

## LWVCC March Updates

Hello LWVCC Members!

Daylight savings time begins March 7 and March 20 is the first day of Spring. Soon the crocuses, jonquils, and pansies will poke their cheerful heads up. Surely, we are all ready for that!

We will soon be ordering postcards to mail to registered voters who are not affiliated with either the Republican or Democratic party to be sure they know they will be able to vote on the 3 PA constitutional amendments that will be on the ballot. In addition, we'll be letting them know that they cannot vote for candidates because they are not affiliated with either major party; PA is a "closed primary state." Stay tuned, we'll soon be in touch looking for volunteers to address the postcards and add a short message that encourages people to vote. A list of addresses as well as postage will be provided. This is a great way to be involved and communicate while remaining safely at home.

Preparations for the May 18 election have begun: Our banners of voter information are scheduled to be hung in State College in early April so be sure to notice those as you begin to venture out into the community. Our primary election flyer, absentee and mail-in ballot applications will be emailed to senior housing facilities and community partners for distribution to their respective residents, clients and members encouraging voter registration and voting.

Meanwhile, there are still plenty of things to do virtually. You may want to catch some of the online learning opportunities regarding voting rights, redistricting and environmental racial inequity that are offered by PSU, Fair Districts PA (FDPA), and others in the community. Candidates' Night will be held at the end of April and the Voter's Guide will be available in early May. Once available, both may be accessed from our website. Candidates' Night will also be available on C-NET Channel 7 and online. The Voter's Guide will be published by the CDT, in print and online. Look how easy it has become to learn from the comfort of your own home!

It's also an important time to action: Speak out on the For the People Act!, a bill to restore voting rights protections, which were stripped previously. Work with FDPA, our sister organization, which has set an ambitious program called Marching Toward Transparency into motion. The goal is to meet with every PA legislator virtually this month to ask them to support and pass HB 22/SB 222 – the Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Act (LACRA) before the summer recess. The reason for the urgency is that what happens in the next few months affects us all for the next 10 years. Since Senate Pro Tempore Jake Corman and House Majority leader Kerry Benninghoff both represent Centre County, contact from constituents registered in Centre County can be especially important, polite, engaging and persuasive. Redistricting is not a partisan issue. But gerrymandering is. Lastly, encourage your federal legislators to finally act to add the ERA, which has already been ratified by the states, to the US Constitution.

Please make your voices heard either by participating in a virtual visit, writing a letter to the editor or sending a letter to all of your state and federal legislators. Remind them, nicely, that you are their

constituent and that you vote! For more information, to join or register for virtual presentations, visit [fairdistrictspa.com](http://fairdistrictspa.com). Look for more information and updates on our website, [LWVCentreCounty.org](http://LWVCentreCounty.org).

## UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

1. March 11 – The History, Evolution and Impact of Gerrymandering, 6:30 PM, with FDPA. Click here to learn more and register:

<https://fairdistrictspa.com/events/2021/03/11/the-history-evolution-and-impact-of-gerrymandering>

2. March 12 – Women in Construction, 12 noon, presented by Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County. Click here to learn more and register:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeUGnd7wz4bbYFKBMjXZ-nP6fAbL0lwTWlvORPF5CJNUpfM-w/viewform>

3. March 16 - LWVCC Steering Committee meeting, 12 noon via zoom. All members are welcome to attend. Email [lwwcentrecounty@gmail.com](mailto:lwwcentrecounty@gmail.com) to receive a link to attend.

4. March 17 - Cultural Empowerment for Women panel discussion on How COVID Has Impacted Women in Our Community. 11: 00 AM to 1:00 PM via Zoom. Click here for more information and to register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsf-uhpz0oHNHUuevIEdU0gJXmtBe924zT>

5. March 17 – PA Supreme Court Candidates Forum, 5:00 – 6:30 PM. Click here for more information and to register: <https://www.pmconline.org/events/pa-supreme-court-candidates-forum>

6. March 22 – ABC's of Civics, 7:00 PM, presented by the LWV of Bucks County. Click here for more information and to register: <https://my.lwv.org/pennsylvania/bucks-county/event/abcs-civics>

7. The McCourtney Institute for Democracy at PSU presented two excellent lectures you may find interesting in February that are now available on their YouTube channel.

Anne Applebaum, of The Atlantic, speaks on Twilight of Democracy: The Seductive Lure of Authoritarianism. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=segtH7DdL9w>

Professor Danielle Allen from Harvard speaks on Our Common Purpose: Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cphaM6Mupgc>