



*The*

# *VOTER*



League of Women Voters - Janesville  
January 2011

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

## **League of Women Voters of Janesville Annual Winter Gathering**

*Thursday, January 27, 2011*

*5:00 p.m.*

*Speakeasy Restaurant*

*Cost for Appetizers \$5.00,  
dine at own expense.*

*R.S.V.P. to Carol Herzig  
by January 13th.*

January is a  
great time  
to join the  
League.

Plan to join us and enjoy a social evening, catch-up with Leaguers that you haven't seen in a while. You are welcome to bring a guest, who might be interested in joining, that way they can meet other League members.

# Issue reports:

## County moves along toward Long Term Care Reform

Carolyn Brandeen  
LWV Janesville

Services for people with disabilities and for older adults will be offered in a new way in 2011 with the opening of an Aging and Disabilities Resource Center – ADRC. When Family Care, a state comprehensive and flexible long-term care service system, is operating in Rock County, the ADRC of Rock County will advocate for consumers but be independent from the separate providers who will provide the Family Care benefit. A report on the steering committee's work will be presented to the County Board of Supervisors meeting on Thursday, January 27 at 6 p.m.

As one of the 15 members on the Steering Committee, it has my full support. Our purpose was "to provide input and advise the County regarding an ADRC Implementation Plan. The Plan will be the basis for an application to the State of Wisconsin by Rock County to operate an ADRC." While the quote is from the

report, nowhere in the report does it say how soon the Family Care piece will finally come to Rock County.

In his February 2006 State of the State speech, Governor Doyle announced plans to expand Family Care state-wide and eliminate waiting lists for community-based long-term care programs during the next five years. The financial and political climate has shifted since then.

The resource center will serve everyone in the target population and should be up and running by the end of the year. However, the expansion into Rock County for the managed care portion, which serves those who are income eligible, is going to be much discussed by new leaders in 2011. League members interested in long term care reform are invited to join me at the County Board of Supervisors January 27 meeting.



## LWV Climate Change working group

Neil Deupree  
Climate Change Chair

### Lunch and Learn for February 2, 2011

There will be a panel to discuss Sustainability in Janesville: by the city, by businesses, and by individuals. We will present ideas from our discussions of the book *The Natural Step*. We hope



to engage the audience in our understanding of the practical meaning of sustainability as well as our personal contributions toward simplicity by looking at the "stuff" we accumulate and what we can do about it.

### The Natural Step discussions:

Several participants gathered for a wrap-up on Tuesday, December 7. A page of ideas was compiled from the discussion. Six people attended the Sustainable Janesville Committee meeting to report to them and engage them. We are exploring the possibility of a lunch time study circle with city staff – especially members of their "Green Team". Our January meeting (Jan 14, 10 am) will brainstorm ways to connect more with the public on the issues of Climate Change and Sustainability.

**Book Study:** We are planning on a Saturday book study on March 12 at Hedberg Library – *Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold.

**Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light:** We will explore ways of engaging the local faith communities around sustainability and shrinking our ecological footprints.

Plans in these areas will be energized after the holidays. If you have put off indicating your interest... there is still time. Contact Ethel Himmel, Coral Swanson, Linda Stehura or Kay Deupree. We will keep you updated on developments.

Redistricting: Ethel -  
Criminal Justice/ Specialty Courts: Coral.  
Juvenile Detention Center position. Kay  
Federal Role in Education. Linda



Photo provided from Northwest Passages

**Protesting at the White House to win the right to vote.**

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday Celebration

*Hear My Voice: Win the Vote*, a one act play that follows the life of a young woman who campaigns for ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, is coming to The Gathering Place in Milton, Wisconsin on Sunday afternoon, February 13, 2010, to help celebrate the 191st birthday of suffragist Susan B. Anthony.



Open to all, the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday Celebration is sponsored by the Rock County Women's History Committee in partnership with the Janesville League of Women Voters. The reservation deadline is **Friday, February 4** with Carolyn Brandeen, 608/754-7004, brandeen@charter.net or Kris Koeffler, 608/868-4229. Seating is limited and prepayment of \$30 per person is necessary to confirm reservations. Make checks payable to the League of Women Voters at P.O. Box 8064, Janesville, WI 53547-8064. The Gathering Place is located at 715 Campus Street in Milton. Doors will open at 11 a.m. and the buffet brunch begins at 11:30.

# Meet the state legislators:

We are encouraged by state and national LWV's to have conversations with legislators as they begin their work to let them know the issues the League will be following and the resources that we can offer. Two or three members typically have these discussions with the legislators. If you would like to be a part of one or more of these, please let Kay know. We will begin scheduling in January.

### **Janesville League of Women Voters Officers and Board 2010-2011**

President	Kay Deupree	ending 2011
1st VP	Lynda Olson	ending 2011
2nd VP	Traci Rogers	2010-2012
Secretary	Linda Stehura	ending 2011
Treasurer	Linda Reinhardt	2010-2012
Directors	Judy Adler	ending 2011
	Lois Allen	2010-2012
	Amy Golackson	ending 2011
	Carol Herzig	2010-2012
Nominating Committee	Laura Boettcher Marilyn Walterman Carol Herzig	

**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.*



## Donation Form

**Yes, I support the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund!**

**Please designate how you would like us to use your tax-deductible contribution:**

- Use my gift where it's needed most.
- I want to support my local League through the Birthday Fund. Birthday Fund contributions are split evenly between the LWVWI Education Fund & your Local League.
- My gift is for the Meg McLane Advocacy Award.
- My gift is in honor / memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

*LWVWI Education Fund is a nonprofit organization that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the tax code. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Amount \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Payment method:

- Check enclosed.
- Charge my (circle one): Mastercard / Visa

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
(month/year)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check all that apply:**

- I prefer my gift to be anonymous
- Please send me League updates by email.

