# NEWS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ROCHELLE october 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 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*.



MARILYN BROWN AT NR STREET FAIR



## LWV of New Rochelle To Hold Candidates Forum

The League of Women Voters of New Rochelle will hold a Candidates Forum for contested seats for Mayor, City Council districts # 1 and # 5, and for County Board of Legislators district # 10. The forum will take place on **Monday, Oct 21** at 6 pm, in the City Council Auditorium at City Hall. The planned schedule is as follows:

**6 pm:** Incumbent District 10 County Legislator Damon Maher (D,WF), and challenger Christopher Garitee (R,C,I)

**6:45 pm:** Incumbent New Rochelle Mayor Noam Bramson (D, WF) and challenger Brendan Conroy (R,C,I)

**7:30 pm:** District 1 incumbent Councilman Louis Trangucci (R,C,I) and challenger Martha Lopez (D,WF); and the District 5 seat to replace Barry Fertel; Sara Kaye (D,WF) and Sarah Langlois (R,C,I).

The event will be moderated by a person from outside New Rochelle and will be taped by NRTV.

Questions may be submitted at the event, or to submit questions in advance, please email <u>lwvnewrochelle@gmail.com</u>

## LWVNR Sponsors Lecture, "Seeds of Failure: Courts, Congress, the Constitution & Voting Rights"

The first annual Edith Corbin Memorial Lecture was held on September 17 in the Iona College Library Auditorium. Ms. Corbin was the LWVNR president in the mid-1960's, and was an advocate



Robert Corbin, Dr. Jeanne Zaino, Peter Korn

of judicial reform. Under her leadership, the League took active positions in this area and received the NYS Bar Association award for activism in the field.

The guest speaker was Dr. Jeanne Zaino, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, whose topic was "Seeds of Failure: Courts, Congress, the Constitution & Voting Rights". Dr. Zaino covered issues of right to vote, actions by Congress to protect the right in states that had a history of discrimination, poll taxes and other devices to prevent voting and actions by the U.S. Supreme Court that eviscerated Federal oversight and pre-clearance of voting re-districting and voting laws.

About 100 members, students and general citizenry attended and the LWVNR provided refreshments. We were pleased to host Edith's son, Robert Corbin, and his wife, who came from California. Robert told the audience that he was thrilled to be present and his family was honored by the LWVNR-sponsored lecture.

The LWVNR appreciated the assistance of Iona College and Richard Palladino, Director of Libraries for their support and encouragement. --Peter Korn



#### LWVNR ARCHIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A meeting of the League Archive Committee was held on September 22, 2019. In our search for funding to help pay for the archiving of our collection of LWV documents and memorabilia, Executive Board Member Marilyn Brown has

worked tirelessly to explore a \$1500 Vision Grant from Humanities New York. In addition, President Emeritus Monica Grey met recently with Barbara Davis, City Historian for New Rochelle and Community Relations Coordinator at the New Rochelle Public Library. The Committee will be making a proposal to the Board at our next Board Meeting on October 16, 2019. Stay tuned! --Leona Newman

## **Voter Service News**

On September 8th, volunteers from the LWVNR manned an information/registration table at the annual New Rochelle Street Fair and registered several new voters.

On September 24th, National Voter Registration Day, volunteers set up voter registration tables at area schools to register students and to provide information about Vote411.org and about early voting. With the help of many volunteers, we set up tables at lona College, Monroe College, Eastchester High School, New Rochelle



Yolanda Maya and Ambika Punjabi



High School, and Pelham High School.

Voter service is planning several more registration days at area colleges and at the upcoming Reentry Resource Fair. For more information or to VOLUNTEER, please contact Joan at 914-715-3916, or email Joan at royjoanalex@yahoo.com.

In October, Voter Guides

to the candidates will be distributed before the election. Go to Vote411.org for the live digital version of the guide. Vote411.org is now LIVE! Try it here. On October 21st, the LWVNR will sponsor a Candidates Forum at City Hall to meet the candidates running for Mayor, County Legislator, and City Council.



**NRHS Honors' Society students** 

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS\* OF NEW ROCHELLE

## EARLY VOTING IN NEW YORK IS HERE! CAN'T GET TO THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY?

NO PROBLEM! THIS YEAR ALL PELHAM AND NEW ROCHELLE RESIDENTS CAN VOTE EARLY IN THE BACK OF CITY HALL. 515 NORTH AVENUE, NEW ROCHELLE, NY. THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS POLLING PLACE WILL BE OPEN FOR EARLY VOTING ON:

Saturday 10/26 and Sunday 10/27, 12 - 5 pm Monday 10/28, Wednesday 10/30, and Friday 11/1, 8 - 4 pm Tuesday 10/29 and Thursday 10/31, 12 - 8 pm Saturday 11/2 and Sunday 11/3, 12 - 5 pm ON ELECTION DAY, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5TH, YOU MUST VOTE AT YOUR REGULAR POLLING PLACE FROM 6 AM TO 9 PM IF YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY VOTING YOU MAY NOT VOTE ON ELECTION DAY For more information, contact the Westchester County Board of Elections at 914-995-5700 or citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com LWVNY Early Voting website www.nyearlyvoting.com All the Election information you need at Vote411.org

VOTE- BECAUSE EVERY ELECTION MATTERS.



