

NH Voter – August 2024 The newsletter of the League of Women Voters NH

As you get ready to vote in the **state primary on Tuesday, Sept. 10**, keep an eye out for Meet the candidate events, often hosted by local party organizations, and for some pre-primary candidate forums. WMUR is hosting **Governor and Congressional District candidate debates** in early September to let us learn more before the primary. Watch onTV or livestream on your computers:

WMUR candidate debates scheduled:

Tuesday, Sept. 3, from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Republican candidates for governor

Wed , Sept. 4, from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Democratic candidates for governor

Thursday, Sept. 5, from 8 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: Republican candidates in 2nd Congressional District

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Friday, Sept. 6, from 8 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: Republican candidates in 1st Congressional District

Another series of candidate presentations to watch is hosted by the **Nashua Chamber of Commerce and WSMN** (cable TV in Nashua) and simulcast on the Chamber's social media accounts (if you can find them). The radio versions will be available to hear at your convenience at [this webpage](#). Each candidate will be given 30 minutes of airtime. Interviewers are radio personality George Russell and Nashua Chamber president Wendy Hunt. Broadcast on WSMN 1590 AM and 95.3 FM. Check the Chamber's website for updates: <https://nashuachamber.com/meet-the-candidates/>

The format will be a casual dialogue between Wendy Hunt, President & CEO of GNCC, the station owner and radio personality George Russell and the candidate. Hear directly from the candidates about what issues they will be focusing on up in Concord, if elected. As the Chamber of Commerce is a business membership organization, they plan to focus on the issues that impact NH businesses: childcare, healthcare, workforce issues including staffing and housing, taxes, energy, etc.

- **Part One of the series** (will take place *before* NH's Primary date of Sept 10th): We will be talking with candidates from the **NH Gubernatorial Race** (Aug 6,13,20); **NH Executive Council District 5** (Aug 27); and **NH Senate Districts 11,12,13,14 in Nashua** (Sept 3) . For a calendar of races and which candidate will be on our talking with us when, please click [here](#). NOTE: All candidates from each of these races has been invited to sign up and participate with us in this series and we are still awaiting few RSVPs.
- **Part Two of the series** (will take place *after* NH's Primary date of Sept 10th): **US Congressional races Districts 1 and 2**. Look for those dates to be announced.
- Part One Schedule:
 - 6-Aug** 9:30am Jonathan Kiper Democratic Party
 - 13-Aug** 8am Chuck Morse Republican Party
 - 13-Aug** 8:30am Kelly Ayotte Republican Party
 - 13-Aug** 9am Shaun Fife Republican Party
 - 13-Aug** 9:30am Cinde Warmington Democratic Party

20-Aug 8am Stephen Vilee Libertarian Party

20-Aug 8:30am Joyce Craig Democratic Party

20-Aug 9am Richard McMenammon II Republican Party

20-Aug 9:30am Frank Staples Republican Party

As for **Presidential debates**... Candidates Harris and Trump have just agreed to participate in a **Sept 10 debate on ABC** (no live audience). There may be more. Sorry—we can't pin things down beyond this. Both parties seem to be ignoring the schedule set up by the Commission on Presidential Debates.

So please check our [Candidates Forums webpage](#) from time to time and we'll try to update it as we learn more, in addition to listing local forums after the primary results are in. Forums in Laconia, Peterborough, and Wolfeboro are already listed.

Speaking of candidates...what about campaign signs? Or even generic "VOTE on Sept. 10" signs. Do they make a difference? And the big question: what are the state rules about where they can be placed? And if one is plunked on your lawn, without permission, may you remove it? David Brooks of the Concord Monitor gives the answers in this article: <https://concordmonitor.com/political-signs-placement-56399991?>

For anyone excited about a particular candidate **who wants a sign for their own lawn**: contact the campaign, offer to make a donation, request a sign, and you'll probably get one, maybe delivered by the local party organization.

Voter registration 2024: We've been talking about a very strict voter registration bill that made its way thru the Legislature this year, HB1569. And we've been asking you to phone or email or postcard the Governor to veto the bill when he gets it. Well, it still is not on his desk. We're speculating wildly about why not, but what we do know is that it will not be in effect for the primary (Sept. 10). Therefore, if you need to register because you moved, or you know someone who is not yet registered, encourage registration before the primary or at the polls on primary day.

With or without the new law, **you will need a photo ID to register**, and you'll be asked for proof of your age, where you live, and citizenship. But for now, anyway, citizenship can be proven by signing the affidavit portion of the registration form.

And if you haven't already begged the Governor to VETO this needlessly restrictive voter bill, requiring presentation of a birth certificate or passport to register, you can do so with a form from one of our NH voting rights partners at this link: https://ujoin.co/campaigns/2897/actions/public?action_id=4101 Just fill in the blanks, and if you have a few minutes edit the message so it reflects your own thoughts—much more effective when it's not just a canned message.

Message from the LWVNH president: *Sometimes life is funny*, even when talking about politics. A newer voter asked me recently about the *different colors of ballots* – what did they signify? She said she didn't *think* they gave blue ones to the men and pink ones to the women, but...??? So for anyone else wondering, for the primary you get a ballot listing candidates of only one party. And that party is the one you are registered with. If you are "undeclared" or what you consider "independent" you decide when you get your ballot whether you want a Democratic or a Republican ballot. *Dems get*

blue; Republicans get pink. But in November, we all get white ballots, with both major party's candidates listed and any independent or third party candidates too.

So then the same person asked the logical question: What if I want to vote for someone in the primary who's with the other party? Can I write in that name? Of course you can, but unless a lot of people do that for one particular candidate, it won't matter. In my NH House District, we have had two state reps from opposite parties for a long time. And many of us like that situation, so sometimes we vote for one of them and then we also write in the other candidate during primaries. If enough people do that, the candidate in November is listed as running for both parties. I don't know what percent they need to qualify as running from both parties; maybe someone can tell me.

Public education in NH: with the school funding lawsuits still making their way thru the courts, and next year a budget year for the NH Legislature, a reminder about the education funding issues is timely. This article by Gary Rayno of InDepth NH gives a wonderfully clear explanation.

<https://indepthnh.org/2024/08/03/distant-dome-education-voucher-advocates-seek-national-solution/>