmail.com).

We're counting on DE Leaguers to help friends and neighbors "**Be Aware. VOTE Aware**" with VOTE411.



Inform the Vote. Shape the Future.

**Delaware 2020 VOTE411 go-live dates: April 30 for Pres. Primary, May 4 for school board elections.**

School board elections will be held on June 16 in New Castle County (Appoquinimink, Brandywine, Christina, Red Clay districts), Kent County (Caesar Rodney, Capital and Milford districts) and Sussex (Laurel, Woodbridge and Indian River nominating district 4)

## VOTE411 Ambassador Action list

Here's what you can do to help voters get informed at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org)

**Starting May 4, 2020** (when the spring voter guide has data) ...

1. Get a VOTE411 magnet from Kim Wells and put it on your car.
2. Facebook...
  - a. Add a VOTE411 frame to your Facebook profile picture
  - b. Share posts from the "VOTE411 - Delaware" page
  - c. Change your cover photo to the one from that page (the green one with election dates & deadlines)
3. Distribute VOTE411 handout cards at your neighborhood HOA meeting or legislator's constituent coffee.
4. Drop the little table tents in places where people sit and wait:
  - a. Magazine table in the waiting area at the hair salon
  - b. Doctor's offices, dentist offices, medical clinics, blood bank
  - c. On the tables or bulletin board at neighborhood café's
5. Write a simple letter to the editor. You can just say... *Voting is important! And it is easy to find election and candidate information on VOTE411.*



**The week before each election...**

6. Make a post on Nextdoor.com "*Remember to vote on <date>! <etc.>*"
7. If you own a business with a signboard, or know someone who does, have them post a simple message. E.g. "**VOTE on <date>. Election info at VOTE411.org**"

To register, change parties, or request an absentee ballot go to <https://ivote.de.gov/voterview>

## ELECTION COMMITTEE

The Elections and Voting Committee drafted a letter to Governor Carney and the legislature asking for changes in absentee voting due to COVID-19. Subsequently, the Governor delayed the presidential primary to June 2, and expanded the absentee ballot definition of sick or physically disabled to include social distancing due to the coronavirus. You should have received a copy of this letter and it is on our website.

The elections committee will meet by zoom on April 7, 2020 at 11 am to review other changes to the election process at this time. For example, Rep. Bentz just amended HB175 - Vote by Mail to remove the previous effective date of 2022. Please contact me if you would like to participate at [jillitzkowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jillitzkowitz@gmail.com).

If you choose to go to the polls in the future view this Video about how to use the new voting machine. Here is the link: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/article/how-vote-video-new>

## ALTERNATIVE VOTING STUDY



The LWVDE Alternative Voting Study has entered the external interview phase. We are working a bit more slowly than anticipated as many election stakeholders are preoccupied with crisis management. However, we have done a few remote interviews in March and the people we've spoken with have been helpful and interested in the alternative voting concepts.

If you'd like to join in the work of the Alternative Voting Study team, please contact co-chairs Kim Wells at 302-650-6897 or [kimwells19702@gmail.com](mailto:kimwells19702@gmail.com) and Jill Itzkowitz Co-chair [jillitzkowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jillitzkowitz@gmail.com).

## VOTER SERVICE UPDATE

Voter registration/information tables were set up at nine high schools before the schools were shut down due to the emergency directives by the Governor. They were held from February 11- March 12: Glasgow, Cab Calloway/Charter, McKean, Howard, Al dupont, Friends, St. Georges Technical, Dickinson, and Concord. We plan to continue with voter registrations in the fall with high schools we missed and possibly go back to some of them, and will reschedule registration drives at other venues that were cancelled for the end of March through May.

Voter registration and information tables were set up at the following New Castle County libraries:

All locations were scheduled for 10:00 am-4:00 pm at all locations:

- 3/14 Hockessin Library
- 3/14 Woodlawn Library
- 3/20 Newark Free Library
- 3/21 Claymont Public Library
- 3/21 Bear Library
- 4/4 Route 9 Library and Innovation Center (Cancelled)

Thank you to all the volunteers who spent countless hours and were very disappointed when the schools closed down.

If you choose to go to the polls in the future view this Video about how to use the new voting machine. Here is the link: <https://my.lwv.org/delaware/article/how-vote-video-new>

*Patti Christopher, Alan Evantash and Dini Silber, Coordinators*

## GREAT DECISIONS

We are sad to learn of the death of Meta Little, who was a faithfully contributing member of our group for several years. Meta lived a good life that we celebrate.

