



**Dear Friends in League,**

We continue to mourn the loss of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader



Ginsberg. It was gratifying to see that several League members were able to attend, on short notice, the candlelight vigil that was held at the Rock County Courthouse on Saturday September 19 to honor her memory.

Looking ahead, LWV of Janesville will conduct a Legislative Candidate Forum for the 44<sup>th</sup> Assembly District on **Wednesday, October 7, 6:30-7:30 pm.** The candidates are **Sue Conley (D) and DuWayne Severson (R).** Laura Peterson will be the moderator. JATV Media, and Forward Janesville are co-sponsors of this event.

**The forum will be broadcast LIVE on JATV Channel 994 on Charter Cable and live streamed on the JATV Media YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/JATVMedia>.** It will be recorded and made available for later viewing online.

We are co-sponsors of the candidate forums for the 31<sup>st</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> ADs with the Beloit League and for AD 45 with the Whitewater Area League. We plan to build links to the recordings of all these forums on our local League website. They should also be available for viewing through the VOTE411.org website.

I want to thank all League members who actively participated in National Voter Registration Day/Week (NVRD) activities that began on September 22. Some of us “braved” the glorious weather on Tuesday to stand outside the Hedberg Public Library to pass out NVRD and “Future Voter” stickers and LWV flyers to 100 library patrons and to talk at a safe distance with them, while other League members drove all over town to deliver information to nursing homes, long-term care facilities, to other non-profit agencies. Additional members have engaged in registration assistance activities elsewhere in Janesville. We will wrap up the week by participating in a second “Drive-Thru Voter Information and Food Collection for ECHO” event with Janesville service clubs at Traxler Park on Sunday morning, September 27.

**Our Board of Directors meets on the first Monday** of the month at 6:30 pm. League members are always welcome to attend Board Meetings, but it especially convenient for members during the Covid-19 pandemic when they don’t have to drive to a meeting and we don’t need to worry about the number of chairs or the size of the room we need. For those of you who have never attended one of our Board meetings, attending now would be a good way to learn about what our local League is working on, and to get involved in League actions. I invite you to attend our next meeting on **Monday, October 5.** If you would like to join us, just drop me a line at [lindacreinhardt@gmail.com](mailto:lindacreinhardt@gmail.com) and I will send you the link to the Zoom meeting. You can sit back and listen, but better yet, I hope that you will decide to actively participate in our discussions.

\*See **PRESIDENT**, Page 2



## What’s Inside this Issue



Fair Maps LAW & AAUW  
LWV-WI Fair Map Program  
Voter Service Report

Page 3  
Page 4  
Page 5

Calendar  
Net Zero

Page 7  
Page 8

# \* President's Letter

Continued from page 1

At our September meeting, the Board voted to make our League a dues-paying member organization of the Diversity Action Team of Rock County (DAT). Consistent with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion values of League, we have co-sponsored events with the DAT in the past, but now we are a formal partner and member of this team. The DAT holds Courageous Conversations on fourth Mondays, and schedules community



programs on the third Thursday of each month. We encourage League members to participate.

We have a special joint meeting with the Janesville branch of the AAUW on Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00. The program, **“Fair Elections: How Gerrymandering Impacts Voting Outcomes in Wisconsin,”** will feature speaker Matt Rothschild of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign. The event will be hosted on the AAUW Zoom account. Contact Mary Buelow, [buelow\\_m@msn.com](mailto:buelow_m@msn.com), or press the RSVP button for the event on our League’s website to receive the link to the event.

With less than six weeks before the General and Presidential Election, please consider being a poll worker yourself or encourage young people you know to step up to help. “Poll Workers Are Civic Superheroes.” Watch for messages from the LWVWI about volunteer opportunities to work on phone or texting banks that will enable you to actively engage in League work from the safety of your home.

Be safe and well.  
Linda

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## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

*Each month we will be placing our position on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Voter, as a service to our members.*

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, workstyle, 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.

The Janesville LWV commits to the diversity of Janesville and fully endorses the LWV’s DEI policy.



Like us on Facebook <[facebook.com/JanesvilleLeagueofWomenVoters](https://facebook.com/JanesvilleLeagueofWomenVoters)>



Follow us on Twitter  
<[@LWVJanesville](https://twitter.com/LWVJanesville)>

<[twitter.com/LWVJanesville](https://twitter.com/LWVJanesville)>



OR

# We don't want RED Maps. We don't want BLUE Maps. WE WANT FAIR MAPS!

**October 27, 2020, 7:00 pm**

Every ten years the United States Census counts every person once, only once, and in the right place. The following year each state uses those Census numbers to draw maps for legislative districts where each elected official represents an equal number of people. When those maps are drawn in a fair impartial process, everyone's voice is heard and democracy works. But when the lines on the map are drawn to favor those in power, the democratic process gets skewed in subtle and profound ways.

