



the Voter February 2021

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LOOKING BACK

Our virtual calendar of events continues in 2021. The annual Legislative Interviews program was held on its traditional, last Friday in January date, and Thad Hall, Director of the Mercer County's Voter Registration and Election Bureau, spoke at our February program.

There were twenty - eight attendees at the virtual Legislative Interviews program which was moderated by Rosann Rookey. Senator Michele Brooks (50th District), Representative Mark Longietti (7th District) and Representative Timothy Bonner (8th District) participated. They responded to topics that included voting modernization, redistricting reform, criminal justice reform, and environmental protection, as well as commenting on issues of importance to them. Representative Parke Wentling (17th District) failed to respond. Reporters from The Herald and the Record Argus were in attendance, and both newspapers featured articles on the event.

The election after November 2020 was the topic of Thad Hall's return visit to our program calendar. He had recently testified before a state legislative hearing, and the eighteen attendees learned of his views regarding changes to election procedures and protocols. Mr. Hall also spoke about the upcoming primary election. Rosann Rookey again served as moderator. The event was reported in the Record Argus.

Our chapter is most appreciative of the Community Library of the Shenango Valley's partnership in presenting these programs. We also thank Charissa Senteney, the adult programs librarian, and her colleagues for their contribution. We are also appreciative of press coverage of our programs. The wider audience of their readership becomes aware of important issues that the League of Women Voters examines.

LOOKING AHEAD – **Calendar of VIRTUAL Events**

- **MONTHLY BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, March 2, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m.**

Our board meetings are open to all members. If you wish to attend, call Hannah Moses (724-342-7583).

- **ANNUAL BOOK DISCUSSION PROGRAM – Saturday, March 13, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m.**

Former Mercer County District Attorney, James Epstein, will again moderate this event. *Ten Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World* by Fareed Zakaria will be discussed. Join us whether you have read the book or not...there is always a lively discussion. Hannah Moses has obtained seven copies of the book from a nearby Ohio library. Call her if you would like a copy.

- **AN UPDATE FROM THE SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROJECT - Saturday, April 17, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m.**

Several years ago, this organization, “a nonprofit public health organization that assists and supports residents of Southwestern Pennsylvania and beyond who believe their health has been, or could be, impacted by unconventional oil and gas development (UOGD, or fracking)”, presented a program. We look forward to learning of current data on their work.