

# LWV of Albany County

Educate

Participate

Advocate

February 2005

Courtney Burke, President

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Jessica McMullan  
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Katie Henrikson  
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Secretary  
Meredith Ray  
438-6003  
Treasurer  
Mary Berry  
439-5679  
Voter Service  
Maggie Moehringer  
475-0969  
Membership  
Linda McKenna  
463-1805  
Development  
Lori Keegan-Brady  
475-0396  
Public Relations  
Audrey Kibrick  
489-9931  
State and local  
Government  
Marggie Skinner  
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## FEBRUARY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

*A unique chance to meet and talk with your County Legislator!*

WHEN: Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
WHERE: County Courthouse Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Every four years, when new elections are held for County Legislative positions and a new set of legislators is sworn in, the League of Women Voters of Albany County holds a reception for League members, the public, and the county legislators. This reception allows League members to meet county legislators and discuss issues of concern. The reception is held in conjunction and just prior to the legislatures regular monthly meeting. Outlined with this bulletin is information on all the county legislators. Our reception was delayed by one year because the county was undergoing a redistricting process.

## A LITTLE ABOUT THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

(from the county legislature's website)

The Albany County Legislature serves as the County's policy-making body. The Legislature comprises 39 County Legislators who are elected to four-year terms to represent the citizens residing in a Legislative District.

The County Legislature meets on the second Monday of every month in the Legislative Chambers at the Albany County Court House. These meetings are now televised on your local Government Access Channel monthly. Prior to each monthly meeting, the Legislature holds a Public Forum to allow the public to speak on issues which may come before the Legislature. There are ten standing committees of the Legislature and additional special or sub-committees which meet on a monthly basis, or as necessary. The public is always welcome to attend both the Legislative and Committee Meetings.

The Chairperson of the Legislature is James Houghtaling who is elected by the body at its organizational meeting. Majority Leader Frank Commisso and Minority Leader Christine Benedict are elected by their party's legislators.

Additional information on the legislature can be obtained from the Clerk of the Legislature's Office at 518-447-7168.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

Happy New Year! Last year was incredibly successful for the Albany County League as reflected by our growing membership and numerous successful events. Thanks to ALL OF YOU who contributed in some form by either donating money, attending events, helping organize events, bringing in new members, or just talking with others about the value of the League.

We begin this year's activities with an event that allows every member to be engaged in the democratic process. The event is a reception for county legislators - which the League does every four years after county legislative elections. (see cover for details) This reception, which was delayed by a year because of a special election that resulted from a redistricting lawsuit, gives you the opportunity to meet and speak directly with your county legislator and, if you can, attend the legislature's monthly meeting directly following the reception.

We have several other wonderful activities planned for the spring including an event in March recognizing Women's History Month. Our speaker will discuss why women are still making history and why it is more important than ever for all of us to be engaged in the political process. A local leader who is engaged in the political process, Helen Desfosses-Albany Common Council President, will be the speaker. (Details will follow in the March bulletin). The event will also present a unique opportunity for us to expand our membership. Any current League member who brings a new member into the League at this event will receive \$5 off the cost of the May 25th annual dinner (up to \$10).

April will be a program on Regional Land Use Planning and our annual dinner on May 25th will honor "Champions of Democracy." I hope you can join us for all these events!

*Courtney Burke*

## Great Decisions

The Global Issues study committee will once again sponsor a series of eight discussions on the topics in The Great Decisions book from The Foreign Policy Association. The books will be available in January and the first meeting will be February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005, 9:30 a.m., at the home of Martha Kennedy, Winne Rd., Delmar (439-4559). Everyone is welcome to join us for a lively discussion of these current event issues. We will meet at two week intervals with a facilitator for each subject. The schedule and locales will be determined at the first meeting. For more information and to obtain a book, call Linda Sorenson, 783-5355, or Lynn Steiner, 785-0250.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan citizen organization that promotes the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.

This newsletter is published by the League of Women Voters of Albany County, 12 Coventry Road, Glenmont, New York 12077 and mailed to League Members. The frequency of publication is as follows: one mid-summer issue followed by nine monthly issues from September to May.