Join us October 27 as Matt Rothschild of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign presents information about gerrymandering. Learn techniques used to

tilt districts in favor one party over another (Wisconsin towards the Republicans; Illinois to the Democrats) and how gerrymandering drives today's political polarization. Discover gerrymandering's hidden costs and explore alternative methods for creating legislative districts, such as the Iowa model. Find out about citizen campaigns to end gerrymandering. You can help bring fair maps to Wisconsin!

Sponsored by:  
Janesville Branch of the American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters of Janesville

October 27, 2020, 7:00 pm

Hosted on the AAUW Zoom account. Contact Linda Reinhart [lindacreinhardt@gmail.com](mailto:lindacreinhardt@gmail.com) or Mary Buelow [buelow\\_m@msn.com](mailto:buelow_m@msn.com) for Zoom code



# POLL WORKERS ARE CIVIC SUPERHEROES.



**BECOME A POLL WORKER TODAY:  
[POWERTHEPOLLS.ORG/WIVOICES](http://POWERTHEPOLLS.ORG/WIVOICES)**





# *Fair Maps Wisconsin*

**A Bi-Partisan Case to End Gerrymandering**

**EVERY VOTE MUST COUNT** 

**STATEWIDE FORUM**

**SEPTEMBER 30 - 7 PM**

**Join here: [bit.ly/FairMapsForum](http://bit.ly/FairMapsForum)**

**With former Senators Tim Cullen (D-Janesville) and Dale Schultz (R-Richland Center)**



## **New Date: Statewide Forum on Fair Maps**

\*\*\*We've changed the date of the Fair Maps Forum to Sept 30 because the People's Maps Commission is having their first public hearing on Oct 1.\*\*\*

Please join us on September 30, 2020 at 7 p.m., for a statewide forum: "A Bipartisan Case to End Gerrymandering: Every Vote Must Count." The forum will include an interactive conversation between former Senators Tim Cullen (D-Janesville) and Dale Schultz (R-Richland Center) and will be moderated by LWV Dane County member and former Wisconsin Public Radio journalist, Joy Cardin. The panelists will respond to questions from the virtual audience.

You do not need to register for this event. Use this link: [www.bit.ly/FairMapsForum](http://www.bit.ly/FairMapsForum), when you are ready to join the event on September 30.

**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**  
**Contribute now to ensure the League is a strong force in Wisconsin.**

# Voter Service Report

## Voter Services – Focus on Safe – Venturing Back into the Community!

In June, Voter Services had honest discussion on what is our next step?

Our conclusion - Work within your comfort level and consider opportunities to work from home—with the State Office

Collaboration has been the key - Beloit League Events – Collaborate/Joint Efforts/Utilize Resources/Zoom Meetings Sponsored by National/National Voter Registration Day etc. – We have received loads of ideas from the State Office – Everyone in that office are just the best!

Voter Services added a communications committee has been essential with planned communication needed for successful projects – consistent message – utilize resources – timely delivery. We have a dedicated committee of 7 that have made a huge difference in our ability to plan and execute events. We have developed posters/correspondence that can be used several ways and have compiled current contact lists with emails phone numbers addresses

Voter Helpline – Partnership with Dane County League – is fully functional

**More details on the results will follow in the next newsletter but here is a summary of events:**

Participated in several “drive through” events in parks - Averaged 100-200 people per event (handouts shared/discussion questions on how to prepare to vote etc.

Pending initiatives:

Downtown Residential Facility Correspondence

Realtor Program Posters/Signs and Group Letter with PDF's

Distributing Posters – New League Yard Signs – Additional supplies

Email Blast this week to all non-for-profit organizations

Non-profit Groups Training such as YWCA/Community Action - Employees/Client

Close contact with ECHO – regular distribution of our materials

Churches – Email correspondence with attachments suitable to in their publications or social media

Drive Through Event Sunday September 27 at Traxler Park

Halloween Event/3 Days Mid October/Drive Through Event

National Voter Registration Day Tuesday, Sept. 22 (Weeklong actually) Retail Stores/Hedberg/Janesville Athletic Club Festival/Other –

Plan in motion on a voter services event with the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward in early October

Goals for Voter Services/LWV Janesville

Be Visible

Be Relative

Be Current with Information/Materials

Look for collaborative Opportunities – Joint projects/Networking

Communication is everything!

Focus on the big picture – but keep your eye on the details

Be creative – work smart –with a plan and be safe!

