

### NEWSLETTER

September – November, 2016 THE VOTER's ISSUE

### **PLEASE ATTEND**

# **CANDIDATE FORUMS!**

The League of Women Voters believes that observing a face to face debate among opposing candidates provides an excellent opportunity for voters to judge which candidate(s) will best represent them.

Please join us in hearing from candidates currently running for office.

All times are from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.



For updated information and Schedules please visit:

http://lwvbergen.org

Bergen County League of Women Voters (ILO) Invites the Public to Attend Candidate Forums:

### Tuesday, September 13, COUNTY CLERK

Westwood Borough Hall 101 Washington Avenue, Westwood *Invited:* John S. Hogan (D) (incumbent) and Hector Olmo (R)

### Tuesday, September 27, SURROGATE

Westwood Borough Hall 101 Washington Avenue, Westwood *Invited:* Incumbent, Michael Dressler (D) and Robert W. Avery (R)

### Thursday, October 6, SHERIFF

Bergen Technical High School 504 West Route 46, Teterboro *Invited:* Incumbent Michael Saudino (D) and Manuel V. Alfonso (R)

### Thursday, October 13, FREEHOLDER (three seats)

Bergen Technical High School 504 West Route 46, Teterboro *Invited:* Thomas J. Sullivan (D) (incumbent) Mary J. Amoroso (D) Germaine M. Ortiz (D) Maura R. DeNicola (R) (incumbent) John J. Driscoll Jr. (R), and Robert A. DiDio (R) Demosthenes M. Backos (Libertarian) and Peter J. Rohrman (Libertarian)

### Wednesday, October 19, CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 9

Englewood Public Safety Complex 73-75 South Van Brunt Street, Englewood *Invited:* Bill Pascrell (D) (incumbent) and Hector Castillo (R) LWV of Northern Valley 2016-2017

#### <u>Officers</u> Lucy Heller, 1st VP Nike Bach, 2nd VP Fran Molnar, Secretary Vicki Sidrow Treasurer Vi Ruschman, Membership

<u>Elected Directors</u> Lorraine Cohen Naomi Epstein Bobbie Hass Betty Frank Anne Lander Shirley Shapiro Lucille Shapiro Ann Moscovitz

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#### <u>Quarterly Newsletter Editors</u> Please submit Articles to:

Nike Bach, 2nd VP Nike.Bach@gmail.com Sally Tayeb, Member TayebFamily@gmail.com



Democracy is not a Spectator Sport And Neither is The League.

### PLEASE JOIN US AT TWO UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Will New Jersey Have Funds to Pay for Road Improvements?

Join us to learn about New Jersey's Transportation Trust Fund Authority. The TTFA was created in 1984. Its mission is to finance the cost of "planning, acquisition, engineering, construction, reconstruction, repair, resurfacing, and rehabilitation of the state's transportation system." The program will be held on Monday, September 19th, 7:00 - 9:00pm, in Tenafly's McCandless Room, located at 100 Riveredge Ave. Parking and entry in rear of building. Invited speakers are Bergen County legislators who serve on the Transportation Committee.

### LGBT Equality: Our Work Has Just Begun

The NVLWV will join the National Council of Jewish Women as a coalition partner in their annual advocacy forum, this year to be held on Wednesday, November 9 at 1:15pm at Temple Emeth in Teaneck. Guest speaker Steven Goldstein, Executive Director of the Anne Frank Center for Mutual Respect, in NYC, will be joined by a panel of experts.



The League of Women Voters (US) has run **VOTE411.org**, an online voter guide, since 2006. It answers common questions about candidate qualifications, 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.

### FIND VOTER INFORMATION

This fall, LWVNJ will use Vote411 to cover all NJ Congressional races. The ILO (Bergen County League) will cover county races. Check it out. Refer your neighbors to it.



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### **NVLWV Board Meetings**

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 9/13/16, 10/11/16, 11/8/16, 12/13/16, 1/10/17, 2/14/17, 3/14/17, 4/11/17, 5/9/17, 6/13/17, 7/11/17, and 8/8/17. Please join us!

