

TheVOTER



November 11

7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 1050 East Avenue

Accessible Parking, Building Access in the Rear

Open to all - bring a friend.

Register at 262-3730 or www.lwv-rma.org.

More on page 3



Share with family, friends, colleagues

Leadership Corner

The approaching November election and the completion of our voter registration season is evocative of a tune from the musical *Rent*. If you have ever seen the play or the movie, you will recognize the following lyric:

"Five hundred twenty five thousand six hundred minutes. How do you measure, measure a year?"

In newly registered voters?

In voter registration events?

In photo op pictures of voters and future voters?

In postcards sent to get out the vote?

In civic education speaking events?

In early voting pamphlets distributed?

In naturalized citizens welcomed to our democracy?

In number of volunteers?

In increased voter turnout?

How does LWV-RMA measure the voter registration season?

Sixty-seven events and two hundred five volunteers.

You make this League a vibrant, accomplished part of the Rochester community.

With thanks for the focused and dedicated work of our members and offering an opportunity for new members to meet the broader membership, we invite you to please mark your calendars for DECEMBER 9. Enjoy a League evening at the Hervey Ely House. Share some tea, some wine, some stories, some laughter, some friendship.

"How do you measure, measure a year?"

Camaraderie? Appreciation? Sense of accomplishment? Cups of tea? Glasses of wine?

We look forward to seeing you at the social.

In League, your Co-Presidents

Kimberly Byers

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 585 247 4958

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 585 683 7690.

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK!



We know you'll "like" us!

www.facebook.com/lwvofrma

From LWVNYS: Party Enrollment deadline extended

NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo has signed the bill allowing for a change in the party enrollment deadline. The deadline for voters to make a change in party enrollment to be effective for the April, 2020 presidential election is **February 14, 2020!**

See article at <https://www.nystateofpolitics.com/>.



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JOIN US -

- to learn how Rochesterians have been helping those waiting for their interviews,
- to learn the impact of family separation on children, and
- to learn the effect of the new rules.

PRESENTERS:

Hannah Hough, Esq., Immigration Program Director, The Legal Aid Society of Rochester;

Cary Jensen, Senior Counsel and Director of International Services, University of Rochester;

Sandra Mitzner, MD, former Medical Director of the Villa of Hope.

Open to all - bring a friend.

Register at 262-3730 or www.lwv-rma.org.



Voter Services

VOTER REGISTRATION

Before the October 11 deadline for registering to vote in the November 5 elections, LWV-RMA was active with registration events at the Public Market, South Wedge Roots Festival, Cedarwood Towers and Parents as Teachers (a Hillside parents' program). After the registration deadline, we participated in events at Project Homeless Connect, Halloween at the Market and in our first High School Program classes of the school year at School Without Walls and School of the Arts.

While the number of voter registration events peaks in summer and early fall, it goes on year-round at naturalization ceremonies, in high schools and wherever opportunities arise. And in 2020 we will see a rise in voter registration activities, since not only is it a presidential election year, with presidential primaries on April 28th, but it is also the start of voter registration eligibility for 16-year-olds. LWV-RMA will be exploring best ways to expand our voter registration connections with the city high schools and will look to engage and train student partners in the process. Dianne Stengel will be leading that initiative.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

This past month LWV-RMA was invited and sent representatives to speak (on Early Voting, the Importance of Voting and Engaging in Elections, and LWV-RMA GOTV Initiatives) at:

- Highlands of Pittsford – Katherine Smith, Elaine Schmidt
- Parent Leadership Training Institute – Judy Weinstein, Katherine Smith, Judy Sternberg
- Valley Manor – Katherine Smith, Kim Byers
- Incarnate Word Lutheran Church – Kim Byers, Judy Sternberg
- Women's Council of Realtors program 'Women Changing the World' – Kim Byers

GOTV - Get Out The Vote

Postcard reminders went out on October 15th, to a sample of inactive registered voters (see article on page 5).

Videos on **Parolee Voting** and **Choosing a Political Party** have been posted on our website, social media platforms, and promoted to our community partners.

Text messages with voting reminders started going out on October 17th and will continue with varied messages through Election Day. Sign up by texting voting to 313131.

Lawn Signs have been installed, and Vote411.org and Early Voting are being advertised throughout all our platforms and at all our events.

Over 2,500 Early Voting pamphlets have been distributed throughout our community.

