



VOTER

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In This Issue

From the President 1
Membership 2
Voter Registration 2-3
VOTE411 3-4
Voter Services 4
Carrie Chapman Catt Book Club 4-5
Life Time Member 5
Education 6
IC Book Festival 6
Upcoming Events 7
LWVIA 2024 Public Policy Priorities 8
Photo Gallery 9-11
Calendar of Events 12

LWVJC | P. O. Box 5452
Coralville, IA 52241

The Voter is issued the last Friday of the month to provide members advance notice of activities. The November Voter deadline is October 19.

October 2024

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy

ELECTION SEASON

It's not just football season! Here we are going into October and election season is in full swing. In this day and age the rise of artificial intelligence means there is plenty of mis/dis/mal-information out there, particularly on social media. It is good practice for all of us to remember and practice the Do's and Don'ts of Election Misinformation.

- Do verify information before you share it. Check the source (and the source's source), verify the date, and cross-check the information across multiple reliable sources. Reliable sources include local news, elections officials, Vote411, and fact-checking sites such as FactCheck.org and Politifact.org.
Do question the content. Read beyond the headline and particularly question emotionally charged content. Mis/dis/mal-information often plays on people's emotions.
Do share accurate information. Without mentioning the wrong information, set the record straight by sharing the correct information.
Do report inaccurate information to social media platforms, group administrators, and/or election officials.
Don't click or share the bad information. If you quote the bad information, you help spread it.
Don't engage publicly. Engaging publicly will help spread the bad information. If someone you know is spreading bad information, message them privately and ask them to take it down.
The more aware we are of mis/dis/mal-information, the better prepared we are to call it out and share with others how to do so. This is vital to empowering voters with good information and defending democracy.
During this election season, LWVJC is busy registering and educating voters. You can help by signing up to register voters, join us for a candidate forum, read about the candidates on your ballot at Vote411.org, and share good information.

Read this Voter for dates and information on all our local League activities. Happy Election Season!

Vicki Aden
President



MEMBERSHIP

Our League currently has 181 members. I would like to welcome our many new League members: Melissa Bickford, Betsy Fischer, Diane Delozier Lahr, Becky Hall, Karole Fuller, Stephanie Leonard, Sue Protheroe, Jennifer Smith Wyatt and Mark Wyatt, Alex Stanton, Jill Valde, Gina Whitty (wife of member Justin Whitty) and Rachel Zimmerman Smith. Please welcome them into our League as you meet them at various League events throughout the coming year.

The League's Fall Reception and Membership Drive was held September 5 at the Unitarian Universalist Society church in Coralville, sponsored in part by Hills Bank. Eighty members and guests attended the event. I would like to thank the team whose hard work helped make this event so successful: Jeanne Bancroft, Bea Hicks, Susie Corbin-Muir, Jean Donham, Vicki Aden, Jennifer Patel, and Polly Horton. Caroline Tolbert, Ph.D., whose informative presentation, *Electoral Innovations and Modernizing Presidential Elections*, provided excellent insight into the Electoral College and was well received.

Membership Renewal Reminder: Our lives are always so busy – however, our membership renewal date was June 30 so please take a minute today to renew your membership in the League of Women Voters Johnson County. Supporting our League through your membership is extremely critical. As members we work to empower voters and defend democracy through advocacy, education, and litigation at all levels, local, state, and national.

Renewing is easy! Renew online at <https://my.lwv.org/iowa/johnson-county/join> or send a check to League of Women Voters

Johnson Co, PO Box 5452, Coralville, IA 52241.
Individual memberships are \$70 or \$105 for a household or \$20 for students.

Casual Coffee: All members are always invited to attend our Casual Coffees on the second Wednesday of each month. Enjoy a beverage and get to know other League members. We meet at 10 a.m. at Poindexter's Coffee in the Graduate Hotel.

Diane Duncan-Goldsmith
Membership Chair



VOTER REGISTRATION

September has been a busy month for voter registration and October promises to be just as busy. From Sep 12 - Sep 21, the LWVJC tabled at 13 events, including events at two senior living residences and City High School. On National Voter Registration Day, we were at Kirkwood Community College and the Coralville, Iowa City and North Liberty Public Libraries, then ended the week at the Herbert Hoover Library for the Naturalization Ceremony. We also registered voters at two other community events, the Miller Orchard Jamboree and the Rock the Block, Raise the Roof Neighborhood Centers Celebration.