## **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

State Senator Shelley Mayer (right) was the guest at Coffee and Conversation on September 20th. Senator Mayer gave an update on legislative accomplishments and future

agendas, and took questions from the audience.

James Maisano (left,) Consumer Protection Director for Westchester County and former County Legislator representing New Rochelle, will be the guest for Coffee and Conversation on Friday, October 18th from 9:30 - 11 am in the New Rochelle Public Library's first floor Meeting Room. He will give a short presentation on his





department and will answer questions.

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 light refreshments will be served. For further information, email lwvnewro.org.

## **CITY PEOPLE AND ISSUES INTERVIEWS ON VIMEO**

The City People and Issues crew will record new interviews later this month. Recorded interviews are available on demand at <u>https://vimeo.com/user24211396</u>.

Ina Aronow, producer Tamar Tait, co-producer

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.** 



October 20th • Meet David McCraw, Author & Deputy General Counsel of the New York Times

The League of Women Voters of Westchester invites you to our Afternoon Tea Fall Fundraiser, October 20, 2019 at a private home in White Plains. Meet special gunst specier, David McDraw, Deputy General Counsel of the New York Times and author of "Truth in Our Times Inside the Fight for Press Freedom in the Age of Alternotive Focts"



Mr. McCraw has worked at the Times since 2002, leading the paper's fight for freedom of information, defending it against

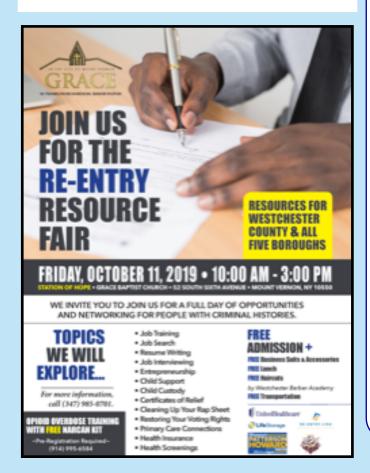
libel suits, and providing legal course to the reporters breaking the biggest stories of the year. In short: if you've read a controversial story in the paper since the Bush administration, it went across his desk first. From Cholsea Manning's leals to Trump's tax returns, McCraw is at the center of the paper's decisions about what news is fit to print.

#### FOR RESERVATIONS

Send checks payable to LWVW Inc. to our NEW address:

520 White Plains Road Suite 5095, Tarrytown, NY 10591

*OR* pay online via credit card or paypal at <u>www.lwvw.org</u>



# Census 2020

Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit

Tuesday, October 8 7:45 - 9:00 am

Nautilus Diner 1240 W. Boston Post Rd Mamaroneck, NY 10543

# FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

The June 27, 2019, decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in three partisan gerrymandering cases was a call to action for the League of Women Voters. We don't have an equal playing field when it comes to election maps across the country, and the redistricting process set to begin in 2021 is in danger.

There are other paths to creating fair maps nationwide - and the League of Women Voters is the best organization positioned to accomplish this. We do not have to rely on the Supreme Court to solve partisan gerrymandering.

That's why we are launching a 50-state redistricting campaign as a powerful collaboration between national, state, and local Leagues. This campaign will launch in the fall of 2019 and is expected to be a signature national campaign for the League through 2022.

## **New Rochelle - Penn Station Council To Hold 1st Meeting**

Westchester County Executive George Latimer will host the inaugural meeting of the Penn Station Access Community Council on 9/26. The council will be keeping up-to-date on the MTA's plan for a new commuter line to run between New Rochelle and Penn Station. The new service would bring Metro-North trains from New Rochelle, across Pelham Bay, to Co-op City through the east Bronx and over the historic Hell Gate Bridge into Queens, where they would merge with the Long Island Railroad's route into Manhattan. --Patch, 9/25/2019 READ THE REST AT PENN

#### LWVNR EDITORIAL: SCHOOL BOARD SHORTCUTTED THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROCESS IN DR. FEJIOO'S APPOINTMENT

In July, a citizen group filed a petition with the NYSED to vacate the appointment of Dr. Fejioo, citing our local School Board's violation of three of its own policies. These were:

- Failure to involve the community via "Community Involvement in Superintendence Search"—Board Policy 8260
- Failure to form a citizens advisory committee via "Community Advisory Committees"— Board Policy 2211
- Failure to govern the amount of time the community should receive notice before a special meeting is held—Board Policy 9330

One of the primary tenets of the League of Women Voters is that democracy requires active citizen participation. The League was created in order to give women both the legal right and the tools to engage in democracy in an informed and meaningful way. We have since expanded our role to represent disenfranchised citizens of all stripes, and we take our role as watchdog of local government seriously. From this perspective, we believe that the citizens of New Rochelle were denied the right to participate in a meaningful democratic way in the selection of Dr. Fejioo. We question the judgment of the school board in shortcutting the citizen participation process.

