



# NEWS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE **APRIL 2019**

## WHAT WE DO

The League registers voters and disseminates information about voting, to help make this basic right of citizenship a reality for every citizen. We provide information on community issues through our monthly *Coffee & Conversation* speakers and through interviews on our cable program, *City People and Issues*. We organize events to introduce candidates for state and local office and we encourage voters to submit questions for debate. Young people are introduced to political careers through our state and county League programs, including *Students in Albany*.

## THE HISTORY OF VOTING IN THE UNITED STATES

Elections are the foundation of representative democracy and generations of bold, brave, and committed activists have battled to expand the right to vote to the disenfranchised—often against great odds and sometimes at the expense of their freedom and even their lives. Here's a look at how voting rights have evolved in America, how much has been accomplished, and how much remains to be done. [SLIDE SHOW](#)



### PRESIDENT'S CORNER -- Monica Grey

You can tell it's Spring in New York when the tulips start to bloom, the State Budget negotiations heat to a boil, and folks gather to share a meal with old and new friends.

I encourage you to attend our **Annual Luncheon** on April 12th, co-sponsored by the Leagues of Larchmont/Mamaroneck, New Rochelle, Rye, Rye Brook, and Portchester. NYS League President, Dare Thompson, will provide opening remarks. (see flyer, right.)


I'd also like to congratulate two LWVNR members who are being honored this month. Former LWVNR Board member **Haina Just-Michael** is being honored for Distinguished Citizenship at the New Rochelle Fund for Educational Excellence's 21st Annual Foundation Awards **Gala** on April 4th.

Former LWVNR Board member, and long-time supporter, **Chris Selin**, President of the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation, is receiving the Community Service Award at the **Centennial Gala** of the Rotary Club of NR on April 10th.


You're Invited

## League of Women Voters' Annual Luncheon

Friday, April 12th, Noon  
Orienta Beach Club  
1054 Walton Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY



Speaker: New York State Senator Shelley Mayer  
"A New Day in Albany: How the 2018 Election has Changed State Government"  
Opening Remarks by NYS LWV President Dare Thompson



Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of:  
Larchmont-Mamaroneck,  
New Rochelle  
Rye, Rye Brook and Port Chester

To Reserve a Spot by Mail:  
RSVP by April 6

Send Check Made to  
'LWVNYSEF' for \$60 to:


LWV-LM  
P.O. Box 811  
Larchmont, NY 10538

\$25 of payment qualifies for a  
tax deduction.

Or Purchase Tickets Online By April 7  
Go To: [lwvlm.org](http://lwvlm.org)

Or Click Below

**Buy Now**



Credit card payments  
are not tax deductible.

## Damon Maher Announces High School Internships

Legislative internships are available to high school students who live in District 10. These part-time and unpaid internships focus on legislative research, analysis of county and local issues, cor-respondence and assisting constituents with prob-lems they may be having with governmental agen-cies.

If you are interested in applying for the winter or spring academic term or for the summer 2019, please send a cover letter and resume to Damon Maher at: [Maher@westchesterlegislators.com](mailto:Maher@westchesterlegislators.com).



### FAKE OR FACT; EXPLORING THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN POLITICS

**Tuesday, May 28, 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

**NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The League of Women Voters of Westchester and LWV of New Rochelle presents this civics workshop, inviting the public to discuss the role of media in today's political environment and how technology has influenced political change as never before. Topics will include spotting media biases and fake news, the benefits of a comprehensive media diet, and different way to access news. Non-partisan, free, and open to all.

This year's **Equal Pay Day** is Tuesday, April 2, 2019. This date symbolizes how far into the year American women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. Learn more **HERE**



**On April 6th**, volunteers across the country will help their local historical sites with maintenance projects large and small.

