

The Centre County LWV August Member Update

It's August and the Steering Committee is deep in preparations for the November election. If you're available to help with voter registration drives or distributing voter guides please contact us at www.uwcentrecounty@gmail.com. Many hands make light work.

And we offer a special shout out to **Betsy Whitman** for representing the League enthusiastica at the Centre Women's Leadership Coalition Ignite Event on August 21! Thank you Betsy, for your outreach to potential members.

Centre County:

Sara Bresler is at work on our upcoming **Voter's Guide**. It is scheduled to be published in the Centre Daily Times (CDT) on Sunday, October 10. It will also be available online on our website. CDT is printing an additional 2000 copies of the guide for our distribution to senior centers, libraries, and other locations. We could use your help with distribution!

With a list of contested local races now available, Sue Werner has invited candidates to participate in our upcoming **Candidates' Nights** on October 5th and 6th at 7 PM. Only candidates, C-Net volunteers, and a few LWVCC volunteers will be on site in the State College Municipal Building. Because of Covid restrictions we cannot accommodate a live public audience. The forums will be broadcast live on C-Net (Channel 7) and will be rebroadcast several times before the election. The forums will be live streamed on <u>cnet1.org</u> and the program will remain available online through election day.

We are currently accepting questions for the candidates. They may be submitted to <u>lwvcentrecounty@gmail.com</u> through 5 P.M. September 29th. Please note to which race the submitted question should be addressed.

Candidates in the following races are invited to participate: <u>Tuesday, October 5th:</u> State College Borough Council College Township Council Ferguson Township Supervisors State College Area Board of School Directors

<u>Wednesday, October 6th</u>: Bellefonte Borough Council Bellefonte Area Board of School Directors

The date for **LION Bash** has been moved to September 9th. If you're in downtown State College from 5-8 PM stop and say "hi" to Sharon Hyde, Jennifer Nicholas, and Suzanne Weinstein who will be at the LWVCC Engagement Station!

McCourtney Institute is hosting Voting Rights Scholar, Carol Anderson, for an event on Tuesday, September 21 at 4:00 P.M.at The State Theater. Ms. Anderson is the author of *One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression is Destroying Our Democracy.* This lecture is offered for both in-person and livestream attendance. Learn more and register to reserve your spot at The State Theater or receive the livestream link via email <u>here</u>.

We're still looking for a few more volunteers to play the Jeopardy-style Constitution game on **Constitution Day**. Thank you, Mark Lafer and Sue Sargo, who volunteered to represent the LWVCC in the competition! Email us if you'd like to participate! Come out and cheer on our team from 1:00 to 2:30 on Sunday, September 26 on the outdoor patio of the American Legior Post 245, off Science Park Road and West College Avenue.

The LWVCC will be holding **Voter Registration and Information sessions** at the following dates and times: Thursday, Sep 2, 9-10 A.M., Wyndtree Ct, Bellefonte Friday, Sep 3, 10:30-11:30 A.M., PSU Village Tuesday, Sep 7, 11 A.M. - noon, Graystone, Bellefonte Sunday, Sep 19, 1-5 P.M, *Crickfest*, Coburn Sunday, Sep 26 1 P.M. *Constitution Day*, American Legion Post 245, 1950 Pine Hall Rd Tuesday Sep 28 11:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M. (<u>2 shifts of 2-3 people each</u>), *National Voter Registratio Day*, Outside Schlow Library Contact Sue Sargo (<u>ssargo4@gmail.com</u>) if you're interested in helping with any of these events. We would also appreciate someone stopping by at the public events to take some **photos** of our League in action. Photos can be emailed to us at <u>lwvcentrecounty@gmail.com</u>.

Pennsylvania:

On Monday, September 20th at 7:00 P.M. Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts will host a virtua forum with all of the **candidates on the ballot for all of Pennsylvania's appellate courts**, including the Supreme Court, Superior Court, and Commonwealth Court. Attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions for the candidates. There is no cost to attend. Learn more and register for the forum <u>here</u>.

For the first time, millions of taxpayer dollars that **PA senators and staffers spend on travel, meals, per diem and other expenses will be posted online** in September for easier public viewing. They will be posted on a webpage run by the Senate's chief clerk, the chamber's record-keeper and administrator for both Republican and Democratic caucuses. This transparent change follows a series of stories by <u>SpotlightPA</u> and The Caucus. The House has plans pending, at this time, for a similar system.

Fair Districts PA continues to be an excellent resource for staying informed on the status of the <u>Redistricting Hearings</u>. The census data is in and this will continue to be a hot issue. PA will be losing one congressional seat. The <u>Legislative Reapportionment Committee</u> is seeking to meet a January deadline for the new state congressional map. Their next hearing will be livestreamed on August 24 at 10:30 A.M.

National:

The John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R.4) has been reintroduced in the House of Representatives. Almost 20 states have passed at least 30 laws that restrict access the ballot box this year, alone. Other voter suppression bills have been introduced during the same period. Call your representative to express your support for H.R.4 If you're unsure about your representative's contact information, find your information here.

On August 24, LWV will host a "<u>No More Excuses:Voting Rights Now</u>!" rally in partnership with People for the American Way. This will be a masked rally and protest near the White Hour in Lafayette Park with the purpose of urging President Biden to use the power of the administrative branch and his office to invoke Congress to pass voting rights legislation.

On August 28 in DC, our partners at Black Voters Matter will host a **"Make Good Trouble Rally"** at the Lincoln Memorial to raise awareness for issues that matter to the Black community, including voting rights. Virginia Kase Solomon and Dr. Deborah Turner of LWV wil be speaking at this event.

Your support of free, fair, and informed elections and your involvement in the League have never been more important! Thank you!

Important Dates:

September 9 - LION Bash in Downtown State College September 21 - Steering Committee Meeting (noon) September 26 - Constitution Day celebration and contest at the American Legion September 28 - National Voter Registration Day - Voter Registration at Schlow Library October - Voter Education Month October 5 and 6 - Candidates' Nights on C-Net October 10 - Voter's Guide published October 18 - LAST day to register for the November Election October 19 - Steering Committee Meeting (noon) October 26 - LAST day to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot Nov 2 - **MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

League of Women Voters of Centre County (LWVCC)

Visit us at www.lwvcentrecounty.org/