

# NEWS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE DECEMBER 2018

### 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. The League also provides 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 their questions for debate. Young people are introduced to political careers through our state and county League programs, including *Students in Albany*.





### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

How heartening it was to track the impressive statistics on voter turnout for the midterms. What an affirmation that change is possible with advocacy, effort, and information! With the elections complete, we've all taken time to catch our breath and recover. However, legislatures will be reconvening in January, seating veteran

and newly-elected members ready to take on myriad issues and concerns. To ensure they address *your* issues and concerns, your elected official officials need to hear from *you*. Your personal phone calls, emails, and visits are noted (and counted) when formulating their positions and priorities. Contact information for officials specific to you can be accessed here on the LWVNY website.

The NY State League will be setting its legislative advocacy agenda also for the new session, and is soliciting our input on what their priorities should be especially given the changing makeup of the NYS Senate. Your ideas can be emailed directly to them at <a href="https://www.ny.org">lwvny@lwvny.org</a>, or shared with us at <a href="https://www.ny.org">lwvnewrochelle@gmail.com</a> for inclusion in our chapter's Legislative Priorities Response sent to LWVNY in late January after our Board meeting.

As readers of our monthly Newsletter, you are aware that it has indeed been a busy, productive year for us. Your membership and participation have made our achievements, and those of our national (lwv.org) and NYS (lwvny.org) organizations, possible. I urge to **renew your membership now**. In an attempt to be more efficient and eco-friendly, no separate mailing was done this year. The membership form is in this issue, and on our website where payment can be submitted through PayPal. Please consider an additional donation to support effective League advocacy for voting rights, health care reform, and the environment.

We wish you a joyful and stress-less holiday season of light and love, and a new year filled with the best of health and peace! -- Monica Grey

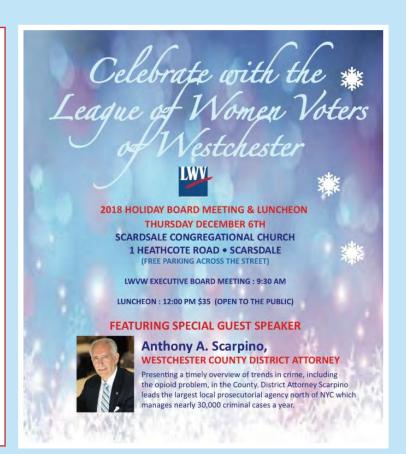
# SAVE YOUR SEAT FOR LWVW'S DEC. 6TH HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Sign up now for LWVW's Holiday Luncheon (see flyer, right.) Tickets are \$35. The public is invited.

<u>Click here</u> to buy a ticket by PayPal or credit card. Or send a check, payable to LWVW, Inc., to 570 Taxter Road, Suite 565, Elmsford, NY 10523.

Please note a time change:

Luncheon will begin at 12:15 pm. Featured guest speaker, DA Anthony Scarpino, at 1:00 pm



# BILL OF RIGHTS DAY DECEMBER 15th

The first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution make up the Bill of Rights. Passed by Congress on September 25, 1789, these rights place limits on government power.

- CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS: OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. PROTECT THE FIRST AMENDMENT.
- The bill was introduced by James
   Madison. He later became the 4th President of the United States.
- The Bill of Rights initially had 12 proposed amendments. One concerned the number of constituents for each Representative. The other addressed compensation of Congressman. Neither were ratified. Compensation of Congressman was ratified 203 years later and is now the 27th amendment.
- The Bill of Rights is displayed in The Rotunda of the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. There were 14 copies of the Bill of Rights; one for each of the 13 states to sign and one for the federal archives. Only 12 copies survive today.

### **HOW TO OBSERVE**

Display the flag of the United States on public buildings. Read the Bill of Rights. See if you can pass a quiz about the Bill of Rights.

To view the official proclamation: http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=16046

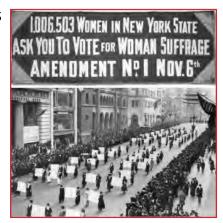
# **New Rochelle League of Women Voters Archive Project**

The New Rochelle League of Women Voters has initiated an archive project to preserve and organize its non-current records. The purpose of the project is to gather and maintain all of its existing records in a single location to ensure that the League's history of accomplishments is permanently preserved. The League has retained the services of a professional archivist, David Rose, for the identification historically significant records and the organization of the archive.

In the broadest sense, an *archive* is a collection of <u>original documents</u>, just as a library is a collection of published works and a museum is a collection of physical artifacts. The materials to be collected into the League archive are documents and records in any medium (paper, photos, films, or digital records) that are no longer needed for regular business but that are clearly important to capture the League's history in every detail.