## **Emerging Real Estate Trend Favors New Rochelle**

Taking a look at the Urban Land Institute's new report on emerging trends in real estate, Curbed.com noted one in particular: "Hipsturbia." That's the rise of housing markets outside big cities that are denser and more diverse than traditional suburbs, more walkable, with more transportation options, and more attractive to millennials.

Among the hottest of these new markets are New Rochelle and Yonkers in the Hudson Valley, the report said. "... all of them have developers taking the live/work/play formula that revived downtowns to the 'burbs, with much success." --Patch 9/24/2019 READ THE REST AT HIPSTURBIA



#### **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**

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE, ZIP	
TELEPHONE	EMAIL
NEW MEMBERSHIP	RENEWAL
INDIVIDUAL \$60/YEAR	HOUSEHOLD* \$85/YEAR
* ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBE	ER NAME
	EMAIL
made payae	RT THE LEAGUE WITH A <b>TAX DEDUCTIBLE</b> CONTRIBUTION BLE TO <b>LWV EDUCATION FOUNDATION</b>
\$100\$50	OTHER
	application with your check to ue of Women Voters of New Rochelle 46 Long Vue New Rochelle, NY 10804 or
Join and/or Donate via	a PAYPAL on our website: <u>www.lwvnewro.org</u>

## **TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT**

On Monday night, the Board of Legislators bonded \$2.5 Million and released its interest in a piece of land to a joint venture of <u>Georgica Green</u> <u>Ventures</u> and <u>New Destiny Housing</u> to build a residential tower at 11 Garden Street, a half-block from the NewRo Transit Center. There will be 219 apartment units at rents geared toward a wide range of incomes, for households earning in the



range of about \$30,000 to \$95,000 per year. Included will be some units of <u>supportive</u> <u>housing</u>. And yes, you car people, indoor parking is in the plan!

Together with the <u>14 LeCount project</u>, the County has now facilitated, in New Rochelle's revived downtown area, private corporate development of over 300 new units of TOD (Transit Oriented Development), where average household income levels overall will be roughly \$70-75K, with first units scheduled for occupancy by early 2021. --County Legislator Damon Maher

## A MORE EQUITABLE FOUNDATION AID FORMULA



As the Chair of the Senate Education Committee, my top priority is ensuring our schools receive the necessary funding to provide a quality education for every child while recognizing the fiscal constraints faced by property tax payers. To this end, I am proud to announce that the Senate Majority Conference is organizing statewide roundtable meetings and a public hearing to listen to stakeholders about the components and distribution of the Foundation Aid Formula. The Foundation Aid Formula is the primary way the state distributes funds to public schools.

The goal of the meetings is to hear from stakeholders about their proposals to achieve greater equity in school financing by

reexamining how we measure student, district, and community needs.

The Hudson Valley Roundtable Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 16th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Yonkers Riverfront Library Community Room AB, One Larkin Plaza, Yonkers. --State Senator Shelley B. Mayer

# This is How to Convince Your Friends to Vote

## 4 Science-Backed Ways to Persuade Your Crew to Hit the Polls

If you're reading this, you probably plan to vote in the next election (kudos!). You also probably know that many Americans don't.

Just 56% of voting-age Americans hit the polls in 2016. That means, odds are, for every friend of yours that voted, another one didn't.



It goes without saying that voting is one of our most

fundamental rights as Americans. It's our way to express our opinion and contribute to the future of the country.

But because of a little thing called the drop-in-the-bucket effect (read: "my vote won't actually make a difference"), nearly half of us don't exercise that right.

Let's change that.

There are tons of things you can say to your friends and family to persuade them to vote. But turns out, many of those things won't be very effective (and even may *dissuade* them from voting).

So, we're turning to science – more specifically, psychology and behavioral econ – to determine the best way to persuade your friends to vote. By the end of this, you'll know how to craft the perfect statements to get your friends to exercise their political rights. --Lemonade, 11/1/2018

Did you know that 4 MILLON 17-year-olds turn 18 before the November election?

If you are 17 1/2 you can register to vote NOW.

Don't miss the opportunity to play a role in electing your leaders.

Your vote is your voice.

#### READ THE REST AT **FRIENDS**



The Data Is In: Teenage Voting Hit 'Historic' High in 2018 Midterms

**Read the article** 

#### COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD UPCOMING EVENTS



For more information, please call 914.683.1333 ed. 105 or email alevine@mspny.org. PLACE





New Rochelle Public Library

The New Rochelle Public Library's Autumn hours are as follows:

#### Main Library:

- Monday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Tuesday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## Huguenot Children's Library:

- Monday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Tuesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday 10 a.m. to 5
  p.m.
- Sunday Closed

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW ROCHELLE 2018-19 CALENDAR & DIRECTORY









TION INFORMATION YOU NEED