

## EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

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### 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Time: 5-8pm

Where: Saratoga Spa State Park, Carlsbad Pavilion

Directions to Spa State Park can be found here:

<https://parks.ny.gov/parks/saratogaspa>

#### League of Women Voters of Saratoga County Annual Meeting

On Flag Day, June 14, we will gather in person to celebrate all the League's work this past year. We'll start with food, beverages, and socializing before the business meeting. Then, after the presentation of the Carrie Chapman Catt Award, we will enjoy more social time together.

On the agenda for the meeting:

- Report from the Board
- Elections (see the Report of the Nominating Committee on page 5)
- Adoption of a budget (see proposed budget on pages 6-7)
- Adopting or dropping each local position (positions are located on our League's webpage at [www.lwvsaratoga.org/positions](http://www.lwvsaratoga.org/positions))
- Direction to the Board
- Presentation of the Carrie Chapman Catt Award

The League will provide wine and other cold beverages, napkins, and hand sanitizer. Suggested items that you can bring include:

- Folding chair
- Your meal/snacks
- Your place setting
- Your reusable beverage container



*As with any League meeting, we encourage you to bring a friend.*

Nominations wanted for the **Carrie Chapman Catt Award** given for outstanding and long-standing service to the LWV of Saratoga County. Email your nomination to the Steering Committee by **May 3rd** at [president@lwvsaratoga.org](mailto:president@lwvsaratoga.org)

# CONTACT US

## League of Women Voters of Saratoga County (NY-639)

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LWV of Saratoga County

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Email: [president@lwvsaratoga.org](mailto:president@lwvsaratoga.org)

[www.lwvsaratoga.org](http://www.lwvsaratoga.org)



### Steering Committee:

September, October, November:

**Monica Seebode**

January, February, March:

**Susan Hamlin**

April, May, June:

**Ann Marie Pendergast**

*Although individuals on the Steering Committee are responsible for certain months, they work as a team, together. Please include all members of the Steering Committee when sending your emails so they are up to date on issues.*

Secretary: **Elizabeth Rossi**  
Treasurer: **Mandy Herrington**

### Board of Directors

<b>Chris Alexander</b>	<b>Patricia Partello</b>
<b>Charlotte Druschel</b>	<b>Deb Peck Kelleher</b>
<b>Carol Glansberg</b>	<b>Quency Rene</b>
<b>Pamela King-Hall</b>	<b>Almeda Riley</b>
<b>Joanna Lasher</b>	

### Off Board Nominating Committee Members

Lori Dawson (Chair), Susan Ransom,  
Stacey Lamodi

### League of Women Voters of Saratoga County Board Meetings 2022-2023

Board Meetings are held at 7pm on the first Wednesday of each month from September through May. They are open to all members.

Currently meetings are virtual via Zoom.  
Email [president@lwvsaratoga.org](mailto:president@lwvsaratoga.org) to receive the Zoom link.

May 3, 2023

Annual Meeting: June 14, 2023

### LWV of New York Staff Contacts:

Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director  
[Laura@lwvny.org](mailto:Laura@lwvny.org)

Erica Smitka, Deputy Director  
[Erica@lwvny.org](mailto:Erica@lwvny.org)

The Blake, 1 Steuben Place, Albany, NY 12207

League of Women Voters of the United States  
[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

*The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. The LWV of Saratoga County does not support or oppose any candidate or political party. We take positions on issues. This has been the League's policy since our founding in 1920.*

### Issue #2 Spring / Summer 2023

Editor: Stacey Lamodi  
Design Editor: Norah Brennan  
Photos: Pattie Garrett

PO Box 1029 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
[www.lwvsaratoga.org](http://www.lwvsaratoga.org)

Published by The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County

# FAMOUS PERSON FUNDRAISER

*Have breakfast with Georgia O’Keeffe at the Saratoga National Golf Club Ballroom  
Saturday, July 8th, 9am–12pm*



Credit: Alfred Steiglitz, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

In her long, tumultuous life, which ended just short of a century, Georgia O’Keeffe transmitted her most intimate feelings onto her canvases. But her daily life, her private thoughts, her insecurities, her friendships, and every inch of her development as an artist were zealously guarded, leaving the world to wonder about this enigmatic woman.

