The Inside Scoop on Covering Washington

Date:  Friday, October 18, 2019

Place:  Chef’s Restaurant
        291 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY 14204

Time:  Registration begins at 11:30 a.m.
        Speaker at 12:00 noon, lunch to follow

Guest Speaker:  Jerry Zremski
                Washington Bureau Chief
                The Buffalo News

Hear how this award-winning journalist covers the Western New York House delegation, our state’s two senators, and federal issues important to us here at home. Traveling the country and the world, Zremski reports news that has local impact.

RSVP:  Reservations, lunch selection and $20 payment must be received by Friday, October 11. Make checks out to LWVBN and mail to LWVBN, 1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209.

For lunch, choose from Spaghetti Parmesan (vegetarian), Spaghetti Parmesan with Meatball, or Roast Beef Au Jus.

To attend the program only at no charge, reserve online at www.lwvbn.org, send an email to lwvbn@lwvbn.org, or call 716-986-4898.

League of Women Voters Mission

The League of Women Voters is a good government organization that encourages informed and active participation in the political process, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League never supports political parties or candidates.
President’s Report and Board Business

Of course, election season is a time of great activity for the League. Early voting is new this year. We include the locations and times for early voting in Erie and Niagara Counties in this Voter. Please consider taking the opportunity to vote early and let us know about your experience. Voters may vote at any of the sites available in their county. The Erie County Board of Elections has made an outstanding effort to provide voters with a location near them. Voting on Election Day will be at the location noted on the card you received from your Board of Elections earlier this year.

Thanks to outstanding efforts by League volunteers, we had responses from 73% of candidates in time for them to be included in the printed Voters Guide. Of the remaining candidates, 9% are running unopposed. All candidates may post responses at www.Vote411.org any time until Election Day, November 5, 2019. Please go online and check to see that the candidates on your ballot have all responded. If not, we urge you to contact them and respond. Voters deserve to know about all the people who seek to represent them. Please note that this year’s Voters Guide includes all candidates for county offices and the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

We look forward to the state League’s centennial celebration at the Buffalo History Museum on November 16, 2019. League members will receive invitations from the state for this event. At its September meeting, our board of directors voted to donate $2,000 to the state League Education Foundation as the host sponsor of this event. We chose this as our League’s way to support the state League’s effort to continue staffing the work of a deputy director.

Our League is thrilled that Jennifer Wilson will return to the state League as deputy director. “She will assist in all educational and legislative programs and resume her work as the legislative director.” The state League was able to raise some funds to pay for the position and seeks to raise sufficient dollars to fund it for the next two years. Of course, member are encouraged to donate to the state League, if possible.

Terri Parks

Great Decisions

Nora Mikes is leading our sixth Great Decisions 2019 topic, Cyber conflicts and geopolitics, on Thursday, October 3, from 10 a.m. to noon at 1272 Delaware Avenue. “Cyber conflict is a new and continually developing threat, which can include foreign interference in elections, industrial sabotage and attacks on infrastructure. Russia has been accused of interfering in the 2016 presidential elections in the United States and China is highly committed to using cyberspace as a tool of national policy. Dealing with cyber conflict will require new ways of looking at 21st century warfare. Is the United States prepared to respond to such threats?” Just when we think it’s safe to go back in the water, we are faced with this new danger. Hopefully our Great Decisions participants are willing to tackle it.

Bernice Baeumler, 986-4898

BMHA Election Services

August was an extremely slow month for the Election Services Committee. Our billable time to BMHA was less than one hour. So far in September, we have surpassed that total through emails and phone conversations. There is the potential of three mailings this month, with one of the sites reaching close to 1,000. I am still waiting on mailing labels and final details from all three sites. In addition, some BMHA sites are changing their bylaws to hold elections every three years, instead of the customary two. My fervent hope is that once the calls for volunteers to conduct mailings arise, the committee members will flock to contribute their very valuable time, experience, and feelings of togetherness.

Alan Dozoretz, Chair, Election Services Committee
On August 8, Mary Michael Egan and Michele Greco welcomed 50 new citizens at the U.S. Courthouse, and 41 returned their voter registration forms. At the U.S. Courthouse on August 22, Ramona Gallagher and Lyle Toohey welcomed 51 new citizens – 48 voter registration forms were returned. On August 28, Terri Parks and Marian Deutschman welcomed 20 new citizens at a new site – Old Fort Niagara in Lewiston; all 20 voter registration forms were returned. On August 29, Elisabeth Zausmer and Olga Karman welcomed 53 new citizens – 50 voter registration forms were returned. Judy Weidemann and Deborah Shiffner welcomed 48 new citizens at the U.S. Courthouse on September 5 – all 48 voter registration forms were returned.

