

# NEWS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE DECEMBER 2019



### WHAT WE DO

The League registers voters and disseminates information voting, to help make this basic right of citizenship a reality for every citizen. provide information community issues. We organize events to introduce candidates for state and local office, and encourage voters to submit questions for debate. Through our state and county League programs, young people introduced to political careers.



Joan Alexander - Early Voting



100 years ago, in Utica, at the State Convention of the New York Woman Suffrage Party, the delegates voted to change their name to the New York State League of Women Voters. The League is still going strong, thanks to all of our members. We couldn't do it without your **support.** 

Thanks to those who tried early voting in the November elections, and to those who used local voters' guides on VOTE411. VOTE411 had its most successful off-year cycle ever, providing information on

over 18,000 candidates to nearly 900,000 voters.

Congratulations to New Rochelle resident David Rose, who has accepted a position as Archivist for the New Rochelle Public Library. New Rochelle is lucky to have him! We look forward to working with David as he archives, among others, the extensive LWVNR collection of primary source documents dating back to the League's founding.

Finally, please save the dates 2/14/20 (The US LWV Centennial) and 8/26/20 (final passage of the 19th amendment.) The County League Centennial Committee will be coordinating League events in honor of these centennials, and the LWVNR plans to engage in centennial activities throughout the year!

Reserve tickets and pay on-line at Iwww.org



# Celebrate the Holidays with the League of Women Voters of Westchester

2019 HOLIDAY BOARD MEETING & LUNCHEON
THURSDAY DECEMBER 5th

SCARDSALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

1 HEATHCOTE ROAD • SCARSDALE

(FREE PARKING ACROSS THE STREET)

LWVW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: 9:30 AM

LUNCHEON: 12:00 PM \$35 (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

# FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER Amy Paulin • Assembly Person 88th District



Amy Paulin will speak on environmental legislation in Albany.

"Where we go from here."

Join LWVW and Amy Paulin for this timely discussion from the State Capitol.

# The U.S. Constitution Doesn't Guarantee **Equal Rights for Women**. Here's Why

When American women won the right to vote — a milestone commemorated on Women's Equality Day, which marks the anniversary of the Aug. 26, 1920 certification that the 19th Amendment had been ratified — it was just one part of an



even larger fight for equality. From Mary Church Terrell's endeavors to make sure African-American women were included in the fight for suffrage, to Margaret Sanger's work to promote access to birth control, to Ruth Bader Ginsburg's efforts to eliminate sex discrimination in the law, women before and after that day in 1920 have fought for wider rights.

And yet, the U.S. Constitution does not say that people are equal regardless of their sex.

--Time.com, 8/23/2019

READ THE REST AT **ERA** 

# Chairman Nadler Announces Next Step in Effort to Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment

On November 8, House Judiciary Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) announced that the House Judiciary Committee would be marking up H.J.Res. 79 to eliminate the ratification deadline for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The markup, scheduled for Wednesday, November 13th, represents the next step to clear the path for ratifying the ERA and enshrining equality for both sexes into the U.S. Constitution. The markup follows Tuesday's election results in Virginia, which changed the makeup of the state legislature and improved the prospects for Virginia to become the thirty-eighth and final state needed to ratify the amendment, meeting the 3/4 threshold for being adopted as a new amendment written into the Constitution. Passing H.J.Res. 79 would carve out a legal path for Virginia's vote by eliminating a deadline set by Congress in 1972, which it extended in 1978.

"The ERA would affirm and strengthen the rights of women in our Constitution," said Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY). "Congress created this deadline and, it is clear, Congress has every authority to remove it now. After decades of work by tireless advocates, it is time for Congress to act and clear the way for Virginia, or any other state, to finally ratify the ERA and for discrimination on the basis of sex to be forever barred by the Constitution." --Press Release, 11/8/2019

READ THE REST HERE

A copy of H.J.Res. 79 can be found **HERE** 



# **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

Walter Ritz, executive director of HOPE Community Services in New Rochelle, was the guest at Coffee and Conversation, an informal

public program sponsored by the League of Women Voters, on November 15th in the New Rochelle Public Library,

Mr. Ritz spoke and answered questions about HOPE's soup kitchen, food pantry and numerous other services-- especially critical during the winter months-- for the many people in need in the New Rochelle area. LWVNR members will meet with Mr. Ritz this month to discuss a food delivery program for New Rochelle children on school vacation days.

