

**VOTER**

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**In This Issue**

From the Co-Presidents	1
Membership	2
Voter Registration	2
Education Committee	2
Voter Services	3
Communications/Website	3
UMRR-ILO	3
Carrie Chapman Catt Book Club	3
Upcoming Events	4
LWVIA 2024 Public Policy Priorities	5
Photo Gallery	6-7
Calendar of Events	8

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**June 2024**

*Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy*

**The Wrap-up**

Fifty-five members celebrated a busy and productive year at our Annual Meeting. All four voting measures passed: budget for FY 2024-25, delegates to the National convention, bylaws changes and the slate of officers for the coming year. Thank you!

Our League will be well represented in June at the State Council meeting by Nancy Porter and Vicki Aden, incoming President, and at the National convention by Donna Hirst, Jennifer Patel, Diane Duncan-Goldsmith and Vicki Aden.

This summer candidates and voters will be ramping up for November elections. We will have many opportunities for you to help with Voter Registration. Contact Jennifer Patel, [jenniferplwv@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferplwv@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating.

Remember to vote in the Primary Election on or before June 4. If you missed the Candidate Forum for the Democratic primary candidates for Johnson County Board of Supervisors organized by our Voter Services team, you can view the recording on our website, on our Facebook page, on the local TV station, or on the City Channel 4 website ([May21CandForum](http://May21CandForum)). You may also want to read candidates' responses to questions asked by our VOTE411 committee online at [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) before casting your ballot.

The new board will assume responsibilities on July 1. Thank you for your support over the past two years and for volunteering your time and energy to LWVJC!

It has been our pleasure to serve as your co-presidents.

*Paula Vaughan and Miriam Timmer-Hackert*  
co-presidents

The *Voter* is issued the last Friday of the month to provide members advance notice of activities. **The July Voter deadline is June 23.**



## MEMBERSHIP

Our current membership is 166 active members. We welcome the following new members: Lynda Ostegaard, Emily White, Tom Cook and Sami DeRagon. We look forward to meeting you and working with you on future league projects.

To all members, veteran and new, consider attending the Casual Coffees on the second Wednesday of each month. It's a good way to get to enjoy a coffee and get to know other members. The time is 10 a.m. at Poindexter's Coffee at the Graduate Hotel.

It's that time of the year! Most members are due to renew their memberships. The annual renewal date is June 30. The dues are \$70 for an individual membership and \$105 for a household membership. Thanks to those of you who renewed at the May 16 annual membership meeting. Emails to everyone else will go out June 1 so please watch your email for a message from [jclwvmembership@gmail.com](mailto:jclwvmembership@gmail.com). You can renew by sending a check to League of Women Voters Johnson Co, PO Box 5452, Coralville, IA or online <https://lwvjc.org/join-league/>. Your prompt attention to this reminder is very much appreciated!

*Jeanne Bancroft  
Membership Chair*



In May, there was a registration event at Oaknoll's Main Campus. One voter registration and 67 absentee ballot requests were gathered. Also in May, Bea Kaskie and Miriam Timmer-Hackert led a presentation about the importance of voting at Tate and Liberty High Schools. Bea is a 2022 Liberty graduate and is now active in voter registration at the University of Michigan. Ten students registered to vote during these events. Students will have another chance to register during ICCSD graduation rehearsal events at Xstream Arena on May 31.

June is for fun in the sun. As part of the Funzone for The Summer of the Arts Iowa Arts Festival, we will be doing a trivia game focused on women. Play the game at our booth on the Ped mall on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Pride is Saturday, June 15. Join us for the Pride parade, and then visit our booth at the festival. The parade takes place from 11 a.m. to noon with staging starting at 10:30 a.m. Remember, it is fun to dress up as a suffragette! After the parade, come see what we are up to at our booth.

If you have any question about registering voters, email me at [jenniferplwv@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferplwv@gmail.com). You are welcome to join our dynamite team. No experience required - we will train you. Time commitment starts at only two hours during an event you choose.

*Jennifer Patel  
Voter Registration Coordinator*



## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

As Yogi Berra said, "It ain't over 'til it's over." This year's programming opened with a screening of the documentary *Kiss the Ground*, and it will end with a free screening of its award-winning sequel, *Common Ground*.

Come to the Iowa City Public Library on Tuesday, June 18, at 7:00 p.m. to see *Common Ground* free of charge. (See the ad in the Upcoming Events section.) The film documents a dark web of money, power, and politics behind our farming and food system. It also profiles a hopeful movement of White, Black, and Indigenous farmers who practice "regenerative" agriculture, a conservation and rehabilitation approach to farming. LWVJC is one of six cosponsors joining event organizers Project GREEN and the Iowa City Public Library.

