

## LWVNEW MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### **ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON**

The LWVNEW Annual Meeting and Luncheon is being held in the back room of The Horse and Hound Inn in South Salem on Tuesday, June 11. The guest speaker is Joan Arnold, Executive Director for Allied Community Enterprises (ACE), who will speak about Affordable Housing. Invitations were sent out via email and snail mail to all members; please email Lisa Pizzurro if you have not received one: LCP328@gmail.com. LWVNEW members are encouraged to attend the 11 am business meeting at Horse & Hound and then stay for the noon lunch. At the business meeting, members will vote on a slate, an “outlook for work” and a proposed budget for the coming year. (All of these materials will be sent out soon via email or snail mail; please review them in advance of the meeting.)

If you stay for the luncheon, or attend the luncheon only, feel free to have friends and neighbors join you. An invitation for non-members (which omits the 11 am business meeting) is being sent with this newsletter; please forward it to anyone you know who might be interested in our speaker/topic. As per the invitation, please be sure to RSVP by Tuesday, June 4. Send your check to treasurer Barbara Kravitz and don't forget to select an entrée!

### **VOTER SERVICE**

#### **SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUMS**

On the evening of May 6, LWVNEW moderated a forum featuring the

candidates running for the school board in the **Bedford Central School District**. The event was held in the Fox Lane Middle School Little Theater at 7 pm. Despite some last-minute scheduling snafus (the forum was briefly cancelled by the school district due to a power outage, only to be declared “back on” once power was restored), organizer Katherine Dering, out-of-district moderator Janet Morley, and time keeper Barbara Dodds rolled with all of it – AND there was a good turnout. The forum was live-streamed on the district website ([www.bcsdny.org](http://www.bcsdny.org)) and broadcast on local cable access. It will be available online and air on local cable several times between now and the election (Cablevision channel 18 and Verizon FiOS channel 1982).

The **Katonah-Lewisboro** Parents Council once again handled a candidate forum for that district. We publicized the forum via member email and social media.

LWVNEW is scheduled to moderate the **North Salem School District** candidate forum. It will take place at 7 pm on Wednesday, May 15, in the MS/HS Library. Not many LWVNEW members live in North Salem – but if you know someone who does, please forward the info on to them.

#### **PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGETS**

For information about the school budgets on the ballot, go to the website for your school district.

Bedford: [www.bcsdny.org](http://www.bcsdny.org)

Katonah-Lewisboro: [www.klschools.org](http://www.klschools.org)

North Salem: [www.northsalemschools.org](http://www.northsalemschools.org)

**STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION**

Allison Chernow spearheaded the LWVNEW spring voter registration efforts and, with the help of approximately 20 volunteers, organized drives at four local schools: Somers High School on April 23, John Jay High School on April 25, Fox Lane High School on May 1, and the Harvey School on May 6.

**The result? Over 325 students registered to vote!** 82 students registered at Somers, 111 students at John Jay, 98 at Fox Lane, and 34 at Harvey. (Allison points out that although the number of registrants from Harvey sounds relatively small, the entire senior class there is 75 students -- so nearly half were registered!)

Registration forms were delivered directly to the Board of Elections. All four schools have welcomed LWVNEW back for future voter registration drives.

**YOUTH OUTREACH****OUR 2019 SIA STUDENTS**

Molly and Elyse will attend the Students Inside Albany conference May 19-22. We look forward to hearing from them at the Annual Meeting luncheon.

**NEWS FROM THE COUNTY LEAGUE (LWVW)****CONVENTION & LUNCHEON**

The Westchester County League of Women Voters is holding its convention and luncheon on Thursday, June 6, at the Scarsdale Woman's Club. Thomas Wolf, counsel for the Brennan Center for Justice, will give a presentation entitled *Cases Before the Supreme Court on the 2020 Census Questions and Gerrymandering*.

To register or for more information, go to the County League's website: [www.lwvw.org](http://www.lwvw.org)

**NEWS FROM THE STATE LEAGUE (LWVNY)****LWVNY'S IN THE NEWS**

The State League Executive Director is quoted in an article about New York's poor voting rights record.

