

LWVNEW DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving! LWVNEW will hold its annual Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 12. The luncheon begins at noon at La Camelia, 234 North Bedford Rd., Mount Kisco. As a member, you should have received an invitation; however, we've attached another to the email accompanying this newsletter. *Please consider taking a couple of hours to meet and eat!* We ask that you RSVP no later than Monday, December 9. The cost per person is \$39 and is all-inclusive. All of the pertinent information, as well as your entrée selection, is listed on the invitation.

The contact person for the luncheon in Barbara Kravitz:
stanley.barbara@gmail.com

YOUTH OUTREACH

The process for selecting a local high schooler for the May *Students Inside Albany* conference begins over the winter!

If you are interested in helping out, please contact our Youth Committee Chair & SIA Coordinator Barbara Dodds at badodds@optonline.net

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY LEAGUE (LWVW) **STUDYING WESTCHESTER COUNTY'S PROPOSED 2020 BUDGET**

County Budget Director Larry Soule presented the proposed 2020 County Budget at a LWVW-sponsored public

hearing on November 21. The County League will come to a consensus on its budget position and present commentary at a Board of Legislators meeting in December.

View the slide presentation here:
http://lwvw.org/files/2020_Budget_Soule_presentation.pdf

NEWS FROM THE STATE LEAGUE (LWVNYS)

LWV REMINDS STATE LEGISLATURE THAT REDISTRICTING DEADLINE APPROACHES

The State League sent a letter to members of the state legislature, reminding them that the deadline for appointing committee members to NY's first independent redistricting commission was fast approaching. LWVNYS is concerned about timely appointments and adequate funding. The new redistricting process was approved by voters in 2014.

The letter:
<https://www.lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/leg/Action/2019/November/LWVNYS-Independent-Redistricting-Commission-Letter.pdf>

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

The League has been working with the Fair Elections coalition and good government partners to ensure that the Public Campaign Financing Commission proposes comprehensive reforms that will get dark money out of elections. This month, the League signed onto a letter to the Commissioners asking them to

release their interim recommendations in the first week of December. The League asked that they uphold a minimum standard in their recommendations and ensure a 6-to-1 match, a reduction in contribution limits, and the creation of an independent oversight agency to oversee the program.

EARLY VOTING

The League conducted a statewide survey to find out about New Yorkers' experiences voting early for the first time. In total, the League received 1,791 survey responses from voters residing in 54 counties. There were also dozens of emails and phone calls from voters and members reporting issues about their early voting and Election Day voting experiences.

Thanks to those of you who completed the survey and encouraged others to do so. The State League generated a report from the survey results, available below.

<https://www.lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/election-law/2019/November/LWVNYS-Report-on-Early-Voting-Survey.pdf>

2020 LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

See it here:

<https://www.lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/2020/NYS-2020-Session-calendar.pdf>

POSITION UPDATES

LWVNYS is looking forward to working with local League members on the two specific updates approved at Convention in June (Constitutional Convention Position and Financing Healthcare) and the first two of our planned updates of different sections of *Impact on Issues* (Election Law and Government.) A thorough and complete review of *Impact* has been a major theme

of program planning for the last couple years and was made more feasible by the recent changes made by the board to the update and study processes.

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Help-Review-State-League-Positions.html?soid=1102704766323&aid=tdkoRR1IPO0>

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL LEAGUE (LWVUS)**LWVUS JOINS U.S. CENSUS AS OFFICIAL PARTNER**

The League of Women Voters is now listed as an official partner organization of the U.S. Census Bureau for the 2020 Census! The League's name will be included on the public list of partners and used in presentations by the Census Director, along with the other 750 national companies/corporations/non-profits. The League will also be included on the list submitted to the Under Secretary of Commerce. It is estimated that the total number of national, state, and local partners will be 300,000 by March.

LEAGUE HONORED WITH DEMOCRACY AWARD FOR DC STATEHOOD ADVOCACY

The League is being recognized with an award this month for our continued fight for equal representation in the District of Columbia. Congratulations to all of our dedicated activists working to defend democracy.

Read about it here:

https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/league-receive-champion-democracy-award-dc-vote?utm_source=LeagueUpdate&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=110719

LWVNEW

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

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<https://sites.google.com/site/leagueofwomenvotersnew/home>

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LWV Westchester

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

ARE YOU ACTIVE ON SOCIAL MEDIA?



at League of Women Voters
of North East Westchester



at LWVNEW



Happy Holidays!