



**ASSEMBLYWOMAN VALERIE HUTTLE
TO SPEAK ON MAY 17TH**

On Tuesday, May 17 the Northern Valley League is delighted to have Deputy Speaker of the NJ Assembly, **Valerie Vainieri Huttle** (District #37) speak about two environmental bills. One she recently introduced with two other Assembly colleagues establishes a fee on the use of non-compostable plastic bags by certain stores. The second is a bottle bill that she is working on. The general meeting, open to the public, will start at 7:00 in the Closter Public Library. The library is located at 280 High Street in Closter.

A few league members have been learning about plastic waste since last summer when the Northern Valley league initiated a local study on this topic. Committee leader **Sophie Heymann** and members **Lorraine Cohen, Naomi Epstein, Betty Frank, Peggy Kabakow** and **Ann Moscovitz** will share what they have learned: (1) what plastic waste is, (2) what its dangers are, (3) recycling/disposal options, and (4) legislation to reduce and regulate it. Assemblywoman Huttle will discuss her bills and future efforts to control plastics to help the environment.

If you wish to get involved, or learn more about this topic, please contact **Sophie** at heymannsophie@gmail.com

17 YEAR OLDS CAN REGISTER TO VOTE

Recent changes to state law enable every eligible 17 year old New Jersey citizen to register to vote with the understanding that they may not vote until they become 18. Previous law allowed 17 year olds to register only if they turn 18 on or before the next election. This is no longer the case. Seventeen year olds can now complete and mail in a voter registration form and will be designated as pending until their 18th birthday. At that time, their designation will change to registered.

Voter registration forms are available at www.lwvnj.org and on the New Jersey Division of Elections website www.njelections.org. They are also available at borough clerk offices.

A change at the Motor Vehicle Commission has made it easier to register to vote and update voter information.

MVC customers who are obtaining or renewing licenses can now use newly installed technology to register and provide an electronic signature using a touch screen.

The deadline to register to vote in the June 7 primary election is May 17. The deadline to change party affiliation for the primary was April 13. The League of Women Voters of New Jersey has a toll-free hotline available, 1-800-792-VOTE (8683) to answer any questions. Information about voting in New Jersey is also available at www.lwvnj.org.

**LWV OF NORTHERN VALLEY
2015-2016**

Officers

*Lucy Heller, 1st VP
Nike Bach, 2nd VP
Fran Molnar, Secretary
Vicky Sidrow Treasurer
Vi Rushman, Membership*

Elected Directors

*Lorraine Cohen
Naomi Epstein
Bobbie Hass
Betty Frank
Anne Lander
Shirley Shapiro
Lucille Shapiro
Ann Moscovitz*

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Quarterly Newsletter Editors

Please submit Articles to:

Nike Bach, 2nd VP

Nike.Bach@gmail.com

Sally Tayeb, Member

TayebFamily@gmail.com



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

VOTE411.ORG

Since 2006, the League of Women Voters (US) has administered VOTE411.org. This web site provides non-partisan answers about candidates, the ballot, polling places and administrative rules. Since its creation, nearly 20,000 websites have linked to the site and 25 million people have accessed its information. This year, the League anticipates that three million people will use the site, up from two million in 2012, the last presidential election year. The LWV- NJ has purchased space on VOTE411.org for local Leagues who are

interested in participating. A Spring workshop, conducted in early May, included training to create online voter guides -- inputting information about local elections. Look for this, THIS FALL.

"If people don't vote and use their voice, someone will speak for them," said Elisabeth MacNamara, chair of the League of Women Voters Education Fund (US). "This work will help us build a democracy where more voters have easy access to reli-

lwv.org
Est. 1920
Imagine what our country would look like if every eligible American was registered to VOTE.

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan 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.

It operates through more than 800 state and local leagues in all 50 states, Washington, DC, Hong Kong, and the Virgin Islands.

The organization develops grassroots leadership and enjoys widespread credibility because it is strictly non-partisan.

NJ FINANCIAL CUTS THREATEN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

May is Mental Health Awareness Month.



Changes to reimbursement rates for mental health and substance abuse services, announced by the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addictions and effective July 1, threaten the provision of community mental health services across the state. Although some rates have increased, most are insufficient to cover the cost of services. But, worse for behavioral healthcare organizations such as Vantage Health System, is that the change to a "Fee for Service" model results in the loss of \$2.5 million of state contract funding. This will affect hundreds, if not a thousand clients with mental illness who need psychiatric medication and therapy to remain stable and lead productive lives. Vantage Health System serves over 3,000 individuals a year—children, adolescents

and adults. 1,500 of those receive medication from psychiatrists. The Northern Valley LWV, and individual members, have been supportive of Vantage's mission since its formation in 1972. Vicki Sidrow asks for advocacy to your local legislators in this, the most devastating issue facing the 'safety net' for vulnerable individuals in our community. Please keep an eye out for Vantage's e-blast messages, and help them to continue to help your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Thank you.