I am proud of our League and the Voter Services Committee! Like minded – dedicated and articulate members!

Never ever give up!

**Look to serve – the under served**

**Encourage regular voters**

Get involved – spread the word - be willing to support those that have voting challenges

Stay one step ahead of the roadblocks and obstacles in voting

Maximize resources – we have tons of materials professional/branded and easy to use – and a state league office that is stellar!

Voting Rights Are on The Ballot!

Turnout is critical

**Share resources on how to track your ballot (Just like tracking a package with FedEx or USPS)**

**Point people to credible information on issues and candidates**

**Volunteer!**

**Consider being a poll worker.**

**Has your employer or other organizations provided any voter education and if needed, please contact Voter Services – do you need assistance with getting your coworkers/friends/family/clients ready to vote? Do they have a plan?**

**Never ever give up!**



LWV

# Our Future. Your Vote.



## Election Day is November 3, 2020

[myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We welcome new member Sabrina Siker Bowerman, [sabrinasiker@gmail.com](mailto:sabrinasiker@gmail.com) to the LWV of Janesville. Her mother-in-law, who is a League member in Oakland CA, gave League membership as a gift to Sabrina. We have delivered our League yard signs to Sabrina's home and hope to meet with her soon.

The 2020-2021 LWV Membership Directory has been printed and will be delivered in the coming weeks. We used an asterisk in the directory to identify members who had not renewed their membership by September 10. Six members have renewed since that date. We have delivered our pair of League yard signs ("Vote From Home" and "Vote on Tuesday") to the homes of members who are paid up for the 2020-2021 League year. Please contact the League, [JanesvilleLWV@gmail.com](mailto:JanesvilleLWV@gmail.com).



[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) if you believe you have renewed your membership but have not yet received your yard signs.

Membership can be renewed online at <https://www.lwvjvl.org/join-the-league> or by sending a check to the LWV-JVL, PO Box 8064, Janesville, WI 53547-8064. Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. Best practice would be for members to renew their dues each summer to alleviate the anxiety of the president and treasurer. Active membership remains \$65; \$100 for a household. Supporting membership is \$70, Student membership is \$10, and Open-Door Membership is a level you are comfortable with.

LWV Janesville is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS tax code. Contributions and membership dues are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. The full amount of donations and membership dues is deductible because no goods or services were provided in consideration of this contribution.

### League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, Inc

Located in the Center for Change  
612 W. Main Street, Suite 200, Madison, WI  
53703

(608) 256-0827; • [lwvwisconsin@lwvwi.org](mailto:lwvwisconsin@lwvwi.org)

# CALENDAR

## Upcoming Activities 2020-21\*

\*Additional events may be planned. Check website: [lwvjvl.org/upcoming-events](http://lwvjvl.org/upcoming-events)

September 2020

September 28 5:30 Courageous Conversations – Justice in Policing Contact Neil Deupree for invitation.

SEPTEMBER 29 @ 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Hidden History of Segregation and How Suburban Families can Fuel the Future

<https://www.facebook.com/events/629342857999706>

SEPTEMBER 29 @ 7 PM – 8 PM PDT (9-10 Central Time) Author Presentation: Ijeoma Oluo So You Want to Talk About Race  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1028447070939754>

October 2020

OCTOBER 1, 2020 AT 12 PM – 1 PM

YWCA Rock County Virtual Lunch and Learn  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/332169771337013>

October 7 6:30-7:30 p.m. Candidate's Forum for the 44th Assembly District LWV/JATV

October 15 Diversity Action Team  
So you think you can vote? – black voter history  
Check DAT Facebook page for event  
<https://www.facebook.com/Diversity-Action-Team-of-Rock-County-142081975802597/>

October 25 Early Voting Starts  
Senior Center & City Municipal Building

October 27 @ 7:00 pm Via Zoom **Fair Maps**

**November 2020**

November 3 Presidential Election Day



Carol Herzig Photos

## Voter Information Drive

Linda Reinhardt and Lisa Johnson talking to and giving information on how to register and apply for their absentee ballots.



# From Experiment to Everyday: A Net Zero-Carbon Normal for Cities: Local Solutions/Global Conversations

by Susan Amber Johnson  
*Environmental Committee*

On September 22, the New York Times presented the second episode in its online discussion series, Netting Zero, about achieving a global net zero-carbon level. Moderated by NYT climate reporter, Brad Plumer, this episode focused on cities, and why urban areas, and local solutions, are essential in this global conversation. The panel consisted of climate change experts and municipal leaders from around the world including: Dr. Maria Neira, Spanish physician, and Director of Public Health and Environment with the World Health Organization; Gonzalo Munoz, High Level Climate Champion for Chile at the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP25) to the United Nations Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC); Naomi Oreskes, Professor of the History of Science and Affiliated Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard University; Ruchi Varma, CEO and Founder of HumanQind (no typo), architect and city planner of India who designs urban spaces to be equitable, kind, and compassionate; and Laurent Bataille, Executive Vice President of Digital Energy at Schneider Electric Pvt. Ltd. Municipal governmental leaders included Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyer of Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Mayor Claudia Lopez Hernandez of Bogota, Columbia.

