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APRIL 2026

New Board of Supervisor Districts

Due to a state law that passed last year, all five Johnson County Board of Supervisor seats are up for election this year. The new law requires that the three counties home to the Regents universities elect their supervisors by district, not county-wide. This is a change for Johnson County and means there will be only one supervisor race on your ballot. To help voters understand these changes, we are working on flyers to distribute at forums, voter registration events, and other League activities. We will also hold candidate forums before the primary and general elections. Four of the five districts are contested in the Democratic primary. Separate forums for each of these contested races will be held in April, with in-person and livestream options. Videos of the forums will be available on our website following the events.

How can you help. First, you can find out what supervisor district you are in by entering you address at the Polling Place Lookup here: [Johnson County, Iowa Polling Places](#). You can find more information on the new Supervisor Districts here: [Supervisor Districts | Johnson County](#). Then, share this information with others.

You can also attend our Annual meeting on Tuesday, May 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Society in Coralville. Our special guest will be our Johnson County Auditor, Julie Persons, who will answer your questions about the new Supervisor Districts and any other election questions you might have. We will have more information about the event out to you in April via email.

Check out the rest of this **Voter** to read about the work we are doing to empower voters and advocate for League priorities, as well as the great events we have coming up in April. I hope to see you at one of them! Thank you all for your dedication to Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy!

Vicki Aden
LWVJC President

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LWVJC | P. O. Box 5452
Coralville, IA 52241

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

The May Voter deadline is April 18

Website: www.lwvjc.org

Facebook: League of Women Voters of Johnson County Iowa



MEMBERSHIP

Membership and New Members

We currently have 171 members. I would like to welcome our League's newest members Peg Johnson, Sandy Gannon, Kathy Keasler and Coleen Hetzel. Please reach out and welcome them into our League as you meet them at various League events throughout the coming year.

I would also like to thank all our members who are renewing their membership. In these perilous and changing times, your membership helps support the work of our League.

New Member Spotlight

Sandy Gannon currently serves on the NASW-IA (National Association of Social Workers) Government Relations Advisory Committee and works at the Johnson County Polls. She is interested in keeping Democracy and not making it difficult for Women to vote!!! She is interested in several of our Leagues volunteer opportunities which help register and educate voters .

Casual Coffee

All members are always invited to attend the League's Casual Coffees on the second Wednesday of each month. It's a good way to get to enjoy a beverage and get to know other League members. Members meet at 10 a.m. at Poindexter's Coffee in the Graduate Hotel.

Membership Renewal Reminder

This is a reminder to all members that your renewal month is the month in which you joined! Therefore, for any member who joined in January or February of 2025, please renew as soon as possible All members should be receiving renewal reminders of *Renew Your League of Women Voters Membership*. For those whose membership has lapsed, you

should be receiving renewal reminders from our League's membership email: lwjcmembership@gmail.com. If anyone ever has a question about their membership, please contact me at lwjcmembership@gmail.com.

How to Renew and Pay Dues

- Renewing can be online by going to our Leagues' website <https://my.lwv.org/iowa/johnson-county>. Under "Get Involved" click the "Join or Renew" link then click the "Fill out online membership form here" link. If renewing with a credit or debit card you will see 3 separate dues charges, one each for national, state, and local dues payments.
- Members can also renew online with a check by ACH (an electronic payment using the numbers on the bottom of a check). This method lowers fees for the League so more of your dues go directly to funding League work.
- If you send your dues renewal check to our League's PO Box, PO Box 5452, Coralville, IA 52241, **please make the check out to either the LWVUS or LWV. Do not** make the check out to LWV Johnson County.

Thanks –

Diane Duncan-Goldsmith
Membership Chair



DEBORAH TURNER BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 27, at the Coralville Public Library starting at 5:30 p.m. The Book selected is *You're the Only One I've Told: The Stories Behind Abortion* by Meera Shah. Elizabeth Fosmark will guide the conversation. This book aligns with one of the League's 2026 legislative priorities, reproductive rights. All members are invited to join us. The discussions are always rich!

Deanne Mirr (dmirr@me.com)
Jeanne Bancroft (jnn.bancroft@gmail.com)



VOTER SERVICES

All five seats on the Johnson County Board of Supervisors will be on the ballot this year due to a new law passed in last year's legislative session. It requires that Johnson County be divided into 5 districts and one representative will be elected from each district to comprise the full Board of Supervisors. Johnson County voters will be able to vote for only one member of the board based on where they live.

