

LWVNEW APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER

NEW YORK ON PAUSE EXTENDED AGAIN

- > Governor Cuomo has directed the state nonessential workforce to continue to work from home for an additional two weeks, until at least April 29th.
- > In-person workforce restrictions, which have been implemented through various executive orders, are also extended.
- > Statewide school closures are extended by two weeks until at least April 29th.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES FROM YOUR TOWN GOVERNMENT

Useful information sent right to your inbox!
Sign up at your town's website:

- > <https://bedfordny.gov>
- > <https://www.lewisborogov.com>
- > <https://mountkisco.ny.gov>
- > <https://www.northsaalemny.org>
- > <https://www.townofpoundridge.com>

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES FROM COUNTY & STATE REPS, GOVERNOR

- > <https://westchesterlegislators.com/subscribe-to-district-2-enews>
- > <https://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/David-Buchwald/enews>
- > <https://www.nysenate.gov/questionnaires/shelley-b-mayer/sign-receive-news-updates-senator-shelley-mayer>
- > <https://www.nysenate.gov/questionnaires/pete-harckham/sign-receive-news-and-updates-senator-harckham>
- > <https://now.ny.gov/page/s/coronavirus-updates>

VOTER SERVICE

FAQs

Which elections have been postponed?

>The Executive Order **consolidates the April 28th presidential primary** and special election (27th Congressional District, 12th Assembly District, 31st Assembly District, 136th Assembly District, and 50th Senate District) **with the June 23rd state and congressional primary.**

>School board and village elections have also been postponed but these elections have not been scheduled. The Executive Order states that these elections must occur after June 1st.

Did the registration dates change?

>May 29 is the last day to postmark a registration form for the June primary; it must be received by the Board of Elections by June 3.

>May 29 is the last day to register in person at your county board of elections.

Did absentee voting change?

The dates to apply for an absentee ballot have been changed to coincide with the dates of the June 23rd primary

>June 16 is the last day to postmark application for the primary ballot.

>June 22 is the last day to apply in person for primary ballot at your county board of elections.

>June 22 is the last day to postmark ballot, it must be received by the county board of elections no later than June.

>June 23 is the last day to deliver primary ballot in person to county Board of Elections, by the close of the polls.

What if I already voted via absentee ballot for the presidential primary?

At this time the Executive Order does not address that question. Election officials are predicting that all absentee ballots will be preserved and counted in June, but we await more guidance on this question.

More helpful information here:

<https://my.lwv.org/new-york-state/new-york-state>



BIG (AND GOOD) NEWS REGARDING ABSENTEE BALLOTS!!

Governor Cuomo has issued an Executive Order stating that ALL voters are eligible to vote via absentee ballot in the June primary.

The League has long found New York's absentee ballot requirements restrictive but, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, they were not just restrictive but potentially dangerous. During a pandemic, the health of voters and poll workers are put at risk when people are not allowed to vote absentee.

If you have never voted absentee or are unfamiliar with the process, **you must first fill out an absentee ballot application.**

You can print out an application here:

[English](#)

<https://citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com/images/stories/pdfs/2015absentee.pdf>

[Spanish](#)

<https://citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com/images/stories/pdfs/2015absenteespanish.pdf>

We strongly suggest you request an application soon – and once you receive your absentee ballot, we encourage you to fill it out and mail it in as soon as possible. The Board of Elections will likely be overloaded with absentee ballots in light of the rule change.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS 2020

In accordance with the governor's executive order, school board and budget votes have been postponed until at least June 1. New dates have not been set as of this newsletter. Please refer to the school district contact information below if you'd like to stay updated regarding the election. If you are interested in running for a seat on your local school board, the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association has postponed its workshop for prospective candidates. It was originally slated for Thursday, April 16. A new date has not yet been determined but will be posted on the organization's website in the near future.

Link to WPSBA website and workshop registration: <https://www.wpsba.org/>

In light of the election postponement, the deadline to return nominating petitions to district offices is being extended as well. For more information, contact your local school district.

Below is the contact information for our school districts. You will probably have better luck reaching someone via email than by phone during this time.

Bedford:

914-241-6011; clacolla0598@bcسدny.org

Katonah-Lewisboro:

914-763-7020; kmonzon@klschools.org

North Salem: 914-669-5414;

mrhuda@northsalemschools.org

LWVNEW BOARD STILL MEETS

Your board is still hard at work! LWVNEW board members met virtually, via Zoom, to conduct the monthly meeting.

LWVNEW BY THE NUMBERS

A quick look at our federal, state, and county voting districts:

>US Congressional Districts

#17 – Mount Kisco

Current Rep: Nita Lowey

#18 – Bedford, Lewisboro, North Salem & Pound Ridge

Current Rep: Sean Patrick Maloney

>NY State Senate Districts

#37 – Bedford

Current State Senator: Shelley Mayer

#40 – Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, North Salem & Pound Ridge

Current State Sen: Peter Harckham

>NY State Assembly District

#93 – All five towns

Current Rep: David Buchwald

>Westchester County Legislative District

#2 – All five towns

Current Rep: Kitley Covill

YOUTH OUTREACH

STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY

Although LWVNYS had to cancel the 2020 *Students Inside Albany* Conference, they did offer the students an opportunity to join a Zoom presentation on state government and how to be a citizen lobbyist.

