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## The Local Impact of Climate Change

*Our June Program – Not to be Missed!*

**Date:** Monday evening, June 13 – ***Note the earlier program start time***

**Time\*:** 6:15: Gathering time; 6:45 Welcome and Program

**Where:** Andover City Hall – Council Chambers  
1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover  
[Click here for link to map](#)

**\*If you'll be attending virtually, join by 6:30 pm for interactive Trivia Quiz on Pride Month.**

Watch for an email the day before the meeting with the zoom link.



*Co-Sponsored by LWV of Women Voters Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove (LWV BPOMG)*

**Join us for this informative and compelling program** -- practical resources, tips, and advice for talking about climate change with your communities and motivating people to take action to address climate change.

**Guest Speaker:** Alisa Reckinger,  
Communications and Outreach Specialist with  
Hennepin County's Environment and Energy  
Department.

Question and Answer period will be followed by breakout rooms for in depth small group discussion on how attendees plan to use the information they learned, what they plan to put into practice, what additional support or resources they need.



*Source: Interfaith Power and Light*

## **Different Races Organizing Peace (DROP)**

### *Last month's program*

Our guest speakers were Lyhnsay Yang and Marieclaire Mutamba, students at Andover High School and members of the Andover High School Different Races Organizing Peace (DROP) Club. They were accompanied by their advisor, Tammy Petersen, Youth Service Coordinator at Andover High School



We were so impressed with the communication skills and the commitment of these students to their organization's case. DROP is a club founded to ensure that activism on racial equity does not end when it stops trending. Their mission is to educate themselves and others on racial equity. They want their push for change to be constant, not reactionary, and want to inspire as many like-minded young people as they can to advocate for peace and justice.

We look forward to continued connections with this group!

**Missed the program or want to share it with a friend?** QCTV was on hand to record the program for us. **Watch the video** and find links to related articles on our LWV ABC website in the *Spotlight on Issues* section: <https://my.lwv.org/minnesota/anoka-blaine-coon-rapids-area/lwv-abcs-spotlight-issues>

## **LWV ABC is a finalist for LWV US Powering Democracy Award**

Thanks to Membership Chair Pat Kennedy for sending our application in! Our League is one of three finalists for the LWV US Powering Democracy Award. The winner will be determined by voting (it's a democracy award, after all), and you can vote. Here's the link:

<https://convention.lwv.org/page/2180252/powering-democracy---local>

The Powering Democracy Awards will be presented at the 2022 LWV US Convention in recognition of Leagues for their work exemplary over the past biennium. This awards theme was inspired by the LWV US [Women Power Democracy](#) campaign. Finalists support the Women Power Democracy goals and/or the goals of the [Campaign for Making Democracy Work](#) and [Strategic Framework](#). Submissions reflect that LWV is an organization fully committed to [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion \(DEI\)](#) in principle and in practice.

The 2022 Awards offer separate subcategories for state and local Leagues. All winners will receive a cash prize from LWVUS in recognition of their work. Finalists were selected by LWVUS staff and winners will be selected by the public via polls. LWV ABC has been nominated for the Powering Democracy award, which showcases how Leagues activated their grassroots network to empower voters and advocate change around key issues, such as protecting voting rights or increasing voter registration and turnout. .

## Voter Registration Events

Meet up with your fellow LWV ABC members to staff a table at a community event this summer. Watch for emails from *Sign-up Genius* announcing sign-up opportunities. Everything you need to conduct voter registration is provided; just bring your favorite lawn chair! If you want to check out all the current slots that need to be filled, click

on <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084AAEA82CA7FA7-june>

You can also find all of the Voter Registration events on the Calendar on our website, along with sign-up

links: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084AAEA82CA7FA7-june>.

Questions? Send an email to [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com)



## Meet the Candidate Forums

Six cities in our LWVABC area require primaries if, by June 3rd, there are more than two candidates for one position on the ballot. In July, we'll hold **Meet the Candidates** for those primaries, listed below.

Anoka - Mayor

Blaine - City council Wards 1, 3; Special election for Ward 1

Columbia Heights - Mayor, 2 at-large city council members

Coon Rapids - Mayor, City Council Ward 3

Ramsey - City council Ward 1

County Commissioner for District 3

**We need hosts in Blaine and Columbia Heights for the primary forums in July, and the General Election forums in September. If you have interest, please call or write Linda Rodgers, 763.291.2718 or [itslindajean@gmail.com](mailto:itslindajean@gmail.com).**

Thanks to our members who have taken the LWVMN training for host, moderator, or question facilitation, and to those who have registered for upcoming trainings. If you want to host but haven't been trained, please contact Linda to see how we might make things work. All sessions are taped with candidates and moderator in one room without a live audience.

### **July – No monthly program**

**However, we won't be idle!** Take this opportunity to take part in our Voter Services activities and meet up with your fellow LWV ABC members.

### **LWV ABC Letter to the Editor**

On June 3, LWV ABC had another letter to the editor published in the Anoka County Union Herald. In this letter, we urge Anoka County to open up to more public input. Check it out at [https://www.hometownsource.com/abc\\_newspapers/letter-time-to-allow-meaningful-public-input/article\\_0466a338-e356-11ec-a9ac-47f79e0157fc.html](https://www.hometownsource.com/abc_newspapers/letter-time-to-allow-meaningful-public-input/article_0466a338-e356-11ec-a9ac-47f79e0157fc.html)



### **Our Condolences to Kathie Whelchel**

Kathie's daughter Jennifer fell in early April, broke her jaw, and had complications after surgery. She was in a coma for a few weeks and died on April 26. Kathie described Jennifer as "the love of my life. She has a big heart, is an amazing person, and my best friend."

