

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
You are invited to the**

Annual Meeting
which has transitioned to ZOOM
Monday, June 22, 2020
11:30 A.M - 1 P.M.

Hear about the great things your board and committees are doing, meet your new board members and vote on budgets and bylaw amendments that will allow us to hold an annual meeting virtually in an emergency such as now.

Check out pages 2-12 with pictures, biographies, and committee reports.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting: "LWVNCC Annual Meeting June 2020"
When: **Jun 22, 2020 11:30 AM** Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpc--prT4qE9LePuc7oPRbS49eDPoj-4qG>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The League of Women Voters of New Castle County invites you to its monthly

TED X Talk Discussion

Presenter, Heather C. McGhee How racism fuels bad policymaking and drains our economic potential"

Saturday. June 20 at 1:00.

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.
Go to the link on next page at end of this notice to pre-register.

(Continued from page 1 **TED TALK**)

It is hard not to be moved in some way by the current events stemming from racism currently occurring in our country. It is in this spirit that the TED Talk discussion for this month has been chosen.

In the words of www.TED.com, "TED believes that black lives matter and that each of us has a role to play in opposing racism, injustice and oppression. We invite you to use our archive of powerful ideas from experts and thought leaders as a starting point to understand the roots of racism, its painful consequences -- and how we can combat it together." A play list is available of twenty-three TED Talks that are devoted to racism. I would encourage you to view the playlist. One particularly moving talk is presented by Kimberle' Crenshaw, entitled **The Urgency of Intersectionality**. (www.ted.com/talks/kimberle_crenshaw_the_urgency_of_intersectionality?referrer=playlist-talks_to_help_you_understand_r)

Though the talk by Ms. Crenshaw brought me to tears, the TED Talk chosen for this month is **Racism Has A Cost for Everyone** by Heather McGhee. This talk was selected in that it steps away from the emotional aspects of racism to highlight the reality of the position. Ms. McGhee notes that; "Racism makes our economy worse -- and not just in ways that harm people of color." In this talk, Ms. McGhee points out the cost of being racially divided.

Heather C. McGhee is a public policy expert who designs and promotes solutions to inequality in America. She works to show what "individuals, governments and the private sector can do to help the country live up to its ideals".

Join us for an engaging discussion on Ms. McGhee's insights into "how racism fuels bad policymaking and drains our economic potential" from your location via Zoom on June 20 at 1:00."



Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrfuGsrTMjE9QjmOqti1gxxedrpu6pLBe>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Contact Kay Palmer if you have any questions – kaypalmer@42llc.com.

Zoom is a 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.

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

11:30 CALL TO ORDER (Marj Johnson, President)

- Presentation and adoption of proposed Ament to Bylaws
- Acceptance of the Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting (copy available)
- Year-end Treasurer's Report - Katharine Olinchak (files sent in a separate email)
- Presentation and adoption of Proposed Budgets 2020-21 and 2021-2022 (files sent in a separate email)
- Election of Officers and Directors 2020-2022
- President's Address: Marj Johnson
- Recognition of board members
- Directions to the New Board

1:00 ADJOURN ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting business will include the adoption of **PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES, BUDGETS, A SLATE OF NOMINEES.**

NOMINEES FOR 2020 - 2021

Officers:

2nd. Vice Pres: Patti Christopher 2020-2022
Treasurer: Kay Palmer 2020-2022

Directors:

Abigail Frelich 2020-2022
Ivonne Antongiorgi 2020-2022
Carol Holt 2020-2022
Shaniya Lewes 2020-2022
Karen Stanley 2020-2022
Melody Taylor 2020-2022

Nominating Committee: 2020-2021

Linda Barnett, Chair
Alan Evantash
Lorraine S. Botticelli

There will be two additional members appointed from the new board.

