



STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

Census 2020

**Join us for a conversation
about Census 2020**



Monday, September 24, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 P.M .

Asbury First United Methodist Church

1050 East Avenue, Rochester, NY

Accessible Parking & Building Access in the Rear

Moderated by:

Melody Lopez, Director, Civic Engagement Table

Panelist representatives from Governor Cuomo's Office, the U.S. Census Bureau and The Children's Agenda

Preregister at www.lww-rma.org or 262-3730.

Don't miss this!

More information on page 3

**Count every person once
and in the right place. WHY?**

OUR DEMOCRACY: Determines the number of seats in the House of Representatives and electoral votes; used for redistricting.

PUBLIC POLICY: Determines federal assistance to state and local governments.

OUR ECONOMY: Used to develop business plans and to establish new businesses; helps to determine need for and location of community services.



Details on Page 3

Leadership Corner

It is with hope and renewed energy that Gin Busack, Kim Byers, and Judy Weinstein, your Leadership Team, welcome the LWV-RMA members and friends to the 2018-2019 fiscal year. We hope to work with many of you as we continue the legacy of our outgoing President, Mary Hussong-Kallen, with engaging public forums, community outreach to increase voter participation, research topics of current interest, and advocacy of the rights of all citizens. We thank Mary for her leadership over the past 4 years. Her vision and commitment to LWV-RMA has strengthened our reputation with community leaders and enabled partnerships to form so that our non-partisan, democratic work to educate and advocate could be leveraged and expanded using resources beyond the membership of LWV-RMA.

The LWV National Convention in Chicago at the end of June inspired our delegates. See the reports of Barbara Kay and Judy Sternberg in this issue of the Voter. They have experienced a contagious excitement regarding the future of the League of Women Voters and have brought back ideas to be considered to enhance and further our initiatives in “getting out the vote”, in advocating for elimination of the electoral college, and many other topics of important current interest. The Board will be disseminating relevant information to our various committees in order to implement our delegates’ learnings.

July and August are very busy months for the Voter Registration team and for Gin Busack, the Voter Services Chair. As you have seen from the various emails on voter registration events, we have expanded our presence at city events. Look for the next schedule of events to cover September and October and notice the increased presence we will have at college events. In addition, the Voter Services Team is exploring ways that the City, County, & League could work together to increase voter participation and is seeking input from Mayor Lovely Warren and County Executive Cheryl DiNolfo on partnership opportunities. We are also exploring ways in which we can work with Causewave, the former Ad Council of Rochester, to help us achieve our goals. Many thanks to all the volunteers who are making these events possible.

It has been a busy summer as the Leadership Team organizes to support the initiatives of the League for the coming year. Judy Weinstein is working with Mary Hussong-Kallen on planning Candidates Forums before the Primary Election and the General Election. We have developed new partnerships for these programs. Gin Busack is focused on expansion of Voter Services and “Get Out the Vote” initiatives.

A new Program Committee has been formed and, in the span of only about two weeks, has made enormous strides in planning and booking Fall Forum programs that hit on topics featured in the news. Look for a kick-off in September with an insightful program on the 2020 Census entitled “Stand Up and Be Counted”. In October, we are honored to have Richard C. Wesley, Senior U.S.

Circuit Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Daan Braveman, President of Nazareth College, discuss “The Supreme Court: A Distinct and Independent Body”. In November, we will revisit the results of the mid-term elections and gain insights into what happened and the implications of the results. Look for more extensive advertising and details soon. The Leadership Team looks forward to seeing you at these events and hope that you will invite others to attend these community events. Do you have other topics of interest you would like to see featured in one of our Forums this year? Join the program committee or send your ideas to the Leadership Team.

Gin, Judy, and Kim have worked to divide the responsibilities of the leadership team but you can feel free to reach out to any one of us with your suggestions and questions at president@lww-rma.org, or ginbusack@aol.com, j.weinstein.roc@gmail.com, or pui99@aol.com. Thank you for supporting us and the League. We look forward to a fulfilling year.

In League,

Gin, Kim, Judy

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League of Women Voters Rochester Metro Area Mission Statement

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.

Voter education is one of the League’s most important functions, and the League encourages all citizens to register and to cast an informed vote.

The League does not support political parties or candidates, but does take stands on important issues after careful study and research.

Membership in the League is open to all persons who are at least 16 years of age.

Those under 16 can be associate members.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

Census 2020

Join us for a conversation
about Census 2020



On September 24, the LWV-RMA is hosting a briefing led by the NY Civic Engagement Table regarding the 2020 Census. This discussion will center on what is at stake for the upcoming Census, the current challenges, and what our communities can do to work toward an accurate Census.

A complete count in the 2020 Census is essential to ensuring that congressional, state and local redistricting is fair and accurate and that communities receive the proper funding for local infrastructure and social services. The number of seats that New York State has in the House of Representatives is determined by the Census as are district lines and funding formulas used by the U.S. and NYS governments. But there are many challenges that may undermine the accuracy of the 2020 Census – including insufficient federal funding, the proposed question regarding citizenship status, and a leadership vacuum at the Census Bureau.