Many thanks to all the volunteers and organizers who participated in our efforts in the past months: Joan Buckley, Gin Busack, Kim Byers, Georgia DeGregorio, Deb Gordon, Barbara Gorski, Barbara Grosh, Carole Hass, Ida Holloran, Deb Leary, Margaret Miyake, Barbara Murphy, Elaine Schmidt, Katherine Smith, Dianne Stengel, Karen Walker, Judy Weinstein, Ann Carmody, Julie Damerell, Myra Pelz and Gail Wilder.

New volunteers and ideas are always welcome!

Contact **Judy Sternberg**, Voter Services Chair, jsternberg3b@gmail.com

Early Voting Continues Until November 3

General Election Day is November 5, 2019, but for those who wish, early voting is now being offered through November 3:

- November 1: 7:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
- November 2: 1:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
- November 3: 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

EARLY VOTING SITES:

Greece Town Hall, 3 Vince Tofany Blvd.

Ogden Town Hall, 269 Ogden Center Road

Monroe Community College Downtown Campus, 321 State Street

Penfield Town Hall, 3100 Atlantic Avenue

The Marketplace Mall, North Entrance, Room 530

Ridge Culver Plaza, former Fallas store, 2255 East Ridge Road

SUNY Empire State College, 680 Westfall Road.

Voters who are registered anywhere in Monroe County may vote in any of these seven locations.

If you opt to vote on November 5, remember to vote at your assigned polling location. Early voting locations will not be open on November 5.

To learn more, check out the LWVNYS website at <https://my.lwv.org/new-york-state/new-york-state-early-voting>.

This resource features an FAQ section and access to a brochure on early voting.

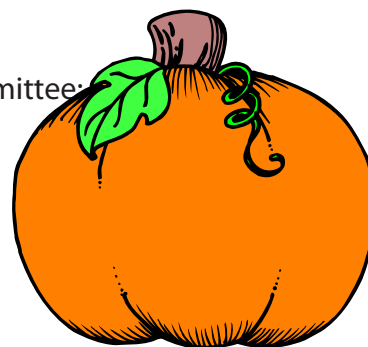
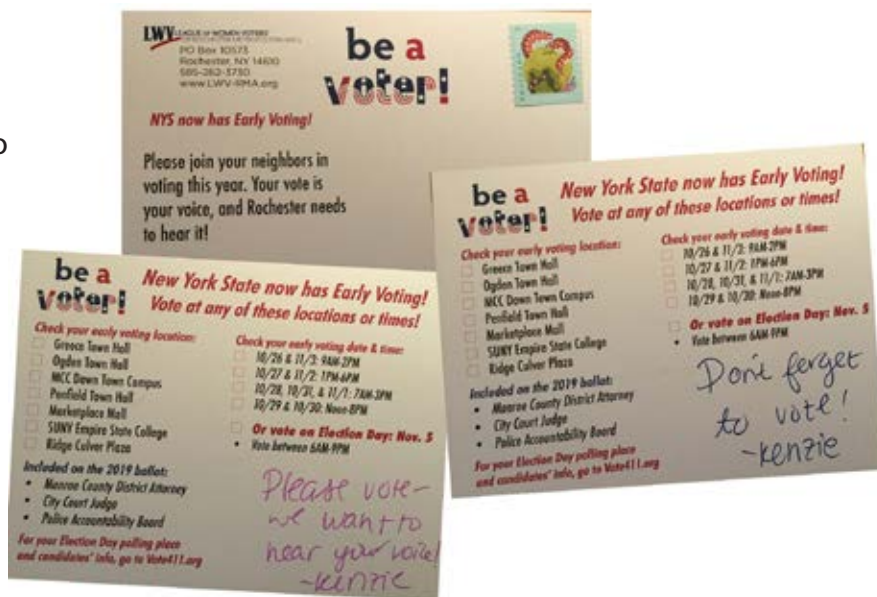
GOTV x 1000

On October 15, 1,000 personalized postcards went in the mail to a random list of 1,000 people in Legislative District 22 who did not vote in the 2016 general election or who registered to vote afterward. We did this based on research that indicates that receiving these can be influential in encouraging people to vote. After the election, we'll look at voting results for this group and another legislative district with low voter turnout to see if the postcards might have had an impact and determine if we want to repeat this for the 2020 general election.