Continuing in office: Officers:

President: Marjorie (Marj) Johnson 2019-2021
1st Vice Pres.: Richard Johnson 2019-2021
Secretary: Carmela Longobardi 2019-2021
Directors: Cami Seward 2019-2021

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Linda Barnett, Chair, Letty Diswood, Alan Evantash, Richard Johnson, Kay Palmer

DIRECTOR - NORMA IVONNE ANTONGIORGI

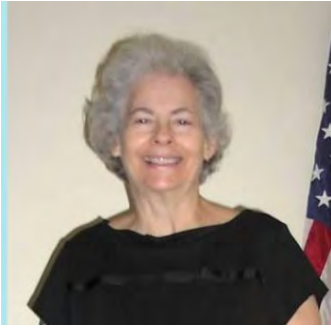


Norma Ivonne Antongiorgi grew up in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and came to Delaware 45 years ago to study at the University of DE where she completed a Master’s Degree in Bilingual Education and School Administration and Supervision. Ms. Antongiorgi was the Head of the Bilingual Education Program for NCC when schools in New Castle County were under a desegregation court-mandate. She also served as a bilingual teacher and worked in the Red Clay School District Services Office.

Ms. Antongiorgi has lived in the Pike Creek area for 34 years and is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Mill Creek.

Ms. Antongiorgi is an advocate of programs that promote cultural understanding, social justice, and equity in public education. She is a retired educator and has served as a member of the Wilmington Education Advisory Committee, La Academia Alonso Charter School Board of Directors, the Education Sub-Committee of DE Hispanic Commission, and the Education Equity Coalition Steering Committee.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR - LINDA BARNETT



Linda joined the LWVNCC in the summer of 2015. She has become an active member of the Advocacy Corps, currently serving as chair and also focusing on legislative proposals dealing with social policy. Linda is also active in the American Association of University Women and currently serves as Financial Officer of the AAUW Wilmington Branch. Linda has lived in Delaware since 1978 and worked for the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services as a planner for over 35 years. She and her husband made a variety of locales home prior to settling in Delaware – including Gainesville, Florida; Los Angeles; Flagstaff, Arizona; and Omaha, Nebraska (moves prompted by her husband’s career as a Sociologist and then Professor of Law).

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - LORRAINE S. BOTTICELLI



Lorraine graduated from Anna Marie College in Worcester, Mass. where she began a ten-year career as a registered Medical Technologist in Connecticut and Massachusetts hospital laboratories. She was recruited by DuPont Medical Products where she spent 33 years in the industry through two acquisitions where she completed her career as Director of Global Product Support. Her key accomplishments include being awarded the Leadership in Customer Excellence Award. Lorraine was the founding chair for an employee resource group entitled Women’s Information Network. During her tenure she developed their focus on mentoring/coaching and concentrating on community support activities. After retirement from Siemens Healthcare, Glasgow, Del. in 2012, she is now serving as a quality and regulatory consultant. As a volunteer for the American Cancer Society for 20 years, she was awarded the Dr. Stephen Edell Award and the Pacesetter Fundraiser Award. Recently she was named a member of the American Cancer Society Leadership Council. Lorraine also volunteers her time with Planned Parenthood of Delaware.

She joined the LWV in December 2016 and is currently a member of New Citizen Welcoming Committee. Lorraine has a daughter who lives in Miami, Florida. She is an avid reader, enjoys gardening, spending time with her two rescued cats, Bella and Stella, and summers at her Jersey Shore home.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT - PATTI CHRISTOPHER



Patti and her husband Bill have been married for 49 years. They have two children and three grandsons. She retired from Christiana Care after 40 years in the Cardiac arena. For the past three years Patti has worked part time as a recovery room nurse in the Endoscopy Center. Being involved in the community is imperative to Patti. She has been a member of the League of Women Voters for over 15 years. Her major focus has been on Voter Registration, working at times with the New Citizen Ceremony and serving on the Board at various times. Besides her involvement with the League, Patti is on the Board for Mom's House, a Daycare, and cook for outreach programs such as Sojourners and Ministry of Caring. Downtime, she loves working in her herb garden, canning, cooking and travel.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - ALAN EVANTASH