The Census 2020 briefing will be moderated by Melody Lopez, Director, Civic Engagement Table (CET), with panelists representing Governor Cuomo's Office and the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as Brigit Hurley of The Children's Agenda, located in Rochester. CET has presented on this topic in Buffalo and Syracuse, among other communities across New York State.

The focus of our forum is to:

- Raise awareness and educate community members, organizations and leaders on the importance of the Census, the unique challenges facing the 2020 Census, and why it's critical to begin engaging on the Census starting now.
- Explore opportunities for partnerships between local government and community organizations relating to the Census.
- Create a space for participants to share their concerns and suggested strategies for how they can impact the Census in their communities.

The ultimate goal of these briefings is to bring more organizations from diverse geographies into Census advocacy and outreach in order to expand the breadth and depth of the statewide Census effort. Community organizations will be invited to join the Census coalition which is being formed. Through the coalition they will be plugged into opportunities to engage in federal and state level advocacy as well as given guidance and resources for the local

engagement with their community and local government.

It is important that both individuals and organizations become informed about the issues involved in Census 2020. To participate in this briefing, please register at lwv-rma.org or 585-262-3730.

Save the Date!

The United States Supreme Court: A Distinct and Independent Body



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018 AT 7 P.M.
NAZARETH COLLEGE

Our distinguished panelists:

Richard C. Wesley, Senior U.S. Circuit Judge
of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Second Circuit

Daan Braveman, President of Nazareth
College, former Dean of
Syracuse University College of Law

*Moderated by Sarah Liebschutz, Ph.D.,
Distinguished Service Professor Emerita,
SUNY, College at Brockport*

The forum is timed to coincide with the
opening of the fall session of the Court.

***More information will be in
the October Voter***

2018-2019 LWV-RMA Leadership Team

This year the LWV-RMA will be led by three co-presidents—Gin Busack, Kim Byers, and Judy Weinstein—with help from our past president, Mary Hussong-Kallen.

Division of Responsibilities

The Leadership Team has divided the responsibilities of the President and Vice-President as shown in the following chart. However, communication with the other members of the Team will be maintained for all items.



Gin Busack



Kim Byers



Judy Weinstein



Mary Hussong-Kallen

Leadership Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Board of Directors (BOD) Meetings & schedule location (rotates) • Identify Annual Goals, adopted by BOD
Gin Busack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain contact with working groups: Voter Services, Election Services, & Education Group • Plan and Coordinate Monthly Forums, including working with LWV committees/ groups to arrange for speakers, handouts, etc... • Monitors calls to LWV phone
Kim Byers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pen President Memo for the Voter • Maintain contact with working groups: Audit Committee, Membership Committee, Budget Committee, Nominating Committee • Provide board member with orientation/training & annually updated handbook • Ensure there is a biannual review of bylaws & non-partisan statement, adopted by BOD • Ensure annual budget is completed, adopted by BOD
Judy Weinstein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate forums & communication with WROC • Contact for LWVNYS and LWVUS • Maintain communication with NCJW • Maintain contact with working groups: Govt/Advocacy Committee, Non-Partisan Committee (even years), Bylaws Committee (odd years), and Policies & Procedures Committee • Review outgoing public communications: Voter, Website • Coordinate January General Membership Meeting and June Annual Meeting • Voter Proofreading to continue as currently defined • President, Info email • Voter Proofreading to continue as currently defined
Mary Hussong-Kallen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain communication with WXXI • Represent the League in Public Statements / Appearances • Coordinate outgoing public communications: E-blasts, liaison to press, letters to editor, media releases • Commentator for Monthly Forums • Spokesperson to media for Candidate Forums • Voter Proofreading to continue as currently defined

Gearing Up For The Fall

2018 Fair Election Practices Campaign Kicks Off

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) and the League of Women Voters/Rochester Metropolitan Area announce the start of the Fair Election Practices Campaign (FEPC) for the 2018 electoral season. TIAR and LWV-RMA encourage all candidates for public office to run positive, issues-oriented campaigns. Our organizations believe that positive campaigns that address important issues are winning campaigns. The FEPC provides all candidates the opportunity to sign a Fair Campaign Pledge to publicly commit to running positive, issues-oriented campaigns. The names of all candidates who sign the Pledge will be listed on the LWV-RMA website.

The Fair Election Practices Committee has a non-voting Chairperson and four voting members made up of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats. The Committee will accept properly filed complaints regarding candidates who signed the Pledge beginning on August 15 and continue to hear complaints until November 5, the day before Election Day. Hearing decisions will be released to the media and posted on the LWV-RMA website.

TIAR and LWV-RMA will hold a joint press conference and signing ceremony on the Thursday after Labor Day, September 6, at noon in the atrium of the Monroe County Office Building. Those who have signed The Pledge as of that date will be recognized. For more information about the Fair Campaign Pledge and the FEPC, please visit the LWV-RMA website.

