

The **VOTER**



League of Women Voters - Janesville
April 2011

www.lwvjvl.org Editor: Carol Herzig P.O. Box 8064, Janesville, WI 53547-8064

Tell Your Story!! Speak your mind!!

League members: We can use your help to get the word out. Please share this notice with persons you know who have had some experience with these systems. Assure folks that no names will be attached to specific comments.



Have family members and/or you dealt with both the Rock County Criminal Justice system (juvenile or adult) as well as mental health and substance abuse treatment efforts?

How has that worked out?

Independent reviewers will be here to listen to you (community members) talk about what has worked well and what could be improved.

The focus is on how mental health/ substance abuse treatment and the criminal justice system work together.

Are there changes that could be made to improve outcomes?

Monday - April 4 - 7pm

Snack Shop meeting room at Hedberg Library, 316 S. Main, JVL

Your experience is important as plans are made for the future.

If you can not make this gathering, call 752-8342 for other possibilities.

Hosted by the Rock County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council with assistance from the League of Women Voters - Janesville

Has Your Voice Been Heard?

Today is the day to write your representatives — at both the state and federal levels. They need to hear what we are thinking. What is important to you as the budget decisions overwhelm every conversation?

Federal Senators and Representatives:

Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI)	202-224-5653
Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI)	202-224-5323
Rep. Paul Ryan (R-01)	202-225-3031
Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-02)	202-225-2906

Tim Cullen (D) [15]	608-266-2253
Jon Erphenbach (D) [27]	608-266-6670

State Assembly:

Andy Jorgensen (D) [37]	608-266-3790
Evan Wynn (R) [43]	608-266-9650
Joe Knilan (R) [44]	608-266-7503
Janis Ringhand (D) [80]	608-266-1192

State Senators:

Scott Fitzgerald (R) [13]	608-266-5660
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Notice from Sustainability Working Group

Bill McKibben, of 350.org, will be at UW-Whitewater on Tuesday, April 5, 7 p.m. Young Auditorium.

Lectures are free and open to the public, no tickets required. This is a big deal! He has written lots of books and has been organizing around combating climate change for some time. Check him out at Wikipedia or his own website: billmckibben.com

Especially go to 350.org to see what he has been doing. I'm planning to go. I hope several of us can car-pool. Let me know.

Neil

P.S. Please pass this along as widely as you can.

P.P.S. You can read a recent article at www.sojourners.com

Public Education Study



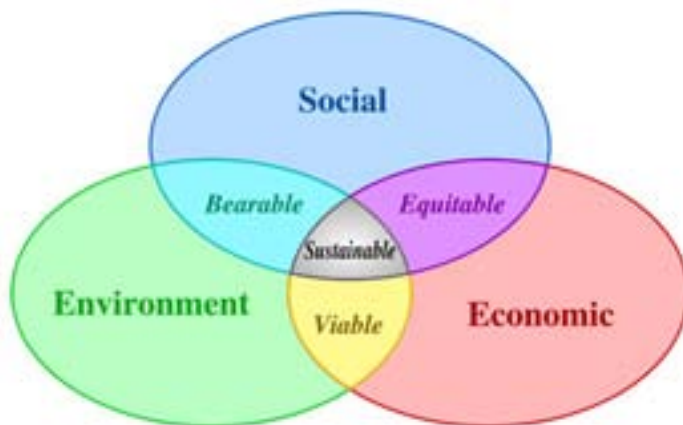
Carol Herzig, photo

Participants of the telecast with Diane Ravitch.

This is background for our study of the Federal Role in Public Education. Watch (and perhaps take notes) three presentations on the state of education today.

Follow the links from wisconsinacademy.org Academy Evenings Education is Fundamental Series. Then scroll down to find "click here to watch archived podcast". The three programs are: Diane Ravitch, author of *"The Death & Life of the Great American School System."*; a panel identifying challenges, "Getting to A+" ; and Adam Gamoran, Educational Inequality in the Aftermath of No Child Left Behind.

