



LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity. (June 2019)

The League of Women Voters of Beloit Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

CALENDAR

Monday, February 8, 4:30 p.m.

[League Board Meeting via Zoom](#)

Saturday, February 13, 10-11:30 a.m.

Beloit-Janesville Celebration

"Forward Together—Advancing Democracy"
via GoToWebinar

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Election Primary

Thursday, February 25, 6:30 p.m.

"Together in Beloit: Dealing with Climate Change Globally to Locally"

Speaker: Steve Vavrus



Beloit-Janesville Celebration

You're Invited: February 13th

The Beloit & Janesville Leagues' Annual Celebration
"Restoring Trust in the Voting Process."

Let's gather virtually to celebrate "**Forward Together—Advancing Democracy**" on Saturday, February 13, 2021, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Speakers include Badger Talks Professor David Canon, UW-Madison, and Lisa Tollefson, Rock County Clerk.

Visit our registration page [here](#):

*In lieu of a registration fee, donations are encouraged to enable LWV to continue its important work.

Beloit & Janesville League of Women Voters

See the wonderful Beloit Daily News articles from January 28, by Hillary Gavan regarding this event:

https://www.beloitdailynews.com/news/covid-19/league-of-women-voters-to-hold-annual-fundraising-event-virtually/article_bbd9302c-8296-502b-945d-4b65c6b34270.html

https://www.beloitdailynews.com/news/covid-19/uw-professor-to-speak-on-restoring-trust-in-voting/article_95370d28-2e0a-5cce-8f6b-42264d1ae26f.html



LWV-BELOIT: LIVELY ISSUES RESULTS

Lively Issues was held virtually this year, on Saturday, January 23rd . A lively group of leaguers participated. Leaguers first reviewed what events and positive impact the League of Women Voters of Beloit had accomplished over the past year. After a long list of accomplishments, despite COVID-19, the attendees then discussed other topics that they would like the Beloit League to consider for the coming year. The list will be reviewed by the board and then will come back to the membership at the Annual Meeting this April. The list includes:

- Civics knowledge
- Community corrections and how communities should be reflecting on the many needs of its diverse residents--especially the lack of mental health needs
- Communities needs for handling virtual education, especially rural areas
- Reimagining the justice system and progressive prosecutors
- Restorative justice
- Use of force in policing--what is happening locally
- Rock County environmental issues--ventilation, recyclables, water, etc.



<https://wisconsinfirstnations.org/current-tribal-lands-map-native-nations-facts/>

State-wide Community Alliances Committee

The League of Women Voters of Beloit would like to make the following statement, at each of our future meetings, that we are located on the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples, and we want to respectfully acknowledge the Potawatomi, Peoria, Miami, Meskwaki, and Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) people who have stewarded this land throughout countless generations. We pay respects to their elders both past and present and, we consider the legacies of violence, displacement, and settlement that they have faced.

The Ho-Chunk Nation are one of the ancient occupiers of this geographic area. Ho-Chunk roughly translates as People of the Big Voice or People of the Sacred Voice. Their history says, "We have always been here" and evidence, including oral history, backs this up. Many of the effigy mounds across Wisconsin are attributed to the Ho-Chunk ancestors in tribute to the many spirits that dwell here. We honor them and their ancestors for their unwavering love and care of the land.



Voter Service

[Make Your Plan to Vote:](#) Follow the link for detailed step by step instructions/reminders.

Voting in the Upcoming Elections

The voter service committee of the LWV of Beloit encourages our members to participate in the upcoming elections and to encourage friends and family to do so. Please save these dates!

Spring Primary: February 16, 2021

Spring Election: April 6, 2021

You can find out what's on your ballot for the February 16th Spring Primary; check your voter registration status; request an absentee ballot; or find your polling place at <http://myvote.wi.gov>

Consider voting safely from home by voting absentee. Request your absentee ballot today at <http://myvote.wi.gov>. In-person absentee voting is also available. You will need to visit your Municipal Clerk's Office or website to find out the dates and times for in-person absentee voting. More information is located [here](#).

