

Looking Forward



New York City League of Women Voters, 4 west 43rd Street, Suite 615
New York, NY 10036 - (212) 725-3541, office@lwnyc.org

August 2011 Volume 2, Issue 1

Save the Dates

Membership Meetings
Please RSVP by [email](#) or phone

September 21, 2011

Wednesday, 11:00AM
Errol Louis of NY1 will speak on "Media and an Informed Electorate." To be held at the [Brennan Center](#), 161 6th Avenue, 12th Floor. Please [RSVP](#).

October 19, 2011

Wednesday, 11:00 AM
Consensus on League Study of Federal Role in Education (Part One). Held in LWVNYC office.

November 16, 2011

Wednesday, 11:00 AM
Consensus on League Study of Federal Role In Education (Part Two). Held in LWVNYC office.

December 14, 2011

Wednesday, 11:00 AM
Visit of LWVUS President, Elisabeth MacNamara. Held in LWVNYC office.

Committee Meetings

City Affairs Committee

September 15, 2011
Thursday, 10:30AM. Held in LWVNYC office.

Education Committee

September TBD.
October 5, 2011
Wednesday, 1:00PM. Held in LWVNYC office.

Vote!

Tuesday, September 13th
Primary and Special Elections
Polls open – 6:00AM- 9:00PM

In addition to the scheduled Primary Elections Governor Cuomo ordered Special Elections for Tuesday, September 13, 2011 in six New York Assembly districts (four of which are in NYC) and one Congressional District.

Manhattan:

73rd Assembly District to replace Jonathan Bing

Queens:

9th Congressional District to replace Anthony Weiner
23rd Assembly District to replace Audrey Pheffer
27th Assembly District to replace Nettie Mayersohn

Brooklyn:

9th Congressional District to replace Anthony Weiner
54th Assembly District to replace Darryl C. Towns

All registered voters who live in the districts where there are Special Elections can vote in those elections, regardless of party enrollment. For the Primary Elections, only those enrolled in the party having a primary can vote. See <http://www.lwnyc.org> for the list of candidates in the Special Election.

VISIT THE <http://www.lwnyc.org>
WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING MEETING
AND ELECTION DETAILS

Spread the Word

Not Registered? You Can't Vote!

Join our Voter Registration
Training Session

August 20, 2011
Saturday, 10:00 AM
[4 Times Square](#) (42nd Street between Broadway and 6th Ave.)
Please RSVP by [email](#) or phone.

Learn about the new registration forms and help us reach out to community organizations who will register new voters.

Redistricting Hearings ([LATFOR](#)) in NYC

The State Legislative Task Force on Redistricting ([LATFOR](#)) will be holding hearings in the five Boroughs. We are looking for volunteers to present LWV testimony. Please contact us if interested.

(Locations and times TBD)

Queens

September 7, 2011, Wednesday

Bronx

September 8, 2011, Thursday

Brooklyn

September 20, 2011, Tuesday

Manhattan

September 21, 2011, Wednesday

Staten Island

September 22, 2011, Thursday

Visit Latfor.state.ny.us for more information.

Your League in Action



REDISTRICTING REFORM:

LWVNY and LWVNYC are sending representatives to testify at **Redistricting Hearings** scheduled by [LATFOR](#) (Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment), the NYS legislatively-controlled commission which re-draws state legislative and congressional districts every 10 years. LWVNYC has been working with LWVNY and the [ReShape NY](#) coalition to have the legislature replace [LATFOR](#) with an independent redistricting commission, an effort that is supported by Governor Cuomo. However, the regular session of the legislature ended this summer without passing redistricting reform.

Local Leagues will be testifying at the [LATFOR](#) hearings around the state about the need to reform the process through legislative action, possibly, at a special session this summer. In addition to the hearings in the five boroughs, sessions are scheduled in Long Island, Westchester and five cities around the state from July to October. Let us know if you can attend one of the New York City hearings.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS:

Thanks to the League monitors, Kate Doran and Adrienne Kivelson and other good government advocates who regularly attend NYC Board of Elections meetings, the new [Voter Registration Form](#) will continue to have a postage paid indicia and would-be voters won't need to add a stamp in order to complete the registration process. When reviewing the draft of the new form at a BOE session, Kate and Adrienne noticed that it no longer included pre-paid postage. Together, with Marjorie Shea of the Women's City Club and Jerry Koenig, noted authority on NYC and NYS election law, they brought the matter to the attention of the BOE Commissioners, reminding them that the form without prepaid postage could be in violation of the Voting Rights Act because it made it more difficult for people to register.

HYDROFRACKING:

At the LWVNYC's Annual Meeting in June, members participated in a Call to Action, sending postcards to their legislative representatives in support of [Bill S4616/A7103](#), introduced by Sen. Tony Avella and Assembly member Robert Sweeney. The legislation would close loopholes in the state's hazardous waste laws that currently allow facilities to accept heavily contaminated fracking waste without treating the waste before it is released into rivers, lakes and streams that supply drinking water.

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION:

Nine delegates from the City League attended the 2011 Annual Convention in Albany in May. At the Awards Dinner, the LWVNYC was presented with the Visibility Award for using "innovative technology to garner publicity." Our PSA, prepared and aired regularly by WABC-TV, was also shown and generated a lot of interest and excitement among the delegates. You can read about our ["moments in the sun"](#) on the 2011 State Convention page of the LWVNY.org website.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM:

We started an [internship program](#) this summer and had the pleasure of working with Ms. Emily R. Rivard, who is studying at Hofstra University School of Law. In the course of her two-month internship, Emily researched redistricting information, identified new tools to help us maximize our social media websites, assisted with Voter Service Committee outings, and organized our internal archives. Applicants for the program should contact our executive director [Ashton Stewart](#).

We are going GREEN! If you are receiving a printed version of this newsletter we could save printing and mailing costs if we could get it to you via email. Please help us and your environment by providing us with your email address.

Simply give us a call or send us an email! 212-725-3541 or office@lwvnyc.org