### **SEPTEMBER**

Thursday, September 15: *Last day* for a political party to fill a primary nominee vacancy

### **CALENDAR & NOTES**

**OCTOBER** 

Saturday 10/8/16 LWVNJ Fall Workshop, 9 am - 1:30 pm at Rider University, Daly Dining Hall 2083 Lawrenceville Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Guest speakers and discussion will be about online voter registration and automatic voter registration: how it works in other states and the benefits of modernizing in NJ.

Tuesday, October 18: Last day to register or change voting address for general

### voting address for general elections.

### **NOVEMBER**

**Tuesday, November 1:** *Dead-line* for mailed application for a vote by mail ballot to the County Clerk Monday, November 7, 3 p.m.: *Deadline* for applying for a vote by mail ballot in person at the County Clerk's office.

Tuesday, November 8: **GENERAL ELECTION DAY** (Polls open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

### **REGISTER TO VOTE**

#### TO QUALIFY FOR VOTING, citizens must **REGISTRATION FORMS** may be printed

**be registered at least 21 days** before the election and be 18 years of age by the election. You may register to vote if you are 17 years old but cannot vote until you are 18. You *may* declare a party affiliation but are not required to do so until you want to vote in a primary.

### **REGISTRATION IS PERMANENT** unless you change your name or address, but changes in party designation are permitted annually.

State law requires that sample ballots be mailed to all registered voters one week before each election.

October 18, 2016 is the last day to register in person with the town clerk or the county elections office. REGISTRATION FORMS may be printed from the internet: http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/ voting-information.html VOTING BY MAIL is available to all qualified voters. Once you apply for a vote-bymail ballot, you will not be permitted to vote at the polls. Download a Vote-By-Mail ballot application: http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/ voting-information-vote-by-mail.html

If you are a Bergen County resident, the completed application should be mailed to: Hon. John S. Hogan Bergen County Clerk One Bergen County Plaza, Rm 130 Hackensack, NJ 07601

### JOIN US NOW WE ARE THE LWVNV!

Please JOIN US. Membership is open to all women and men and includes membership in the national, state, and local organization. Membership runs from July 2016-June 2017 and is \$55.00 for individuals, \$75.00 for family and \$25.00 for students. Please print out this form and return it, along with your check, to LWV Treasurer, Vicki Sidrow, One Horizon Road, Apt 1405, Fort Lee, NJ 07024. Please make your check payable to the League of Women Voters of Northern Valley ("LWVNV").

Questions? lwv	no.valley@gmail.com or call 201-947-0756
<u>Download Form</u> :	lwvbergen.org/membership/

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Address:			
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Tel:		,	
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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 nonpartisan.

www.lwvnj.org



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!

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Web:	www.lwvbergen.org

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@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:

### **BALLOT QUESTIONS: TWO N.J. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**



## Two State Constitutional Amendments will be voted upon in November.

The **Gas Tax for Transportation Funding** Amendment will dedicate all revenue collected from gas taxes to transportation projects. Currently, 10.5 cents of the 13.5 cent tax on diesel fuel is appropriated for transportation projects, leaving three cents not explicitly dedicated. (The full 10.5 cent tax on unleaded gasoline is fully dedicated). Since the Transportation Trust Fund ran out of money on July 1, 2016, this amendment will bolster gas tax revenues. Placing the measure on the ballot was also a prerequisite for the legislature to raise the gas tax in New Jersey.

The second ballot initiative is the **Casino Expansion** Amendment. It would add two casinos in North Jersey, ending a four-decade monopoly in Atlantic City. Competition in surrounding areas led to seven years of dwindling revenue. Lawmakers expect the two casinos in northern New Jersey to revive the industry. Those who hold casino licenses in Atlantic City would have six months to draft proposals for the two new casinos. Each casino proposal would have to include an investment of at least \$1 billion. If the state failed to receive proposals under those guidelines within six months, license holders outside of Atlantic City would be permitted to submit proposals.