## Calendar

February 7 <sup>th</sup> : 9:30 a.m.	Great Decisions: at the home of Martha Kennedy Winne Rd., Delmar (439-4559)
February 14 <sup>th</sup> : 5:30—6:30 p.m.	Reception for the Albany County Legislators Albany County Courthouse
March (date not set):	“Women’s History: Still in the making” Helen Desfosses speaker Evening reception at the Fort Orange Club from 5:30–7 p.m.
April 12 <sup>th</sup> : 7 p.m.	Meeting at Colonie Town Library or First Presbyterian Church Update on building moratoriums (smart growth and regional planning in local communities) featuring officials from Guilderland, Bethlehem and Colonie
May 25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting	(location and speaker to be determined)

See “Who represents you” on the following pages

## Revised Albany County Legislative Districts Based on the 2000 Census

**(from the Albany County Legislature's website)**

Local Law 4 for 2003 revised the boundaries for 10 of the 39 Albany County Legislative districts that had been drawn under Local Law 7 for 2002. The new boundaries for these 10 districts – Numbers 1-8 and 14 in the City of Albany and Number 26 in the Town of Colonie – were approved by a federal court judge in response to a legal challenge. Local Law 4, therefore, supercedes Local Law 7 as it applies to these 10 legislative districts.

The full texts of the two local laws, including metes and bounds descriptions of the districts, are available on the county legislature's website.

### WHO REPRESENTS YOU IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE?

District	Legislator <small>(click on underlined name for biography)</small>	Party	Address
1st	<a href="#"><u>George L. Infante</u></a>	D-C-I	9 McDonald Road Albany, New York 12209
2nd	<a href="#"><u>Lucille M. McKnight</u></a>	WF	79 Third Avenue Albany, New York 12202
3rd	<a href="#"><u>Wanda F. Willingham</u></a>	D-I-WF	95 Henry Johnson Boulevard Albany, New York 12210
4th	<a href="#"><u>Virginia Maffia-Tobler</u></a>	D-C-I	7 Ichabod Lane Albany, New York 12211
5th	<a href="#"><u>Fowler J. Riddick</u></a>	D-I	344 Livingston Avenue Albany, New York 12206
6th	<a href="#"><u>John A. Frederick</u></a>	D-I-WF	305 Hudson Avenue Albany, New York 12210
7th	<a href="#"><u>Thomas R. Monjeau</u></a>	D	17 Carroll Terrace Albany, New York 12209
8th	<a href="#"><u>E. Nancy Wiley</u></a>	D	66 Partridge Street Albany, New York 12206

9th	<u>Paul M. Collins</u>	D	181 South Main Avenue Albany, New York 12208
10th	<u>Daniel P. McCoy</u>	D-C-I-WF	7 Cayuga Court Albany, NY 12208
11th	<u>Gary W. Domalewicz</u>	D-I-WF	23 Upton Road Albany, New York 12208
12th	<u>Frank J. Comisso</u>	D-I	130 Cottage Avenue Albany, New York 12203
13th	<u>William M. Clay</u>	D-C-I-WF	4 Highland Court Albany, New York 12203
14th	<u>Raymond F. Joyce</u>	D-C-WF	5 Croswell Street Albany, NY 12206
15th	<u>Phillip G. Steck</u>	D-C-I	12 Paul Holly Drive Loudonville, New York 12211
16th	<u>Robert J. Beston</u>	D-C-I	1406 6th Avenue Watervliet, New York 12189
17th	<u>Sean E. Ward</u>	D-C-I	31 High Street Green Island, New York 12183
18th	<u>Shawn M. Morse</u>	I-C-WF	PO Box 402 Cohoes, New York 12047
19th	<u>Gilbert F. Ethier</u>	D-C-I	26 Middle Street Cohoes, New York 12047
20th	<u>Timothy D. Nichols</u>	D-I	6 Crystal Lane Latham, New York 12110
21st	<u>David B. Mayo</u>	D-I	14 Morgan Way Latham, New York 12110
22nd	<u>Paulette M. Barlette</u>	R-C	90 Fiddlers Lane Latham, New York 12110
23rd	Peter B. Tunny	R	198 Shaker Ridge Drive Niskayuna, New York 12309
24th	<u>Marlene W. Prentiss</u>	R-C-I	19 McNutt Avenue Albany, New York 12205
25th	Ann M. Comella	R	2 North Loudon Lane Loudonville, New York 12211
26th	TBA		