Plumer introduced this second episode by stating that in order to reach a net zero carbon level globally, it is necessary to focus our efforts on cities first. The majority of people around the world live in urban areas. It is where most of the carbon emissions are released into the atmosphere by fossil fuels. The global concentration of carbon dioxide in our earth's atmosphere has reached 417 parts per million for the first time in recorded history! We are seeing the results of these increased levels of greenhouse gases with the rapid melting of our glaciers, the accelerating sea level rise, and increase in natural disasters from climate change.

In the United States, discussion about climate change tends to center around turning away from use of fossil fuels and toward use of renewable energy resources. The global conversation is much broader. Plumer stated that there is a need to rethink our cities. We need to find a new vision for how they are designed, how they are built, and how they function in order to bring about the kind of transformational changes we are trying to achieve.

The all-encompassing nature of climate change has left people feeling overwhelmed, stuck in the routine, and in the familiar. And yet, cities around the globe have successfully experienced significant and rapid social, economic, and political changes in 2020 due

to the pandemic. How can we transfer what we have learned about facilitating wide-scale life-style changes during a pandemic to bringing about an equally rapid transformation in how we produce, use, and conserve energy in our cities?

How and where to begin? It is clear from the mayors' statements that leaders in each city need to gather and take a hard look at their own city to learn how it functions. How much carbon dioxide does it produce overall, and in what neighborhoods? How much energy does it use within the city's own departments? In what ways does it sequester carbon? Decreasing our carbon footprint means we must remove carbon already released into the atmosphere, while we reduce how much we use presently.

Community members from every background need to be included in the conversation. What do they want their city to look like in the future? How does the community want it to function? Equity and inclusion are values to embrace throughout this process. In addition, consider your local area's geography and history. No two cities are alike. What specifically are your own local needs? What might work best for your city? What will not work for your city?

With a population of 1 million people within the city limits, and 10 million in the greater metropolitan area, Bogota, Columbia currently has a typical commute time of two hours to work for many. Mayor Lopez Hernandez would like to reduce that time to 30 minutes. The way her city envisions collapsing that time is to create what it calls 30-minute districts. Each district will be basically self-sufficient and self-contained. People living in each one will have the opportunity to find good jobs, food, healthcare, and entertainment within a 30-minute radius. In this way, Bogota will address the global values of equity and inclusion. It has not had a public transportation system in the past, but it has plans to build a regional system of electric metro-transportation soon. Bogota is proud to have 1600 kilometers of bike lanes throughout its City limits, and is adding 250 new kilometers this year.

Freetown is the capital and largest city in Sierra Leone. Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyer reported that her city is currently working hard on offsetting its carbon emissions. Their goal was to plant one million trees this year! The community is unsure if it will truly reach this goal due to the pandemic, but it will do its best to plant as many trees as possible. Sierra Leone is also working on creating a sanitary landfill as a step in the right



# \* Net Zero

Continued from page 8

direction for their community.

Civil leaders and groups of various community stakeholders all participate in these discussions. It is clear that the general public needs to be involved, as well, in order to make the transformation real. How do we get citizens engaged in the process? How do we create buy-in from various stakeholders?

The panelists advised being careful in messaging climate change. Professor Naome Oreskes emphasized the challenge of acting with more urgency. The more money we spend cleaning up damage from natural climate disasters, the less we have available for prevention and reducing our climate footprint. At that point, the message becomes, “we won’t reach our goals.” Ruchi Varma of HumanQind, emphasizes human values in her work. She thinks it is important to remind her audiences how much better off they would all be to reach net zero. They would be healthier, mentally

