

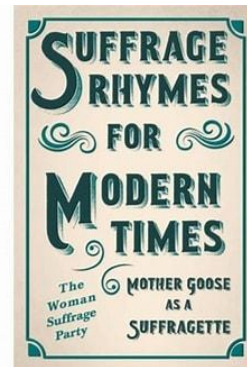


**OUR MISSION:** *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

October 1, 2024

## Readers Theater Update

*Jack and Jill  
Have equal will  
And equal strength and mind.  
But when it comes to Equal Rights  
Poor Jill trails far behind.*



This parody of the Jack and Jill nursery rhyme is from a collection entitled “Mother Goose as a Suffragette” first published in 1912. It is one of the many nursery rhymes, short poems, essays, and songs that will be sprinkled throughout the LWVSCV Readers Theater production. The performance will celebrate the struggle for voting rights and discuss the continuing mission to finish the fight for equal rights.

Over the summer, I have been collaborating with two colleagues that I have been doing theater with since our days together in the theater department at UWRF. It has been great fun combining our creative energy to work on this project!! We are currently gathering data to submit grant proposals to the Wisconsin Humanities, The Hugh J. Andersen Foundation and Bremer Bank.

We have also been able to secure dates and locations for the performances for October 2025. There will be a Saturday evening performance and a Sunday Matinee on October 18 and 19 at the Amery Community Center and October 25 and 26 at The Heritage Center in New Richmond.

*As we get closer to these performances there will be many opportunities to become involved.* From being one of the readers to helping with ad copy to setting up and working at each performance. So, mark your calendars-this is going to be a blast!!!

Look for regular updates in our newsletter.

We are making sashes for all the readers- but the colors will be the U.S. suffragette colors of purple and gold.

Vicki Harmon [vickiharmon@hotmail.com](mailto:vickiharmon@hotmail.com)



## Let's go "do something"

*From Voters Services~Patty Van Nevel and Rita Kerns*

Summer has ended and soon we will be settling back into our routines. In just a little more than a month, we will have a new president and our election extravaganza behind us. There is still a lot of volunteer work to be done. Voter Services has just shifted efforts from farmers markets to getting our youth registered to vote in high schools and Tech schools.

Here's what's going on in October:

- Sept 27 Clear Lake HS with Meg Farrington and Rita Keating
- Oct 8 Amery HS with Marcy Armstrong and Sharyl Manwiller
- Oct 10 Somerset HS with MarcyArmstrong LeAnn Amundson
- October 10 St Croix Falls HS Nanette DelMonaco & friend
- Oct 22 Osceola HS Meg Farrington and Anne Wallisch

Look over the list below and make a choice to contribute some time to help us GOTV

**Farmers Markets, festivals, outdoor venues - almost done**

**Election observer**

**HS, Tech schools and colleges voter registration events (in process)**

**Newsletters**

**Library information table for voting materials**

**Story Time activities and read aloud**

**Inmate voter registration at the Polk County jail**

- ❖ **Post Card writing on Tuesday October 1** (Beth is hosting a place for us to gather - New Richmond Quilt Shop) Our goal is to write and mail 500 postcards for the VOTE NO amendment initiative & finish 140 GOTV postcards. Please call to set up other locations to write postcards.
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## National Voter Registration Day Events!

LWVSCV received a \$500 grant to supplement community college activities to **GetOutTheVote!**

We had volunteers at Northwood Technical College & Chippewa Valley Technical College on NationalVoterRegistrationDay and collectively interacted with nearly 200 people.

SHOWTIME/MTV Entertainment Studios were the organizations that distributed the funding to reach this important voter population. We were able to supplement our usual handouts, candy & bookmarks, with buttons.

There is excitement building among this age group and it is gratifying to be a part of the energy and enthusiasm.



*What our volunteers have to say:*

**Chippewa Valley Technical College** Over 85 people, including students of all ages, from 18 to 62 years old, stopped by to chat with our League members, Janet Ellinger and Kay Brooks, during National Voter Registration Day, Sept. 17, from 11-1.



### **Amery Library**

We made more than 35 contacts during the day. League members who helped set up, take down and staff the booth include Sharyl Manwiller, Susan Bosley, Robin

Maercklein and Irene Bugge. *“The most satisfying part of the day was helping a couple who recently moved from another state register to vote. We also helped several people check their voter status and handed out educational materials. And because the library was hopping with activities, a bunch of kids spun the wheel and played the civics game.”* said volunteer Irene Bugge.

This November, voters will have another harmful, divisive constitutional amendment on their ballot. We will show up and vote no to keep Wisconsin moving forward!



