

# NEWSLETTER

September - November 2019 FALL VOTING ISSUE

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW 2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

The LWV of Northern Valley elected the 2019-2020 board of directors and officers. Nike Prieston Bach (Leonia) and Lucy Heller (Park Ridge) were elected Co-Presidents. Vicki Sidrow (Fort Lee) and Fran Molnar (Tenafly) continued as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Vi Ruschman (Park Ridge) was elected V.P. of Membership. Joyce Luhrs (Leonia) was installed as V.P. of Marketing.

Members elected as Directors include: Betty Frank and Lorraine Cohen (Englewood), Naomi Epstein (Demarest), Bobbie Hass and Shirley Shapiro (Tenafly), and Anne Lander (Harrington Park). New directors joining the board are Sally Tayeb (Dumont) and Paige Botjer (Hillsdale). Sophie Heymann (Closter) continues as Chair of the Budget Committee.

MEMBERS
TAKE NOTE:
PLEASE JOIN IN!
2020
IS A BIG ELECTION YEAR
AND THE
100TH ANNIVERSARY
FOR THE LEAGUE &
THE 19TH AMENDMENT



The Northern Valley League will conduct a free workshop on **Tuesday**, 9/17 at 7PM, at the Closter Library (280 High Street), for members and the public to learn about Voters Service. Refreshments will be served. The program will include: League-moderated Candidate Forums, Voter Registration Drives, Getting out the Vote Activities, and How to Create Voter's Guides. It will also feature Vote 411.org.

Vote 411.org, launched by the US-LWV, is a "one-stop-shop" providing nonpartisan, voter information. The uniqueness and power of Vote411 is in the creation of Voter Guides with information obtained from candidates running for office, responding to questions submitted by League members. Workshop attendees are welcome to bring a laptop to the webinar.

For the upcoming 11/5/19 Election, the state League plans to assemble candidate information about the 80 races for seats in the State Assembly. The county League plans to do so for County Freeholder races. Our LWVNV Members are invited to compile information about candidates who are running for office in their town mayoral, council and school board races. This information will be accessible on vote411.org

Members and residents who wish to learn more about Voter's Service activities and become more involved in their communities are encouraged to attend this workshop. Refreshments will be provided. For further information, or if you wish to help register voters, organize or help run a Candidate's Forum, or create a Voter's Guide of questions for candidates, please contact: Nike at nike.bach@gmail.com

In an effort to accommodate working members, the board has moved its board meetings, to which all members are invited to attend, to 7PM on the second Tuesday of most months. They will most often be held at the Closter Library's board meeting room, 280 High Street, in Closter. Please consider offering rides to members who are not comfortable driving at night. ASK them! This is a big celebration and election year for the League.

Check out and

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for updates. Committees are forming... see pg 4.

LWV of Northern Valley 2019-2020

## Officers

Nike Bach, Co-President Lucy Heller, Co-President Fran Molnar, Secretary Vicki Sidrow, Treasurer Vi Ruschman, VP Membership Joyce Luhrs, VP Marketing

#### **Directors**

Paige Botjer Lorraine Cohen Naomi Epstein Betty Framk Bobby Hass Sophie Heyman Anne Lander Shirley Shapiro Sally Tayeb

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PHOTOS WANTED! NEXT SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE: 11/8/19

Please submit articles to: Nike Bach, Co-President Nike.Bach@gmail.com Sally Tayeb, Director TayebFamily@gmail.com







JOIN IN OUR MEMBER ACTIVITIES

If you would like to get involved in Voter Service Activities, Please contact: Nike.Bach @gmail.com

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 grass-roots leadership and enjoys widespread credibility because it is strictly non-partisan.

www.lwvnj.org

# **ACTIVITIES**



At Right: Board of Directors September meeting held at Cafe Angelique in Tenafly

At Left: A bi-partisan group of local women, either holding or running for elective office, discuss serving as elected officials for Alexandra Chambers' Girl Scouts Gold Award project on July 22, 2019. FIRST ROW:

Ramsey Council Candidate Amanda Nokes, NJ Assemblywoman Holly Schepisi, and Ramsey Council Candidate Jane Woods SECOND ROW:

LWV moderator Lucy Heller, Ramsey Mayor Deirdre Dillon, Girl Scout Alexandra Chambers, and Bergen County Freeholder Tracy Zur





At Left: The League of Women Voters of Northern Valley held its 73rd Annual Meeting on June 11 at the Clinton Inn Hotel & Event Center in Tenafly. Guest speaker John Gronbeck-Tedesco, Ph.D., Associate Professor of American Studies at Ramapo College of New Jersey, discussed how the current immigration policy evolved in the United States and he described reforms to improve it. "What's unique about the United States is that immigration is the bedrock of the formation of our nation," said Gronbeck-Tedesco.