As of Friday, March 20 at 5 p.m., 4 of the 5 districts have contested races for the Democratic nominee. The individuals representing each district will be selected in the June 2 primary. There are no contested districts for the Republican party. The League of Women Voters is working to host candidate forums for Districts 1, 2, 4, and 5.

The District 2, 4, and 5 forums will be held consecutively on Saturday, April 18, at the Iowa City Senior Center. District 5 forum will start at 9 a.m., District 4 at 10 a.m., and District 2 forum at 11 a.m. The District 2 seat representing the eastern part of the county, including Solon, Hills, Lone Tree, West Branch and a portion of eastern Iowa City will be a two-year term. District 4, which is in central and southwestern unincorporated Johnson County, as well as Coralville and Tiffin, has a two-year term but does not have a contested race for the primary. District 4 is made up of the north side of Iowa City and will also be for a two-year term. District 5, which includes University Heights and parts of west and south Iowa City is set for a four-year term.

District 1, made up of North Liberty, Shueyville, Swisher, Oxford and the northwestern portion of the county, has a four-year term. District 1 candidate forums will be held at North Liberty City Council Chambers starting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21.

The times and dates for the candidate forums are pending candidates' confirmation of their availability.

*Jeanne Bancroft
Voter Services Chair*



MAKING CONNECTIONS

Why is Education Under Attack and What Can We Do About It?

This will be the subject of our April 7 meeting with Syndy Conger as our presenter. Syndy is a retired English professor and herself the product of an Iowa public school education from kindergarten through 2 Masters and 1 Doctorate degree from the University of Iowa.

For many years, Iowa proudly ranked near the top of the states for our public education system. That has changed and public education in Iowa is under assault. Syndy will present her research on this subject and we will discuss possible solutions to the problem.

All League members are encouraged to attend this Making Connections event at the home of Barbara Haring, 2902 Eastwood Drive, Iowa City, on Tuesday, April 7 from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and there will be time for discussion and connection.

*Gaylen Wobeter, Chair
Jeanne Bancroft, Joan Cook, Roxanne Hughes, and Paula Sanan*





VOTER REGISTRATION

During March LWVJC, along with members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, registered voters at Dream City during the Black History month pop-up market. We also registered voters with the Right Sisters at Liberty High and at the North Liberty Optimist Club breakfast. We will be holding registration events at the NO KINGS March and the Shelter House Book Sale March 28 and 29.

Thanks to an energetic voter registration committee, we have scheduled registration events at Kirkwood Community College, Walden Place Senior Living, Featherstone Senior Living, Oaknoll, Atrium Village Hills, Vintage Cooperative and Melrose Meadows during April and early May. In May our registration efforts will focus on community events and food pantries and other community organizations.

Signup Genius invites will be sent to members of the voter registration committee for each of the upcoming events. If you are not a member and would like to help, or if you have suggestions for future registration events, please contact me at mkathyclark@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you.

*Kathy Clark
Chair*

FUNDRAISING

The Fundraising Committee kicked off the formal 2025/26 Campaign November 1 with a letter mailed to each member. The goal for our Fundraising Campaign for 2025/2026 is \$9000 and we will endeavor to increase our members participation above the 20 percent experienced in the last years.

As of February 28, a total of \$8731.16 has been received: Operations, \$6531.16, and \$2213.64 for our Education Fund. This is approximately 97 percent of our goal and 44 members have participated – almost 24 percent of current membership! Thank you all who have donated

to this effort! With only a few months to go, if you haven't donated, please consider helping us meet our goal. Online donations may be made at <https://my.lwv.org/iowa/johnson-county/donate>. Donations to the Education Fund are tax deductible.

EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

*Bea Hicks
Fundraising Chair*



CAPITOL DAY

LWVJC had eight members travel to Des Moines on February 26 to participate in the League of Women Voters of Iowa Capitol Day. Members were able to meet with four of our Johnson County legislators: Senator Janice Weiner and Representatives Dave Jacoby, Elinor Levin, and Judd Lawler.

We appreciated being able to speak with legislators about League priorities and hear their thoughts. Some people were also able to view the debates and votes going on in the House and Senate chambers. Iowa's Secretary of State, Paul Pate, also stopped by our table and shared thoughts on the voting related bills.

Those attending this year included Maurine Braddock, Kathy Wandro, Jennifer Patel, Diane Duncan-Goldsmith, Cathy Eisenhofer, Tita Coffman, Diane Culver, and Vicki Aden. We are looking forward to a bigger and better Capitol Day next year and hope many of you will consider joining us.