Claire Nolan will share a glimpse of this remarkable artist. Please join us in our quest to learn more about Georgia O’Keeffe.

**A bit about Claire Nolan:** As the seventh of ten children, she has been listening to stories all her life, some of them true. As a teacher of English to speakers of other languages, she has been telling stories to immigrants and international students. Some of

those might also be true. Claire’s repertoire includes historical stories, international folk tales, myths, literary and personal family stories. Many of these resonate with audiences young and old.



*Claire Nolan from the Schenectady Children’s Theatre will grace us with a passionate portrayal of Georgia O’Keeffe.*

---

**Breakfast with Georgia O’Keeffe at The Saratoga National Golf Club  
Saturday, July 8th, 9am–12pm**

**Donor Levels (circle one):**

Painter (\$75)      Nature Lover (\$100)      Eternal Spirit (\$125)

# of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ (ea)      Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I can’t attend but wish to donate to our fundraiser: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: LWVNYS-EF

Mail to Miranda Herrington, 5 Beresford Road, Ballston Lake, NY 12019

Donations are tax-deductible, except for the value of the breakfast (\$34).

# OUR LEAGUE IN ACTION

## Students Inside Albany Returns

**Students Inside Albany** is a League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation program for high school students. It teaches students about the New York State government and gives them tools to be citizen advocates. About 60 students from across New York State come together for three days in Albany. They stay in a downtown hotel, receive information from LWV members and government guests, take tours, and have some fun activities too. The highlight is a day of shadowing their state legislator or senator. The students that attend love the program.

Local Leagues choose one or two students from their area to attend. Our League usually sends two high school juniors. Unfortunately, the last three years of this program were disrupted by COVID. It was cancelled in 2020 and was conducted virtually in 2021. Last year, the Students Inside Albany program was canceled at the last minute because of a resurgence of COVID. The two students our League had chosen to attend were disappointed. But, we are happy to announce that since they were high school juniors last year, they are still eligible to attend this year as seniors! Both girls are looking forward to going this May. In addition to being part of this exciting opportunity, both students will receive a student membership to LWV Saratoga.

Over the years, our League has been using different methods to select the students who attend. The state Education Foundation pays for the first student, and our League pays for the additional student. This is not an easy

*Interested in the Students Inside Albany Program? Enjoy working with high schoolers? The Youth Services Committee is seeking new members. Contact Deb Peck Kelleher, Youth Service Chair ([lazykatespins@outlook.com](mailto:lazykatespins@outlook.com)).*

process, as Saratoga County has 13 high schools. Plus, we now have members who live in western Washington and southern Warren counties as well. This adds additional high schools to our coverage area. Unfortunately, we can only send two students. Selecting students in a fair and equitable way is a challenge. Some schools are over- or under-represented in selection. Part of that is due to individual teachers' enthusiasm for the program or the size of the school. We welcome suggestions for our selection process and help in getting the word out to all the schools about this program.

### Meet our Students

**Molly Oravsky** attends Galway High School. She has been her class president, worked on both the school yearbook and literary magazine, been part of the student senate, participated in drama club, various sports, and band. Outside of school she has been a Girl Scout, library volunteer and still finds time for a part time job. Molly is considering a career teaching psychology or political science.

**Sleska Shrestha** attends Shenendehowa High School. She has been part of Youth Court, Bio Medical Research Engineering Club, Student Council, Philosophy Club, World Language Honor Society, International Club, and Women's Empowerment Club. Originally from Nepal, Sleska compares what her life is like here to what would be expected of girls in her native Nepal. Sleska is thinking of a career in law and possibly running for office.

