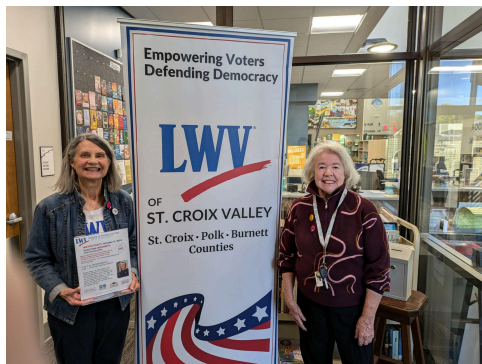




**OUR MISSION:** *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

**October 15, 2024**

**CANCELED** – The Nov. 5 gathering at *A Little Piece of Mind Quilt Shop* in New Richmond has been canceled. Many of our members will be working at the polls and/or have plans to “stick close to home” on election night. Please join us in taking a deep breath and feeling good about your membership in this incredible organization, regardless of the election outcome. Thank you to all the members that gathered to write postcards and share conversations and snacks during the three Tuesdays we met at the *A Little Piece of Mind Quilt Shop* in New Richmond. We are grateful for the generosity of the use of the space, and we encourage our members to support the shop when thinking of purchasing fabric and materials. Thank you all! Forward Together!!



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## *Election Integrity with Meagan Wolfe*

On October 8, LWV St. Croix Valley and Amery Public library co-hosted a virtual presentation on election integrity by Meagan Wolfe, the Administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission. Ms. Wolfe’s keynote: “How Elections Work in Wisconsin,” was part of our collaboration with Northwest Wisconsin libraries to celebrate National Voter Education Week.

Amery, Frederic, Hudson, and St. Croix Falls public libraries hosted Watch Parties for their communities. Altogether, 35 people viewed Ms. Wolfe's presentation. Some participants tuned in from their home computers but most, nearly 80%, chose to go to their local library and watch with others. This preference to gather at neighborhood libraries underlines the vital role that our libraries play as nonpartisan hubs for civic engagement.



We have heard only positive comments about Ms. Wolfe's talk. Anne Taylor, an online participant wrote: "I was so impressed with the clarity of purpose in Ms. Wolfe's presentation and responses to questions - she made every word count in a logical progression. In so doing, she represented the integrity in our election system."

Irene Bugge, one of the organizers of this event, made the following observation: "I heard Meagan Wolfe speak to LWV Wisconsin last fall on the same topic. Sitting with community members at a library watch party was a vastly different experience. I was struck by the number of participants who were passionately concerned about election fraud. They asked detailed questions, one even citing court cases. I believe that Ms. Wolfe's fact-based presentation and willingness



to answer questions with transparency helped to lessen the intensity of their concerns."

A recording of Ms. Wolfe's presentation about how Wisconsin's election process works is available on our website and on library websites.

[amerylibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/ElectionIntegrity-MeaganWolfeOct82024.mp4](https://amerylibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/ElectionIntegrity-MeaganWolfeOct82024.mp4)

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## Goodbye For Now to Farmers' Markets

As summer is coming to a close, so are farmers' markets. Our LWVSCV league can be proud of the many potential voters they have connected with. We have made about 550 direct contacts and many, many more people indirectly. We answered many questions, but also were a visual reminder to people that there is an important election coming up, that they need to register or check their registration and most importantly, they need to vote----(even to people who walked by).

We found 10 markets that welcomed us, 7 of which we attended. A few had challenging weather, but over 20 members volunteered to help out and for that, we are grateful. An added bonus for them was a chance to better get to know other members.  
Kay Brooks

*The executive team wants to thank Kay for all the time and work she has volunteered over the summer to coordinate supplies and schedule volunteers. Volunteers like Kay are invaluable, and they are the bedrock of our success as a League.*



## LWVSCV wishes 18 year olds **Happy Birthday!**

Recently, a high school administrator told us he had only 12 students that would be eligible to vote in November. We proposed to send birthday cards to those seniors.