Thanks to many who made this possible:

- Indivisible Rochester, students at Rock the Vote/Rochester Institute of Technology, and students in Alpha Phi Omega at the University of Rochester for adding address labels, stamps, and handwritten messages;
- Chris Burleigh for designing (and redesigning, 14 times!) the postcard;
- The GOTV postcard committee for creating the request and rationale for the Board of Directors and determining the text on the postcard: Ann Carmody, Julie Damerell, and Myra Pelz;
- The Monroe County Board of Elections for providing names and street addresses;
- Myra Pelz for picking up the postcards from Patrick Printing, adding zip codes to 1,000 street addresses, creating the mailing labels, and connecting us with Indivisible Rochester;
- Gail Wilder for connecting us with the student groups at RIT and UR;
- Julie Damerell for getting the postcard stamps and coordinating the committee;
- Ann Carmody for taking the postcards to the post office;
- The Board of Directors for approving this project!

Julie Damerell



Half as Much Is Not Enough - Women and Men to Rally on National Latina Equal Pay Day

The Latina Equal Pay Day Rally and Press Conference at Workers United at 750 East Avenue on Thursday, November 20, at 11:45 A.M. will bring together advocates demanding pay equity for Latinas who suffer the largest pay gap of all women.

The Pay Equity Coalition, with advocates for pay equity, will gather to call for legislation, education, and action to end wage and hiring practice discrimination against women of color in the workforce. Advocates include leaders from the Governor's office, community organizations, human resource experts, legal experts, affected employees, as well as college and high school students. Latina Equal Pay Day represents how far into 2019, in addition to all of 2018 (one year 10 months and 20 days), that Latinas worked to earn what white non-Hispanic men doing the same work earned in 2018.

At the event, Congressperson Joe Morelle will share further insights via video regarding the national Paycheck Fairness Act. Expert speakers will offer perspectives on the wage gaps for Latinas. Participants will leave with actions they can take. To learn more, visit LatinaPayEquity at <http://www.roclacumbre.com/lpe>.

Mark your calendar to join the rally: November 20, 11:45, 750 East Avenue!!!

YOU ARE INVITED

Save the Date!

The League of Women Voters – Rochester Metro Area invites all its members to an elegant tea at the historic Hervey Ely House, 138 Troup Street.

Monday, December 9, 2019

4:00 - 7:00 P.M. *(Come when you can.)*

Inside this handsome mansion, we will welcome our new members and celebrate the contributions to the League of all our members.

Invitations mailed in November will include more details.

This event is a gift from a member who prefers anonymity.



From LWVUS: Watch for Misleading Census Mailers

MAILERS LABELED “2019 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CENSUS” HAVE ALLEGEDLY BEEN SENT BY THE RNC TO AT LEAST FIVE STATES THUS FAR (CALIFORNIA, LOUISIANA, MONTANA, OHIO, AND WASHINGTON STATE).

Although the forms look nothing like a real Census form, the partisan nature of the content, request for payment, and the labeling of “Census” is concerning, as it could cause confusion. We want to be careful not to counter the misinformation with messages that would discourage the public from participating in the actual Census next year. Our goal is to inform - not instill fear or anger.

Our message recommendation is to provide accurate information without emotion:

- The only official U.S. Census form comes directly from the U.S Census Bureau.
- Anything solicited prior to April 2020 is not part of the U.S. Census.
- Any survey by an outside group mentioning the Census is not part of the official U.S. Census.
- Anyone who has participated in these surveys should still plan to participate in the U.S. Census starting in March 2020.

For additional LWV talking points about the 2020 Census, see Census Talking Points (<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/talking-points-templates/talking-points-2020-census>) and the Census Action Kit (<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/voting-rights-tools/census-action-kit>) on the League Management Site.

Naturalization Ceremonies:

Special appreciation goes out to all League volunteers at the naturalization ceremonies! You are very much appreciated and new citizens are pleased that you are at the ceremonies as well.

Marcia Eisenberg and Joan Rosenthal attended the naturalization ceremony at The College at Brockport on September 17 as the college celebrated Constitution Day. Judge Jonathan Feldman officiated as approximately 100 candidates became U.S. citizens. Marcia Eisenberg welcomed 50 candidates to be naturalized by the Hon. Matthew Rosenbaum at the Monroe County Office Building on September 26, and she helped the new citizens register to vote. LWV-RMA members also participated in the October 17 naturalization ceremony presided over by the Hon. Matthew Rosenbaum at the Monroe County Office Building.