Mr. Ritz noted that HOPE welcomes any donations of warm coats, other clothing, or nonperishable food for distribution to those in need. Donors may bring those items to HOPE Community Services at 50 Washingon Ave.

Coffee and Conversation is an ongoing series of informal public gatherings, with guests discussing public issues. The meetings are open to all. Coffee and light refreshments are served. For further information, call (914) 632-8254.



# NEW ROCHELLE YMCA STAFF TO ADVOCATE FOR COUNTY FUNDING

The New Rochelle YMCA has not received funding from Westchester County for any of the programs it provides for

families in New Rochelle, Pelham, Mount Vernon, Larchmont and the Bronx. However, this year, New Rochelle YMCA CEO Jennifer Ryan Safsel, the New Rochelle YMCA Board of Directors, and YMCA staff members are planning to attend the Westchester County Board Meeting on December 4th to advocate for funding for their programs.

Programs offered by the YMCA range from senior services, like mobility and movement classes that help with chronic illness, to affordable afterschool, Universal PreK and summer camp programs, to early childhood intervention programs that assist families in identifying and nurturing children with special needs.

The Westchester County Board Meeting will be held on December 4 from 7-10 pm in the Legislative Chambers at 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, NY.

# League of Women Voters Education Foundation



# #GivingTuesday

# Giving Tuesday is One Week Away!

Did you know that in 2020 New York will have three early voting periods for the primaries and general election? That's 27 days of early voting across New York State!

If you read our <u>Early Voting Survey Report</u> then you know that early voting was a success, but not everyone had equitable access to their early voting poll sites. We predict that many sites will be moved in 2020 adding to further voter confusion during the three early voting periods.

The League plans to triple our early voting education and outreach efforts in 2020 but we can't do it without your support.

On Giving Tuesday, please consider making a donation to the League's Education Foundation to help us educate voters across the state on early voting in their county.

In 2019, we distributed more than 200,000 educational brochures on early voting to all 62 counties in New York State. In 2020, we'll need to triple our efforts to provide educational materials for all three early voting periods to voters in hard to reach areas of the state.

Please consider making a donation to our Education Foundation to help support our 2020 voter education efforts.

Thank you for your continued support! Laura





# Radio Show Guest Discusses Democracy Then and Now

"The Ballot Box," a radio program produced by the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle, airs on the third Wednesday every month at 9 a.m on WVOX 1460 am and live streamed on WVOX.com.

On November 20, cohosts Tamar Tait and Nina Luban welcomed Epifanio Castillo, a practicing attorney and teacher of constitutional law. The team discussed the current state of American democracy versus the original philosophy, principles and intent of the framers of our constitution.

# How does impeachment work?

As a nonpartisan organization, the League of Women Voters offers this unbiased information to voters seeking to learn more about the impeachment process.



### The Basics

Impeachment does not mean removal of an elected official from office. Impeachment is the process of bringing charges against a sitting member of the government, including the President, Vice President, and other federal "civil officers." Impeachable offenses for public officials are outlined in the Constitution as "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors."

The process of impeachment involves three steps, though the process may end at any one of the three steps, depending on how the body in question votes:

- 1. An investigation in House committees
- 2. A vote of the House to pass articles of impeachment
- 3. A trial and vote in the Senate to convict the official

## In the House

Impeachment proceedings can be initiated by any member of the House. Once this process is initiated, an investigation involving all relevant committees, which is usually overseen by the House Judiciary Committee, takes place.

READ THE REST AT IMPEACHMENT

# Interviews with Westchester County Clerk Idoni and with Suez Water Officials on "City People and Issues"



The League of Women Voters of New Rochelle presents two new interviews on its cable television program, "City People and Issues."

In one interview, Westchester County Clerk Timothy Idoni (left) talks with host Tamar Tait about the many little-known services that his office provides and about its transition from a paper-laden to a streamlined, computerized

department.

