



*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed, **diverse**, and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BELOIT

March-April 2019

THE LWV IS A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION THAT DOES A PROFESSIONAL JOB

Upcoming League and Community Events:

March 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m., LWV Leadership Team/Board Meeting
United Church, 657 Bluff St., back door

March 13, 6:30-8:00 p.m. School District of Beloit Candidate Forum
LWV of Beloit & NAACP, Beloit City Hall Forum

March 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Discussions with City Council Candidates
Sponsored by Justice Overcoming Borders & NAACP
Beloit Public Library

LATE MARCH: Women's History Event: "The Rape of Recy Taylor"
Beloit Public Library PLEASE WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION TO COME

March 27, 4:30 p.m. Meet and Greet (School Board Candidates)
Sponsored by Greater Beloit Chamber
Ironworks Hotel

March 28, 6:00 p.m. "Dark Money"
Sponsored by Justice Overcoming Borders
Beloit Public Library

April 2, VOTE

April 8 5:00-7:00 p.m. LWV Leadership Team/Board Meeting
United Church, 657 Bluff St., back door

April 27, 9:00 a.m. League Annual Meeting
Beloit Historical Society, 845 Hackett St. Beloit

BELOIT LWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Susan Adams, Bette Carr, Stephanie Dobson, Deb Fallon,
Gayle Hotchkiss, Beatrice McKenzie, Joyce Metter,
Dalynda Owens, Barb Porter, Dorothy Stroud, Pat Zody*

School District of Beloit Candidate Forum

On March 13, the League of Women Voters of Beloit and the NAACP-Beloit Chapter will be hosting a School District of Beloit Candidate Forum, starting at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at the Beloit City Hall Forum. It will also be broadcast live. Hope you will be watching!!

March 19, 6-8:00 p.m.

NAACP and JOB will be hosting
“Conversations with the City
Council Candidates”
at the Beloit Public Library.
The public is invited.

March 27, 4:30 p.m.

The Greater Beloit Chamber
of Commerce will be hosting a
“meet and greet” with the
School Board candidates at
the Ironworks Hotel.
The public is invited.

**VOTE
APRIL 2!!**



LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. 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.

In This Issue:

- Calendar of Events
- **New Logo!**
- **New Members!**
- Lively Issues—Summary
- Homelessness Consensus
- Susan B. Anthony
- Voter Service Activity
 - Forums
- Dark Money
- Women’s History Month
- Annual Meeting

Check out our

Beloit League of Women Voters web site: www.beloit.wi.lwvnet.org



The LWVUS has given all local leagues their own logo now, which looks very professional. We will be using this on all of our materials and just in time for spring events. It is also a nice way to open our first page with twelve new members. Betsy Brewer and Ellen Mueller joined during our fall membership drive. The other ten new members joined at our Susan B. Anthony Event. We are up to 62 members!! Please welcome the new members to our organization:

Beloit College

- Angela Castrillo Vilches
- Sam Erickson
- Betzaid Navarette

Beloit Memorial H.S.

- Jessica Chavez
- Dulce Garcia
- Summer Marcum
- Stephanie Severiano
- Karen Soto
- Lavinity Vasquez
- Kalyn Vences

CASINO

League of Women Voters of Beloit *Lively Issues Meeting* Summary

LAND USE

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE
POLICE
LIAISON

HOMELESSNESS

This year, the League’s Lively Issues took a different look, as we reviewed the Homelessness Position statement, the Casino Position, the Land Use Position, and the School District Discipline and School-Police Liaison Positions. We also reviewed the LWVWI suggested program which was to continue to work on reaching out to other organizations and groups to expand our League’s diversity, equity, and inclusion of others.

There will be more information on these topics as we approach our League’s Annual Meeting on April 27th. The annual meeting packet will be sent out 30 days before the meeting.