**New Rochelle's Thomas Paine Cottage** is planning a Grand reopening (scheduled for June 8th.) A restoration of Thomas Paine's sitting room and a research library are some of the new changes planned. They are asking for volunteers of all ages to help with painting, shrubbery removal, lawn maintenance, and general handyman tasks. Water, snacks and lite fare will be supplied and while supplies last, all volunteers will be given tee-shirts. A special behind the scenes tour of the cottage's restoration work will also be available.

Further details and registration can be found at **Thomas Paine Park Day2019**.

**JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IN APRIL AND GET TWO  
FREE MONTHS !!**



## WHAT DOES A CITY MANAGER DO?

The City of New Rochelle has operated under a Council-Manager form of government since January 1, 1932. The City is governed by the City Charter, other general laws of the State of New York and various local laws and ordinances.

The Council-Manager form of local government combines the strong political leadership of elected officials (here in New Rochelle in the form of a City Council) with the strong professional experience of an appointed local government Manager. Under the Council Manager form of local government, power is concentrated in the elected City Council which hires a professional administrator to implement its policies. City Managers are highly trained experienced individuals and the Manager serves at the pleasure of the elected governing body.

In New Rochelle, the City Council is the legislative body of the City and consists of the Mayor, who is elected at large and serves as the presiding officer of the Council. The City Council also includes six Council Members who are elected by geographic district. Together the Council sets policy, appoints the City Manager, approves the budget and enacts local laws, resolutions and ordinances.

The City Manager is the Chief Executive Officer of the City government. The Manager's responsibilities include hiring, supervising and coordinating the work of the department heads, preparation and submittal to the City Council of an annual proposed budget, enforcing City ordinances and State laws and executing all contracts, leases and deeds authorized by City Council. The Manager keeps the City Council informed about the fiscal condition and future needs of the City and has the sole power to appoint and remove all heads of departments in the administrative services of the City.

The City Manager participates in the discussion of all matters coming before the City Council, but has no vote. In addition, the Manager serves on the City's Industrial Development Agency, Corporation for Local Development and appoints members to the City's Municipal Housing Authority's Board of Directors and members of the City's Board of Appeals on Zoning, among others.

I am the current City Manager and have been in that position since 2002. Residents can contact my office at (914) 654-2140 or can contact me directly at [cstrome@newrochelleny.com](mailto:cstrome@newrochelleny.com).

-- Charles Strome, New Rochelle City Manager



## Milestones for Women in American Politics

SEE THE  
TIMELINES



## Legislature Approves Tweaks to Make Ballots Easier to Read

Election information crammed onto your ballot in tiny font should soon become a thing of the past in New York.

State lawmakers have signed off on legislation intended to make ballots easier to understand. It includes minimum font-size requirements, simplified voting instructions, new visual aids for less literate voters and the elimination of superfluous graphics.

The proposal, if approved by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, would update state laws crafted when there were lever-machine voting booths. It would also give county boards of elections greater control of what is printed on the ballot. --**timesunion**, 3/5/2019

## Andrea Stewart-Cousins on Being First Black Woman to Lead NY Senate

[Read this exclusive interview with Andrea Stewart-Cousins, our  
Senator and LWNRR member.](#)

**You were voted by your peers to lead the New York Senate, the first female and first Black majority leader in its 241-year history. Why do you believe you were entrusted with this position?**



I hope that during my years in the Senate and during my years in government, I have always been clear about why I was there. The fact that we are there as public servants to be able to actually serve the public and [at] the same time always be respectful of my colleagues, despite what our differences might be in terms of getting to the right answers for the people who are dependent upon us to serve. I hope it's also because they value the input of women. I'm not only the first Black Senate majority leader; I'm the first female leader in the history of New York state, because the assembly never elected a woman to do this, either. I intend to do it right so I will not be the last. -- **EBONY**, 3/1/2019

[READ THE REST AT SENATOR](#)

**The Equal Right Amendment** is a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution designed to guarantee equal legal rights for all American citizens regardless of sex; it seeks to end the legal distinctions between men and women in terms of divorce, property, employment, and other matters. Learn more about the ERA [HERE](#).