--Darnell Rohrbaugh & Deb Peck Kelleher

## Thank You to our LWVSC Donors

Lucinda Barry	Margarita Muinelo
Kim Cotter	Susan Ransom
Barbara Lombardo	Dolores Sarno
Antoinette Maniatty	Barb Thomas
	Margie Van Meter

# 2023 Nominating Committee Report

In 2015, the Nominating Committee learned that LWVUS had issued a ruling that permitted local Leagues to try new leadership models before changing the bylaws because local Leagues across the country were having challenges finding members willing to serve as President. To share leadership more broadly, the Nominating Committee that year put forward a slate using the Steering Committee leadership configuration with up to four Steering Committee people performing the duties of the President. In 2017, the Steering Committee configuration was added to the LWV of Saratoga County bylaws as an acceptable leadership configuration that the Nominating Committee could use for putting together a slate of nominees or they could use the traditional President/Co-President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President configuration for the slate of nominees.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Stacey Lamodi, Joanna Lasher, Susan Ranson, Quency Rene, and Lori Dawson, Chair, present the following report for adoption at the June 14 League of Women Voters of Saratoga County Annual Meeting.

## **Continuing service in two-year term ending June 2024:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Susan Hamlin

Treasurer: Mandy Herrington

Director: Charlotte Druschel

Director: Patricia Partello

Director: Quency Rene

## **Nominees to be elected for two-year term ending June 2025:**

Co-Presidents: Linda McKenney and Ann Marie Pendergast

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Monica Seebode

Secretary: Rick Hasenauer

Director: Christine Alexander

Director: Deb Peck Kelleher

Director: Pamela King-Hall

## **Nominating Committee off-board members to be elected for one-year term ending June 2024:**

Mary Lou Classen, Stacey Lamodi, Lori Dawson, Chair

### **COP15—A Global Action Plan to Protect Biodiversity**

You may be familiar with the United Nations Convention on Climate Change COP27 (Conference of Parties), but are you familiar with COP15, a conference on biological diversity? COP27 and COP15 are very closely related. However, climate change gets much more attention than biological diversity. The goal of COP15 is to adopt a bold global biodiversity framework that addresses the key drivers of nature loss to secure our own health and well-being alongside that of the planet.

Learn what COP15 is and its importance to us by reading an informational article written by League member Nancy Tudor, Four League Environment Committee.

Blogs written by League members are located at [www.lwvsaratoga.org/blog/](http://www.lwvsaratoga.org/blog/).



## Update from the Budget Committee

The Budget Committee, consisting of Susan Ransom, AC Riley, Mandy Herrington, and Mary Lou Classen, met on March 10, 2023, to review the actual income and expenses for the year up to February 28, 2023.

The Committee took into account any updated budget requests that were submitted by March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Based on this review, a few items were changed for the upcoming year. As shown in the actual budget, for **Income**: There is a projected lower income for membership dues and fundraising. Our breakfast fundraiser brought in more money as a result of a refund from the Golf Course. In **Expenses**: Many of our social media expenses have increased. We added a line for Women's Rights Awareness Campaign (WRAC).

It was brought to our attention that some Committees did not know they had a budget line. If your Committee needs to spend money, check the budget first. If there is no line for your Committee, best practice is to ask the Board for approval to spend money that has not been included in the budget. Committees should ask the Board for approval to spend what is needed to continue the League's good work.