Watch the presentation here:

<https://www.lwvnyonline.org/youth/SIA/20/20/march/NYS-Politics-PPT-SIA-2020.pdf>

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY LEAGUE (LWVW)

**WATCH THE MARCH 24 WEBINAR
*INFODEMIC: INOCULATING AGAINST
CORONAVIRUS MISINFORMATION***

If you missed the LWVW webinar featuring former journalist, communications veteran, and news literacy trainer, Andy Katell, don't worry – you can watch it any time:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yecejWDFImaGX9okpc0Q0oSu42Tvdujv/view>

MEDIA LITERACY WORKSHOP

Still on as of right now but contact the Westchester County LWV for updates.

Know Your Government: Coping with Disinformation is a workshop brought to you by the League of Women Voters of Westchester County. As of right now, there are two local opportunities to participate:

>Wednesday May 6, 7-8:30 pm
Bedford Hills Free Library

26 Main St, Bedford Hills

>Tuesday May 19, 6:30-8 pm

Somers Library, 82 Primrose St. Katonah

For more information or to check status of event, go to www.lwv.org or email leaguevote411@gmail.com

COUNTY LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

You may have seen this if you receive email updates from our county legislator, Kitley Covill. The LWV of Westchester is also publicizing:

Westchester County is seeking volunteers to help small business owners complete applications for SBA and Paycheck Protection Program assistance.

The Westchester County Office of Economic Development's SBA Application Assistance Program is soliciting volunteers to help

small businesses complete applications for the following programs:

- SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Advance
- SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan
- Paycheck Protection Program applications

Volunteers will be provided training on all aspects of the application process. Training will be developed and conducted in coordination with the SBA and Community Capital New York, a Community Development Financial Institution and SBA-lender. The training will be provided by webinar, and the materials and step-by-step application guides will be provided to the volunteers.

The volunteers will not be providing guidance/recommendations on which loan programs to apply for, but rather will be addressing specific questions on the application(s) selected by the applicant.

For more information – or to volunteer – please email:

EconomicDevelopment@westchestergov.com

NEWS FROM THE STATE LEAGUE (LWVNYS)

UPDATED BOE CALENDAR

The New York State Board of Elections has updated its 2020 political calendar to reflect the new dates and deadlines related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

See the revised calendar here:

<https://www.lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/vote/2020/april/2020-Political-Calendar-REV-04.06.2020-EO202.13.pdf>

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL LEAGUE (LWVUS)

COVID-19 STIMULUS PACKAGE FALLS SHORT OF ADEQUATE ELECTION FUNDING

The LWVUS CEO, Virginia Kase, issued the following statement following the U.S. Senate’s unanimous, bipartisan passage of the CARES Act:

“The American people are suffering, and this third stimulus package will begin to get the hard-working people of our country the desperately needed relief they require right now, but one critical element is lacking: adequate funding to ensure voters can safely participate in the 2020 elections.

“The \$400 million included in this third relief deal is a mere fraction of what is needed for all voters to safely cast their ballot with confidence this November. The League of Women Voters called for a minimum investment of \$2 billion dollars to states and the District of Columbia to appropriately increase vote by mail, expand early voting and online registration, and implement safety provisions to ensure voting facilitates and poll workers are protected.

“These are unprecedented times, as we see states across the country delaying elections in order to keep voters safe. Now is the time for legislators to appropriately safeguard the 2020 elections and instill confidence in the voting public.

“If Congress is serious about preserving the integrity of our elections, funding needs to be a priority in the next stimulus package.

“The League of Women Voters stands ready and willing to work with lawmakers to appropriately plan and implement the flexible measures that will ensure our November elections are safe and accessible for all.”

LWVNEW

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Lee Roberts lvar@aol.com

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Barbara Kravitz stanley.barbara@gmail.com

Voter Service:

-Vote 411: Bob Boffa rcsb35@msn.com

-Candidate Forums:

Katherine Dering dering.katherine@gmail.com

-Student Voter Registration:

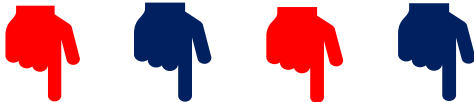
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*at League of Women Voters
of North East Westchester
and/or*

follow us on
twitter
at **LWVNEW**

HELPFUL STATE & COUNTY WEBSITES

<https://health.westchestergov.com>

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

LWVUS

Phone: 202-429-1965

Website: www.lwv.org

Facebook: League of Women Voters of the U.S.

Twitter: @LWV

LWVNY

Phone: (518) 465-4162

Website: www.lwvny.org

Facebook: League of Women Voters of NYS

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LWV Westchester

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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.