## CITY PEOPLE AND ISSUES **APRIL**

In April, "City People and Issues," the cable television show produced by the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle, will play interviews with Rabbi Scott Weiner, president of the city's Interreligious Council, and with City Historian Barbara Davis. In addition, two new interviews will be recorded later this month.

The half hour programs highlight people and issues that make a difference to New Rochelle and are broadcast on Optimum Channel 76 Mondays at 7 pm and repeated Wednesdays at 10 pm and Thursdays at 9:30 pm.



BARBARA DAVIS

The interview with Rabbi Weiner is scheduled to be broadcast the week of April 8th, and can also be accessed on demand at [www.vimeo.com/323920889](http://www.vimeo.com/323920889). He talks with host Tamar Tait about the mission and programs of the Council and the value to the various clergy and citizens when they interact.

City Historian Davis talks with host Ina Aronow about the importance of preserving a sense of New Rochelle's past and historic architecture as new development goes forward. Her interview is scheduled to be broadcast during the weeks of April 1st and 15th, and will be on demand at [www.vimeo.com/325215597](http://www.vimeo.com/325215597).



RABBI SCOTT WEINER

## **RUNNING AND WINNING WORKSHOP IN APRIL**

The LWW is sponsoring its 8th annual Running and Winning workshop, to be held on April 11th in White Plains.

The workshop is open to female-identified junior and senior high school students from Westchester County, and provides a day-long opportunity to interact with female elected officials and to engage in exercises designed to introduce students to establishing a campaign platform and communicating with voters as part of a campaign team.

Adult volunteers who are interested in spending a wonderful, rewarding day helping out as facilitators should contact Deb Morel at [moreldeb@gmail.com](mailto:moreldeb@gmail.com).



Congratulations to New Rochelle City Historian **Barbara Davis**, who was honored by the Westchester County Board of Legislators on March 25th for her outstanding contribution to the public good.

## VOTER SERVICE APRIL

### Voter Registration:

Volunteers have been busy at area colleges in March and will be in full force in April and May until the Spring semesters end. Some registration volunteer spots are still open for April.

In the month of May, we will target 17-18 year old students, as per our grant from LWVNY, at area high schools and at WCC's Local Extension. When the local colleges re-open in the Fall, the League will be ready to register all incoming freshman. Prior to the upcoming primaries and to the general election, we will be in touch with every registrant to remind them to get out and vote, as part of the national GOTV Get Out The Vote campaign.



Voter Registration at Monroe College



Voter Registration at Iona

### Vote 411 :

Vote 411 will continue, thanks to a generous grant! Our League will attend a 4/6 meeting to plan to get the online version up and running before all county primaries.

Please call Joan Alexander at 914-715-3916 or email her at [royjoanalex@yahoo.com](mailto:royjoanalex@yahoo.com) for more details.

**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 (Contributing Editor,) Leona Newman, Susan Fleming, Monica Grey, Sydelle Herzberg, John Hessel, Peter Korn, Leslie Mignault (Editor,) and Pearl Quarles. Contact us at [LWVNewRochelle@gmail.com](mailto:LWVNewRochelle@gmail.com).



## League Celebrates Wisconsin Win for Democracy

On March 21st, a Wisconsin judge ruled in favor of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin in our suit against the state legislature. During a lame-duck session last year, the Wisconsin state legislature passed a series of laws limiting the incoming governor's power, undermining the desire of the voters. This decision undoes the unconstitutional actions of the lame-duck legislature.

## LWVUS Supports For The People Act in U.S. Senate

This week, [the HR1 companion was introduced in the Senate chamber](#). LWVUS attended the bill announcement and sent an action alert to all members and supporters on Wednesday afternoon. Moving this bill forward in the Senate is a major priority for LWVUS. Please consider [contacting your senators](#) in support of the legislation today! LWVUS also sent [a letter to senators](#) urging them to support this historic legislation before it was introduced.