Sustainability Committee to learn about Legacy Program



A presentation is scheduled at City Hall, May 17, 6:30 p.m. for Steve Hiniker to describe the "Legacy" program to the Janesville Sustainability Committee. The community is always welcome to observe at the committee's meetings. League member, Sue Conley has been appointed to the committee.

To learn more about the program before this presentation, look at 1kfriends.org. Below is a taste of the benefits that can result if the city decides to participate in this program.

"Green Tier Legacy Communities – A New Pathway to Sustainability

Communities in Wisconsin now have a new program to help them achieve sustainability objectives, thanks to the collaboration between 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, the UW Center on Wisconsin Strategy, the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The five organizations came together to take advantage of the state's Green Tier program to develop a charter that helps communities set sustainability goals and receive technical assistance, recognition and help with grants to achieve those goals. The voluntary program is intended to complement – not replace – ongoing sustainability activities such as The Natural Step or other sustainability pathways. It is also a template for communities wanting to start out on a sustainability program."



Carol Herzig, Photos

City Council Forum hosted by moderator Amy Golackson.



School Board Forum hosted by moderator Teresa Arrowwood.

Candidate Information Available

The League of Women Voters believes that the most effective and efficient government is a result of informed voters casting ballots on Election Day. We encourage all citizens to prepare for going to the polls next Tuesday by listening to and reading about the various candidates.

Information about the various candidates on the ballot April 5 is available through a variety of media. The PTA/LWV School Board candidate forum may be watched according to the play schedule on the School Cable Channel, 96/993 or at any time on localvisiontv.com.government. The LWV city council candidate forum is being shown according to schedule on JATV

96/994 and may be accessed anytime at JATVmedia, a YouTube link.

The Forward Janesville website includes 3 minute presentations by some of the city and school candidates. Local Vision TV also has individual interviews.

Candidate responses in print may be reviewed at the GazzettExtra and Janesville Messenger websites.

Supreme Court candidates comments are on the LWVJVL website. The WisconsinVote website also provides links to candidate information. All the sites listed above may be accessed at the Hedberg Library.

Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light (*Sustainability Ideas for all*)

LWV Sustainability Working Group has arranged for this program.

Encourage your community of faith to take advantage of this information.

**Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light
to be introduced
Thursday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.,
First Congregational Church UCC at
54 S Jackson, Janesville**

Energy conservation in congregations is a win-win. It's a win for the congregation's budget, freeing contributions to fund its mission rather than to pay

energy bills. It's a win for God's creation, keeping pollutants like mercury, soot, and carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. And it's a win for our most vulnerable neighbors, who suffer most from air pollution and destructive forms of coal mining. The Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light is offering "Cool Congregations," a program to help conserve energy at home and at church, as well as other resources and opportunities for integrating faith, justice, and the care of creation. Peter Bakken, Executive Director of Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light will introduce Wisconsin IP&L's mission and activities and tell how you and your faith community can become involved.

**CONSUMER SCAMS AFFECTING
MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES
LUNCH & LEARN WITH THE LEAGUE**

April 6, 2011

M&I Bank

**3rd Floor Conference Room
100 N. Main Street, Janesville
12 Noon to 1:00 p.m.**



Ever wonder how much money is lost to fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare program, and what you can do about it?

**ATTEND THIS FREE ONE HOUR PROGRAM
AND LEARN WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR!**

**Bring a sack lunch to enjoy
while you learn the facts
(a cookie is provided free of charge).**



Sponsored by the
League of Women
Voters of Janesville



Carol Herzig, photo

Panelist at the Redistricting Forum held at U-Rock March 3rd.

Redistricting in Rock County

Ethel Himmel
member of the Ad Hoc Committee.

The Ad Hoc Committee for Redistricting of Supervisory Districts, appointed by County Board Chair Russ Podzilni, held its first meeting on March 28th. The ad hoc committee is comprised of County Board Supervisors and citizen members. There is also a Technical Support Committee comprised of the County Clerk, County Planning Department staff, County Administrative staff, and several municipal clerks. The committees will be using data from the 2010 US Census and the WISE-LR software (Wisconsin Shape Editor for Local Redistricting) to determine supervisory district lines for the coming decade. (The County Board earlier determined that there would be no change in the number of supervisory districts in Rock County: 29 districts. Wisconsin Statutes state that a county with a population between 100,000 and 500,000 may have up to 47 supervisors.)

