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**Election Day and Beyond – Let’s Talk...**

**Our Monthly Program: Monday, November 9**

6:00 Zoom meeting room opens  
6:00 to 7:00 – Chatting, kvetching, and nattering about what happened this election  
7:00 - Announcements and Program

Whew. November 9 - the election will be over, the dust will be settled and we’ll know who the winners are in all these races nationwide. Or will we? Join us at 6pm on Monday, November 9, to talk about what happened, what’s know and not known, and how we feel about things. We’ll spend an hour on this, maybe over a beverage of your choice, and share what we collectively know and understand in a civil and respectful discussion. Remember – LWV is nonpartisan and we value civil discourse.

At 7, we’ll shift gears a bit and Sue Butler will lead a discussion geared at helping us all improve our skills at talking to folks who may not agree with our political views. This is important because we will all need to move ahead in rebuilding relationships and our community and our nation after the election.

Zoom log-in information will be sent to members on November 5; non-members can request the link by emailing [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com).



All are welcome, so join us. It will be a good session.

**Last Month's Program:**  
**Election Security: Your Vote, Your Ballot,**  
**How Secure is it?**  
**And Friend of League Awards**

- The evening began with Friend of League Award presentations to  
 --*Anoka County Library – Northtown and Rum River*  
 --*Columbia Heights Library*  
 With our grateful appreciation for their hosting of the League of Women Voters traveling exhibit commemorating 100 years of women's suffrage, for related events, and for ongoing civic engagement activities and education. (See photos below.)
- We had an informative and well-timed program led by Sue Butler on the topic of election security. We were appreciative that **Anoka County Elections Director Paul Linnell** took time to join us for a first-hand update on absentee ballot activity and security, the many ways to cast ballots in Anoka County, and to answer questions.

Missed the program? Watch it on our You Tube channel at this link”  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7srk\\_kUTWn8&feature=emb\\_title](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7srk_kUTWn8&feature=emb_title)

2020



Staff of Anoka County Library Rum River and Anoka County Library Northtown (Lydia Potthoff pictured) - These libraries went above and beyond in contributing to community awareness of the men and women who continue to make democracy work for all by hosting the LWV traveling exhibit celebrating 100 years of women's suffrage and the League, hosting opening ceremony events of the exhibit, displaying LWV ABC local history artifacts and featuring books about the people and events leading to the passage of the 19th Amendment.



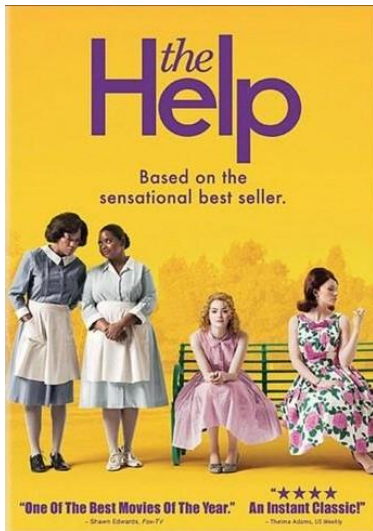
Cortni O'Brien Adult Services Librarian and the Columbia Heights Library - for hosting the LWV ABC historical exhibit and hosting, promoting and assisting LWV ABC with voter registration drives and dissemination of information to the public about the Presidential Primary.



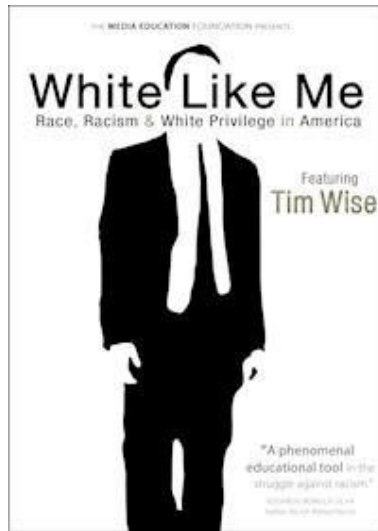
**THE VOTER**  
**November 2020**

**Book and Film Discussions via Zoom – with LWV ABC**  
*Expand your knowledge and participate in interesting discussions!*

- **Our Film Club** continues to meet monthly via Zoom *on the first Wednesday of the month*. Our informal discussions focus on issues raised by the film, but even if you did not have time to see the film, everyone can participate in the conversation. It's a great opportunity for some social interaction!