Our voting rights are literally on the ballot with this amendment. The change from "every" to "only" is a downgrade to all of our voting rights. The

language changes our constitutionally protected voting rights from a guarantee for all citizens to a limitation that could be used to erode our voting rights.

Are you looking for more information about a 'no' vote? Check out this video on youtube <https://youtu.be/lCmMLyg6z9> or follow the link on our state website <https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/november-2024-constitutional-amendment>

Be informed and spread the word! Share with friends, neighbors, family members who may not know about this amendment on our November ballot!

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***Election Integrity Virtual Presentation  
and Watch Parties at  
Amery, Frederic, Hudson and  
St. Croix Falls Public Libraries  
October 8, 2024***

- 5:30 pm Refreshments***
- 6:00 – 7:00 pm Watch Party***



Meagan Wolfe, the administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission will speak virtually about election integrity and how elections work in Wisconsin on October 8. An attachment with more details is attached to this email.

Four libraries in our area -- Amery Public Library, Frederic Public Library, St. Croix Falls Public Library, and Hudson Public Library -- are co-hosting

**Watch Parties with LWV St. Croix Valley.** Attendees will gather at 5:30pm for refreshments with the Watch Party presentation at 6:00 pm.

We encourage League members to attend one of the Watch Parties and bring friends.

If it is more convenient for you to watch from home, we have provided a zoom link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88311736256?pwd=djOUKaGw2nZIafyaYmJwFG0lYsC0Fz.1>

Please share the included flier and/or link with others who you think might be interested.



### ***Voting Integrity Discussed at Frederic Public Library's Engage and Empower luncheon***

Library Director, Amanda Blackmon, and Polk County Clerk, Shabana Lundeen addressed a crowd of more than 22 interested citizens at Frederic Public Library's third Engage and Empower 'lunch and learn'

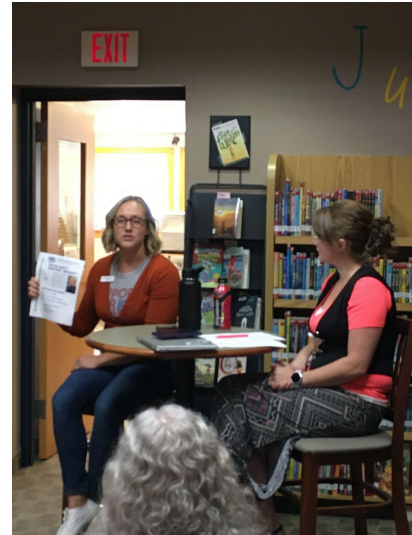
session Thursday, September 19. Engage and Empower was a collaborative effort with LWVSCV, The Frederic Public Library, and the Friends of the Frederic Public Library.

Shabana explained what happens to our votes after they are cast in our local municipalities. Responding also to questions from both Amanda, program moderator, and from the audience, Shabana clearly laid out step-by-step the confirmation of legitimate voters, the process of establishing the voters roll, and the safeguards in place to guarantee to Wisconsin citizens that each vote is confirmed and counted.

One citizen wondered what would happen if the 'system went down?' Shabana reassured the audience that the voting machines in each municipality is a 'stand

alone' which means it is not attached to the 'internet'. Election workers also have paper and pencil ways to tabulate each vote—triple checking the veracity of each vote. Everything is backed up by a paper trail that is sealed and archived in case there is a question about the votes sometime in the future.

Responding to another listener, Shabana explained that vote 'dumping' (duplicating false votes in large numbers) is not possible as she, and local election workers, keep careful count and monitor responses from each municipality. Another person expressed concern about the ability of non-citizens or illegal voters to vote. Shabana explained that although it is conceivable that someone can vote illegally, the incidence of this occurring is minute (less than .01%) and the punishments are severe.



Emphasizing that election officers in Polk County are our friends and neighbors, she reminded us that many have worked the local polling stations for over thirty years and are trained and diligent.

Shabana invited folks to reach out to her office with any questions or concerns about this upcoming, or any, election. She can be reached at the Polk County Government Center

- **Email:** [countyclerk@polkcountywi.gov](mailto:countyclerk@polkcountywi.gov)
- **Phone:** 715-485-9209
- **Address:** 100 Polk County Plaza, Suite 110, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

Or find out more at Wisconsin Elections Commission <<https://elections.wi.gov/>>

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**Join the League of Women Voters St Croix Valley at this event:**



## **Know Your Nonprofits Expo**

**Thursday, October 17, from 5-7pm**

**Zhashagiins Event Center**

(formerly Fourwinds Market)

24133 State Highway 35, Siren

**This event is free and open to the public.**

With generous support from **Webb Lake Community Club**, **NACF** is co-hosting this event with **100 Women Who Care Polk/Burnett**, to help nonprofits connect with more friends and neighbors who support their good works in the community.