The 2010 Census counted the Rock County population at 160,331 or a 5.3% increase over the 2000 population count (152,307). However, the population growth was not evenly spread throughout the County and supervisory district lines will need to be redrawn to reflect those changes and to meet the requirement of equal representation.

For example, the Town of Magnolia population decreased from 854 in 2000 to 767 in 2010, a decrease of 10.2%, while the City of Evansville grew from 4,039 in 2000 to 5,012 in 2010, an

increase of 24.1%. With the 2000 Census numbers, each supervisory district held a target population of 5,252. With the 2010 Census that number increases to 5,529.

At their March 28th meeting the committees discussed priority criteria for creating tentative county supervisory lines in order to give direction to the county staff working with the WISE-LR program. At the next meeting the Ad Hoc Committee will look at the impact of those criteria on tentative lines.

The timeline for the process in Rock County is

The County has 60 days from March 21st (the date when the County Clerk received official Census data notification) to create a Tentative Supervisory District Plan, hold a public hearing and adopt the proposed plan before being transmitted to the municipalities.

(To coincide with County Board meetings, the public hearing and approval of the tentative plan must be completed by May 12th.)

The tentative plan must be distributed to municipalities for creation of the ward plan map. (Note that this means individual municipalities draw their own ward lines within the context of the tentative county supervisory lines.) The municipalities have 60 days to draw ward lines, enact or adopt an ordinance or resolution creating wards in accordance with the tentative Supervisory District plan, and forward it to the County.

The County has 60 days from receipt of all of the municipalities' ward plans to review the wards and to number districts.

September 2011: Public hearing and approval by the County Board of the Final Supervisory District Map and submittal to the Secretary of State by the County Board Chair.

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee is April 6th, 3 pm, at the County Courthouse.



Trailblazers: Women in Janesville's History

Women in
Janesville's History
(1850-1930)



Introduction

The Janesville Women's History Mural, installed in 2001 on the Rock County Courthouse (at S. Main St.), is a tribute to the stories of women who made a difference in local history. In the center is a suffragette, a depiction of all women who fought for women's voting rights. In the upper right corner of the mural are lawyers **Maude Louise Campbell** and **Angie King**, who broke barriers in the legal profession. On the left, a woman in a purple dress represents the address of the late 19th century who began a social welfare movement in the city and fostered the city's largest movement, portrayed in the mural by the **Wesleyan Hospital**. The mural is a great example of a mural. A set of three murals are on the wall of the public library. The set depicts a woman in a purple dress with her arms raised, and the right century woman who began a social welfare movement in the city and fostered the city's largest movement. In the mural, the woman is shown to help tell the story of women in Janesville's history and connect these stories to places in the community.

Thursday, April 14, 2011

7-8 p.m.

Trailblazers: Women in Janesville's History Hedberg Public Library

This program highlights the accomplishments of Janesville women in law, education, sports, and politics. Information about the Janesville Women's History Mural, located on the west side of the Rock County Courthouse, and a walking tour brochure highlighting women in Janesville's history, will be provided. A panel, featuring local women, will discuss the accomplishments of Rock County women. This event is co-sponsored by Hedberg Public Library and The Friends of Judi Kneece. For more information contact the library at 608-758-6600.

Report from Southern Sudan – a New Nation

Because of our interest in supporting democracy here and abroad, the League has been invited to learn from one who has been right there -- Anita Henderlight, the Executive Director of Africa ELI (Education and Leadership Initiative),

This Diversity Action Team program seeks to "educate about Southern Sudan, the newest country in Africa, and the leadership potential of young people through scholarships and programming of Africa's Educational and Leadership Initiative. These girls and boys survived the civil war and are witnessing the birth of a new nation. Hear their thoughts and dreams via video. Africa ELI believes that peace will be sus-

tained through education and bridging gender gaps in national leadership." It is promising to learn about this African nation that is successfully transforming itself!