Kris Rogers, FEPC Chair

Membership Committee Seeks New Members

Barbara Kay and I, the current Membership Committee, are looking for a few volunteers to join our committee. The Committee maintains our LWV-RMA database; in addition, it looks for ways to welcome new members and match these members' interests with those of the League. League members come from many different backgrounds and their varied talents help the League fulfill its mission. The qualifications to be on the Committee are these:

- 1 Know - or willing to learn - how to operate an Excel spreadsheet;
- 2 Have an interest in welcoming new members;
- 3 Attend some First Friday get-togethers.

If you are interested, please send an email to: membership@lwv-rma.org.

Mary Garfield

The League Needs Your Help!

September 13 is Primary Day. On that day at 9:15 P.M. the League will be helping the Monroe County Board of Elections open absentee ballots.

We need volunteers to help out at the Board of Elections Service Center at 2500 Brighton Henrietta Townline Road.

Please consider helping us out with this fundraiser. The League collects \$100 per person who opens ballots.

Please contact Sheila Abeling at 585-223-6819 or sheiler162007@gmail.com.

On June 26, Federal Primary Day, our League volunteers opened absentee ballots at the Monroe Country Board of Elections Service Center. Special thanks goes out to: Julie Damerell, Georgia DeGregorio, Barbara Grosh, Deb Leary, Myra Pelz, Elaine Schmidt, Katherine Smith, and Judy Weinstein.

Be sure that YOU are registered to vote! Check with family members and friends as well. The deadline for voter registration for Primary Day on September 13, was August 19.

Sheila Abeling



Welcome These New LWV-RMA Members

Britta Anderson
 Sherri Armstrong
 Katrina Arndt
 Stephen Carr
 Jeremiah Casey
 Deborah Gordon
 Carole Haas
 Wendy Hembrook
 Lisa Hupf

Judith B. Kiley
 Patrick Macey
 Linda Moroney
 Myra Pelz
 Kathryn Smith
 Margaret Supinski
 Susan G. Weinberg
 Paula Zeman

Reflections on LWVUS 2018 National Convention

by Judy Sternberg

Attending a National LWVUS Convention is a tremendously inspiring and energizing experience, one I am profoundly grateful for. Aside from the learning, casting of votes, networking and fun, the most important part of Convention is returning with the commitment to share the learning and to make a more impactful contribution to the League's missions and goals.

For me those areas of invigorated passion and commitment are:

- Embracing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) – The League's Transformation Journey prioritizes the creation of a more inclusive culture and composition that reflects our broader communities. Convention attendees participated in training sessions that focused on individual Unconscious Biases. Beyond that, LWVUS has a timetable for further training and goals at the National, State, and Local League levels. While LWV-RMA has been building relationships with diverse communities in Rochester, we are also working to attract more diversity within our membership and our Board. Additionally, the Board is committing to its own DEI self-education.
- Getting Out the Vote/Voter Turnout – Voter participation rates around the country are abysmal and even worse in Rochester. A core challenge of the League, Convention offered many research based strategy tips – most involving the collection of contact information from voter registrants and doing follow-up with them. LWV-RMA will be investigating various tools and avenues of doing that along with ways to publicize and enliven the culture around Election Day.
- The League is engaging in both immediate advocacy actions to oppose inclusion of the Citizenship Question in the Census and a longer range plan for ways to help educate the public about the critical importance of an accurate Census count and for ways to help achieve that accurate Census count.

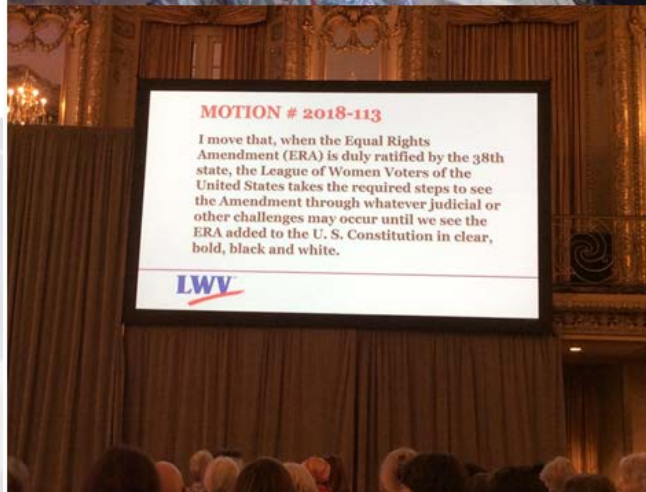


Barbara Kay and Marion O'Connor at Plenary Session

Chris Carson, LWVUS President, leading business session

Most enthusiastically adopted motion of the entire Convention

Barbara Kay and Judy Sternberg at Saturday banquet



MOTION # 2018-113

I move that, when the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is duly ratified by the 38th state, the League of Women Voters of the United States takes the required steps to see the Amendment through whatever judicial or other challenges may occur until we see the ERA added to the U. S. Constitution in clear, bold, black and white.