# **NEW:** PUBLIC RELATIONS INITIATIVE

At the June Annual meeting, members approved a budget that increased funds to support marketing efforts needed to help grow our membership. Joyce Luhrs, former member of the Northern Valley board and current member, has been retained to undertake publicity efforts. These include writing press releases to send to print publications, such as *The Record*, *Suburbanite*, *Pascack Valley Press*, and online publications such as *Daily Voice* and *Patch*.

Joyce is also creating weekly posts for our Facebook and Twitter accounts. If any member has a personal Facebook account, we ask that you post information about our activities that we publish in this newsletter or

that we send you by email. Also, we would ask everyone who has an account to LIKE the LWVNV's Facebook page and LIKE and SHARE its different posts in order to move readers through its feed.

Helping Joyce will be student intern Maiya Clark, who is a junior at Ramapo College. Maiya will also attend, and assist, at our meetings and events..

Finally, we expect to create a page for LWV-



NV on the Bergen County League's web site, www. lwvbergen.org, with dates of meetings, events, and a link to the newsletter.



## 2019 ELECTION SEASON IS HERE

While next year's Presidential election, understandably, takes up much attention and dominates the media, state legislative election for all 80 seats in the New

Jersey General Assembly will take place this November. NJ is one of seven state legislative chambers to hold elections this year. The Primary Election was on June 4 and the General Election will be on November 5. Polls will be open from 6am-8pm.

Northern Valley residents are served by state Legislative Districts 37 and 39. Towns in these districts, and candidates running for election to the General Assembly, are:

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 39** includes towns of:

Closter, Demarest, Dumont, Emerson, Harrington Park, Haworth, Hillsdale, Mahwah, Montvale, Norwood, Oakland, Old Tappan, Park Ridge, Ramsey, River Vale, Saddle River, Upper Saddle River, Washington, Westwood, Woodcliff Lake.

Candidates are: Assembly: Robert Auth \* (R), Holly Schepisi \* (R), John Birkner (D), and Gerald Falotico (D)

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 37** includes the towns of: Alpine, Bogota, Cresskill, Englewood, Englewood Cliffs, Fort Lee, Hackensack, Leonia, Northvale, Palisades Park, Rockleigh, Teaneck, Tenafly in Bergen County and Bloomingdale, Ringwood, and Wanaque in Passaic County

Candidates are: Angela Hendricks (R), Gino Tesssaro (R), Valerie Vainieri Huttle \* (D), and Gordon M. Johnson \* (D), and Claudio Belusic (Libertarian Party)

Vote by Mail ballots are available for any registered voter for any election. You do not need a reason to request a ballot, but you must complete an application. These applications are available in Spanish and Korean.

To receive your ballot by mail, the application must be received by the County Clerk seven days prior to the election. A voter may also apply in person to the County Clerk until 3:00 p.m., the day before the election. Early voting starts as early as Sept 21.

You can **register to vote** if you are a U.S. citizen, 17 years old (with the understanding you may not vote before your 18th birthday), have been a resident of your NJ county 30 days before the election, and you are not currently serving a sentence, probation or parole for a felony conviction. Remember to re-register to vote if you change your name, address, or complete your sentence, probation or parole! <u>Voter Registration application here.</u> These applications are also available in Spanish and Korean. The deadline to register to vote is Oct 15.

In County-wide races, there are six candidates running for three, three year terms as Freeholder. The candidates are: Democrats: Thomas J. Sullivan\*, Germaine M. Ortiz\*, and Mary Amoroso\* and Republicans: Corrado D. Belgiovine,

Alyssa K. Dawson, and Kathleen E. Cericola (\* incumbent).

The Bergen County League (ILO) plans to conduct Candidate Forums for the above race. Visit its web site for date and location.

www.lwvbergen.org

To find information about New Jersey elections including polling location, candidates, Vote by Mail, and registration, visit: www.VOTE411.org



## MAILING ADDRESS & CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Phone: 201-947-0756

Alpine Dumont Bergenfield Edgewater Cliffside Park Emerson Closter Englewood Cresskill **Englewood Cliffs** Fort Lee Demarest



**PLEASE** JOIN US!

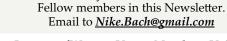
Hackensack

Haworth

Hillsdale

Leonia

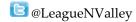
Harrington Park



LeagueofWomenVotersNorthernValley/

PHOTOS WANTED!