Alan joined the LVWNCC this year and is a member of the Elections Committee. He belongs to the Indivisible Highlands and Beyond group, which has actively worked with the League to sponsor voter registration events for the 2018 election. Alan is a retired diagnostic radiologist, having practiced at Christiana Care Health System and its precursors for 43 years. He served on many committees while at Christiana Care, primarily related to information technology. He currently serves on the Board of the Kutz Senior Living Campus. His interests are photography and travel. Alan is married to Peggy Lubin. They each have two children and four grandchildren. Alan did his residency training at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, medical school at Temple University, and undergraduate studies at Cornell University.

DIRECTOR - ABBIGAIL FRELICH (ABBY)



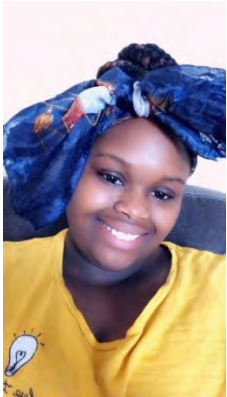
Abbigail Frelich is a Senior Project Manager at Nemours Children's Health System, and has served in various operational roles for most of her career. She finds joy in bringing multiple teams together and helping them communicate and work together to create value and improve processes.

Her educational background in languages and literature manifests in her ability to 'translate' between disparate groups to help them find common ground and alignment of purpose. Abby is passionate about learning, and has presented to global audiences on the topic of organizational Project Management, education, and cultural transformation. She serves as a volunteer facilitator for Financial Peace University classes at her church, and is a lifelong student dedicated to maintaining a growth mindset. When she's not leading teams and changing the world, Abby can be found reading, knitting, exploring state parks, fishing, taking part in community events, and spending time with her family.

DIRECTOR- CAROL HOLT

Carol is currently on a job out of state; she will be back. Carol's professional career is in the health care field, that includes prisons and other areas involving health care and advocacy.

DIRECTOR - SHANIYA LEWIS



Shaniya Lewis graduates from William Penn High School this year. When she isn't taking AP and honors classes, participating in Mock Trial, or teaching younger students about the negative effects of drugs, alcohol and drugs through the 4H Health Rock program, she serves as president of the Youth Council for the Newark Branch of the NAACP saying she joined because she wants to be a change agent and stand up against racial and social injustice. In 2019, Lewis was appointed to the Board of Directors of the NCC League of Women Voters. "I felt it was just wrong to stand on the sidelines and do nothing," Lewis says. Additionally, she was accepted into Network Delaware's Ella Baker Program focusing on shaping African American leaders. A relative newcomer to Penn in the 2018-2019 school year, Lewis says she couldn't help but notice that her new peers came from what she calls "a place of struggle," but she admires the sense of comradery and the interest fellow students express when she talks about her work with the League and the NAACP. After graduation, Lewis would like to explore the realms of political science and social policy as they pertain to inequities and disparities in communities of color and communities of low income.

TREASURER - KAY PALMER



Ms. Kay Wilde Palmer founded her own consulting firm, The 42 Group, LLC, in 1997. The 42 Group is a boutique consulting firm that focuses on organizational performance. Most of Kay's work has been in the nuclear power generation industry. Community activity highlights have included serving as the Board President for the Delaware Women's Conference, Board member of the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce, recipient of the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneurial Advocate of the Year award, and a candidate for the 24th District Delaware State Representative. She currently is on the board for the Philadelphia / New Jersey chapter of the Institute of Management Consultants. Kay has been a member of the League of Women Voters since 2012. As a member she facilitates the monthly TED Talk discussions. She lives in Newark with Burt, the guy who lights up her life, their dog and two cats.