LWV

From a Delegate's Notebook

by Barbara Kay

Marion O'Connor, Judy Sternberg, and I were delegates to the League of Women Voters 53rd National Convention. Caucuses, workshops, information sessions, and plenary sessions filled the hours each day from 7:30 A.M. to 9:30 P.M. Caucuses are central to every League convention. I participated in Redistricting; Abolishing the Electoral College; and Voting as a Right of Passage: The Case for Lowering the Voting Age.

For the purpose of this article, I focus on two topics of special interest to me: 1) Redistricting, and 2) the Harvard Case Study Method for Teaching High School Social Studies.

REDISTRICTING

The Constitution requires that congressional and state legislative districts be of equal populations. To comply, legislatures must, every ten years after the Census Bureau releases its data, redraw district maps to account for shifts in population. In most states, elected officials draw the new district maps and so, since early times, the process has been politicized: legislators draw districts with an eye to giving their party an electoral advantage.

Nick Stephanopoulos, Professor of Law at University of Chicago Law School, defined gerrymandering as the drawing of voting districts with the aim of strengthening one political party. He described the tactics as "packing" and "cracking": packing concentrates the opposing party's power to one district; cracking dilutes the voting power of the opposing party. Since the Voting Rights Act 1965, the Supreme Court prohibits race-based gerrymandering but the Court has yet to establish a legal standard on partisan gerrymandering.

Mr. Stephanopoulos and Ruth Greenwood, co-counsel for the plaintiffs in a Wisconsin partisan gerrymandering case (2017-18), had looked for a Court ruling in this case against partisan gerrymandering. Instead, the Court sent the case back for re-arguing. However, in a Texas partisan gerrymandering case (2018), the Court did rule: it reversed lower court rulings that had found the district in violation of the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act.

Laura Bierman, Executive Director LWVNYS, continued the conversation on redistricting the next day. She explained Proposition 1, the New York Redistricting Commission Amendment Proposal that passed in November 2014, will go into effect in 2021. Up to now, NYS Assembly and Senate legislators have drawn their own district maps and benefited with a 97% incumbency rate. Bierman stressed

that legislators can play a role in commissions – and do so in 18 states that now have independent commissions. She cited recent efforts of states to reform redistricting and stated that reform must come from the masses, not just from a few.

IMPROVING CIVICS EDUCATION WITH THE HARVARD CASE STUDY METHOD

Dr. Deirdre Shay Kamlani, member of the Greenwich CT League, told this story. In November 2017, Professor David Moss of the Harvard Business School (and graduate of Brighton High School) moderated a program sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Greenwich CT in partnership with Greenwich High School. The program highlighted a new approach to teaching history and civics, the Harvard case study method. Participants included teachers, students, and elected officials. For three days, the participants studied and discussed Madison, the Federal Negative, and the Making of the U.S. Constitution (one of many cases from Dr. Moss's book, "Democracy: A Case Study"). The case study method is a pedagogy used at Harvard Business School. Dr. Moss pioneered this method in a Harvard undergraduate course. The case study method teaches history one pivotal case at a time. News about Dr. Moss' Harvard course and the case study method spread and high school teachers who wanted to "try" cases with their own students contacted him. Since 2014, he has led several pilot programs for teachers around the country. His High School Case Method Project aims to bring the case method teaching to secondary education, and use this method to deepen students' understanding of American democracy. A summary provided by The High School Case Method Project states that, "The case method is especially effective at engaging students with topics in history and democracy."

For more information about either of the topics above, contact me at bbskay@frontiernet.net.

(A full report of the caucuses, workshops, and sessions I attended has been submitted to the LWV-RMA Board.)

LWVUS Convention 2018 - Daily Briefing: A Summary of Business Conducted

Our delegates (Barbara Kay, Marion O'Connor and Judy Sternberg) represented us at the national convention in Chicago this summer - here's an overview of the work they were involved in:

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/council-convention/convention-2018-daily-briefing>

Voter Services

It's been an incredible summer with our volunteer crew covering 24 events, a mixture of festivals, fairs and community happenings, working as always with our community partners. Continuing our focus on young people and communities, we worked to expand our relationships with the City, the RCSD and our local universities and colleges.

First time events included the three ROC the Park days at Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park, the Rochester Summer Soul Music Fest & Community Fair, the Rochester City School District Family Picnic, several Vote for Our Lives: Students Demand Action events, R.I.S.E. to Vote & It Takes All Colors and a Neighborhood Walk at Aeon Missionary Baptist Church. Return events included the Pride Fest; Puerto Rican Fest, Anthony Jordan Front Porch; St. John Baptist Church Festival; a job fair at Arnett Library; the Ease on Down 14619 day; and student sessions at the University of Rochester, U of R School of Medicine and Dentistry, the Eastman School of Music, Rochester Institute of Technology and SUNY Brockport.