Pat Wille, Coordinator

Perhaps inspired by the beauty and history of Old Fort Niagara, all 20 new citizens registered to vote!

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!

On November 16, 2019, the League of Women Voters of New York State will host its 100th Anniversary Celebration at The Buffalo History Museum.

Our League will be a co-sponsor. Watch for an invitation from the state League soon.
Mr. Pebble had a headache. His presentation was tomorrow. “Radiation 101” would be the first lecture at the new Underground University. Radiation was the central reason that Mr. Pebble and friends were in a predicament. He drafted his notes in a question and answer format.

1) What is an atom? An atom is like a very tiny earth with satellites. This earth is made of protons and neutrons. The satellites are electrons. Atoms are described in the Periodic Table of Elements, one alphabet of the visible universe.

2) What is an unstable atom? It is an atom with excess energy, or excess particles, or both. Unstable atoms emit their excess, which is then called radiation.

3) What is ionizing radiation? It is radiation, particle or energy, that harms life forms. It acts like a bullet that rips through, and ricochets inside, living cells. Altered atoms and molecules are called ions and free radicals, which can be troublemakers. Damage to DNA and RNA may cause mutations, cancers, or death.

4) DNA and RNA? These are the instructions, or codes, for life forms on earth.

5) Why is ionizing radiation especially dangerous? We can’t see it, smell it, or taste it.

6) What is alpha radiation? [alpha is pronounced AL-fah, symbol α] Alpha radiation is a ball of 2 protons and 2 neutrons, the same as a helium nucleus. This alpha particle, ejected from a radioactive nucleus, is comparatively large. It is like an alpha personality type with a big ego. RANGE: in air, 2 inches or 5 centimeters. SHIELD: a piece of paper or a dead skin layer.

7) What is beta radiation? [beta is pronounced BAY-tah, symbol β] Beta radiation is an itty-bitty electron particle ejected at high speed from an atom, like a rogue satellite that zooms away from earth’s orbit. RANGE: in air, 10 feet or 3 meters. SHIELD: glass, aluminum, safety glasses.

8) What is neutron radiation? [neutron is pronounced NEW-trawn, symbol η] A neutron is a particle with no electric charge. Neutral neutrons are normally located in the atom’s nucleus. In an unstable atom, a neutron is ejected. It is very penetrating to the human body. Nuclear reactors and atomic bombs have very high concentrations of neutron producing materials. RANGE: in air, several hundred feet or 100s of meters. SHIELD: water, concrete, plastic.

9) To summarize: Name the 3 ionizing radiation particles. Alpha, beta, and neutron. Symbols: The Greek letters α, β, and η.

10) What happens when radionuclides are eaten in contaminated food and drink, or breathed into the lungs? The radionuclides may become trapped inside the body, emitting α, β, and η particles, and also gamma radiation.

11) What is gamma radiation? [gamma is pronounced GAM-ah, symbol Y] Gamma radiation is a high energy wave, emitted from an atom’s nucleus in radioactive decay. RANGE: in air, the far-going gamma ray travels 1,000s of feet or 100s of meters. SHIELD: thick concrete, steel, lead.

12) What happens in a nuclear incident? Radioactive materials, as dust or nanoparticles, enter the earth’s biosphere: the air, water, and land. These travel in unexpected directions due to wind, weather patterns, and water currents – above and below ground. The radiation may cause biologic impacts for thousands of years.

Let students ask questions. Homework: memorize. Set date for test. Emphasize (how?) the last sentence.

Barbara Frackiewicz
Countdown to Election Day

- Friday, October 11: last day to postmark voter registration form OR register in person at the Board of Elections
- Friday, October 11: last day to change political party enrollment for 2020 primaries
- Saturday, October 26: early voting begins
- Tuesday, October 29: last day to postmark application for an absentee ballot
- Sunday, November 3: last day of early voting
- Monday, November 4: last day to apply in person for an absentee ballot
- Monday, November 4: last day to postmark ballot for general election
- Tuesday, November 5: last day to deliver absentee ballot in person to the Board of Elections
- Tuesday, November 5: Election Day – if you haven’t voted yet, do it now!

Candidate Forums

As of press time, these candidate meetings have been scheduled. For up-to-date information, visit www.lwvbn.org.

**Wednesday, October 16, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.**  
Karpeles Museum, 453 Porter Ave, Buffalo  
Sponsored by the Fargo Estates Neighborhood Association

**Monday, October 21, 9:00 a.m.**  
Amherst Senior Center, 370 Audubon Parkway, Amherst

**Monday, October 21, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**  
Spruce School Auditorium, 195 Spruce St, North Tonawanda  
Sponsored by LWVBN
Early voting starts Saturday, October 26!

Good news for New Yorkers! Now you can vote in person when it’s convenient for you – even on weekends. Early voting days are Saturday, October 26, through Sunday, November 3.