27th	<u>Michael J. Aidala</u>	I	5 Dawn Drive Albany, New York 12205
28th	<u>Christine M. Benedict</u>	R-C-I	27 Reber Street Albany, New York 12205
29th	TBA		
30th	<u>Dennis A. Feeney</u>	D-C-I	16 Leto Road Albany, New York 12203
31st	<u>William F. Aylward, Jr.</u>	D-WF	PO Box 324 148 Maple Avenue Altamont, New York 12009
32nd	<u>Mary Lou B. Connolly</u>	D-C	110 McKown Road West Albany, New York 12203
33rd	<u>Herbert W. Reilly, Jr.</u>	D-I-WF	22 Voorheesville Avenue Voorheesville, New York 12186
34th	<u>John H. Cunningham</u>	D-I	14 Woodridge Road Delmar, New York 12054
35th	<u>Charles S. Dawson, Jr.</u>	D-I	7 Constitution Drive Glenmont, New York 12077
36th	<u>Howard A. Shafer</u>	D-I-WF	346 Maple Avenue Selkirk, New York 12158
37th	<u>Peter T. Clouse</u>	R-C-I	13 Einie Drive, Box 875 Coeymans, New York 12045
38th	<u>Charles E. Houghtaling, Jr.</u>	D-C-I	Box 38 New Scotland Avenue Feura Bush, New York 12067
39th	<u>Alexander E. Gordon</u>	D-C	144 Beebe Road Berne, New York 12023

*Political Party Nomination*

- **D** - Democrat
- **R** - Republican
- **C** - Conservative
- **I** - Independence
- **WF** - Working Families

# 2005 Albany County Legislative Meeting Schedule

**Committee Meetings** Ninth Floor Caucus Room  
112 State Street  
Times as indicated for each committee

**Legislative Meetings** Legislative Chambers  
County Court House, 2nd Floor  
(Commence immediately after 6:30pm Public Forum)

<p><b>Court Facilities</b> 5:00 pm</p> <p>January 24 February 28 March 28 April 25 May 23 June 27 July 25 August 22 September 26 October 24 November 28</p>	<p><b>Public Safety</b> 5:30 pm</p> <p>January 24 February 28 March 28 April 25 May 23 June 27 July 25 August 22 September 26 October 24 November 28</p>	<p><b>Law</b> 6:00 pm</p> <p>January 24 February 28 March 28 April 25 May 23 June 27 July 25 August 22 September 26 October 24 November 28</p>	<p><b>Public Works</b> 5:00 pm</p> <p>January 25 March 1 March 29 April 26 May 24 June 28 July 26 August 23 September 27 October 25 November 29</p>
<p><b>Social Services</b> 5:30 pm</p> <p>January 25 March 1 March 29 April 26 May 24 June 28 July 26 August 23 September 27 October 25 November 29</p>	<p><b>Conservation &amp; Improvement</b> 6:30 pm</p> <p>January 25 March 1 March 29 April 26 May 24 June 28 July 26 August 23 September 27 October 25 November 29</p>	<p><b>Health</b> 5:00 pm</p> <p>January 26 March 2 March 30 April 27 May 25 June 29 July 27 August 24 September 28 October 26 November 30</p>	<p><b>Civic Center</b> 6:00 pm</p> <p>January 26 March 2 March 30 April 27 May 25 June 29 July 27 August 24 September 28 October 26 November 30</p>
<p><b>Personnel</b> 6:30 pm</p> <p>January 26 March 2 March 30 April 27 May 25 June 29 July 27 August 24 September 28</p>	<p><b>Mass Transit</b> 7:00 pm</p> <p>January 26 March 2 March 30 April 27 May 25 June 29 July 27 August 24</p>	<p><b>Audit &amp; Finance</b> 7:30 pm</p> <p>January 26 March 2 March 30 April 27 May 25 June 29 July 27 August 24</p>	<p><b>Legislative Meetings</b></p> <p>January 10 February 14 March 14 April 11 May 9 June 13 July 11 August 8</p>

October 26 November 30	September 28 October 26 November 30	September 28 October 26 November 30	September 12 October 11 (Tues.) November 14
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