But, we are not done. We still have two months before Election Day and we have a very busy schedule which includes the following:

- 9/1 ROC the Park / Motown at Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park
- 9/7 Nazareth College Involvement Fair Day
- 9/8 Bulls Head Community Fair
- 9/12 RIT Community Fair
- 9/12 Eastman School of Music
- 9/13 Project Homeless Connect
- 9/15 Suffragist Parade & Park event
- 9/17 Constitution Day at SUNY Brockport
- 9/22 Call to Women at Trillium Health
- 10/28 Halloween at the Public Market

None of what we have done could have been accomplished without our very loyal volunteer corps:

Deb Leary, Annie McQuilkin, Holly Brookstein, Joan Kowal, Ida Holloran, Judy Sternberg, Katherine Smith, Julie Damerell, Lois Winterkorn, Marion O'Connor, Barbara Grosh, Gail Wilder, Kathy Mock, Beth Feldman, Ann Carmody, Carol Haas, Myra Pelz, Joan Buckley, June Talerico, Barbara Kay, Judy Hartmann, Myra Pelz, and Camille Clayton.

As you can see, there's a lot to be done and we welcome you to join us. It's easy and fun. You will never be asked to work alone and we will train. Please call Gin Busack at 585 415 3269.

Don't Forget to Vote in the Primary Election on THURSDAY, September 13.
Polls are open from 12 noon until 9 P.M.



TOP TO BOTTOM:

Ida Holloran and Marion O'Connor at the Rochester City School District Family Picnic at Ontario Beach Park on June 2.

Ida Holloran and friend at ROC the Park on July 7.

Gin Busack and Lois Winterkorn at Red Wing Stadium on June 30.

Beth Feldman, Lois Winterkorn, Donna Harris, Dorcet Watson, and Gin Busack at the LWV-RMA table during the Rochester Summer Soul Music Fest on August 25.

Getting Out The Vote (GOTV)

As you've undoubtedly heard, only about 9% of the nearly 4,000 new voters that we and our partner groups registered in 2016 actually made it to the polls and voted. What a wake-up call! Getting Out The Vote (GOTV) is now a main focus for LWV-RMA and many good government groups, going into the midterm elections and beyond.

We have a very enthusiastic, creative and dedicated core group of members who will begin directing our efforts toward GOTV: Gin Busack, Ann Carmody, Julie Damerell, Judy Hartmann, Ida Holloran, Mary Hussong-Kallen, David Newman, Judy Sternberg, Gail Wilder, and Lois Winterkorn.

And of course we're calling in many partner groups: La Cumbre, the Rochester Alumnae Chapters of the Delta Sigma Theta and Alpha Kappa Alpha sororities, Vote For Our Lives (national student activist group) and many local high schools, colleges, neighborhood groups and churches. In addition, we're meeting with City of Rochester and Monroe County officials to explore opportunities to work together to encourage greater voter turnout.

We'll form some new partnerships. As an example, we just met with a local organization called Causewave (formerly known as the Ad Council), which is "dedicated to making communities stronger by bringing voice to diverse public issues and needs and building capacity within nonprofit organizations ... serving as the magnet for passionate people looking to do good – and the place where ideas and missions grow into community-changing movements." They have some great ideas we're eager to try, and our delegates to the recent LWVUS national convention (Barbara Kay, Marion O'Connor and Judy Sternberg) have brought us some ideas to consider (as well as a sense of urgency) in stepping up our game in this critical area of our League's mission (See pages 6 & 7).

Does all this pique your interest? Make you hopeful for the future? Stir up an urge to turn "bystanders" into lifelong, informed voters? We'd love your ideas and insights – and your time and talents! Please contact Gin Busack at ginbusack@aol.com or 585-415-3269.

Candidate Forums

Even before the list of candidates for the September 13th primary was certified, LWV-RMA was planning Candidate Forums, for both the primary and the November 6th general election. This year we will be partnering with The Children's Agenda on a Candidates Forum for the New York Assembly

and Senate seats in Monroe County for both the Primary and General Elections. Primary elections will be held in the 133rd (Republican), 136th (Democratic) and 137th (Democratic) Assembly Districts and there are no primaries in any of our Senate districts. All primary candidates have been invited to participate in the forum. This forum will focus on programs and policies that improve family health and self-sufficiency, such as child care, Raise the Age, universal Pre-K, community schools, home visiting, early special education services, prevention of child abuse, combating poverty. We are delighted that Shirley Thompson has again agreed to moderate the forum.

The forum will be held:

Tuesday, September 11, from 8 to 9 P.M.

**Mount Olivet Baptist Church
141 Adams Street**

Building and parking are accessible with plenty of parking

Please join us at the forum, just two days before the primary, to see the candidates and hear what they will do to address these issues. The October Voter will have information about the general election forum co-sponsored by The Children's Agenda, and the televised forum for candidates for the 25th Congressional District which will be broadcast on WROC-TV8 on November 1st.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government.

The Program Committee Needs Your Help!

The Program Committee is beginning to think about forum topics for the spring of 2019. Are there topics that you would like to learn more about?

Please share your thoughts with Program Chair, Gin Busack, ginbusack@aol.com.