—Mary Lou Classen, Budget Committee Chair

	General Fund Budget 2022-23	General Fund Fiscal 22-23 YTD	General Fund PROPOSED 23-24	Education Fund Budget 2022-23	Education Fund Fiscal 22/23 YTD	Education Fund PROPOSED 23-24	Total Budget 2022-2023	Total YTD Fiscal 22-23 YTD	Total PROPOSED 23-24
<b>INCOME</b>									
1. DUES	12,000.00	10,025.00	11,000.00				12,000.00	10,025.00	11,000.00
2. CONTRIBUTIONS	1,200.00	1,280.00	1,200.00	300.00	1,360.00	500.00	1,500.00	2,640.00	1,700.00
3. INTEREST	10.00	5.84	10.00				10.00	5.84	10.00
4. VOTER SERVICES	300.00	125.00	300.00				300.00	125.00	300.00
5. ANNUAL MEETING	1,500.00		1,000.00				1,500.00		1,000.00
6. FUNDRAISING PROJECTS				5,000.00	6,680.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	6,680.00	5,000.00
7. CORP & COMMUNITY GRANTS*				1600.00		1,000.00	1,600.00		1,000.00
8. MISCELLANEOUS	100.00		100.00				100.00		100.00
9. HOLIDAY PARTY	1,500.00		1,500.00				1,500.00		1,500.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>16,610.00</b>	<b>11,435.84</b>	<b>15,110.00</b>	<b>6,900.00</b>	<b>8,040.00</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>22,510.00</b>	<b>19,475.84</b>	<b>21,610.00</b>
<b>FROM RESERVES</b>	<b>13,165.00</b>		<b>12,210.00</b>	<b>2,075.00</b>		<b>2,600.00</b>	<b>15,260.00</b>		<b>14,810.00</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES BUDGETE</b>	<b>29,795.00</b>		<b>27,320.00</b>	<b>8,975.00</b>		<b>9,100.00</b>	<b>37,770.00</b>		<b>36,420.00</b>

<b>COMBINED RESOURCES</b>	
Beginning Balance 2/1/23	\$ 36,933.59
Current Balance 2/28/23	\$ 36,866.36
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	
Checking 2/28/23	\$ 13,664.43
Savings 2/28/23	\$ 23,201.93
<b>Total Cash Balance 2/28/23</b>	<b>\$ 36,866.36</b>
<b>EDUCATION FUND 2/28/23</b>	<b>\$ 10,514.47</b>

EXPENSES	General Fund Budget 2022-23	General Fund Fiscal 22-23 YTD	General Fund PROPOSED 23-24	Education Fund Budget 2022-23	Education Fund Fiscal 22/23 YTD	Education Fund PROPOSED 23-24	Total Budget 2022-2023	Total YTD Fiscal 22-23 YTD	Total PROPOSED 23-24
<b>10. GENERAL OPERATION COSTS</b>									
10a. SUPPLIES	220.00	161.36	220.00				220.00		220.00
10b. POSTAGE	700.00	323.96	700.00				700.00	323.96	700.00
10c. POST OFFICE BOX	200.00	182.00	200.00				200.00	182.00	200.00
10d. ZOOM	200.00	383.84	550.00				200.00	383.84	550.00
10e. PAYPAL EXPENSE	125.00	143.90	150.00	25.00			150.00	143.90	150.00
10f. MISC OPERATING EXPENS	100.00	155.86	200.00				100.00	155.86	200.00
10g. COMMUNICATIONS	600.00		600.00				600.00		600.00
10h. EQUIPMENT	3,000.00		3,000.00				3,000.00		3,000.00
11. LWV STATE & NATIONAL PR	12,000.00	3,165.39	11,000.00				12,000.00	3,165.39	11,000.00
12. CONFERENCES & CONVEN	4,000.00		4,000.00				4,000.00		4,000.00
13. NEWSLETTERS	1,500.00	590.00	800.00				1,500.00	590.00	800.00
14. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	600.00		600.00				600.00		600.00
<b>15. VOTER SERVICES</b>									
15a. VOTER REGISTRATION				300.00		300.00	300.00		300.00
15b. CANDIDATE EVENTS				1,000.00		500.00	1,000.00		500.00
15c. VOTER GUIDES				150.00	315.00	300.00	150.00	315.00	300.00
15d. NAT. VOTER REG. DAY				500.00	100.00	500.00	500.00	100.00	500.00
15e. VOTE 411				50.00		50.00	50.00		50.00
16. MEETING EXPENSES/RENT	500.00		300.00				500.00		300.00
17. ANNUAL MEETING	1,500.00	157.25	1,000.00				1,500.00	157.25	1,000.00
18. FUND RAISING EXPENSES				4,500.00	3,279.70	4,500.00	4,500.00	3,279.70	4,500.00
<b>19. YOUTH PROGRAMS</b>									
19a. TAKE ME TO VOTE				850.00		850.00	850.00		850.00
19b. FIRST VOTE				950.00		950.00	950.00		950.00
19c. STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY				650.00		650.00	650.00		650.00
<b>20. MISCELLANEOUS</b>									
21. GRANTS AND GIVING	250.00		200.00				250.00		200.00
22. (SOCIAL MEDIA) WEB FEES	400.00	313.04	450.00				400.00	313.04	450.00
23. COMMUNITY EDUC. EVENT	1,500.00		1,000.00			500.00	1,500.00		1,500.00
24. HOLIDAY PARTY	1,500.00		1,500.00				1,500.00		1,500.00
25. ADVOCACY	150.00		150.00				150.00		150.00
26. DIVERSITY	750.00	100.00	500.00				750.00	100.00	500.00
27. WRAC			200.00						200.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>29,795.00</b>	<b>5,676.60</b>	<b>27,320.00</b>	<b>8,975.00</b>	<b>3,694.70</b>	<b>9,100.00</b>	<b>38,770.00</b>	<b>9,209.94</b>	<b>36,420.00</b>