In another interview, two officials from Suez Water, Deb Rizzi, Director of Communications, and Bob Idoni, Manager of Distribution and Supply (right) talk with host Ina Aronow answering questions about the company and the city's water supply and safety,

The two programs will be shown on alternate weeks on Optimum

Channel 76 on Mondays at 7 pm, and repeated on Thursdays at 9:30 pm.

The interview with Mr. Timothy Idoni will be shown the week of December 2nd. The interview with Suez representatives will be shown the week of December 9th. See past interviews HERE.



If you are enjoying this newsletter, we hope you will consider making a year-end gift to help us continue our work in 2020.

This Edition of News from the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle is published by the Executive Board of the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle. We are Joan Alexander, Ina Aronow, Marilyn Brown, Leona Newman, Susan Fleming, Monica Grey, Sydelle Herzberg, John Hessel, Peter Korn, Leslie Mignault, Tamar Tait, and Pearl Quarles. Contact us at LWVNewRochelle@gmail.com.

# 100 Years | 100 Women

### INTERROGATIONS OF FORM

The Park Avenue Armory, in partnership with the National Black Theatre, is curating two rigorous, day-long, multi-disciplinary explorations, entitled *100 Years* | *100 Women* to mark the centennial of the ratification of the 19th



Amendment: "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." In response to this anniversary, the Armory and National Black Theatre are convening a cohort of ten institutions from across the city, representing multiple artistic disciplines, to commission 100 artists, who self-identify as women.

Part I will be presented as part of the Armory's annual "Culture in a Changing America" symposium, featuring conversations, performances, and salons on the complex topic of suffrage, on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 12:00pm, 4:00pm, and 8:00pm. All events will be hosted in the historic rooms at the Park Avenue Armory; the culminating Part II event will also take place in the epic Wade Thompson Drill Hall on May 16, 2020. For more information and to reserve tickets, click HERE.



# League of Women Voters of NYS Education Foundation

# Join us for the League Day at the United Nations



A Briefing on Climate Change
(and tours of UN Facility and
lunch in the Delegates' Dining Room)
Dec. 4, 10:00am - 4:00 pm

(must arrive at 9:00 am for tours)

The Annual League Day at the United Nations (NYC) will be held on Wednesday, December 4. We will again offer a delicious lunch in the Delegates' Dining Room, tours of the facility (General Assembly room, Security Council room, etc) and then a briefing. This year we will have a panel of UN experts discuss the issue of Climate Change. The panel will also discuss what individuals can do on this issue.

<u>Click here to register online</u> or <u>click here to download, print and mail the registration form</u> with payment to the state office.

League of Women Voters of New York State 62 Grand Street, Albany, NY 12207 Tel: 518-465-4162 FAX: 518-465-0812

# Carrie Chapman Catt — A lifetime of political activism

The life of Carrie Chapman Catt is a narrative of a woman who reached beyond the accepted norms in the 19th and early 20th century. Born Carrie Lane on Jan. 9, 1859 to Lucius and Mary Clinton Lane in Ripon, Wisc., Carrie and her family moved to a farm near Charles City, Iowa when she was seven.

Despite objections from her father, who could not afford to give her much financial support, she enrolled at Iowa State College upon graduation from high school. She supported herself by washing dishes and working in the school library, and her activism had its first awakening through starting an all-girl debate club and questioning why women were excluded from participating in military drills. In November 1880 she earned a Bachelor of Science degree and was the only female in that graduating class.

--The Express, 11/18/2019

READ THE REST AT CATT

# Watch This Film About the Brutal Realities of Women's Suffrage

This bruise-colored period piece from the director Sarah Gavron and the writer Abi Morgan de-prettifies any preconceived notions of how the women's fight for voting



rights was won, forgoing the usual prim imagery to emphasize the violence of that struggle. By the time Maud Watts (a luminous Carey Mulligan) accidentally gets caught up with the Women's Social and Political Union in 1912 London, the group has moved on from polite campaigning — a tactic that did not work. Progress, it seems, will require more emphatic measures: breaking windows, cutting telephone lines, bombing mailboxes.