A memorial for Jennifer will be held on September 24 at 10 AM at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, 519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis. If you wish to send condolences at this time and don't have a directory of LWV ABC members, send an email to [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com) to request email or postal mail address for Kathie.

### **LWV US Convention**

The LWV US Convention will be held in Denver, Colorado, on June 23-26. LWV ABC is sending two delegates to the convention. President Gretchen Sabel is attending in person and Membership Chair Pat Kennedy is attending virtually. LWV MN has small grants set aside to get more people to attend the convention and are offering discounted virtual registration for just \$100. If you are interested in this opportunity, email us at [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com). Registration ends soon, so don't wait! Here's info on the LWV US Convention: <https://convention.lwv.org/home>



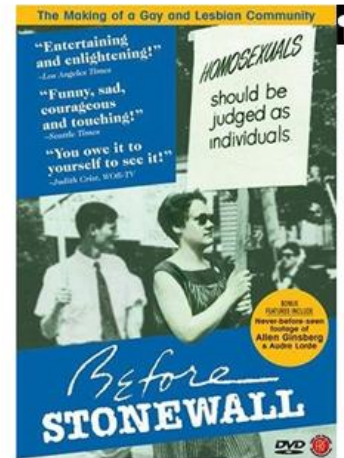
## LWV ABC Film Discussion for June – on Zoom

*Expanding our knowledge of diversity, equity, and inclusion topics.*

Join us on **Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00** for a discussion of the film, *Before Stonewall: The making of a Gay and Lesbian Community* (1984). It pries open the closet door--setting free the dramatic story of the sometimes horrifying public and private existences experienced by gay and lesbian Americans since the 1920s. Revealing and often humorous, this widely acclaimed film relives the emotionally-charged sparking of today's gay rights movement, from the events that led to the fevered 1969 riots to many other milestones in the brave fight for acceptance.

Find the zoom link for the discussion on our website:

<https://my.lwv.org/minnesota/anoka-blaine-coon-rapids-area/event/stonewall-june-2022-lwv-abc-film-discussion>



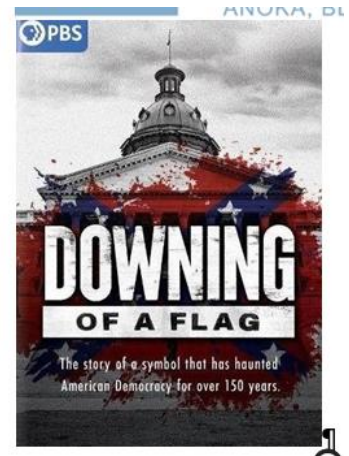
Watch the film before our discussion with free streaming from [Kanopy](#), with library card or Hennepin County Library has three DVDs.

## LWV ABC Film Discussion for July – on Zoom

*Expanding our knowledge of diversity, equity, and inclusion topics.*

Join us on **Wednesday, July 6 at 7:00** for the discussion of the film, *Downing of a Flag: How South Carolina Took It Down* (2021)

A co-production between South Carolina Educational Television, Strategic Films and Susie Films, *Downing of a Flag* focuses on the Confederate Battle flag and its impact on the people, politics, and perceptions of the South. Through firsthand interviews of people with various perspectives and a wealth of historical footage, *Downing of a Flag* traces the symbol's controversial relationship with South Carolina, exploring its true meaning and how a tragedy served as the catalyst for its long-debated removal.



Find the Zoom link for the discussion on our website: <https://my.lwv.org/minnesota/anoka-blaine-coon-rapids-area/event/downing-flag-july-2022-lwv-abc-film-discussion>

Watch the film before our discussion with free streaming from [Kanopy](#), with library card

## Highlights of the LWV ABC Board Meeting, May 23, 2022

The Anoka County Historical Society has developed the booklet on the 100 year history of LWV ABC that we assisted with, and we discussed how we would support the publication costs. Because there are so many unknowns as to staff time devoted to it, printing costs, and how many copies to print, we decided to allot an amount in our budget that would be dependent on our finding out more information on the costs of the project.

LWVUS has proposed a change in how membership dues are divided between all levels of League. The plan is that it would eliminate financial barriers to participation in League, and overall simplify the process of joining League. We discussed the difficulties involved in such a change, including the cost of keeping data bases up to date, and decided that there was a great deal to think about in this proposal, and to share our concerns before the National Convention.

The Program Committee reported on the format for the June membership meeting on climate change issues. We will have a presentation by a specialist with Hennepin County's Environment and Energy Department, have a question and answer session, and then have breakout rooms to discuss plans to implement the information.

The Voter Service Committee reported on all the many plans in place this year for voter registration activities at high schools, community events, libraries, and putting up digital billboards encouraging people to get involved and get out and vote!

*Arlene Gillett, Secretary*

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## Get in touch with LWV ABC

Visit our public website: [www.lwvabcmn.org](http://www.lwvabcmn.org). If you need a refresher on accessing the Members Only section of the website, send an email to [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com). We will reply with the link for you to bookmark.

Check out the LWV ABC blog:

<https://www.lwvumrr.org/lwv-abc-blog>

**We're on Facebook:** Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook". **Instagram, too!**

**Our monthly newsletter, *The Voter*:**

Members and other interested persons receive our newsletter by email in the early part of each month. Issues are also available on our LWV ABC website, [www.lwvabcmn.org](http://www.lwvabcmn.org).