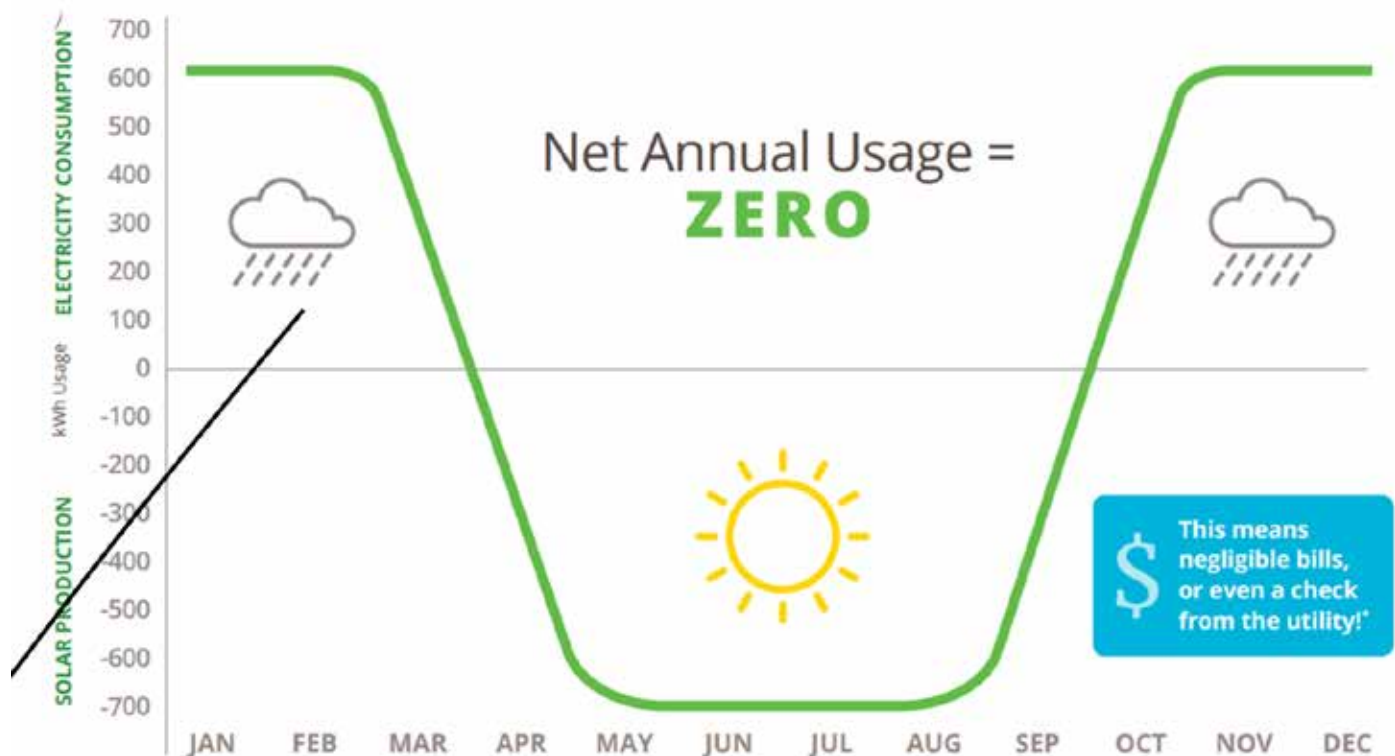
and physically. They would sense better well-being, and have a higher quality of life.

Dr. Neira considers it a balancing act. On the one

hand, she wants people to understand how dire is our current situation. We are experiencing a global climate crisis. People need to act now! On the other hand, we can’t allow the message to become too negative. If people feel like it is too late to do anything, they won’t be motivated to act. The solution Dr. Neira finds is to deliver a message that is both negative and positive at the same time. How does she accomplish this juggling act?

As Executive Director of Public Health with the World Health Organization, Dr. Neira connects individual health to climate change. She informs audiences that 7 million people die every year from air pollution. By acting now, we can reduce your personal vulnerability to die prematurely! All humans have the right to breathe clean air. In this way, climate change is the new fight against tobacco. We already fought the tobacco industry, and won! We can do the same with the fossil fuel industry!

Mayor Lopez Hernandez concluded the discussion by reiterating that climate solutions are local, but the conversations need to be global! 80% of people around the world live in cities! Cities have remained viable over time. They aren’t going anywhere. However, we must create a new vision of how people will live in cities in order to accomplish the transformations urgently needed today!



## Are you reading this newsletter as a 'guest'?

Joining the League of Women Voters is easy simply fill in this form and mail.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

- |                          |  |         |                          |           |          |
|--------------------------|--|---------|--------------------------|-----------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual   | \$65.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Household | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Supporting   | \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Student   | \$10.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | & _____ Open Door Membership   |         |                          |           |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I am unable to join the League at this time but enclosed is a contribution of \$_____. |         |                          |           |          |

Please make your check payable to: League of Women Voters -  
Janesville, P.O. Box 8064, Janesville, WI 53547-8064

- I request consideration for a LWV scholarship.

## 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.lwvjvl.org>*