These are examples of records that might comprise the collections of the archive of the New Rochelle League of Women Voters:

- · Annual reports, serial publications, magazines, and newsletters
- · League publications, e.g., special reports, brochures, booklets, flyers, etc.
- · Documents of incorporation and legal documents
- · Meeting agendas and minutes
- ·Correspondence: letters, postcards, telegrams, email print-outs
- · Records of committees, membership, and special projects
- · Records of programs, events, and conferences
- · Photography (original negatives and prints) and artwork
- · Films, videotapes, and audio recordings (in any format)
- · Memorabilia, artifacts, placards, signs, and objects
- $\cdot$  News clippings
- ·Scrapbooks
- $\cdot$  Digital records



In fact, anything and everything that relates to the League of Women Voters and its history from its founding to the present time should be considered for inclusion in the archive. Should you have any documents or materials to contribute, please contact Leona Newman, New Rochelle League Recording Secretary, at <a href="mailto:lollyjn@aol.com">lollyjn@aol.com</a> or 914-235-3553.

### CITY PEOPLE AND ISSUES **DECEMBER**

The programs are shown on Cablevision Channel 76 on Mondays at 7 pm, and repeated on Wednesdays at 10 pm and Thursdays at 9:30 pm. They will also be on demand at <a href="https://www.vimeo.com">www.vimeo.com</a> after the first showing on Cablevision.

**Week of December 3**: Repeat of interview with Elisabeth Radow, environmental activist, on making a difference against climate change- with a focus on food. Also on demand at <a href="https://www.Vimeo.com/299221600">www.Vimeo.com/299221600</a>

**Week of December 10:** Repeat of interview Andrew Sandor, New Rochelle Fire Chief. Also on demand at <a href="https://www.vimeo.com/300746262">www.vimeo.com/300746262</a>

**Week of December 17:** New State Senator Shelley Mayer (right,) a Yonkers resident, in an interview with host Ina Aronow, describes her background and her views on issues that are likely be taken up by the state legislature.

Week of December 23: Tamar Tait interviews New Rochelle Councilman Ivar Hyden (left,) an art gallery owner and supporter of the arts, who focuses on other aspects of New



Rochelle's future that have been overshadowed by the developing new highrises. He describes a future city "hip to technology" using augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) that are being quietly developed with the help of grants that can transform the city and the arts.

Hyden also discusses ways in which to connect the Lincoln corridor to downtown with funds from the Bloomberg foundation.

Week of December 31: Repeat of interview with State Senator Mayer

Week of January 7, 2019: Repeat of interview with Councilman Hyden

## NR CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Town Hall meeting re Search for new Sup'erintendent of Schools, with consultant Harold A. Coles, 12/4, at 6 pm, Isaac E. Young Auditorium, 270 Centre Ave., NR
- Board of Education meeting, 12/4 at 7:15 pm, Isaac E Young Auditorium, 270 Centre Ave., NR
- Equity, Excellence & Innovation Committee meeting, 12/5 at 10 am, Edwina Carew Meeting Room at City Hall, 2nd floor, 515 North Ave., NR

# Andrea Stewart-Cousins Becomes First Woman to lead NY State Legislative Chamber

After securing a majority in this year's midterm elections, Democrats in New York's State Senate announced Tuesday that Andrea Stewart-Cousins will lead the New York state legislative chamber beginning in January, The Journal News reported.

Stewart-Cousins will be the first woman and first black woman to lead a majority conference in either chamber of the state Legislature.



"We are looking forward to not only serving the people of New York, but doing it with the type of attention and integrity and intelligence they expect from us and deserve," Stewart-Cousins told reporters. --The Hill, 11/18

Information on **Westchester County's proposed 2019 operating budget** is available on the Board of Legislators website, <u>www.westchesterlegislators.com</u>. Visit the <u>FY2019 Budget Dashboard</u>, where you can see <u>the budget meeting schedule</u> and view the proposed <u>operating</u>, <u>capital</u> and <u>special districts</u> budgets.

On **Tuesday**, **Dec 4th**, Join Ken Jenkins for a 20-30 min presentation on the the Proposed 2019 Westchester County Budget, followed by a question and answer period. Please note this is a Presentation and not the Budget Hearing. The last public hearing on the proposed budget is on **Wednesday**, **December 5th** at 7 p.m. in the Board of Legislators Chambers, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains.

# Trump Administration Quietly Unveils New Rules Targeting Birth Control and Abortion

On Wednesday, November 7th, Trump's Department of Health and Human Services quietly finalized two rules empowering employers, universities and nonprofits to refuse birth control coverage to women.