In other news, we welcome Laure Wess Peters and Kathleen Kamerick as new committee members!

*Rebecca Conard, Susan Enzle, Patty McCarthy  
Education Committee*

## Candidate FORUMS



### VOTER SERVICES

The candidate forum for the Johnson County Board of Supervisors Democratic primary election was held on Tuesday, May 21. Shannon Patrick and Polly Horton served as moderator and timekeeper, respectively. Thank you to them! All five candidates, Bob Conrad, Lisa Green-Douglass (I), Royceann Porter (I), Mandi Remington and Rod Sullivan (I), participated. The top three vote-getters will be on the ballot representing the Democratic party in November. The candidates' participation is very much appreciated. It demonstrates their commitment to hearing from their constituents. In spite of the potential for severe weather, more than 45 people attended the forum and many watched on the livestream.

There are no Republican candidates running in the primary for the Board of Supervisors, so no forum was held for the Republican Party.

Please vote in the primary election on or before June 4.

*Jeanne Bancroft  
Voter Services Chair*

### COMMUNICATIONS/WEBSITE

Check out our new LWVJC website! We are working to get current [www.lwvjc.org](http://www.lwvjc.org) site pointed to our new site. Until that occurs, you can view the new site here: [Johnson County | MyLO \(lwv.org\)](http://Johnson County | MyLO (lwv.org)).

Thanks to Paula Vaughn, Diane Duncan-Goldsmith, Rebacca Conard, and Vicki Aden for working to get the new site up and running. And thanks also to Kiran Patel for her work on the current site.

*Vicki Aden*



Like LWVJCIA on Facebook!

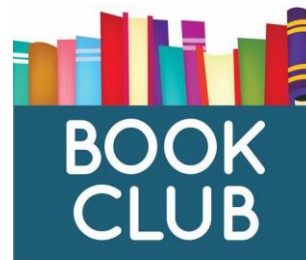
THE LWV UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
REGION INTER LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

### UMRR-ILO

Our Mississippi River Days of Action will meet at the Smokestack in Dubuque at 3:30 pm Sunday, June 9. We will be viewing the artwork and enjoying the entertainment and music. Snacks will be provided.

If you are interested in joining us in Dubuque, please contact Nancy Porter via call or text at 319-331-8088.

*Nancy Porter  
UMRR-ILO and Mississippi River Network*



### CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT BOOK CLUB

A book group informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 12 at 5:30 p.m. at The Bistro, Courtyard Marriott. Come and get a beverage, snack or dinner off the menu. Join us to hear about this opportunity to be part of a reading community. Books will focus on the priorities of the League of Women Voters. Please contact Deanne Mirr [dmirr@me.com](mailto:dmirr@me.com) or Jeanne Bancroft [jnn.bancroft@gmail.com](mailto:jnn.bancroft@gmail.com) with questions in advance, or to be put on the mailing list for more information if you are unable to make it on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

*Jeanne Bancroft*

# \*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*

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**The public is invited to view the documentary film *Common Ground* on Tuesday, June 18, at 7 p.m. in the Iowa City Public Library.**

The audience is invited to stay for a casual conversation following the film.

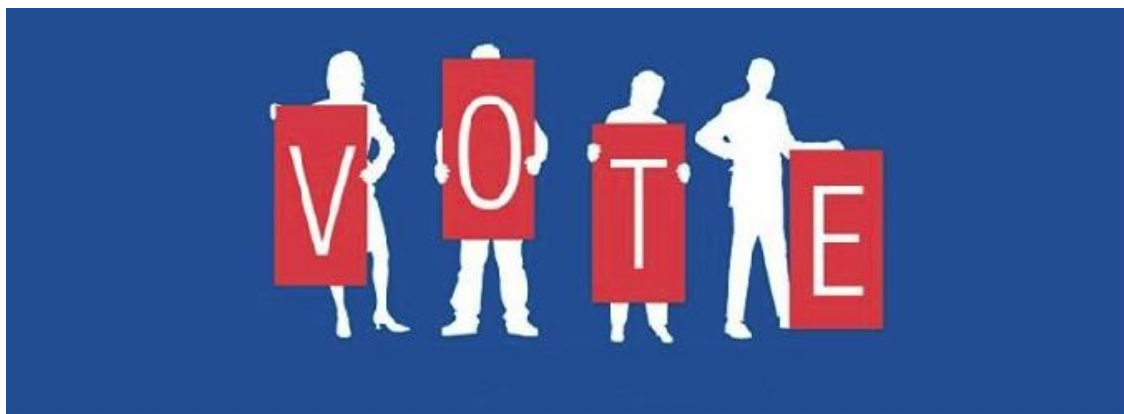
*This free screening has been made possible by a grant from Roco Films.*

Sponsored by nonprofit organizations concerned about the environment including 100 Grannies, Backyard Abundance, Bur Oak Land Trust, Iowa City Public Library, Johnson County Master Gardeners, the League of Women Voters of Johnson County, Project GREEN, and the Sierra Club Iowa Chapter.