Vicki Sidrow, MPA, President and CEO, Vantage Health System, Inc. LWV Northern Valley Treasurer. League member since 1977

* For information about *
* Vantage Health System, please *
* visit www.vantagenj.org/ *

CALENDAR & NOTES

NVLWV Board Meetings 7/11/16, and 8/9/16.
Open to Members on Tuesdays at 10:00 am at the Garden Room at the Davis Johnson Park & Gardens, Corner of Engle Street & Westervelt Avenue in Tenafly on 6/14/16,
May:
5/17: LWV Speaker: Assemblywoman Valerie Huttle See pg 1.
5/17: Deadline to register for voting in the Primary.

June:
6/7: VOTE in the NJ Primary
6/16-19 LWV-US - Biennial Convention in Washington DC

See Also: lwvus.org
And lwvnj.org

MONEY IN POLITICS: FIX CORRUPTION

On **February 29**, the Northern Valley, Ridgewood, and Bergen County leagues along with the Northern NJ National Organization for Women presented a program, **Money in Politics: Fix Corruption** with guest speakers **Tom Dolcelli** and **Teresa DeFrabrizio**, of Represent.us. Represent.us seeks to build a movement to pass **Anti-Corruption Acts** whose goal is nothing less than to reshape



the rules of American politics and restore the people as its most important stakeholders. It has three main outcomes: to reduce corruption, end secret money, and empower voters. League members are discussing whether to undertake efforts to have this legislation adopted in Bergen County. Please contact **Nike Bach** if you are interested in learning more about this effort, nike.bach@gmail.com or 201-947-0756.



The U.S. Treasury dept announced, on April 20, the most sweeping and historically symbolic makeover of American currency in a century. They proposed:

DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT AND NEITHER IS THE LEAGUE



The fact that you have chosen to be a member of The League of Women Voters indicates that you are a smart, caring person who understands the importance of participation in public policy decisions. The governing body of Northern Valley needs the participation of members to

carry out the League's mission: to learn about and provide non-partisan information about public policy issues resulting, one hopes, in informed governmental decision-making. Our board functions as a Committee of the Whole, members assume responsibilities and tasks based on their interests and skills. Please consider this a personal invitation to participate. Contact **Lucy Heller** to volunteer or for further information: 201-391- 5617, or lucyheller@optonline.net

replacing the slaveholding **President Andrew Jackson**, on the \$20 bill, with the former slave and abolitionist, **Harriet Tubman**. On the back of \$10 will be five women who were antislavery activists and women's rights activists. They fought, and succeeded, in obtaining passage of the 19th amendment, which granted women the right to vote. They are: **Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Alice Paul** and **Sojourner Truth**. On the back of \$5 will be three people who charted new ground: **Marian Anderson**, one of the world's most accomplished contraltos, fought against racial discrimination, **Eleanor Roosevelt** redefined the role of first lady with her outspokenness and activism, and the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** became the voice of the civil rights movement.

RENEW LWV MEMBERSHIP NOW!

Please renew your membership in the League of Women Voters of Northern Valley to demonstrate your support for decision making by our elected officials that is thoughtful and intelligent. Membership runs from July 2016 to June 2017. Please print the form and return it, along with your check, payable to "**LWVNV**" c/o **Vicki Sidrow, LWV Treasurer 1-Horizon Road, Apt 1405 Ft. Lee, NJ 07024**

Annual Dues: Single \$55.00, Family \$75.00
Questions? lwvno.valley@gmail.com or call 201-947-0756
Download Form: lwvbergen.org/membership/

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____, NJ _____

Email: _____



c/o Vicki Sidrow, 1-Horizon Rd, Apt 1405, Ft Lee, NJ 07024



The LWV of Northern Valley is the organization where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Join us today!

Phone: 201-947-0756
E-mail: lwwno.valley@gmail.com
Web: www.lwvbergen.org

LeagueofWomenVotersNorthernValley/
 @LeagueNValley

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Alpine | Englewood | New Milford |
| Bergenfield | Englewood Cliffs | Northvale |
| Cliffside Park | Fort Lee | Norwood |
| Closter | Hackensack | Old Tappan |
| Cresskill | Harrington Park | Park Ridge |
| Demarest | Haworth | River Vale |
| Dumont | Hillsdale | Tenafly |
| Edgewater | Leonia | Washington Township |
| Emerson | Montvale | Woodcliff Lake |

TO:

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATION

Classic Quiche
330 Queen Anne Rd,
Teaneck, NJ

Tuesday, June 21, 5:30 P.M.

Speaker: Deirdre Sykes,
Editor/Vice President of
The Record

Dinner :\$30 per person

Members and guests are invited to attend the Northern Valley's 70th Annual Meeting.

Our guest speaker will be **Deirdre Sykes** who was named Editor/Vice President of *The Record* in January. A veteran journalist, she's been with *The Record* since 1987. She will speak about her job and take questions from attendees.

Please send in your reservation by June 14.

Name _____

Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

Make check payable to LWVNV.

With a Note for Annual Dinner. Enclosed \$ _____

Send form and check to

Shirley Shapiro, 292 Highwood Ave. Tenafly, NJ 07670

If you cannot mail this form in on time, call

Shirley at 201-567-1189 or

email wpab65a@aol.com to reserve.

(You may make your payment at the dinner.)