

League of Women Voters, Drew University, NAACP, Morris County Chamber of Commerce, and NJ Hills Media Group Co-sponsor Debate for Congressional Seat in NJ District 11

Contact: Nancy Hedinger, President, League of Women Voters of the Morristown Area

LWVmorrisarea@gmail.com

973-202-7706

For Immediate Release: Friday, October 21, 2022

League of Women Voters, Drew University, NAACP, Morris County Chamber of Commerce, and NJ Hills Media Group Co-sponsor Debate for Congressional Seat in NJ District 11

Madison, NJ: On Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. five branches of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey, the Morris County and Montclair branches of the NAACP, Morris County Chamber of Commerce, NJ Hills Media Group, and Drew University Center for Civic Engagement are co-sponsoring a moderated debate for candidates seeking the congressional seat representing New Jersey District 11.

This event to be held at Concert Hall, Drew University, 36 Madison Ave, Madison, NJ, is **Sold Out**, but **the public can watch the livestream** on the LWV Morristown Area YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/c/MorristownAreaLeagueofWomenVoters.

There are two candidates challenging the incumbent, Mikie Sherrill (Democrat) - Republican Paul DeGroot and Libertarian Joseph Biasco - for the NJ CD11 congressional seat for a term of 2 years.

The public is encouraged to **submit questions in advance until Saturday**, **10/22 at 6:00 p.m**. Some questions will also be taken from the audience during the forum.

The Action Scholar students at Drew's Center for Civic Engagement will be actively involved in many facets of the debate, including parking and directing cars, collecting tickets, ushering, assisting with the screening of questions, opening and closing remarks, and promoting the event on campus. The Center believes that higher education has a responsibility to educate the next generation of engaged and effective citizens and leaders. This is accomplished by infusing civic engagement as a practice and a value throughout the university, in classes, by working with community partners outside of the classroom and through the unique Action Scholar and Changemakers programs.

The forum will be ADA accessible and the livestream will be closed captioned. The wearing of masks is encouraged.

The <u>League of Women Voters</u> is a nonpartisan, grassroots civic organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose any political candidate or party. Membership in the League is open to people 16 years and older of all gender identities.

The Morris County Chamber of Commerce, headquartered in Florham Park, has more than 700 member organizations that range from entrepreneurs and small businesses to large corporations and Fortune 500 companies. The chamber is dedicated to the advancement of Morris County's businesses and community, and provides services, information and advocacy to support the



growth of its member organizations. The chamber's many events, meetings and seminars provide a platform for members to connect, collaborate and succeed.

The <u>NAACP</u> is a multi-ethnic coalition of Freedom Fighters who are in Pursuit of The Beloved Community. A national organization founded in 1909 in response to the ongoing violence against Black people around the country, the NAACP's mission is to secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons.

New Jersey Hills Media Group is a family of 14 local, independently owned newspapers providing fair and thorough news coverage in Morris, Somerset, Essex and Hunterdon counties. The group converted to nonprofit status this year under its new parent company, the Corporation for New Jersey Local Media, and *will* continue to provide responsible local journalism, expand their coverage, serve as watchdogs on local government, and keep their readers informed on the day-to-day lives of the 50 municipalities they serve.

<u>Drew University</u>, a Phi Beta Kappa liberal arts university, includes the College of Liberal Arts, the Drew Theological School and the Caspersen School of Graduate Studies. Drew is located on a beautiful, wooded campus in Madison, New Jersey, a thriving small town close to New York City. It has a total enrollment of more than 2,200 students and has 136 full-time faculty members, 96% of whom hold the terminal degree in their field. The Theological and Caspersen schools offer master's and doctoral degrees, and the College confers BA and BS degrees in 40 disciplines and offers 19 dual-degree programs.