DIRECTOR - KAREN STANLEY



Karen, born in Ohio, grew up in the southern United States, and circuitously arrived in Delaware from Connecticut five years ago. She brings over 30 years of experience in program development, management, quality assurance, patient advocacy, and bioethics chairmanship in her role as an advanced practice nurse in oncology, pain management, and palliative care. She developed pain and palliative care services for two separate healthcare systems and was named employee of the year at Kaiser Permanente, Southern California. As president of the 40,000 member professional association, the Oncology Nursing Society, she focused her tenure on the development of evidence based practice, patient-focused policies, lobbied tirelessly at the state and national level for improvements in oncology and palliative care, and collaborated/travelled internationally to improve and provide oncology care in Europe, Asia, and Australia. Her current volunteer activities include the Delaware Food Bank, register to vote activities in seven separate states, work at Goodstay Gardens, and participating in several committees at the Osher Institute of Lifelong Learning. She is currently a member of the LWNCC VOTE411 group.

DIRECTOR - MELODY TAYLOR



Melody is a native Delawarean born and raised in Sussex County. She attended Delaware State University obtaining a degree in Sociology. Notably, Melody recently completed Harvard's Kennedy School of Government's Executive Leadership program. She has lived and dedicated her career to civil rights and fair housing. Melody relocated to the Bear, DE area approximately 10 years ago after spending a number of years in Washington, DC working for a variety of public and private civil rights organizations with a long standing career with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing. She currently serves as the Regional Director for the Mid-Atlantic Region. She is committed to all matters relating to equity and creating opportunities for disenfranchised populations.

Melody is happily married John Bentick and has a daughter that also attends Delaware State University.

CONTINUING IN OFFICE

PRESIDENT - MARJORIE (MARJ) JOHNSON



Marj grew up in Cleveland Heights, Ohio; went to Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa; and graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh. She worked for 42 years in pediatric physical therapy and truly loved her job. Marj retired in 2006 and has been busy ever since! She is a long-time member of Concord Presbyterian Church, serving on several boards and teaching adult education. She volunteers with Literacy Delaware -- teaching English as a second language, currently to a woman from Mexico. Marj attends classes at Osher Academy of Lifelong Learning and plays in the band and flute choir there. She is also active in Delawareans for Palestinian Human Rights. Marj loves music, travelling and working in the garden. Her daughter and family live close by, which means she can see her grandsons often—one age 19 is attending Berklee College of Music in Boston, and one about to go into 7th grade at PS DuPont. Marj is in her second term as President of LWVNCC.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT - RICHARD JOHNSON



Richard Johnson brings 45 years of management, marketing and sales experience in various industries including Medical Products, Associations, IT, commercial furniture and automotive. Since 2001 he has worked with the CEO of AutoPort, Inc., New Castle, to diversify the business by developing and implementing a sale and marketing approach that is the main revenue contributor for the company. Richard is part of the senior management team and serves on the AutoPort Board of Directors. From 1996 to 2000, he was one of the founders of Cytometrics, Inc., Philadelphia, PA, a medical device company where he was part of a three-man team that raised \$55 million of private equity to fund the company. Mr. Johnson has held senior management roles with Nemschoff Chairs, Sheboygan, WI and the American Hospital Association, Chicago, Il.. For 15 years, he was employed by the E. I. DuPont de Nemours, Co. where he moved up the ranks from sale representative to Regional Manager Corporate Healthcare. He is the proud father of two children and two grandchildren. He earned a Bachelor of Art degree in Biology from Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois, and is a Vietnam veteran. He has been on the LWVNCC Board for the past three years.

SECRETARY - CARMELA LONGOBARDI



Carmela Longobardi is a native Delawarean. She is devoted to her family, community and her profession. She graduated from St. Mark's High School and later attended Brandywine College where she studied accounting. Always believing she was a social worker at heart, she later obtained a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science from Wilmington University and a Master of Social Work from Widener University. She has worked for Christiana Care for 37 years where she is currently a senior social worker at the Christiana Hospital and St. Patrick's Center in Wilmington, Del. In the community she is currently Chair of the Delaware Grief Awareness Consortium and is the Executive Director of the Greenhill Pharmacy Foundation. She has served the past three years as secretary.

