

the Voice

Fall 2019



the newsletter of the League of Women Voters of Litchfield County
Serving Litchfield and Surrounding Communities

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Board Meetings

Board Meetings are
on the first Monday
of the month at 9:30
am at the Litchfield
Community Center.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One hundred years ago women got the right to vote. After years of grassroots efforts, the Suffragettes' dream was realized with the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. After the passage of the Amendment, those stalwart women moved on to form the League of Women Voters. The mission was to encourage informed voting. And today that mission is still the same. We can be proud to be descendants of these pioneers.

Now it is election time again! Over the years I over heard people say, "Oh, its just a local election". How wrong they are. These municipal elections form the stage on which state and national politics are formed and nurtured. And it is on this local stage that each of us can play a role to impact the future of our country. You can become involved by assisting, in some way, in your town's election.

And don't forget the League...our mission to help inform the electorate is the cornerstone of the LWV. If you haven't already signed up to work at our Debates or Voter Registration sessions please contact me at 860 491 9099 or Bibby at 860 567 3966 so we can find a slot for you.

Thank you, Kerry

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Robin Willink
Marianne Seeber
Carol Powers
Ann Hass

Welcome back: Malcomb Forbes.

the Voice is published three times a year: Fall, Winter and Spring.

www.litchfieldlwv.org

Upcoming Events Will You Be There?

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

September 24

There will be several locations in Torrington and New Milford..
Each shift will be 3 hours.



2 Volunteers needed

MORRIS DEBATE FOR FIRST SELECTMAN

September 25, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Morris Town Hall on North Street

The candidates are Kevin Curley (D) and Thomas Weik (R). Weik-incumbent.
The League is sponsoring this Debate with the Democratic and Republican
Town Committees.

The public is invited to attend. The moderator will be Bernie Harrington.

10 of our League members are needed to staff the debate.

WOODBURY DEBATE FOR FIRST SELECTMAN

October 17, 2019 7:00 PM

Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury

The candidates are Alex DeSorbo (D) and Barbara K. Perkinson (R) The incumbent, Ms. Perkinson was appointed in January to fill a vacancy following the death of First Selectman William Butterly.

The League is sponsoring this Debate with the Democratic and Republican
Town Committees

The public is invited to attend. The moderator will be Christine Horrigan.

There will be a student questioner.

10 of our League members are needed to staff the debate.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Wednesday October 9 from 11:30 to 2:30

Naugatuck Valley Community College

During last year's festive Club Expo our volunteers registered many students as well as enjoyed the food and dancing.

3 Volunteers needed.

Chapter Programs and News

The LWVLC & The Litchfield Historical Society Present

Feet on the Ground at the Border

On **Sunday November 24 at 3:00** the League will welcome its first speaker of the year. Mary Alice McCabe is a retired nun who has made repeated trips to our border with Mexico in order to aid detained immigrants. She is especially useful because of her language skills that she perfected during her missionary career in Nicaragua and Brazil. During a recent phone call Tina Bernacki had with Mary Alice, she was in a delivery room with a woman experiencing a difficult birth. The mother's family had been separated, their whereabouts unknown. Mary Alice was the only person at the hospital who could communicate with the patient.

This promises to be an amazing program. We are delighted to be sponsoring this program with the Litchfield Historical Society.

LUNCH and LEARN

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17, 12:30
at the OLIVER WOLCOTT LIBRARY in Litchfield

This is our informal discussion group (bring your lunch) where the participants lead the way. Sometimes they decide that a topic should be expanded and we will then invite a person with more expertise to join us. Several interesting programs (Electoral College and Gun Safety Action) have evolved from these discussions. This is open to members and non-members alike.

Marie Pettibone will lead the October discussion because our fearless leader, Lois Keen, had to step aside because of increased work commitments.

WE NEED A NEW LEADER. The job involves booking the Library and steering the conversation when needed. Call Kerry 860 491 9099

Chapter Programs & News Continued

VOTE411.org

<https://www.vote411.org/>



The LWVUS has relaunched the election information website. Please share this handy tool that provides information to voters quickly;

- ⇒ Registering to vote
- ⇒ What is on your ballot
- ⇒ Locating your polling place
- ⇒ Candidates' views on issues

Last year VOTE411.org reached more than 5 million voters. This is one of the things that the national organization is doing for local leagues.

Why does the 2020 Census matter?

What can you do to help?

The decennial census count determines:

- Legislative districts at the federal, state, and local levels
- More than \$10 billion/year in federal funding for Connecticut alone
- Planning for roads, water systems, hospitals, schools, nonprofits, businesses, and countless other purposes for the next 10 years

For more information about the 2020 Census visit:

<https://2020census.gov/en>

en español <https://2020census.gov/es>.



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Technology Tips

Keep Up To Date with the
League of Women Voters Litchfield County

Check out our website

<https://litchfieldlwv.org/>

Visit our Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/LitchfieldLWV/>

Send us an Email

lwvoflc@gmail.com



PHOTOS



50th Anniversary Luncheon



Annual Meeting





League of Women Voters of Litchfield County Officers

Officers

President	Kerry Mayers
1st V.P.	—
2nd V.P.	—
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Secretary	Paula Rolleston

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