Note: if you vote on Election Day, November 5, you must go to your usual assigned polling place, which appears on the voter registration card you receive in the mail. You can also look it up by visiting https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/votersearch.aspx.

Questions? The League of Women Voters of New York State has comprehensive information and FAQs available at www.nyearlyvoting.org.

ERIE COUNTY

All sites are open on the following dates and times, and Erie County voters may vote at any one of them:
Saturdays and Sundays 10-26, 10-27, 11-2, and 11-3: 12 noon – 6 p.m.
Weekdays from 10-28 to 11-1: 12 noon – 9 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erie County Board of Elections</td>
<td>134 W Eagle St., Buffalo</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Buffalo Community Development Center</td>
<td>203 Sanders Rd., Buffalo</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Belle Center</td>
<td>104 Maryland St., Buffalo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broadway Market</td>
<td>999 Broadway, Buffalo</td>
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<td>Hennepin Center</td>
<td>24 Ludington St., Buffalo</td>
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<td>Delavan Grider Community Center</td>
<td>877 E. Delavan Ave., Buffalo</td>
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<td>Salvation Army West Side Community Center</td>
<td>187 Grant St., Buffalo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest Buffalo Community Center</td>
<td>155 Lawn Ave., Buffalo</td>
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<td>Tosh Collins Community Center</td>
<td>35 Cazenovia St., Buffalo</td>
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<td>Gloria J. Parks Community Center</td>
<td>3242 Main St., Buffalo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Akron Village Hall</td>
<td>21 Main St., Akron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harlem Road Community Center</td>
<td>4255 Harlem Road, Amherst</td>
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<td>Alden Municipal Building</td>
<td>13336 Broadway, Alden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston Town Hall</td>
<td>8500 Boston State Rd., Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brant Town Hall</td>
<td>1272 Brant North Collins Rd., Brant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonard VFW Post 6251</td>
<td>2450 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarence Town Hall</td>
<td>1 Town Place, Clarence</td>
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<td>Colden Town Hall</td>
<td>8812 State Rd., Colden</td>
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<td>Collins Town Hall</td>
<td>14093 Mill St., Collins</td>
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<td>Aurora Senior Center</td>
<td>101 King St., East Aurora</td>
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<td>Eden Town Hall</td>
<td>2795 E. Church St., Eden</td>
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<td>Elma Senior Center</td>
<td>3007 Bowen Rd., Elma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evans Senior Center</td>
<td>999 Sturgeon Point Rd., Derby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Island Town Hall</td>
<td>2255 Baseline Rd., Grand Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moose Lodge 992</td>
<td>45 Church St., Hamburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holland Community Center</td>
<td>3 Legion Drive, Holland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenmore Municipal Building</td>
<td>2919 Delaware Ave., Kenmore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lackawanna Senior Citizens Center</td>
<td>230 Martin Rd., Lackawanna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lancaster Town Hall</td>
<td>21 Central Ave., Lancaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marilla Community Center</td>
<td>1810 Two Rod Rd., Marilla</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Collins Town Hall</td>
<td>10571 Gowanda State Rd., North Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchard Park Municipal Building</td>
<td>4295 S. Buffalo Rd., Orchard Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sardinia Community Center</td>
<td>12320 Savage Rd., Sardinia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concord Senior Center</td>
<td>40 Commerce Dr., Springville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonawanda City Hall</td>
<td>200 Niagara St., Tonawanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wales Community Center</td>
<td>12345 Big Tree Rd., Wales Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Seneca Community Center</td>
<td>1300 Union Rd., West Seneca</td>
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**NIAGARA COUNTY**

Both sites are open on the following dates and times for all voters in Niagara County:

- Saturdays and Sundays 10-26, 10-27, 11-2, and 11-3: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Monday 10-28 and Wednesday 10-30: 12 noon – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday 10-29, Thursday 10-31, and Friday 11-1: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wrights Corners Fire Company</td>
<td>4043 Lake Rd., Lockport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John De LaSalle Center</td>
<td>8469 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Barbara Gunderson, Voter Services Chair*
October 2019

Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 4:00 p.m.
Issues/Program Committee
Harlem Road Community Center

Wednesday, October 16, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Waterfront Committee
Central Library café area

Thursday, October 3, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Great Decisions
League office

Friday, October 18, 2019, 11:30 a.m.
The Inside Scoop on Covering Washington
Chef’s Restaurant

Wednesday, October 9, 2019, 2:00 p.m.
Local Government Committee
League office

Friday, October 18, 2019, 1:00 p.m.
Money In Politics Committee
League office

Monday, October 14, 2019, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Board of Directors
League office

Thursday, October 24, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
Education Committee

Please remember to wear your League badge to all League events.