The documentary film is a sequel to the *Kiss the Ground* documentary.

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## **June 4 Primary Election; 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.**



★ VOTING

Promote equal access to voting and ensure all votes are counted. Adopt automatic voter registration. Enact ranked choice voting. Pass a constitutional amendment allowing Iowans with felony convictions to vote after time served.

🏛️ TRANSPARENCY & CITIZENSHIP

Demand government accountability and transparency by requiring all amendments and bills discussed in committee to be available to the public prior to a vote. Demand timely processing of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Encourage direct citizen participation by continuing virtual committee and subcommittee meetings. Preserve gender balance requirements for state boards and commissions.

🎓 EDUCATION

Increase oversight and track public funds being used for non-public schools. Require any non-public school receiving public funds to meet the same standards as public schools. Fully fund public schools. Continue to expand access to affordable childcare and four-year-old preschool.

👩‍⚕️ REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Guarantee access to the full range of women's reproductive health services. Make contraception available without prescription. Ensure Medicaid services are comprehensive and accessible. Support new moms with 12 months of postpartum Medicaid coverage. Set policies that attract maternal health professionals and address the state's OB/GYN deserts.

👤 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Prevent human trafficking in all of its forms, support its victims, and enact "Safe Harbor" legislation to protect human trafficking survivors from criminal prosecution.

💧 ENVIRONMENT

Increase funding for environment and water quality initiatives, including REAP, and develop state climate change strategies.

🔫 GUN SAFETY

Enact comprehensive common sense gun safety legislation to address increasing gun violence in the state. Enact background checks on all gun sales, close gun show loopholes, require gun safety locks, repeal "stand your ground" law, and resist efforts that expand carrying in public spaces and schools.



## Photo Gallery

On May 21, a candidate forum for the Johnson County Board of Supervisors Democratic primary was held at the Iowa City Senior Center. Pictured, left to right, are candidates Rod Sullivan, Mandi Remington, Lisa Green-Douglass, Bob Conrad and Royceann Porter, with League members Shannon Patrick moderating.



Below: Becca Eastwood, ACLU IA, presented “The Freedom to Decide” as the guest speaker at our Membership Meeting on May 21.



League members Nancy Pacha (left) and Syndy Conger (right) helping Oaknoll residents register to vote and submit absentee ballot requests.



Below: League members, left to right, Barb Henke, Kathy Ryerson, and Barbara Beaumont ready to register voters at ICCSD high school graduation rehearsal on May 31.



# Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Location	Program
Friday, May 31	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Xtream Arena, Coralville	Voter Registration at ICCSD High School Graduation Rehearsals
Tuesday, June 4	7 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Find your polling place here: <a href="#">Johnson County, Iowa Polling Places</a>	Primary Election
June 7 - 8		Iowa Arts Festival, Downtown Iowa City	Voter Registration; Sign-up at: <a href="#">SignUp Arts Festival</a>
Saturday, June 8	8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Grinnell	LWVIA State Council Meeting
Sunday, June 9	3:30 p.m.	Smokestack, 62 E 7th St, Dubuque	Mississippi River Days of Action
Wednesday, June 12	10 a.m.	Poindexter Coffee, Graduate Hotel, Iowa City	Casual Coffee
Wednesday, June 12	5:30 p.m.	Bistro at the Courtyard by Marriott, 901 Melrose Ave, Iowa City	Organizational Meeting for LWVJC Book Club
Saturday, June 15	1 - 10 p.m.	Pride Parade & Vendor Fair, Downtown Iowa City	Voter Registration; Sign-up at: <a href="#">SignUp Pride Festival</a>
Tuesday, June 18	7 p.m.	Iowa City Public Library	Film <i>Common Ground</i> ; Sequel to <i>Kiss the Ground</i>
June 27 - 30		Washington DC + virtual	2024 LWVUS National Convention
Thursday, July 4	10 a.m. - noon	Coralville July 4 Parade	Voter Registration
July 5 - 7		Iowa City Jazz Festival	Voter Registration
Tuesday, September 17	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.	National Voter Registration Day, Kirkwood College	Voter Registration
Friday, September 20	1:30 p.m.	Naturalization Ceremony, Herbert Hoover Library, West Branch	Voter Registration

## League of Women Voters of Johnson County

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

**OUR VISION:** We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

**OUR VALUE:** We believe in the power of women and men to create a more perfect democracy.