We were joined at several of these events by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Overall, we registered 149 people, completed 69 absentee ballot request forms, obtained Personal Identification Numbers (PIN) for 8 residents at senior housing, checked current registration status and answered questions for countless others.

From Sep 23 -27 we will register high school students at West and Liberty High. The impressive student organizers at all three high schools deserve a shout out. They took the lead on publicizing the events through posters, flyers

and social media and educating peers about the importance of voting.

We have 5 additional community events scheduled from Sep 23-30 including an educational event addressing the \$30 Million Conservation Bond sponsored by LWVJC, the film, 'Scale of Hope', sponsored by Climate Fest, the Fall Harvest Community Meal on the Coralville Public Library's front lawn, the Johnson County ADA celebration on the Ped Mall and Show up for Racial Justice at the ICPL.

During the first 3 weeks of October, we will register voters at the community food banks and pantries. Because shoppers are only permitted to shop one day of the week, we plan to register shoppers on each of the shopping days over the course of a week.

Other planned registration events include Kirkwood Community College (Oct 2), Ecumenical Towers (Oct 2), Autumn Park Senior Housing (Oct 3), Capitol Housing (Oct 3), the Indigenous Peoples Celebration (Oct 14), the Halloween Carnival at the Robert A. Lee Recreation Center (Oct 18), and the Corridor Community Action Network (CCAN) Engagement Fall Festival on the Ped Mall (Oct 19).

A big thank you to LWVJC member Diana Henry who has been registering voters in the city. She partnered with the owner of Get Fresh Cafe, 109 Iowa Ave., Iowa City to register voters outside her venue. The first one took place on Sep 17. Other dates for the opportunity will be Sep 25, Oct 2, 8 and 9. Wendy Zimmermann, owner of Get Fresh Cafe, provided a \$3 discount coupon for a smoothie/smoothie bowl for those who registered. In addition, Dr. Tanya English, owner of Quantum Healing International, has agreed to let us do voter registration outside her business/home, 900 20th Ave., Coralville on the following days and times: Sep 27, 5-6:00, Oct 4 and 11 from 4-5:30.

Another big thank you to all members of the voter registration committee for helping make the events so successful. Sign up genius emails have been sent to members of the voter

registration committee for the remaining events. LWVJC members who are NOT on the voter registration committee but would like to volunteer, please email Kathy Clark at mkathyclark@gmail.com. and we will add you to the sign-up genius emails.

GOING ROGUE. We are happy to provide registration materials to any LWVJC member who would like to register people at other nonpartisan, more informal, events or gatherings.

Kathy Clark
Voter Registration



VOTE411.org

It is election season again and the League has candidate and issue information available online to make voting as accessible and easy as possible.

One of the basic tenets of the League is that every citizen has a right and obligation to vote, and that informed voters are essential.

To that end VOTE411 provides information on whether you are registered to vote, how to register to vote, and what is on your ballot. All of this information is personalized by geography. You, the voter, just enter your address to gain the information pertinent to where you live.

VOTE411 is a collaboration of U.S., state and local Leagues with each entity providing the information relative to their "jurisdiction". For example, LWVUS focuses on national offices such as the presidential race; LWVIA covers all federal representatives and state-wide races; and

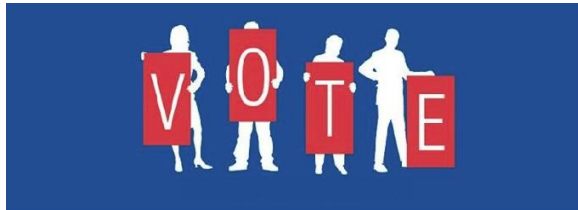
the local leagues like LWVJC cover those races particular to Johnson County.

General ballot information is provided by the League but the information about particular candidates is provided by the candidates themselves to ensure the information provided to voters is what the candidates wish to say about specific issues. This is in keeping with the League's non-partisan position.

The LWVJC committee has been working to enter information on the site about each race, who is running, and the substance of any ballot issues. Our next step is to invite all the candidates to respond to three general questions about their views. For voters to be truly informed, it is very important for ALL the candidates to respond and ensure their views are included. If you know anyone who is running for office this November, please encourage them to respond to our invitation.