A third rule, also announced Wednesday, would require insurers on the Affordable Care Act marketplace to charge women a separate monthly bill for abortion coverage, a change that advocates say would be so prohibitively expensive it could force insurers to stop offering the procedure altogether. --Tessa Stuart, Rolling Stone, 11/8/2018

Read the whole article at REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS





The Voter Service Committee and our entire board extend a big thank you to the hardworking and dedicated Voter Service volunteers this past year. The weather was so variable! Remember the hot days?

A special mention to LWV member Deborah Hussey who managed to be everywhere this year, doing voter registration plus working a day job! She has reported here regularly on her Voter Service activities in our area prisons.

For 2019 and 2020 we want to plan and execute a traveling civic education program custom tailored for the audience such as high schools, colleges, libraries, senior centers etc. Please email me if you have interest.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Joan

Alexander at 914-715-3916 or at <a href="mailto:royjoanalex@yahoo.com">royjoanalex@yahoo.com</a>.



# A Conversation With Westchester County Executive, George Latimer



Join us in a conversation about the budget, taxes, infrastructure, development plans and his priorities!

Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 7:45 am Nautilus Diner, 1240 W. Boston Post Rd, Mamaroneck



# COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Carol Troum, the Executive Director of Hope Community Services (right,) will speak at the January Coffee and Conversation about the challenges that Hope Community Services' clients face during the winter (There is no program scheduled for December.)

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.





# **VOTE With Your Consumer Dollars to Prevent Food Waste**

Beth Radow, chair of the NYS League's committee on energy, agriculture and the environment, has prepared a *BE EARTHWISE* guide for you to **VOTE** with your consumer dollars and daily practices to toss less food & feed more people while saving money and our natural resources.

<u>Click here</u> for the full **Be Earthwise** guide on what you can do to help waste less food.

### JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE HERE.

READ PAST ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER HERE.

# More women than office. Many won.



Almost two years ago, millions of women across the world donned pink hats and held up signs that warned of pussies grabbing back. On Election Day, women made good on their promise and led Democrats to grab back the House: A record-breaking 96 women have already won seats in the House, and 12 have won in the Senate. That means a historic 118 women will now serve in Congress. Another nine woman will serve as governors, which matches the previous record.

### Some of the Headliners:

- Democrat Ayanna Pressley will be the first black woman to represent Massachusetts with her victory in the state's 7th Congressional District.
- Democrats Rashida Tlaib, of Michigan's 13th, and Ilhan Omar, of Minnesota's 5th, became the first Muslim women ever elected to Congress.
- Texas Democrats Veronica Escobar, in the 16th District, and Sylvia Garcia, in the 29th, will be the first Latinas to represent the Lone Star State in Congress.
- Republican Marsha Blackburn became the first woman to represent Tennessee in the Senate (despite <u>Taylor Swift's best efforts</u>).
- Democrats Sharice Davids, in Kansas' 3rd, and Deb Haaland, in New Mexico's 1st, became the first Native American women in Congress. (Davids also became the first openly gay lawmaker in Kansas' congressional delegation.)
- Democrat Jahana Hayes' victory in Connecticut's 5th District made her the first black woman to represent the state in Congress.
- Democrat Angie Craig's win in Minnesota's 1st District makes her the first openly LGBTQ person to be elected to Congress from the state, and the first lesbian mother to serve in Congress.
- Twenty-nine-year-old Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, in New York's 14th District, became the youngest woman ever elected to Congress (though Abby Finkenauer, who won Iowa's 1st District and is just a few months older than Ocasio-Cortez, wasn't far behind).
- Kendra Horn will be the first Democratic woman to represent Oklahoma in Congress. Her election also breaks Oklahoma's all-men congressional delegation, a possibility we talked to her about in September. Read the whole article here.



# LWVNR BOARD MEMBER RECEIVES COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AWARD

Congratulations to LWVNR Board member Susan Fleming (center,) who received the Community Volunteer Award at the Annual New Rochelle Council of Community Services Awards Breakfast on November 29th. In addition to being on the League's Board, Susan is also on the Board of Meals

on Wheels of New Rochelle, and has delivered meals through that organization for the past fourteen years. Susan has lectured 4th and 5th graders in Westchester about the Criminal Justice system through Family Services of Westchester County. She is a part of Milestone 6 of My Brother's Keeper of New Rochelle. Susan volunteers to help New Rochelle High School students write their college application essays, and has also coached travel soccer for many years.

# LWV Voter Registration at Re-Entry Event

On October 12th, several LWV volunteers set up a voter registration table for returning citizens and their families at Grace Baptist Church in Mount Vernon. Although most participants were already registered to vote, we did facilitate registration for a handful of attendees.