Everyone is invited to attend naturalization ceremonies. It is a welcoming, joyful ceremony that you will enjoy. If you are interested in attending, contact Sheila Abeling at sheiler162007@gmail.com.



Justice Jonathan Feldman with new citizen on September 17 and Judge Matthew Rosenbaum with new citizen and County Clerk Adam Bello on October 17.

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

Sunshine Corner

MONROE COUNTY LEGISLATURE MEETING - OCTOBER 8, 2019

Rachel Barnhart was sworn in as a member of the Legislature for the 21st district shortly before the Legislature convened.

The Willow Center was honored for its work in supporting women and men who have been abused in their domestic situations. Per their speaker, domestic violence has risen in Rochester and in New York state.

The public forum part of the meeting lasted approximately two hours. At least 45 citizens spoke to the Legislature, about half of whom shared personal stories of their own children or students who were successful in school after receiving early intervention services. They emphasized how important it is to obtain services as soon as possible. There is a long wait for these crucial services due to the shortage of early intervention specialists, many of whom sought other employment due to low wages. Several speakers commented that providing services at an early age was much more economical than dealing with the problems later.

Students from local high schools and RIT once again petitioned the Legislature to initiate a plan to deal with climate change.



Retirees from the Monroe County Sheriff's department held a rally before the Legislature's meeting and petitioned the Legislature during the Public Forum to provide the health insurance plans that were promised to them by the County.

Several people spoke again about repealing parts of the New York Reproductive Health Act.

One person asked the Legislature to consider the Purple Ribbon of Hope. It would be displayed in places where Narcan was available. She stated that in places where this program was used, lives were saved.

Several speakers mentioned that elections were coming up.

In County business:

- Amy Moffitt was appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Monroe County Library System.
- Dr. Joe Carbone was appointed to the Monroe Community College Board of Trustees.
- Freed Maxick, CPAs, will conduct an analysis of aged receivables from Monroe Community Hospital.

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

Elaine Schmidt, e.schmidt8@frontier.com

LWV-RMA Co-Sponsors Candidate Forum for City Council – South District

The LWV-RMA cosponsored a Candidate Forum for the candidates for the Rochester City Council – South District with NBN6, the South Wedge Planning Committee, the Swillburg Neighborhood Association and the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood Association. According to our Candidate Event Policy, we could not hold forums for the other three districts because one district had only one candidate on the ballot and in the other two districts only one candidate agreed to participate. Candidates Alex White and Marcus Williams participated in the South District forum. LaShay Harris, the third candidate, did not respond to our invitation.

Kim Byers' welcome to the audience included reminders about early voting, Election Day, and Vote411.org. She then turned the event over to League member Katherine Smith, who served as moderator. The questions from the co-sponsors and the audience covered a broad range of topics including Rochester 2034, the proposed comprehensive plan for the City of Rochester; rent control; and city support for the Rochester City School District and children in the city. The two candidates provided thoughtful, specific answers to the questions and abided by the League guidelines of participating in a civil discourse.

You can view the forum in its entirety on our YouTube channel. Click on the link on the homepage of our website.

Thanks to our co-sponsors, especially for publicizing the forum; Kim and Katherine for their roles; Judy Sternberg for setting up the Voter Information table; Deb Gordon, Myra Pelz, and Dianne Stengel for collecting and screening questions; and to Rocky Coomber for videographing the event.

Judy Weinstein

VOTE 411
 ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

**BE INFORMED.
VOTE**

**TO GET INFORMATION
ABOUT CANDIDATES ON
YOUR BALLOT VISIT**

VOTE411.org

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
 ROCHESTER METRO AREA



Candidates Alex White and Marcus Williams with LWV-RMA Co-President Kim Byers and Program Moderator Katherine Smith.

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK

100 YEARS
 1919-2019


On the Hundredth Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of New York State

Let's talk first about one hundred and two years ago. Did you know that women in New York State gained full suffrage on November 6, 1917? Amendment No. 1 of our NYS Constitution was approved on that date. New York, though, was not the first state to allow women to vote. By 1919, fifteen states (including New York) had full suffrage.

New York City was crucial to the success of Amendment No. 1 in New York State. Leading the NYC campaign were Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), and Mary Garrett Hay, president of the Woman Suffrage Party of New York City. The campaign's efforts included advertising, block-by-block organizing, and reaching out to pro-suffrage men's groups. In the end, suffrage won in every borough, and the majority in the City overcame a loss upstate. Suffrage lost in Rochester, Kingston, and Albany.