Our democracy works best when voters are informed.

Karin Franklin
VOTE411 co-chair



VOTER SERVICES

There are four contested state races in the 2024 November election involving Johnson County residents. They are State Senate District 46, State Representative District 86, State Representative District 91, and State Representative District 92.

We are holding a candidate forum combining the State Senate District 46 contest and the Representative Districts 91 and 92 on Monday, October 7 at 7 PM at the Kalona Historical Village in Kalona, Iowa. All candidates have

been invited to participate. Ed Chabal, candidate for Senate District 46, Anna Banowsky, candidate for House District 91 and Jay Gorsch, candidate for House District 92 have confirmed their participation.

The three other candidates have not yet accepted or declined the invitation, and we are hopeful they will be able to attend.

We have cancelled the candidate forum in Coralville for State Representative District 86 on Wednesday, October 16 at 7 PM. The candidates are Dave Jacoby and Stephen Knoner. One of the candidates did not accept or decline so we are unable to sponsor the forum with only one candidate participating.

Please join us on October 7 for the opportunity to hear directly from the candidates as they respond to their constituents' questions.

Jeanne Bancroft
Voter Services Chair



CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT BOOK CLUB

The first meeting of the 2024-25 Carrie Chapman Catt Book Group was held on Monday, September 16, 2024 at the Coralville Public Library. We had an interesting discussion on the Ari Berman book, 'Minority Rule: the Right Wing Attack on the Will of the People – And the Will to Resist It'. All agreed it was an enlightening read and we learned a lot. Ari Berman is one of the authors who will be speaking on October 19 at 2:30 PM at the ICPL as part of the Iowa City Book Festival, October 13-20.

Books were selected for the next three meetings: Monday, October 21 5:30 PM at Coralville Public Library – ‘Barons: Money, Power and the Corruption of America’s Food Industry’ by Austin Frerick. The author is an expert on agricultural and antitrust policy. He worked at the Open Markets Institute, the U.S. Department of Treasury, and the Congressional Research Service before becoming a Fellow at Yale University.

He is a 7th generation Iowan and 1st generation college graduate, with degrees from Grinnell College and the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Mary McCarthy will guide our discussion.

Monday, November 18, 2024 – ‘Attack from Within: How Disinformation is Sabotaging America’ by Barbara McQuade.

Monday, January 20, 2025 – ‘Everyone Who Is Gone Is Here: The United States, Central America and the Making of a Crisis’ by Jonathan Blitzer.

We read books about politics, policy, and social issues. Consider joining us in October or any month you can. Everyone is invited!

*Jeanne Bancroft
Book Club Chair*



LIFETIME MEMBER RECOGNITION

LWV Lifetime members have been members of the League for over 50 consecutive years, empowering voters and defending democracy. We currently have three lifetime members. They are Jean Lloyd Jones, Pat Jensen and Barbara Beaumont.

A new lifetime member, Barbara Haring, was recognized at our Fall Reception and Membership Drive in September. Here are her reflections;

1. What is there about the League of Women Voters that made you stay a member for so long? Wonderful longtime friends, of course. Members working on important issues in our area, like the beginning of the multi county mental health services, school sports and facilities made available to girls. Several of our League members have been elected to public offices or have meaningful careers in public service.

2. What drew you to join in the beginning? Friends asking to participate in voter awareness. I was asked to be an observer for our League at Iowa City council meetings. One evening in 1968, Vietnam war protesters left Clinton Street and marched down Washington to the City Building, shouting and throwing objects. The police came into the council chambers and asked us to leave. They were dressed in riot gear and looked more scared than we were. They escorted us out to our cars and away from downtown.

In the 70s a member had a little MG roadster and she drove us around downtown while I wore a large yellow “BigBird” costume with a 3 foot head. I carried a sign saying ‘DON’T JUST SQUAWK: VOTE’.

3. What makes the League still relevant to you? Things change with time and the League has changed too. In the 1970s Claudine Harris and I produced the Voter newsletter on a mimeograph machine, folded and sorted by ZIP codes, then took them to Auggie at the Post Office dock.

Technology has been a big help with our communications with zoom, photos in articles, email news from State and National, too. Other big assets are gentlemen members and working with other organizations on issues.