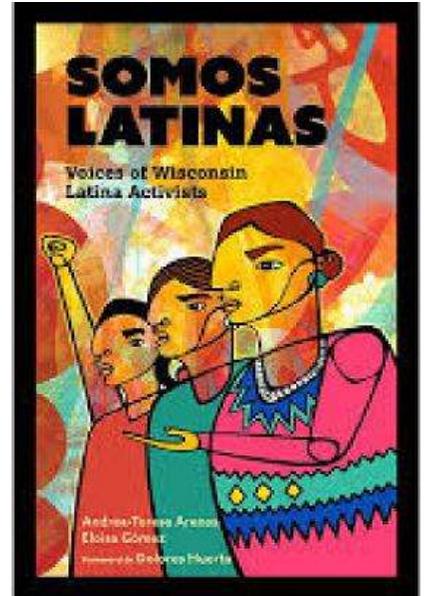
HOMELESSNESS CONSENSUS STUDY HELD

Members of the Homelessness Study Committee and members of the League met on February 11th to discuss the current position and to come to consensus as to whether there should be edits, additions, or deletions. The final position change will be brought before the whole membership at the Annual Meeting on April 27 for a final vote. We thank the committee for all of its work over the past two years and look forward to completion of this study.



The Annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday Celebration

The annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday Celebration held February 9, 2019 by the League of Women Voters of Beloit and Janesville was attended by over 100 participants. Event speaker was **Eloisa Gómez**, co-author of, *Somos Latinas: Voices of Wisconsin Latina Activists*. Eloisa spoke about the many Latina Activists (50 years and older) in Wisconsin and their struggles and perseverance. Nelia Olivencia was one of the women that was highlighted in the book and was a surprise guest to tell her story in person. Table top activities also helped those in attendance strategize on building relationship and alliance opportunities with the Latinx/Latina communities to further civic engagement. Thank you to Kalyn Vences, BMHS student and new member, who introduced our speaker.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-BELOIT AND NAACP-BELOIT

SPONSOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT CANDIDATE FORUM

The League of Women Voters of Beloit and the NAACP--Beloit Chapter are sponsoring a forum with board candidates for the School District of Beloit on Wednesday, March 13th, at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Beloit City Hall Forum, 100 State St. Beloit, WI. Questions will be prepared by the League and the NAACP; there will be time for several audience-generated questions, as well. The eight candidates for the Beloit School Board are: Torie Champeny, Pam Charles, Ami Christophersen, Megan Miller, Phillip L. Van Landingham Jr., John Winkelmann, and John C. Wong. The three candidates with the highest number of votes will serve three-year terms and the candidate that receives the fourth highest number of votes will fill a one-year term.

The election is on Tuesday, April 2.



CANDIDATE FORUM FOR
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
BELOIT SCHOOL BOARD

The League of Women Voters of Beloit and the NAACP-Beloit Chapter, invite the community to a candidate forum for the School District of Beloit School Board positions.

MARCH 13, 2019

6:30 P.M.

CITY HALL FORUM

Candidates for four school board positions:

Torie Champeny

Phillip L. VanLandingham Jr.

Pam Charles

Joe Walls (write-in, invited)