*This is the tiny package that we will be passing along to those recently eligible voters.*

Our challenge has been to find ways to introduce voter educational materials to the newest of our voters. **LWVSCV High School Ambassadors** have taken the lead on

contacting school staff and scheduling visits during lunch hours to engage students in voter information. The spinning wheel draws a crowd, and school-themed bookmarks and candy are freely shared, along with lots of voter info. These few moments of conversation are pivotal in ways we may never know. Consider that the subject of voting may never be a topic that comes up at home. Not to mention, how much help we all need to find the who, what, and where of each and every election.

We are grateful to our awesome ambassadors (over 24 volunteers!) for the work that's been done. This outreach is happening at the college level also, with LWVSCV volunteers working to distribute information at Northwood Tech and Chippewa Valley Tech. *We welcome any and all to join in this work.*



## Spread the Word! VOTE NO!

Wisconsin is stronger together. This constitutional amendment aims to divide us and pit us against our neighbors. This anti-voter amendment could

disenfranchise hundreds of thousands of eligible voters. Let's come together to protect our freedom to vote. #VoteNoWisconsin Learn more: [bit.ly/WisVoteNoNov5](http://bit.ly/WisVoteNoNov5). Not only can you Vote NO but you can let others know to do the same. Most people do not yet know about the constitutional amendment and of course it is worded in a misleading way. Help out your friends and neighbors by sharing information about why they should VOTE NO!



## Register to Vote

- The deadline to register to vote online or by mail is October 16. But don't worry if you miss that deadline – you have other options!
- You can register or update your address at your early voting location before November 3 or

at your polling place on Election Day. Be aware that registering to vote on election day can take quite a bit longer.

- Make sure you have a [proof of residence](#) (see attached document in the email text) document for registration. Some examples of acceptable documents include: a paystub, bank statement, or a WI Driver License with your current name/address.
- **Bring a photo ID**



## Post Card Writing -

### What a success!

In the last few weeks members of our league joined forces to get together and write over 1000 postcards to potential voters in St. Croix, Polk, and Burnett counties. The post cards focused on

reaching first time voters, single moms and people who did not vote in the last election. This focus group was urged to register to vote and Vote No on constitutional amendments. We met at the Quilt Shop in New Richmond three times and Kay Brooks hosted three home parties. Thank You to Kay and for all the volunteers who helped accomplish this outreach! Postage donations (still) appreciated.

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## LWWWI Submits Recommendations for the 2025-27 Wisconsin State Budget

On October 9, the Legislative Committee submitted LWWWI's recommendations for the Governor's upcoming 2025-27 State Budget proposal. The six page document outlines major investments we would like to see in Wisconsin's future, including:

- Ensuring full funding of accessible elections with expansive voting information
- The development of an Independent Nonpartisan Redistricting Commission
- Providing strong safety nets and childcare options for WI families
- Protection and restoration of natural resources, such as water and air, as well as diverse ecosystems
- An expansion of healthcare availability in Wisconsin, including Medicaid expansion and protecting reproductive rights
- Strengthening our school systems to ensure an equitable, adequate, transparent, predictable, and fair learning environment for students and staff alike

The full recommendations lay out so much more to build a Wisconsin where we can all thrive. You can find a copy at [LWVWI State Budget Recommendations 2025-2027.pdf](#) - Google Drive or open the pdf attached to this newsletter's email. Remember these recommendations when your legislators are discussing the upcoming state budget.



## Member relates Outreach Experience:

notes from Nanette Del Monaco

The new Principal of St. Croix Falls High School, Mike Wilson, enthusiastically invited me, and my friend (and former teacher) Adrienne Gyllan, to speak to the seniors about the importance of voting on October 10th.

Mr. Wilson met us at the door and escorted us to the new High School Auditorium. He helped get us settled at the stage, where I set up the wheel. Shortly after, 25 or so seniors filed into the auditorium. There are 95 students in the senior class, but many were out of school on apprenticeships and others taking college classes. We invited students to play the wheel after briefly talking about the importance of voting. Two seniors present were eligible to vote in the November 5 th

election. We told everyone how to use the QR codes, and to upload identification when registering online or when registering in person.

They listened attentively and took Voting literature handouts, bookmarks and of course, candy. Both Adrienne and I were pleased at our reception, and the welcome given to us by the principal.