Besides our nice web page our forums are made more available too.

*Diane Duncan-Goldsmith
Membership Chair*



EDUCATION

‘The Hero You Don’t Know: Hubert Humphrey and the Long Struggle for Civil Rights’

To mark the 60 th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, please join us on October 24 for a timely program that delves into the history of this hard-won landmark federal law. Award-winning author Samuel G. Freedman and Norman Sherman, Vice President Hubert

Humphrey’s press secretary during Lyndon Johnson’s administration, will talk about the efforts to advance civil rights in the 1940s, which set the stage for passing federal civil rights legislation in the 1960s.

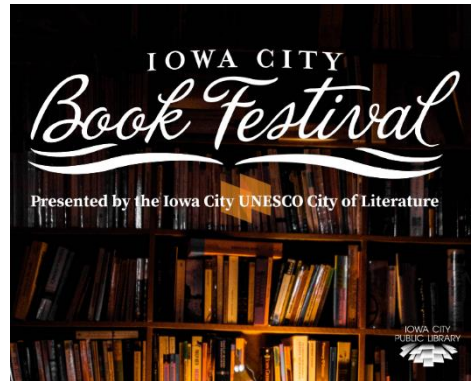
Freedman, professor of journalism at Columbia University, has won many awards that attest to his achievements as a former columnist for the New York Times, author of ten books, and outstanding educator in the field of journalism. The program will draw on his latest book,

‘Into the Bright Sunshine: Young Hubert Humphrey and the Fight for Civil Rights’. Sherman, in addition to serving as Humphrey’s press secretary and close aide, also edited Humphrey’s autobiography. He currently lives in Coralville and, at age 96, pens a weekly column for the Cedar Rapids Gazette.

Many cosponsors are uniting for this program. In addition to the University of Iowa Political

Science Department, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, Afro-American Cultural Center, and Hawkeye History Corps, community cosponsors are the Black Voices Project, Delta Sigma Theta, TRAIL of Johnson County, and Iowa City Public Library.

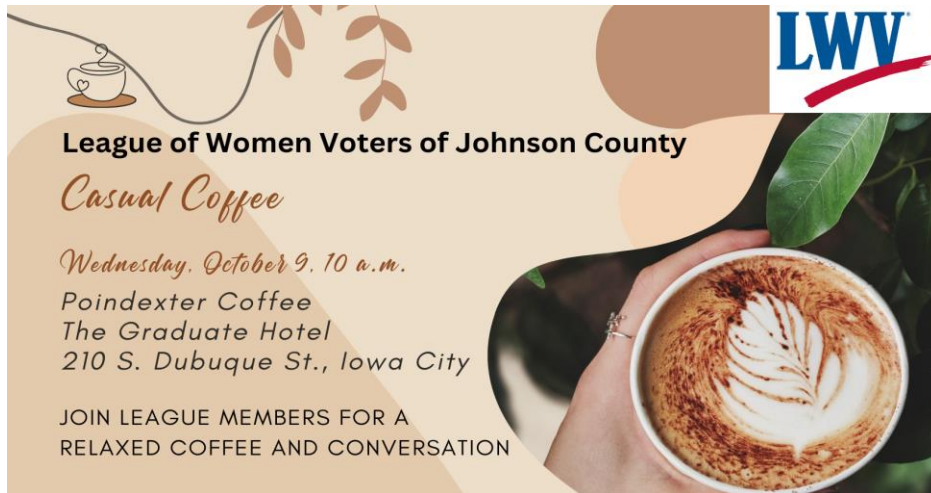
Our civil rights are ever in need of defending, but especially this election year. Whether you cast your ballot as an early voter or at your precinct voting station on November 5, let’s celebrate the anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act together on Thursday, October 24, 6:30-8:00 at the Iowa City Public Library.



Ari Berman author of ‘Minority Rule: The Right-Wing Attack on the Will of the People and the Fight to Resist It’ will read from his book at the Iowa City Book Festival. Berman is the national voting rights correspondent for Mother Jones and a reporting fellow at Type Media Center. He is a native of Fairfield, Iowa. Coincidentally, the LWVJC Book Club discussed his book at their meeting in Sep.