LWV-RMA Members Welcome New Citizens at Naturalization Ceremonies

Marcia Eisenberg registered new citizens to vote on May 10 at the Monroe County Office Building. On May 14, RIT hosted candidates for Naturalization with the largest group that has been naturalized yet, 155 candidates. Lois Winterkorn and Margaret Supinski represented the League and helped register them to vote.

June was a busy month for Naturalizations as well. Beth Feldman welcomed 48 new candidates at the Monroe County Office Building at 10 A.M. on June 14, Flag Day. Also on that day, 52 new citizens were at the Federal Building in an afternoon oath ceremony. Sheila Abeling and June Talarico helped them with voter registration. On June 21, Julie Damerell and Margaret Supinski met 53 more new citizens during the Naturalization ceremony at the Federal Building.

Naturalization on July 4 at the Genesee Country Village and Museum is always a great way to celebrate our country's independence. Kay Saunders and Katherine Smith greeted 41 new citizens at that ceremony. On July 12, as 51 new Americans were naturalized, Marcia Eisenberg helped them register to vote.

Sheila Abeling



TOP: June 14 with Judge David Larimer, and June 21 with Judge Jonathan Feldman.
 BOTTOM: July 4 at Genesee Country Village.

Sunshine Corner

**COMIDA MEETING 6/20/2018
OBSERVED BY JULIE DAMERELL
AND ELAINE SCHMIDT**



The conversation between the business representatives and the board was at times barely audible because while the podium was equipped with a microphone no one used it. Comments by the business representatives and the board were missed by the observers.

All Applications for Assistance were approved except for that from Cedarwood Community Partners LLC to purchase Cedarwood Towers from the current owner and renovate to keep Cedarwood Towers as affordable housing (200 of the 206 units are in the Section 8 program). The application failed due to one negative vote from Troy Milne who represented union interests. The project did not provide for prevailing wages to be paid to construction workers as required by the Davis-Bacon Act.

(To find out more about COMIDA, please click here: <https://www.nysedc.org/news-type/general-news/>)

**TOWN OF IRONDEQUOIT 7/17/2018
OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT**

Irondequoit held a public hearing about establishing a Community Choice Aggregation Program which could result in energy cost savings for the town. Another public hearing was held regarding the bow hunt which is intended to cull the local deer herd. Several people were unhappy with the way it was conducted. Supervisor Seeley said the town is looking for more accurate ways to assess the size of the herd. The public speakers were concerned that the culling was severe.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: <http://www.irondequoit.org/>)

**IRONDEQUOIT TOWN BOARD
WORKSHOP 8/14/2018 OBSERVED BY ELAINE
SCHMIDT**

The Board went over the agenda for 8/21/2018. The Board plans to work with Cornell and the DEC to come up with more accurate assessment methods to cull the local deer herd.

The board passed two resolutions at the Workshop:

*Approved a Special License for the Mike Coyle Memorial Run

*Authorized the Town Board to take action pursuant to vacant and unsafe buildings at 62 Sea View Ave. The Town Board will vote on the Community Choice Aggregation Program on 8/21. Brighton and Pittsford

have adopted the program. There is a possibility that towns may join together in the CCA Program.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: <http://www.irondequoit.org/>)

**MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATURE 8/14/2018
PER DRAFT MINUTES OF MONROE COUNTY
LEGISLATURE**

A moment of silence was held in memory of Flo Tripi, a longtime labor leader in Monroe County.

The budget for Monroe County College was approved. A new contract with the Federation of Social Workers was approved.

(To view the full minutes from this and other meetings, please click here: <http://www2.monroecounty.gov>)

**IMAGINE MONROE 7/17/2018
OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT**

The Cedarwood Project that failed to pass at the June meeting of Imagine Monroe/COMIDA was approved at this meeting.

A request for an increase in benefits for Skyridge (formerly named the Medley Center) was approved. The promoters plan to purchase additional space for the project.

Ladders Up, a training program operated by Imagine Monroe/COMIDA, had 175 participants who successfully obtained employment.

(To find out more about Imagine Monroe, please click here <https://www.imaginemonroe.org/news-andresources/>)

**IMAGINE MONROE 8/21/2018
OBSERVED BY ELAINE SCHMIDT**

An application regarding 4000 River Road in Henrietta was approved. The project is owned by Christa who acquired it from Robert Morgan. The plan is to renovate some existing housing units and to add 80 more units near RIT. The plan has the support of Henrietta and RIT. All included apartments are expected to rent for \$950.00 per month. E-Logic, a tech solutions company, relocating here from Ontario County, was granted benefits.

(To find out more about Imagine Monroe, please click here <https://www.imaginemonroe.org/news-andresources/>)

Elaine Schmidt

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LWV-RMA Book Club

The LWV-RMA book club focuses on both fiction and non-fiction relating to advocacy positions our League has adopted. All LWV-RMA members and the public can become members of the Book Club. Anyone who has read the book is welcome to participate in the discussion.