DIRECTOR - CAMI SEWARD



Cami Seward relocated to Delaware, after living in Juneau, Alaska for 23 years, to be near her parents, and her husband’s parents. Having lived in multiple states, the Washington, D.C. area had always remained her home base. Cami earned a degree in Social Work, raised her two sons and, except for several years in real estate, spent most of her career in the field of juvenile justice. Moving to Delaware in 2009, she served as the Parish Administrator at St. Thomas’s Episcopal Church in Newark which allowed time to attend to the needs of her family and to get to know the First State. She is now fully retired, active with several faith communities and social justice organizations, enjoys time with her family and friends, and gardening with a focus on native plants. She most recently served the League of Women Voters NCC as Nominating Committee Chair, and is on the LWNCC board.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LWNCC BYLAWS

Amend Article V (Board of Directors), Sec.4 by adding the underlined language:

Sec. 4. Meetings. There shall be at least eight regular meetings of the Board or Executive Committee held annually four of which shall be meetings of the full Board. **If necessary, meetings of either the Board or the Executive Committee may be held by conference call or electronic method as long as all members of either entity have been notified and are able to participate as if it were an in-person meeting.** The President may call special meetings upon the written request of five members of the Board. More than three unexcused absences per year from regular Board or Executive Committee meetings may constitute a resignation from the Board. Board meetings and Executive committee meetings are open to all members. Only designated members of the Board or Executive Committee are eligible to vote.

Amend Article VII (Meetings), Sec. 2 by adding the underlined language:

Sec. 2. Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held between March 1, and June 30, the exact date to be determined by the Board. **In case of unusual circumstances, the date of the Annual Meeting may be changed and/or it may be held using electronic means as long as all members have been notified and efforts made to be inclusive of their participation, including voting.**

The Annual Meeting shall:

- a) Adopt a local Program in odd numbered years.
- b) Elect officers and directors, the chair and members of the Nominating Committee;
- c) Adopt a budget
- d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

President's Message -----

 **by Marj Johnson**



I hope as many of you as possible can join us for our 2020 annual meeting on 6/22/20, from 11:30-1 on Zoom. You can access it by computer or other device by video or by phone. While this is a different way to hold an annual meeting, it does give us the opportunity to do the League’s business (voting on ByLaws, electing board members and approving the budget) as well as to learn from various people about what your League has been doing this year, and how we are functioning in this time of pandemic. Please be sure to register when you first get the information and then a link to the meeting will be sent to you.

One of the things the board has been doing this year has been to incorporate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion activities and discussion into each board meeting.

(Continued on page 9 President’s Message)

(Continued from page 8 *President's Message*)

As you may be aware, the LWV has its own history of racial injustice for which we need make amends. Given the events of this past week, along with all the many events that have gone before over many years I want to affirm from LWVNCC that: the time for racial justice is long overdue; white privilege has gone on for too long; Black Lives Matter; criminal justice reform is essential; and elected officials need be held accountable on this issue and be part of the solution. We support the demonstrations, and are, in fact, proud of the many people around the world who have come out to speak out in support of George Floyd, but ultimately how we go forward from this depends on what happens at the ballot box. We need people in elected office who are willing to tackle the many injustices in this country. Each of us, also, needs to examine ourselves, our own prejudices, the systems that we help perpetuate, and figure out how we can serve each other for the common good and not for our own good. We acknowledge that America is a nation founded on racism, so all of us must contribute and participate in the work of achieving liberty and inclusion for everyone in all areas of society. At the recent LWVDE Council meeting, a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Awareness Program was presented by Gwen Miller for use by all three Leagues throughout this coming year. Let the conversation and the work begin. May this not be another moment which passes without any constructive response.

ELECTION COMMITTEE – Jill Itzkowitz, Chair



The next Zoom election committee meeting will be held July 7, at 11 am. If you would like to attend, please contact Jill Itzkowitz- jillitzkowitz@gmail.com.