The event is part of the 2024 Iowa City Book Festival and is sponsored by the Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature and LWVJC. It will be presented live and in person Oct 19, 2:30-4 p.m., meeting room A at ICPL, and will also be live-streamed on the ICPL YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/the_library_channel

*** UPCOMING EVENTS ***



League of Women Voters of Johnson County
Casual Coffee
Wednesday, October 9, 10 a.m.
Poindexter Coffee
The Graduate Hotel
210 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City

JOIN LEAGUE MEMBERS FOR A
RELAXED COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

LWV

The poster features a background image of a hand holding a cup of coffee with latte art. There is a small icon of a coffee cup and leaves in the top left corner.



DEMOCRACY AT A CROSSROADS | **PROGRAM SERIES FALL 2024**

IOWA | Anthropology

**SOUTH AFRICAN DEMOCRACY:
LESSONS FROM 30 YEARS**
WITH SPEAKER BRADY G'SELL, PH.D.
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16, 2024, 12:00PM - 1:00PM
IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ALSO STREAMING ONLINE

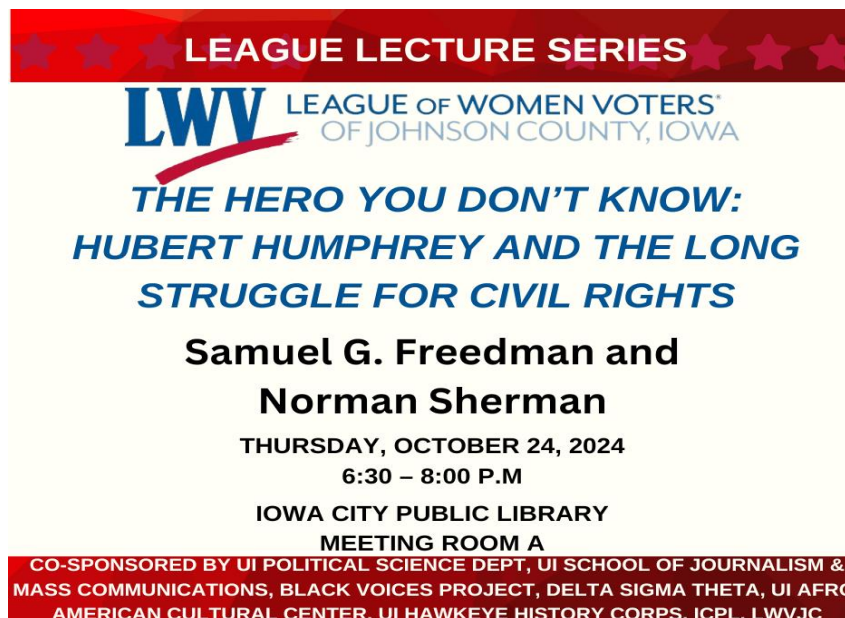
HOSTED BY
SUNDAY GOSHIT
ICFRC BOARD MEMBER

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30AM - JOIN US FOR SOCIAL CONNECTION AND A MEAL!
PLEASE **RSVP BY OCTOBER 14th** - SO WE KNOW HOW MUCH FOOD TO ORDER

Iowa City Foreign Relations Council

IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The poster features a central image of a smiling woman, Brady G'Sell, with a background of a South African building. There are logos for Iowa Anthropology, Iowa City Public Library, and Iowa City Foreign Relations Council.



LEAGUE LECTURE SERIES

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' OF JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA

**THE HERO YOU DON'T KNOW:
HUBERT HUMPHREY AND THE LONG
STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Samuel G. Freedman and
Norman Sherman**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024
6:30 - 8:00 P.M.
IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING ROOM A

CO-SPONSORED BY UI POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPT, UI SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATIONS, BLACK VOICES PROJECT, DELTA SIGMA THETA, UI AFRO-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER, UI HAWKEYE HISTORY CORPS, ICPL, LWVJC

The poster has a red header with stars and a white background with blue and black text.

★ VOTING

Promote equal access to voting and ensure all votes are counted. Adopt automatic voter registration. Enact ranked choice voting. Pass a constitutional amendment allowing Iowans with felony convictions to vote after time served.

🏛️ TRANSPARENCY & CITIZENSHIP

Demand government accountability and transparency by requiring all amendments and bills discussed in committee to be available to the public prior to a vote. Demand timely processing of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Encourage direct citizen participation by continuing virtual committee and subcommittee meetings. Preserve gender balance requirements for state boards and commissions.

