



OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*
July 15, 2026



Due to the extreme heat and humidity, the “Up North” Picnic that was scheduled for tonight has been postponed. We tried to find an alternative indoor location in Frederic and Osceola, however nothing was available on such notice.

Thank you to those who planned to attend and to all who volunteered to assist with setting-up and taking-down and everything in between.

Keep your eyes on future newsletters ... *this is a notice of postponement with a promise to reschedule our picnic later in August or in mid-September.* Watch for the date ... plan to come ... and put your best thoughts into better weather in months ahead!

In the meantime, encourage voters to vote in the August 11th Primary Election. Here in Wisconsin, this one will be a “big deal”!

Carolyn Saunders
715-432-5816



THANK YOU to all of the LWVSCV members that have volunteered to help at the CD 7 Watch Party.

Please come to Northwood Tech at 5:45 p.m. if you are helping with set up.

If you are bringing bars or cookies, please have them on a plate ready to be served and take your plate home with you after the event and the clean up crew will be done in no time!

I appreciate the positive response to the call for help – and I look forward to us all experiencing a very successful CD 7 wide event.

A reminder that this is a LWV nonpartisan event. I encourage LWV apparel and buttons but no other messaging. It is our intention to have a bi-partisan crowd and our focus is our Mission – to educate and engage voters.

Again, my deep appreciation to all of you.

Beth Wood/co-President

CD 7 Voters Invited to Watch 7th Congressional District Candidate Forum at Northwood Technical College New Richmond Campus

The League of Women Voters of St. Croix Valley invites the public to attend a free watch party for the **7th Congressional District Candidate Forum on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at Northwood Technical College, New Richmond Campus located at 1019 S Knowles Avenue, New Richmond, WI.**

The forum will be held **live at Northcentral Technical College** in Wausau and **livestreamed** to community watch parties throughout Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, ensuring voters across this large geographic area have the opportunity to hear directly from the candidates.

All eight candidates whose names appear on the August 11 primary ballot were invited to participate in the forum. Candidates who accepted the invitation by the League's July 16 deadline will participate under the League of Women Voters' long-established, nonpartisan candidate forum procedures.

Candidate forums are a cornerstone of an informed electorate. By providing a fair, impartial setting in which candidates answer the same questions and discuss issues of public concern, the League helps voters compare viewpoints, evaluate qualifications, and make informed decisions at the ballot box.

The League of Women Voters neither supports nor opposes political parties or candidates for public office. Every participating candidate is given an equal opportunity to respond to questions under procedures designed to ensure fairness and impartiality.

"We believe democracy works best when voters have access to accurate information and the opportunity to hear directly from the candidates," said Beth Wood, Co-President of the League of

Women Voters St. Croix Valley, "Our goal is to provide a fair and respectful forum that helps voters make informed decisions before they cast their ballots."

The public is encouraged to attend this free event, regardless of political affiliation or viewpoint.



Unite and Rise – together!

*As the LWVSCV moves into the urgency
of the election work ahead of us,
let's all take a collective breath and exhale.*

I hope you will join me in prioritizing saying yes to invitations to engage in the many opportunities that are being organized within our HUBs and our LWVSCV at large.

I challenge you to explore an area that might be new to you in our 3 County league and attend an event outside of your HUB when you can.

As we all learn through this work, the first data point (fair or not) of any event we plan is "how many people showed up?"

Having league members in the seats at our forums, meet & greets, lunch and learn events, etc., validates our efforts, shows solidarity throughout our membership and raises our perception by the public as an organization that merits support and their engagement.

As you will see in this newsletter, there are many opportunities for you to engage in LWVSCV activities. GOTV and education of voters is our high priority for the next four months.

Sharing our LWV election information with groups you belong to is crucial.

Thank you all for meeting this moment
and moving the LWVSCV forward, together!
Beth Wood/Co-President/Unite Rise captain



Member Services

Contact (Kathy Streitz, kfstreitz@gmail.com)

Membership Matters: Growing stronger, together! As members of the LWVSCV we honor our volunteers who do the hands-on work to safeguard democracy. We are directly involved in shaping the important issues to keep the community strong. Every life we touch is remembered! Sometimes, the most difficult and most fulfilling choice is to show up! Thank you to all of our members for covering the big projects and the small details.

As of this newsletter's publication, LWVSCV proudly counts 132 members. Most are active and current at this time. Time to renew? Please feel free to check your membership date on the roster attached to this newsletter. Please print the membership application from our website at lwwstcroixvalley.org, fill it out, and mail it to Katrina, our treasurer with your check. We do offer a \$20.00 minimum fee. Please let me know if you have questions.

Feel free to invite friends to join our chapter. Reach out to our new members near and far, in your HUB and beyond. Attend a coffee, a rally, a high school visit or a farmers market. Don't forget to bring a friend!

Please join me in welcoming our newest member!