Share your activities with



Montvale Park Ridge New Milford River Vale Northvale Tenafly Norwood Washington Town-Old Tappan ship Oradell Woodcliff Lake

<sup>\*</sup> incumbent

# **EVENTS OF INTEREST**

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FALL VOTING ISSUE

# SEPTEMBER 2019

**Tuesday 9/10/19 at 7:00 PM** LWV-NV Board Meeting Closter Public Library 280 High Street.

**Friday, 9/13/19** 10:30am Network for Responsible Public Policy presents



Role of Supreme Court in U.S. with *Dr. Kyle T. Kattelman*, Fairleigh Dickinson University Professor of Political Science. Location: Teaneck Public Library, 840 Teaneck Rd, Teaneck. Free and open to public.

Tuesday 9/17/19 – Constitution Day is a federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution and those who have become U.S. citizens.

Tuesday 9/17/19, 7:00 PM LWVNV Voters Workshop. See Pg 1 for details. Refreshments will be served.

**Thursday, 9/19/19** 7:30pm Network for Responsible Public Policy presents <u>Are</u>

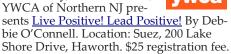


We Heading into Another Financial Crisis with William D. Cohan, former investment banker and best selling author and Nicole Gelinas, senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute. Location: Fairleigh Dickinson

University, Dickinson Hall, 140 University Plaza Drive, in Hackensack. Free and open to the public. Suggested donation, \$10.

Tuesday, 9/24/19 -- National Voter Registration Day, a nationwide, nonpartisan effort to host, publicize, or register hundreds of thousands of voters on this single day.

Wednesday, 9/25/19 8:30am, YWCA of Northern NJ pre-



## **OCTOBER 2019**

**Thursday, 10/3/19**, 7:30PM Network for Responsible Public Policy presents



America Compromised with Lawrence Lessig, Professor of Law and Leadership at Harvard Law School. Location: Ridgewood High School, Campus Center, 627 E. Ridgewood Ave, Ridgewood. Free and open to public. Suggested donation, \$10.

Tuesday 10/15/19 at 7:00 PM LWV-NV Board Meeting Closter Public Library 280 High Street. **Tuesday, 10/15/19** – Last Day to Register or Change Voting Address for General Election

**Sunday, 10/27/19** – at 7:30PM. Network for Responsible Public Policy 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration

**Tuesday, 10/29/19** – Deadline for mailed Vote by Mail application to County Clerk

## **NOVEMBER 2019**

Tuesday 11/5/19 General Election Day 6:00 am to 8:00 pm



11/8/19 - Newsletter Submissions due

**Tuesday 11/12/19 at 7:00 PM** LWV-NV Board Meeting Closter Public Library 280 High Street.

Thursday 11/1 –HOLD THIS DATE! for Network for Responsible Public Policy program with Pulitzer Prize winning author and commentator *David Cay Johnston* at 7:30PM at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Dickinson Hall, 140 University Plaza Drive, in Hackensack

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY DATES

2/10/2020: NJ Ratification of the 19th Amendment.

2/14/2020:

League of Women Voters Established.

8/18/2020: National

Ratification of the 19th Amendment!

# ON THIS DATE IN 1920 PROBLEM WILSON SAYS The drawn of the rest World Suffrige.

## **Member News**

We extend our condolences to the family of recently deceased Ruth Burstein, a Lifetime Member of the League from Tenafly.



## **MEMBER INITIATIVES!**

Would you like to be more active in the League? **Join a Committee!** 

- ♦ Membership
- ♦ Voter Registration
- ♦ Vote 411
- ◊ Candidate Forums
- Programs in Schools (School Visits)
- 2020: 19th Amendment / Elizabeth Cady Stanton Celebration
- ♦ General Programs
- ♦ Publicity/Marketing
- ♦ Holiday Party
- ♦ Locations

Please contact nike.bach@gmail.com

## **LWVNV MEMBERSHIP SIGN-UP FORM**

Please clip out this form and send 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")

League of Women Voters of Northern Valle	y ( LVV VIV ).
Name:	
Address:	
	,NJ
Tel:	
Email:	



Membership is open to all women and men, age 19 or over, and includes membership in the national, state, and local LWV organization.

Membership runs from July 2019 - June 2020 and is \$55.00 for individuals, \$75.00 for family and \$10.00 for students.

Questions? lwvno.valley@gmail.com or call 201-947-0756