🎓 EDUCATION

Increase oversight and track public funds being used for non-public schools. Require any non-public school receiving public funds to meet the same standards as public schools. Fully fund public schools. Continue to expand access to affordable childcare and four-year-old preschool.

👩‍⚕️ REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Guarantee access to the full range of women's reproductive health services. Make contraception available without prescription. Ensure Medicaid services are comprehensive and accessible. Support new moms with 12 months of postpartum Medicaid coverage. Set policies that attract maternal health professionals and address the state's OB/GYN deserts.

👤 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Prevent human trafficking in all of its forms, support its victims, and enact "Safe Harbor" legislation to protect human trafficking survivors from criminal prosecution.

💧 ENVIRONMENT

Increase funding for environment and water quality initiatives, including REAP, and develop state climate change strategies.

🔫 GUN SAFETY

Enact comprehensive common sense gun safety legislation to address increasing gun violence in the state. Enact background checks on all gun sales, close gun show loopholes, require gun safety locks, repeal "stand your ground" law, and resist efforts that expand carrying in public spaces and schools.



Photo Gallery



Voter Registration Day, September 17 at Kirkwood Community College, Coralville: pictured left to right, Cathy Eisenhofer, Miriam Timmer-Hackert, Nancy Porter, Teresa Schneider, and Elinor Levin.

Below: Nancy Dietz and Cecilia Roudabush register voters at Coralville Public Library.





Iowa Water Conference, September 10-11, Coralville. Mary Ellen Miller, chair of the LWV UMRR Board and Christine Curry, the artist.

Below: another example of art work on display by Christine Curry.





Caroline Tolbert, Ph.D. presented 'Electoral Innovations and Modernizing Presidential Elections' at our Fall Reception and Membership Drive, September 5.



Josh Schamberger (L) responds to an audience question at the Sep 25 program on 'The \$30M Conservation Bond: What's It All About?' with co-presenters Brad Friedhof (C) and Pat Heiden (R).

Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Location	Program
Sunday, September 29	2 - 4 p.m.	Iowa City Public Library	Voter Registration at the Show Up for Racial Justice event
September 30, and Oct 1, 4, 5	Times Vary	CommUnity Food Pantry, Iowa City	Voter Registration
Wednesday, October 2	9:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Kirkwood Community College, Coralville	Voter Registration
Wednesday, October 2	8:45 - 11 a.m.	Ecumenical Towers Senior Housing	Voter Registration
Thursday, October 3	2:45 - 5 p.m.	Autumn Park Apartments Senior Housing	Voter Registration
Thursday, October 3	2:45 - 5 p.m.	Capitol House Apartments	Voter Registration
Monday, October 7	7 - 8 p.m.	Kalona Historical Village, Kalona	Candidate Forum; Iowa Senate District 46 and State House Districts 91 and 92
October 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	Times Vary	Coralville Community Food Pantry	Voter Registration
Wednesday, October 9	10 a.m.	Poindexter Coffee, Graduate Hotel, Iowa City	Casual Coffee
Monday, October 14	4:15 - 7 p.m.	TBD	Voter Registration at Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration
Wednesday, October 16	7 - 8 p.m.	Coralville; Location TBD	TENTATIVE: Candidate Forum; Iowa House District 86
Friday, October 18	4:45 - 7:30 p.m.	Robert A. Lee Recreation Center, Iowa City	Voter Registration at Halloween Carnival
Saturday, October 19	12 - 6 p.m.	Iowa City Ped Mall	Voter Registration at CCAN-Con Engagement Fair
Thursday, October 24	6:30 p.m.	Iowa City Public Library	<i>The Hero You Don't Know: Hubert Humphrey and the Long Struggle for Civil Rights, Samuel G. Freedman, Norman Sherman</i>
Tuesday, November 5	7 a.m. - 8 p.m.	Your Polling Place	Election Day
Saturday, December 7	TBD	Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Coralville	Membership Meeting and Legislative Lunch

League of Women Voters of Johnson County

OUR MISSION: *Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.*

OUR VISION: We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate.

OUR VALUE: We believe in the power of women and men to create a more perfect democracy.