Check with Flo Waibel, [fmwaibel@udel.edu](mailto:fmwaibel@udel.edu) 302-737-7848 if these meetings are going to take place through ZOOM. Remember that “Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking” will be led by Judy Taggart on April 20. We are seeking a leader for “Red Sea Security” on May 18, and for “U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle” on June 15. Thank you to all who have volunteered to lead topics.



## UPDATE ON NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES IN WILMINGTON DE

The Naturalization ceremonies held at the US District Court for the District of Delaware has cancelled April and May events. Currently there is no definitive plan for June. The team at the District Court will keep me informed of any future changes. For your information, here is the District Court’s update from their website dated March 22, 2020:

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 22, 2020**

**All Delaware Court facilities ordered closed to the public until April 15, 2020**

*Only limited exception is for 24-hour Justice of the Peace Court locations*

Delaware Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. today ordered all court facilities closed to the public as of Monday, March 23, 2020 until at least April 15, 2020 as part of the Delaware Judiciary’s ongoing response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

In his order, the Chief Justice noted that the escalation of the spread of the COVID-19 virus now requires greater precautionary measures to protect the health and safety of litigants, practitioners, court staff and the public.

I will keep everyone posted as I learn of any changes. Thanks again to all the volunteers who play such an important role in these events. Stay healthy and stay home!

*Lorraine Botticelli, Chair*

### The following activities and events have been postponed

- **OFFSHORE WIND POTENTIAL FOR DELAWARE** Presentation and Panel Discussion. Presenter: Willett Kempton, UD Professor, College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment, Sunday, March 22, 3:00 p.m. UD STAR Campus Health Science Complex, North Atrium, 540 S. College Avenue, Newark, DE 19713, Sponsors: Delaware Sierra Club, Interfaith Power and Light, League of Women Voters, NCC, UD Students for the Environment. We are looking for alternative ways to present this important conference.
- **CANDIDATE FORUM – NEWARK CITY COUNCIL** - Cancelled  
Tuesday, March 24, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Evergreen Room, Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Drive, Newark
- **HOT TOPIC LUNCHESES** – to be re-scheduled
- **CURRENTLY POSTPONED** (to be re-scheduled): Listing continued page 6.

- 3/16 Great Decisions discussion (India & Pakistan) at Newark Free Library
- 3/18 and 3/22 film showings of *Iron Jawed Angels* in Sussex county
- 3/22/20 Newark Offshore Wind Presentation and Panel Discussion
- 3/26/20 League Day in Dover
- April suffrage and VOTE411-related film showings in NCC and Sussex
- May 1 through May 3 Seneca Falls trip



**Welcome New Members**

**Barbara Jezl**, bjezl@aol.com, 302-368-8254

**Jillian Farley**, jmfarley23@gmail.com, 302-293-2471

**Anna L. Quisel**, annaquisel@gmail.com, 302-545-3639 cell

**Linda Texter Hall**, texterhall@comcast.net, 302-478-8784 home

**REMEMBER TO FILL OUT THE CENSUS 2020!**

**CALENDAR**

Monday, April 6, 2020, 6:30 -8:30 pm	ZOOM meeting	<b>LWVNCC BOARD MEETING.</b> Regular meeting of the League of Women Voters of New Castle County Board of Directors.
Tuesday, April 7, 2020, 11 a.m. - noon	ZOOM meeting	<b>ELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING.</b> Contact Jill Itzkowitz for details (302-650-6862) jillitzkowitz@gmail.com
Wednesday, April 8, 2020, 9:30 - noon	ZOOM meeting	<b>LWVDE ADVOCACY CORPS Meeting.</b> Regular 2nd Wednesday meeting of the LWVDE Advocacy Corps (legislative lobby group) in Dover. For details or to attend, contact Advocacy Chair Linda Barnett
Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 3:00 – 5:00 pm	ZOOM meeting	<b>LWVDE BOARD MEETING.</b> Note: Board meeting for the Delaware state-level. RSVP to Carol Jones sundiallee@aol.com.
Saturday, April 18, 2020, at 1:00 pm	ZOOM meeting	<b>Watch TED X Talk then Discussion:</b> #1The Next Outbreak? We Are Not Ready. #2 How We Must Respond to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Two TED Talks by Bill Gates. Contact Kay W. Palmer, 302.983.6946.

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