## LWVUS Supports Native American Voting Rights Act

LWVUS joined other civil rights organizations in supporting the [Native American Voting Rights Act of 2019](#). This legislation will remove barriers for Native Americans when registering to vote and expand opportunities for indigenous people to participate in the voting process.





## JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF

The League depends on the work and financial support of its members to carry out its programs. Membership is open to women and men. 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.

**JOIN NOW  
AND GET 2  
MONTHS  
FREE!**

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP

☐ RENEWAL

☐ INDIVIDUAL \$60/YEAR

☐ HOUSEHOLD\* \$85/YEAR

\* ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE MAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHECK PAYABLE TO LWV NR

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE LEAGUE WITH A **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** CONTRIBUTION

MADE PAYABLE TO **LWV EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

☐ \$100

☐ \$50

☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

### RETURN THIS APPLICATION WITH YOUR CHECK TO

The League of Women Voters of New Rochelle

45 Long Vue

New Rochelle, NY 10804

or

Join and/or Donate via **PAYPAL** on our website: [www.lwvnewro.org](http://www.lwvnewro.org)



## County Executive Latimer Signs A Language Access Executive Order

Westchester County, like New York State, is a diverse melting pot home to numerous cultures and languages. In an effort to knock down any potential barriers to accessing important government programs or services, County Executive George Latimer has signed an Executive Order directing vital County documents to be made available in Spanish, Italian, Chinese, French (including Haitian Creole), Arabic, Tagalog, Japanese and Albanian.  
--[WestchesterGov.com](http://WestchesterGov.com), 3/5/2019

Read the rest at [ACCESS](#)



## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

On March 15th, Barbara Davis gave a wonderful presentation on lesser known notable women of New Rochelle. She spoke about women known in the arts world; women from opera, journalism, actresses in movies and theatre, cartoon artists, and a portrait artist whose work hangs in both Buckingham Palace and the Met! Ms. Davis spoke about women who were instrumental in getting the women's vote, and more. Her love for the rich history of New Rochelle was conveyed to, and shared by, an enthusiastic audience.

April is Fair Housing Month. Ariana Calderon (right,) Program Manager of Fair Housing Education and Investigation at Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc., will be next month's speaker on Coffee and Conversation. Ms. Calderon will do a presentation on all the hot-button housing issues in New Rochelle on April 12th.



Looking forward, May's guests will be Interim Superintendent of Schools Magda Parvey (left) and Board of Education of New Rochelle member Jeffrey Hastie (right,) who will discuss issues pertaining to New Rochelle's school system.

Coffee and Conversation is an ongoing series of informal public gatherings, with guests discussing public issues. The meetings, open to all, are sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle. Coffee and Conversation is held in the New Rochelle Public Library's first floor meeting room. Coffee and light refreshments are served. For further information, please call 914-632-8254.



## NEW ROCHELLE NEWS

THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, APRIL 2nd, at 7 PM, at WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### NEW ROC STOP & SHOP CLOSING IN 2020

The New Roc Stop & Shop on Harrison Street in New Rochelle will be closing next February, the company announced this week, and the New Rochelle City Council will now begin searching for a new business to replace it.

The Stop & Shop location on Palmer Avenue will remain open, as will nearby locations on East Boston Post Road in Mamaroneck and East Sandford Boulevard in Mount Vernon. The company noted that employees will have the opportunity to transfer to other local stores once the New Roc store closes.