**December 2, 2020**

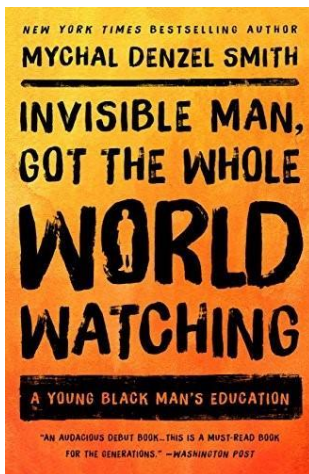


**January 6, 2021**

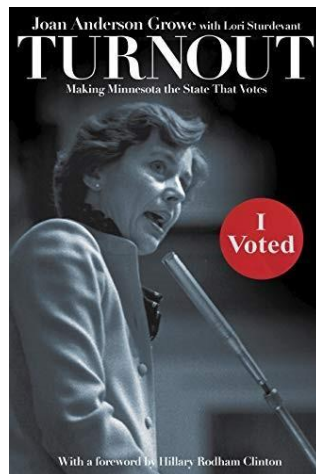


**February 3, 2021**

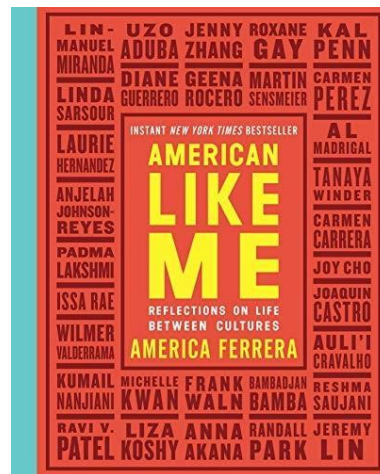
- **Our Book Club:** Due to the holidays, our next Book Club Meeting is not until January 20 but it is time to get your library requests in for the upcoming books.



January 20, 2021



February 17, 2021



March 17, 2021



### **Our Candidate Forums**

As of the date of this newsletter, we've had nearly 10,000 viewings of our more than 40 Candidate Forums on our You Tube Channel. There were many additional viewings for those who watched directly on our community cable websites, broadcasts, and our website. The forums indeed had an impact on voter education for the communities we serve! You can help to spread the word by sharing this link - <https://rb.gy/dfnjxe> - on your Facebook page, or, better yet, your city's FB page!

Our forum leaders and volunteers are gathering information, thoughts, and data for debriefing sessions to lay the groundwork for future forums. Do you have something to share that you want to make sure isn't overlooked in our analysis? We need everyone's comments and suggestions to make our forums better next time. Our forced experiment with this new format was quite the opportunity for learning – we need to capture what we learned, what worked, what didn't. Send an email to [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com) .

### **Energized by our Youth Partners!**

We'd like to recognize the work that our Youth Civic Engagement Partner, Hailey Shager, has done. On September 26, she organized a postcard addressing event with students from the Coon Rapids High National Honor Society, where they addressed our voter registration information postcards to 250 nonregistered persons in Coon Rapids while maintaining social distancing.



And then, on October 27, Hailey worked with LWV ABC President Gretchen Sabel to make a video that explained the in-person voting process that was shown in homerooms for senior students at Coon Rapids HS. You can see the video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kp3rmLpYAhs>

**Our Zilla Way Award Recipient – Pat Kennedy**  
**Presented at our October 12 Monthly Program**

The Zilla Way Award was created by the LWV ABC board in 1996 to honor a local League member who has provided outstanding leadership in guiding our organization. It was named after current member, Ms. Zilla Way, for her more than 60-year participation in League and her role as LWV ABC mentor and advisor.

This year’s recipient is **Patricia Kennedy**, a worthy recipient indeed! The accolades on the watercolor painting created by LWV member and watercolor artist, Mary Jo Truchon, read:

With gratitude to Patricia Kennedy for  
outstanding leadership to LWV ABC

Who we honor for the new energy, technical skills,  
resourcefulness and community connections brought to us

Who expertly filled a vacant board position for Membership and  
expands new member recruitment and connections  
and skillfully organizes our member recordkeeping.

Who has expanded voter registration events and continues to  
organize additional related information for event attendees

Who co-led the successful effort for a new, attractive website  
that provides members and our communities with many  
resources for civic engagement

Who is a knowledgeable and gracious community leader,  
contributing many volunteer hours to increased presence  
for LWV ABC in the areas we serve





**THE VOTER**  
**November 2020**

**Highlights of LWV ABC Board Meeting, October 26, 2020**

The Board received a report on the viewership count of our You Tube forum videos. We learned that we are reaching a lot of young people with them, estimates are from 16% to 21% of 18 to 35 year olds in our district are viewing our You Tube videos. Viewership across all age groups is high this election year.

Our student intern, Hailey Schlagel, will be filming videos soon to be shown to all the high schools in Anoka County and on our Facebook page. They will cover topics like "What happens when you go to vote", and short videos of people giving reasons why we should vote, how each vote is important.

We discussed possible topics for future membership meetings. These include: How we move forward after the election to unite the different factions in our country - maybe for our November meeting. For our December meeting, we could have a presentation about the Electoral College. And for our January meeting, we could have a presentation about mental health, how young people are handling the ups and downs of school life in the pandemic, and how senior citizens are dealing with the isolation. Suggestions for later meeting topics were: How to handle redistricting with the new census results, and a pollinator update, perhaps bringing in a Master Gardener.

*Arlene Gillett, Secretary*

**Do you have Information to share with LWV ABC?**  
**Four ways to stay 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.

**We're on Facebook:** Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook".

**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).