## DEI UPDATE

In January, our League was an active participant with **MLK Saratoga for the Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration Weekend**. Linda McKenney attended all planning meetings and was responsible for recruiting volunteers for the various venues. Several League members offered their time for this important community event. The weekend received rave reviews from participants.

Your **DEI Committee** continues coordination with the State League DEI Task Force. We are currently planning a workshop for the state convention.

- Linda McKinney



*League members Dora Lee Stanley, Ann Kril, Helen Crawshaw, and Barb Thomas volunteered to help make MLK Celebration Day a memorable event for members of our community. Keep this event on your radar to help out in January 2024!*

## March Alongside League Members and Local Social Justice Organizations

**2023 Flag Day Parade  
Saturday, June 10,  
2023**

If you are interested in participating in this community event, reach out to Linda McKenney for further information.



## WE'LL MISS HER

Long-time League member, Mary Jane Ellis died February 15 at the age of 94.

Mary Jane was born June 14, 1928, in the Town of Fort Edward. She was an example of a feminist working professional before they were really a thing.



Mary Jane graduated from Argyle Central School and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Pratt Institute in 1949 and a Master of Science degree from Cornell University in 1958. She served as Home Economics Program Leader for Cornell Cooperative Extension in Saratoga County from 1970 until her retirement in 1988. She had also been a Research Home Economist at the University of Vermont, Family Economist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, DC, and Associate 4-H Agent in Somerset County, NJ.

Mary Jane was a member and former elder in the Presbyterian New England Congregational Church of Saratoga Springs; a member, and for many years a secretary, of the League of Women Voters of Saratoga County; a member of the Saratoga Springs branch of the American Association of University Women; a founding member of the Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council; a member of the Fort Edward, Saratoga County, Saratoga Springs, and Washington County historical societies; a member of the Thymly Herb Group and the Saratoga Ladies Golf League. She was also a long-time volunteer at the Saratoga Springs Soup Kitchen and the Fort Edward Historical Association.



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### Join Other League Members from Across the State at the League of Women Voters NYS 60th Biennial Convention

June 2-4 at the Crowne Plaza-Desmond Hotel, Albany

All members are invited and encouraged to attend! Choose from a menu of League and issue-related workshops, caucuses, and informational meetings. This year's convention is conveniently located in Albany (there will be carpooling!). Attend for just one day or all three!



The Honorable Carolyn Maloney, US House of Representatives, 1993–2023, will be the guest luncheon speaker on June 3rd. She will discuss the current status of the federal ERA, the work in Congress to move the ERA forward, and ways League members can take action to ensure ratification.

LWV Convention is a wonderful opportunity to engage with members from other Leagues, learn more about the League work that interests you, and get inspired. More information and registration links are on our Events Calendar at [lwvsaratoga.org](http://lwvsaratoga.org) or on the LWV of NY State website at [lwvny.org](http://lwvny.org).