Ami Christophersen

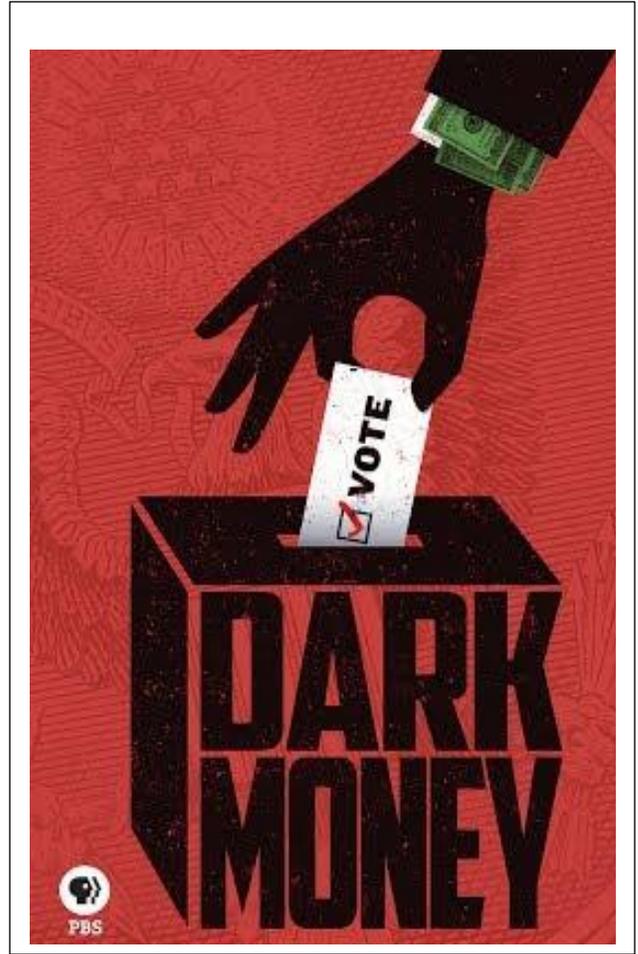
John Winkelmann

Megan Miller

John C. Wong

The three candidates with the highest number of votes will serve three-year terms and the candidate that receives the fourth highest number of votes will fill a one-year term.

Movie & Discussion
Thursday, March 28th
6 p.m.
Beloit Public Library



DARK MONEY EXAMINES ONE OF THE GREATEST PRESENT THREATS TO AMERICAN DEMOCRACY: THE INFLUENCE OF UNTRACEABLE CORPORATE MONEY ON OUR ELECTIONS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS.

(PBS)



Sponsored by JOB
Justice Overcoming Borders
All are welcome
Light refreshments

Women’s History Month

The League of Women Voters will be partnering with several agencies to bring the film “The Rape of Recy Taylor” to the Beloit Public Library in late March. Watch for a confirming date.

Recy Taylor, was an African-American woman from Abbeville, Alabama, whose abduction and rape by six white men in 1944 made national headlines.

She was kidnapped, gang raped, and left blindfolded on the side of a road by these six men. According to reports, the men were armed and threatened to kill her if she told anyone about the attack. The young, married mother did tell authorities; however, it was in the height of the Jim Crow Era. This is a recently produced documentary that shows the struggles of the time and the inequities with the justice system.

Join us for our Annual Meeting-League of Women Voters of Beloit
Saturday, April 27, 2019, 9:00 a.m.
Beloit Historical Society
845 Hackett St. Beloit

- Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. \$10.
- Speakers at 9:30-10:15 a.m.
- Business Meeting to follow

“Owning the Problem”

- **Speakers:**
Dorothy Harrell, President
NAACP Beloit Branch
- **Ruth Kolpack, President**
Justice Overcoming Borders (JOB)

Wisconsin has always been recognized as a leader in the labor movement and the struggle for freedom in these United States. Now, Wisconsin rates number one in the country for incarcerating more African-Americans and Native Americans than any other state. In addition, while Wisconsin's rate of incarceration across the board is escalating, numerous states are working at decreasing their rate of incarceration. How are they doing this? Is it possible for Wisconsin to do this as well?

Looking for new board members!! Are you interested??

Each year at our Annual Meeting, new board members are elected to lead the League. Are you interested in joining this volunteer group? The League would love to have you consider being nominated for one of these positions. The board meets once a month and helps to develop programming and activities for the membership. Board members are not allowed to actively participate in a candidate's campaign so that the board can maintain its nonpartisanship. Think of all of the great things that the League does and why it is important to keep our League forward thinking. If you are interested, please contact Stephanie Dobson, at 608-364-1023.



Are YOU reading this newsletter as a 'guest'?
Joining the League of Women Voters is easy!

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Simply print out this page and cut off this form.

Write your check to the League of Women Voters of Beloit. **Dues are \$65. Student \$10.**

Mail it to the Beloit LWV Treasurer: Dorothy Stroud

2790 E. County Road (Phone: 815-988-2259)
Beloit, WI 53511

name _____ phone _____ date _____

street _____ city/state _____ zip _____

e-mail _____ signature _____

Amount enclosed for dues: _____ Donation: _____

Application for LWV Dues Scholarship: I hereby request consideration for a LWV Dues Scholarship for one year's membership. I understand that it is my responsibility to pay a portion of the annual dues and that a Board member will be in contact with me regarding final completion.

Signature _____