If you missed our last Zoom Hot Topic meeting with the Election Commissioner, Anthony Albence, here is the link to the meeting. The link also includes important Delaware election dates and actions.

<https://my.lwv.org/delaware/new-castle-county/article/anthony-albence-presents-elections-update-lwvncc>

Here are the voting election committee milestones from 6/2019 - 6/2020

- HB38, which allows for early voting in 2022, was signed by the Governor on 6/30/2019. The LWVDE testified and lobbied for the passage of this bill.
- SB121, which details auditing requirements for the new voting machines, was signed by the Governor on 7/3/2019. The LWVDE assisted in identifying important auditing and security steps that will make our elections safer and more accurate.
- Prior to COVID-19, the election committee was focused on voter registration in the high schools and libraries, and voter registration and absentee ballots in the hospitals and prisons. These projects were put on hold and will resume later in the year.
- The first leg of the constitutional amendment for no excuse absentee voting (HB73) passed in February of this year. Last session, the bill failed to pass in the senate, needing one vote. The LWVDE worked with Senators to find that one vote; and succeeded.
- In March, the election committee drafted a letter to the Governor requesting that sheltering in place due to COVID-19 should be an acceptable excuse for absentee voting for the presidential primary. On March 24, the Governor announced that sheltering in place is a valid reason to request an absentee ballot.
- In April, the election committee issued an action alert for passage of HB175 - vote by mail.
- The election committee has communicated to members about important election dates, changes in voting due to COVID-19, and instructions on how to receive an absentee ballot. These communications have been included in the Voter, our websites, mass emails, and the upcoming virtual meeting with the election commissioner.

VOTER SERVICE UPDATE

VOTER REGISTRATION SERVICES – Patti Christophe, Voter Registration Coordinator

Prior to the Pandemic, we were involved in registration drives at Schools, New Castle County Libraries, Churches, and Events.

- Starting in 2019 till now, the LWV was able to contact and schedule voter registration events in 22 High Schools, and 20 private High Schools. When we were at these schools, registration was available in addition to information for VOTE411, absentee ballots (especially if the student was leaving for college) and any other information that was requested.
- All the New Castle County library branches had at least one registration event and more were scheduled prior to March.
- Various Churches had requested training, so that they would be able to assist the congregations.
- We participated in the " Art Loop" at a Studio and gave the visitors and clients information for VOTE411.
- We hosted 7 or more training classes for Volunteers to assist in these registration events. This enabled us to co-network with other organizations and helped our volunteer list grow to greater than 100.
- WE were able to apply and receive a grant for \$700 from LWVUS which helped defray our expenses. With this Grant it enabled us to pay for Sign Up Genius for a year (which will get us through the 2020 Election) that allows 11 administrators. It provided money for Banners for registration tables, and money for printing and postage.
- Since the lock down most of our activities came to a halt. However, we have been in touch with Nursing Homes and long-term facilities, making sure they have applied for Absentee ballot.

We are gradually contacting and working with the libraries, stores, etc. about setting up information/registration tables, which probably will be held outside following the appropriate social distancing guidelines.

We are urging all to go to register, **or request an absentee ballot for school board elections, presidential and general primaries go to <https://ivote.de.gov/voterview>.**

NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES 2019 REPORT – Lorraine Botticelli

It was a very busy and exciting year with 755 new citizens receiving their citizenship certification at the US District Court House in Wilmington De and at Clayton Hall, University of Delaware, Newark De. These new citizens represented over 250 countries such as Bangladesh, Canada, Ethiopia, Greece, India Mexico, Russia and many others with a number of these countries repeatedly represented throughout 2019.

The League of Women Voters New Castle County (LWVNCC) had the honor of greeting these new citizens and providing them with a voter information folder. This folder contained:

- Welcoming and introductory letter from the League of Women Voters Delaware
- Important Dates and Deadlines for 2020 Elections
- "This Way to the Voting Booth: A Citizen's Guide to Registration and Voting", a description of a citizen's responsibilities and voting information.
- The current roster of federal and state elected officials of Delaware.
- A flyer from the Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council (DCRAC), a nonprofit organization which provides education on taxes, house and credit.
- iVOTE.DE gov flyer which provides information on common voter and absentee services.

