

Calendar of Events

webmaster@lwv-rma.org

February 11, 2026 **Let's Look at the Rochester City Charter**
07:00 PM - 08:30 PM EST
We'll be working this year to amend the charter to bring Ranked Choice Voting and All-Access Primaries to Rochester. At this webinar we'll take a look at the charter itself to see what's in it about elections. We'll consider proposed language for the amendment and we'll reflect. This will be a real working session. We need to finalize the language by mid February.

February 12, 2026 **Board meeting**
06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST
Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

February 28, 2026 **Deeds, Not Words: with Patricia Nugent**
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM EST
How militant suffragists, under Alice Paul's leadership, finally took women's suffrage over the finish line in 1920 after a 75-year battle. Everything was stacked against them – but their determination was underestimated. And so is ours! Hear what we can learn from them.

Patricia Nugent gives voice to those who might otherwise be silenced, following a career as a school district administrator and adjunct communication professor. Feeling a deep connection to our foremothers who blazed a trail, she authored the play "The Stone that Started the Ripple" about a modern-day reunion of the founding suffragists, and published the nonfiction anthology "Before They Were Our Mothers: Voices of Women Born Before Rosie Started Riveting." She chaired the Women's Rights Awareness Campaign for the Saratoga County League of Women Voters, instrumental in helping to pass the NYS ERA.

March 6, 2026 **First Friday**
I-Square
200 Bakers Square
Irondequoit, NY
11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST
Join us for social time at I-Square. There's no agenda but we talk about everything League and have lots of political discussions. Many great ideas originate at First Fridays and a lot of work gets done. And we have a lot of fun. Come when you can, leave when you must. No need to register, just come!

March 12, 2026 **Board meeting**
06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST
Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

March 19, 2026

Book Club: How We Learn to be BraveÂ by Mariann Edgar Budde

04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

How We Learn to be Brave by Mariann Edgar Budde

On January 21, 2025, many Americans were introduced to Bishop Mariann Budde thanks to what The New York Times called “an extraordinary act of public resistance.” During her prayer service for Donald J. Trump’s second inauguration, Bishop Budde addressed the president directly, imploring him “to have mercy on the people in our country who are scared now,” from those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community to immigrants and refugees.

But for Bishop Budde, this moment was the culmination of a lifetime spent thinking about those pivot points when we’re called on to push past our fears and act with strength. With How We Learn to Be Brave, she teaches us that being brave is not a singular occurrence; it’s a journey that we can choose to undertake every day.

Here, Bishop Budde explores the full range of decisive moments, from the most visible and dramatic (the decision to go), to the internal and personal (the decision to stay), to brave choices made with an eye toward the future (the decision to start), those born of suffering (the decision to accept that which we did not choose), and those that come unexpectedly (the decision to step up to the plate). Drawing on examples ranging from Harry Potter to the Gospel According to Luke, she seamlessly weaves together personal experiences with stories from scripture, history, and pop culture to underscore both the universality of these moments and the particular call each one of us must heed when they arrive.

With Bishop Budde’s wisdom, readers will learn to live and to respond according to their true beliefs and in ways that align with their best selves. How We Learn to Be Brave will provide much-needed fortitude and insight to anyone searching for answers in uncertain times.

April 3, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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April 9, 2026

Board meeting

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST

Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lww-rma.org.

May 1, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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May 14, 2026

Board meeting

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST

Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

May 21, 2026

Book Club: Children of the Land by Marcelo Hernandez Castillo

04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

Children of the Land by Marcelo Hernandez Castillo

When Marcelo Hernandez Castillo was five years old and his family was preparing to cross the border between Mexico and the United States, he suffered temporary, stress-induced blindness. Castillo regained his vision, but quickly understood that he had to move into a threshold of invisibility before settling in California with his parents and siblings. Thus began a new life of hiding in plain sight and of paying extraordinarily careful attention at all times for fear of being truly seen. Before Castillo was one of the most celebrated poets of a generation, he was a boy who perfected his English in the hopes that he might never seem extraordinary.

With beauty, grace, and honesty, Castillo recounts his and his family's encounters with a system that treats them as criminals for seeking safe, ordinary lives. He writes of the Sunday afternoon when he opened the door to an ICE officer who had one hand on his holster, of the hours he spent making a fake social security card so that he could work to support his family, of his father's deportation and the decade that he spent waiting to return to his wife and children only to be denied reentry, and of his mother's heartbreakng decision to leave her children and grandchildren so that she could be reunited with her estranged husband and retire from a life of hard labor.

Children of the Land distills the trauma of displacement, illuminates the human lives behind the headlines and serves as a stunning meditation on what it means to be a man and a citizen.

June 5, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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