Janet Ha, ha.janet@icloud.com, 763-203-4540. Janet lives in Osceola and will join HUB 2.

HUB NEWS!

Our membership is divided into four geographical HUBz. We mix it up in our HUBz and all are welcome to visit anytime.

HUB 1 is in northern Polk and Burnett counties, including the Frederic, Webster, Siren, Danbury area. Contact, Kris Surbaugh, aksurbaugh@gmail.com

HUB 2 is in Polk County and includes Amery, St. Croix Falls, Osceola, Clayton, Turtle Lake, Milltown and surrounding areas. Contact, Irene Bugge, irenebugge@gmail.com

HUB 3 is in St. Croix County which includes New Richmond, Star Prairie, Somerset, and Deer Park area. Contact, Kay Brooks, kaybrooks48@gmail.com.

HUB 4 is in St. Croix County and includes Houlton, Hudson, RiverFalls, Baldwin, Woodville, and the Hammond area. Contact, Kathy Streitz, kfstreitz@gmail.com.





HUB 1 NEWS: Webster, Siren, Danbury, Grantsburg, Frederic, Luck

(contact Kris Surbaugh <aksurbaugh@gmail.com> for Hub 1 information)

LWVSCV was again represented in Burnett County at the Northwest Passage Gallery Farmers Market on Friday, July 10th. Marie E. and Kris S. enjoyed a pleasant few hours engaging with interested folks who stopped by to say hello, thank us for the League's work, and some who asked questions about absentee ballots, registering to vote, and how to get fair and nonpartisan information.

Hub 1 is planning several meetings to round out the summer with postcard writing, letter writing to newspapers, amplifying information to friends and family, more market visits, and a sign rally on August 8!

Join us if you wish.

More details in the next newsletter.

Hub 2 NEWS Amery, Milltown, Clear Lake, St. Croix Falls, Osceola, Turtle Lake

July Farmers Markets -- Osceola, July 3, St. Croix Falls, July 11 and Amery, July 20

Thanks to Pat Seidle, HUB 2 has a new canopy and a new organizational system for League materials. She made a new zippered carry bag for the posters to keep them clean and all materials are now either in a tote or covered in Barb Wetzel's garage. They were also organized to make them easily transportable. Barb's garage is proving to be a convenient central location for storage. Thank you, Barb! Trialing of the new questions for the wheel organized by age continues.

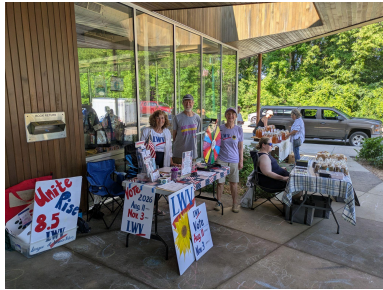


Osceola Market. The crew of the Osceola Market on July 3 included Miriam Flysjo and Kathie Nelson PLUS two new members: Linda Nauth and Sue Gavin. It was a



hot afternoon. One crew set up and worked the first shift; the second crew took over and then dismantled the display. A total of 36 people visited the League table. The spinning wheel and civics game continued to draw folks to our voter education table.





St. Croix Falls. The St. Croix Falls Market on July 11 was staffed by Nanette Del Monaco, Robin Maercklein and Irene Bugge. Thanks to Joe Synder, Nannette's partner, for helping set up and taking one of the photos. We did not get to try out the new canopy because we were situated in a shaded part of the market. Next time. A total of 51 people – 26 adults and 25 children – came to the table. Ten people signed up to be put on the mailing list for

the newsletter and several took our membership brochure and expressed an interest in joining! We handed out the US Constitution and Declaration of Independence trifold. Many voters picked up the flyer advertising the Polk County Sheriff Meet & Greet in Osceola on July 16. The upcoming event generated thought-provoking questions and conversations with voters. It proved to be an opportunity to educate voters about primary elections.



HUB 3 NEWS: New Richmond, Star Prairie, Somerset, Deer Park



LWV Action Review:

Farmers Market—Peg Wassell, Mary Jo Krueger, and Karen Roberts did a great job of telling patrons about the Primary Election, SAVE Act, and upcoming Constitutional Amendments plus more.

John Doar Recognition—Susan Bosley and Jarell Kuney met with Todd Kittel of the New Richmond Library to discuss a future acknowledgement of the important role that John Doar played in the Civil Rights movement. This project will be put on hold for a while until all are ready to delve into it.

Somerset Library LWV Display—Susan Sroka, Nancy Vanasse, and Linda Heyes have agreed to design a display window with LWV items for the month of August. Be sure to check it out!

Upcoming Member Activities:

District 7 Candidate Watch Party on July 21—several members have offered to help with the Watch Party.

We are seeing a significant interest by HUB 3 members in creating an Education Group. This will determine our direction from now until the November election. (See details between the HUB 3 and 4 reports.)