Assistance with registration fees is available. E-mail [President@lwvsaratoga.org](mailto:President@lwvsaratoga.org) for more information. There is also a need for volunteers to assist during the Convention, which allows people to attend workshops and sessions at no cost. If you would like to volunteer, email [Laura@lwvny.org](mailto:Laura@lwvny.org)

## ATTENTION MEMBERS!

*Our League needs your help to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy!*

- **Vote 411** needs help with June Primary elections. Training provided.
- NYS legislature will be voting on the budget this spring – the **Advocacy Committee** seeks members willing to lobby our elected officials to fund our priorities and pass policies we support.
- We will be **staffing voter registration tables** this spring and could use your help. Remember: Democracy is not a spectator sport.
- **National Voter Registration Week** is coming in September and we will need volunteers to help register voters in various locations in Saratoga, Washington, and Warren Counties.
- Interested in the **Students Inside Albany Program**? Enjoy working with high schoolers? The Youth Services Committee is seeking new members.

Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Kathy Koebrich to find out how you can get involved. [k718malta@hotmail.com](mailto:k718malta@hotmail.com), 518-587-3616

### Welcome New Members!

Jennifer Anstey  
Ruth Bigman  
Douglas Beers  
Judy Beers  
Elana Calvert

Elizabeth "Erinn" Espinosa  
Benjamin Glover\*  
Katie Long  
Mark Long  
Sharon Meyer

Sara Osborne  
Marta Rico  
Anne Trainer  
Mary Ann Yates  
\*student membership

## MEETUP RECAPS AND VIDEO RECORDING LINKS

**Note:** You can find recordings and bibliographies for many of our events held on Zoom on our website under Events – Event Videos

On November 16, 2022, we had 25 participants at the **Bail Reform and Racial Disparities in the Criminal Legal System Meetup**. Katherine Hubbard, Deputy Director of Litigation of the Civil Rights Corps, presented background and statistics on who is affected by the bail set for minor offenses. Generally, minorities are hurt when setting bail that they cannot make creating loss of income, dire family situations, and loss of housing. There exists no present statistics that bail reform creates repeat offenses. League member Linda McKenney organized this informative Meetup.

On January 18, 2023, 17 participants attended the **Meetup on New York State League Positions for State Convention**. League member, Lori Dawson explained that program planning is the process in which League members are asked for feedback on if they continue to support existing positions, want to delete, or update positions, initiate studies for new positions, or adopt concurrences with other League positions. Before we advocate for an issue or cause, Leagues undertake in-depth studies hoping to reach member agreement or Leagues can concur with another League's position. We now have hundreds of positions on a wide range of issues at the local, state, and national level. Our state positions can be found on our League's website under ABOUT – Positions on Issues - in LWV NY STATE Impact on Issues.

Lori also introduced two concurrences for positions that will likely be brought to Delegates to vote on at the State Convention in June. Prior to us meeting, our Board voted to recommend and lobby for the Four League Position on Waste (from solid to greenhouse gases) that the League of Women Voters of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties adopted by consensus on May 16, 2022. Much thanks to Joanna Lasher and the environmental committee for leading on this issue.

The second concurrence is being proposed by a working group of members of local Leagues in New York State that have concurred with or are close to concurring with the League of New York City's position on Ranked Choice Voting. After some discussion, the consensus was that we need to spend more time studying the position.

On February 15, 2023, we had 55 participants at **The Roots and Rise of White Nationalism in America**, presented by League member, Mark Long, MPA, University of Georgia, who has served 38 years in public health programs and human research protection at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

(CDC) among others. Mark presented an excellent historical overview of White Nationalism in America and graciously provided a bibliography of the top five books he recommends along with links to his main sources. League member, Pat Nugent, organized this illuminating Meetup.

The March 15, 2023, Meetup was a presentation on **How to Fight Disinformation** and attended by 42 participants. Barbara Thomas used a presentation with videos provided by the Union of Concerned Scientists to present how to counter disinformation on both social media and person to person conversations. Attendees relayed personal encounters that they felt were uncomfortable and how they dealt with the situations.

