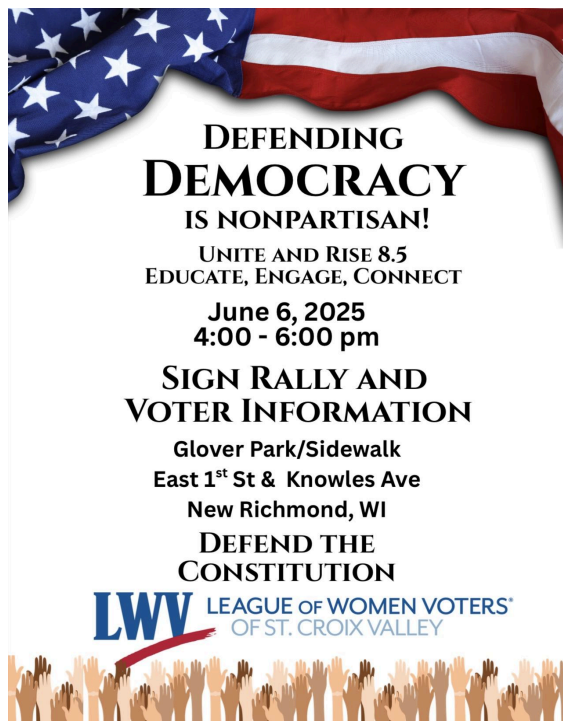




**OUR MISSION:** *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

June 1, 2025



Please join members of  
LWV St. Croix Valley  
on Friday, June 6, 2025  
from 4:00–6:00  
in New Richmond at Glover Park  
(East 1st and Knowles Ave)  
for a *Unite and Rise* - “*Defending  
Democracy is Nonpartisan*” sign rally  
and voter information event.  
This event will be family friendly and  
focused on education, engagement, and  
connections. Join us in our efforts to  
***Defend the Constitution***  
and drive change in our communities.

As we gather on June 6 to “turn up the heat” please remember to bring a sun hat, a lawn chair, a cold beverage (and some to share if you can). If you would like to bring your own sign please focus on the themes of ***“Defend our Democracy” “Democracy is Nonpartisan” “Protect our Constitution” “Protect Voting Rights” “Due Process is a Right”*** as it is important that we reflect the mission of the LWV and also the Unite, Rise, 8.5 campaign. There will also be some signs available. Voter Services will set up a table similar to a Farmers Market and it will be a good chance for members interested in participating at a Farmers Market to spend some time getting familiar with what that entails.

Please bring family, friends and share the word with other nonpartisan groups you may belong to. We want to have a fun, family focused event, sharing Voter information and kicking off our Unite, Rise 8.5 campaign. Ann Hall at **Table 65** in New Richmond will have a “rally special” available for about \$15 afterwards if anyone would like to stop for dinner and refreshments after our rally.



**Raffle tickets are still on sale** for the beautiful queen sized quilt (91x 100) made by Carol Johnson. This is our main fundraiser of the year. Very little of our annual dues are kept within the local league and we need to raise funds for our great projects. Tickets are \$50 or 3/\$100. Only 200 tickets will be sold (great odds!). We can accept cash or a check. The drawing for the quilt will be following the *Readers' Theater on Sunday, October 26th, 2025*. Nancy Stewart is trying to make it to most gatherings to sell tickets. State law prohibits selling tickets through the mail. Please, if you are inclined to purchase a ticket(s) and might not be making it to the

summer picnics or Readers Theater, please give Nancy a call at 715-554-3108 and something can be arranged. Thank you!

“Unite and Rise 8.5 embodies a proactive, positive vision of what America can be — something that anyone who cares about democracy, no matter their party affiliation, can participate in.

More than 105 years ago, women of all political leanings fought together for the freedom to vote, and the unprecedented political moment we find ourselves in today demands we take action to lead a movement again.”

Celina Stewart, CEO of LWVUS



## **Town Hall: *Hands Off Medicaid***

**With guest speaker Timothy Faust**

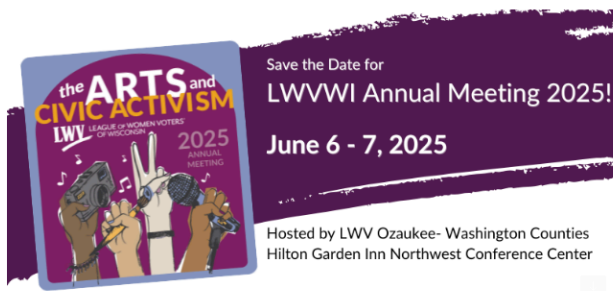
**When:** Tuesday, June 10 at 6:30 PM

**Where:** St. Croix Falls Public Library  
230 S Washington Street, St. Croix Falls

Join your neighbors for a conversation about Medicaid, Badgercare, and how Medicaid cuts will affect our community.

