



Leading the parade for history days in the Village of Fredonia, were women from the League of Women Voters dressed as suffragists. It is the Suffrage Centennial in our State, where 100 years ago in New York State, on Nov. 6, 1917 women won the right to vote, a full three years before the 19th amendment was ratified. New York is often called the birthplace of women's right to vote following the Seneca Falls convention in 1848 where Elizabeth Cady Stanton read her Declaration of Sentiments, symbolically modeled after the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be selfevident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights..." In 1920 the 19th Amendment was ratified, which amended our very Constitution to give women the right to vote. Its victory accomplished, the National American Woman Suffrage Association ceased to exist, but its organization became the nucleus of the League of Women Voters. Today the League carries on the work of educating voters in a non partisan manner. 'The League is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.'