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Hot Topic Luncheon
Meeting the League of Women Voters Goals in Albany

February 21, 2018
Dunkirk Clarion Hotel
30 Lake Shore Drive East
Dunkirk, New York 14048
Speaker: Lori Cornell

Come to the meeting with questions for Lori Cornell, Gov. Cuomo’s Regional Representative.
**Lori Cornell** currently serves as Governor Andrew M. Cuomo’s Regional Representative for WNY, responsible for Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Alleghany Counties.

Previously, she was elected to the Chautauqua County Legislature from 2010-2014.

She has held several other public service positions at the local, state, and federal levels of government, including work for the U.S. Congress and NYS Assembly.

Lori earned her undergraduate degree in Government from the University of Notre Dame and graduate degree in Professional Leadership from St. Bonaventure University. She and her husband, Chuck, reside in Jamestown with their four active sons.

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**Reservation Form**

Dunkirk Clarion Hotel

12:00 p.m.

___ House Reuben - corned beef, fresh kraut, thousand island dressing and swiss cheese on marble rye.

___ Traditional Club - bacon, turkey, ham lettuce, tomato, American cheese, served on toasted bread.

___ Chicken Salad - plate-fresh shredded chicken with apples, red grapes and almonds, served with a roll and cup of soup of the day.

___ Martha’s Vineyard Salad - mixed greens, craisins, golden raisins, bacon, chopped pecans and feta cheese, served with a strawberry vinaigrette (bacon may be omitted for a vegetarian meal)

___ Cobb Salad - mixed greens, tomatoes, bacon, chicken breast, hard boiled egg, avocado, red onion and crumbled blue cheese, choice of dressing

Name______________________________________________________________

Contact Info__________________________________________________________________________

COST: $15.00  **Please have your reservation in by February 16, 2018.**

Contact: Nicki Schoenl, 679-1258, schoenl@netsync.net, 2716 Route 39, Forestville, New York 14062
From the President…

One of the most important aspects of our legislative agenda is Voting Reforms and Election Law. The LWVNY is supportive of Governor Cuomo’s reforms with regard to voting in New York State. We have at present an appallingly low rate of voter turnout. Early voting, automatic voter registration, same day voter registration (which will require a constitutional amendment), and increased infrastructure for cyber security are a part of the Governor’s proposed executive budget. We approve of these measures and hope that the legislature will allocate funding for these changes. You can see more of these proposals in the Leaguer.

The board has sent in three suggestions for the LWVNY Legislative Priorities for 2018.

1. Ethics Reform: We support an independent review of government.
2. Single Payer Health Insurance: Medicare for all. Health care is a human right.

It is important that we support these measures. Let me know if you are interested in being a part of an informal gathering to discuss these issues and then take action.

We have sent out applications for Students Inside Albany to the schools. If you know of a student who might want to be a part of this conference let me know. This is a conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation. The program is designed to increase students’ awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.

Time and Place: May 20-23rd, 2018 in Albany

Cost: There is no cost to the student who is selected. A train ticket is provided from Buffalo. Other students from the Western New York area will be on the train. If you know of someone who might be interested please contact me mcroxton51@gmail.com, call: 679-1774, or write to LWV Chautauqua, Box 42, Fredonia, New York 14063 by March 10th.

Please bring questions to Lori Cornell on our February 21 Hot Topic Luncheon. For instance you could ask about the bill number A02383, Medical Aid in Dying, a subject we had for our hot topic luncheon in November (Compassion and Choices). Of course we want to know about voting reforms and progress toward ethics reform. I am sure you can come up with many other questions.

Thanks.

Warmly,
Mary Croxton
679-1774
mcroxton51@gmail.com

Making Our Voices Heard!
LWV President Mary Croxton with Judi Lutz-Woods and Nicki Schoenl on January 21st in Buffalo
An App just for us: Voices: The LWV of NYS Political Advocacy group has launched a new partnership with Voices, a political advocacy app that shares action alerts from the League directly to your phone. These action alerts will allow you to quickly call, email, or tweet at your legislator with the touch of a button.

The alert will provide you with a sample script, email, or tweet and give you the power to lobby on these issues quickly and easily.

Step 1: Download the Voices mobile app.
Download the app on your phone using this link: tryvoices.com/lwvnys or search “Voices: Political Advocacy” in the Apple App Store or Google Play on your cell phone.

You will be automatically subscribed to the League of Women Voters NYS if you use the buttons above at lwvny.org on phone.

Step 2: Open Voices and permit the app to send you action alerts.

Step 3: Call, Tweet, or email your elected officials when you receive an action alert from the League of Women Voters.

Advocacy Training and Lobby Day
The state League’s annual Advocacy Training and Lobby Day has been scheduled for April 24th in the NYS Museum making sure there is time to view the special exhibit at the NYS Museum in Albany, on women’s suffrage history. Any member is welcome to attend. Come learn about League’s advocacy agenda, hear directly from Issue Specialists about LWVNY’s expected action for the 2018 Legislative Session and lobby your legislators. A registration form can be found online. The link to online registration is: https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/i_ELcAUOhYyrY6YyjXYp0g.
PRESS STATEMENT from LWV New York State in response to Gov. Cuomo’s State of the State

(Gov. Cuomo’s State of the State can be found here: http://www.lwvny.org/advocacy/legAction/2018/2018-stateofthestatebook.pdf)

“Ethics and Voting Reform Proposals Miss the Mark”

January 3, 2018

For the last two years, Governor Cuomo has included ethics, campaign finance, and voting reform proposals in his State of the State address. Once again the Governor has laid out these reforms, but this year he didn’t spend nearly as much time or effort touting the proposals.

