



The Voter

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President's Message

Hello members and friends,

The election and holidays are now behind us and it's time to gear up to finish off the year. Reflecting back to the last issue of *The Voter*, it seems hard to believe that so much has occurred.

The viewing of "Iron Jawed Angels" was moving. One individual came to the viewing with memorabilia from her grandmother, who was an original "suffragette". We had our Christmas party at Dele's and drew the winners of the Gas Raffle. Congratulations to Clancy Dent, Lynne Johnson's daughter, in winning the \$100 gas certificate. Ruth Houserman was our second prize winner.

In January, Dennis Piedimonte and Helen Zelazny joined a very small group of us at the Apollo for our second scheduled Breakfast Meeting. A very informative discussion occurred in sharing their impressions and concerns with the HAVA requirements. (Please read Chris's report in this issue).

What's Bunco? Some of you have already been 'initiated'. Loads of fun.

After a very busy national election, the Village elections in March are not as hectic, however we will be sponsoring a forum in Medina. It is with your help that we are able to help ensure citizens are informed of their choices in candidates prior to the election at our forums.



Our monthly board meetings were rather mixed up during the holiday season, but we should be back into the swing of things. There may, however, be some changes given that the United Way in Medina is moving to Albion. Please read your emails and we will notify you where the meetings will be held. In the meantime, the March board meeting will be held at Elsewhere Café in Albion on March 26th at 7pm.

Sincerely, Lynne



SAVE THE DATES

March 11, 7pm
Shelby Town Hall

League sponsored candidates forum, for (unusual) **election WEDNESDAY, March 18** Medina Village Board.

NEED A JOB?

School board elections are held each May, and there are always seats open in each of the five Orleans County school districts.



To get a petition to run for the school board, contact the clerk of your school district. You'll typically have to gather about 25 valid signatures to run (your clerk will tell you the exact number in your district), and you'll have to file the petition on or before a specified date.

The pay is less than excellent...in fact, the pay is \$0...but you'll have a chance to help the children in your district obtain an excellent education.

Medina Village Candidates Speak Out

On March 18, 2009, voters in Medina will elect two new trustees to serve on the board. Each candidate was given this opportunity to prepare a short statement reflecting their candidacy or philosophy. As they were received, so are they printed.



Mark Irwin

There has been of late much discussion concerning our area is having the highest property taxes in the nation. In these difficult times for our elected officials to make excuses is the height of irresponsibility. What is needed is serious cooperation between our various governments in the consolidation of services to control taxes. In this spirit of cooperation, I offer myself as a candidate for Medina Village Trustee. If elected I will office with the agenda of joining with our current Mayor and the Village party Trustees in helping to bring about a leaner, more efficient, more effective Medina administration.

Owen Toale

Trustee Owen Toale is seeking his third term on the Medina Village Board. Toale's party name, the Accountability Party, reflects the way he governs. "I hold myself accountable to the residents of Medina who have hired me with their votes in the past and it's my job to do what is best for them", he said. After many years in management for other companies, including The Journal-Register as Editor and General Manager, Toale and his wife Janice recently opened East Center Beverages and More on East Center Street giving the east side residents a close convenience-type store.

Clayton G. Ehrenreich, III

I have been a lifelong resident of Medina. I assisted in the family business. I hold a degree with honors in Political Science and an advanced degree with honors in Public Administration. I worked in public education for 20 years and in financial investments. I have also been active in community and civic organizations and functions. I served one year as Trustee and two years as Mayor of Medina. During those three years many new projects and changes in village government were completed. As a trustee again I would like to see the public have greater input at meetings, a financial review of operations and budgeting and overall accountability of village government.

Kelly Kiebala

I am excited to be a candidate for Village Board. I believe I would bring a unique perspective to village government. As a working mother of 2 children and village taxpayer, I relocated back to western New York in 1998. I know what other localities have to offer, and how we can do better.

I am ready and eager to work with Mayor Tabelski, Trustees Snyder and Meier, and neighboring towns to study consolidation possibilities, control our tax rate, and help make our community attractive to new businesses and residents. I respectfully and humbly seek your support on March 18!

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"We Work Underground"

Get ready for the Orleans County League of Women's Voters Bunco fund-raiser!

Come join the fun and learn to play Bunco. From now until our late spring fund-raiser, league members will be teaching the game of Bunco to anyone who has been dying to learn but has never had the opportunity. Come and bring a friend. The next bunco training event will be held **Thursday, March 19th at 7:00PM.**



Call Dele Theodorakos at 589-0618 or Lynne Philipps at 589-4515 for details. See you then!

LWV Breakfast Club Meeting Report

The Orleans County League of Women Voters hosted a breakfast meeting at the Apollo Restaurant on Saturday, January, 17 at 9:00 a.m.. The public was invited to attend with breakfast at your own expense. Guest Speakers were Orleans County Election Commissioners Helen Zelazny and Dennis Piedmonte.

The Commissioners shared with us the status of the new Federal mandate for voting machines. New York State is the only state using lever machines. The machines chosen to meet the new standard will be called BMD for Ballot Marking Device.

When voters come to vote they will sign the poll book and be handed a ballot. They will proceed to a privacy booth to mark their preprinted ballot. The voter will move to the scanning machine and scan their ballot. A receipt will be printed which the voter may keep or trash. The scanned ballot drops into a box. If the paper ballot is rejected by the scanning machine it will indicate that you over or under voted on the ballot. You may change your ballot and rescan or choose to leave as is, if you under voted. Of course, you can not over vote. A voter may try to scan their ballot only three (3) times. The machines are sealed in 3 different places for security purposes.

The county must purchase these new machines, the software required for them and provide technical support. Ballots will be printed for each election. The county will store the new machines between elections. The old lever machines may only continue to be used until Sept. 1, 2009.

The Commissioners were asked about school district elections. Those elections are run by schools pursuant to New York State Dept. of Education Regulations and do not fall under their jurisdiction.

Our next breakfast meeting will be in the spring. Please call Chris Sartwell at 585-682-3006 with suggestions for guest speakers or topics of interest.

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Presidential Factoids... Test your trivia tuition

1. Name the only president that was divorced.
2. Which one never voted, never belonged to a political party, but was elected president?
3. He survived 4 plane crashes in WWII.
4. During a speech he said "The US has much to offer the third world war"
5. This one hung 2 murderers as the "public executioner"
6. Which one invented the coat hanger and hemp machine?
7. This president committed treason.
8. Hopefully not his claim to fame, he got stuck in the white house bathtub (he weighed 332 lbs.)

(answers found in this issue)

Join the Orleans County League of Women Voters

"Get Involved With Your Government"

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Dues are \$45/year and include membership in State and National LWV.

To apply for membership in Orleans LWV send this form to:

LWV, PO Box 163, Medina, NY 14103