This event was part of an effort by registerny.org to assist inmates at the Westchester County jail in Valhalla as well as those recently released. Throughout the fall, under the leadership of Jen Lackard, LWV members and others have visited the jail to offer information and inform on voting rights. Inmates were given applications for absentee ballots, which were completed and delivered to the Westchester BOE. On subsequent visits, absentee ballots were distributed with printed material on the candidates running for election. A final visit was conducted after the elections in November to debrief. About 100 absentee ballots were cast. It was extremely rewarding to learn how important the ability to vote was for these inmates. Several were interested in continuing this work upon their release. --Deborah Hussey

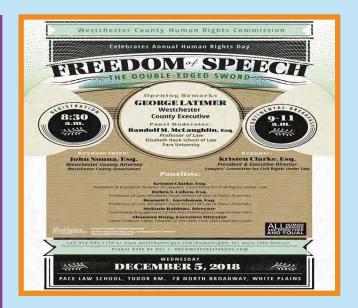
# HUMAN RIGHTS DAY DECEMBER 10TH

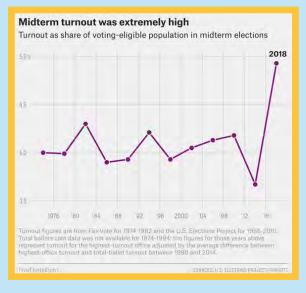
Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December - the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the <u>Universal Declaration of Human</u> Rights. This year, Human Rights Day marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a milestone document that proclaimed the inalienable rights which everyone is inherently entitled to as a human being -regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. It is the most translated document in the world, available in more than 500 languages.

Drafted by representatives of diverse legal and cultural backgrounds from all regions of the world, the Declaration sets out universal values and a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations. It establishes the equal dignity and worth of every person.

Thanks to the Declaration, and States' commitments to its principles, the dignity of millions has been uplifted and the foundation for a more just world has been laid. While its promise is yet to be fully realized, the very fact that it has stood the test of time is testament to the enduring universality of its perennial values of equality, justice and human dignity. --THE UNITED NATIONS

Read the rest at HUMAN RIGHTS







# **NEW ROCHELLE NEWS**

New Rochelle shines in <u>three new promotional videos</u> and in a glowing profile from <u>Untapped Cities</u>.

# City Unveils Proposed 2019 Budget, 12/4 Hearing

The City of New Rochelle released a proposed budget for 2019 that does not exceed the state-mandated tax cap. According to information from the city, the \$199.6 million budget preserves and enhances essential services and reflects a continued investment in the city's infrastructure. The proposed tax rate increase is 2.42 percent. The proposed tax increase for the average homeowner is \$89, which equates to 24 cents a day.

Copies of the proposed budget are available in the city clerk's office, at the New Rochelle Public Library and on the city's website. The city council will conduct budget review meetings in November and December and hold a **public hearing Dec. 4** in advance of the adoption of a tax rate in December.

--Michael Woyton, PATCH, 11/9/18

**\$10M New Rochelle Grant: Downtown Redevelopment Initiative Public Workshop #1 -** Monday, Dec 10 from 6:30-8:30pm Remington's Boys and Girls Club, 116 Guion Place, New Rochelle

### LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE FORMED

A <u>Local Planning Committee</u> ("LPC") has been established to help New Rochelle think through how best to utilize the <u>\$10 million grant</u> we recently won through New York's Downtown Revitalization Initiative. <u>The LPC</u> is composed of local and regional leaders, as well as community, neighborhood, and business advocates. <u>Here's a full list</u> of the members, with brief descriptions of each. They are an impressive group, encompassing a range of relevant skills, experiences, and perspectives, and I am enormously grateful that they have volunteered to assist with this exciting opportunity.

At the same time, I want to stress that participation on the LPC is only one of several ways to shape decision-making about this grant. This will be an inclusive process, aimed at forging stronger physical, economic, and social connections between the evolving downtown center and the Lincoln Avenue Corridor. --Mayor Noam Bramson More in this press release.

Track New Rochelle's development on this website.

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK STATE

# **Early Voting is Possible**

The election is finally over! Thank you so much to everyone who worked on registering and educating voters this election cycle. Our members **registered over 20,000 voters** this election and educated thousands more through voter information drives and candidate forums. We are so grateful for all the work our Leagues have done and we hope that you feel a sense of pride when you reflect on 2018.

In New York State, we've truly had a landmark election. We had record breaking rates of voter participation statewide with nearly 50% of voters turning out to vote. And, we are excited to see so many young New Yorkers voting, but also being elected to local, state and national positions.