Our thanks to all the LWVNCC volunteers who compiled the folders, attended the ceremonies and helped with the distribution of this important voting information. Our thanks to DCRAC for funding the contents of this folder. Due to the current coronavirus pandemic and following CDC and state guidelines, these ceremonies have been cancelled through June 2020. More details will follow as these become available.

VOTE411 Activities

Our 2020 VOTE411 team has had their hands full responding to pandemic-related changes this election season. The graphic at right pretty much sums it up... elections have been a moving target.

In response, we've changed our promotional focus from in-person events to online messaging (social media, electronic newsletters and zoom demos), and we are promoting awareness of absentee ballot procedures just as hard as the VOTE411 guide.

As of June, 2020, VOTE411.org has candidate information posted for the July 7 presidential primary and July 21 school board elections in Delaware. In the late summer and fall, we'll turn our attention to the Sept. 15 state primary and Nov. 3 general election candidates.



NCC VOTE411 team members Callye Morrissey, Philippa Sunnergren, Sharon Kwiatkowski, Susan King and Karen Stanley show off their VOTE411 car magnets at a Feb 2020 project kickoff meeting.

We're counting on all League members to help us spread the word about VOTE411 and voting absentee in Delaware in 2020! Tell your friends and neighbors, post on nextdoor.com, put it in your newsletters.

Be Aware. VOTE Aware. Check out VOTE411.org.

VOTE411 "How-To" Training sessions

Not sure how to use VOTE411 website? Can't find your personalized ballot information? Register for one of these training sessions for a demo and personalized help using the tool:

- [Wednesday June 24, 11 am](#)
- [Wednesday June 24, 7 pm](#)
- [Wednesday July 1, 11 am](#)
- [Wednesday July 1, 7 pm](#)

YOUTH PROJECT – Susan Mitchell, Chair



The Youth Project program was established to bring the LWV-NCC to middle and high school students. Our major effort was designing a competition for high school students in New Castle County as part of our efforts to recognize the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Schools were asked to create a team of students to research, create, teach, and present a project in April 2020 focused on any aspect of voting and voting rights, not just necessarily women's voting rights. The winning team would be invited on a trip to Seneca Falls. All participants would receive membership in the League. Due to schools closing, stay-at-home orders, and other restrictions due to Covid-19, we set the project aside and are planning to re-activate it for the 2020-2021 school year.

TED Discussions – Kay Palmer



The TED Talk Discussion continued through this past year. The Saturday discussions include talks devoted to conversations that were related to Delaware legislature, but this year was expanded to reflect the LWV National focus on diversity and inclusion. The format is simple; the group watches an inspiring, thought-provoking video from TED.com together, and then talk about it afterward. We have continued the TED Talk Discussions via Zoom during this 'special time'.

The attendance varies in numbers depending on the topic. The most popular TED Talk Discussion of this last year was a 2015 presentation with Bill Gates regarding his view of how to prevent the next outbreak. (This was following on the 2014 Ebola outbreak.) Also included were excerpts from a March 2020 interview with Bill Gates on his then view of what was happening with CORVID 19. Many of the discussions are smaller groups that afford and thoughtful discussion. There are several consistent attendees with new faces and voices as well.

If you have suggestions for TED topics that you would be interested in or more information, please pass your ideas along to Kay Palmer (kaypalmer@42llc.com).