One hundred years ago, on November 19, 1919, at the fifty-first (and final) convention in Utica, members of the New York State Woman Suffrage Party voted to change the name to the New York State League of Women Voters (later renamed the League of Women Voters of New York State).

Just months later, on February 14, 1920, Carrie Chapman Catt founded the National League of Women Voters (later renamed the League of Women Voters

of the United States). The League was successor to NAWSA.

The first president of the New York State League was Mrs. Frank A. (Mabel Narcissa Cox) Vanderlip, 1919-1923. Among the thirty-two LWNYS presidents, 1919 to 2019, are two members of our Rochester League: Natacha Dykman, 1976-1979, and Shirley Eberly, 1991-1995.

As we celebrate the hundredth anniversary of LWNYS, we think back to the first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls in 1848, and the long struggle between then and the passage of women's voting rights in 1919.

Susan B. Anthony said (in 1906), "Failure is impossible." She was right.

Barbara Kay, bbskay@frontiernet.net

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Come celebrate the Centennial of our League

Saturday, November 16, 2019
Buffalo History Museum
1 Museum Court, Buffalo, NY

6:00-9:00PM

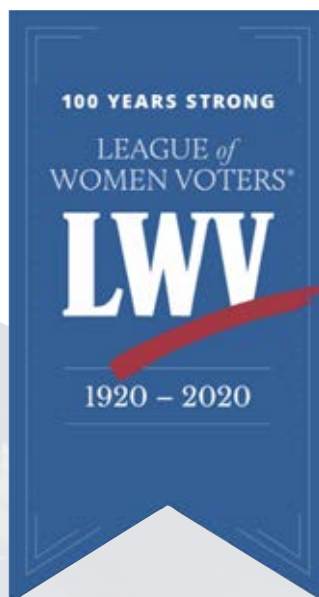
Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks & Hors d'Oeuvres

Toast our honorees and see the special exhibit
 Emblem of Equality: Woman Suffrage in Western
 New York

Tickets \$100

Contact Judy Sternberg, jsternberg3b@gmail.com
 for details

Carpooling available



Coming Events!

November

- 1 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 8 Naturalization Ceremony (1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M., George Eastman Museum, 900 East Avenue)
- 11 Forum: Crisis at the Border (7:00P.M. - 9:00 P.M., Asbury First UMC)
- 13 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (Noon - 12:00 P.M., Asbury First UMC)
- 14 Naturalization Ceremony (10:00 A.M. - 1:00P.M., Monroe County Office Building)
- 16 LWVNYS 100th Anniversary Celebration (6:00 - 9:00 P.M., Buffalo History Museum, 1 Museum Court, Buffalo)
- 21 Book Club (10:00 A.M., Greenhouse Café, 2271 E. Main Street) *Beloved* by Toni Morrison
- 21 Naturalization Ceremony (1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M., Federal Building 100 State Street)

December

- 6 First Friday (11:00 A.M., I-Square, 400 Bakers Park)
- 11 LWV-RMA Board Meeting (Noon - 2:00 P.M., Asbury First UMC)
- 12 Naturalization Ceremony (10 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., Monroe County Office)
- 19 Naturalization Ceremony (1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M., Federal Building)



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!

November 1	March 6
December 6	April 3
January 3	May 1
February 7	June 5



Board of Directors meetings are held at Asbury First UMC. Board meetings are open to all members. See calendar for dates and times.

Advocacy/Government Committee meets monthly. For details, call Ann Carmody at (585) 748-5848.

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

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League of Women Voters/Rochester Metropolitan Area

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leadership Team

Co-Presidents Kim Byers (2019-2020) Judy Sternberg (2019-2021)

Treasurer Judy Weinstein (2019-2021)

Secretary Julie Damerell (2019-2020)

Director Ann Carmody (2018-2020)

Director Myra Pelz (2019-2021)

Director Kris Rogers (2018-2020)

Director Gail Wilder (2018-2020)

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Looking for info on a League committee or activity? Look no further!

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Judy Wadsworth*

*Layout/Design,
Chris Burleigh*

DECEMBER-JANUARY VOTER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 15!

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.

Goals of the League of Women Voters:

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

Join the League Today!



Name: _____

Address: _____

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 at 262-3730 Sliding Scale
or send an email to: info@lwv-rma.org	