FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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League of Women Voters of New Jersey and Partners Co-Host Meet & Greet for Candidates Seeking the Congressional Seat in NJ District 11 in a Special Primary Election

[Caldwell, NJ]: On Thursday, January 15, 2026 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., four branches of the League of Women Voters of New Jersey (LWV Livingston, LWV Montclair Area, LWV Morris Area. and LWV Mountain Lakes); the Morris County and Montclair branches of the NAACP; ACLU New Jersey; National Council of Jewish Women / Essex; New Jersey Hills Media Group; Montclair Local; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Morristown Alumnae Chapter; Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair; Morris County NOW; Morris Essex Magazine; and Caldwell University are co-sponsoring a Meet & Greet for the 13 candidates seeking the Congressional seat in NJ District 11 in a Special Primary Election. The seat was vacated by NJ Governor-Elect Mikie Sherrill.

The Meet & Greet forum will be held at the Student Center Auditorium, Caldwell University, 120 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006. For the first hour, each candidate will provide a brief introductory statement to the entire audience. For the remainder of the time, the room will break up for attendees to walk around and talk with candidates individually.

Register to attend the Meet & Greet at Caldwell University at https://tinyurl.com/2b2hahbv. Remote viewing of the opening statements will be available on the LWV Morris Area YouTube channel https://youtube.com/@lwvmorrisarea.

All 13 candidates are participating. One candidate, Joe Hathaway, is seeking the Republican nomination. Twelve candidates are seeking the Democratic nomination: Justin Strickland, Analilia Mejìa, Anna Lee Williams, John Bartlett, Brendan W. Gill, Cammie L. Croft, Dean Dafis, JL Cauvin, Zach Beecher, Tahesha Way, Jeff Grayzel, and Tom Malinowski.

The New Jersey CD11 Special Primary Election Day is Thursday, February 5, 2026. You can also Vote Early by mail, or in- person from January 29 - February 3, and at your County Clerk's Office during office hours. Voters must be affiliated with the Democratic or Republican party to vote in the Primary. Unaffiliated voters may declare a party and vote in person early or on Election Day. The Special General Election Day is Thursday, April 16, 2026. In-person Early Voting is available from April 6 - April 14. To register, apply to Vote-by-Mail, locate Early Voting polls, change / check voter status, and find out more about voting and the Special Election, visit the NJ Division of Elections at https://www.nj.gov/state/elections/vote.shtml.

The forum is ADA accessible.

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The **League of Women Voters** 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 **ACLU of New Jersey** has defended liberty and justice guided by the vision of a fair and equitable New Jersey for all since our founding in 1960. Our mission is to preserve, advance, and expand the individual rights and liberties guaranteed by the state and federal constitutions in courts, in the legislature, and in our communities. We strive to be anti-racist and are actively committed to advancing racial justice for the people of New Jersey. We are a non-partisan organization that operates across political, legal, and cultural fronts to bring about change and build a more equitable society.

Caldwell University is ranked consistently in the Top 100 Universities in the North by U.S. News & World Report and has been recognized as a leader in providing a transformative, outcomes-driven education to a diverse student body that is balanced between commuter and resident students. Located on a 70-acre residential campus in the heart of Caldwell, NJ, the University offers modern programs and advanced campus technology that demonstrate its continued dedication to remaining competitive in a modern, global economy.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is a not-for-profit organization of college-educated women committed to the constructive development of its members and to public service with a primary focus on the Black community. Its purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. The organization does not support or oppose any political candidate or party.

Montclair Local is an independent nonprofit news organization covering Montclair and Essex County. Founded in 2017, Montclair Local's mission is to “spark dialogue, objectively inform and build community.”

Morris County National Organization for Women (MC NOW) has been working to bring women into full equality here in Morris County for over fifty years. NOW’s six priority issues are Reproductive Rights and Justice, Economic Justice, Ending Violence Against Women, Racial Justice, LGBTQIA+ Rights, and Constitutional Equality.

Morris & Essex Magazine, published by Wainscot Media, serves the most affluent residents and communities within these two vibrant counties. Published six times a year, Morris & Essex Magazine covers the people, places and events that make our area so unique and special. Each issue showcases the finest homes, the best shops, the most talked-about restaurants and so much more throughout Morris and Essex counties.

The **NAACP** (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) is a multi-ethnic coalition of Freedom Fighters who are in Pursuit of The Beloved Community. Founded in 1909 in response to the ongoing violence against Black people around the country, the NAACP is the largest and most pre-eminent civil rights organization in the nation with over 2,200 units and branches, and well over 2M activists. Our 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.

NCJW/Essex (National Council of Jewish Women / Essex) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values,

NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

New Jersey Hills Media Group is a digital local news provider of 13 publications covering 51 towns in Essex, Hunterdon, Morris and Somerset counties. We engage and inform the towns we serve with community-driven, professional and fact-based news and feature reporting that inspires civic participation and strengthens democracy.

The **Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair** was founded in 1897 by a group of women seeking liberal religious education for their children and prides itself on a consistent commitment to teaching and embodying inclusive theology. Current commitments to immigration, housing, gender, racial/reparation, and environmental justice allow its members to put their faith into action. The Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair grounded in faith, comes together to nurture the soul, inspire hope, and bring into being a more just and loving world.