TED Ideas worth spreading*

Welcome New Members

Annette Collier 267-688-0706 collierrvp@aol.com Leslie Richeson, 302-731-4554, Email: larchcell@gmail.com
Kelly Stewart, 215-498-6638, 215-498-6638 cell, kastewart97@gmail.com

The LWNCC is growing! We are now 204 members. Thank you to all who have played a part in making this organization vital and working towards **Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy. We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.**

Here is a historical perspective of membership stats: **June 6, 2020, 206**; January 31, 2019, **172**; January 31, 2018, **148**; January 31, 2017, **151**; January 31, 2016, **146**; **January 31, 1998, 229**

SOCIAL JUSTICE – Cami Seward

Part of the mission of the League of Women Voters is to increase understanding of major public policy issues through education and advocacy. Most recently the social justice work of the League of Women Voters, New Castle County has spotlighted issues in Delaware public education, and criminal justice. We recognize climate change as an environmental justice issue, as well as the need for diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organization. The current budget reflects our desire to host informative events with speakers and refreshments in a wider number of venues. The goal is to offer information to our members and engage the wider public in the political process

LWVUS Responds to Police Killing of George Floyd

5/29/2020

WASHINGTON – The League of Women Voters of the United States issued the following statement in reference to the murder of George Floyd:

"The League of Women Voters grieves the murders of George Floyd and the countless other Black lives that have been tragically taken at the hands of rogue law enforcement officers who are rarely held fully accountable for their actions.

"We also mourn those who have lost their lives or been harmed, mentally or physically, as a result of America's pervasive culture of anti-blackness. The systems of oppression that have perpetuated the myth of white supremacy in our country must be dismantled if we are ever to become the nation we pledge to be—*indivisible, with liberty and justice for all*.

"As an organization whose mission is to empower voters and defend democracy, we stand in solidarity with all Black communities. The League shall do so not only by speaking out against racism in all forms, but by doing the work required of us to be anti-racist. We are committed to listening to and amplifying Black voices, and educating ourselves and our children on the historic and ongoing systemic racism that plagues this country.

"The League acknowledges, painfully, that America is a nation founded on racism. Therefore, all who live in this country must contribute to and participate in organizations actively working to achieve full liberation and inclusive freedom. We must all advocate for anti-racist policies at every level of government.

"We join the League of Women Voters of Minnesota in calling on law enforcement officials to provide transparency during this investigation, and to seek justice for George Floyd, his family, and his community.

"Finally, we echo the call of our partners at the NAACP: we must all vote in November – the road to change lies at the ballot box."

Contact: Sarah Courtney | 202-263-1332 | scourtney@lww.org

CALENDAR

Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 10 am - noon	ZOOM meeting	LWVDE ADVOCACY CORPS Meeting. Regular 2nd Wednesday meeting of the LWVDE Advocacy Corps (legislative lobby group) in Dover. For details or to attend, contact Advocacy Chair Linda Barnett
Monday, June 15, 1:00 pm	ZOOM meeting	GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION METING. Contact Brenda Toomey to receive the link to this meeting: brendatoomey@yahoo.com This is the first time they have transitioned to Zoom.
Wednesday, June 17, 2020 3-6 pm	ZOOM meeting	LWVDE BOARD MEETING. Regularly Scheduled the third Wednesday.
Saturday, June 20, 2020, at 1:00 pm	ZOOM meeting	Watch TED X Talk then Discussion. Presenter, Heather C. McGhee How racism fuels bad policymaking and drains our economic potential. Contact Kay W. Palmer, 302.983.6946.
Monday, June 22, 2020, 11:30 am-1:00 pm	ZOOM meeting	LWVNCC ANNUAL MEETING. Details are in this newsletter and a separate email will be sent with the budget, bylaw amendments and agenda.
June 25-27	ZOM & Webinars	LWVUS 2020 CONVENTION. Celebrating 100-year anniversary. Plenary sessions & caucuses held in late afternoon and evenings.
Monday, July 6, 2020, 6:30– 8:30 pm	ZOOM	LWVNCC BOARD MEETING. Regularly scheduled board meeting.
Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11 am –12	ZOOM meeting	ELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING. Contact Jill Itzkowitz for details (302-650-6862) jillitzkowitz@gmail.com

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