The action, conveyed in hand-held close-ups, is sometimes chaotic, underscoring the threat this movement posed to the social order. Through it all; the police surveillance, the prison hunger strikes, the suicide missions, Mulligan's expressive face invites our empathy. Her Maud isn't a strident feminist (at least, not at first), just a downtrodden working-class woman who wonders if there might be "another way of living this life." -NYTimes, 11/18/19

**How to watch:** Stream it on Netflix; rent it on Amazon, Google Play, iTunes, Vudu and YouTube.



# JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE

The League depends on the work and financial support of all of its members to carry out its programs. Membership is open to women and men of voting age. Joining our local league confers membership in the State and National Leagues, enables you to receive publications from all three levels, and provides the opportunity to be involved in local, state and national issues.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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IAME	
DDRESS	
ELEPHONE	EMAIL
NEW MEMBERSHIP	RENEWAL
INDIVIDUAL \$60/YEAR	HOUSEHOLD* \$85/YEAR
* ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEM	BER NAME
	EMAIL
( ) I WOULD LIKE TO SUPP	ORT THE LEAGUE WITH A <b>TAX DEDUCTIBLE</b> CONTRIBUTION
MADE PAY	ABLE TO <b>LWV EDUCATION FOUNDATION</b>
\$100 \$50	OTHER
( ) Please provide me w	ith information about making a <b>charitable bequest</b>
RETURN TH	IS APPLICATION WITH YOUR CHECK TO
The Lea	ague of Women Voters of New Rochelle
	46 Long Vue
	New Rochelle, NY 10804

Join and/or Donate via PAYPAL on our website: www.lwvnewro.org

or

# **NEW ROCHELLE INFO**

### 8 Murals Unveiled On New Rochelle Streets

The City of New Rochelle continues to expand its public art offerings with the recent premiere of "NRNY Artsy Murals," an inspiring art walk curated by Street Art for Mankind. The walk consists of eight large, new murals that reflect the unique creativity, diversity and forward-thinking of the New Rochelle community, according to officials. --Patch, 11/6/2019



**READ THE REST AT MURALS** 

# Study Claims Cancer-Linked Contaminants Found In New Rochelle Water

Most Americans don't think twice about drinking a glass of water. A report released on October 23, though, found more than 270 harmful contaminants in local drinking water across the nation, including in much of New Rochelle's supply.

Their critics reject the group and its studies. A water district superintendent on Long Island, Paul Granger, called the 2019 study biased and "filled with inaccuracies, misinterpretations and ulterior motives focused on profiting from water filter sales."

-- Patch, 10/24/2019

**READ THE REST AT WATER** 

### **NEEDED: VOLUNTEER DRIVERS TO DELIVER MEALS**

# Meals On Wheels of New Rochelle, INC. | http://www.mownewrochelle.org/

Help bring healthy meals and a smile to seniors in the community! Meals On Wheels volunteers meet at New Rochelle Hospital at 11 a.m. any day of the week to pick up pre-packed boxes of meals and receive the addresses of seniors where they'll deliver the meals. Meal delivery takes approximately two hours. Volunteer drivers must have valid driver's license and insurance card when filling out their applications.

# Davids Island: What's it's like now, prospects for future

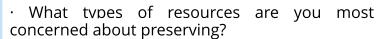
Overgrown with poison ivy, littered with plastic bottles and old tennis balls washed ashore, Davids Island sits desolate on the Long Island Sound. Once a bustling Army base in New Rochelle, the island is deserted.

As other parts of New Rochelle are in the process of being built up, the island, owned by the city, remains an afterthought. Downtown development is in the middle of a transformation but, the island about a half-mile from shore continues to be an enigma for past and present city officials. --LoHud, 11/21/19

READ THE REST AT ISLAND

# City's Preservation Plan Outreach Meeting Requested Public Input

The LWVNR participated in New Rochelle's Preservation Plan Outreach Meeting in the Library's Ozzie Davis Theater on Wednesday November 6, 2019. Molly McDonald, RPA, Sr. Architectural Historian & Archaeologist for AKRF, Inc. gave an overview of the survey that their firm performed in the development of the City's Preservation Plan. She reviewed the limitations of state and national designations, clarifying that only local designation offers protection, and wrapped up with two slides posing the following questions for public input:



- · What defines New Rochelle's historic character?
- · What do you consider the greatest threats to historic preservation in New Rochelle?
- · What measures do you believe should be undertaken to protect, enhance and promote New Rochelle's historic heritage?