According to a [Iohud report](#), New Roc Associates LP and Manhattan Motorcars had asked the City Council for a special permit to alter the city's mixed-use family entertainment zone to allow for car dealerships in the space, but the City Council has tabled it for now, citing concerns that the area would become a "food desert." . **-New Rochelle Daily Voice, 3/8/2019**

SEE NEW ROCHELLE'S PARKS ACCESSIBILITY PLAN SURVEY [HERE](#)

### NEW BREWERY TO OPEN ON DIVISION STREET

DINER BREW COMPANY plans to have an exciting new presence in our downtown. Run by Chris Sheldon, a New Rochelle native, Diner Brew is a southern Westchester cidery & brewery, focused on historical interpretation and forward-looking innovation to craft fine hard ciders and beers. Chris and team just received planning board approval to open a craft beverage manufacturing facility at 40 Division Street for his exciting line-up of products, with an on-site taproom and draft space in front. The vision: a well-designed brick and mortar retail space for the manufacturing business featuring 12-16 locally-produced taps (both Diner Brew and other hyper-local producers) and a curated selection of cider-treated bourbons, eau de vies, beer and cider cocktails and more.



--New Rochelle Downtown BID newsletter

READ MAYOR BRAMSON'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS [HERE](#).

## ***You Can Be a League Moderator and Empower Local Democracy!***

The League of Women Voters of Westchester is training new volunteers in the fine art of moderating candidate forums. The League organizes open candidate forums where citizens hear from and question candidates running for public office. All forums are nonpartisan and moderated by League trained volunteers.

*This could be you!*

**This spring's trainings are:**

**Saturday, April 13 10-11:30 a.m.**

**Monday, April 15 7 - 8:30 p.m.**

**White Plains Public Library, Room A, 2nd floor**

**100 Martine Avenue, White Plains**

**(Parking garage below library)**

**For info or to register, email [pkschwarz1@gmail.com](mailto:pkschwarz1@gmail.com)**

## ***It Takes a Friend to Get a Friend to Vote***

*Political organizers have at their hands a timeless way to get young people to cast ballots: Link them with friends who will do the same. Now there are apps to help.*

Youth turnout in the November 2018 election was by the far the highest it's been in a midterm election in the last 25 years, and probably ever. That record high was ... 31 percent.

That means that nearly 70 percent of eligible voters under 30 stayed home. That's at least better than the 80 percent who stayed home in previous midterms. --NYTimes Opinion, 3/19/2019

**READ THE REST AT FRIEND**

**COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**  
**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**21st Anniversary**  
**FOUNDATION AWARDS GALA**

**Thursday, April 4, 2019**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Surf Club on the Sound**

**New Rochelle, NY**

**PURCHASE TICKETS OR  
DONATE HERE**



A MORNING SESSION WITH THE  
LEADERSHIP WESTCHESTER CLASS OF 2019

**REGISTER FOR FREE**





## 2020 Census Jobs

Earn extra income while helping your community.

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the country to assist with the 2020 Census count.



**APPLY NOW**

## Prom Dress Giveaway Volunteers Needed

*with Operation PROM*  
April 26 *through* April 28 in  
**White Plains**



**VOLUNTEER**





State Senator Shelley B. Mayer's  
**MOBILE OFFICE HOURS**





**Thursday, April 4th  
&  
Thursday, April 11th**

April 4, 11 AM - 1 PM, Bedford Library  
April 11, 2 PM - 4 PM, New Rochelle Library

## Artists: Win a Year of Free Rent in New Rochelle

New Rochelle is teaming up with our master developer, RXR, to offer one lucky artist a [full year of free rent](#) at [360 Huguenot](#), the new downtown tower that's just nearing completion.

To [apply](#), interested artists must [submit](#) a 30-second-or-less video detailing why New Rochelle is the ideal creative place to live. The deadline to apply is May 17, and the winner will be announced in July.



Please join us to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rotary Club of New Rochelle, a century of fellowship and service, honoring community leaders including Dr. LaRuth Gray, Jim Maisano, Iris Rosario, and Chris Selin.

Cocktails, dinner and dancing at the Surf Club on the Sound, 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 10th

For more information, tickets, and journal ads, visit [www.rotaryclubofnewrochelle.org](http://www.rotaryclubofnewrochelle.org)