Heritage Center Hillside Series—There are tentative plans to set up a table now and then at the Wednesday night music venue in New Richmond. Members who enjoy great music and fellowship are encouraged to sign up. Contact Kay Brooks (kaybrooks48@gmail.com)

HUB 3 COFFEE—SAVE THE DATE!

Date: Thursday July 23

Time: 2:00–3:30 PM

Place: Heritage Center Picnic Area. In case of inclement weather we have a room reserved at the New Richmond Library.

BYO – beverage

Snack to share is welcome

Meeting Project: write postcards to be mailed prior to the next election.

Contact Karen Greenberg (karenmg2020@yahoo.com) or Kathy Kraemer (kathykraemer50@gmail.com) if you are able to attend.

HUB 3&4 EDUCATION GROUP

HUBs 3 & 4 are planning to work together to come up with a doable number and type of activities and events with the purpose of educating the public on important issues related to voting and the upcoming elections.

There will be an in-person meeting at the Somerset Library from 3:30–5:00 on Thursday, July 30. Following that, there will be an email summary and Zoom meeting (TBD) for those who are unable to attend.

HUBs 3 & 4 welcome all members and ideas as we venture forward to educate and advocate for democracy. Contact Kay Brooks (kaybrooks48@gmail.com)

HUB 4 News—St. Croix County/Hudson Area

Contact (Kathy Streitz) kfstreitz@gmail.com, 612-916-8856

Hudson Farmers Market on Carmichael

Summer dates will be July 25 and August 22. Times are 7:30 to noon. More information to follow. Contact Kathy Streitz if you are available.

HUB NEWS

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VOTER SERVICES REPORT



Voter Services is supporting the many activities that HUBs are doing this summer. The calendar is looking very full between farmers markets and events such as the Polk Co. Sheriff Candidate Forum and District 7 Watch Party at Northwood Tech.

A new and exciting initiative is the creation of Education Groups. The idea is to brainstorm ideas for activities that are within the interest and ability of each HUB to do. Activities range from Letters to the Editor in newspapers to sign rallies to postcard writing encouraging people to vote to presentations by speakers or power points on important topics. There are endless opportunities, but each HUB will decide just what works for their members.

It is important for members to inform themselves about some **VERY IMPORTANT** issues we as voters are facing. The **SAVE Act** continues to threaten the ability of millions of people to vote (esp. women and minorities). And now, in Wisconsin, we are looking at 3 damaging amendments that will be on the November ballot. The State League has taken a lot of time to analyze the 2nd one which is particularly disturbing. Please educate yourself by reading what is posted on LWVWI.com and LWVSCV.com. so you can share with others.

As we approach the Primary Election on August 11, Kathie Nelson has created a great flyer that all members are encouraged to print and post or share via social media. Thank you, Kathie!

Declaration of Independence trifold flyer—This is another great handout that has been offered to us by Laurie Harmon. Laurie previously created our brochure on the Constitution. Both have simple, enjoyable explanations with a QR code containing the entire document.

Additionally, with Kathie Nelson's help, we have a new LWV trifold brochure that can be shared with people showing interest in the League.

July	15	Newsletter
	15	Annual Summer Picnic (north) 5:00PM – 7:30PM In Frederic at the Community Pride Park on the corner of Traffic Ave. and Highway 48.
	16	Polk County Sheriff Candidate Meet/Greet Wilberg Memorial Library Osceola 6-7:30
	20	Amery Farmers Market -- Mondays, 3:00pm - 6:00pm -- Soo Line Park Amery League Contacts/Leads – Angie Johnson, Pat Seidl,
	21	Congressional District 7 Candidate Forum Watch Party Northwoods

		Tech New Richmond 6:30-8:00
	22	OBSERVER CORP TRAINING VIA ZOOM 2PM (register here) https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FnWX1DqaSMG-3Mhdbm3K2A#/registration
	23	HUB 3 Coffee 2-3:30
	25	Hudson Farmers Market Hub 4
	31	Farmers Market with Hub 1 Webster 10AM-1PM
August	1	Newsletter
	7	Webster Farmers Market with Hub 1
	8	Unite and Rise National Day of Action!
	8	<u>Osceola Farmers Market – Fridays, 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm, on River Street</u> <u>Osceola Contact/Lead – Miriam Flysjo,</u>
	11	<i>Primary</i>
	15	Newsletter
	17	Amery Farmers Market -- Mondays, 3:00pm - 6:00pm -- Soo Line Park Amery League Contacts/Leads – Angie Johnson, Pat Seidl,
	18	LWVSCV Board Meeting
	22	Hudson Farmers Market
September	1	Newsletter
	15	Newsletter
	15	LWVSCV Board Meeting
October	1	Newsletter
	15	Newsletter
	20	LWVSCV Board Meeting
November	1	Newsletter
	3	<i>General Election</i>
	14	<i>LWVSCV Retreat</i>

	15	Newsletter

LWV SCV Leadership Team 2025- 2026

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