LWV-RMA members met in July to identify the books to read and schedule meetings for the coming program year. After a lively discussion, we selected the seven books for the year. There is much variety in our books: they were written in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries; they include fiction and nonfiction; the topics ranging from immigrants to fascism to Abigail Adams. The chart below shows the schedule for sessions to discuss the chosen books. Meetings are held at 10:00 A.M. (note the change in time) at The Greenhouse Café, 2271 East Main Street, Rochester 14609. We hope you'll join us, whether for one book or the whole year.

Books for 2018 - 2019

<p>Thursday, Sept. 13, 2018 <i>Reign of Error: The Hoax of the Privatization Movement and the Danger to America's Public Schools</i>, by Diane Ravitch Led by Judy Wadsworth</p>		<p>Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 <i>The Hellfire Club</i>, by Jake Tapper Led by Moira Lemperle</p>	
<p>Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 <i>How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York</i>, by Jacob Riis Led by Judy Weinstein</p>		<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 <i>It Can't Happen Here</i>, by Sinclair Lewis Led by Debbie Leary</p>	
<p>Thursday, Feb. 14, 2019 <i>A People's History of the United States</i>, by Howard Zinn Led by Ann Carmody</p>		<p>Thursday, March 14, 2019 <i>Abigail Adams: A Life</i> by Woody Holton Led by Myra Pelz</p>	
<p>Tuesday, April 11, 2019 <i>Fascism: A Warning</i>, by Madeleine Albright Led by Georgia DeGregorio</p>			



Interested LWV-RMA members met in a bucolic setting at the home of Elaine Schmidt to identify the books for the group's 2018-2019 book club season. Pictured are Deb Leary, hostess Elaine Schmidt, Myra Pelz, Georgia DeGregorio, Moira Lamperle, Judy Weinstein, Ann Carmody, and Chris Pryor.

Annual Dues Are Due Soon

Dues notices will be going out soon. Due date is October 1, 2018. Payments can be made online or by check. Make checks payable to League of Women Voters/RMA.

LWV-RMA
P.O. Box 10573
Rochester, New York 14610

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual Membership, \$75.00

Household Membership, \$105.00

Susan B. Anthony/Frederick Douglass Membership, \$150.00

Carrie Chapman Catt Membership, \$200.00

Student Memberships are now FREE! (Please suggest to young people you know who are interested in current issues that they join to become better informed and to influence League members.)

Dues are not tax-deductible. Additional contributions made to the LWV/NYS Education Foundation are tax deductible.

If you have questions, email Membership Co-Chairs:

Barbara Kay, bbskay@frontiernet.net
Mary Garfield, senecamary@yahoo.com

Want to Learn More About the Monroe County Legislature?

Retired East Rochester Superintendent Dr. Howard Maffucci is now a member of the Monroe County Legislature. He has spent the first months of his term investigating how the county government operates and has scheduled a series of meetings to share what he has learned, answer questions and listen to concerns. If you're interested, plan to attend one (or more) of the following meetings:

Monday, September 10 7:00 P.M. – East Rochester Senior Center (Eyer Building)

Monday, October 1 7:00 P.M. – Brighton Town Hall Auditorium

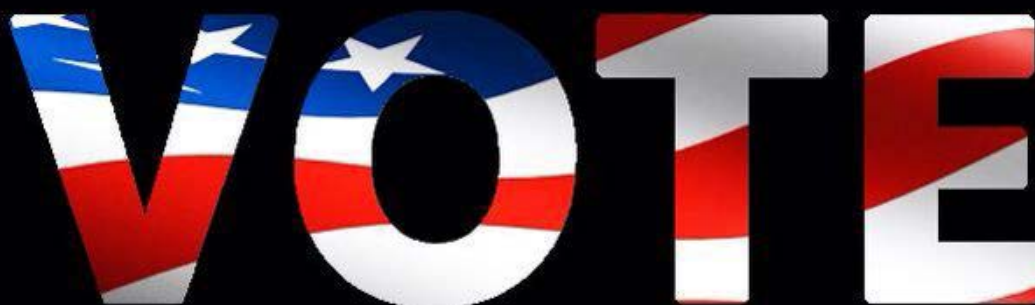
Monday, October 18 7:00 P.M. – Pittsford Town Hall

**Democracy is not a
spectator sport.
Tag! You're It!**

Summary of Activity in All Financial Accounts

ACCOUNT	JULY 1, 2017	JUNE 30, 2018
M&T Checking Account	\$16,156.06	\$18,240.85
M&T Savings Account	\$54,410.43	\$54,464.87
LWVNYS Grants Management Program	<u>\$18,387.97</u>	<u>\$16,504.68</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$88,954.46</u>	<u>\$89,210.40</u>

A more detailed account is available upon request.





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- **What elections will be on your ballot,**
- **Where candidates stand on various issues,**
- **How to register to vote,**
- **Where to vote,**
- **And much more!**

While you're there make a plan to vote and sign up for text or email reminders to vote!

