

# Local Social Justice Events

*as of Wed Aug 22, 2018*

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## **Rally to Protect a Woman's Right to Choose in New York State**

**Wed Aug 22, 2:00 PM**

**Outside the White Plains Federal Courthouse, 300 Quarropas Street, White Plains**

Join Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins and others at a Rally/Press Conference to highlight the urgent need to pass State legislation that protects a woman's right to choose. Attendees include Robin Chappell Golston of Planned Parenthood Action Fund; Sonia Osorio of NOW-NYS; Emily Kadar of National Institute for Reproductive Health; Brette McSweeney of Eleanor's Legacy; Catherine Lederer-Plaskett of WCLA Choice Matters; Jewel Williams of the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus; and others.

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## **“Your Voice is Your Vote” Two-Part Workshop to Increase Voter Turnout**

**Thu Sep 20 & Thu Sep 27, 7:00-9:00 PM**

**Theodore Young Community Center, 32 Manhattan Avenue, White Plains**

**RSVP: [westchester4change@gmail.com](mailto:westchester4change@gmail.com), 914-525-8886,**

**<https://www.facebook.com/events/266697794120147/>**

The nonprofit group Civic Engagement Table, in partnership with Citizen Action of NY, will facilitate a two-part voter turnout workshop designed to reach discouraged and disaffected voters and to build a sense of empowerment in order to increase voter turnout. Please plan to attend both sessions. Hosted by the Why Voting Matters Collaboration (Westchester for Change; Judith Beville - Clerk, Town of Greenburgh; ACLU People Power Campaign; NAACP White Plains/Greenburgh; Greenburgh Human Rights Advisory Committee; Indivisible Westchester; Westchester Student Coalition Against Gun Violence; Westchester Black & Latino Political Conference).

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## **From [Riverkeeper](#): Protect the Hudson from Harmful Storm Surge Barriers Public Comments Invited through Thu Sep 20**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is considering construction of in-water barriers that could critically harm the Hudson River Estuary. Due to public pressure, the Corps has extended the public comment period through Thu Sep 20, to consider issues to include in its environmental review. Riverkeeper invites you to visit their Actions Page to [become informed](#) and [get involved](#).

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**Biaggi–Klein Student-Led Candidate Forum**  
**Mon Aug 27, 4:00–5:30 PM**  
**Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave, Pelham**

The Westchester Student Coalition Against Gun Violence (WSCAGV) hosts a public forum between two Democratic candidates for New York State Senate. Incumbent Senator Jeffrey D. Klein (D) and challenger Alessandra Biaggi (D) have agreed to come together for a forum on gun violence, voter issues, and the role of youth in politics. Senator Klein, representing the 34th District of New York, is running for re-election, while this is Alessandra Biaggi's first time running for public office. RSVP via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sen-jeff-klein-and-alessandra-biaggi-gun-safety-forum-tickets-49250531666?aff=efbeventix>. Email questions to: [westchesterstudentcoalition@gmail.com](mailto:westchesterstudentcoalition@gmail.com).

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**Televised Gubernatorial Debate**  
**Wed Aug. 29, 7:00 PM**  
**Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY**

Watch the Democratic candidates for NYS Governor, Andrew Cuomo and Cynthia Nixon, debate on CBS2 TV or CBSNewYork.com (<http://cbsnewyork.com/>) online or Facebook or listen on 1010 WINS radio. The debate is also simulcast in Spanish on WLNY TV-10/55. Moderators are Maurice DuBois, co-anchor of CBS2 News, and Marcia Kramer, chief political correspondent at WCBS-TV. You can submit questions or comments, or join the discussion on the Facebook CBS page (<https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/cbsnewyork>)

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**From [Riverkeeper](#): Support the New York State Bring Your Own Bag Act**

Reducing the use of single-use plastic bags is one of the most meaningful steps that New York can take to reduce pollution from single-use plastic. The NYS BYOBAG Act (S7760/A9953), modeled on California's successful law, would ban single-use plastic bags and place a 10-cent fee on paper. The fee would help fund state parks, environmental programs, and free reusable bags for low- and fixed-income New Yorkers. Visit the [Riverkeepers Actions Page](#) to become informed and get involved.

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**UUSC Initiative: Fund Human Rights and Asylum**

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) advances human rights through grassroots collaborations. Join their latest initiative to send letters to Congress urging legislators to withhold funding for immigration detention, deportation, and border militarization, and increase accountability and oversight of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection. Learn more at [uus.org/initiatives/fund-asylum-not-abuse/](https://uus.org/initiatives/fund-asylum-not-abuse/)

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## **The Climate Reality Project now has a Westchester Chapter**

Led by former US Vice President Al Gore, the Climate Reality Project empowers everyday people to become activists, equipped with the tools, training, and network to fight for solutions and drive change planet-wide. Visit [climaterealityproject.org](https://climaterealityproject.org) to learn more and [climaterealityproject.org/chapters](https://climaterealityproject.org/chapters) to sign up.

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## **Be an LGBTQ Mentor [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Family Services of Westchester](#) Throughout Westchester**

Make a difference in a child's life; become a mentor in one of our LGBTQ site-based programs. Being a Big Brother/Big Sister is one of the most fulfilling and enjoyable things you will ever do. We provide a thorough orientation and training in building mentor relationships and working constructively with youth. On-going support by dedicated staff is provided to the mentor, mentee, and mentee's family. Become a Big and help to start something big in a child's life. Sign up at [volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a075A00000dKqA1](https://volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a075A00000dKqA1)

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## **Feeding Westchester Volunteers Needed**

Help us feed those in need. Feeding Westchester relies on volunteers to help plant, weed, and care for vegetables at our farm sites; to sort and pack produce and goods at our warehouse; and to help at special events, in the office, or at Mobile Food Pantry distributions.

Most volunteer opportunities are 2–3 hours and we welcome a one-time or on-going commitment. We need volunteers at any time convenient for you – on weekdays, evenings, and weekends. We have opportunities for corporate, community and school groups. We also offer options for individuals, and families who want to volunteer together. Children are welcome! [feedingwestchester.org/take-action/volunteer](https://feedingwestchester.org/take-action/volunteer)

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**For more Volunteer Opportunities,  
visit and sign up at Volunteer New York  
[volunteernewyork.org](https://volunteernewyork.org)**