

NEWS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE MAY 2020

Guide to Absentee Ballot Voting for Westchester County

New York State Elections. June 23, 2020

See page two

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See page five.





Field activites will resume June 1, 2020

EASY 🕏

SAFE

IMPORTANT











NewRochelleNY.com/2020Census

Twelve Virtual Fitness Classes to Get You up and Moving READ THE ARTICLE



RESTAURANT DELIVERY OPTIONS MAY 2020

ALL OPEN BUSINESSES IN NEW ROCHELLE

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.

WELLNESS INFORMATION

FOR KIDS AND PARENTS FROM THE BOYS AND **GIRLS CLUB OF NEW** ROCHELLE HERE.

Guide to Absentee Ballot Voting for Westchester County New York State Elections, June 23, 2020

Do you have concerns about going to the polls to vote because of COVID-19?? With a new Executive Order by Gov. Cuomo, all registered New York State voters will automatically receive an absentee ballot application in the mail, with pre-paid return postage. This is the application only - not the ballot itself! The temporary order applies only for the June 23 primary elections, which will include New York's federal, state, and local primary elections.

Return your Absentee Ballot Application Early to WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS (WCBOE) by mail or in-person: 25 Quarropas Street, White Plains, NY 10601

Call: (914) 995-5700 Fax:(914) 995-7753 E-Mail: boe-westabsentee@westchestergov.com

You may still **DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION** and return via mail, fax, e-mail or in-person if you do not want to wait for the application form to be automatically mailed to you. If you cannot download and print a form, send a letter via mail, fax or e-mail with your request for the application, including the following information:

1) your name and date of birth 2) an address where the ballot is to be sent3) the reason for the request 4) the address where you are registered

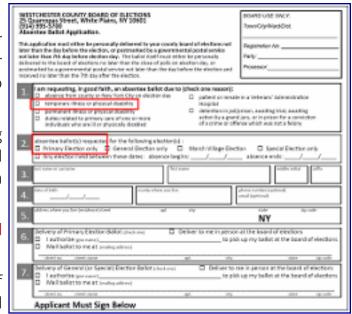
1.How to complete an absentee ballot application:

The NYS Election Law is modified to allow for electronic application, with no requirement for in-person signature or appearance_to be able to access an absentee ballot.

A voter must check the box on the existing application for "temporary illness or physical disability." The request is for "Primary Election only".

2.Complete and return the signed application form to WCBOE:

Upon completion, the application or letter of application must be: emailed, faxed or mailed to WCBO (June 16th) or delivered in person no later than the day before the election (June 22nd)



Upon receipt of your application for an absentee ballot at WCBOE, delivery of absentee ballots to voters will be by mail or in-person, regardless of how the application was submitted.

3.Upon receipt of the ballot, complete and return your ballot to WCBOE by mail or in-person. No completed ballots will be accepted via email or fax.

League of Women Voters of Westchester, Inc. | 914-949-0507

CITY PEOPLE AND ISSUES ON PAUSE

"City People and Issues," the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle cable TV program has suspended production of new interviews while we are all social distancing and while City Hall and its NRTV studio is not available. Previously produced programs can be seen on demand at www.vimeo.com/24211396 or by going to www.vimeo.com/visitor and searching for League of Women Voters of New Rochelle.

TO OUR READERS

We hope everyone is feeling well and doing well.

The Board of Directors of The League of Women Voters of New Rochelle has voted to postpone our June Annual meeting until 9/30/2020.

This spring, you will receive a membership renewal notice by mail and via email. Please send in your check by mail, or renew via Paypal on our website, lwvnewro.org.

HELP PATIENTS CONNECT WITH LOVED ONES

New Rochelle's Julie Rosenbluth has found a way for hospitalized patients to connect with family members who are unable to connect with their sick loved ones alone in hospitals where visitors are strictly forbidden.. She has made a connection with an ER nurse at White Plains Hospital who sees large numbers of COVID-19 patients every day and who has enthusiastically agreed to accept and distribute such donated devices.

Please bring or send used or new iPads or Kindle Fires to: *Julie Rosenbluth, 3 Rock Ridge Circle, New Rochelle, NY 10804* If you will be dropping off at her house instead of mailing, please text her at 646-554-6365, to let her know when to expect you. And please spread the word! -- 10th District Legislator Damon Maher

Are you curious about how many people in your community are responding to the 2020 Census? Stay up to date with a map of self-response rates from across the United States. Start here.