Now that the election is behind us, it's time to look ahead. The New York State Senate will now have a majority of Democrat members, many of whom have supported our voting reform efforts in the past. We are feeling confident that we will finally see passage of early voting and other voting reforms in New York State!

As we prepare to launch our campaign to pass early voting in 2019, we hope you will consider making a donation to the League's Action Fund. Last session we provided our members with weekly updates on legislative action, lobbying materials for in district lobby visits, a social media toolkit to help promote our early voting campaign, and access to member-wide phone calls to discuss what was happening at the Capitol. This year we want to be bigger and better than ever! You can help us expand our reach by donating to the Action Fund. Click here to donate.

This election has proved that anything is possible and we are confident that after a nearly 20 year struggle we will FINALLY pass early voting in 2019.

-- Jennifer Wilson, LWVNYS Legislative Director



News from the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle is published by the Executive Board of the League of Women Voters - NR. 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.



# **JOIN** THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE

The League depends on the work and financial support of all of its 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**

NAME	
ADDRESS	
	EMAIL
NEW MEMBERSHIP	RENEWAL
INDIVIDUAL \$60/YEAR	HOUSEHOLD* \$85/YEAR
* ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBE	R NAME
	EMAIL
PLEASE MAKE YOUR	R MEMBERSHIP CHECK PAYABLE TO LWV NR
I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPOR	RT THE LEAGUE WITH A <b>TAX DEDUCTIBLE</b> CONTRIBUTION
MADE PAYAB	LE TO <b>LWV EDUCATION FOUNDATION</b>
\$100 \$50	OTHER
RETURN THIS	APPLICATION WITH YOUR CHECK TO
The Leagu	ue of Women Voters of New Rochelle
	45 Long Vue
	New Rochelle, NY 10804

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

or

# COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD UPCOMING EVENTS



# ETHICS & ACCOUNTABILITY SUMMIT

### **Addressing The Ethical Challenges**

**Facing New York** 

City & State presents a full-day conference to explore how public officials, corporations, attorneys, lobbyists, nonprofits, and the public can work to create effective policies to address the issue of government ethics and accountability.

The conference will feature keynote remarks by **Mark Peters**, Commissioner, NYC Department of Investigation

Museum of Jewish Heritage 36 Battery Place New York, NY 10280 December 13, 201, 9:00AM - 3:30PM

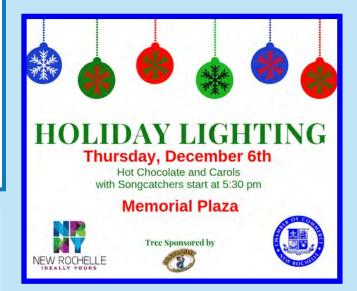
**Register Now** 

# STATE SENATOR SHELLEY MAYER'S HOLDAY OPEN HOUSE Thursday, December 13th 4:00 to 6:00 PM RSVP REQUIRED Visit: bit.ly/MayerHolidayOpenHouse or call 914-934-5250 We will be collecting donations for Feeding Westchester at the Holiday Open House and in advance of the event at my District Office, 222 Grace Church Street, Suite 300, Port Chester. We recommend donations of diapers, toiletries, and non-perishable food items. PORT CHESTER SENIOR CENTER 222 GRACE CHURCH STREET, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573

# **Historical and Landmark Review Board Meeting**

December 12, 7:30 PM

90 Beaufort Place, Room B-1
New Rochelle, NY

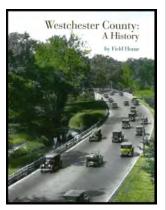




### Local History Presentation New Rochelle Public Library Thursday, December 6, 3:00 pm

The newly-released book, *Westchester County: A History*, relates the extraordinary story of our county. It is a fascinating narrative, richly illustrated, that not only documents events that happened in the past - but also helps us understand the present and how we might prepare for the future. In this presentation, Field Horne, the author and historian, will

about the speak process of writing the book and the surprises he unearthed along the way. Copies of the book, produced by the Westchester County Historical Society, will available be for purchase.



### Croton Reservoir & Dam First Day Hike

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 - 12:00pm



Greet the New Year with an easy 1-mile hike north along the Aqueduct and atop the beautiful Croton Dam. Meet near the restrooms at the parking lot at Croton Gorge Park, Rte. 129, Cortlandt 10567. The leader of the hike will discuss the history and construction of the Old Croton Aqueduct and the features of the Croton Dam, the trailhead of the Aqueduct trail. The Aqueduct was completed in 1842 to supply water to New York City. Inquiries: Sara Kelsey, saraakelsey@gmail.com or 646-303-1448.

