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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

Tuesday, November 3 VOTE!!

Monday, November 9, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

League Board Meeting via Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84024180011?pwd=Z0FhNWRuR3J6L3IHK2FIYXE2M0J5Zz09

Monday, November 9, 2020, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

LWVWI ISSUES BRIEFING (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)

Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

LWVWI ISSUES BRIEFING (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)

Thursday, November 12, 2020, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

LWVWI ISSUES BRIEFING (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)

Saturday, November 14, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

LWVWI ISSUES BRIEFING (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)

Wednesday, November 18, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Beloit-Janesville February Event Planning Committee Meeting



STATE LEAGUE AWARDS GRANTS

The Beloit League thanks the LWVWI for the grant monies to place a well-traveled highway billboard sign up, as well as an ad in the Beloit Daily News and the Stateline News regarding voting. Election fund grants were available to local leagues to highlight the right to vote and encourage voting and the Beloit League not only did that, but also wanted the League name to resonate with the community. We have been very fortunate to get recent publicity by using these funds, as well as all of the wonderful articles that have been in the Beloit Daily News. We thank everyone for their support.



League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Issues Briefing

several days and times so that you can pick and choose topics that are of interest to you. The sessions are over many very interesting topics and you are sure to be able to find one that you would like to join. There is no registration and no cost, so this is the year to take advantage of listening to expert speakers on topics of interest to Leaguers. The dates are listed on the calendar above, as well as here in this article and website. You can also click on the image above to go to the website for further information.

Monday, November 9, 2020, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Advocacy for Natural Resources Policy Focus on Water Quality and Health-related Issues

Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

<u>Advocacy for Social Policy</u> From Exclusion to Inclusion: Building Capacity for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in LWVWI

Thursday, November 12, 2020, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

<u>Advocacy for Government Policy</u> - Focus on the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, Redistricting and an Election Summary

Saturday, November 14, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

<u>Concluding Issues Briefing Session</u>: A virtual meeting featuring an expert panel discussing the unequal impacts of COVID-19 on Wisconsin's many communities

Link to webpage:

https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/article/programming-details-2020-virtual-issues-briefing-series



Harvard Case Studies and the Beloit League of Women Voters

Matt Flynn and James Hoey of Beloit Memorial High School, and Frank Crivello of Clinton High School participated in the Harvard Case Study Methodology Studies in the summer of 2019 at Harvard, as part of a League of Women Voters US program. As a result, the teachers were to return and present the methodology that had been learned not only to their students, but also to the community. Due to COVID-19, we were not able to move forward with the presentation until this past weekend. In cooperation with the Beloit Public Library we were able to see/hear the teachers' stories about their experiences through inperson and virtual learning. We thank Deb Fallon and Katharine Clark, BPL, for their hard work to make this happen.

problem-solving were used as part of the discussion to get students (the audience) to justify pushing forward with the ERA or to stand firm on legislation already in place. A lively discussion was held and the teachers worked to make students be the thinkers, instead of the teachers lecturing.

A big thank you to Matt, James, and Frank for taking on this project and we look forward to the students becoming critical-thinker citizens!!



100 Years in the Past

Don't let the year 2020 end without visiting the virtual exhibit on the Beloit Historical Society Website. Life in the progressive era and the roaring twenties was a time of great liberation for many women. From 1890 through the 1920s women became leaders in a range of community movements. *100 Years in the Past* celebrates the achievements of Beloit women who lived during the progressive era and the roaring 20s, specifically looking at women's daily, social, and political roles.

Follow this link to find out more: http://www.beloithistoricalsociety.com/



Local Education Consensus Study Completed

The Beloit League held its consensus on the seven local education positions that were studied over the past two years. It was a great group that joined the committee for this virtual consensus experience. In the end, consensus occurred and the newly updated positions will go forward to the Beloit League Board. Once approved by the board, the positions will go to the Annual Membership Meeting in April for all members to review and vote on. We thank the committee for their long commitment to this study and for the research, interviews, and hard work that they did for this needed effort for the Beloit League.



Voter Service

Car Parade

The Beloit League and other area organizations participated in a Unity Pack the Polls car parade through town. Many of our members dressed up their cars and themselves to

Rides to the polls

Several members of the community and the NAACP-Beloit Branch are offering Rides to the Polls. If you know someone who needs a ride, please have them call 608-322-4816 or 608-365-1881.

Keep your yard signs for the spring elections!





Social Media

Throughout October we have partnered with other non-partisan organizations to share their creative online campaigns to get out the vote.

Promote the Vote 2020 created a poster series based on research and historical photos of women and men who didn't always have the right to vote highlighting why we should take advantage and protect our right to vote. You can see all of the posters here: Promote the Vote Posters



Voter Helpline (608-285-2141)

Please see the information below about the Voter Helpline on the state level. Pat Zody will be the contact person for issues related specifically to the Beloit area. Members of the voter service committee will help out with questions or serving as a witness for an absentee ballot when a voter is staying in due to COVID. Also, don't hesitate to share the Voter Helpline phone number with anyone having trouble registering to vote, requesting an absentee ballot, where to vote, etc.

The League of Women Voters of Dane County, through it's partner organization the Dane

are able to answer most questions to the Helpline. But sometimes local experts are needed to provide information unique to a community or to provide direct assistance, for example serving as a witness for an absentee ballot when a voter is staying in due to COVID. The Helpline's statewide network currently has 37 counties and communities, and continues to grow with the participation of local League of Women Voters and ACLU chapters, other grassroots groups and civic-minded individuals.

The League of Women Voters of Beloit will be providing information unique to the Beloit area or for direct assistance.



Environmental/Sustainability Group News

Members of the ad hoc sustainability committee (Susan Adams, Deb Fallon, Brenda Plakans, and Betsy Brewer) met to discuss a speaker series to begin in February. The aim is to set the stage with an initial talk on climate change, with other talks gradually shifting to actions at policy, municipal, and individual levels. Next steps are to meet with two local experts on the subject in mid-November, identify potential speakers available through the UW-Madison Badger Talks speakers bureau, and speak with the City of Beloit Parks and Recreation Department about a possible collaboration. If the department is interested, we may pursue a small grant through Alliant Energy to implement a project. The Welty Center would like to co-sponsor the series, and the Beloit Public Library may also partner with us. Please feel free to reach out to Betsy, eebrewer@hotmail.com, if you are interested in joining this action-oriented committee.



League Lines Updates

LOOKING FOR VOUNTEERS

The Beloit-Janesville February Event Planning Committee is looking for volunteers to help with this virtual program on February 13, 2021. In the past, this has been an in-person event, with area government officials attending this League sponsored luncheon event. With COVID-19, this year will be different. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please email bclwv2010@gmail.com. The committee will be meeting: Wednesday, November 18, 2020, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89836080305? pwd=OWw1bFROcUs0bzhlSTFkYUV0QS9Tdz09

HISTORIAN NEEDED

Do you like to record history and keep track of the Beloit League events and happenings?? Would you like to develop a historical story of the Beloit League to keep for frequent use by members and board members? Do you receive the Beloit Daily News? Are you a Facebook and Webpage follower? Then we need you!!

INTERESTED IN BEING ON THE LEAGUE BOARD?

The Beloit League Board has positions available on its board. If you are interested in joining the board please email President Susan Adams: adams.sue.E@gmail.com

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to new League member Martha Dunegan!!







