

Candidates to spar in trio of local debates

Staff Report Oct 18, 2017



The League of Women Voters of the Cooperstown Area will host three candidates' debates on Oct. 30 for the county representative seats in Districts 5, 7 and 8. Debates, introductions and presentations for town contests in the towns of Hartwick, Middlefield, Cherry Valley and Otsego will also be included.

The LWV will provide collection buckets at all events and encourages those attending to bring household batteries or used mercury thermostats to be recycled as part of the Product Stewardship Institute Program. TerraCycle items such as toothpaste tubes, tooth brushes and all writing implements except wooden pencils will also be collected.

At the Hartwick Community Center at 3146 County Highway 11, from 7 to 9:15 p.m., representative candidates Meg Kennedy and Pat Ryan will debate, as will candidates for Hartwick highway superintendent Larry Bard, Mark L. diLorenzo and Fred Koffer, and Chris Briggs, JoAnn Gardner and Bruce Markusen, candidates for town council.

At 7:45 p.m. in the Cherry Valley Old School Café at 2 Genesee St. in Cherry Valley, there will be a debate between David Bliss and Leslie Berliant for the District 7 seat. The Middlefield candidates are scheduled to debate at 7 p.m., and the Cherry Valley candidates at about 8:45 p.m. Candidates in contested elections from the towns of Middlefield and Cherry Valley have been invited to answer questions from the audience according to the league's debate guidelines.

Candidates in non-contested elections will be introduced; there are no contested races in Roseboom.

The contested elections are for Middlefield highway superintendent, with candidates Timothy Dubben and Brendan Kraham; Cherry Valley highway superintendent, with candidates Martin Field Jr. and Tony Miles; and Cherry Valley town clerk, with candidates Mary Beth Flint and Deborah Horvath. Should one of the candidates in a contested race be unavailable, the candidate present will be included in the introductions.

The Otsego Town Hall at 811 County Highway 26 in Fly Creek will be the setting for a debate between representative candidates Andrew Marietta and Timothy Walker starting at 7 p.m. A debate among candidates for town council, Rob Bohm, Carina Franck, Tom Hohensee and Carl Wenner will follow. Finally, the candidates for town of Otsego highway superintendent will present prepared remarks.

For more information, email Maureen Murray at coopmurray@msn.com.