

LWVNEW JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

This is the first month of the 2022-2023 League year, which runs from July 1 to June 30. The new Board met and earlier this month and began to plan for the year ahead.

We came out of 2021-2022 feeling optimistic and energized. Springtime saw a substantial uptick in membership and a robust voter service season. The June 14 luncheon capped things off; it was wonderful to see the mix of longtime and new members, as well as so many of our elected officials. It felt like the culmination of a productive year and, at the same time, a nod to the promise of the new one.

Be on the lookout for an envelope in your mailbox. Not your inbox, your mailbox! The mailing contains some helpful information about the new voting districts and the 2022 elections. Stay cool!

--Susan & Lisa

VOTER SERVICE

2022 NEW YORK STATE PRIMARIES

ONE DOWN, ONE TO GO!

Tuesday, August 23:

This is the date for any primaries involving offices that were impacted by delays resulting from redistricting issues (Congressional, State Senate).

Candidate Forums: LWVNEW covers Bedford, Lewisboro, Mt Kisco, North Salem & Pound Ridge. All five of our towns are in the newly-drawn Congressional District 17 (CD17). There will be a CD17 primary election for Democrats and Republicans and the League of Women Voters of Westchester (LWVW) has set dates for corresponding candidate forums: **July 28 for the GOP primary candidates and August 1 for the Democratic primary candidates.**

The forums will begin at 7 pm and they will be virtual, allowing for people from all over the large district to participate.

Register here for the July 28 GOP forum:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84695328601>

Register here for the August 1 Dem forum:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84695328601>

State Senate: Pound Ridge is in newly-drawn State Senate District 37 (SD37); the rest of our towns are in newly-drawn State Senate District 40 (SD40). There are no primaries in either SD37 or SD 40.

State Assembly: Our towns are all in the newly-drawn Assembly District 93 (SD93). There were no primary races for AD93.

EARLY VOTING

Early voting for the August 23 Primary will begin on Saturday, August 13 and end on Sunday, August 21. We will post the Early Voting schedule and list of EV polling places on our website:

www.LWVNEW.org/elections-voting.

FALL CANDIDATE FORUMS

It's not too early to think about the upcoming fall voting season. So far, we know that voters in all five of our towns will have congressional, state senate, and state assembly candidates on our ballots, as well as candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

The Westchester County League (LWVW) is charged with holding candidate forums at the congressional level.

At the local league level, the plan is to hold virtual candidate forums for any contested state senate and assembly races. It makes sense to partner with other local leagues who share our voting districts. Here is an outline of our tentative plans:

AD 93 Burdick/Lipson This state assembly district includes the local leagues of LWVNEW, New Castle & White Plains. LWVNEW is willing to assist with a forum for AD 93; however, one of the candidates is a LWVNEW member, so we would not find it appropriate to be heavily involved in the planning.

SD 40 Harckham/Arena

This state senate district includes the local leagues of LWVNEW, New Castle & Rivertowns. LWVNEW is willing to plan and run this Candidate Forum. We have asked the other leagues in the district if they are interested in participating.

SD 37 Mayer/Murtha: This state senate district includes Pound Ridge, which is a part of LWVNEW; however, we have no members in Pound Ridge (and have not for some time). SD37 covers an area in lower Westchester with several local leagues, so there will likely be a Candidate Forum and we would certainly help publicize it.

Town Offices

We will hold virtual candidate forums for contested town races.

This is some of the most important work we do! If you think you'd like to help out this fall, please contact Lisa (lcp328@gmail.com, 646-341-3332) or Susan (susanferris123@gmail.com, 908-568-1884).

VOTE411.ORG

Enter your address at Vote411 to find the races and candidates on your ballot. If you have a question about voting, you can find the answer at www.Vote411.org

FALL VOTER REGISTRATION

National Voter Registration Day 2022 is Tuesday, September 20. If you are interested in registering voters, please mark your calendars. We will provide more information once we have it.

MEMBERSHIP**ONLINE DUES PAYMENT**

New and current members alike can pay their annual dues at the *Membership* page of our website:

www.LWVNEW.org/membership

If you prefer to pay by check, send your payment to:

LWVNEW, PO Box 385, Cross River 10518.

Our new Membership Liaison is Lisa Pizzurro. Contact her with ANY questions: lcp328@gmail.com; 646-341-3332.

*A warm welcome to our
~ Newest Members ~
Josh Epstein
Priscilla Luckow*

WEBSITE

We often update the site's *Elections & Voting* and *News & Events* pages.

Bookmark & visit often! www.LWVNEW.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

We are on Facebook at *League of Women Voters of North East Westchester* and on Twitter @LWVNEW.

YOUTH**SIA 2022 – Moving On Up!**

A recap by Barbara Dodds, now former Youth Committee Chair

Every year that our League has participated in the Students Inside Albany program, we have recruited, submitted, and sponsored one or two extraordinary young people from northeast Westchester to join as many as 58 other students from urban, suburban and rural districts all over New York State in participating in the annual Students Inside Albany Conference run by the LWVNYS, traveling by train to Albany, a hotel stay, presentations on how state government works, shadowing their elected representatives and observing the State Assembly in action.

This year we were again disappointed that the trip was canceled for a second year, due to a few positive Covid-19 tests among state League staff.

At the Annual Meeting and luncheon we were fortunate to hear one of our 2022 students, Pierce Berke, a junior at John Jay HS, give a great speech that demonstrated his long-standing interest in politics, history and representative government, and his skill in congressional debate ever since the fourth grade!

Even though he could not go to Albany on a SIA train this year, Pierce reached out to Chris Burdick, his assemblyman, and ended up being introduced on the floor of the

Assembly—a special treat! Keep an eye and ear open for Pierce Berke, a name we will certainly hear a lot about and perhaps vote for in a few years to come!

Our other SIA student could not attend the meeting but you will appreciate Kaeleigh Picco, a junior at Somers HS, as we did when we received her application. For two years each, Kaeleigh has served as Class Board Vice President, on Model UN, Human Rights Club; and for three years, on the Varsity Lacrosse Team, and the Student Athletes Against Substance Abuse Club. Among her many school and community activities, Kaeleigh is a co-founder of the Current Affairs Club at Somers HS which gives her an opportunity to initiate discussions about issues on a local, state, and national level to share with the school community. As a current IB diploma candidate, and through reading and analyzing news articles and government policies, Kaeleigh says she hopes “to develop new perspectives, think critically about the world, solve complex problems and engage with people in an increasingly globalized, rapidly changing world.”

So far this summer, Kaeleigh has won the Mount Holyoke College Book Award at Somers and will participate in a two-week Stem research project at Fairfield University stem base camp. She will then join the summer intern staff for Judge Helen Blackwood in White Plains.

We just can't wait to see what our SIA alums do next! -Barbara Dodds



PO Box 385, Cross River, NY 10518

Website: www.LWVNEW.org

Email: LWVNEW@gmail.com