Westchester County Update

- Total County response is currently at 48% versus the final 2010 census response rate of 67.9%.
- North Castle and Scarsdale saw their percentages increase by .5%; while North Salem and Buchanan were on the low end with increases of only .1%.
- Two thirds of our municipalities now have response rates of 50% or higher with 22 in the 50s and 8 now in the 60s.
- On the lower end, only 3
 municipalities are still in the 30s and
 10 are in the 40s.
- On the high end, the Village of Croton is doing exceptionally well, and is only 6.4% away from their 2010 response rate, where every other municipality is at least 9% away.



2020 Census Operational Update

The U.S. 2020 Census is underway and more households across America are responding every day. Over 70 million households have responded to date, representing over 48% of all households in America.

In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau is adjusting 2020 Census operations in order to:

- Protect the health and safety of the American public and Census Bureau employees.
- Implement guidance from federal, state and local authorities.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

The Census Bureau temporarily suspended 2020 Census field data collection activities in March. Steps are already being taken to reactivate field offices beginning June 1, 2020, in preparation for the resumption of field data collection operations as quickly as possible following June 1.

In order to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau is seeking statutory relief from Congress of 120 additional calendar days to deliver final apportionment counts.

Under this plan, the Census Bureau would extend the window for field data collection and self-response to October 31, 2020, which will allow for apportionment counts to be delivered to the President by April 30, 2021, and redistricting data to be delivered to the states no later than July 31, 2021.

VOTER SERVICE

Leagues Plan Virtual Candidates Forums

The County League, in conjunction with LWVNYC, is planning recorded Zoom-based Virtual Candidates Forums for two upcoming Democratic primary contests. The Forum for the Congressional District 16 seat currently held by Eliot Engel will be on June 1. The Democratic contenders for



Congressperson are Sammy Ravelo, Chris Fink, Andom Ghebreghiorgis, and Jamaal Bowman.

The Forum for the District Attorney seat currently held by Anthony Scarpino will be on May 28. Mimi Rocah is running for District Attorney against the incumbent Scarpino.

We ask that our members and the public check back for final details on our website **lwvnewro.org** and on social media for how to submit your questions for the candidates before and during the forums. The Forums will be recorded on Zoom to replay widely, and plans are to carry them live on local cable stations.

Up-To-Date Voting information on Vote411.org

With many states still scheduled to hold primary and local elections between now and November, and with election changes announced almost every day, it's never been more important for voters to know when and how they can make their voices heard.

That's why this month we launched a **coronavirus-specific page on VOTE411.org**, our voter information resource. VOTE411 now has everything you need to know about election changes during COVID-19—in both English and Spanish.

New Rochelle Elections Postponed

New Rochelle School Board and Library Trustees elections have been postponed until June 9 per Governor Cuomo's executive order, which reads, in part, "Voters shall vote in our local school and library elections only by absentee ballot, to be provided to all qualified voters by each school district." The LWVNR will try to hold a virtual candidates forum prior to those elections; candidate names and budgets TBA.

2020 Voting by Absentee Ballot Deadlines:

Date	Deadline Information
June 16	Last day to postmark an application or letter of application by mail, or send an email or fax for an absentee ballot.
June 22	Last day to apply IN-PERSON for absentee ballot.
June 22	Last day to postmark ballot. Must be received by the local board of elections no later than June 30th.
June 23	Last day to deliver ballot IN-PERSON to the local board of elections (by someone

LWVNR Radio Show on WVOX Will Talk With Historian on the Role of African-American Women in the Suffrage Movement

The Ballot Box is the monthly WVOX 1460 AM radio show of the League of Women Voters of New Rochelle. Co-hosted by LWVNR members Tamar Tait and Nina Luban, the show features local, state, and national electoral issues and relevant civic matters. It airs live on the third Wednesday of the month from 9 am -10 am.

On April 22, 2020 The Ballot Box hosted Dr. Carol Faulkner, author, Syracuse University professor and 19th century American history specialist.

Dr. Faulkner's scholarship focuses on women, and gender, sexuality, social activism in 19th-century America. She provided listeners with historical background about the tensions between Caucasian African-American and suffragettes, discussed her 2011 book, Lucretia Mott's Heresy: Abolition and Women's Rights in Nineteenth-Century describing the connection between America,



Dr. Carol Faulkner

Quakers and the suffrage and abolition movements, and explored some of the insights contained in her newest book, *Unfaithful: Love, Adultery, and Marriage in Nineteenth-Century America*, about marriage and other 19th-century reforms that occurred in the shadow of the suffrage and abolition movements.