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Jane Kirschenheiter Zimmerman  
**ISSUES BRIEFING 2024**

**THURS, NOVEMBER 14TH**  
JUSTICE MATTERS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

**SAT, NOVEMBER 16TH**  
JUSTICE MATTERS IN OUR JUDICIAL SYSTEM

**TUES, NOVEMBER 19TH**  
JUSTICE MATTERS FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

View program information, agenda, and bios at the following link:

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[HOME | LWVWI IB \(lwwwisconsin.wixsite.com\)](https://lwwwisconsin.wixsite.com)

LWVWI Issues Briefing is now the **LWVWI Jane Kirschenheiter Zimmerman Issues Briefing**. Steve Zimmerman and his wife, Sharon, have established a fund to honor Steve's mother and provide long term support for LWVWI's Issues Briefing. Jane was a member of the Dane County League, formerly the Madison League, from 1968 to 1973. She was a stay at home mother like so many women of her generation and found intellectual stimulation, companionship with like minded women, and an outlet for advocacy in her League work. Jane cared about the issues the League studied and the positions we adopted. To honor her memory, the Jane Kirschenheiter Zimmerman Fund will forevermore ensure that the League can continue to explore topics important to League members through expert testimony and discussion at our annual LWVWI Jane Kirschenheiter Zimmerman Issues Briefing.

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The LWVWI Voter Services Committee would like to invite any interested member

to participate in our upcoming Voter Services Community Conversations. The purpose of this series is to create a space for League members interested in voter services to join together in conversation around a voter services topic each month.

These informal conversations will be held over zoom. Each session will have one or more discussion leaders who are knowledgeable about the topic.

**Sessions will be held over the noon hour on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month.**

Each conversation will begin with 15 minutes of free form networking with the topic driven conversation to begin at 12:15pm

Our next community conversation is on October 15, 2024 at 12pm and we will be introducing the Wisconsin Civic Power Table to learn more about the resources and support they can offer Local Leagues.

Here is the link to [join the zoom call](https://lwwwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=61ca1985f2&e=bb4a6a02fc). We hope to see you there!

<https://lwwwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&id=61ca1985f2&e=bb4a6a02fc>



## 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>  
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 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](mailto:thalcomb@lwwstcroixvalley.org)>

October	15	Newsletter
	15	Voter Service Community Conversations 12PM Zoom <a href="https://lwwwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&amp;id=61ca1985f2&amp;e=bb4a6a02fc">https://lwwwi.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=28ea86dd7c46f5cfdcf3e4a00&amp;id=61ca1985f2&amp;e=bb4a6a02fc</a>
	15	7PM “Uniting Americans to Depolarize America” Bill Doherty, Braver Angels American Legion Post 143, St. Croix Falls LWVSCV is a sponsor of this Main Street Voices Event
	16	Online Voter Registration Deadline Mail in Voter Registration must be postmarked by today

October	22	Early Voting Begins – Call Your Clerk
	29	Mail your absentee ballot at least 7 days before the election. This is your last date to mail it in.
November	1	Newsletter
	5	ELECTION DAY! You can hand in your absentee ballot at the polls by 8PM today. VOTE!!!
	5	<del>Gather at Little Piece of Mind Quilt Shop New Richmond 4PM</del> <b>Canceled</b>
	14	LWV-WI Issues Briefing “Justice Matters For Native Americans” register <a href="https://lwvwisconsin.wixsite.com/ib2023">https://lwvwisconsin.wixsite.com/ib2023</a>
	15	Newsletter
	16	LWV-WI Issues Briefing “Justice Matters in our Judicial System” register <a href="https://lwvwisconsin.wixsite.com/ib2023">https://lwvwisconsin.wixsite.com/ib2023</a>
	19	LWV-WI Issues Briefing “Justice Matters for our LGBTQIA+ Community” register <a href="https://lwvwisconsin.wixsite.com/ib2023">https://lwvwisconsin.wixsite.com/ib2023</a>
December	1	Newsletter
	15	Newsletter
January 2025	1	Newsletter
	12	Winter Gathering at Amery Community Center
	19	Snow Date for Winter Gathering