



The Lexington Voter

October 2011

The League of Women Voters of Lexington

October 11 Gubernatorial Candidate Debate at ECU

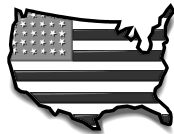
The League of Women Voters of Kentucky and the Kentucky Broadcasters Association will cosponsor a gubernatorial debate at ECU's new Center for the Arts, 521 Lancaster Avenue in Richmond, KY from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11. The event is **not** open to the general public but League members may obtain tickets from **Terry Naydan** terrynaydan@aol.com or **Nita Smith** nitavotes@aol.com.

This event will be broadcast live over 100 radio and television stations, both public and private, across the state. Questions posed to the candidates will be selected from items submitted by LWV members and Kentucky reporters. The forum will follow the League's debate format and guidelines.

Request your tickets by Oct. 5 or plan to tune in to the live coverage!

Voter Registration Continues

League representatives provided information and collected registration cards at UK's New Graduate Student Fair in August and at the Constitution Day event at Transylvania University on September 20. Although the intended Constitution Day speaker had to reschedule because of flight cancellations, students were still glad to have the opportunity to make registration changes.



Remember that the deadline to register to vote in the November general election is October 11. Remind your family and friends to register....and then VOTE!

PLEASE NOTE—the state website **VOTE KENTUCKY!** (<http://www.vote.ky.gov/>) is very user-friendly and full of helpful information to use and share with others.

Operation Turnout Candidate Forum To Be Held October 20

Operation Turnout, an organization which focuses on engaging the minority population of Central Kentucky in the political processes through voter education, registration, and commitment to vote is sponsoring a "Candidates Forum" on Thursday, October 20 at 6 p.m. The event will be held at Shiloh Baptist Church, 237 E. Fifth St.

Among the candidates who have indicated they will participate are:

Gubernatorial

Governor Steve Beshear
Gatewood Galbraith
State Senator David Williams

Attorney General

Jack Conway and Todd P'Pool

Secretary of State

Alison Lundergan Grimes and Bill Johnson

State Auditor

Adam Edelen and John T. Kemper

This event is open to the public and should be very informative. We encourage our members to attend.

Constitution Day Presentation Rescheduled for October 11

Dr. Tim Johnson will present his research "Learning at the Court: How Supreme Court Justices Use Oral Arguments to Decide Cases" on Tuesday, October 11 at 4:30 p.m. in Cowgill Center 102 on the Transylvania campus. If you are interested in attending this session, parking is allowed in any designated parking area on campus. The Cowgill Center is to the right of Old Morrison on the 3rd St. circular drive.

Questions for Education Study to Be Discussed on October 29

The process for the national LWV Education Study Consensus begins at the local level. In order to start the process, the October board meeting has been moved to 10 a.m. on October 29 and will be followed at 11:30 by a general membership meeting to be convened at Faith House (behind Faith Lutheran Church) to discuss the questions posed in the study which are summarized below for your consideration.

1. What do you think of the current role of the federal government in public education?
2. What should be the role of the federal government in public education?
3. Is a quality public education important to perpetuate a strong and viable democracy?
4. Currently governors and state education officers have developed Common Core Standards that are national but not federal. Should the standards be required of states in order to obtain federal funding?
5. Should a national (educational) assessment align with these common cores standards?
6. If adopted, to what end should the national standards lead?
7. What role should the national assessment consortia play in student evaluation?
8. Data from the national assessments are often difficult for parents, teachers and others to understand. If we have a national assessment, what information is most important to be reported to parents, teachers, students and the community?
9. How should information from nationally required assessment data be used?
10. In the past most of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding has been non-competitive based on need. All/Any schools that prove they fall under the federal guidelines for funding receive those funds. However, competitive grants are now being proposed to states/districts who meet certain federal requirements, such as "Race to the Top." Given a range of non-competitive to competitive funding, what do you believe is the best solution?
11. Should mandates, funded or not, be involved if the federal government's role is the concern of the "common good"?
12. Equity and adequacy have many different interpretations. What are federal responsibilities and what are local responsibilities? Should non-academic issues be considered? When it comes to equity in public education, how would you define equitable access?

13. Currently Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding is considered "categorical" rather than for general use. This means that it can only be used with special populations for special purposes. Should ESEA remain targeted toward poverty and special needs?
14. Should the federal government have a role in supporting early childhood education, birth to 5, for all children?
15. Should federal funds that support early childhood education programs (e.g. Head Start, Title I, Special Education, Early Start) include funding for parent education and support regarding child development, child health and nutrition, and access to other supportive services, such as mental health as needed?
16. If so, to whom should this funding be extended?

The background materials to help you form your answers to these questions can be found on the Lexington LWV website www.lwvlexington.com. If you need a paper copy, contact **Judy Johnson at 859-806-1309 or judylex@insightbb.com**.