**All are welcome!**





**LWVWI Annual Meeting 2025  
Tickets, Fri, Jun 6, 2025 at 3:00  
PM | Eventbrite**

### **DEADLINES APPROACHING FOR REGISTRATION**

Remember to register for Annual Meeting 2025. In person attendance has closed but virtual registration is open through **June 5th**.

The deadline to reserve lodging in the hotel block has passed.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lwvwi-annual-meeting-2025-tickets-1255205636849?aff=oddtcreator>



### **LWVSCV OPEN BOARD MEETING--**

**June 17, 2025 ALL WELCOME!**

Please join your LWVSCV Board (both outgoing and incoming members) as we say

***Thank you*** to Treasurer Kate Manecke, Budget

Committee Chair Nancy Stewart, and Directors Rita Kearns and Patty Van Nevel for their years of service in leadership on behalf of the LWVSCV.

We will gather **June 17, 2025** in the private Greateon's Room at ***Champs Sports Bar*** in downtown New Richmond from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Refreshments and food from the menu are available for your purchase. This will be your opportunity to experience a board meeting and enjoy an evening in conversation with league members as we deepen our connections. Please feel free to bring potential new members. All are welcome.

June 17, 2025

4–6PM

Greateon's Room at Champs Sports Bar <https://champsnr.com/>

220 S Knowles Ave, New Richmond, WI 54017



## Amery Coffee—or rather—Dinner

Thanks to a suggestion by Melissa Karl, we held an evening get-together. Nine members came to Junior's Kitchen in Amery, and all chose to order dinner, which was a variety of great looking and tasting (my opinion) food. Unfortunately, this picture was taken after, rather than before dinner. The presentation was beautiful!

We were happy to have three new members join us:

Melissa Karl, Karen Greenberg, and Angie Johnson. As always there was no shortage of conversation and it just felt good to be in the company of like-minded women.

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## FARMERS MARKETS HELP

With the start of warm weather, farmers markets are opening up in multiple towns within our LWV SCV area. Markets are one of our best chances to get our message out: **the importance of voting, and now—the need to support our democracy.**

Please consider taking a few hours to sit at one of our tables to have fun helping market goers play our spinning wheel game and distribute our handouts. You will not be alone. An experienced partner is guaranteed for first timers and you will have all the supplies you need. It's a great chance to spend time with another League member and shop for fresh produce and flowers!

You can sign up for a market in Balsam Lake, St. Croix Falls, Amery, Osceola, New Richmond, Somerset, Hudson, or River Falls. We encourage all members to give it a try for one time—or more. You will be receiving an email with a calendar listing dates and times for each market. Contact Kay Brooks (715-381-8879 or [kaybrooks48@gmail.com](mailto:kaybrooks48@gmail.com)).

## How To Do A Farmers Market:

Next week there will be a short Zoom meeting to discuss any concerns you might have. Save this information and link:

Topic: Farmers' Markets question/answer

Time: Jun 4, 2025 04:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84975450262?pwd=i7aw3aQi6amsstYszZa6BaFwE2pgcc.1>

Meeting ID: 849 7545 0262 Passcode: e2Bm77

Kay Brooks will offer a refresher demo on hosting a table at farmers' markets at the June 6 **Unite and Rise event at Glover Park in New Richmond**. It will be an opportunity to see how it is done, and members can look at when and where markets are.

Kay Brooks  
715-381-8879

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## SAVE Act

Urge our Senators to VOTE  
NO on the Save Act.

Take Action and Tell Your  
Senators to Oppose the SAVE Act

## What is the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act (SAVE Act)?

The United States House of Representatives has **PASSED** House Resolution (HR) 22, the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act, which would require every eligible voter to provide documentary proof of citizenship to register to vote.

The vote goes to the U.S. Senate next. There's no time to wait.