Instead, his ethics proposal was limited to a single proposal, banning outside income for state legislators. He spent less than a minute total discussing his remaining reforms.

The Governor has proposed closing the LLC loophole, instituting public financing for state legislators, early voting, no-excuse absentee voting, same day registration, and automatic voter registration.

The League is supportive of all these reforms but we fear that the Governor’s quick, one minute coverage of the proposals may be a sign that he is reluctant to use his political muscle to pass these initiatives.

We continue to push for funding in the state budget for early voting and automatic voter registration and we hope that the Governor will finally recognize the importance of this funding. We believe that this year the public is demanding ethics and voting reforms and we hope that, even with the brief mention of these proposals today, Governor Cuomo is truly committed to securing passage of these proposals.

Weekly Legislative Newsletter

This year the League has launched a new initiative to help keep members up-to-date on what’s going on in Albany. Our weekly legislative newsletter includes what’s happening at the Capitol, upcoming events surrounding advocacy, weekly legislative committee agendas, and weekly League news clips. The newsletter is sent to all members every Friday. If you haven’t been receiving the newsletter, check your Spam or Junk folder or email Jennifer at Jennifer@lwvny.org to make sure you’re on the list.

First Call to National Convention 2018

The League of Women Voters’ 53rd National Convention will be held at the Hilton Chicago in Chicago, IL, from Thursday, June 28 through Sunday, July 1, 2018. We invite our League members to save these dates and plan to join hundreds of passionate and engaged leaders for our biennial national gathering. More information and the full "first call" is at lwv.org.
Voting and Elections

As the 2016 election proved, social media are now as popular a venue for placing and viewing political advertisements as television, print publications or radio. However, to date, political advertisements on social media platforms are not regulated in the same way as advertisement on traditional media platforms, which has created new opportunities for unscrupulous and disruptive actors to improperly influence our political process. To ensure the fairness and transparency of NYS elections the following is proposed:

- Expand NYS’s definition of political communication to include paid internet and digital advertisements
- Require digital platforms to maintain a public file of all political advertisements purchased by a person or group for publication on the platform.
- Require online platforms to make reasonable efforts to ensure that foreign individuals and entities are not purchasing political advertisements in order to influence the American electorate.
- Paid political ads online will be required to clearly and conspicuously display the person who paid for the ad. Online political ads will face the same disclosure requirements as TV or radio ads, no matter what they cost, and voters will be able to see where the ad is coming from, even if it is as small as a tweet.

Early Voting

This proposal requires every county to offer residents access to a least one early voting poll site during the 12 days leading up to Election Day. Voters will have at least 8 hours on weekdays and five hours on weekends to cast early ballots. Counties must have one early voting poll site for every 50,000 residents and the bipartisan County Boards of Elections will determine the specific location of early voting polling places, subject to standards of accessibility and convenience. Currently, 37 states and the District of Columbia already allow voters to cast ballots in person before election day.

Automatic Voter Registration

A new system would streamline state services by automatically sending voters’ information from relevant agencies directly to the County Board of Elections. New Yorkers who do not wish to register to vote this way can simply check an “opt out” box.

Same-Day Registration

Thirteen other states and the District of Columbia allow same day registration, which has greatly increased the accessibility of the democratic process to everyday citizens.

Come to our forum to hear candidates opposing Tom Reed, U.S. Representative, New York’s 23rd congressional district.

Linda Adrei
Max Della Pia
Rick Gallant
Ian Golden
Tracy Mitrano
Eddie Sundquist
Charles Whalen

May 9 at 7 p.m.
Chautauqua Lake School in Mayville
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>BOARD MEETING, MINDA RAE AMIRAN’S HOME ON LOWELL PLACE IN FREDONIA, 679-4636</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>NOON</td>
<td>HOT TOPICS MEETING LWVNY’S GOALS IN ALBANY, AT THE CLARION</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>NOON</td>
<td>HOT TOPICS HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>NOON</td>
<td>HOT TOPICS CRITERIA FOR IMPEACHMENT with James Hurtgen, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor (Emeritus) Department of Politics and International Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>7 P.M.</td>
<td>HOT TOPICS MEET THE CANDIDATES - CHAUTAUQUA LAKE SCHOOLS .</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>HOT TOPICS THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION with Dr. Virginia Horvath, President, SUNY at Fredonia</td>
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**Fairmount House**

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, GIFTS

12 E. Fairmount Ave. Lakewood

708-8549

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**Fredonia Baptist Christian Nursery School**

Wheeler School Room 306 – Chestnut Street

Fredonia, NY, 14063 – 679-9966

“Investing in Their Future”

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**DARWIN’S**

Health Club, Inc.

43-57 Water Street, Fredonia

679-1591
The League of Women Voters of Chautauqua County is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

Invite a Friend to Join or Give the Gift Of League Membership!!

Make Your Voice Heard! Join Us Today!

Membership Form

Mail to:
LWV Chautauqua
P.O. Box 42 Fredonia, NY 14063

Membership Dues: through December 31, 2018 Individual: $60; Family: $90; Student: $25 (Check payable to LWV Chautauqua County)

Name_______________________________________________________

Address_____________________________________________________

Phone_______________________________Fax____________________

Email____________________________________________

I would like to get involved with:

_____Local Issues _____Voter Service _____State/National Issues

_____Local Newsletter

_____ Assisting with minor tasks occasionally

Other: ______________________________