Ina Aronow read a statement from the LWVNR reiterating our support for instituting a Preservation Plan where residents can offer critical input into mapping a course for the protection and preservation of the historic properties that tell our city's remarkable 325-year story. New Rochelle has a long and vibrant past that can be kept alive through the thoughtful preservation and integration of its wonderful historic structures into the current development plans.

Participating residents spoke passionately about the importance of preserving the historic nature of New Rochelle's buildings, central business district and neighborhoods, asked how sites currently proposed for development could be protected, questioned whether historic preservation belonged under the City's department of development, and expressed the need to include underrepresented communities. Attendees stated that the low meeting turnout was due to a BOE meeting held at the same time, not lack of interest, since the theater had been filled for the Library's Historic Preservation Talk three days earlier. Participants also asked for next steps, schedule, and whether there would be additional opportunities for the public input. Contacts were provided for questions, comments or more information:

- · Kevin A. Kain, PP, AICP, Director of Planning & Sustainability: kkain@newrochelleny.com
- · Daniel Messplay, Senior Real Estate Development Manager: <a href="mailto:dmesspla@newrochelleny.com">dmesspla@newrochelleny.com</a>
- Molly McDonald, RPA, Sr. Architectural Historian & Archaeologist, AKRF, Inc.:
   mmcdonald@akrf.com
   --MARILYN BROWN



# COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD UPCOMING EVENTS





#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media.

This year we are raising money to help outfit the Pediatric Playroom at White Plains Hospital's new Pediatric Center.

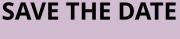
Help brighten a hospital stay for children in our community.

**DONATE TODAY** 









CREW (Civically Re-engaged Women) conference

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment

Sponsors needed to help CREW continue their important work of training women about civics and how to run for political office

NY Hilton, July 23-26, 2020

For more information, contact a.taylored.event@gmail.com







# Know Your Rights: New Rent Laws

In June 2019, New York State enacted legislation astablishing the strongest protections for renters in at least a generation. At this forem you will learn about these laws and get answers to your questions.

Tuesday, November 26, 2019 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. New Rochelle Public Library, One Library Plaza, New Rochelle, NY

Presenters:

Jill Bradshaw-Soto, Esq., Attorney-in-Charge of LSHV Mt. Vernon Office Michelle Avery, Esq., Staff Attorney

RSVP to ESantiago@LSHV.org or call (914) 813-6881

On site intoley expertainties.

Upto refreshments and praces will be evaluable.





Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Horico Graeley High School Academic Commons 76 Rossing Brock Road, Chappegas, NY

Come learn have emponented critical countries and equip surraitables with the shifts showledge, and dispositions for through civit participates in rest 21st consuly democracy. Educating and empowering the youth of our countries what is maintaining a strong democracy, and the League of Women Voters pupports programs that provide students with the information molivation, and statis to become information and students.

Deform Detaches is the New York Disputative Director of Generation Citizen, a national caspacitization received the delicated to trainifycrating ovicine accusation in securitive schedule, in order to exhibit and enrocked the meaning procedure of young people. DeNote began her carbon working on toom demonisory and government rations of the New York City Crumin and has worked an the Denomin Cester for qualities of the New York Child Public Advocate Bit de Blasto; and at Distance Upton DeNote is a member of the New York State thin the Centralign Francisco Commission and the New York State thin the Centralign Francisco Commission and the New York State thin the Centralign Francisco Commission and the New York State the Description of Education Onto Addoor Readthers I test Francis.

Diestors? Email us al inviewcastettigmat.com



# Masons, group that won College of NR auction, run senior living center

The group whose \$32 million bid won the auction for the College of New Rochelle's campus is known for operating a retirement and nursing care community.

The trustees operate the Masonic Care Community in Utica, New York, which it describes on its website as "a multi-level senior health care campus complete with an independent retirement community and child care center that serves both employees and the general community."

The group describes the community as providing nursing care, adult care and independent living apartments to provide a "holistic approach to the care of our residents, which promotes maximum functioning and independence in all aspects of their life.". --LoHud, 11/24/2019