### Protect the Right to Vote — Oppose the SAVE Act!

The SAVE Act may sound harmless, but it's a dangerous step toward **voter suppression**. Requiring strict proof of citizenship could **block millions of eligible voters** — especially women, seniors, students, and communities of color — from participating in our democracy.

#### Here's what you can do:

- Call your Senators and urge them to **vote NO** on the SAVE Act
- Write a Letter to the Editor (LTE Template)
- Share this message and raise awareness
- Stand up for **free, fair, and accessible elections**

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## Talking Points: Tell your Senators to VOTE NO on the SAVE Act

- ☐ If passed in the Senate, the Save Act could disenfranchise Republicans, Democrats, and Independents.

- ☐ There was no evidence of VOTER FRAUD. Former WI Supreme Court Justice spent \$2million taxpayer dollars to investigate fraud in the 2020 election.  
No evidence of voter fraud was found.
- ☐ This is an attempt to suppress votes.  
The SAVE Act if passed in the Senate will make it more difficult for half of WI voters to register to vote.
- ☐ The SAVE act has passed in the House. It goes to the Senate next. Tell your Senators to VOTE NO.  
Here is why.
- ☐ If you change your address:  
Consider how many young people (college students), Seniors, Military, or if you move...
- ☐ If you wish to register as a new voter or if your address changes you have to report in person to your Clerk's office with a Passport, Birth Certificate, or Naturalization Papers.
- ☐ A REAL ID, driver's license, military id, or tribal id would not prove citizenship under the SAVE ACT if passed in the Senate. There are a few states in which the REAL ID does prove citizenship. Wisconsin does not.
- ☐ Birth Certificate requires a raised Seal of a notary. You can order online, through the mail, or in person—from your county of birth and pay for a certified copy. \$20 for the first copy.
- ☐ Passport Card will prove you are a citizen but not good for all international travel. \$30.00
- ☐ Passport book for international travel will prove you are a citizen. \$130.00
- ☐ Divorced and need to register to vote? Legal name on Passport, birth certificate, and naturalization papers have to match on all three documents. Many married women of a certain age have accepted their husband's last name—this doesn't match their birth certificate.
- ☐ 3,269,361 people in Wisconsin do not have a PASSPORT.
- ☐ 1,316,546 married women in Wisconsin do not have a Passport, copy of birth certificate, or naturalization papers.
- ☐ States in which most voters have a passport are blue states.
- ☐ 146 million American citizens do not have passports.
- ☐ 69 million women in America who have taken their spouse's last name, do not have a birth certificate matching their legal name.
- ☐ 4 million men changed their legal name in marriage.

- ☐ 153 million cast a ballot in the 2024 election.
- ☐ This bill would end mail in ballots and registration on- line. 42 states rely on online registration.
- ☐ 60 million Americans live in rural areas. This makes it more difficult to register in person.

The SAVE Act would set us back decades.

- ☐ If you are currently registered to vote. You are good to go. If you move, you will be required to register to vote in person with a birth certificate or passport (even if you move across the street!)

*There is a tiny fraction of noncitizens who have tried to vote. They have been prosecuted. These small numbers would not have changed any election outcomes. It appears the SAVE ACT is a solution to a problem that does not exist. If caught it is a felony and up to 5 years in prison.*

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**Nonprofit VOTE is calling on the US Senate to reject the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act, H.R. 22**

**Source: Nonprofit VOTE | Engaging America's Nonprofits in Voting and Elections**  
<https://share.google/yptiHLz9N4jwuiV4C>

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization established in 1920. We advocate for informed and active participation in government. The League welcomes anyone who wishes to improve our systems of government and impact public policies through education and advocacy.

**The League does not support or oppose candidates** for office at any level of government. At the same time, the League is wholeheartedly political. We work to influence policy through advocacy.

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in principle and in practice, and believes there should be no barriers to participating in the League. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policymakers in creating a more perfect democracy.

***Are you looking to get involved? Join us to make democracy work in Wisconsin!***  
<https://lwvstcroixvalley.org/>

# Who's rights? Our rights!



A workshop on the Bill of Rights presented by St. Paul-based labor Attorney Jeff Leys. Besides representing various unions for over 20 years, Leys has done pro bono work for Minnesota Water Protectors. He is a graduate of William Mitchell College of Law and a member of the National Lawyers Guild

Sunday, June 29, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
Polk County Justice Center, 1005 W. Main St.,  
Balsam Lake, WI. This event is free and open to the public.