Date/time: Thursday, April 14, 2011

Networking: 6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Program: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Place/ Address: Academy for International Studies

**29 West Milwaukee Street, third floor ,
Janesville, WI 53545**

Event is free and the public is welcome.

Speak in the Capital - Legislative Day

April 12, 2011 is the League of Women Voters Legislative Day. The following is the agenda for the day:

11:00-11:30 Check-in

11:30-12:30 Dr. Jack Norman, Research Director at the Institute for Wisconsin's Future:

“Communicating The Need For Government Revenue & A Fair Tax Policy”

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 Visit the Capitol and Meet with Legislators

2:30-3:00 Debrief at the Capitol in the North Hearing Room, 2nd floor, North wing

No New ID Requirements for April 5 Election

MADISON: The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund encourages all eligible citizens to vote in the April 5 election. The League also reminds voters that current Wisconsin law does not require them to show identification before being allowed to vote. Although the Legislature is considering bills that would require a state-issued voting ID, no new legislation has been passed to this effect.

“Voters have been calling our office and asking about ID requirements, but the fact is that the law has not been changed. To register to vote – which you can do at the poll on Election Day – you will need some documentation. But if you are already registered at your current address, you will not need an ID to vote,” said Andrea Kaminski, executive director of the League.

If you are not registered at your current address, you will need to re-register. Under current state law, voter

To register to vote – which you can do at the poll on Election Day – you will need some documentation. But if you are already registered at your current address, you will not need an ID to vote

registration requires that citizens show an identifying document, which may be a photo ID, to establish proof of residence. Detailed voter registration information can be found on the Government Accountability Board website at: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections/voting/voters/registration-voting>

The April 5 election will have important local contests and a statewide Supreme Court race on the ballot. Some municipalities and districts will have an Appeals Court election, referendum questions and/or special elections. To check your voter registration status, polling place location and a sample ballot, use the GAB's Voter Public Access website at <https://vpa.wi.gov/>. The League's Supreme Court voter guide and other election information can be found on the League's website at: <http://www.lwvwi.org/VotingElections.aspx>

“If there is anything we have learned in Wisconsin in the past few months, it is that elections matter. We need competent, responsive local government officials to deal with budget cutbacks fairly. We need an independent judiciary to interpret the law with openness and impartiality. The voters who turn out for this election will have a voice in how the difficult issues we are dealing with are played out,” Kaminski said.



Calendar

Upcoming Activities April 2011

***Additional events may be planned. Check website: lwwjvl.org/calendar**

April

April 4th & 5th Rock County Mental Health/Substance Abuse/Criminal Justice review of systems. LWV - Janesville assisting with scheduling.

April 5th Spring Elections: City Council, Town Boards, School Board, & WI Supreme Court.

April 5th 7 p.m. Bill McKibben speaking at UW-Whitewater

April 6th Lunch & Learn with the League Noon M&I Bank, 100 N. Main, Jvl. Wisconsin Medicare Fraud Patrol Director Elizabeth Conrad.



April 7th 6:30 p.m., WI Power and Light educational presentation

April 12th LWV-WI Legislative Day in Madison.

April 14th Trailblazers: Women in Janesville's History, Hedberg Public Library, 7:00 p.m.

April 25th Board meeting at Hedberg Library 6:30 p.m.

June

June 6th - LWV Janesville Annual Meeting: Election of Officers, Location & Time TBA.

What's Next — Upcoming Activities*

April - May 2011

***Additional events may be planned.
Check website: lwwjvl.org/calendar**



Web addresses of National, State and Local Leagues:

To check out the action go to: LWV-US <www.lwv.org> LWV-WI <www.lwvwi.org> JANESVILLE LEAGUE <www.lwwjvl.org>

Celebrate your Birthday with the League!



Remember you may still contribute to the State League with a birthday donation and half of your donation will be returned to our Janesville League.