Once you are familiar with the subject and have considered the background information, please join other members for discussion at Faith House on Saturday, October 29 at 11:30 a.m.

October 24 Movie and Discussion



The movie *Ironed Jawed Angels* will be shown at 7:00 p.m., Monday, October 24 at the Transylvania University Campus Center Gym at Broadway and Fourth Street.. The movie focuses on the American women's suffrage movement around the 1910s. It won critical acclaim at the Sundance Film Festival in 2004.

Discussion will be facilitated by Kathi Kern, Associate Professor of History at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Kern's research in the area of women's rights led her to write the book *Mrs. Stanton's Bible*.

Please join students and other League members for a stimulating "Night at the Movies."

Board Confirms Uses for Elaine Adland Endowment

At its September 17 meeting the board decided to invest the major portion of the generous endowment left to the LWV by the late Elaine Adland in a donor-advised account with the Bluegrass Community Foundation. This account will be used to support the League's Education Fund. All of the Voter Services events, Candidate Forums, Blue Sheets and other education-related special projects the LWV plans qualify for payment from this fund. Lobbying activities cannot be paid for from this fund.

Part of the endowment will be used to purchase national and state flags, with commemorative information engraved on the standards, to be displayed at public functions such as Candidate Forums.

Finally, part of the endowment will be used to support a proposed grant project to be announced before June of 2012.

The board decision-making process included consulting members and outside resources and discussing options for several weeks. Board members hope the choices made will honor the memory of a committed member who gave long years of service to the League.

Candidate School Workshop Set for November 12

"Candidate School Workshop" is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Glenn Marshall Elementary School's library on the second Saturday of November. The school is located at 1442 Robert R. Martin Bypass, Richmond, KY. Speakers will discuss their experiences campaigning and offer advice to potential candidates thinking about the road to representing our communities as an elected official.

This is an early announcement of the joint effort between the Lexington League and the Berea and Madison County League to encourage informed potential public servants. The session is open to League members and the general public. There is a \$10 cost to cover lunch. Anyone considering a future candidacy will benefit from the experiences of the presenters.

Members are asked to share the announcement of this event with friends, colleagues, and civic groups they may belong to. Please encourage interested parties to contact:

Cindy Heine at cindy.heine@insightbb.com or

Cecile Schubert at cecilel@roadrunner.com to register to attend.

Urban County Council Completes Redistricting Proposal

A total of 33,104 citizens of Fayette County will be shifted to new districts in the Redistricting Committee's efforts to meet a goal of a median population of 24,650 people per district, give or take 10 percent. The proposal was presented to council members at a workshop meeting on September 27.

The committee had to follow specific guidelines for its work. Precincts were to remain intact. Neighborhood associations were to remain intact. Council members should remain in their current districts. Deviation in population among the 12 districts should not exceed 10 percent.

The completed proposal must have two readings and be approved by the council before November 3, a deadline set by state law.

The redistricting map can be found at: www.kentucky.com/2011/09/28/1900424/urban-county-council-redistricting.html

 **SAVE THE DATE** 

December 3rd (5-7 p.m.) is the date for a joint state/local LWV fundraiser—an evening with Al Smith, former host of KET's "Comment on Kentucky." Suggested donation is \$25 per person, \$40 per couple. Details in November VOTER.

Dialogue Continues

The next Christian-Muslim Dialogue will be held Saturday, October 22 from 10 to noon at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Road. The topic is: "Sharia Law: What It Is and What It Isn't."



Return Service Requested

Lexington KY 40522
PO Box 22045
Lexington League of Women Voters



Calendar

LWV of Lexington Website: www.lwvlexington.com

Phone: 859-494-3203

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

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| Tuesday | Oct. 11 | 4:30 p.m. | Dr. Tim Johnson in Cowgill 102 at Transylvania University |
| | | 7:00 p.m. | Gubernatorial Debate in Arts Center at ECU, Richmond (broadcast live) |
| Thursday | Oct. 20 | 6:00 p.m. | Forum for State Candidates sponsored by Operation Turnout at Shiloh Baptist Church, 237 E. Fifth St., Lexington |
| Saturday | Oct. 22 | 10:00 a.m. | Christian-Muslim Dialogue at Unitarian Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd, Lex. |
| Monday | Oct. 24 | 7:00 p.m. | Movie "Iron Jawed Angels" and Discussion at Transylvania Campus Center Gym, Fourth and Broadway, Lexington |
| Saturday | Oct. 29 | 10:00 a.m. | Lexington LWV Board Meeting at Faith Lutheran Church, 1000Tates Creek Rd., Lexington |
| | | 11:30 a.m. | LWV Membership Meeting to discuss Education Study at Faith Lutheran |

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