If you are not registered to vote, here are the deadlines for doing so for the February 16th Spring Primary.

February 12: Deadline to register in person at your Municipal Clerk's Office

February 16: Register at your polling place on Election Day

If you need assistance, contact the Voter Helpline at (608) 285-2141.

Vote from Home and Vote Tuesday Signs

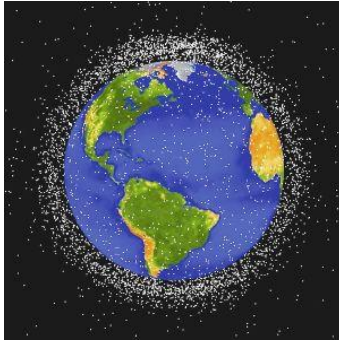
If you can find some space in your snow-covered yard to put up signs, please feel free to put out the **Vote from Home** sign now. The **Vote Tuesday** signs may be put out starting from Wednesday, February 10, 2021, through Thursday, February 17, 2021.

State Superintendent Candidates' Information

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is grateful to the LWV of Greater Green Bay and the Wisconsin Public Education Network (WPEN) for their partnership and hard work putting together the State Superintendent Candidate Forum on January 7, 2021. Additionally, we want to thank the candidates for participating and to everyone who submitted questions and joined us for the forum. All the candidates contributed to a lively discussion to talk about important issues facing our state's education system.

If you missed the forum, you can find the recording [here](#). You can also learn more about the candidates by reviewing their answers to [WPEN's candidate questionnaire](#). There are closed captions in English for this video.

More information on candidates can be obtained at the [WI Vote411](#) website for the League of Women Voters.



Environmental/Sustainability Group News

The Environmental/Sustainability Committee has been meeting for more than a year now and has planned three environmentally-friendly virtual meetings/speakers for our League members and the community. Together in Beloit: Taking Action on Climate Change is the title for the series which is sponsored by the LWV of Beloit, Welty Environmental Center, and the Beloit Public Library.

Steve Vavrus, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
“Together in Beloit: Dealing with Climate Change Globally to Locally”

Thursday, February 25, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Our changing climate and its impacts are becoming increasingly obvious, through global temperature records, shrinking ice cover, and extensive flooding in recent years. More extreme and damaging meteorological events have also become more common, as evidenced by the record number of billion-dollar weather disasters in the U. S. last year. Despite this sobering reality, there are reasons for optimism, including a surge in renewable energy generation, new climate policies at the state and federal levels, and recent research showing the beneficial effects of individual and collective actions.

Pablo Toral: Thursday, March 11, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

“Focus on Success: Climate Change Actions that Make a Difference”

Dominique Brossard: Thursday, March 18, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

“Public Attitudes and Climate Change”

To register for these events, please go to the Beloit Public Library Adult Event Registration Page [here](#).

Another opportunity for League Members:

C'Mon - Wisconsin Needs Clean Energy!

—A Virtual Public Issues Forum

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

7:00 PM - 8:15 PM

Join us for this forum as we explore the win-win aspects of Wisconsin's alternative energy transition. Wisconsin's aging energy systems send approximately \$14.4 billion out of our state each year to purchase fossil fuels.

Guest speakers will sketch out our energy transformation from a full palette of possibilities, addressing key questions: What are the barriers to progress? Who is training the workforce for clean energy jobs? What's in it for rural communities? How can we ensure benefits are shared evenhandedly by all and protect our natural world? And how do system-wide energy efficiencies get buy-in from local governments and consumers?

[Register online here](#). Your confirmation will contain the Zoom link and you will get a reminder prior to the event.

[Forum Information](#)

MARY CHURCH TERRELL--WHO WAS SHE?

Leaguers: We know there are many of you that may be interested in this opportunity.

This February 12-14 the Library of Congress [transcription project](#) will be transcribing the papers of Mary Church Terrell. She was a foundational Black activist, educator, thinker, and writer. Mary Church Terrell helped to create Douglass Day back in 1895. Soon after, she also helped found the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) and the NAACP. Come explore her fascinating papers with us! You can be part of this!!