Capitol Day attendees and legislators are pictured in the Photo Gallery.

Vicki Aden

Visit our website www.lwvjc.org



Like LWVJCA on Facebook!



ADVOCACY

The Advocacy Committee continues to track Iowa Legislative activity. Over the past month, we have issued alerts regarding the Federal Save Act and Iowa's efforts to restrict voting. We continue to advocate for more environmental protections and women's reproductive rights. Johnson County Advocacy is expanding our impact by sharing our Advocacy Action Alerts with LWVIA. We invite you to join us in our mission.

Sign up below to receive Advocacy Action Alerts.

***There are many new resources to
Elevate your Advocacy!
Stay informed and empowered.***

[LWV Johnson County](#)

Join the LWVJC Advocacy Team to receive e-mail **Advocacy Action Alerts**. E-mail jclwvoters@gmail.com with the Subject line: Advocacy Action Alerts.

Check out the new Advocacy links on our JCLWV webpage:
<https://my.lwv.org/iowa/johnson-county/inform-empower-and-advocate>

[LWV Iowa:](#)

Follow LWVIA Lobbyist Amy Campbell's Policy Blog updated weekly at: <https://lwvia.org/news/>

Join Amy Campbell's legislative briefings as she discusses bills affecting LWVIA priorities. Sign up to receive her Zoom meeting link at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/rjtzmlAVROWdUagur-vlFQvIFQ> and tune in on

**Thursdays
6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
April 9 and 23**

[LWV US](#)

Use the Advocacy Link on our JCLWV website to stay updated on Federal Action Alerts: <https://my.lwv.org/iowa/johnson-county/action-alerts>

Respond to our federal elected officials and federal departments using the links within the alert, "Read More" and "Contact Congress Now".

Another great resource for communicating with federal elective officials and departments is www.5Calls.org. This site provides the "easiest and most effective way for U.S. constituents to make a political impact".

All these resources make it easy to share your voice on the issues that matter. Help us advocate for Iowa. We can do much together.

*Kathy Wandro
Advocacy Chair*

"Activism is my rent for living on the planet." – Alice Walker



***** UPCOMING EVENTS *****

Deborah Turner Book Group

Please join us!
April 27, 2026
5:30
Coralville Public Library



Book
You're the Only One I've Told:
the stories behind abortion
by Meera Shah



League of Women Voters of Johnson County

Casual Coffee

Wednesday, Apr 8, 10 a.m.

*Poindexter Coffee
The Graduate Hotel
210 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City*

JOIN LEAGUE MEMBERS FOR A
RELAXED COFFEE AND CONVERSATION



Johnson County League of Women Voters Presents:

Iowa's Water: It Doesn't Have to Be This Way

David Cwiertny

William D. Ashton Professor
in the Department of Civil
and Environmental
Engineering and a Professor
in the Department of
Chemistry at the University
of Iowa.



Iowa's water quality is among the worst in the nation. Water quality challenges impact the health and wellbeing of Iowans who require safe drinking water and clean lakes, rivers, and streams for recreation.

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026
Iowa City Public Library
Meeting Room A, 6:30pm**

Live stream on ICPL's YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/thelibrarychannel>



UMRRILO

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA

**Johnson County
Master Gardeners**



**SIERRA
CLUB**



The Johnson County League of Women Voters Presents:

Who Rules? Home Rule in Iowa, Then and Now



**Rod Sullivan,
Supervisor,
Johnson County**



**Hunter R. Clark
Professor of Law,
Drake University**



**Megan Alter
Mayor Pro Tem,
Iowa City**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2026
Iowa City Public Library
Meeting Room A, 6:30pm**

Live stream on ICPL's YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/thelibrarychannel>





**A Community Reading of
Martin Luther King's
"A Time to Break Silence"**

**Saturday, April 4, 2026
11AM to 6 PM
at Iowa City Public Library**

Free and open to the public. Come listen, or take a turn reading. The speeches will be repeated several times. Come and go as you wish.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his most controversial speech on April 4, 1967. One year later, on April 4, 1968, he was assassinated in Memphis.

Come read with us his 1967 speech, and also "I've Been to the Mountaintop," his last speech on April 3, 1968.

