



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

March 1, 2024



CELEBRATE!

On February 19, 2024, Co Presidents Beth Wood and Irene Bugge joined Governor Tony Evers in Hudson to celebrate the signing of the Fair Maps Legislation in Wisconsin.



LWVSCV Co-Presidents Irene Bugge and Beth Wood joined LWVGCV Past President Annemarie McClelland and President Ellen Ochs to welcome the Governor.



Numerous members of the LWVSCV worked diligently for years on the issue of fair maps. Many events were held in collaboration with what is now GROWW (Grass Roots Organizers of West WI) During the COVID years we held sign rallies in communities throughout our League. Beth, Edna, and Vicki on a corner in Amery.



LWVWI Executive Director Debra Cronmiller and a member of the fair maps team were present as fair maps legislation was signed.

Notice Calendar Correction!

The LWV Wisconsin Annual Meeting (Save the Date) date is:

*Friday/Saturday **May 31 - June 1, 2024***

at The Oneida Hotel in Green Bay



Voter Services Report

February 2024

Welcome back to Voter Services.

Most of January and February have been spent getting ready for this election year. There will be lots of things going on and we will keep you better informed as we go forward. Here's an overview of the things we've been fine tuning and updating. *I hope each of you will find your passion in at least one of these opportunities.*

GOTYV - Get out the Youth Vote

The 18 + voters will have a major impact on the elections this year. Our youth are watching and listening to the candidates and studying the issues, many of which directly impact their personal lives. In February, we went to three schools to assist students with voter registration & election information. They are eager to get involved, and find the registration process online a big plus in voting. We went to UWRF and Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) in River Falls and Northwood Tech in New Richmond. This is our second year visiting these schools, and it seems like we're establishing a relationship that will continue in the years to come. If you're interested call **Kathy Streit** [612-916-8856](tel:612-916-8856).

Forums in each County in March Organized by Carolyn Saunders

- Polk County **March 5** Polk County Justice Center 1004 W. Main, Balsam Lake
- St. Croix County **March 7** United Methodist Church 1401 Laurel Ave. Hudson WI
- Burnett County **March 12** Burnett County Government Center 7410 County Rd K Siren, WI

All forums run from 5:30 - 7:30pm

Members from each county are encouraged to attend the forum in their county and to volunteer to work with the tasks of hosting this kind of event. Including greeters, members to help attendees with information and the upcoming dates. Please contact Janet Lestock to volunteer in St. Croix County, Irene Bugge in Polk County and Kris Surbaugh in Burnett County.



Signs

Katrina Larsen is in charge of distributing yard signs before each election. We have “Vote”, “Vota/Vote”, “Vote in Ojibwe” “Vote Tuesday”, “Vote from Home” “Thank You election workers” with dates assigned to help you know when to

place them out.

Contact Katrina at 715-338-6820 if you have any questions.



St. Patrick's Day Parade March 17, 2024

Join in the shenanigans to let people know who we are and what we stand for.

Parade line-up at 3PM
on the corner of S. Knowles Ave. W. 3rd St.
It's a short parade and big on spectators.

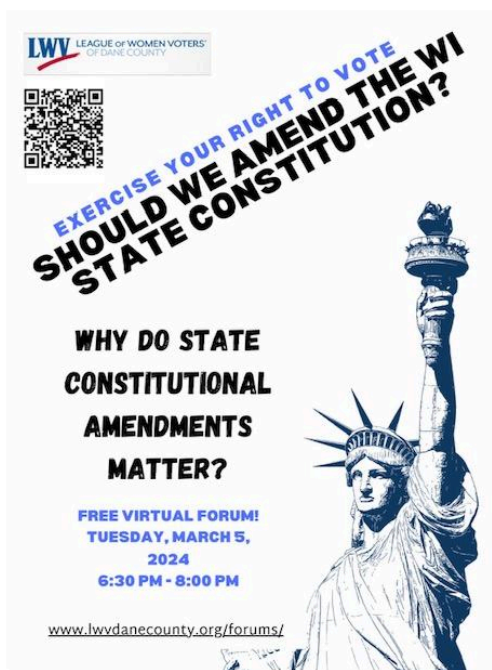
Contact Patty 651-271-9942

(Photo from 2023 St Patrick's Day Parade)

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

Rita and Patty are piloting a *Greet & MyVote Assist* at the Hudson DMV to see how feasible it will be to help people register on site. If we have success and feel it's worthwhile, we will request volunteers to work a shift.

Hudson is the only DMV in St Croix Cty with a MyVote computer. There is one site in Polk County, Amery, and one site in Burnett County, Siren (limited days/hours). Call Rita Kearns 651-492-8885 if you're interested in this effort.



Vote No This April

Elections need to be fully funded. The proposed constitutional amendment on the April 2 ballot puts our elections at risk. Additionally, elections are a lot of work. Clerks rely on a whole host of outside experts, volunteers, and community members to make sure our elections are run smoothly and the results are accurate. Vote No to question 2 to ensure our clerks have the support

they need to run our elections and voters have the support they need to make informed decisions for our state. To learn more you may attend:

Why Do State Constitutional Amendments Matter?

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

6:30 PM 8:00 PM

<https://www.lwvdanecounty.org/forums>



Also available is a pdf Slideshow Presentation and Amendment Quiz from the LWV-WI. See the attached documents with this email or request from me directly: aksurbaugh@gmail.com.

Like Share Amplify!



Do you want to make a BIG impact in a short amount of time?