What is the Bill of Rights?  
What is Habeas Corpus?  
What is Due Process?  
What is Birthright Citizenship?  
How are my rights being threatened?  
Do immigrants have the same rights as me?

Sponsored by Polk Burnett Indivisible

Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters St. Croix Valley



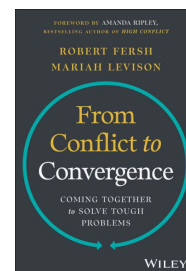
## From Conflict to Convergence Book Study 2025:

Members of last winter's LWV SCV Book Study met for a final discussion on Thursday, May 29 at the Watershed Cafe in Osceola. Although the other meetings were held via zoom over the course of the winter, the members of the club wanted to close the study with a face-to-face meeting.

The book we studied was called **From Conflict to Convergence: Coming Together to Solve**

**Tough Problems** by Robert Fersh and Maria Levison.

All were interested in sharing their favorite take-aways from the book and agreed that the messages for facilitating cooperative conversations could be applied at many levels from family conversations to disputes in our local communities. The book is a road map that facilitates bringing participants from many sides of an issue together to find satisfying and sustainable solutions.



Participants talked for more than two hours and agreed that there was much more that could have been discussed. Our final note was that conflict can be constructive. By bringing together a diversity of positions, opinions, and voices we can achieve sustainable solutions. To find out more about this book go to the Convergence website:

<<https://convergencepolicy.org/from-conflict-to-convergence/>>

All League members are invited to participate in future book studies. Have a book that you believe could lend to the common good or help our League determine our goals for the future? Contact Kris Surbaugh to learn more about a possible 2026 book study group.



**Time**  
Saturday, June 14  
10:30am – 12pm CDT

**Location**  
Stoplight in Siren, WI  
Wisconsin 35 & Wisconsin 70  
Siren, WI 54872  
[Map](#)

#### About this event

Join us June 14th from 10:30 to noon at the corner of Hwys. 35 and 70 in Siren, WI, for peaceful rally in opposition to autocracy. Sponsored by Democracy Protectors - Burnett County Chapter, and Polk Burnett Indivisible.

Please park on village roadways and not in business parking lots.

A farmers market on the same corner starts at 10 a.m. Consider buying some locally-grown produce!

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The League of Women Voters supports members exercising their civil rights.

As a general member you have the right to speak your mind. However, we ask when you are attending a League event or you are representing the League please focus on the themes of *"Defend our Democracy"* *"Democracy is Nonpartisan"* *"Protect our Constitution"* *"Protect Voting Rights"* *"Due Process is a Right"* as it is important that we reflect the mission of the LWV and also the Unite, Rise, 8.5 campaign.

Thank you for all you do for democracy.

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LWVSCV will be hosting a table at **Valley Wide Pride Fest** on June 21st, Hudson Lakefront Park. This marks the third year of this wonderful celebration and LWVSCV has been at it every year.

If you've never been to this event before, you'd be amazed at the energy, love, and sense of community. It spills out as music, laughter and all sorts of fun.

You will find league members there from 10-4 and it means a lot when others stop by and say hello or lend support. Hope to see you there! Wear your pride and league buttons or pick one up that day.

<b>June</b>	1	Newsletter
	6	Rally New Richmond
	6-7	LWV WI Annual Meeting
	10	Hands off Medicaid Forum St Croix Falls
	14	Peaceful Rally to Fight Autocracy– Siren WI 10:30 AM
	14	A Flag For Us All Day–Hudson
	15	Newsletter
	17	Board Meeting: All Members Invited Champs Bar in New Richmond 4-6PM
	21	Valley Wide Pride Event – Hudson
	29	Rights Forum Balsam Lake Collaboration with PBIIndivisible
<b>July</b>	4	Independence Day
	13	New Richmond Fun Fest Parade Noon

#### Officers 2025-2026

#### Board of Directors

Co-President: BethWood  
Co-President: Irene Bugge  
Vice President: Kris Surbaugh  
Treasurer: Katrina Larsen

Secretary: Evanne Hunt  
Director: Kathy Streitz  
Director: Vicki Harmon

#### Budget Committee

Janet Ballis Lestock, Chair 2025-2026  
Barb Katt 2025-2026

#### Nominating Committee

Marcy Armstrong 2025-2026  
Kay Brooks 2025-2026