For Voters Guide information visit www.VotingNewYork.org



For more information, contact:
League of Women Voters of New York State
62 Grand Street, Albany, New York 12207
Email: lwvny@lwvny.org Tel: (518)465-4162
Facebook: League of Women Voters of NYS
Twitter: [@LWVNY](https://twitter.com/LWVNY)



THE SUFFRAGIST CITY PARADE




**Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018
10:30am Rochester, NY**

A parade celebrating Rochester's key role in the movement for human rights.

The 2018 Suffragist City Parade is a project of the National Susan B. Anthony Museum and House. The theme this year is "Organize. Agitate. Educate!" The parade celebrates our heritage, encourages full participation in our democracy, and inspires us to continue the work for liberty, equality, and justice for all humanity. Immediately following the parade a celebratory event will be held at the Susan B. Anthony Square Park.

The LWV hopes to have a large contingent of members marching in the parade! (Parade lineup is at 9 A.M.) Following the parade, we will sponsor a voter registration table at the Park. Please sign up to march in the parade or to register voters at the Susan B. Anthony Square Park at <https://bit.ly/2OWd5sd>.

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Coming Events!

September

- 7 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 10 Board Meeting (Noon, Asbury UMC, 1050 East Avenue - red building)
- 11 Candidates Forum (8 P.M. Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 141 Adams Street)
- 13 State/Local Primary Election
- 13 Naturalization Ceremony (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office Building)
- 13 Book Club (10:00 A.M., Greenhouse Café, 2271 East Main Street, Rochester) – **Reign of Error** by Diane Ravitch
- 17 Naturalization Ceremony (10:15 A.M., College at Brockport, Seymour College Union)

October

- 4 Naturalization Ceremony (1:00 P.M., Rochester City Hall)
- 5 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 8 Board Meeting (Noon, Asbury UMC, 1050 East Avenue - red building)
- 11 Naturalization Ceremony (10:00 A.M., Monroe County Office Building)
- 11 Book Club (10:00 A.M., Greenhouse Café, 2271 East Main Street, Rochester) – **The Hellfire Club** by Jake Tapper



Be sure to check your email and our website for other events as they are scheduled!

Don't Miss First Fridays with LWV-RMA

Join League colleagues for lunch or a mid-day coffee break each First Friday of the month, 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. at I-Square, 400 Bakers Park, at Titus Avenue, Irondequoit, NY 14617.

No need to RSVP. Pencil us in on your calendar and join when you can!

There's a place at the table for you!

September 7

November 2

October 5

December 7

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Board of Directors meets monthly on the second Monday of each month from noon - 2:00 P.M. at Asbury First UMC. Board meetings are open to all members.

Government Committee meets monthly. For details, call Elaine Schmidt at 530-7414.

Naturalization ceremonies are usually held on second Thursday of each month. Check League website for updated info each month.

Forums are open to the public. Calendar information is subject to change.

For more complete information, consult our website at www.LWV-RMA.org, call 262-3730 or e-mail us at info@lwv-rma.org



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
ROCHESTER METROPOLITAN AREA

PO Box 10573
Rochester, NY 14610
585-262-3730
www.LWV-RMA.org

Rochester VOTER

A Monthly Publication of the
League of Women Voters/Rochester Metropolitan Area

Leadership Team

Gin Busack (2018-2019)
Kim Byers (2018-2019)
Judy Weinstein (2018-2019)

Treasurer Elaine Schmidt (2017-2019)

Recording Secretary Judy Sternberg (2018-2020)

Corresponding Secretary Marion O'Connor (2017-2019)

Director Ann Carmody (2018-2020)

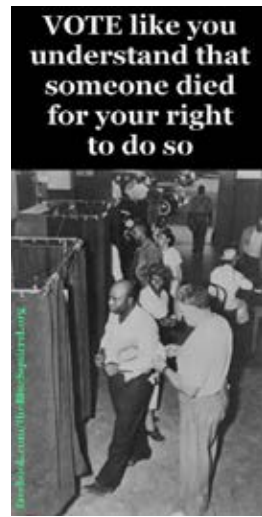
Director Mary Hussong-Kallen (2018-2019)

Director Barbara Kay (2017-2019)

Director Kris Rogers (2018-2020)

Director Gail Wilder (2018-2020)

OCTOBER VOTER DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 15!



SPEAK UP, BE HEARD,
IF YOU DON'T SAY A WORD, EVERYTHING WILL STAY THE SAME WAY
Join the League Today!

Goals of the League of Women Voters:

- To encourage informed citizen participation in government and politics
- To influence public policy through education and advocacy

The Voter is a monthly publication of the LWV-RMA

Editor, Judy Wadsworth

Layout/Design, Chris Burleigh

Name: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Check Amount: _____

Level of Membership: _____

Please send this form and your check payable to
League of Women Voters/RMA to:

LWV-RMA

PO Box 10573

Rochester, NY 14610

or join us online at: www.lwv-rma.org/join.php

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual/Associate	\$75
Household	\$105
Susan B. Anthony/Frederick Douglass	\$150
Carrie Chapman Catt	\$200
Student	FREE
Low income, call office	Sliding Scale