### ***Join Us to Discover How You Can Help!***

Learn how local nonprofits are serving your community.

Meet others engaged in philanthropy and volunteerism.

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## **Volunteer Opportunities with the State League~~Help Get Out the Vote**

Help the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin get out the vote for the November 5 election. Join the effort to contact voters by volunteering for one (or more!) of our upcoming text banks. We will provide training, voters to text and moral support!

- [GOTV Text Bank - October 8 at 6pm](#)

<https://lwvwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=5cd1cb60e7&e=7043d919d6t>

- [GOTV Text Bank - October 22 at 6pm](#)

<https://lwvwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=6918eb8701&e=7043d919d6>



## Bringing Citizens Together to Bridge the Partisan Divide

7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 15, 2024  
American Legion, 807 Pine Street, St. Croix Falls

**FREE OF CHARGE**  
Registration required at [www.scUUf.org](http://www.scUUf.org)

### PROGRAM:

Bill Doherty, U of M emeritus professor and co-founder of the nonpartisan nonprofit **BRAVER ANGELS**, will speak about finding common ground in a divided world and uniting "red" and "blue" Americans in a working alliance to depolarize America.

### THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

Saphire Realty • The Barred Owl  
Breakthrough Leadership • Luhrs/Bjornson Artworks  
League of Women Voters of St. Croix Valley

### ORGANIZED BY:

Volunteers of St. Croix Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (SCUUF)

Register early for  
this event at:  
[www.scUUf.org](http://www.scUUf.org)

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**Did you know?** Everything about voting can be found on [MyVote.WI.gov](http://MyVote.WI.gov). Here's a tidbit - **September 19, 2024**- *Deadline for municipal clerks to send absentee ballots to voters with an active request already on file*- Municipal clerks can begin mailing absentee ballots once official ballots are received and have until September 19, 2024 to send ballots to all voters with a request on file by that day. Requests received after September 19, 2024 must be fulfilled within 24-48 business hours.



October	1	Newsletter
	1	<b>Gather at Little Piece of Mind Quilt Shop</b> New Richmond 4PM We will have postcards, suggested messages, and yard signs by October 1 meeting
	7-11	NATIONAL VOTER EDUCATION WEEK
	8	<b>How Elections Work in Wisconsin with Meagan Wolfe</b> , Administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC). Online event at 6:00 pm co-hosted by LWVSCV and Amery Public Library. Watch Parties at 5:30 Amery and other libraries.
	15	Newsletter
	15	<b>"Uniting Americans to Depolarize America"</b> Bill Doherty, Braver Angels 7PM American Legion Post 143, St. Croix Falls LWVSCV is a sponsor of this Main Street Voices event
	16	<b>Online Voter Registration Deadline!</b> Mail in Voter Registration postmarked by today!
	22	<b>Early Voting begins – call your clerk!</b>
	29	Mail your absentee ballot at least 7 days before election! This is your last chance to mail it in.
November	1	Newsletter
	5	<b>You can hand in your absentee ballot at the polls by 8PM</b>
	5	<b>General Election!!!</b>
	5	<b>Gather at Little Piece of Mind Quilt Shop</b> <b>New Richmond 4PM</b> <b>ELECTION DAY!!!</b>
	15	Newsletter
December	1	Newsletter
	15	Newsletter
January	1	Newsletter

	12	Winter Gathering Amery Community Center (19th snow date)
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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ST. CROIX VALLEY  
LEADERSHIP TEAM  
2024-2025

Beth Wood – Co-President <bwood@frontiernet.net>  
Irene Bugge – Co-President <irenebugge@gmail.com>  
Kris Surbaugh – Vice-President <aksurbaugh@gmail.com>  
Evanne Hunt – Secretary <evanne.hunt@outlook.com>  
Kate Manecke – Treasurer <deleinen@icloud.com>  
Edna Early – Director (DEI) <ed5early@gmail.com>  
Barb Katt – Director (DEI) <barbkatt@hotmail.com>  
Rita Kearns – Director (Voter Services) <ritakearns54@gmail.com>  
Patty Van Nevel – Director (Voter Services) <pattyvannevel@gmail.com>  
Kathy Streitz – Membership <kfstreitz@gmail.com>  
Nancy Stewart – Budget <n.stewart@yahoo.com>  
Tami Halcomb – Roster Manager <thalcomb@lwwstcroixvalley.org>