Dr. Faulkner returns for a follow-up discussion on The Ballot Box on May 20th at 9:00 am to discuss the political status and history of 19th-century American women. How women exerted political power vis a vis the federal government without the vote - prior to the ratification of the 19th Amendment - is a chapter of our history that The Ballot Box aims to explore in greater depth. A deeper understanding of what "political power" means beyond the right to vote is especially important in an era currently witnessing assorted attacks on voter rights.

A podcast of this broadcast (and all Ballot Box shows) can be heard on demand at http://lwvnewro.org/TheBallotBox.html.



Update on Federal Elections Funding

On April 27 the State Board of Elections announced that the Governor would be amending the budget to allow for the spending of CARES Act stimulus funds for election operations in New York State

We are thrilled with this announcement and that our advocacy efforts have paid off!

Although this \$20 million in federal funds will have a positive impact on election operations in our state, the state is still required to commit a 20% match to receive the funds. The League continues to believe that this 20% match is too onerous for our state during this difficult financial time. We will continue to advocate that our Congressional members should remove this 20% match and increase the total amount of funding for states to use for election operations during the continuing COVID-19 outbreak.



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

EMAIL
RENEWAL
HOUSEHOLD* \$85/YEAR
BER NAME
EMAIL
ORT THE LEAGUE WITH A TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION
ABLE TO LWV EDUCATION FOUNDATION
OTHER
th information about making a charitable bequest
S APPLICATION WITH YOUR CHECK TO
gue 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



How the Spanish Flu Almost Upended Women's Suffrage

"Everything conspires against women suffrage. Now it is the influenza."

— A suffragist quoted in the New Orleans Times-Picayune in 1918

One hundred years have passed since the 19th Amendment was ratified and added to the Constitution. The year 2020 was meant to be one of celebration and commemoration. Then the pandemic came. Centennial plans ground to a halt and events were scrapped as an extraordinary era of social distancing was ushered in.

Except, it had all happened before, during the Spanish flu, which arrived in 1918 and complicated plans for women's suffrage then, too. Suffragists found themselves making their case amid the panic of a pandemic. Illness was everywhere, gatherings were banned and canceled plans became the norm.

In October 1918, Carrie Chapman Catt, the president of one of America's national women's suffrage movements, lay sick in bed in New York.

"She was stricken with influenza," wrote Catt's friend and biographer, Mary Gray Peck, referring to the Spanish flu pandemic that was rapidly tearing across the country and, by some accounts, killed close to 200,000 people in October alone.

"Chained to her bed like St. Lawrence to the gridiron. She looked and was extremely ill."

Catt was, however, concerned with issues beyond — but not unrelated to — the pains of the flu, according to Peck.

The invisible, unpredictable force of the pandemic risked derailing her carefully planned campaign to secure women's right to vote. The 19th Amendment was, at that moment, hanging by a thread in Congress. And the national suffrage movement, led in large part by two organizations — Catt's National American Woman Suffrage Association and the National Woman's Party — had managed to drum up immense momentum only to see it quickly dissipate as the country shut down public gatherings and ordered people to stay home. NY Times, 4/28/2020

READ THE REST AT INFLUENZA

Kristen Marx and AJ's Provide Meals for Residents at Shiloh Senior Living Center

New Rochelle resident Kristen Marx collected donations to feed and support the residents of Shiloh Senior Center in New Rochelle. Ms. Marx reached out to local restaurants, and AJ, at AJ's Burger's in New Rochelle, offered to provide individual meals from his menu of EZ Meals online at a 20% discounted rate. The money raised provided two additional meals weekly for each resident. Ms. Marx can be reached at kristenkeatingmarx@gmail.com.



A.J.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WESTCHESTER

Volunteers Needed to Help Small Business Owners Complete Applications for Assistance Programs

Westchester County is seeking volunteers to help small business owners complete applications for SBA and Paycheck Protection Program assistance.

The Westchester County Office of Economic Development's SBA Application Assistance Program is soliciting volunteers to help small businesses complete applications for the following programs:

- SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Advance
- SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan
- Paycheck Protection Program applications

Volunteers will be provided training on all aspects of the application process. Training will be developed and conducted in coordination with the SBA and Community Capital New York, a Community Development Financial Institution and SBA-lender. The training will be provided by webinar, and the materials and step-by-step application guides will be provided to the volunteers.

The volunteers will not be providing guidance/recommendations on which loan programs to apply for, but rather will be addressing specific questions on the application(s) selected by the applicant.

