



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

Box 233 Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

LWV-LEXINGTON NEWS AND INFORMATION FIRST FRIDAY JANUARY 5, 2018

Come Meet CEL & LEF

You've seen the acronyms CEL and LEF in emails, in the local papers and on lawn signs, but do you know what they stand for? Come meet representatives from CEL (Community Endowment of Lexington) and LEF (Lexington Education Foundation) to learn more about their organizations and how they support those in need in our community.

Please join the League of Women Voter's Lexington on Friday, January 5, 2018, at 9:30AM when we will present a panel discussion on these organizations and the resources they provide to our community. Participants include Nancy White, co-chair of CEL, and Karen Orf, co-president of LEF.

This is the fourth in the series of 2017-2018 First Friday Forums hosted by the League of Women Voters of Lexington to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. The meeting will take place at Cary Memorial Library, Large Meeting Room, lower lever. Refreshments are served at 9:15 AM, and the presentation begins at 9:30 AM. For more information, e-mail lwvlexington@gmail.com. All League of Women Voters forums are free and open to the public. We also ask that you please invite a neighbor or friend to attend.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of self-government established in the Constitution of the United States. The League works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

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LWV-LEXINGTON REMEMBERS LILAH GROISSER

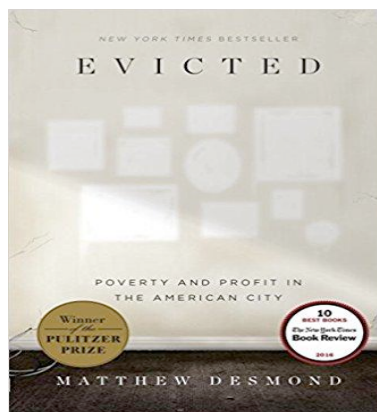
Lilah Groisser, 90, a long-time (more than 50 years) League member and past president of the Lexington League (1998-1999) has died. She and her husband, Leon, moved to Lexington from Belmont where they lived for many years in Five Fields before moving to Brookhaven. She was predeceased by her husband. Lilah was an active member and staunch supporter of the League. She will be missed.

LWV-LEXINGTON BOOK CLUB

Thursday, January 4th, 2018

7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

12 Barrymeade Drive



You are invited to the third meeting of the League of Women Voters of Lexington Book Club. This time, the selection is *Evicted*. In *Evicted*, Harvard sociologist and MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond follows eight families in Milwaukee as they struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Hailed as “wrenching and revelatory” (*The Nation*), “vivid and unsettling” (*New York Review of Books*), *Evicted* transforms our understanding of poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving one of 21st-century America’s most devastating problems. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home, without which nothing else is possible.

WINNER OF THE 2017 PULITZER PRIZE FOR GENERAL NONFICTION

<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/28/books/review/matthew-desmonds-evicted-poverty-and-profit-in-the-american-city.html>

If you are interested in attending our book club, please RSVP to Margaret at mecoppe@gmail.com. Reserving the book *Evicted* from the library is recommended.

LWV-LEXINGTON BOARD MEETING January 8, 2018

The next LWVLexington Board meeting will be held at the Lexington Community Center, 39 Marrett Road, Room 217, from 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. on January 8, 2018. All are welcome to attend.

The League is Looking for Volunteers

The League is looking for volunteers to fill position openings it has. If interested, contact the League at 781-307-3116 for more information.

Watch the League's Forums on Demand

If there is a League of Women Voters of Lexington's First Friday Forum that you've missed or would like to see again, log onto <http://www.lexmedia.org/ondemand.html> and scroll down to "League of Women Voters" under Categories.

LWVMA

The Sacharfman Fund's Annual High School Student Video Contest kicks off February 1, 2018

The Scharfman Fund's annual student video contest is designed to foster civic awareness among young people and provide them with an opportunity to share their opinions and viewpoints on matters of public importance. And it is only one part of the LWVMA Citizen Education Fund programs.

The contest is open to all Massachusetts high school students, who are invited to submit videos on a particular theme relating to government or democracy. Winners are

awarded cash prizes and invited to an award ceremony at the Massachusetts State House.



Check back here in early January for contest details!

LWVUS

As we close out 2017, let's recognize the great elections work we all accomplished this year! From registering and educating voters, to holding candidate debates and forums, to asking candidates important questions in our voters' guides; this was anything but an "off-year" for the League.

Thanks to the hard work of hundreds of Leagues working in concert with LWVEF, we helped register, educate and mobilize over 1.1 million voters via [VOTE411](#) in 2017 – a record-breaking non-federal election year for us, representing a whopping 100% increase in users over the last comparable election year (2015). The site provided hundreds of local League voters' guides, information about debates and forums and much more. On General Election day, November 7, over 7,100 races and nearly 13,000 candidates were listed on VOTE411.

With more and more voters looking for candidate and election information online, we have seen an increase in organizations and websites claiming to offer similar information as VOTE411. These new groups know that the League is the leader in this field and they may reach out to your state or local Leagues to ask for help supporting their product. If you hear from any of these groups, please let LWVEF (Megan Brown – mbrown@lww.org) know. It is not always in our best interest to partner with these

groups, as they are direct competition in a field we've been a leader of for nearly 100years. The best way we can elevate the League, preserve our reputation, and help the most voters, is by supporting the growth of VOTE411 as our premiere nationwide voter education resource.

To that end, if you'd like to join the growing number of Leagues signing up to create an online voters' guide on VOTE411 in 2018, or if you have any questions about VOTE411.org, please contact Megan Brown (mbrown@lww.org).

I wish you a happy and healthy holiday season. We'll see you in 2018.



Chris Carson
President, League of Women Voters of the United States

We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you'd like to submit an article for the February 2018 LWV-LEXINGTON Bulletin, please send it to Nancy Corcoran Ronchetti at Nancor1106@gmail.com by January 20, 2018.

Dates to Save:

January 4th LWV-LEXINGTON Book Club, Thursday, January 4, 2018, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., 12 Barrymeade Drive, discussing ***Evicted***, authored by Harvard sociologist and MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond.

January 5th LWV-LEXINGTON First Friday, Come Meet **CEL** (Community Endowment of Lexington) & **LEF** (Lexington Education Foundation), to learn more about their organizations and how they support those in need in our community, Cary Memorial Library, Large Meeting Room, Lower Level, 9:30 a.m. Refreshments at 9:15 a.m.

January 8th LWV-LEXINGTON Board Meeting, Lexington Community Center, 39 Marrett Road, Room 217, 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!



League of Women Voters of Lexington
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