Like, share and amplify the social media platforms of both the LWVWI and the LWVSCV.

The League of Women Voters St. Croix Valley is on Facebook and Instagram.

All the posting to our site is vetted and supported by the LWV to support the mission, the policy positions, and whatever is currently happening in our world that directly impacts all of us as league members and as defenders of democracy.

It is EASY.

It is trustworthy AND it is a very direct way to use YOUR voice in a non threatening way to state what you believe and issues you support.

The LWVUS and LWVWI are strongly urging our local leagues to amp up our social media presence. It is a proven way of expanding our reach and our influence.

JUMP in! Like, share, amplify.

Thank you! Beth Wood/communication committee social media.



Tickets go on sale March 1st for the 2024 LWVWI Annual Meeting in Green Bay, WI!

This year's theme is *Tipping Points & Shared Purposes – Challenges of 2024 & Beyond: What We Need to do This Year to Move Through Them Together*. Issues we face today affect us in more ways than the obvious. How do we encourage everyone to come together again in our hyper-polarized world? From civics education to artificial intelligence to fair redistricting and beyond, we explore how to find balance before reaching the tipping points.

FORMAT: Hybrid (in-person and virtual options)

DATE: May 31 - June 1, 2024

LOCATION: Oneida Hotel and Conference Center, Green Bay, WI

For additional information on theme, lodging, parking, & materials visit the ticketing website: < <http://tinyurl.com/WIannualLWV24> >



WANTED: Member who can donate 1-2 days a month to help with formatting and editing the newsletter. Work can be done remotely. All that is required is an interest, a willingness to learn, and an ability to commit the time needed. Sounds like fun? Then contact Kris <aksurbaugh@gmail.com> or text 715-566-1186 and say 'put me in coach!'.

Link Correction from February 15 Newsletter!

Thanks to the folks who read the newsletter. A special thanks to the members who let me know when links included don't work.

In case others missed my response, I am reprinting this notice with the corrected link!

Kris

PFAS
THE EVERYDAY
EVERYWHERE
TOXIN

March 12th, 6:30-8:00 pm via Zoom

Meleesa Johnson
Executive Director, Wisconsin's Green Fire

Dr. Beth Neary
Co-President, Wisconsin Environmental Health Network

PFAS: The Everyday, Everywhere Toxin

News about PFAS is infiltrating our lives and – appropriately for "forever chemicals" – isn't going away. Contamination from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS, has been found in sites all over Wisconsin, stemming from any number of the many ways these substances are used.

Join us on **Tuesday, March 12** for the first of two virtual webinars that delve into how PFAS get into our bodies, how to protect ourselves, and what is happening at the state and federal level to mitigate this issue.

Speakers:

- Dr. Beth Neary, Co-President of Wisconsin Environmental Health Network
- Meleesa Johnson, Executive Director of Wisconsin's Green Fire

Go to [Wisconsin | MyLO \(lwv.org\)](https://www.lwv.org) and scroll down to PFAS event.

Calendar of Events!

March 1-March 26

Put out 'Vote From Home' yard signs

Tuesday, March 5: Polk County Bd of Supervisors Candidate Forum
Thursday, March 7: St. Croix County Bd of Supervisors Candidate Forum
Tuesday, March 12: Burnett County Bd. of Supervisors Candidate Forum

Tuesday, March 12: PFAS Zoom with LWV-WI
Wednesday, March 13: Last day for online registrations for Spring Election
Tuesday, March 26: Take down *Vote From Home* yard sign
Wednesday, March 27: Put up *Vote Tuesday* yard sign

Tuesday, April 2: Spring and Presidential Preference Election

Wednesday, April 3: Take down *Vote Tuesday* yard sign
Wednesday, April 3: Put up *Thank Election Workers* yard sign
Wednesday, April 10: Take down *Thank Election Workers* yard sign

Saturday, April 6: Co-Sponsor Youth Panel on Environment

Sunday, April 28: *LWVSCV Annual Meeting,*
2:00 - 5:00, Amery

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday/Saturday, LWWWI Annual Meeting (Green Bay) May 31-June 1

Saturday, June 22: Valley Wide Pride Fest -- Hudson

Tuesday, August 13: Partisan Primary Election

Tuesday, September 17: National Voters Registration Day

Tuesday, November 5: General Election

**“Our words are the oars in the boats,
our direction is civility, and our path is reflection.”**

—Lynn Forbes co-president of the League of Women Voters Nevada County, California

Voters Services–Committee

Contacts

- Voter Services
- Get Out The Vote Events
- Voter Registration Events
- Meet The Candidate Events

Patty Van Nevel:

pattyvannevel@gmail.com

Rita Kearns:

ritakearns54@gmail.com

Member Services

- Member Enrichment Events
- Member Recruitment
- Manage Recruitment materials in
- public places

Kathy Streit

kfstreitz@gmail.com

Irene Bugge (interim)

irenebugge@gmail.com

Program Committee

- Social Events (Annual Meeting, Summer Picnic)
- Education Programs
- Special Events
- Reader's Theater
- Book Study

Beth Wood (interim contact)

bwood@frontiernet.net

Communications & Media

- Website & Social Media
- Newsletter
- Press Releases & Research Writing

Kris Surbaugh:

aksurbaugh@gmail.com



Use this handy QR code to easily access our ***League Of Women Voters St Croix Valley*** website! Open your camera on your phone and hold it over the code. The website will pop up on your screen and take you right to our home page. Also, you could take a picture of this code to keep a copy handy to share with friends, family, and potential new members!