TO VOLUNTEER OR FOR INFO, email economicdevelopment@westchestergov.com

NEW ROCHELLE INFO

Coronavirus: New Rochelle pairs struggling restaurants with residents in need

New Rochelle is pairing desperate restaurants with less fortunate residents as the COVID-19 crisis continues to cause economic despair.

The city is providing struggling residents with gift cards they can use at local restaurants, paid for largely by developers. A pilot program included six restaurants helping feed 300 residents. Now the effort is expanding to include more than 20 restaurants and more than 1,000 people.

The program is dubbed NourishALL — to sound like New Rochelle. The city is partnering with L + M Development Partners, RXR Realty and 10 community-based organizations to support restaurants that have faced a steep decline in business and residents who are feeling economic pressure, including food insecurity.

Mayor Noam Bramson called the program an innovative public-private partnership aimed at helping the city's most vulnerable residents. The program is also accepting donations from the public.

RXR, New Rochelle's master developer, is supporting the endeavor through its \$1 million COVID-19 Relief Fund. It is also helping small businesses and nonprofits connect with volunteers to help access various federal relief funds. Other developers have pitched in as well.

--LoHud 4/20/2020

New Rochelle Historical Association wants your Covid -19 story

March 1, 2020 life was pretty much normal in New Rochelle. The corona virus was just the third or fourth news story. Life started to change on March 2nd when the first New Rochelle resident tested COVID-19 positive. The eyes of the country were upon New Rochelle as cases multiplied, March 12th a Containment Zone was put into place. Who thought the National Guard would be rolling into the City next and Glen Island Park would turn into a testing center - but it all happened. Pretty soon the whole country would be asked to #stayhomesavelives and everyone's life changed.

The Historical Association wants to hear your story of how COVID-19 has affected your life. This is a New Rochelle story they feel strongly needs to be documented and preserved for future generations. They are asking everyone, young and old, and local businesses to send in their stories. They are requesting photos, videos, artwork, just about anything be sent. "All stories & donated items are important; all items received will be preserved"

Plans are also in the works for video interviews as well as an old fashion time capsule filled with the New Rochelle story of COVID-19 2020. The capsule will eventually be buried on the grounds of the Thomas Paine Cottage Museum They are requesting you send digital items to huguenot.NRHA@gmail.com. All non-digital items mail to Huguenot & New Rochelle Historical Association 20 Sicard Avenue New Rochelle, NY 10804. Include a description of all items sent and your name and address. Items received without senders name & address will be accepted as an anonymous donation.

"We have a story to tell and it is our responsibility as New Rochelle's Historical Association to tell that story; New Rochelle's story." --New Rochelle Historical Society

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD UPCOMING EVENTS

For folks living in or managing apartments, the Department of Health has issued these <u>guidelines</u> (<u>directrices sobre COVID-19</u>) for safety.



Financial Relief for Artists

ArtsWestchester has announced a new **Artist Relief Fund** that will award grants of \$500 to individual Westchester artists who have suffered a loss of work due to Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). These funds are available for individual professional artists who live or maintain a studio in Westchester County. Artists must be at least 18 years old and be able to demonstrate a realized loss of income due to COVID-19. Artists will be required to supply proof of residence, or proof of studio space in Westchester, along with a W9. All artists can apply, regardless of immigration status, but must meet all other eligibility requirements and be able to supply required documents.

ArtsWestchester teaching artists, past grantees, and artists who have received public art commissions through ArtsWestchester are all eligible to apply. Artist Relief Fund awards are a one-time grant. Artists who receive a grant through this program may not apply for additional funding. If more funds are made available, ArtsWestchester may reopen the application to past awardees. Applications will be accepted beginning May 1st: To find out how to apply for a grant ArtsWestchester is funding the Arts Relief Fund through a GoFundMe campaign; they will continue collecting donations indefinitely and distributing grants to artists as contributions come in. To contribute, email artistrelief@artswestchester.org.

In addition to creating its own Arts Relief Fund, ArtsWestchester has put together a great list of resources for artists in all disciplines who are struggling as commissions and gigs dry up. For the most up to date news click <u>here</u>.

For complete guidelines, eligibility requirements and application, <u>click here</u>.

What to do for National Volunteer Week!



Calling All Older Adults!

Help Make Social Phone Calls to Students

Flexible schedule from home *CLICK HERE*

Donate Devices to Seniors for Their Telehealth Appointments

CLICK HERE

Administrative Assistant

with New Rochelle Community Action Program

Weekdays from 9:00AM - 4:00PM

CLICK HERE

Make Window Wellness Cards For Neighbors

Flexible schedule from home CLICK HERE