Read it here:

[https://psmag.com/social-justice/many-blue-states-have-poor-voter-rights-records-too?fbclid=IwAR284\\_Tqx7ASSTYZ\\_UBPjzPMm4l7tD2KIZCdMo9ibBYkAhe88CdAdCpP\\_2s](https://psmag.com/social-justice/many-blue-states-have-poor-voter-rights-records-too?fbclid=IwAR284_Tqx7ASSTYZ_UBPjzPMm4l7tD2KIZCdMo9ibBYkAhe88CdAdCpP_2s)

**LEAGUE TESTIFIES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF EARLY VOTING IN NEW YORK STATE**

The State League's Elections Specialist, Kate Doran, called for the process to be transparent and accountable.

Very important info and questions here!:

<https://lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/election-law/2019/April/Testimony-Early-Voting-before-NYC-Council-April-30-2019-1.pdf>

You can also read more about the implementation of early voting in the LWVNY's April Newsletter:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/April-2019-State-League-Voter.html?soid=1102704766323&aid=A8XLNT41rwc>

(Go to the Voter Services section)

**STATE LEAGUE HOLDING ITS 58<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION**

The LWVNY Convention is being held the weekend of June 7th at the Hilton in Albany. While our local League has not sent anyone to the convention in some time, you can [read up on the schedule, speakers and workshops here:](#)

<https://www.lwvnyonline.org/convention/2019/LWVNY-2019-Convention-Registration-Kit.pdf>

We will recap the event in a future newsletter.

**THE NATIONAL LEAGUE (LWVUS)****LWV CELEBRATES NEW MICHIGAN DISTRICT MAPS FOR 2020**

A panel of federal district judges ruled in favor of the League of Women Voters of Michigan's 1st and 14th Amendment challenges to Michigan redistricting plans. State and congressional maps are to be redrawn.

Read about it here:

<https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/lwv-celebrates-new-michigan-district-maps-2020>

**LWV CELEBRATES SETTLEMENT TO REVERSE VOTER PURGE**

The League of Women Voters of Texas and other civil rights groups reached a settlement with Texas state officials today to end the discriminatory purging of the state's voter rolls. The settled lawsuit was raised in opposition to a purge effort in January that was based on a flawed list of possible non-U.S. citizens. The purge included thousands of naturalized citizens who were eligible to vote.

More here:

<https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/lwv-celebrates-settlement-reverse-discriminatory-voter-purge>

**LWV LAUNCHES ADS SUPPORTING 'FOR THE PEOPLE ACT'**

Following the introduction of the *For the People Act* in the U.S. Senate last month, the League of Women Voters launched a nationwide campaign to promote a hearing on the democracy reform bill. Leagues in eight states placed full-page ads in area newspapers encouraging readers to ask their U.S. Senators for a hearing. The Leagues are also launching postcard writing campaigns to put grassroots pressure on

their senators for a hearing on the *For the People Act*.

Read on:

<https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/league-women-voters-launches-nationwide-ad-campaign-supporting-people-act>

**LWV OF OHIO WINS FAIR MAPS LAWSUIT**

A panel of judges from the District Court for the Southern District of Ohio ruled in favor of the League of Women Voters of Ohio in its redistricting case, *Ohio A. Philip Randolph Institute v. Larry Householder*. Ohio election maps were declared an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander and must be redrawn for 2020 elections.

Read about it here:

<https://www.lwv.org/newsroom/press-releases/lwv-ohio-wins-fair-maps-lawsuit>

**THE SCHOOL BOARD AND BUDGET VOTE IS TUESDAY, MAY 21!**

POLLS IN THE BEDFORD & NORTH SALEM

SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE OPEN

7AM TO 9 PM

AND FROM 6 AM TO 9 PM IN

KATONAH-LEWISBORO.

VOTE AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SERVING YOUR

ATTENDANCE AREA.

**LWVNEW**

PO Box 385, Cross River, NY 10518

Website:

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

Email: [lwvnew@gmail.com](mailto:lwvnew@gmail.com)

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**Newsletter:**

Lisa Pizzurro [lcp328@gmail.com](mailto:lcp328@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

If you are a Facebook user, please head over to our page:

*League of Women Voters  
of North East Westchester*

And if you happen to be on Twitter,  
please "follow" us at *LWVNEW*.



**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**PAYPAL OPTION** at the LWVNEW website:

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

**LWVUS**

Phone: 202-429-1965

Website: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters>

**LWVNY**

Phone: (518) 465-4162

Website: <https://my.lwv.org/new-york-state>

**LWV Westchester**

Phone: 914-949-0507

Website: [www.lwvw.org](http://www.lwvw.org)

Email: [LWVwestchester@optonline.net](mailto:LWVwestchester@optonline.net)

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.



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®