*Note: We will not share your email address with others. You may unsubscribe at any time.*

**Please return this form to:** LWVWI, 122 State Street, Suite 201A, Madison, WI 53703  
Office Phone: (608)0256-0827 / Email: [lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org](mailto:lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org) / Website: [lwwwi.org](http://lwwwi.org)

**Thank you!**

Direct donations may also be made to the Janesville LWV—  
Unfortunately, are not tax deductible at this time.

# State LWV: New League web site



If you are able to get online you may wish to check out the new site for LWV-WI, address below. Our own Traci Rogers is on the front left hand corner of the banner. The site is easy to navigate and an enjoyable one to use. Thumbs up for a great job.

<http://www.lwwi.org>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Join', 'Find a League', 'Donate', and 'Contact', along with a search box. The main header features the LWV logo and the text 'League of Women Voters WISCONSIN Education Fund'. Below this is a large banner image showing a woman holding a 'Wisconsin' sign in a meeting. A navigation menu below the banner includes 'Home', 'About', 'News &amp; Events', 'Voting &amp; Elections', 'Issues &amp; Advocacy', and 'Members'. The 'News and Announcements' section on the left lists three recent articles with dates and brief descriptions. The main content area on the right has a heading 'Welcome to the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund' and a paragraph of introductory text. Below the text is a bulleted list of advocacy priorities: 'Clean, open, fair elections', 'Redistricting', 'Clean energy policy', 'Accessible healthcare', and 'A fair and impartial judiciary'. At the bottom of the page, there are three large blue buttons with white text: 'FIND A LEAGUE CLICK HERE', 'DONATE CLICK HERE', and 'JOIN CLICK HERE'.

# Calendar

## Upcoming Activities January 2011

**\*Additional events may be planned. Check website: [lwjvl.org/calendar](http://lwjvl.org/calendar)**

### January

January 17th Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

January 27th Membership Winter Gathering  
5:00 p.m. Speakeasy

### February

February 2nd Lunch & Learn, Climate Change,

M&I Bank, 12:00 noon, door opens at 11:30 a.m.

February 13th Susan B. Anthony Gathering  
Place, Milton, 11:30 a.m.

### March

March 3rd Lunch & Learn Redistricting



*Reprinted from the  
Green Bay Press Gazette*

Guest column:

## Election reform should start at polls, not with IDs

By **Joyce McCollum, president**

*League of Women Voters of Greater Green Bay*

MADISON — As chair of the incoming Assembly Election and Campaign Reform Committee, Rep. Gary Tauchen, R-Bonduel, has invited representatives of the League of Women Voters and other advocacy groups to his office to fill him in on our thoughts about election reform. We appreciate the invitation.

He told us that a bill will be introduced the first week of January to require citizens to show a photo identification every time they vote. Although at first blush this may appear to make sense, research shows that a voter ID law would keep many eligible citizens from voting and would do nothing to prevent the very few instances of illegal voting that we have seen in our state.

Proponents of this costly legislation say it will make state-issued identification available for free to any eligible voter. Yet the legislation will pose a disproportionate burden for elderly, disabled and low-income individuals, for whom it is most difficult to provide the supporting documentation, take time off work, and arrange transportation to the nearest Department of Motor Vehicles.

A far better way to improve our elections would be to commit the money it would cost to implement an ID law to positive reform. With many recent changes to national and state election law, the best way to improve elections is to improve the training of local clerks and poll workers.

In Wisconsin we believe in fair elections administered by local officials. Our state is recognized nationally by experts for its clean elections and high voter participation. Yet there has been persistent distrust, on both ends of the political spectrum, of how our elections are administered. Some believe there is targeted, effective voter suppression. Others believe there is widespread,

organized illegal voting. While there are anecdotes — many unverified — there have been no systematically collected data.

This year the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund piloted a program to train and place election observers at the polls for the November election. The observers were asked to document any irregularities in the voting process as well as best practices in polling place management. The League had observers in Appleton, Brown Deer, La Crosse, Milwaukee and Shorewood.

The incidents reported included confusion by poll workers as to the documentation needed to register voters; polling places that were not set up to accommodate an unexpected high turnout; and a mix-up for residents of a major senior housing unit where apartment numbers were changed, requiring residents to reregister to vote.

The observers were impressed by the chief inspectors at the polling places, who ably handled many snafus and questions throughout the course of the busy day. Several observers felt that some poll workers and registrars needed better training, as well as short written instructions to which they could refer during the day.

The League's findings were similar to those reported by other observers, including some who in the past have alleged widespread illegal voting in our state. There were no reports by the observers or in the media of voter impersonation or fraud.

Rather than pass an unneeded ID law that will prevent eligible citizens from voting, the Legislature should act to improve the training and resources available to local clerks and poll workers. They are the people who run our elections and they deserve our support, not to mention our appreciation.

• Published on December 28, 2010