Our most-recent Meetup held on April 12, 2023, was presented on **Electrifying the Empire State with All-Electric, Emissions-Free Homes**. Anshul Gupta presented an informative and timely presentation on the all-important subject of why we need to proceed with electrifying our homes and buildings. His presentation broke into four sections: science, technology, economics, and politics. With climate change affecting the grid, we will need to transfer to electricity and discontinue our dependence on gas. Not only does electricity cause less pollutants but it is safer and, in the long run, less expensive as a source. Thank you to the Four-League Capital District Environmental Committee, Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady, also our co-sponsor New York State League of Women Voters.

### **Be Sure to Attend our Next Meetup!**

On May 17, 2023, we will hold our final Meetup for the season to begin planning the Meetups, Events, Actions, etc. for September 2023 through May 2024. If you are interested in organizing or presenting a Meetup on a topic of interest or want to weigh in on topics that are being considered, we encourage you to attend this important Meetup. We will brainstorm ideas, identify members willing to take the lead on organizing a Meetup date, discuss which topics could be held in person, and start to layout the dates and topics. We will hold the Meetup via Zoom, from 7pm–8:30 pm.

—Lori Dawson & Cheri Grey

**If you are interested in taking a leadership role as a Meetup Coordinator, be sure to attend the planning session. You can also reach out to Lori Dawson via contact information in the membership directory.**

# STATEMENT OF POSITION

## The Roles, Responsibilities and Oversight Of Saratoga County's Economic Development

Adopted January 17, 2007

Updated January 16, 2013 and May 30, 2015, *proposed update June 14, 2023*

Note: the current wording of this position is located in the 2022 Annual Meeting Program, located on our League's website.

The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County believes that Saratoga County's economic development allocations and entities should adhere to the following principles:

- Activities should include, but not be limited to, providing assistance to any municipality requesting such assistance in devising economic development plans, while respecting the autonomy and authority of municipalities in creating their own growth scenarios through their Comprehensive Plans.
- Any economic development entity created and or funded by the County should be subject to the direction of the County Board of Supervisors and, in order to promote accountability and transparency, should comply with complete and accurate reporting and open meeting requirements. Saratoga County and/or the Saratoga County Industrial Development Agency should have a formal contract for any services to be provided by any such entity. Such contracts should include but not be limited to specific deliverables that are outlined and measurable. Any such entity should be required to provide annual public reports on its accomplishments against the contract deliverables.
- Any project should be subject to Smart Growth principles, including focusing development on existing infrastructure and municipal centers while protecting natural resources and open space, in order to revitalize communities and limit sprawl. Projects should adhere to diversity, equity and inclusion principles. Projects involving workforce development should be limited to those efforts that will enhance economic, personal, and social well-being for project employees, including livable wages, health insurance, and other fringe benefits.

## BOOK CLUB

### May 11

1:30pm—3:15pm

*Trigger Points: Inside the Mission to Stop Mass Shootings in America* by Mark Follman

Discussion: Sue Stewart

Location: Saratoga Springs Library

### June 8

12pm

Book Club luncheon at the home of Francine Rodger

Everyone is welcome to join our discussions, even if you have not read or finished reading the book. We usually talk about the topic that the month's book addresses, as well as the book. Please contact Francine Rodger at [lwvsaratoga@aol.com](mailto:lwvsaratoga@aol.com) for information.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### May

- 5/9 The Story of Plastic, 6:30pm (register for this zoom event via our Events page)
- 5/11 Book Club, 1:30–3:15pm at the Saratoga Springs Library
- 5/16 School Board Election and Budget Vote
- 5/17 Meetup: Planning for 2023-24 Meetups and Programs, 6-7:30pm via zoom

### June

- 6/2-4 League of Women Voters of NYS State Convention, Crowne Plaza, Albany
- 6/8 Book Club Luncheon, 12pm at Francine Rodger's home
- 6/10 Annual Flag Day Parade at 12pm along Broadway, Saratoga Springs —come march with the League
- 6/14 League of Women Voters of Saratoga County Annual Meeting, 5–8pm  
Carlsbad Pavilion, Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 6/17-25 Primary Election Early Voting
- 6/27 Primary Election Day

### July

- 7/8 Famous Person Fundraiser, 9am–12pm  
Saratoga National Golf Club, Saratoga Springs, NY