- *Sponsored by Veterans For Peace Chapter #161 Eastern Iowa (vfp161.org) and*
- *Peace Iowa (peaceiowa.org)*



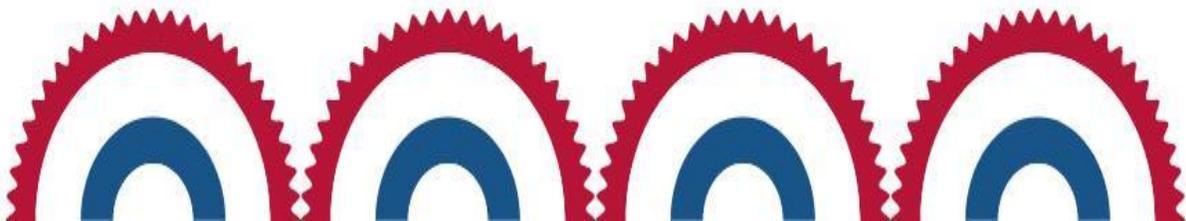


*Please Join Us for
Our May Membership Meeting*

*Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Unitarian Universalist Society
2355 Oakdale Rd, Coralville
5:30-7:30 pm*

**A Q&A WITH OUR SPECIAL GUEST
JOHNSON COUNTY AUDITOR
JULIE PERSONS**

Heavy hors d'oeuvres & beverages/wine
RSVP INFORMATION COMING SOON



★ VOTING

Promote equal access to voting and ensure all votes are counted. Adopt automatic voter registration. Pass a constitutional amendment allowing Iowans with felony convictions to vote after time served. Promote open primary elections. Join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

🏛️ 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 requiring virtual committees and subcommittees.

🎓 EDUCATION

Provide 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. Restore statewide special education and disability services.

👩‍⚕️ REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Guarantee access to the full range of women's reproductive health services. Repeal the six-week abortion ban. Make contraception available without prescription and promote programs that help prevent unplanned pregnancies. Ensure Medicaid services are comprehensive and accessible. Set policies that attract maternal health professionals and address the state's OB/GYN deserts.

👤 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Increase state funding for victim services; develop strategies to prevent human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault; and enact "Safe Harbor" legislation to protect victims from criminal prosecution.

💧 WATER

Prioritizing, protecting and improving Iowa water quality and ensuring its sustainable management. Enact policies that safeguard clean water and address challenges of health risks, pollution, overuse and climate change.

🔫 GUN SAFETY

Ban assault rifles and military-grade weapons for civilian use. Enact background checks on all gun sales, close gun show loopholes, require gun safety locks, repeal Iowa's "stand your ground" law, and oppose laws that allow carrying guns on school grounds.



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.

Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Location	Program
Tuesday, April 7	2:30 – 4:30 p.m.	2902 Eastwood Drive, Iowa City	Making Connections: <i>Why is Education Under Attack and What Can Do About It?</i> with Syndy Conger, League Member
Wednesday, April 8	10:00 a.m.	Poindexter Coffee at the Graduate Hotel, 210 S Dubuque St, Iowa City	Monthly Casual Coffee
Monday, April 13	7 p.m.	Zoom	Monthly LWVJC Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 14	6:30 – 8 p.m	Iowa City Public Library, Meeting Room A, 123 S Linn St, Iowa City	<i>Who Rules? Home Rule in Iowa: Then and Now;</i> Education Program
Saturday, April 18	9 a.m.	Iowa City Senior Center, 28 S. Linn St, Iowa City	Candidate Forum, Dem Primary Board of Supervisors District 5
Saturday, April 18	10 a.m.	Iowa City Senior Center, 28 S. Linn St, Iowa City	Candidate Forum, Dem Primary Board of Supervisors District 4
Saturday, April 18	11 a.m.	Iowa City Senior Center, 28 S. Linn St, Iowa City	Candidate Forum, Dem Primary Board of Supervisors District 2
Tuesday, April 21	7 p.m.	North Liberty City Council Chambers, 360 N. Main St, North Liberty	Candidate Forum, Dem Primary Board of Supervisors District 1
Thursday, April 23	4 – 7 p.m.	Jasper Winery, 2400 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines	<u>LWVIA Defending Democracy Award Celebration</u> More Information here: https://lwvia.org/about/meetings-and-events/
Tuesday, April 28	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Iowa City Public Library, Meeting Room A, 123 S. Linn St, Iowa City	<i>Iowa's Water: It Doesn't Have to be This Way;</i> Education Program
Tuesday, May 19	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Unitarian Universalist Society, 2355 Oakdale Rd, Coralville	LWVJC Annual Meeting